

June 2026

Dear parent/carer

We want to firstly thank you for all ongoing support with your student over the course of this academic year. We are incredibly proud of our Year 12 cohort, who have continued to show determination to succeed evidenced through their high attendance, proactive attitude towards their studies, and willingness to contribute to the wider school community.

This final term is very important for Year 12 students as they complete their university applications and sit their entrance exams to Year 13. We would therefore like to share some key points with you, as seek your support us in ensuring all students can succeed.

Entrance to Year 13 Exams

Exams begin on Monday 15th June and end Friday 26th June 2026. Students have received their timetables on Arbor, but a paper copy will be given to them later this week. We will also email the exam timetable home for your information.

Students register with form tutors as normal and remain on-site and in lessons when not in an exam; unless they are in an exam there are no changes to the school day. This is to ensure they have time with subject specialist teachers to retrieve exam content, practice exam technique and receive additional support they need to succeed.

Students must wear normal smart, business attire which includes appropriate footwear. Students must continue to have their lanyards and always wear their lanyards, including for exams.

Students must have a clear pencil case, and they must bring all equipment needed for their exams, as this will not be lent out by the exams team. If students have any concerns about this, they need to speak to Ms. Hill as soon as possible.

There are no planned catch-up exams to mirror the real A-Level exams they will sit next year. It is therefore important that they attend all exams.

All students are expected to **achieve 3 D grades** as a minimum to enter Year 13.

How you can support

High attendance directly impacts attainment; please continue to support us in ensuring students are in school at all times. Please continue to book appointments outside of school hours and only keep students off-sick if necessary.

Help them to find a quiet and focused space to study at home outside of school hours. Support them to adhere to their revision timetable, ensuring this remains a priority for them during this time.

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Principal: Louisa Seymour BEd

Show curiosity in their learning and ask them about what they are studying and what is on the exam, ask them to teach you something new!

Help them to be organised for their exams; have they got all their equipment, including a clear pencil case? Do they know which exam they are sitting and on which day? Have they been following a revision timetable in which they space practice over time, and not cram for exams?

Please do contact Ms. Hill if you have further questions on how you can support your child.

University / Apprenticeship Applications

While the final, external deadline for university applications is January 2027 (October 15th for medicine, dentistry, veterinary studies, Oxford and Cambridge), we endeavour to send all applications by the end of December 2026. As such, students have been working diligently on applications in form time and enrichment. Students have made incredible progress with this, and some have submitted 2-3 drafts of their personal statement to be reviewed. Please continue to encourage this and celebrate their success.

Key Points to be aware of

- Students should have decided on the subject / course they wish to study at university.
- Students must submit at least one full draft (made up of 3 separate questions) to form tutors / head of sixth form by the end of this academic year.
- Students entrance to Year 13 exam results will determine their forecast grades, which will be shared with universities on their application.
- If you wish to know more about the application process, please visit: <https://www.ucas.com/discover/advice-for-parents-guardians-and-carers>
- For anyone not wishing to attend University, we are supporting with apprenticeship and job applications, however we do suggest all students complete a university application.

As this is an important time in students lives, it is normal for them to feel stressed and overwhelmed. We will continue to monitor and support accordingly, but please help by checking-in with your child and encouraging a healthy sleep cycle, regular breaks and exercise and talking to them if they have any concerns or worries.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me via email to sfgeneral@uhs.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

C Hill
Head of Sixth Form