



Great Marlow School

Excellence • Compassion • Integrity

Welcome to the Year 11  
Parents' and Carers'  
**Information Evening**

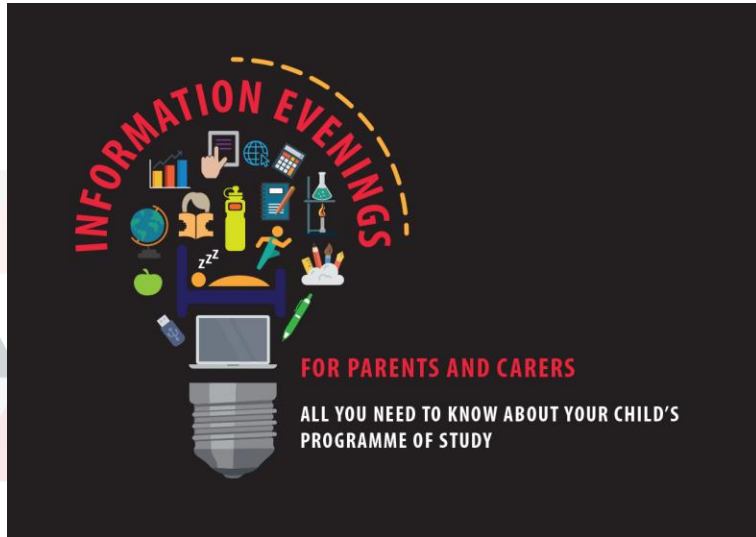
Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024

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# Our Aims

- To give you an insight into changes at GCSE level and the expectations we have of students.
- To point you in the right direction of help and support that is available to you as a parent/carer
- To inform you of the support on offer within school and opportunities for communication



This PowerPoint will be available to view on the website under Parent & Carers >> Information Evenings

# Year 11 Vision



# Year 11 Vision & Values



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## Ultimate aim: Get the Grade

This vision is aiming that all students know their goals and are reaching on them with a plan A, B and C for post-16 life.

- Year 11s are identified as **compassionate, respectful** and **resilient** members of the school community
- All students feel confident in taking **responsibility** for their GCSE studies
- Good communication between all **three** stakeholders - PARENTS/CARERS, STUDENTS and SCHOOL
- Sixth-form area after school



respect  
readiness  
resourcefulness  
resilience  
reflection  
responsibility



# KS4 Curriculum



# Grading System

- **GCSE students work towards Grades 9-1**

9

8

7

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High Achievement

6

5

Strong Pass

4

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Standard Pass

3

2

1

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U

Ungraded

- **Allows for greater identification of exceptional performance at the top end.**
- **Allows differentiation across passed grades.**
- **Employers can identify if students have taken new more challenging GCSE, or an old reformed GCSE.**

# Curriculum information



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**Core PE** for all students in their form groups.

**PELSA** (Physical Education Life-skills Award) is a nationally recognised qualification from the Youth Sports Trust, but officially recognised by the Leadership Skills Foundation, who are regulated by OFQual.

Our students, providing they show evidence of the 24 main employability/life skill words across the year, will receive the accredited award at the end of year 11.

## **RSHE (Relationships, Sex and Health Education)**

One lesson per week (with form tutor and one other teacher).

Covers important topics such as; Mental wellbeing and health, sex and relationships, managing money, careers and other life skills.

There is NO GCSE for this course.



# How to help your child



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- ✓ Perspective on future options – a plan and a back-up plan.
- ✓ Open communication with the school.
- ✓ A space for working and revising.
- ✓ Time to relax and exercise/hobbies.

For information about the different GCSE exam boards and courses there is an information booklet available on the website to access.

*GMS homepage – About us – GCSE Options Information*

**Get the Grade**

# Learning Ladders

For information on the learning journey of your child(ren) please see our new Learning Ladders on the school website.

These are available under the "curriculum" tab

The screenshot shows the Great Marlow School website. The navigation bar includes: Welcome, News & Events, About Us, School Life, 6th Form, Curriculum, Parent & Carers, Student Area, Sport, and Gallery. The 'Curriculum' menu is open, showing options: Curriculum Structure, Departments A-Z (highlighted with a yellow circle), Detentions, Examinations Information, Homework, and School Day Timetable. The main content area displays a grid of department icons: Ancient History, Art & Design, Business, Citizenship, PSHE & Politics, Computer Science, Design & Technology, Drama, English, French, Geography, History, Law, Mathematics, and Media Studies.

The screenshot shows the Geography Department page. The navigation bar is the same as the previous screenshot. The page title is 'Geography Department' with the sub-header 'ABOUT GEOGRAPHY'. The text describes geography as the study of the Earth's landscapes, people, places, and environments, and notes that it provides a framework for relating other subject areas. A globe icon is on the right. Below the text, it says 'Adapted from the Royal Geographical Society'. On the left, a sidebar menu lists: Geography at Great Marlow School, Learning Ladders (selected), Key Stage 3 Geography, Key Stage 4 Geography, and Key Stage 5 Geography. The main content area shows two 'GEOGRAPHY LEARNING JOURNEY' infographics for 'GEOGRAPHY KS3 & KS4' and 'GEOGRAPHY KS5'. The KS3 & KS4 infographic is a purple circular diagram with 'YEAR 10' and 'YEAR 11' markers. The KS5 infographic is a red circular diagram with 'YEAR 10' and 'YEAR 11' markers.

# Religious Studies drop-down sessions



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- Students will participate in 2 two-hour 'drop-down' sessions
- Utilise discussion, debate and problem-solving
- Aims to support the wider vision and values of the school
- Meets our statutory obligations by;
  - ✓ Inspiring students to be compassionate contributors to a better society
  - ✓ Demonstrating 'My Personal Best' with particular focus on: reflection, resilience and respect

<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024, periods 1 &amp; 2</b>	<b>Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2025, periods 1 &amp; 2</b>
<b>Theme: Religion and the ethics of euthanasia (assisted dying)</b>	<b>Theme: Religion and global issues – the use of animals for food</b>

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# Planners

Students to note ALL homework and deadlines in their planners when set.

# Microsoft Teams

Staff to post homework assignment details on MS Teams – calendar

# Parents

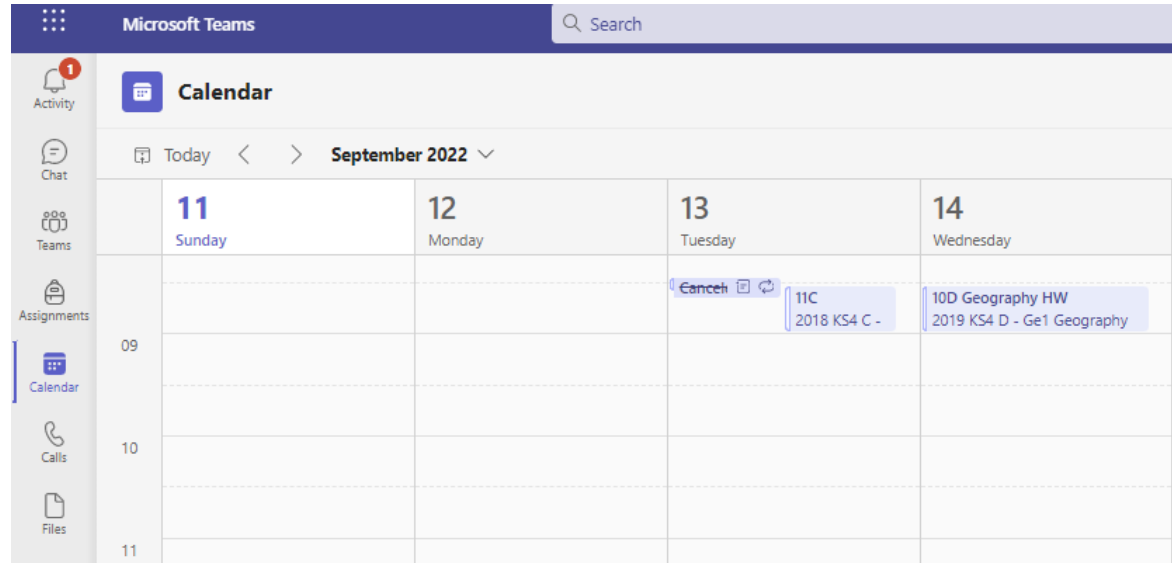
Encourage completion of homework to the best of the student's ability

# Microsoft Teams



## What is Microsoft Teams?

- It is used for the setting of assignments and the marking of work.
- Calendar function provides useful overview of when homework is due in.



# Support for students



<b>11K1</b>	Mrs D Chenery/ Mrs C Lamming (Tues and Thurs)
<b>11K2</b>	Mr I Philpott
<b>11K3</b>	Mr R Pulsford
<b>11H1</b>	Mr J James
<b>11H2</b>	Miss G Muttitt
<b>11H3</b>	Mr M Ouedraogo
<b>11E1</b>	Miss M Ashby
<b>11E2</b>	Mrs A Perman/ Miss R Timon (Wed)
<b>11E3</b>	Mrs D Simon/ Mr S Ross (Tues/ Wed)

Email addresses: **[Initial][Surname]@gms.bucks.sch.uk**

# Year 11 Student Support



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**Mrs Bennett**

**Acting Director of Learning  
Year 11**



**Mrs Spencer**

**Year 11 Student Support Officer**

- Continued strong relationship with cohort
- Consistent support given
- Consistent communication home



**Located in the KS4 Office (opposite G block)**

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# Key Staff Members



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## Neil Maguire

Deputy Headteacher  
Designated Safeguarding  
Lead (DSL)



## Karen Craig

Assistant Headteacher  
Deputy DSL



## Anna Gifford

Safeguarding Officer  
(Designated Looked After)



## Kevin Ford

Headteacher  
Safeguarding



## Sheryl Paul

Safeguarding Officer  
(Mental Health Lead)



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# Student Support



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**Assistant Headteacher & Director of Inclusion (Special Educational Needs): Mrs V Todd**

**Attendance Officer: Mrs S Radnedge**

**Pupil Premium Coordinator: Mrs A Gifford**

**Careers Officer: Mrs Brunt**

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# Safeguarding and Wellbeing



## **Sleep is Key**

- **The developing brain of a teenager needs between 8 and 10 hours of sleep every night. The effects of chronic (ongoing) sleep deprivation may include:**
  - **concentration difficulties**
  - **mentally 'drifting off' in class**
  - **irritability**
  - **impact on mental health and physical health**
- **Routines and habits – crucial for term time**
- **Reduce screen time before bed – at least a 30 minute gap**

# Safeguarding and Wellbeing



- **Online Safety – [nationalonlinesafety.co.uk](https://nationalonlinesafety.co.uk) – free resource for parents/carers**
- **As parents be curious – Content, Contact, Conduct and Commerce**
- **Age limits are in place for a reason**
- **Less is more – less time online is healthier**
- **Screen time should be reduced before sleep routine**



# Safeguarding and Wellbeing



**From ASH (Action on smoking and Health)**

- **In 2023 20.5% of children had tried vaping, up from 15.8% in 2022 and 13.9% in 2020. 2024 figures will be even higher.**
- **Vaping – can contain harmful and potentially harmful substances, including:**
  - **Nicotine**
  - **Flavourings such as diacetyl, a chemical linked to a serious lung disease**
  - **Volatile compounds**
  - **Cancer-causing chemicals**
  - **Heavy metals such as nickel, tin, and lead**
  - **SPICE – 1 in 5 illegal vapes contain other substances other than advertised**

# Safeguarding and Wellbeing



**Bucks Mental Health Partnership**

**To help support the Mental Health of our young people, Great Marlow has teamed up with the Bucks Mental Health Support Team (MHST).**

## **Workshop evenings**

**Promoting positive behaviours - Tuesday 8th October 6pm**

**Anxiety - Wednesday 4th December 6pm**

**Low mood - Monday 3rd March 6pm**

**Self-harm - Wednesday 30th April 6pm**

**Details of how to sign up for the in person Parent Sessions delivered by MHST will follow in a separate correspondence from Mrs. Paul.**

# Tutor Time



# Y11 Form Time



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## Mon

Equipment,  
planner &  
uniform  
check



## Tues

TFTW / Form  
tutor activity



## Wed

Reading  
project



## Thurs

News day



## Fri

Assembly





# GMS Reading Project



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- The reading project is all about exposure to a range of authors, genres and language
- A growing number of academic studies show that promoting reading can have a major impact on children and adults and their future
- A reminder that these are not the GCSE exam texts



# **Uniform & Equipment Reminders**



# Uniform & Equipment



- **Hair** – No extreme styles or unnatural looking colours
- **Nails** – Nude colours only, no false/acrylic nails
- **Jewellery** – One simple ring, a single stud in each ear (each removed for PE)
- **Skirts** – Not rolled at the waistband, logo clearly displayed
- **Shoes** – Smart and black, not trainers or trainer-style
- **Sports equipment** – in a bag, only used in designated areas at specified times.
- **Trousers** – not jeans
- **Jumpers** – Black V neck jumper, no branded sweatshirts or hoodies. Jumper is an additional layer – blazer must be worn
- **Blazers** – To be worn every day, COATS must be worn over the top if required
- **Tie** – worn every day



## Essentials

- Planner
- Pencil
- Pen x2
- Ruler & Protractor
- Whiteboard pen
- Glue stick
- Calculator

**A note from home is needed for any reason that you are unable to wear the appropriate uniform – this will then be considered by tutor/DoL**

# Attendance and Legislation

New Statutory Duty for Attendance from 19.08.2024 - [Information for Parents](#)

- Any holiday-related absence taken that includes 10 sessions in 10 weeks, may result in a Penalty Notice. In this instance, a 'Notice to Improve' notification will not be issued beforehand.
- We recognise that these Penalty Notices may be unpopular with families, but it is important to inform you of these changes promptly.
- Nationally, Headteachers are:
  - not permitted to approve term-time holidays except in genuinely exceptional circumstances, and
  - are to consider each application for a leave of absence individually before making our decision.
- The law clearly expects Headteachers to enforce these penalties strictly.
- GMS are currently reviewing our Attendance Policy – will be shared

# Attendance & lates at GMS

Every school day matters!



**Good attendance and punctuality underpin everything that we do.**

**90% attendance means up to 4 hours learning missed every week plus homework and preparation for controlled assessments.**

- 1. If late to school, there will be a sanction of a 15-minute break detention**
- 2. Failure to attend results in a 30 minute after-school detention the following Thursday**
- 3. Failure to attend results in a 1hr after-school detention on the Friday**





## **Late System: Daily Process Monday-Friday**

1. Tutor marks student who is not in form room by **8.35am as late on register** (and by how many minutes)
2. Tutor tells student that they need to attend a **same day 15-minute late detention** in the hall at the start of **break 2**
3. Student **attends same day late detention at break 2**. They are ticked off on attendance sheet by Director of Learning on duty (shared with DOL)
4. If student hasn't attended break late detention, they will need to attend the **next day's late detention** to make up the time.

\*If student has already missed one late detention and is late again the next day, they will now need to attend x 2 break sessions....





## **Late System Process: Further Consequences**

- **DOL reviews break 2 late detention attendance** for the week against number of days the student was late to school (Monday-Friday)
- **DOL shares this information with tutors** the following Monday
- Tutor then makes contact home by Tuesday evening using template email, for students who **have not** attended the required break time sessions- to explain that this is now escalated to **30 minute Thursday afterschool detention with a KS4 DOL**
- For students who **do not attend** the 30 minute afterschool detention, DOL to make contact home and explain **escalation to 1 hour afterschool detention with a member of the leadership team.**

# Important Dates





# Important Dates



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## School Google Calendar

Today) ◀ ▶ September 2024 Print Week Month Agenda

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 Sept
SUMMER HOLIDAYS						
AUGUST BANK HO						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
INSET Days		Catering Fingerpri	ALL STUDENTS BA	FoGMS Year 7 Pare		
Week 1		START OF TERM Y7	Y10 Parent / Carer	QA Scrutiny Sched		
		LT Meeting 3:15 -	DoL Meeting 3:15			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Y12/13 Parent / Carer	Y9 Parent / Carer	Y8 Parent / Carer	Y11 Parent / Carer	Trustees: Personne		
New Staff Meeting	Associate Staff Me	Tutor Meeting 3:15		HoDs: KS4/5 exam		
Week 2		LT Meeting 3:15 -				
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Y7 Parent / Carer	Trustees Monitorin	FoGMS AGM and c	Jeans for Genes	Y13 Geography Residential: Cranedale; departure 6 am Fri		
New Staff Meeting	Y10 Art: Borough	T&L Meeting 3:15	SCHOOL CLOSES			
Week 1			Y6 Open Evening			
		LT Meeting 1 - 3 pm				
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Y13 Geography R	Visit from St Bede	Y6 Open Morning	School photos: Y7	Staff Fit Friday 3:4		
Trustees: Academy	LT Meeting 3:15 -	LDG Meeting 3:15		Y10 RS Curriculum		
Trustees: Redgrave		Y13 History; Hamp		Y6 Open Morning		
+2 more						
30	1 Oct	2	3	4	5	6
Student Voice: Tutor Groups					Y11-13: Reading S	
Y11/12/13 progress	Y12 / 13 Senior Me	DEaR p3	Trustees: Admissio	QA DIP deadline	Y9-10: Avon Bluefri	
New Staff Meeting	Y12 RS Curriculum	LT Meeting 3:15 -	Dept Meeting 3:15	Y11 Geography Tri		
Week 1		Y6 Open Morning				

Events shown in time zone: United Kingdom Time + Google Calendar

[School calendar](#)

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# Some Key Dates

- Y11 exam Information evening: **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November**
- Careers Interviews: **October to December**
- Mock Exams: **15<sup>th</sup> January – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025**
- Progress Reports issued this term: **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October**
- Parents' and Carers' Evening: **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February**
- Exam end: **approx. 19<sup>th</sup> June but 25<sup>th</sup> June is a contingency day**
- GCSE Results: **21<sup>st</sup> August**

# Y11 exam Information evening: Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November



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## The aim:

- To inform of exam dates and expectations.
- Receive key information from Core Subject Heads
- Provide revision resource information and techniques

# Progress Reports



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**Target grades** – aspirational

**Predicted grades** - If the student continues to work at the level they are working now, this is the grade we believe they will get in their exams in 2025

The mock exams scores are used internally to guide predicted grades alongside professional judgement of the teacher and planned interventions.

# Prefects



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## Responsibilities:

- Two duties per week
- Transition day support
- Open evenings support
- School events
- Demonstrate My Personal Best Values

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# Prom – tbc 26/6/25



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Prom is a privilege

Students to uphold the values of GMS.

The opportunity to attend could be removed with misbehaviour.

# Information





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# Website

Keep up to date with GMS achievements and events on the Great Marlow School website.

Please note latest communication about dropping off/picking up children to/from school



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# Friends of Great Marlow School

We are very lucky to have the support of FoGMS as they raise funds to support the wider school community.

**FoGMS AGM is on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm. Information will be communicated with opportunity to sign up and attend.**

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# FoGMS



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Bobmore Lane, Marlow, Buckinghamshire SL7 1JE  
Telephone - 01628 483 752  
Company Registration No.07690054

Welcome - News & Events - About Us - School Life - 6th Form - Curriculum - Parent & Carers - Student Area - Sport - Gallery

### Friends of Great Marlow School

- Donate to FoGMS >>
- For FoGMS News click here
- Contact: [fogmschair@gmail.com](mailto:fogmschair@gmail.com)

All parents and carers are automatically members of Friends of Great Marlow School (FoGMS). FoGMS is an organisation that actively fundraises for the benefit of all the students in the school.

The association has helped raise large sums of money to provide facilities and equipment for GMS, not otherwise afford.

At key points in the year, social and educational functions occur for parents, carers, staff and the wider community.

FoGMS principal role is to promote a strong understanding of the school for parents and carers to become actively involved.

The most popular events of the past year were: Christmas Sales.

The Friends of Great Marlow School also play an important role in the school's social life. Evening, school productions and other performances.

**Opportunities are Created - Potential is Realised**

- Attendance Guide
- Bucks School Transport -
- Communication & Catering
- WisePAY Payment System
- Friends of Great Marlow School
- Information Evenings
- Gift Aid
- Groupcall Xpressions -
- Letters Home
- Online Safety Resources
- Parents' Evening System
- Progress Review Guides
- School Uniform Shops -
- Special Educational Needs -
- The Voice - School Newsletter



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# Our Roles



# Our Roles



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## I Will...

- Reward students
- Support students
- Educate students
- Monitor progress
- Communicate openly
- Respond as soon as able

## Form Tutors will...

- Be your first point of contact
- Utilise form time
- Celebrate successes
- Support progress
- Communicate effectively
- Work closely with DoL and SSO

## You can...

- Monitor Progress
- Have open and honest conversations
- Monitor and support with homework
- Encourage good habits
- Discuss student experiences

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# My commitment to you...



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- ✓ ***You are never bothering me.***
- ✓ *I will usually respond to communication within 24 hours*
- ✓ *You might not get the outcome you intended, but I will always provide one with the interests of the students at the forefront of my mind*

[vbennett@gms.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:vbennett@gms.bucks.sch.uk)