



Great Marlow School

Excellence • Compassion • Integrity



Welcome to our Year 8 Information Evening

Year 8 Information Evening
Attendance



Our Aims



To give you an insight into GMS vision and values and to outline the expectations we have of our students.



To direct you, as parents and carers, to where you'll find help and support.



To inform you of the support on offer within school and opportunities for communication.



Year 8 - Vision and Values

Aim: To ensure all students achieve Excellent or Good in all their Attitude to Learning Scores



- Year 8s are compassionate, respectful and resilient members of the school community.



- All students feel confident in taking responsibility for their academic, emotional and social development.

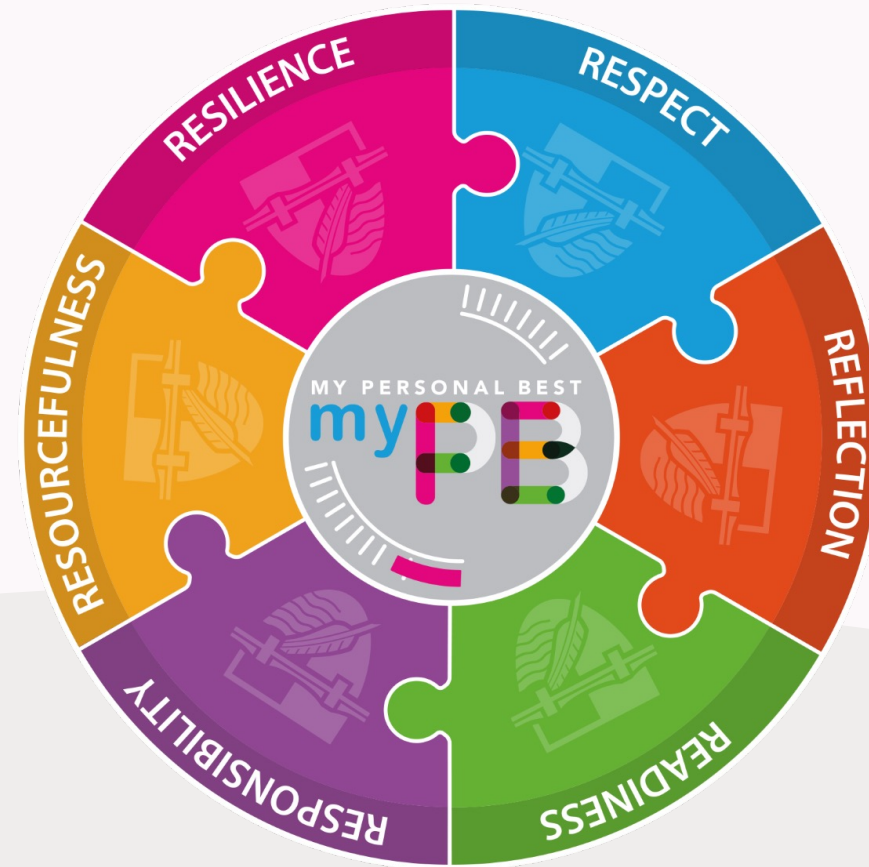


- Good communication between all three stakeholders is important - PARENTS/CARERS, STUDENTS and SCHOOL.

Our vision: to offer the highest quality learning environment possible so that our students are inspired to be compassionate, successful and resilient contributors to a better society.

Year 8 Vision and Values

A simple mantra



My Personal Best



The **'My Personal Best'** programme is integral to the school's teaching and learning philosophy. The 7Rs are a guiding set of positive values and attitudes.





Student Support

Opportunities are Created • Potential is Realised • Excellence is Achieved

Support for our students



Miss Roberts– Director of Learning
croberts@gms.bucks.sch.uk



Miss Aylett-Livesley– Student
Support Officer
eaylett-livesley@gms.bucks.sch.uk

We will provide:

- a continual strong relationship with cohort
- consistent support
- consistent communication with home

Form Tutors – First Point of Contact

8K1	Miss Coates and Mr Collett	vcoates@gms.bucks.sch.uk scollett@gms.bucks.sch.uk
8K2	Miss Haq	zhaq@gms.bucks.sch.uk
8K3	Mr Osborne	aosborne@gms.bucks.sch.uk
8H1	Mrs Seeley(Mon – Weds) and Mrs Dallas (Thurs – Fri)	mseeley@gms.bucks.sch.uk cdallas@gms.bucks.sch.uk
8H2	Miss White	awhite@gms.bucks.sch.uk
8H3	Miss Woods	twoods@gms.bucks.sch.uk
8E1	Miss Sparkes	bsparkes@gms.bucks.sch.uk
8E2	Miss Johnson	ajohnson@gms.bucks.sch.uk
8E3	Mr Yasin	kyasin@gms.bucks.sch.uk

Key Staff Members



Mr Maguire – DSL and Deputy Head Teacher



Mrs Paul – Mental Health Support



Mrs Todd – SENCO and Assistant Head Teacher

Key Staff Members - Pupil Premium



**Pupil Premium Coordinator &
Safeguarding Officer**

Mrs A Gifford

agifford@gms.bucks.sch.uk

Our roles with you



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

My commitment to you:

- I am always open to hearing from you; you'll never be bothering me.
- I will strive to respond within 24 hours to a communication.
- I will always provide an outcome that has the interests of the students at the forefront of my mind, although it may not be the outcome you wanted.





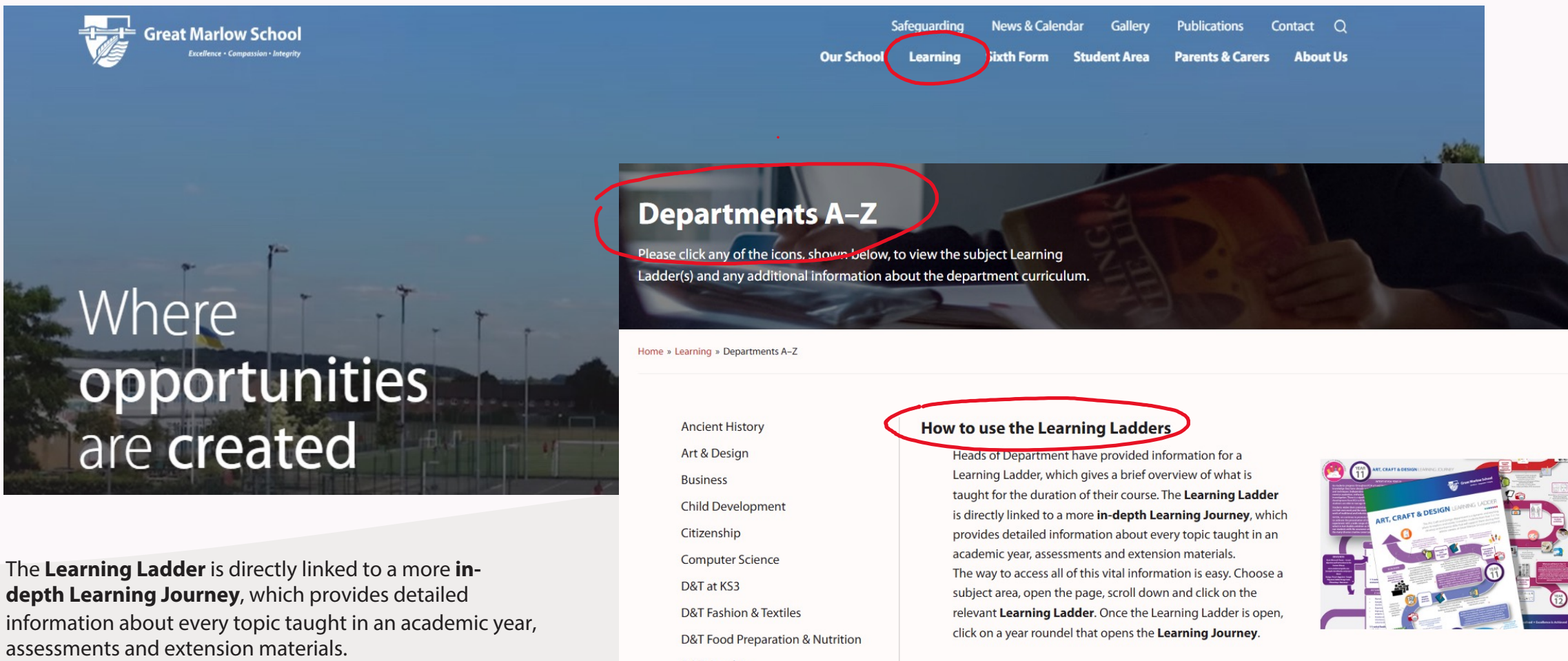
Year 8 Curriculum

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Core Subjects Information

ENGLISH	MATHS	SCIENCE
Mrs Burke is Acting Head of English (CBK)	Mrs Guy is Head of Maths (MGU)	Mrs Webster is Head of Science (JWE)
<p>1 top set in each House and 2 mixed/middle sets.</p> <p>No bottom set - this has changed from Year 7.</p> <p>The sets will be reviewed after every main assessment point so students will be able to move up or down during Year 8 should their assessment data support it</p>	Not set but students are mixed in their pathways.	Taught in tutor groups.

Curriculum – Learning Ladders



The screenshot shows the Great Marlow School website. The top navigation bar includes links for Safeguarding, News & Calendar, Gallery, Publications, Contact, and a search icon. Below this, a secondary navigation bar features 'Our School', 'Learning', 'Sixth Form', 'Student Area', 'Parents & Carers', and 'About Us'. The 'Learning' link is circled in red. The main content area has a large banner with the text 'Where opportunities are created' on the left and a section titled 'Departments A-Z' on the right, also circled in red. Below 'Departments A-Z' is a list of subjects: Ancient History, Art & Design, Business, Child Development, Citizenship, Computer Science, D&T at KS3, D&T Fashion & Textiles, D&T Food Preparation & Nutrition, and D&T Graphics. A section titled 'How to use the Learning Ladders' is circled in red, containing text about the Learning Ladder and Learning Journey. To the right of this text is an image of a 'Learning Ladder' for Art, Craft & Design, showing a year-round progression from Year 11 to Year 12.

Great Marlow School
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Safeguarding News & Calendar Gallery Publications Contact Q

Our School **Learning** Sixth Form Student Area Parents & Carers About Us

Where opportunities are created

Departments A-Z


Please click any of the icons, shown below, to view the subject Learning Ladder(s) and any additional information about the department curriculum.

Home » Learning » Departments A-Z

- Ancient History
- Art & Design
- Business
- Child Development
- Citizenship
- Computer Science
- D&T at KS3
- D&T Fashion & Textiles
- D&T Food Preparation & Nutrition
- D&T Graphics

How to use the Learning Ladders

Heads of Department have provided information for a Learning Ladder, which gives a brief overview of what is taught for the duration of their course. The **Learning Ladder** is directly linked to a more **in-depth Learning Journey**, which provides detailed information about every topic taught in an academic year, assessments and extension materials. The way to access all of this vital information is easy. Choose a subject area, open the page, scroll down and click on the relevant **Learning Ladder**. Once the Learning Ladder is open, click on a year roundel that opens the **Learning Journey**.



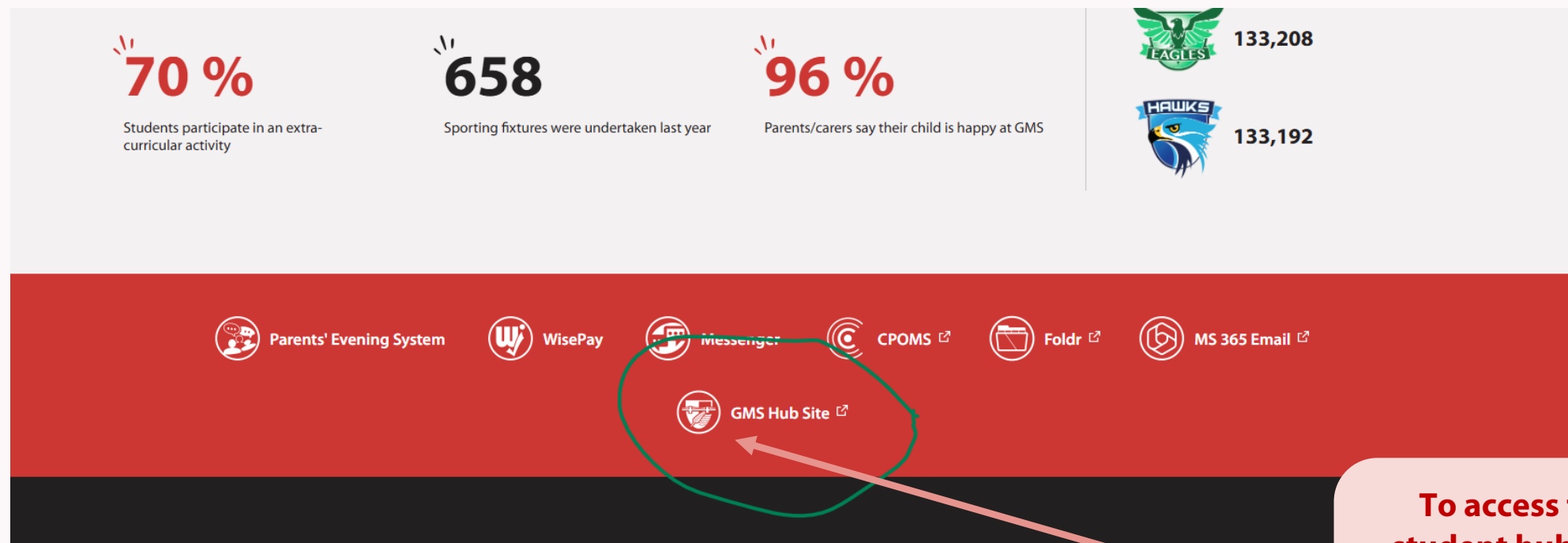
The **Learning Ladder** is directly linked to a more **in-depth Learning Journey**, which provides detailed information about every topic taught in an academic year, assessments and extension materials.

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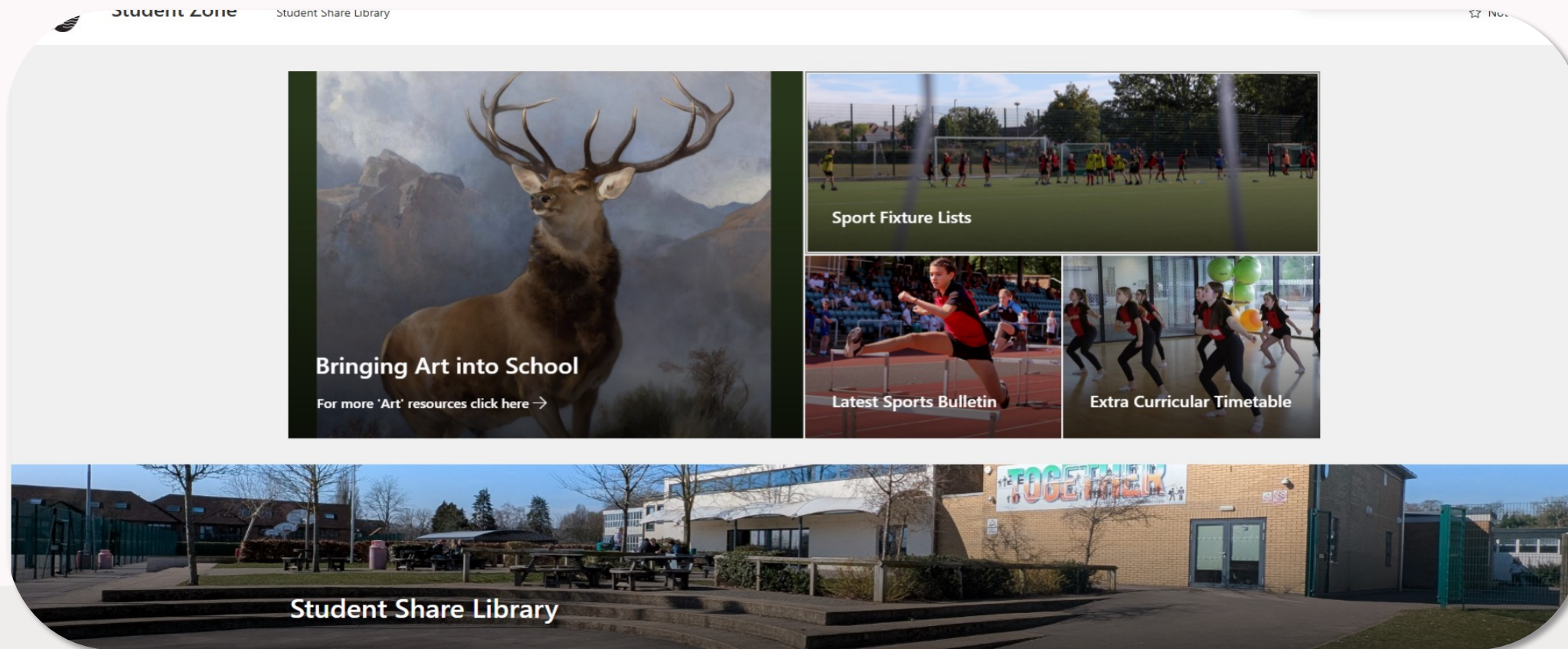
Click on any year roundels to access the in-depth Learning Journey

GMS – Student Hub










To access the student hub site, scroll down to the bottom of our website home page.

GMS – Student Hub



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GMS – Student Hub

 <p>BandLab Record and mix your music projects using this free resource</p>	 <p>Sparx Maths Supporting students in mathematics with personalised, challenging and attainable homework. Use school MS 365 account to gain access</p>	 <p>New Scientist The New Scientist Magazine is a weekly publication featuring articles on developments in science and technology. Students requiring a password should approach their teacher in the science department or see the librarian.</p>	 <p>Sight and Sound The Sight and Sound Magazine offers a huge variety of articles about films past and present. Students requiring access should approach their media teacher for a password or see the librarian.</p>
 <p>Reading Cloud Reading Cloud is GMS online library management and booking system</p>	 <p>beanstack Login with your MS 365 school account. Beanstack helps grow your reading with competition, recognition, and proven gamification principles</p>	 <p>Boost Learning Boost Learning allows access to various resources that departments have subscribed to such as text-books and past editions of A-level magazines. Students with access problems should seek out Mr Pugsley in T12a.</p>	



In the Student Hub, and on the website (<https://gms.bucks.sch.uk/student-area/learning-resources/>), you will find links to various software packages the school uses across our curriculum to help deliver the very best education we can for all our students. This varies from our library booking system to subject specific educational packages used to support students' learning both in and out of school.



Tutor Time

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Tutor Time Timetable

Monday

Assembly
Uniform Checks



Tuesday

Readiness Checks
Planners
Equipment



Wednesday

TFTW
Careers



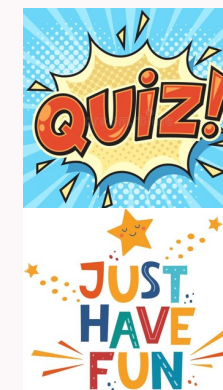
Thursday

Reading



Friday

Fun Friday!



Uniform & Equipment



Students are expected to take responsibility for wearing the correct uniform and ensuring that they have the essential equipment with them, at all times.

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 – Keep in a bag, only used in designated areas at specified times.

Trousers – Not jeans

Jumpers – Black V neck jumper, no branded sweatshirts or hoodies. The 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 – To be worn every day

Essentials

- Planner**
- Pencil**
- Pen x2**
- Ruler**
- Glue stick**
- Calculator**



“A note from home is required should a student be unable to wear the correct uniform – consideration of the request will be considered by the tutor/DoL.”

Attendance & lates



Good attendance and punctuality underpin everything that we do.

90% attendance means up to 4 hours of learning is *missed* every week.

Students *must* be in form rooms by 8.30am.



Attendance & Legislation

Attendance - Information for Parents/Carers

- Holiday-related absences may result in a Penalty Notice should 10 sessions be missed in any 10 week block.
- GMS recognises that Penalty Notices may be unpopular with families, but it is important to inform you of the current position.
- Nationally, Headteachers are:
 - not permitted to approve term-time holidays except in genuinely exceptional circumstances
 - required to consider each leave of absence application on an individual basis before a final decision is made



School Calendar

15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Y13 Geography Residential: Cra...			Staff Fit Friday 3:45-4:45 pm			
Week 1						
3:15 pm - 4:15 pm New Staff Meeting: Data 6:00 pm - 6:45 pm Y9 Parent / Carer Information Evening followed by Rowing Information Evening	8:00 am - 10:00 am Governor Monitoring Visit: Exam Results 8:45 am - 5:00 pm Y10 Art Trip: Tate Modern / Borough Market 3:15 pm - 4:15 pm Teaching & Learning Meeting 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm FoGMS AGM and Committee Meeting:T4	6:00 pm - 6:45 pm Y8 Parent / Carer Information Evening followed by Rowing Information Evening	12:30 pm - 3:00 pm SCHOOL CLOSES 1:15 pm - 3:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm Y6 Open Evening: book through website from September			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Week 2						
3:15 pm - 4:15 pm New Staff Meeting: Safeguarding / Teams 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm GMS Local Governing Board	3:15 pm - 5:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting	9:15 am - 10:30 am Y6 Open Morning: book through website from September 3:15 pm - 4:15 pm Learning Development Group Meeting	School photos: Y7, Y9, Y10 & Y12 8:30 am - 3:00 pm DfE Surveyors on site: CDC2 9:00 am - 3:00 pm School photos: Y7, Y9, Y11 & Y13	8:30 am - 3:00 pm DfE Surveyors on site: CDC2 9:00 am - 11:00 am Y10 RS Curriculum Session: Religion, families, education and freedom of speech / thought 9:15 am - 10:30 am Y6 Open Morning: book through website from September		

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Progress Reports



First one of autumn term- ATL and AFD **only**

21st November – first progress report

26th November – parents evening

Key Stage 3 Progress Review Guide

You will see some of the following words on your child's progress reviews during Years 7, 8 and 9: **foundation**, **emerging**, **secure**, **advanced** and **exceptional**. These may be familiar from primary school. The words describe the grasp that staff feel a student has of a subject at that point in time. As a loose guide, the colour bar below indicates roughly what GCSE grade this might equate to **if a student's understanding of a subject remains similar right up until they sit their GCSE exam**. In reality, understanding of a subject can vary over time and you may see this variation on different progress reviews. Student learning develops at different speeds and times, so there is no set path through these descriptive words.

	foundation	emerging	secure	advanced	exceptional
Rough guide to potential GCSE grade	1 2	3	4 5	6 7	8 9

GMS Website



Our Approach to Learning
Introducing 'My Personal Best' and our 7Rs

GMS Gallery
Follow us on Flickr to see what we are up to

Rowing at GMS
GMS has an outstanding history in rowing

Sport at GMS
We are an inclusive school for sport

The Voice
Our termly publication incorporating

Our Curriculum Learning Ladders

Eco-School Accreditation

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Safeguarding & Wellbeing

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Safeguarding & Wellbeing - Key Staff Members



Neil Maguire

Deputy Headteacher

Designated
Safeguarding Lead
(DSL)



Karen Craig

Assistant Headteacher

Deputy DSL



Anna Gifford

Safeguarding Officer
(Designated Looked
After)



Guy Pendlebury

Headteacher
Safeguarding



Sheryl Paul

Safeguarding Officer
(Mental Health Lead)

Safeguarding & Wellbeing



Safeguarding involves:

- ensuring the safety, wellbeing and success of every student
- protecting children from maltreatment
- preventing impairment of children's health or development
- ensuring children grow up in safe and effective care
- taking action to ensure all children have the opportunity to access the best outcomes

Safeguarding & Wellbeing



Our Commitment at Great Marlow School GMS believes:

- safeguarding is everyone's responsibility
- in an open culture, where concerns can be raised
- in students being supported to make safe choices
- in collaborating with parents and carers
- in promoting continuous improvement and training

Safeguarding & Wellbeing



Sleep

- 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
 - an impact on mental health and physical health
- Routines and habits are crucial for term time
- Reduce screen time before bed – at least a 30 minute gap

Safeguarding & Wellbeing



Social Media and Online



Online Safety – nationalonlinesafety.co.uk offers free resource for parents/carers

- As parents be curious – follow the 4Cs as a starting point: content, contact, conduct and commerce (online posts, online unknown people, online influencers and online businesses (gambling, phishing))
- Respect the age limits, they are in place for a reason
- Remember ‘Less is More’ – less time online is healthier
- Screen time should be reduced before sleep routine
- Disinformation and misinformation are forms of fake news and should not be believed

Safeguarding & Wellbeing



Mental Health - Bucks Mental Health Partnership

To help support the Mental Health of our young people, Great Marlow continues to work with the Bucks Mental Health Support Team (MHST).

Online Workshops

- Promote positive behaviours
- Discuss anxiety
- Discuss low mood
- Discuss self-harm

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

Safeguarding & Wellbeing



Vaping

In 2025 20% of children aged 11-17 had tried vaping, this is up from 15.8% in 2022 and 13.9% in 2020.

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

Thank you for listening

This presentation will be uploaded onto the school website

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Attendance

