

Year 13 Parental Information Evening

Thursday 17th September 2026

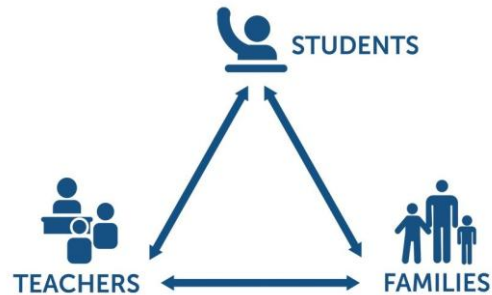
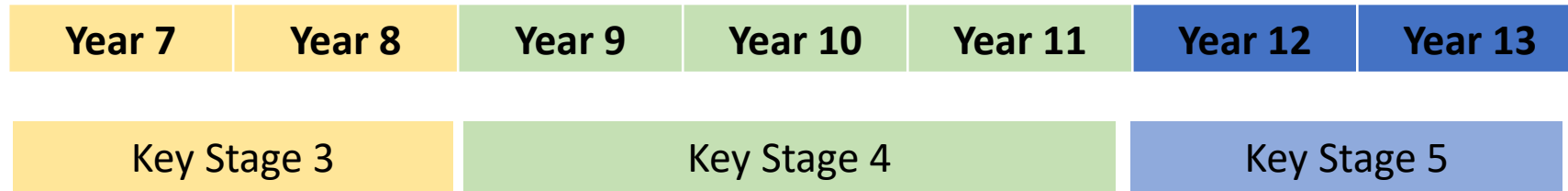
Thank you for joining us!

The presentation will cover the following areas:

- Who is who
- Important information / Expectations
- Key Dates
- UCAS/Apprenticeships/Careers



Welcome and thank you!



May 10th 2027: A Level exams begin.

Just under 2/3 rds done.



Ms Louise Blundell
HEADTEACHER



Mrs Carolyn Tipler
DEPUTY HEADTEACHER -
LEARNING & STANDARDS



Mr Jonathan Mailey
DEPUTY HEADTEACHER -
PASTORAL & BEHAVIOUR



The Sixth Form as part of the whole school community

SENSE OF BELONGING

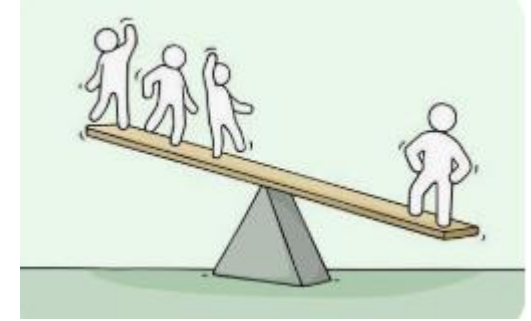
Our foundation

Every student feels known, valued and included.



Students who feel they belong are more motivated to learn and more likely to achieve highly

Belonging supports academic, social and emotional development



Support

Start of Year 13

Effort and discipline

My Goal

Accountability





Mrs Rigby: SEND and pastoral support



Mrs Canavan
Sixth Form attendance administrator



Mr Heysham
Joint Head of Sixth/Head of Yr13



Mrs Holwell:
Sixth Form Office manager



Mr Boulton
Joint Head of Sixth/Head of Yr. 12



Mrs Gardiner/Ms Jones: Careers Advisors



Senior Students: Ben, Mia, Daisy, Esther



It's good to be back!





The first Year 13 assembly

- Decide on your goals.
 - What is success?
 - What is failure?
- Plan accordingly.
- Hard work – there is usually more to do than you think.
- Time management – Year 13 is short and busy.
- Sacrifice? Too old-fashioned?



WRONG WAY



RIGHT WAY

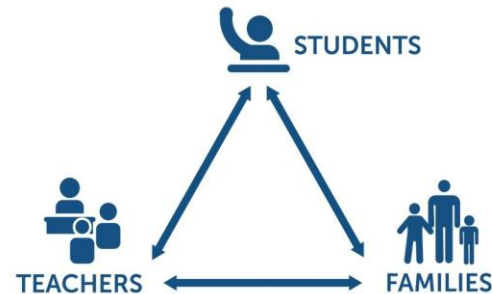




A clear message

ATTENDANCE – ATTAINMENT

The twin pillars of success!





UCAS for 2027 entry

Key UCAS dates

- **SEP 01:** Completed undergraduate applications can be submitted to UCAS
- **OCT 15:** (18:00 UK time) Equal consideration date for applications to the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and for most courses in medicine, dentistry, and veterinary medicine/science 2027
- **JAN 13:** (18:00 UK time) Equal consideration date for applications for most undergraduate courses

Other notes:

- **Personal Statements:** complete by first day of term 2 (non early entry students)
- Only I can submit UCAS, not the student.
- Adding Universities.
- Use of AI.
- Gap Years.





Gap Years

Option 1: Select Deferred Entry in UCAS

- When adding course choices Hub, change the **"Year of Entry"** field from the current year to the following year (e.g., selecting 2028 instead of 2027).
- **Check Course Policies:** Most universities welcome deferred entry, but competitive programs (like Medicine, Dentistry, Conservatoires, or Oxbridge) may have stricter policies or prefer applicants starting immediately.
- **Mention Plans in the Personal Statement:** Include 2–3 sentences explaining why a gap year is being taken and how the planned experiences (work, travel, volunteering, or skill-building) will add value to the degree.

Option 2: Post-Qualification Application (Applying During the Gap Year)

- **Apply as an Independent/Ex-Student:** Students set up a new UCAS application during the autumn of their gap year.
- **School Support / Reference:** We will (of course!) support ex-student UCAS: we link an ex-student's application via a 'buzzword', allowing us to add references etc.
- **Highlight Gap Year Achievements:** The Personal Statement can reflect actual experiences and achievements gained during the early part of the gap year.

Option 3

- Decide on results day – contact universities.



UCAS – the application journey

1. Apply online

The **UCAS Hub** is designed to help your child explore all their post-18 options in one central place. They can research subjects there and find courses in the search tool, where they can check entry requirements and application deadlines. They need to register and apply in the UCAS Hub.

2. Wait to hear back

Universities or colleges will decide whether to make your child an offer. It'll be:

- **unconditional** – if they've already met the entry requirements
- **conditional** – if the offer's based on exam results





UCAS – the application journey

3. Reply to offers

Once all the decisions are in, your child has to reply to their offers by a specific deadline.

- **Select a firm choice** – this is the first choice.
- If the firm choice is conditional, your child can select an **insurance choice** too, if they want – this is a back-up.
- Decline any other offers.

4. Find out if they've got a place

Your child will see in their application if their place is confirmed.

- **If the firm choice is unconditional**, the place is theirs.
- **If the place is conditional**, the university or college will update your child's status when they have their exam results, or other evidence they've met the conditions.
- **If they don't meet the conditions they may be unsuccessful** – in this case, they can use [Clearing](#) to apply for more courses.
- **If your child changes their mind** and no longer wants their firm choice, they can use the 'decline my place' button in their application to use [Clearing](#) to find another place. [More about declining a place.](#)



UCAS Tariff Points

Extended Certificate	Certificate	AS level	A level	UCAS tariff points
D*			A*	56
D			A	48
			B	40
M			C	32
	D*			28
	D		D	24
		A		20
P	M	B	E	16
		C		12
		D		10





Public Exams

These are online.

Week 1

[Homepage](#)



Date	Examination code	Subject	Title	Time	Duration
Monday 10 May	8EL0 01	English Language & Literature	Paper 1: Voices in Speech and Writing	Morning	1h 30m
	8EN0 01	English Language	Paper 1: Language: Context and Identity		1h 30m
	9EB0 01	Economics B (Economics &	Paper 1: Markets and how they work		2h 00m
	9EC0 01	Economics A	Paper 1: Markets and Business Behaviour		2h 00m
	9EL0 01	English Language & Literature	Paper 1: Voices in Speech and Writing		2h 30m
	9EN0 01	English Language	Paper 1: Language Variation		2h 15m
	8FM0 01	Further Mathematics	Paper 1: Core Pure Mathematics	Afternoon	1h 40m
	8PS0 01	Psychology	Paper 1: Social and Cognitive Psychology		1h 30m





Mock Exams / other key dates

One set of whole school mocks (ie students are off timetable)

- The first two weeks of term 4. Starts Feb 22nd and runs for max 2 weeks.

First week of term 3 – some subjects (Science) set mock exams.

Regular assessments and feedback throughout the year, this varies by subject.

- **Sept 25th (Friday) - INSET**
- **October 1st (Thursday) - Careers Convention**
- **Jan 21 (Thursday) Progress Evening.**
- **May 6th (Thursday) - final day of teaching for Y13. Celebration event the following day.**
- **Friday 25th June – the Ball!**





Tutor Time

Session

Mon 1

Tue 1

Wed 1

Thu 1

Fri 1

Mon 2

Tue 2

Wed 2

Thu 2

Fri 2

Year 13 Activity

Online notices – student leaders lead

Year assembly

Callback / 1:1 with Tutor

1–1s

PSHE

Whole Sixth Form Assembly

Article Reading and critical thinking

Callback / 1:1 with Tutor

1–1s (HoY meet student leaders)

PSHE





Contact – sixthform@gordanoschool.org.uk

13SF1	Stu Swift Zoe Sharper (1,5,6)	Hums Soc Sci	STS ZS	H7
13SF2	John Stokes	Sci	JFS	S4
13SF3	Barbara Sciarrino	MFL	BS	SF1
13SF4	Georgina Van Den	SocSci	GVD	H2
13SF5	Sharon Newnam	Sci	SXN	S19
13SF6	Lydia Tickner Rachel Allen (4,5,9,10)	SocSci MFL	LXT RAA	H3
13SF7	Lucy Pope Sophie Dawson (1,6)	Eng Eng	LXP SXD	E4



When are Year 13 in school?

- Mon, Tue, Fri – arrive 0830
- Wed, Thu – arrive in good time for first lesson / meeting.
- Students are allowed to leave the school site for lunch and break time – their lanyards allow them gate access at these times
- No lessons after break? Home study is permitted.
- Problems with this? Let's talk!



Common sense expectations: turn up, work hard, contribute.

- Dress code to be appropriate for a working environment in a school
- Treated in the same way as staff for tattoos and piercings
- Lanyards MUST be worn – all non-uniform people on site must wear one. Safeguarding protocol.



- Phone free site
- Except 6th form areas



Absence Texts – supporting you to support us

Similar to other schools.

Parents will receive an absence text if their young person is 20min late to a tutor / lesson.

New policy – we will trial with smallest year group – Year 13.

We have (as you would imagine) tried to iron out any issues in advance, thank you for your patience if an issue arises.





Electives and Careers

These run until Christmas (ie terms 1 and 2)

Enrichment	GIVING BACK	SPORTS	STUDY
Culture Vulture	Gold DofE	Brazilian Jiu Jitsu	Access 2 Bristol
Debate Society	Lower School Subjects	Golf @ Tickenham	Core Maths
Drama	Marketing	Girls Basket Ball	EPQ
Introduction to Law	Portishead Youth Centre	Yoga	Fourth Subject
Life Skills Academy	Primary School	PE	Further Maths
Sixth Form Band	Resources Base Crew Member		Study Skills
Sixth Form Film Club			
Stocks & Shares			

Post 18 – Different options

- Students should have ALL set up a UCAS account and be working on an application
- Careers sessions are more bespoke. Sept – Dec only
- Personal Statements/CVs are a priority
- Early application deadline students have to complete everything by Mon 6th Oct
- Unifrog is a great one stop shop for different opportunities and advice





Careers lessons/1 to 1s/assemblies and tutor times

Grouped by post 18 options

Topics include:

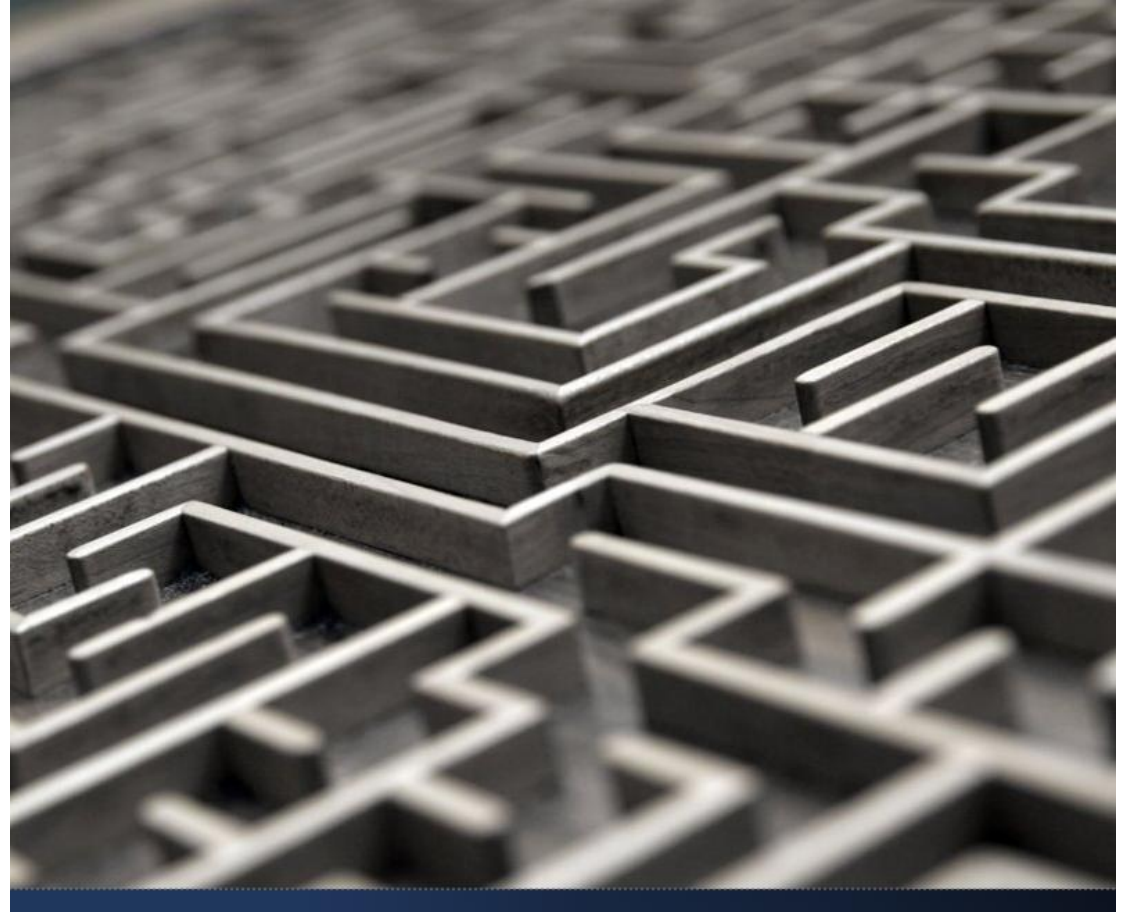
1. Apprenticeships
2. UCAS statements
3. Early entry
4. Financial independence
5. Interviews
6. Student finance
7. Employment





Useful apprenticeship sites

- UCAS - [here](#)
- Gov.uk - [here](#)
- Degree apprenticeships – stepped process
- Careers advisors – Mrs Gardiner and Mrs Jones. Students and parents
- Careers@gordanoschool.org.uk





Levels of apprenticeships

- Most available Jan onwards but individual to employer
- Individual to each apprenticeship provider





UCAS / Destinations for Y13 2026

Placement summary

Active applications



Filter applications

Unplaced	28
Placed insurance choice	6
Placed firm choice	100

Russell Group	41
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Degree Apprenticeship	4
Apprenticeship	4
College/Foundation	3
Employment	4
Other (Gap year/ forces etc)	38



Buildings Update





Parental Communication

Updating student contact and medical information

If you need to update your contact details that we hold for you or your child, or their medical information please contact the data team by email on datateam@gordanoschool.org.uk, please note that we are unable to make updates over the phone.

Attendance

To notify us that a student is unwell, or of a planned absence such as a medical appointment, please phone the school or email sixthform@gordanoschool.org.uk



Bursary

Should any student require financial assistance then they are able to apply for support from the 16-19 Bursary Fund. They must complete the form on the website [16-19 Bursary Form](#) and submit the form by end of September. Further details can be found on the school website [16-19 Bursary Fund](#) or contact me at sixthform@gordanoschool.org.uk

The government grants some students who are in financial need a bursary.

This needs to be applied for (forms are available from the Sixth Form office)

Further details are available on request from Mrs Holwell

On a slightly less serious note





Year 13 Parental Information Evening

Once again, thank you for coming!

A copy of this presentation will be available soon and we hope to see you at other school events during the year.

Tom Heysham – Head of Year 13

sixthform@gordanoschool.org.uk