

HEADLINE STORY

Year 9's are setting Gold Standards!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 9 have started the year with real purpose. From the outset, we have been clear about what the gold standard looks like, and our students are showing that they are ready to meet that challenge. Smart uniform, calm and respectful conduct, positive relationships and a determined approach to learning are becoming the standards we expect every day. We want our Year 9 students not simply to meet expectations, but to take responsibility for maintaining them and to be positive role models within our school community.

We have high expectations because we believe in our students and what they can achieve. With continued support from home and school, we can help every Year 9 student build on this positive start and make this a year they can be truly proud of.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

Miss Maknus and the Year 9 team

Head of Learning, Year 9



What the gold standard looks like

1 Uniform

Correct uniform, worn smartly all day, in line with the [uniform policy](#).

2 Conduct

Showing calm, courteous and respectful behaviour around school and proudly living our [PROUD values and STAR behaviour](#).

3 Learning

Above all, being ready to learn, aiming high and giving their very best in every lesson.

Our Term So Far

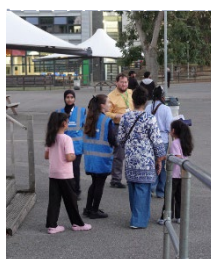
More stories and news: [school website > News & Events](#)



September

A Golden Start

A Golden Year begins, made even brighter with the opening of our new MUGA for PE, clubs and lunchtimes.



Monday 21st September

Open Evening

Our student volunteers impressed visitors and showed the gold standard in action.



October

Black History Month

Throughout the school, students learned about Black History Month in diverse and meaningful ways, participating in activities that celebrated the achievements, contributions, and history of Black individuals and communities.



Thursday 19th November

Year 9 Parents evening

An exciting year lies ahead as Year 9 students prepare to choose their GCSE options. Parents' Evening will celebrate progress and support students in making informed choices.

Post & Prep: Then. Now. Next.

Our whole-school homework approach supports students to build strong learning habits, retain key knowledge and come to lessons prepared and confident.

● **Post** Then

Builds on previous learning by regularly revisiting key knowledge from earlier topics, terms and years

● **Post** Now

Regularly revisits learning from the previous 10–14 days, helping students strengthen and retain key knowledge.

● **Prep** Next

Builds confidence by giving students an early introduction to key knowledge before it is covered in lessons.

Working together at home

- Encourage your child to share their **Post & Prep** and explain what they have learnt.
- Quiz them regularly using the **self-quizzing boxes** to help key knowledge stick.
- Support them in developing a **calm, consistent homework routine** each week.

FIND OUT MORE ONLINE

- [Post & Prep explained, with videos What's inside a booklet?](#)
- [Self-quizzing boxes](#)
- [How parents and carers can help](#)
- [Frequently asked questions](#)

96%

Our attendance ambition for every student

Attendance and Punctuality

Every day in school matters. Being present and on time supports learning, strengthens friendships and helps students achieve their best. Even 96% attendance means missing almost eight days of valuable learning across the school year.

- **Be in school and on time, every day.**
- **Keep appointments outside school hours** wherever possible.
- **Check Arbor regularly** for attendance and progress updates.

Clubs & Enrichment

All Abilities Welcome · [Wider Curriculum Clubs](#)

Through an extensive programme of enrichment activities, students engage in diverse experiences ranging from sport and the arts to STEM, leadership, and wellbeing initiatives, supporting their personal development and broadening their educational experience.

PE

Kit every lesson. Activities are designed to be inclusive, enabling every student to take part and enjoy the experience.

Can't change (e.g. a broken limb). Stay in uniform and take a non-participant role.

Jewellery and hair. All jewellery removed (no taping); long hair tied back.

Minor injury or illness. Still bring kit; staff can offer roles such as coach or umpire.

Periods. Students normally take part; speak to the PE teacher if symptoms make it difficult.

Missing kit. While replacements are being purchased, plain navy items with minimal branding, may be worn short-term. Students should bring a note with them from parents.

Need to get in touch? Email parents@uhs.org.uk.