# Welcome to Y9 Parents' Information Evening 2023

The presentation will begin shortly



# Welcome to Gordon's Mr Moss (Head)





### Timings

- We aim to finish at 7.30pm
- Key staff and GSPA
   members will be around
   at the end for any
   questions.



#### This slideshow is being recorded





# A Gordon's Education



#### Our education philosophy

- 1. More than the best possible examination results.
- 2. The happiest students bleedgreen, get involved outside the classroom and give back.
- 3. No shortcuts. Anything worthwhile is hard won.



#### CHARACTER

Your actions today shape who you will become. Who will you be?







#### COURTESY

Showing politeness and thinking of others before yourself.

#### INTEGRITY

Being honest and doing the right thing, whether or not anyone is watching.

#### DILIGENCE

Always working to the best possible standard, taking care in even smallest details.

#### **ENTHUSIASM**

Approaching everything with a positive attitude, and enjoying what you do.

#### RESILIENCE

Keeping going, even when it is difficult. Recovering when things go wrong.





# BETTER ME, BETTER WORLD

#BLEEDGREEN



ONESELF TO BETTER

3. GORDON'S

WIDER SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE



EXCELLENCE THROUGH EFFORT

#### CURRICULUM 2025

WE

**BEFORE** 

BEST POSSIBLE

ACADEMIC

OUTCOMES

BOUNCE DON'T BREAK

PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY POBUST

COURTESY
INTEGRITY
DILIGENCE
ENTHUSIASM
RESILIENCE

#### Our ABC- A Thorough Preparation for Life





# Major Developments





# Sports Hub completed 2022











# Next - Performing Arts Centre 2025







# The Curriculum Ms Pierce Deputy Head (Curriculum)

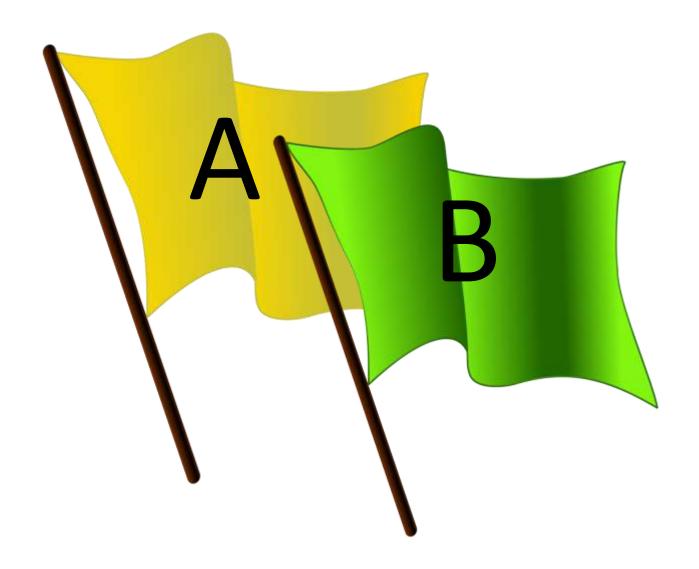


#### Academic Team

- Ms J Pierce Deputy Head (Curriculum)
- Mr C Lewis Head of Lower School (Y7-9)
- Mrs L Corner Head of Learning Support Department
- Mrs C Stuart SENDCo
- Academic Heads of Department



#### 2-week Timetable





#### Curriculum

Broad Curriculum in KS3 and KS4

• 6 lessons a day – 60 a fortnight

 KS3 is an opportunity to discover new interests and enjoy a broad yet challenging curriculum

- KS4 students select 3 option choices
  - Numerous choices including Religious Studies and BTECs



#### Homework and Prep

- Supervised Prep runs 6pm to 7.30pm (Mon Thurs)
- Prep runs on Friday 6pm 7pm
- Students generally have a week to do their prep
- Prep is set on Firefly
- KS3: 30 minutes per subject
- KS4: 45 minutes per subject
- Strong correlation between those who regularly attend prep and academic outcomes at GCSE and A Level.



# Prep Allocation

	KS3	KS4		
English	2 preps per week	2 preps per week		
Maths	2 preps per week	2 preps per week		
Science	1 prep per week, per subject	1 prep per week, per subject		
MFL	2 preps per week	1 prep per week		
History	1 prep per week	1 prep per week		
Geography	1 prep per week	1 prep per week		
Technology	1 prep per week (none in Y7)	1 prep per week		
Food	1 prep per week (none in Y7)	1 prep per week		
Computing	1 prep per fortnight	1 prep per week		
RE	1 prep per fortnight	1 prep per week		
Art	1 prep per fortnight (none in Y7)	1 prep per week		
PE	None	1 prep per week		
Music	None	1 prep per week		
Drama	None	1 prep per week		
<b>Business Studies</b>		1 prep per week		
Photography		1 prep per week		



#### Setting

Fluid and Competitive

- Maths
- English
- Science
- Languages
- Parents will be informed via a letter home.



#### Progress

 Students at Gordon's make good progress and in terms of value added the school is placed in the top 5% nationally at GCSE and top 1% at A Level.

• But progress is not always consistent and it is important to maintain an open and constructive dialogue with home and school.



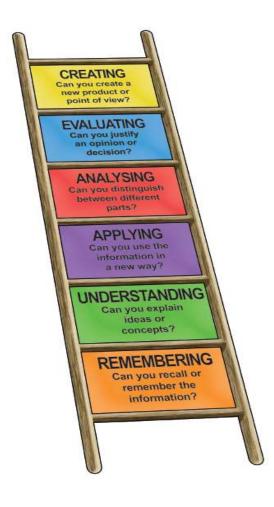
#### A.C.E Lessons

What you should expect from all lessons at Gordon's...

- Assessment for Learning the feedback loop
- Challenge pitch high and scaffold
- Engagement

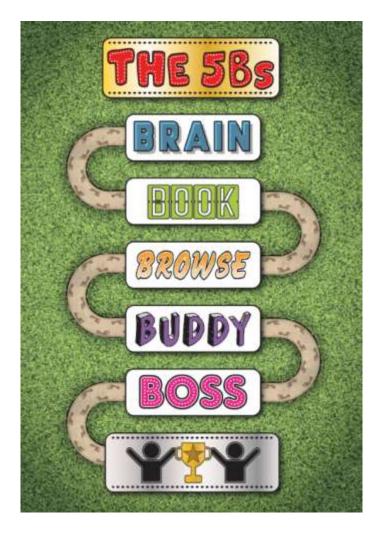


# Thinking Ladder



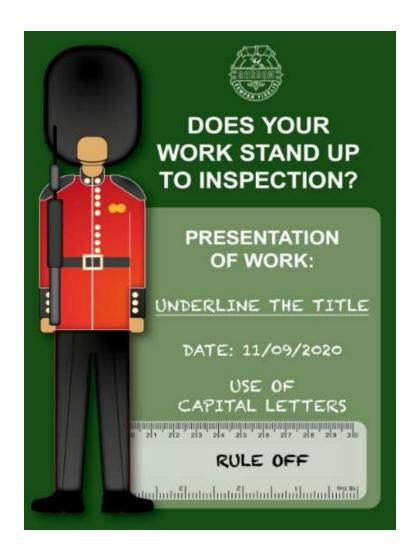


# Promoting independence





#### Promoting pride





# SPAG marking

#### When marking, teachers should use the following codes:

Focus	Symbol	Explanation
Spelling	SP	Incorrect spelling is underlined straight, with SP next to it to prompt.
Punctuation	O <sub>P</sub>	Missing or incorrect punctuation is circled, with P next to it to prompt.
Expression	~~?	Expression is unclear and needs rephrasing, marked with a squiggly line and a question mark
Paragraphing	//	Two forward slashes placed where a new paragraph is needed.





#### Assessment, Recording & Reporting (ARR)

#### Gordon's ARR Philosophy

- Little & Often
- Conversation is better than written dialogue
- Teacher's judgement is valued

Based on staff, student and parent feedback



#### **Progress Reports**

#### Year 9

Currently, each term there is a progress report sent home including:

- Autumn: Effort grades only (House and Academic)
- Spring: Effort and Progress Indicator (+ / / =)
- Summer: Effort grades (House and Academic), Progress Indicator and Working Grade plus a comment from the House.

EFFORT IS KING: Those students regularly attaining the best Effort Grades, routinely achieve higher GCSE and A level results.



#### **Effort Grades**

Typical Year Group Effort grade profile

- Top 25% = Below 1.5
- Middle 50% = 1.5 to 2.0
- Bottom 25% = Above 2.0

- 1 = Outstanding
- 2 = Very Good
- 3 = Good but occasionally inconsistent
- 4 = Cause for concern
- 5 = Unacceptable

Effort Grades have become more nuanced in recent years to more accurately reflect the spread of student effort.

A Grade 3 need not raise significant concerns.

Reports will identify where in their Year Group a student sits in relation to others, based on their Effort Grade.



#### Effort Grade intervention

Competency flagged (-)	Focus	Prep	Organisation	Participation	Growth Mindset
Examples of interventions:	Report card	Compulsory / Supported prep *	Equipment checks support card	Confidence building activities and support card	Student work review
	Identified by HoKS	Identified by HoKS	Identified by HoKS	Identified by HoKS	Identified by HoKS
i/c	House mentoring	<u>HoKS</u>	House mentoring	House mentoring	<u>HoKS</u>





#### KS3 Attainment Grades

At Key Stage 3, progress is measured using a **KS3 Attainment Grade** (based on a GCSE <u>style</u> progression model).

These grades begin at 1 and generally don't exceed 6, incorporating an additional + and – either side of each grade to allow for more accurate positioning of student performance; for example, a student may achieve a 3-, 3 or 3+.

They are *not* GCSE Grades though! They are Gordon's specific.

- Different Grade Descriptors
- Based on KS3 Curriculum
- Additional sub-levels of +/-

We use KS2 data and MidYis scores to begin students on this pathway and to plot a progression model for them from Y7 to Y11 in each subject.



## KS3 Attainment Grades - Progression table

	Year 7		Year 8		Year 9		KS4
Ability Group	T2/2	T3/1	T2/2	T3/1	T2/2	T3/1	Exam
GOLD	2+ to 3=	3- to 3+	3+ to 4=	4- to 4+	5- to 5+	6- to 6+	9
GOLD	2+ to 3=	3- to 3+	3+ to 4=	4- to 4+	5- to 5+	5+ to 6=	8
Upper	2- to 2+	2= to 3-	3- to 3+	3= to 4-	4- to 4+	4+ to 5=	7
Upper	2- to 2+	2= to 3-	3- to 3+	3= to 4-	4- to 4+	4= to 5-	6
Middle	1= to 2-	1+ to 2=	2= to 3-	2+ to 3=	3= to 4-	3= to 4-	5
Lower	B+ to 1=	1- to 1+	1+ to 2=	1+ to 2=	2= to 3-	2+ to 3=	4
Lower	B- to B=	B= to 1-	B+ to 1=	1- to 1+	1= to 2-	1+ to 2=	3
Foundation	B- to B=	B- to B=	B- to B+	B= to 1-	1- to 1+	1= to 2-	2

Because these tables are specific to each subject, we don't share them all with parents, however, you will be told if your son or daughter is 'making expected progress' or not when you receive their Progress Reports.



#### KS3 Attainment Grades

- Progress is measured against this model from Y7 right through to Y11. These progression models are refreshed at the start of Y10 using Yellis scores.
- This system allows us to offer students a clear journey from Year 7 to 11 and allows staff, students and parents to understand whether students are making expected progress.
- Whilst those students likely to achieve lower GCSE grades may begin at the lower end of this scale, and make slower progress over time, students within every subject will still be targeted to reach grades equivalent to progress in the top 10% nationally at the end of Year 11, with typically just over 50% of students doing so.





KS3 Attainment Grades are linked to specific Grade Descriptors which highlight skills and knowledge used to determine the different attainment grades in each subject.

Students will undertake Key Assessments, usually once per term at KS3, which will be graded using these descriptors.

Parents should see progress in student attainment, usually at a rate of *roughly* 1 sub-level per half term.

Subjects will differ in the rate of progress across the year, however, with some making steady progress across the whole year, and others more likely to be slow to start and speed up towards the end e.g., MFL

#### Support from home

- 1. Check exercise books for quality of work and marking.
- 2. Ensure that feedback has been acted upon.
- 3. Regularly discuss school and specific subjects.
- 4. Ensure students stay for Prep.
- 5. Encourage wider reading.
- 6. Encourage private reading at home too (30 minutes).



## Importance of reading

- The research stresses the importance of early literacy
- Boys' particularly for their future success (in exams/ in life), boys reading for pleasure 'at home', from as early as possible is vital.

Prep opportunity – stay longer!



#### Careers

- Careers Lead is Mrs Augusta Kennedy
- Email: <a href="mailto:careers@gordons.school">careers@gordons.school</a>
- Events and talks for all year groups will take place across the year
- For full information on our comprehensive programme, please go to
- www.gordons.school/careers





#### Transition to GCSE

- Stay focussed on Y9... enjoy the variety and love of learning at KS3
- Spring term Y9 GCSE Options process begins
- Use this term to solidify interests and passions
- Consider aptitude as well as enjoyment
- Speak to teachers and older students
- Think about post-18 opportunities and careers



## Key Dates



The most popular and trusted parents' evening platform

#### Year 9 have two important evenings:

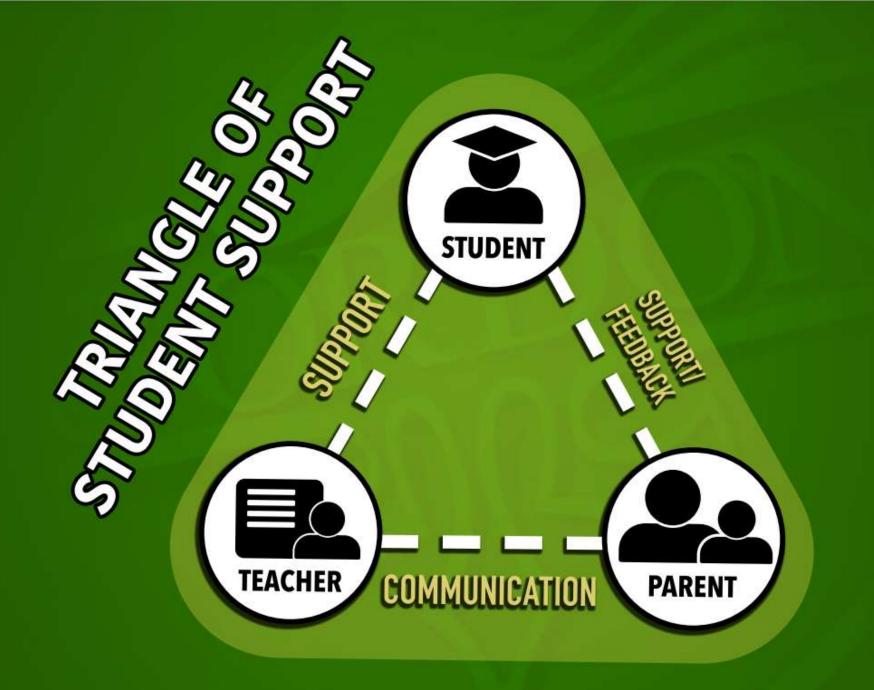
- Y9 Options Information Evening An in-person event to discuss the Options process
  - Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 6.00-7.00pm
- 2. Y9 Academic Information Evening An online event to meet teachers to discuss progress and attainment
  - Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 5.30-8.00pm

First Progress Report sent home – w/b 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023



# Pastoral & Co-curricular Ms Carruthers Deputy Head (Pastoral)







#### Contact Details

#### STAFF CONTACT DETAILS:

Head of House: majones@gordons.school House email: victoria@gordons.school

House phone number: 07825 459023 or 01276 859715

#### STAFF CONTACT DETAILS:

Head of House: jsinclair@gordons.school

House Assistant (Monday & Tuesday): sjackson@gordons.school House Assistant (Wednesday-Friday): sbailey@gordons.school

House email: buckingham@gordons.school



#### Medical Centre

#### Day Students

- If students feel unwell, they should report to the School Office.
- Students may have a short period of rest in the School Office before returning to lessons, or they will be sent to the School Medical Centre for assessment.
- Simple over-the-counter medications may be given (provided parental consent is in place) or parents will be called to collect the child if absolutely necessary.

#### Residential Students and those with IHCPs

- As above during lesson time, except that students who are unfit to return to lessons will be looked after in the school Medical Centre.
- Outside lesson time, Residential Boarders have access to the school Medical Centre or on-call Nurse for all their medical needs.



## Safeguarding

- Safe environments
- Attendance knowing where students are
- Mental health issues
- Drug & alcohol use
- Abuse





#### Absence

Absence (Day Boarders) 01276 858084 Option #1 absence@gordons.school

Parents must contact the School on either of the above by 9.15am to report that their child will be absent. Any absence notice not received will trigger an automatic request for information at 10.00am each morning. The reason for any absence must always be submitted in writing prior to the absence if known, or on the student's return to school.

For Saturday fixtures: if your son or daughter is ill on the morning of the fixture, please email the coach directly.



#### Access to site

8-5pm please call Reception to enter the School site from either the bridge gate on foot or main gate by car.

Always report to Reception. Do not go straight to your son/daughter's House.

After 5pm please call Security directly and someone will come and meet you.

## Evening Pick-Ups

Buckingham
Khartoum
Gravesend
Sandringham
Victoria



Augusta
Balmoral
China
Kensington
Windsor



#### Evening Arrangements for Day Boarders



Day Boarders should either be in prep from **6.00pm - 7.30pm** or have left the school site. Students are allowed to leave prep at the halfway break at 6.45pm. They are then expected to leave the site immediately.



Day Boarders are not allowed back onto the school site after 7.30pm weekdays or after 12.00pm on Saturday unless they are attending a staff-supervised activity. The Library will be available to day sixth form students until 9pm for those wishing to study.



Prep will continue to be available for all Day Boarders to attend on a Friday between 6.00pm - 7.00pm, immediately after tea. Year 7 students will go to Kitchener whilst Year 8-11 students will go to the Library. This time can be used for either prep or silent reading.



#### Other Pick-Up Arrangements



Exeats and Half-Term - lessons will finish at 3.35 pm. Day students can be collected or walk home at that time and Residential Boarders can be collected at 4.00 pm.



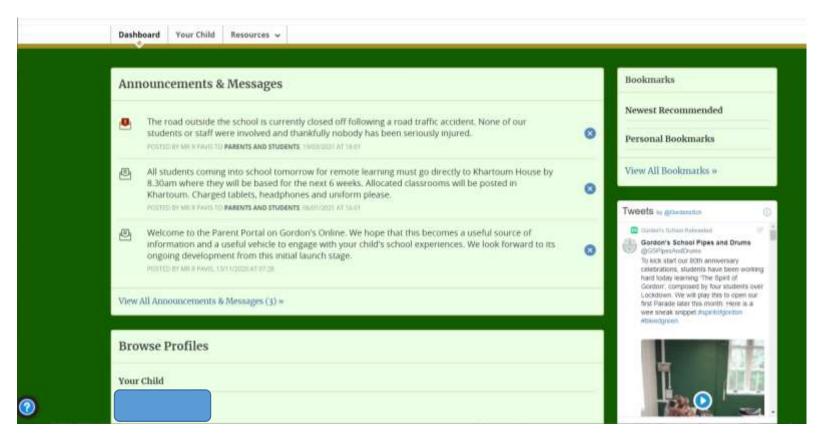
End of Term – lessons will finish at 12.00pm and Day Boarders can be collected or walk home at that time. Residential Boarders will be collected from 12.15pm.



Parents of day boarders may park on the Parade Square, in order to avoid congestion on the local roads, but must leave the site as soon as possible in order for the residential boarders' parents to park.



## Firefly - Dashboard

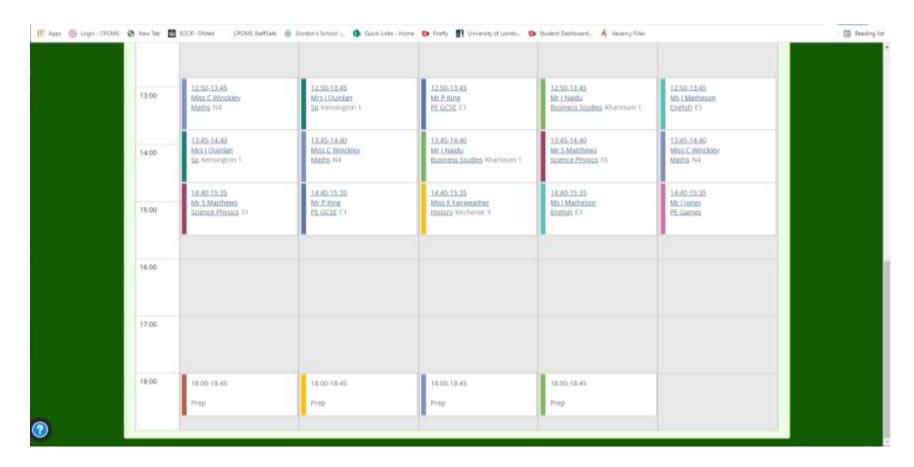


- Announcements
- Your Child link
- School Calendar
- Contact Details
- App downloads
- Twitter & Facebook
- Where they are!
- Reports
- Behaviour
- Rewards
- Tasks (Prep)
- Personal blogs
- Timetable (incl Prep)



## Prep attendance

Keep checking your child's planner on Firefly. (Inform House if your child will be absent) Absence from prep will be followed up daily with an email at 6.30pm.









#### Detention changes

- Students have time for self-reflection.
- They may not do prep.
- They may not look at their tablets.
- They may read a book, if they have one.

• Lunch detentions and School detentions (Fridays 5-6pm) take priority.



## Uniform & Appearance

- Ties, shirts and blazers
- Skirts & Trousers
- Polishable shoes

- Hair and piercings
- Risk of detention for uniform infringements











## Sports Kit





#### Mobile devices for Y7-11 students



No students in Years 7-11 are allowed mobile phones in school. It is therefore helpful for students not to bring them into school at all. If they are brought in, they should be handed in to House offices each morning. All communications between school and home should be through the Houses using either the landline or the House mobile numbers.



Any phones that are handed in in the morning will be returned before prep but must be switched off and silent during prep. Students are allowed to listen to music through their tablets during prep.



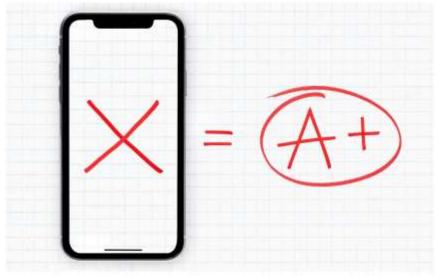
## Online Safety – The 4 Cs

	Content Receiving mass produced content	Contact Participating in (adult initiated) online activity	Conduct (Perpetrator or victim in peer-to-peer exchange	Commercialism (Child as a consumer)
Aggressive	Violent/ gory content	Harassment, stalking	Bullying, hostile peer activity	Identity theft, fraud, phishing scams, gambling
Sexual	Pornographic content	Grooming, sexual abuse or exploitation	Sexual harassment, 'sexting'	Sextortion, sexual exploitation
Values	Racist/ hateful content/ pornography/ disinformation	Ideological persuasion	Potentially harmful user-generated content	Embedded marketing, bias, persuasive design



## 'I quit TikTok and aced my GCSEs': the social experiment in East London that's paying dividends

Young people are spending up to 12 hours a day glued to screens and it's ruining their concentration. But those who quit have seen big gains







## Psychoactive Substances (Drugs)

- Includes any substance used to cause a psychoactive effect
- Easily available through online aps
- Easily obtainable in West End (County Lines)
- Commonly used by Y8-11 students at weekend parties often in homes
- Drugs Testing at Gordon's if we suspect students under the influence
- Drugs brought onto or used on site leads to a fixed or permanent exclusion
- Random visits from sniffer dogs
- Vapes are included in the list of banned items at school



## NHS Wellbeing Definition

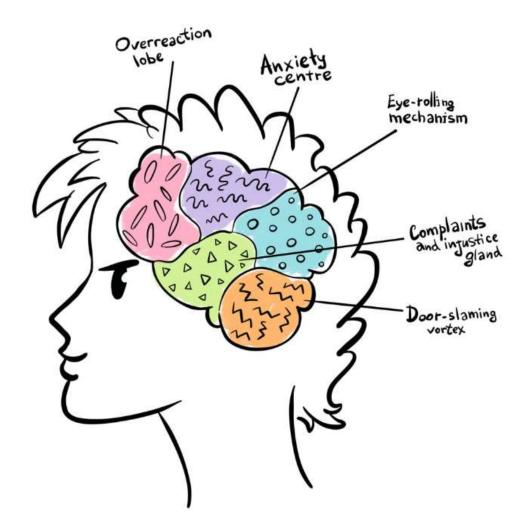
 People with great well-being still have times of stress and frustration, but they have the physical, emotional and social resources to overcome challenges.

• 'Being well' is something you do, <u>not</u> something you are. No-one can give wellbeing to you. It's you who has to take action.'



#### Teenage Brain

- Revolutionary overhaul, which happens in Y8, 9 & 10
- Teenagers become engaged in new skills
  - Group planning
  - Identity within the group
  - Compromise
  - Negotiation









## Friendship Issues

• Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.





## Bullying is not...

- single episodes of social rejection or dislike
- single episode acts of nastiness or spite
- random acts of aggression or intimidation
- mutual arguments, disagreements or fights.
- single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.
- these actions can cause great distress though and pastoral support is in place.



## Anti-Bullying at Gordon's







## **Boarding Charter**

 The Boarding Charter defines how students and staff promote a kinder and more connected community.



#### **Gordon's Boarding Charter**

In line with British Values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Respect and Tolerance, and Individual Liberty, the following are the principles upon which boarding at Gordon's School is based:

- Each boarder has a 'voice' and where reasonable to do so boarders' views will be sought with regard to decisions that affect their environment, well-being and progress.
- Each boarder agrees to abide by House rules and accept that there are, and should be, consequences if rules are broken. These rules should be fair and consistent across Houses and are recognised as a code that protects what we value as a community.
- 3 Regardless of athnicity, religion, gender or (dis)ability, each boarder has the right to be able to work, relax and express their opinion free from abuse, intimidation, hurassment, teasing and builtying Boarders accept the right to express their opinions is not without boundaries and should not be knowingly hurtful.
- There is equality of opportunity for all boarders and as boarders progress through the House they enjoy increasing liberty of choice, within the limits of School rules.



#### Families







#### Families



families' competition



Total so far - summer term

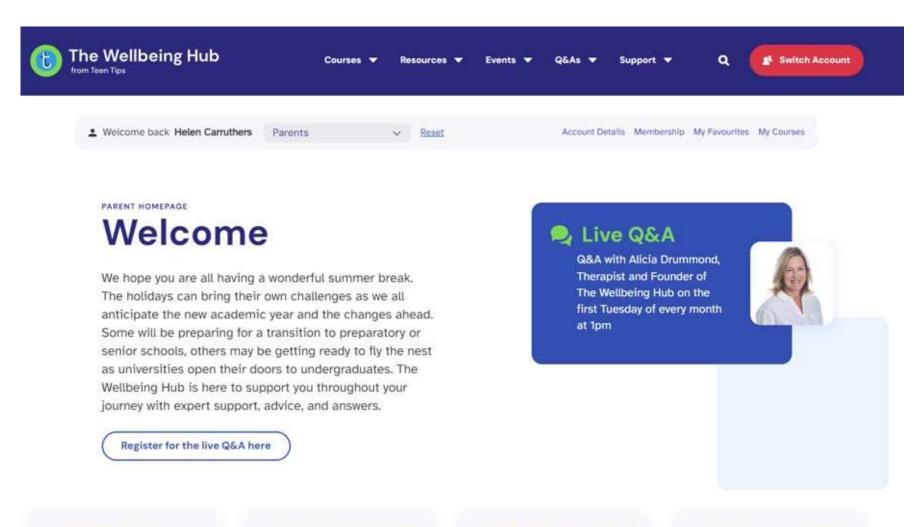
The winning family will receive the reward of a takeaway meal of their choice, to eat together at the end of term.



## Bounce Don't Break – NHS 5 steps



## Wellbeing Hub



> Summer Term Content Line-up > Autumn Term Content Line-up > Monthly Themes 2023

> Autumn Term Webinar Programme



## Honours Programme

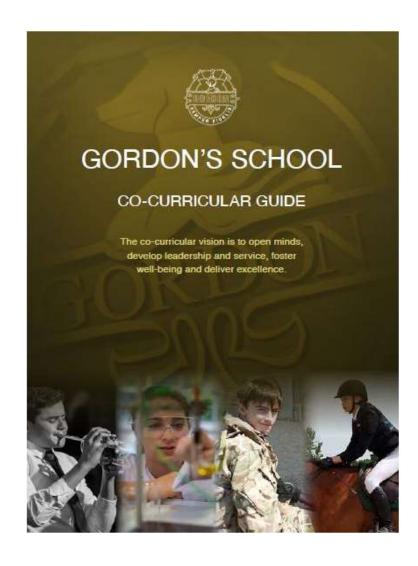
 Awarded for participation, volunteering & service which is above and beyond what is timetabled or expected.

Year	Level	Award
7	Entry	'G' Badge
8	Bronze	Badge
9	Silver	Badge
10	Gold	Badge
11	Platinum	Badge Platinum Tie

Only students passing all 3 rounds of house nominations, conduct & co-curricular checks are awarded Honours.



### Co-Curricular Enrichment

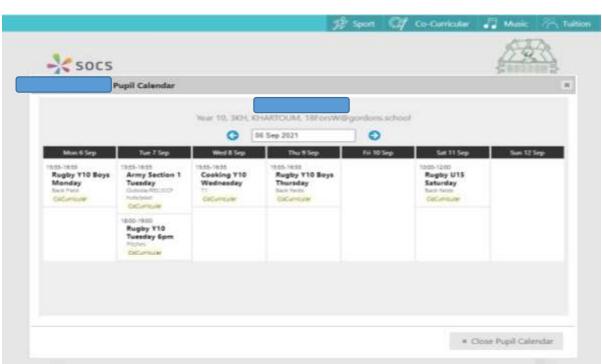


- P7 and Saturday morning
- School representation
- Friday marching
- Parades
- CCF
- DofE



## Period 7 & Saturday Morning

- Students must check SOCS information
- Fixture details (times, locations etc) are on SOCS
- Fixture or training information is on SOCS
- Correct kit at all times
- Team representation





## The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

• All Y9 students are enrolled on the Bronze Award – Mr Fox is running a separate information meeting about this next week.

to be confirmed

- Y10 students choose to do the Silver Award
- Y12&13 students choose to do the Gold Award
- Summer Term expedition dates:
  - Bronze: 20/21 April & 27/28 April
  - Silver 24-26 May & 14-16 June
  - Gold: 15-19 July & 29 July 2 Aug



## Inter-House





### Parades & Blues

- October Harvest Parade
- November Remembrance Parade
- Whitehall (January)
- Guildford (January)
- February Parade
- March Parade
- May Parade
- June Patron's Parade
- Annual (July)









## Balance

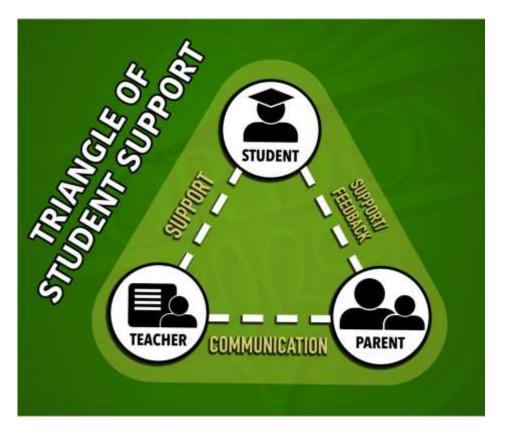
Modern ideas
 Traditional values

• Challenge Support



## 'Happy Parents, Happy Students'

- 'Research consistently concludes that,
   where there was an absence of over protective parenting, there was a
   statistically positive correlation with low
   anxiety / depression, social engagement
   and ability to solve problems and find
   solutions in adversity.'
- Nearly always best students don't know when we disagree





## Contacting Us

- Concerns. In the first instance
  - Pastoral concerns to Houses
  - Academic concerns to Head of Key Stage or, if subject specific, Head of Department / subject teacher
- 24-48 hours response time



#### Useful email addresses

Ms Carruthers – Deputy Head Pastoral:

hcarruthers@gordons.school

Ms Pierce – Deputy Head Curriculum:

jpierce@gordons.school

Miss Phillips - Head of Inclusion:

vphillips@gordons.school

Mrs Stuart - SENDCo:

cstuart@gordons.school

Miss Corner – Head of Learning Support:

lcorner@gordons.school

Mrs Kennedy – Careers:

careers@gordons.school

Miss Asghar - Co-Curricular Coordinator:

jasghar@gordons.school

Mr Lewis – Head of Lower School (Y7-9):

clewis@gordons.school

Mr Grace – Head of Upper School (Y10-11):

agrace@gordons.school



# Thank you

Safe journey home





