



Queen Mary's Grammar School

Academic in purpose - Generous in approach - Enterprising in spirit - International in outlook



Year 12 parents' information evening
Thursday 10th September 2026

1



Queen Mary's Grammar School

Academic in purpose - Generous in approach - Enterprising in spirit - International in outlook

Running order

- Mr Langton (Headmaster)**
 - Welcome and introductions
 - Sixth form recruitment and induction
 - QM experience and Core Values
 - Parental communications and expectations
 - Future Sport @ QMGS project
- Mr Lax (Deputy Headteacher)**
 - Curriculum; Timetables and options
 - Additional Academic Options
- Mr Matley (Head of Sixth Form)**
 - Support in the sixth form
 - Signing in/out and SPS procedures
 - Additional opportunities in the sixth form
 - Timeline of 6.1 and 6.2
- Mr Kolaric (Assistant Head)**
 - Effective learning/revision habits
 - BYOD
- Mr Sunley (Head of Economics/Careers) and Mrs Pagett (Careers Advisor/QMHS Careers Lead)**
 - Y12 Workplace Experience Programme; Unifrog; Post-18 Guidance Interviews
- Captains of School**
 - A student perspective on life in the sixth form
- Queen Mary's Association**
 - Welcome to the Queen Mary's Parents' Association

Q&A

2



Mr Richard Langton Headmaster

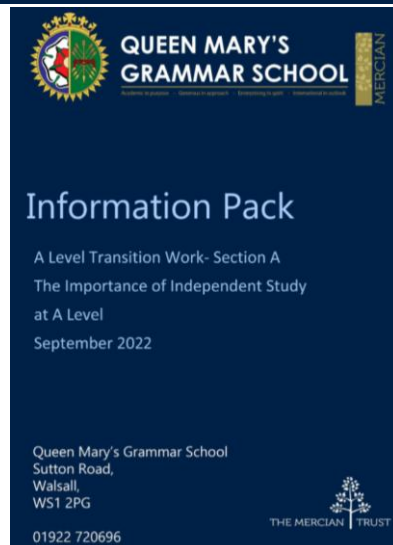
Welcome and introductions
Sixth form recruitment and induction
QM experience and Core Values
Parental communications and expectations
Future Sport @ QMGS project
Queen Mary's Association (QMA)

3



Sixth form recruitment and induction

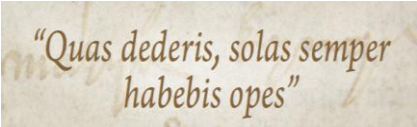
- Over 130 students carrying on from Year 11
- Over 110 new students are joining the school!
- Importance of induction – social and academic
- Transition work and testing
- Importance of low-level testing - especially on the first two or so weeks as students adapt back into school
- A fresh start for some – realigning standards and expectations



4



The 4 pillars:
Academic in Purpose
International in Outlook
Enterprising in Spirit
Generous in Approach



The QM experience

Recognising our past
Re-engaging with the USPs
Part of a community
Developing leaders
Striving for excellence in all we do
Taking co-curricular opportunities

5



Parental communications and expectations



Queen Mary's Grammar School
Huddersfield T1 England, UK

Beginning of term notices, September 2026

28th August 2026

Dear Parents/Guardian,

I hope that this letter finds you well and that you have had a good summer. Welcome to those students who are joining us for the first time and welcome back to those returning. I hope that the summer has rejuvenated you and you are ready to make a success of this year. We have been delighted to celebrate the successes of our GCSE and A-level students over the break, the headlines of which can be seen on our [website](#) and Blusbury account.

Beginning of term arrangements.

- Tue 1 Sep – staff training day (no students in school)
- Wed 2 Sep – Year 7 and 12 induction day (see separate instructions for those year groups)
- Thu 3 Sep – return to school for all students (school starts at 8.45am); students register in form rooms and normal lessons start from p3 onwards. Details of form rooms are below and will be on display in the canteen.

Form room arrangements.

- Year 7 – CL3, M1, M2, M7 (mainly English corridor)
- Year 8 – Q7-11, L3 (mainly MFL corridor)
- Year 9 – H5-10 (humanities block)
- Year 10 – H14, H6, S15 (mainly humanities block)
- Year 11 – M4, M5, Q4-6, S14 (mainly maths corridor)
- Year 12/13 – S1–18, M3, C1, 6L8 (mainly science block)

Attendance requirements

School attendance is a legal requirement. Absence negatively impacts a child's academic potential and performance and denies them the opportunity to interact socially with their peers and build experiences beyond the classroom. All pupils should aim to attend school 100% of the time. Attendance and punctuality continue to be monitored rigorously and as of September, we will maintain the approach from the previous two years, in line with the [regulatory guidance](#) published by the Department for Education. This includes:

- The daily sharing of attendance data with the Department for Education.
- Updated fine rates for unauthorised absence.
- Clear thresholds for penalty notices.
- Clear support and challenge to address any punctuality issues

Term-time holidays will not be authorised. We are obliged to consider issuing a penalty notice to parents if a child misses five days of school due to unauthorised absence. Where attendance or punctuality causes concern, appropriate levels of challenge and support will be implemented. If a child's attendance falls below 90%, they are classed as persistently absent. In such cases, the school will liaise with the Local Authority and an Education Welfare Officer, who may initiate legal proceedings if parents/carers are not meeting their legal obligation to ensure their child attends school. Our priority remains to take a 'support first' approach, working with students and families to overcome any barriers to attendance.



Queen Mary's Grammar School
Huddersfield T1 England, UK

Parents can continue to monitor their child's attendance and punctuality via [EduLink](#) if you are unable to access this system, please contact Mrs Johnson at gs@queenmarysgrammar.org.uk

Behaviour expectations

At Queen Mary's Grammar School, we are proud of the respectful, ambitious and purposeful culture that characterises our community. High standards of behaviour enable our students to thrive academically, develop positive relationships and make the most of the opportunities available to them, both in and beyond the classroom. We are committed to maintaining these high standards in lessons, during educational visits and enrichment activities, and while travelling to and from school.

We ask all students to uphold our CREDIT values and embrace our Atomic Habits (p3), which underpin our expectations for conduct, character and personal responsibility. Atomic Habits are the small actions and routines that, when practised consistently, lead to positive outcomes over time. By focusing on these daily behaviours, we create an environment in which students feel safe, supported and able to achieve their very best.

Over the past year, we have further strengthened our behaviour systems to ensure expectations are clear, consistent and fair for all students. These approaches will continue this year:

- A structured response to classroom disruption. Following a warning and behaviour point, students can expect to receive a Same Day Detention if disruption continues. This helps minimise lost learning time and maintains a positive learning environment for all.
- Where disruption becomes persistent, we implement a range of appropriate consequences alongside targeted support to help students successfully re-engage with school and learning.

We continue to take a clear, consistent and supportive approach to behaviour. While we will always work with students who require additional guidance, we remain unwavering in our commitment to the high standards that define our school community. We greatly appreciate the continued support of parents and carers in reinforcing these expectations.

Mobile phones and devices

To support learning, concentration and positive social interaction, following DfE guidance, the school now operates a clear 'devices away, all day' approach. Mobile phones and other smart devices should be switched off and kept out of sight throughout the school day, including during lesson changeovers, break and lunchtime. Please refer back to the letter sent to parents in the summer term, which is available on the [latest page](#) of our website.

Research consistently shows that reducing access to devices improves focus, engagement and wellbeing. By removing unnecessary distractions, we create an environment where students can fully participate in lessons, build meaningful relationships and engage positively in school life.

Students who choose to bring a smart device into school do so at their own risk and are expected to adhere to these expectations at all times. Any unauthorised use of a device will result in an appropriate sanction and, where necessary, further action to support students in meeting the school's expectations.

6



ATOMIC HABITS

The small seemingly insignificant things which when done on a consistent basis lead to our outcomes

GIVE  **BE ON TIME** 

to teacher and task all the time

ALWAYS  **BE EQUIPPED** **and ready to learn**

DO YOUR BEST  **to attend school** all the time

SHOW RESPECT **to staff and pupils**

Be courteous, considerate and cooperative

 **Always wear the CORRECT UNIFORM**

Tidy up after yourself and care for your surroundings 

★ **Be a CREDIT** to QMGS ★

Core Values

QMGS

- C**ourage. facing new challenges with determination & resilience
- R**espect for yourself & tolerance of others
- E**quality opportunities for all, whilst recognising & celebrating diversity
- D**iscipline developing personal responsibility
- I**ntegrity to be honest, sincere, reliable & selfless
- T**eamwork stronger together

High Challenge, High Support pastoral approach

7



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Farchynys

Engaging with the USPs





QMGS Music Department presents **spring Concert**



YOUNG CARERS IN SCHOOLS



cricket for ALL TOP 50



Mandarin Excellence Programme



Combined Cadet Force



in Schools STEM Challenge



21CC



Young Enterprise



GREEN TREE SCHOOL



FORGING FUTURES

8



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FutureSport@QMGs: A Community Legacy Project



Walsall school looking to transform its sporting facilities – and here's why

A Walsall school is looking to transform its sporting facilities to enable it to compete competitively in hockey through an ambitious plan.

9



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Queen Mary's Grammar School
Headmaster: R J Langton, M A

To Parents of Pupils in Y7 September 2025

September 2025

Dear Parents

The QM Experience Fund

I hope that the start of term has been a positive one for your son. It is important to us that by the end of his time at Queen Mary's we have equipped him with the tools to face the future with confidence, including a strong academic portfolio. We have found, though, that it is not just exam results but also life experiences that shape young lives and opens doors. It is this 'QM experience' that sets us apart and makes our school such a rewarding place to work and study.

The School has many fine traditions dating back 470 years, including the embodiment of our School motto, *Quas dederis, solas semper habebis opes* which translates as 'It is what you give that you will keep as eternal riches'. Our hope is that you will consider giving to the QM Experience Fund to help us to help your child, and others, as he matures. Whether it is through sport, music, drama, language learning or one of the many other extra-curricular activities, we hope that your son will make the absolute most of the QM experience in his time with us.

We try our best to provide these activities through our school budget or at as low a cost as possible. However, our ambitions often go beyond this income and I am hoping that you will consider giving a regular amount to ensure that we can continue to offer a full range of activities. For the past three years, we have been fundraising towards the [Future Sport @ QMGs project](#); an ambitious initiative to revolutionise our facilities for the benefit of our students and the wider community. Any donations to the QM experience fund will initially go towards this, but will support a wide range of other opportunities once we have completed the project. We launched the QM Experience Fund last year and received a tremendous response, raising over £10,000. Added to just under £20,000 raised through the QMA events, this was a terrific boost to the school from the parental/student body and has made a genuine difference to what we can achieve.

I hope that you will seriously consider making a regular payment to the QM Experience Fund. We are grateful for a regular contribution as it enables us to plan the best ways in which to support our young people. Please follow this [link](#) for details of how to set up a standing order to the donations account and a Gift Aid declaration which, if you are a UK taxpayer, will allow us to claim an additional 25% on top of your donations. Alternatively, if you would prefer you can make a one-off annual payment (£75) or termly payments (£25 per term), you can do this via Parent Mail. Please select the 'QM Experience' option.

Future Sport @ QMGs
A Community Legacy
Project
Almost £1m in pledges
Planning decision
imminent
Launch of the QM
experience fund
All playing our part

10

10



Queen Mary's Grammar School
Headmaster: R. J. Langford, M.B.E.

To Parents of Pupils in Y7-13

September 2026

Dear Parents

The QM Experience Fund

I hope you have enjoyed a restful summer and that both you and your child are looking ahead to the new academic year with confidence, purpose and optimism. At QMGS, our ambition is that every pupil leaves us not only with a strong academic profile, but also with the wider experiences, confidence and character that help shape their future. Examination results matter, of course, but so too do the opportunities beyond the classroom: the moments that broaden horizons, build resilience and open doors. It is this wider 'QM experience' that makes our school such a distinctive and rewarding community in which to learn and grow.

The School has many fine traditions stretching back 470 years, including the spirit captured in our School motto, *Quas dederis, solas semper habebis opes*, which translates as 'It is what you give that you will keep as eternal riches'. That sentiment feels especially important today. The QM Experience Fund is rooted in the idea of giving back: parents supporting the School so that current and future pupils can enjoy the same richness of opportunity that has long been part of a QMGS education. Whether through sport, CCF, music, drama, language learning, outdoor education, clubs, societies or the many other extra-curricular activities available, we want every pupil to make the most of their time with us and to benefit from opportunities that stay with them well beyond school.

We work hard to provide these opportunities through the school budget, or at the lowest possible cost to families. However, our aspirations for the pupils often go beyond what core funding alone can provide. A regular contribution to the QM Experience Fund helps us plan with confidence and continue to offer a breadth of activities that enrich school life. When we launched the Fund last year, parents responded with great generosity, contributing almost £10,000. Together with just under £20,000 raised through QMA events, this represented a tremendous collective investment by our parent and student community, and it has already made a genuine difference to what we can offer.

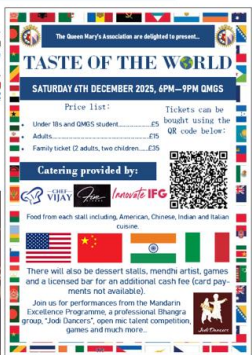
Future Sport @ QMGS A Community Legacy Project

Work has been
completed on the
pitches (waiting for the
grass to grow!)

Still fundraising to do
for the pavilion

QM experience fund
All playing our part

11



12



Queen Mary's Association (QMA)

The QMA have played a crucial part in school fundraising over a long period of time. Previous events have raised money for a refurbishment of the library, the purchase of a new minibus, installation of outdoor cricket nets and covers, provision of food hampers and for the set up of a fencing club, along with other projects. We will be using monies this year towards our sports fundraising project, along with supporting some school projects in other departments.

The dates for the next events are:

Sat 5 December 2026	Taste of the World
Sat 30 January 2027	Burns Night
Sat 26 June 2027	Summer arts festival

**Please fill in the MS
interest forms!**

13



Mr Michael Lax
Deputy Headteacher
m.lax@qmgs.merciantrust.org.uk

**Curriculum
A-Level Options**

14



QMGs Curriculum policy

Academically-Ambitious and Accessible to All

Quality of Education Policy – September 2024

Section 1: Curriculum policy
 Section 2: Teaching & Learning policy
 Section 3: Assessment & Feedback policy
 Section 4: Homework policy
 Section 5: Legislative compliance and responsibilities

Section 1: Curriculum

Principles:

“Academically-Ambitious and Accessible to All”

Queen Mary's Grammar School believes that the Quality of Education experienced by students is driven by a curriculum in its broadest sense: the entirety of a student's learning experience, in lessons and beyond. We have designed and embedded a curriculum that is planned and sequenced to develop in our highly academic students the knowledge and skills necessary for their future roles in society, while ensuring that the balanced curriculum offer is accessible to all.

15



QMGs Curriculum policy

A Levels

Academically-Ambitious and Accessible to All

- A Levels are undoubtedly challenging for all students – we want all students to be academically-ambitious
- 3 A level subjects for two years plus an additional academic option
- Exception is Further Maths for those wanting to pursue a relevant degree course (e.g. maths, physics, economics)
- Emphasis is upon choosing the right 3 A Level subjects early on
- Expectation of mentoring/volunteering and participation in extra-curricular activities
- Internal Y12 exams in April (7 months away!)
- Influence upon UCAS Predicted Grades

16



Options Change Requests

- A Level options change requests must be submitted as soon as possible via the MS Form at (QR Code to the right):
- [A Level Options Change Request Form 2026 – Fill in form](#)
- We will try our best to accommodate requests but any swap depends upon:
 - Meeting the GCSE entry requirement for that subject
 - Spaces available in the subject
 - Avoiding timetable blocking clashes for a combination of subjects
- We want students to be certain about choosing the right subject but the longer a decision is left, the more difficult it will be
- No changes after 11th September

A Level Options Change Request Form 2026



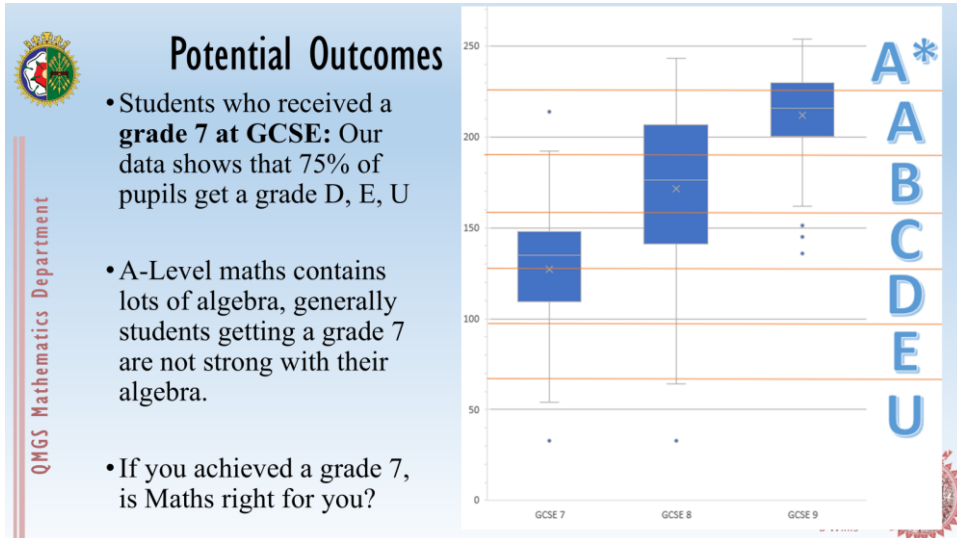
17



Timetable and Options

Block A (11)	Block B (11)	Block C (11)	Block D (11)
Biology	Biology	Biology x2	Art
Chemistry x2	Chemistry x2	Chemistry	Biology x2
Design	Economics	Computing	Business
Economics	English Literature	English Lang&Lit	Chemistry x2
History	Geography	Economics	French
Further Maths	Further Maths	History	Mandarin
Mathematics x2	Mathematics x3	Further Maths	Mathematics x3
Philosophy	Physics	Mathematics x2	Physics x2
		Physics x2	Psychology
		Psychology	MAT SUBJECTS

18



19



The Reality

Year 12 Really Matters!

- The bad news ...
- Grade C average and below at the end of Y12 2025 = 45 students (19% of cohort)
- Grade C average and below A Level 2026 = 37 students (16% of cohort)
- The good news ...
- Grade B average and above the end of Year 12 2025 = 144 students (62% of cohort)
- Grade B average and above A Level 2026 = 151 students (65% of cohort)

How you approach your studies in Year 12 has an enormous impact upon outcomes at A Level. Now is not the time to relax!

20



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Mr Robert Matley

Head of Sixth Form

r.matley@qmgs.merciantrust.org.uk

Support in the sixth form
 Signing in/out and SPS procedures
 Additional opportunities in the sixth form
 Timeline of Year 12 and 13
 Introduction of students

21



22



Additional academic options

- Sports Leadership Award
- Level 3 Core Maths
- Level 3 EPQ (Extended Project Qualification)
- History of Art
- OCR Personal Finance
- Ionic Liquids Research Project
- Foreign Language Leader Award
- "Change Your Mind" Mental health/wellbeing and volunteering programme
- Mandarin – IB/HSK
- Young Reporter Scheme
- Computing – MOS
- Duke of Edinburgh

23



Support in the Sixth Form

Dr N Rowley (Head of Year 12)

Induction Programme

Group Tutors & Form Periods

Priority Application preparation

Academic teachers and departments

Year 12 & 13 Prefects

Mentoring Scheme

Sixth Form Assemblies

Non-teaching staff – Mrs Bayley / Mrs Mohan / Miss Smith / Mrs Thomson / Mr Baugh

Parental Support – communication via Edulink & email

24



- Sixth Form
Signing-Out
Privileges
- Supervised
Study (SPS)

	Year 12
End of a normal school day	If leaving at 3.40, there is no need to sign-out
No lesson p6	Use biometric scanners
Early finish due to no lesson p5 and p6	Sign-out with Mrs Bayley in the Collier Centre
Lunch Offsite	Use biometric scanners when leaving and returning
Wednesday Games arrangements	Sign-out with Mrs Bayley in the Collier Centre if not involved in on-site activities

25



Additional opportunities in the sixth form

Community Volunteering

Mentoring – QMGS, primary schools, STEM ambassadors

Coaching and refereeing

Work experience (including alumni network)/World of Work week

University and other outside speakers

INFORMATION NEEDED – Bursary, Access Arrangements, SEND etc

26



Timeline of Year 12 and Year 13

Year 12 Parents' Evening – Thursday 27th February 2027

Year 12 Futures Evening – 28th January 2027

Prefect Application Process – November 2026/March 2027

Examinations – 26th April-7th May 2027

UCAS Fair (Post-18 Pathways) - June 2027

World of Work Week – 24th-28th May 2027

UCAS Day – July 2027

Priority Applicants (Oxbridge/Medicine/Dentistry/Vet Science)
September 2027

Year 13 Parents' Evening – October 2027

UCAS Application process completed in November 2027

Final A-Level Examinations – May/June 2028

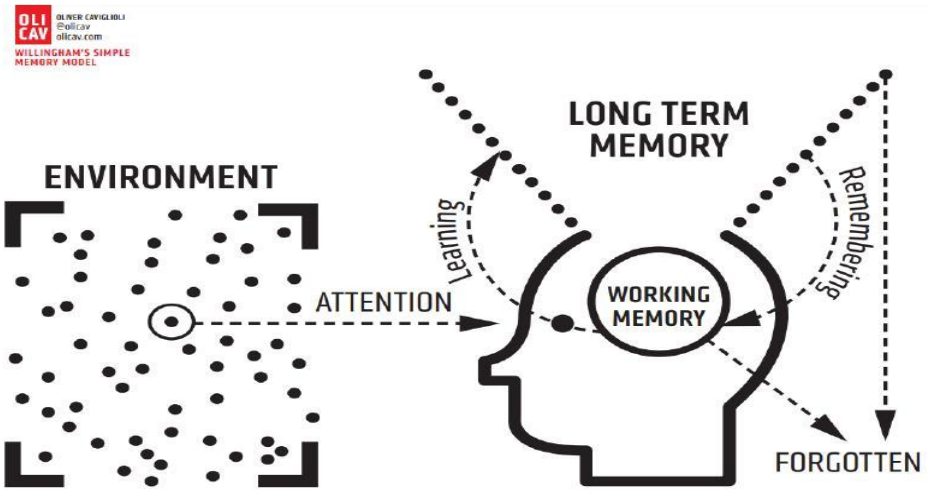
27



Mr Kolarić

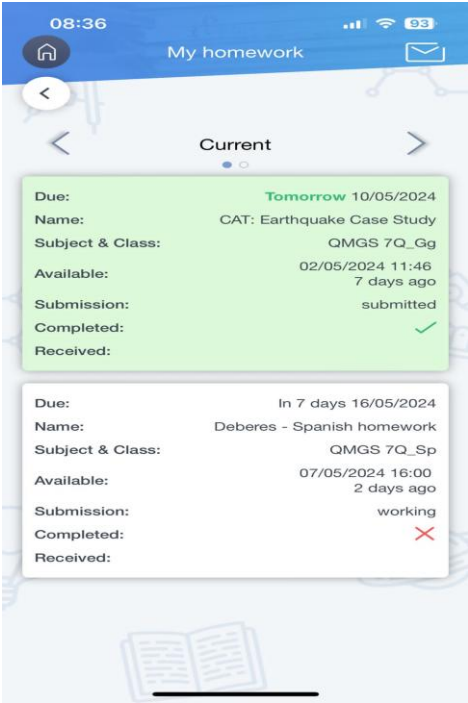
1. Effective learning/revision habits
2. BYOD

28



The Learning Scientists

29



30

Weekly Assignment Summary

Sunday, August 30, 2020

Here's a summary of assignment updates for from last week and a peek at upcoming due dates.

Coming up: August 30 - September 5

Assignments created before Sunday, August 30, 2020. More may be added

August 30

Weekly Digest Trial - Team 2 • R Lally
Ready to Learn Python

August 31

SMcP French Y9 2019-20 • S McPHEE
Assigned work w/c 13th July

Weekly Digest Trial - Team 1 • R Lally
3- If Statements

September 1

GCSE history preparation Sept 2020 • R REYNOLDS
Summer preparation booklet Germany

Weekly Digest Trial - Team 2 • R Lally
Python - Selection

Previous week: August 23 - August 29

Turned in

Not turned in

✓ 1

! 3

Weekly Digest Trial - Team 1

R Lally

1- Introduction to Python

Not turned in • Due August 28

5- Review your knowledge

Not turned in • Due August 28

2- Working with data

Turned in • Due August 29

31

BYOD Sept 2026

- Expectation that all Year 12 Students have a stylus enabled tablet to record and store notes.
- These will be student owned devices (BYOD) and not from a third-party leasing provider.
- Students must connect to the BYOD network to ensure filtering and lockdown accessibility.
- At dept. discretion certain tasks can be paper based.
- All assessments will continue to be paper based.
- **Primary aim =help with organisation**
- **Secondary aim = lots of benefits of using tech in your learning!**

32

Maximise Your A Level Learning with Your Device

DOWNLOAD MS TEAMS AND MS ONENOTE

Organise Everything in One Place

- Use Microsoft Teams for assignments, deadlines, and resources
- Create subject-specific sections in OneNote to keep your notes organised

Take Smart Digital Notes

- Annotate slides, worksheets, and past papers with your stylus
- Mix typed and handwritten notes for clarity
- Use OneNote tags to highlight key info

Boost Your Revision

- Use OneNote's search to find notes quickly
- Embed videos, images, and links for interactive learning
- Convert handwritten notes into neat typed summaries

Stay on Top of Deadlines

- Set reminders in Teams and OneNote- calendar

Go Paperless, Stay Productive

- Download resources straight into OneNote instead of printing
- Keep all your work backed up and accessible anywhere

33

Using AI as a 'learning coach'

- **Think first, ask AI second:** attempt the question before seeking support.
- Ask AI to **explain difficult ideas in a different way**, using examples or analogies.
- Use it as a **Socratic tutor**: ask it to question you rather than reveal the answer.
- Practise explaining a topic to AI, then ask it to **identify gaps or misconceptions**.
- Use AI to generate **similar practice questions**, then complete them independently.
- Ask it to compare your answer with **mark-scheme criteria**, but check this against official materials.
- **Verify facts, quotations, calculations and references:** AI can sound confident while being wrong.
- Never submit AI-generated work as your own or enter **personal, sensitive or confidential information**.

USE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO THINK HARDER, NOT TO AVOID THINKING!

34

A word of warning about AI...

Preprint

The Generative AI Learning Penalty: Evidence from Chinese Secondary Education

January 2026
DOI:[10.2139/ssrn.6868618](https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.6868618)

Authors:

**David Stromberg**

**Victor Lei**

**Yanhui Wu**



35

BYOD

- Organisation
- Efficiency
- Practicality



36

18



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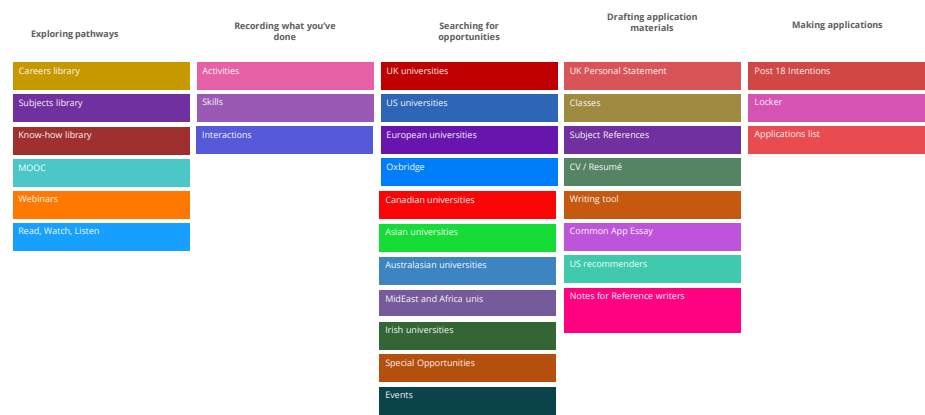
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Y12 World of Work Week [Unifrog & Work Experience]

Mr Sunley
Head of Economics / CEIAG Coordinator

37

The Unifrog tools



38

Coming Soon! Parents & guardians Unifrog accounts



ABOUT BLOG EVENTS CASE STUDIES JOBS CONTACT

SIGN IN

Parents and guardians

Are you the parent or guardian of a student using Unifrog?

If your child's school has already linked your email address to your child's account, you can use this page to set up your own Unifrog account.

To get started, sign in with Single Sign-On (SSO) or enter your email address here:

Your email address

Open account

Open an account using single sign-on:

 Sign in with Google

Already have an account? [Sign in here](#)



39



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Y12 World of Work Week

24th - 28th May 2027

- All **Y12 pupils** to be out of school completing 5 days of work experience/volunteering during this week
- **Pupils need to ACT NOW and make steps to arrange this.**
 - Identifying and contacting employers
 - We encourage parents to support with finding employers/workplace using social/family contacts
 - Regular support sessions in school

40



Y12 World of Work Week

HELP REQUIRED

If you (or your employer) would be willing to host pupil(s) for the Y12 World of Work Week next May please get in touch with me at the school

All details and finalised dates about the Y12 World of Work Week will be sent out in a letter next month.

41



Post-18 and Careers Guidance Interviews

Mrs Pagett
Careers Advisor / Careers Leader at QMHS

42



Careers Guidance at QMGS in Year 12

- Our careers advisor is in school on Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs Pagett is a level 6 qualified careers advisor and is also the Careers Leader and Advisor for Queen Mary's High School.
- All year 12 students will have a 20 minutes 1:1 careers appointment with Mrs Pagett in the new year.
- The appointments will focus on post 18 options such as university, apprenticeships, employment and gap years.
- Students will receive a personalised action plan after their appointment which will be uploaded to their Unifrog account.
- There is also an opportunity for drop-in appointments during the academic year.



43



Senior Students

Captains of School – Ibraheem Naguthney & Saffron Dunn

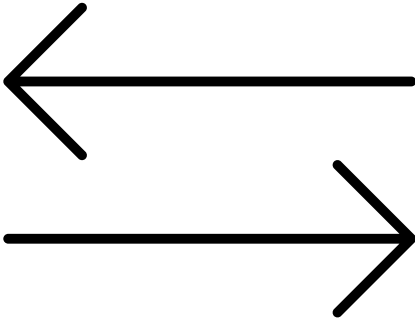
Please look out for notices and information on Twitter
@QMGS6THFORM
@qmgs1554

44



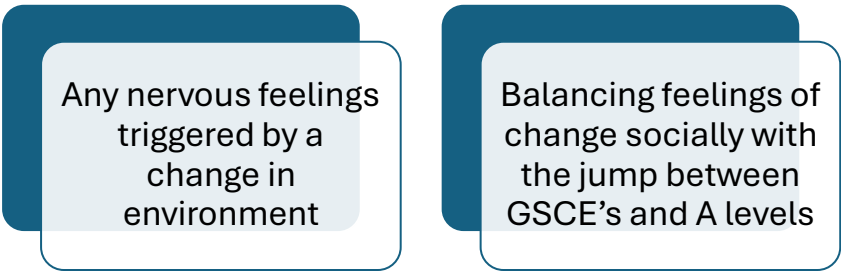
45

Transition into
6th Form
Saffron Dunn



46

The transition as an external pupil



47

How to optimise your time here



48

How to settle



Join clubs you're interested in

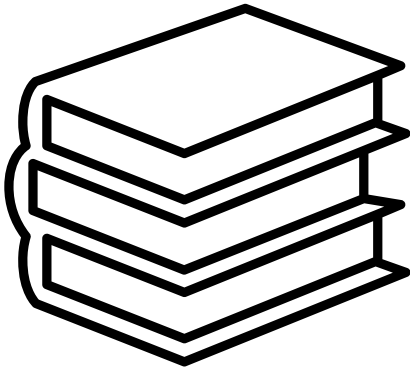


Volunteer at events



Get into an academic routine

49



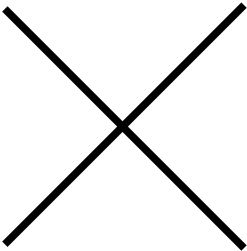
Study advice and tips

Ibraheem Naguthney

50

1- Mistakes and misconceptions

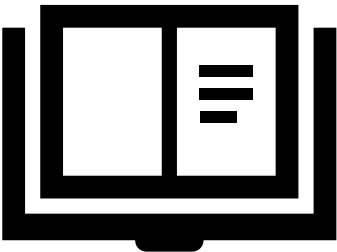
-  Time
-  Revision
-  Help
-  Gaps in knowledge



51

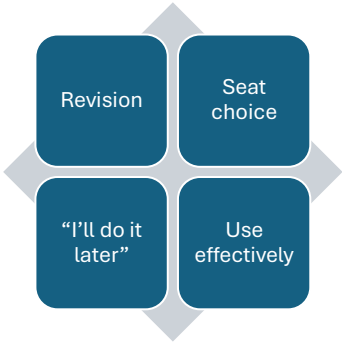
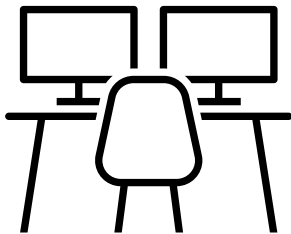
2- How to stay on top of your studies

- Small tasks
- Homework
- Past papers
- Notes
- Pre-reading



52

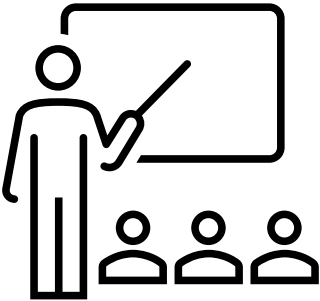
3- SPS Advice



53

Teachers

- Support
- Teachers want you to succeed
- Engagement
- Don't be embarrassed



54



55