

Sixth Form Weekly News

w/c 24 March 2025

Message from Mr Renton

Next week, on Tuesday and Wednesday, we are going to have some visitors in school. They are inspectors from Ofsted, who are coming to trial the new Ofsted inspection framework as part of a consultation process. The consultation is a two-way process, where they get to try out how it works and we also get to feedback to them, on how it feels for us as a school.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, you might see 5 inspectors in your lessons or around school. This could be before school as you are arriving, at breaktime and at lunchtime. These visitors will want to speak with you and ask you questions about your experiences in school.

In lessons, they are very likely to speak with some of you and ask to look at your work. They may not be used to seeing students working on iPads, so please remember to show them this work too. We often have visitors in school looking around, so this should feel no different. When we do have visitors, they always comment on how polite and respectful you are and also how smart you look in your uniform. Please show this same pride and respect during this visit.

We are asking our teachers to give feedback on how this experience feels for them and also on your behalf. Please talk to your teacher at the end of your lesson or to any member of staff, if you have feedback you would like to share.

As we always do when we have visitors, please welcome them to our school. **Mr Renton**

Key Dates

Date/Time	Year Group	Event
Tuesday 25 March	Year 12	Higher Education & Apprentice Evening
Friday 4 April	All Students	End of Spring Term
Tuesday 22 April	All students	Start of Summer Term
Tuesday 29 April	Year 12	Career Pathway Talks
Friday 9 May	Year 13	Leavers Assembly
Wednesday 14 May	Year 13	Decisions usually back from universities (for Jan applications)
Saturday 28 June	Year 13	Leavers Prom
Monday 30 June	Year 13	Deadline for applicants to accept UCAS offers

Progression

Year 12 - Drug Awareness

This week will see Year 12 students learn about the law and the effects of drugs and vaping. In addition, students will look at drug classification as well as peer pressure to become better informed about illegal substances.

Year 13 - Developing personal skills

To support students with their post-18 pathway, Year 13 students will look at developing key personal skills like leadership, communication, resilience and being respectful.

Main School
Social Accounts



Sixth Form
Social Accounts



Year 13 Revision Programme

With just 5 school weeks to go until the exams, it is important that you break down your time into sections:

- 2 weeks in school
- 2 weeks during the Easter holiday
- 2 weeks in school

Each section requires a slightly different approach, and breaking it down helps.

Focus your revision around these 4 principles:

Realism: be realistic about what you can achieve. Realistic goals are essential in creating a platform for success.

Organisation: create a plan and assign specific topics to each time slot. Use your own analysis of your confidence in different topic areas to inform your plan.

Accountability: holding yourself accountable can help you achieve your goals. You are in control of this process that you have created, so have high expectations of yourself. Stick to your plan and don't make excuses.

Discipline: be self-disciplined and stick to your revision timetable. Like any training programme, the power is in the routine. The more you put in, the more you will get out.

Here is a reminder of some key practical steps that you can take to give yourself the best possible chance of success include:

- Achieving 100% attendance and punctuality until 10 May
- Attending publicised revision sessions in each subject
- Seek advice from your teachers
- Committing to a minimum of 5 hours of independent work and revision outside of the classroom, per subject, per week. Use the structured tasks and guidance on Showbie to focus your revision
- Make use of the Study Centre – Open at 8am every day, and closes at 5pm every day
- Look after yourself. Make sure you get enough sleep; eat healthily; get fresh air and exercise; and balance relaxation with your focused academic work

Year 12 - Higher Education and Apprenticeship Evening: Tuesday 25 March 2025

There will be a presentation on Higher Education for Year 12 students and their parents/carers on **Tuesday 25 March at 6.30pm** in The Forum. It is expected that the presentation will last for approximately one hour.

Elle Zientek from Lancaster University, and Jack Hellewell from Sheffield Hallam University will deliver a talk on making university choices, the types of courses available and they'll give a brief introduction to student finance. This has proved to be a very popular and informative event, and we ask, where possible, that one parent/carer attends with their son/daughter due to seating restrictions.

Year 12 - World of Work Week: 14-18 July 2025

Well done for your continued efforts to secure an in person work experience placement for the w/c 14 July. As mentioned in Progression this week, you can complete a virtual placement through some fantastic and well-resourced platforms like [Springpod](#) and [Forage](#).

Both in person and virtual placement details need to be added to Unifrog by **Friday 4 April**. This link explains how to add a virtual placement to Unifrog as well as some excellent opportunities you could explore - [Virtual Work Experience offer 2025](#). Please click [here](#) to access information regarding the World of Work week for all Year 12 students taking place between 14-18 July.

Weekly Revision Sessions Spring 2 Term

Day	Time	Location	Subject
Monday	1:00-1:30	S05	Religious Studies
	3:40-4:30	D07	Graphics
Monday Week A	3:30-4.30	S27	Business (selected students)
Monday Week B	3:30-4.30	S27	Business
Tuesday	12:55-1:45	S27	Psychology
	12:55-1:45	A17	French
	12:55-1:45	Click here	English Language
	12:55-1:45	Click here	English Literature
Thursday	12:55-1:45	S28	Politics
	12:55-1:45	S25	Sociology
	3:35-4:30	S05	Religious Studies (exam practice)
	3:40-4:30	S25	Sociology (repeat of the lunch time session)
	3:40-4:30	S28	History
	3:40-4:30	S26	Geography: Paper 1 week B / Paper 2-week A
	3:40-4:30	A13	Maths (all courses) Y12 & Y13
Thursday Week A	3:30-4.30	S27	Economics
Thursday Week B	1:45-2:35	S23	Spanish
	3:30-4.30	S27	Economics (selected students)
Friday	12:55-1:45	A25	German

- Students of **creative subjects** are welcome to work within the faculty during lunchtimes and after school Monday to Thursday.
- Please click [here](#) for the weekly English revision session timetable.

Easter Revision

This is a reminder that Easter Revision sessions are now available for booking via the Arbor Parent Portal. Places are offered on a first come first served basis, note the deadline for sign up is 31 April 2025. [Click here](#) to see the full timetable.

Independent Silent Study Sessions

In addition to the Easter Revision sessions and following the success of Saturday Revision we are pleased to offer independent silent study sessions for Year 11 and Year 13 students during the first week of the Easter break. The sessions will take place in S10 on:

- Monday 7 April – 9am to 12 noon and 1pm to 4pm
- Tuesday 8 April – 9am to 12 noon and 1pm to 4pm
- Wednesday 9 April – 9am to 12 noon and 1pm to 4pm

These sessions are offered free of charge, a place can be booked via the Arbor app, within the Trips section. Places are allocated on a first come first served basis. Students should bring their own study material to these sessions. We ask that students do not use airpods or headphones in these sessions.

KS5 – Summer 2025 External Exam Timetables

Please [click here](#) to access a copy of the Summer Exam timetable.

Please note there are two contingency afternoons and a contingency day. All students taking A Level examination must plan to be available on these dates in case of any disruption. Where a student has a clash, these will be resolved through an individual timetable communicated nearer the time. Full Examinations information can be found in the Examinations section of the HGS website: [click here](#).

Year 13 – Leavers Activities

Please click this link for the [Year 13 Information Letter - February 2025](#)

Activity	Deadline for payment	Amount due	Order form
Yearbook	Friday 21 March	£26.00	Further email to follow
Leavers Ball	Friday 9 May	£50.00	N/A

Accepting University Offers

Many students are receiving offers from universities, and some of you have received all your offers. **Please be aware that the deadline to accept offers is 30 June.** There is no rush to accept offers, and we strongly recommend that you wait and consider your decision carefully.

You will ultimately be selecting 2 choices out of the offers that you have received. The other university offers will be removed:

- **Firm choice:** The university that you most want to attend
- **Insurance choice:** A university that you would be happy to attend if you do not gain the grades for your 'firm choice'. Typically, your 'insurance choice' should have lower grade requirements than your firm.

When making your decision it is important to consider all the following:

1. Is the course content right for you? Look at the type of assessment and the specific modules
2. Is the university and the city the right place for you to live for at least 3 years?
3. Are the grades achievable, for a firm choice and for an insurance choice?

Only after careful consideration of the above, should you commit to making your choices.

Termly Curriculum Overviews

Please use the links below to access an overview of what the students are learning in each subject area, each half term. Students have access to this information in their subject Showbie folders.

KS5

[Year 12](#)
[Year 13](#)

Wellbeing and Mental Health Support

Please click [on this link](#) to access more information.

Our school does not tolerate bullying or harassment of any member of our community and all incidents are taken seriously. If you experience or witness this, please use the REACH out form on your iPads to report it.



Super-Curricular and Career Opportunities

Each week we will be updating the progression and careers section of our website with any new and exciting super curricular and career opportunities for our students.

Super-Curricular please [click here](#)

New Opportunity:

The Big Bang Competition

Got a STEM project up your sleeve? Don't miss out on your chance to get feedback and advice from real scientists and engineers – plus the chance to win top awards and prizes.

Projects can be on any topic in STEM – whatever you've been working on with your students, we can't wait to see. Projects don't need to be finished or perfectly done – don't delay, enter today!



University of Cambridge,
Subject-Focussed Events and Taster Days



Lucy Cavendish College
University of Cambridge

Career, Work Experience and Apprenticeship Opportunities please [click here](#)

New Opportunity:

Labcorp Apprenticeships

Full time apprenticeships, due to start 11 August, Salary NMW (£12.21 / hour)

Applicants must be 18+ due to health and safety requirements. Click [here](#) for more information.



labcorp
Drug Development

Insight into KPMG - Virtual Work Experience Day – Monday 14 April 10am to 3pm

For students in Y12 and Y13 to explore career opportunities in business, finance, accounting, and professional services while developing key employability skills:

- Learn about KPMG's early career pathways
- Take part in interactive sessions and real-world business case studies
- Gain insights into careers in professional services, hear from current apprentices and current staff

Register [here](#) to secure your place.

TESCO Retail Apprenticeship Stronger Starts Programme

Click [here](#) to join the Webinar, 24 March 4pm to find out what is involved, the benefits available, and much more.

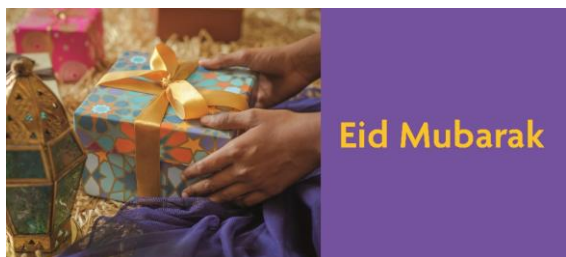
TESCO Careers

Spotlight – Eid ul-Fitr

The end of Ramadan is marked by a big celebration called 'Eid ul-Fitr' (the Festival of the Breaking of the Fast). Muslims are not only celebrating the end of fasting but thanking Allah for the strength he gave them throughout the previous month. Mosques hold special services, and a special meal is eaten during daytime (the first daytime meal for a month).

During Eid ul-Fitr Muslims dress in their finest clothes, give gifts to children and spend time with their friends and family. Muslims will also give money to charity at Eid.

This year, Eid ul-Fitr 2025 is expected to be celebrated on **Sunday 30 March**. However, the exact date is subject to the sighting of the moon.



Spotlight – Citizenship Education

This term in Big Picture lessons, students will be learning about Citizenship education, which aims to encourage students to take an interest in the world around them at a local, national and global level. We want students to understand how they can play a full part in society as an active and responsible citizen.

Did you know that there are 5 British Values?

British Value	What does this mean?
Democracy	<i>how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process</i>
The rule of law	<i>how we appreciate that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety</i>
Individual liberty	<i>understand that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law</i>
Mutual Respect	<i>the importance of identifying and combating discrimination</i>
Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs	<i>accepting that other people have different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or have none), and should not be the cause of prejudicial or dissimilatory behaviour</i>

Getting involved at HGS

At HGS, there are many opportunities to get involved, these include:

Year group council meetings
HGS Senate
Student Surveys
Mock elections in school
Big Picture discussions
Votes for Schools
Attending extra-curricular clubs and activities
Car Free Fridays – walk to school
School charity events

Leadership roles in school e.g. House Leaders, Peer Mentors, Prefects, Reading Mentors, ASK students, music prefects, Sixth Form leadership team, Sports Leaders, Fire Monitors,

Please talk to your Form Tutor if you would like to become involved with any of these roles in school.

