



Great Marlow School

Excellence • Compassion • Integrity



Welcome to our Year 13 Information Evening

Our Aims



To give you information about KS5 and the expectations we have of 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 for students and the best way to communicate with us.



KS5 Results 2025

**A* to B
= 40%**

**A* to C
= 70 %**

**A* to E
= 98%**



Year 13 Vision

Opportunities are Created • Potential is Realised • Excellence is Achieved

Year 13 – Vision and Values

Aim: To ensure all students can access their post-19 pathways, maintain a positive ATL and achieve their best in their year 13 examinations.



- Year 13 students are identified as **compassionate, respectful** and **resilient** members of the school and wider community.



- All students feel confident in taking **responsibility** for their A-level, BTEC or T-level studies.



- 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.

X- Factor Skills



Target/
Aspiration

Motivation &
Direction

Attitude

Planning &
Organisation

Consistency

Application

Independence

Communication

Grit

...the secret to success



Support for Students

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Form Tutors – First Point of Contact

13K1	Mr Russell	crussell@gms.bucks.sch.uk
13K2	Mr Sacre	dsacre@gms.bucks.sch.uk
13E1	Mrs Broadbent/Mr Ouedraogo	mbroadbent@gms.bucks.sch.uk
13H1	Mrs Houston/Mrs Lweis	khouston@gms.bucks.sch.uk
13H2	Mrs King	tking@gms.bucks.sch.uk
12F1	Mr Chapman/Mrs Burke	dchapman@gms.bucks.sch.uk

Sixth Form Team

Mr Hollyman
Head of 6th Form
DofL KS5

ohollyman@gms.bucks.sch.uk

Miss Jones
Deputy Head of
6th Form

ajones@gms.bucks.sch.uk

Mrs Evans
Intervention for
Year 13

levans@gms.bucks.sch.uk

Mrs Paul
Mental Health Lead &
6th Form Support

spaul@gms.bucks.sch.uk

Form Tutors

Mrs Brunt
Careers Advisor

mbrunt@gms.bucks.sch.uk

Our Joint Responsibilities



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 student at the forefront of my mind, although it may not be the outcome you wanted.



Year 13 - Intervention

- Support for all students
- Half-termly student progress reports
- Focus groups
- Sprint plan
- Open door policy
- Strong tutor team
- Experience in pastoral and academic matters

Year 13 – Bursaries



Some students in Year 12 may be eligible for bursary funding



The bursary is determined by household income and is provided to students to remove barriers and obstacles to learning.



Forms will be provided via form tutors next week. Families will need to complete the form and provide evidence.



Receipt of the bursary is dependent on attendance.



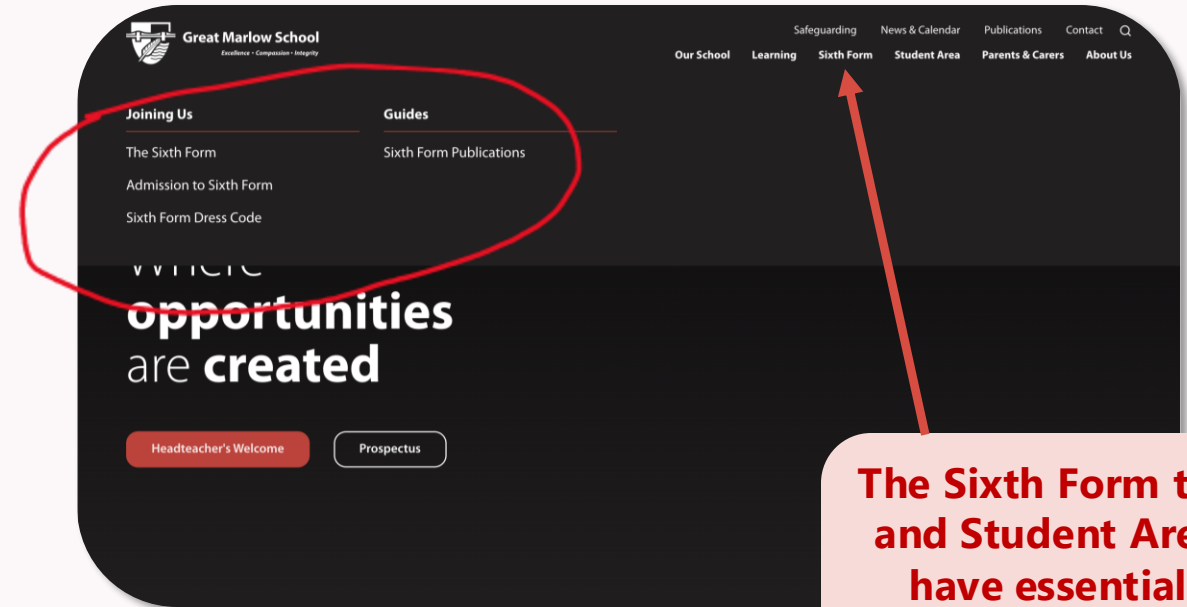
Students must have a bank account in which money can be deposited.



Students will receive a sum each term and will have to re-apply in Year 13.

GMS Website

<http://www.gms.bucks.sch.uk>



The Sixth Form tab and Student Area have essential information for students.

The information on the website is hugely useful. In addition to the home page, there are 10 categories where vital information is located.

RSHE — Relationships, Sex and Health Education

- One lesson per fortnight-
Thursday period 3 (taught
by form tutor)
- Covers important topics such
as; mental wellbeing and health;
sex and relationships; managing
money; careers and other life
skills.

Next Steps (UCAS)
Leaving home
Expenditure and budget
Contracts, financial ventures
and illegal schemes
Managing MH issues
Drugs, alcohol, gambling and
addiction

Year 13 - Study Periods

- Independent study is the single most important contributing factor in the students' control that leads to success
- All students should be spending at least 5 hours for each subject area per week beyond the lesson/homework
- Study periods are **NOT** free periods
- Every student in year 13 has 3 hours of compulsory study periods on their timetable each week
- Study periods are conducted in the Silent Study Room and students are registered by a member of the Leadership Team
- Study periods give the students an opportunity to develop their independent study skills in areas such as: research; wider reading; coursework completion; developing progress feedback and investigating post-KS5 options

Enrichment Opportunities?

There are a number of enrichment opportunities for Sixth Formers including being part of:

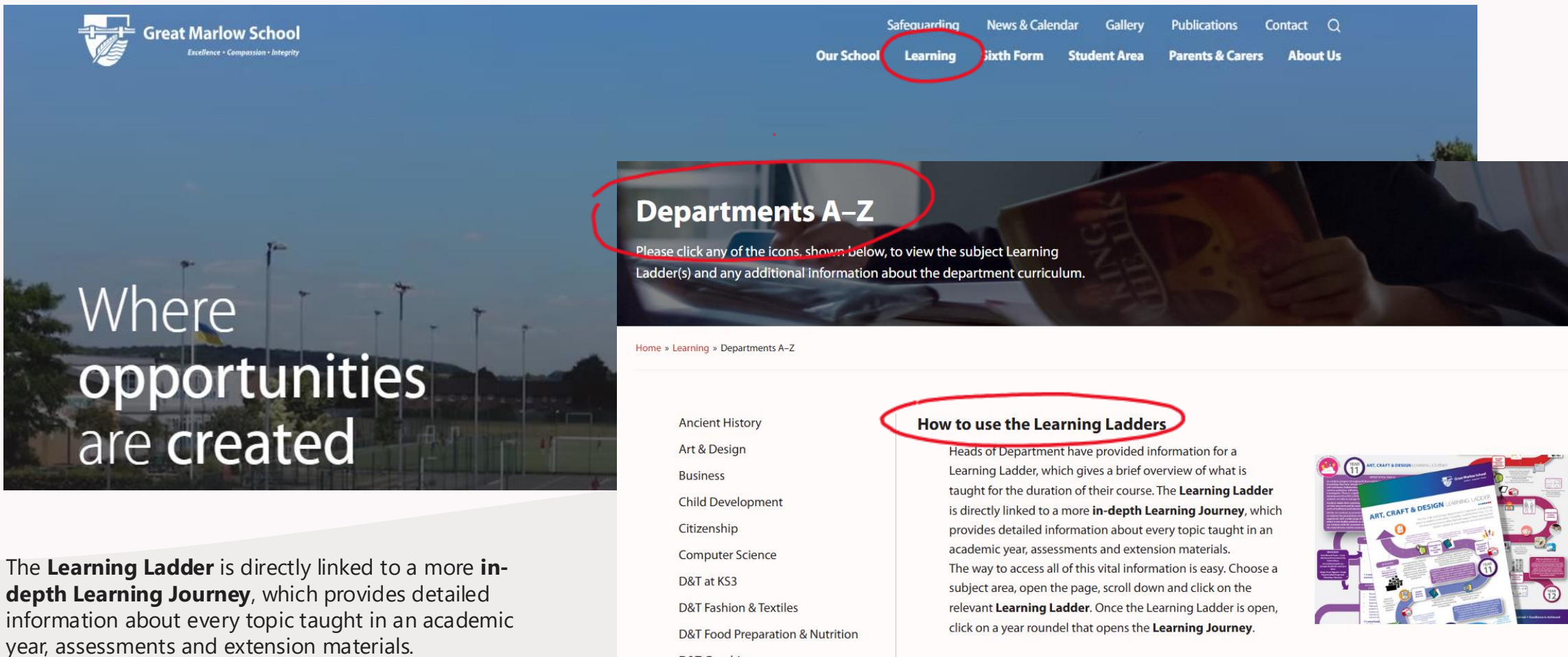
- Senior Prefect Team
- Young Enterprise
- Youth Sports Leaders
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Interact
- Year and School Council
- Rowing
- 6th Form Teams

What would you choose?

Students are encouraged to:

- use of the Redgrave Centre
- access curriculum Support
- take advantage of the RS Drop Down Sessions

Curriculum – Learning Ladders



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

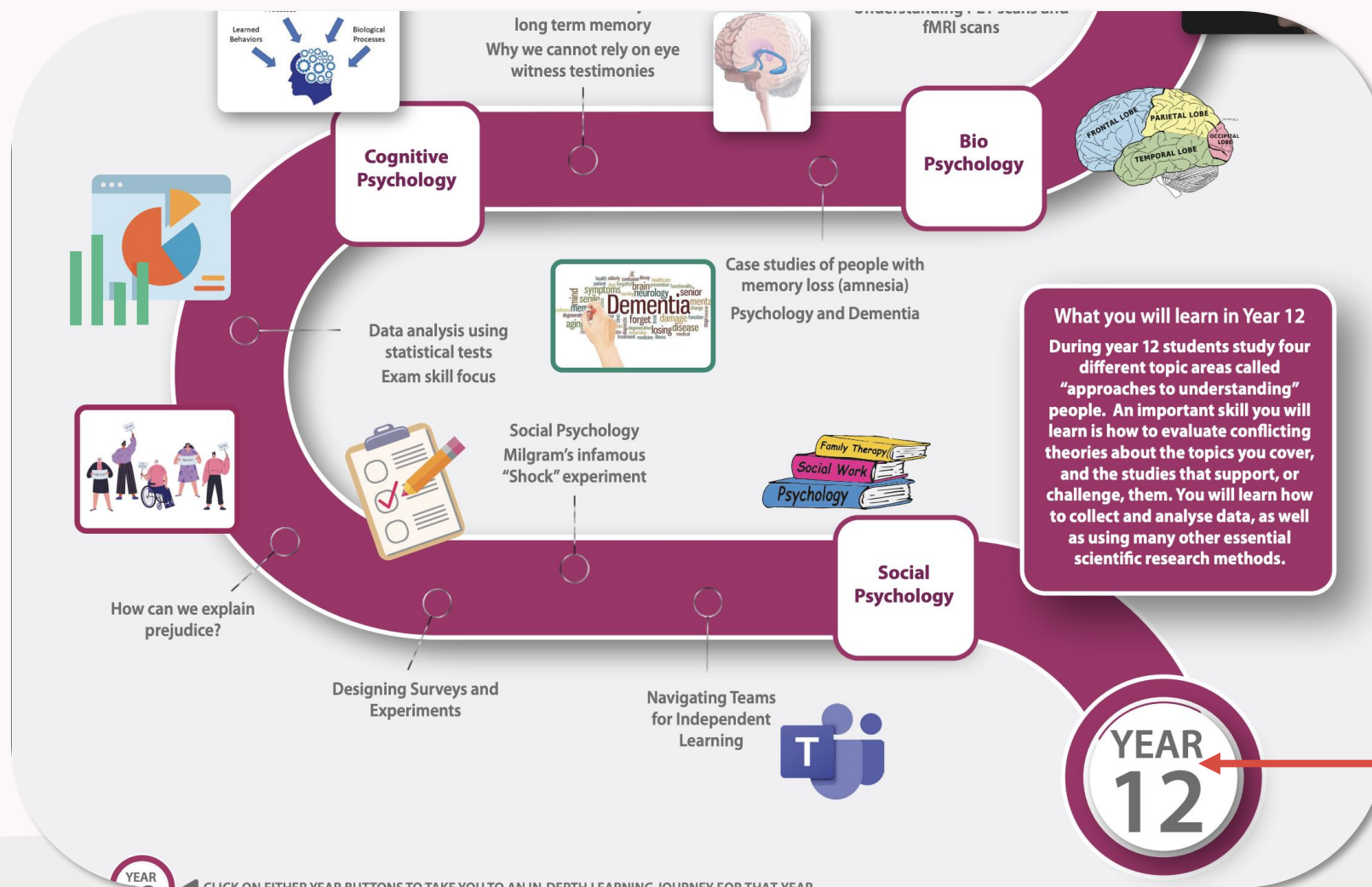
- Ancient History
- Art & Design
- Business
- Child Development
- Citizenship
- Computer Science
- D&T at KS3
- D&T Fashion & Textiles
- D&T Food Preparation & Nutrition
- D&T Graphics

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**.



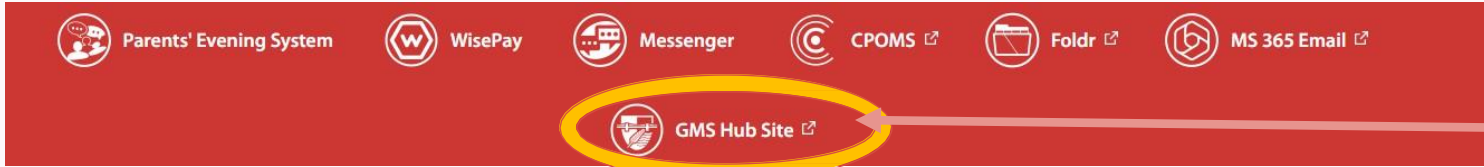
The **Learning Ladder** is directly linked to a more **in-depth Learning Journey**, which provides detailed information about every topic taught in an academic year, assessments and extension materials.

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

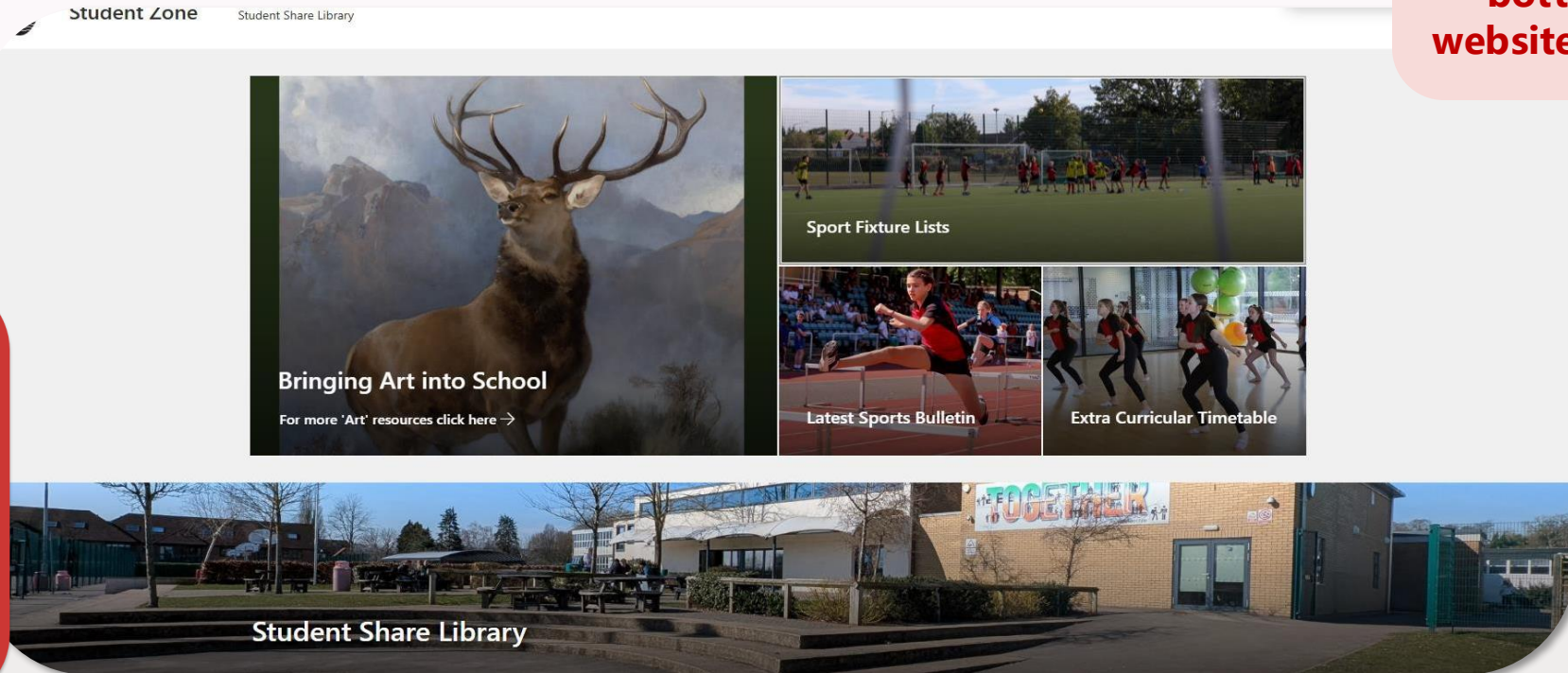
GMS – Student Hub



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

Students put in their school email to access individual lesson content.

This is particularly useful for students who have missed lessons





Tutor Time

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Sixth Form – Dress Code



Students are expected to take responsibility for wearing the correct uniform and ensuring that they bring to school the essential equipment required.

- You may wear a suit if you choose. Should you wish to wear trousers or a skirt, they should be smart and not jeggings, denim or tracksuit.
- You should wear a shirt with a collar and tie. During the summer term, this policy will be reviewed. Please note that polo shirts are not acceptable unless permission has been given. In addition, should you wish to wear smart, tailored shorts in the summer term, you may do so.
- Blouses or tops should be neat, tidy and appropriate for the school environment, like 'office' wear.
- Jumpers should show your tie and shirt. Hoodies and logo sweaters are not appropriate attire.
- Shoes should be black or brown 'office' style – no trainers or canvas plimsolls are allowed.
- Students should ensure that their outfits are not revealing and inappropriate for the school environment.
- Hats, gloves and coats should be removed for lessons and assemblies.
- Jewellery should be kept to a minimum. If in doubt, seek advice from your tutor.
- No nose/ facial piercings are permitted, nor should any tattoos be visible.
- Hair – extremes of style and colour are not acceptable. Minimum grade 1 and no tramlines or designs.

Sixth Form – Rules & Regulation



Sixth Form students become ambassadors for the school and are expected to act accordingly. This includes adhering to school rules and setting an example.



Students should maintain the Sixth Form dress code rules.

No nose or facial piercings are allowed.



The use of mobile phones tablets and headphones are only permitted in the Sixth Form Centre.

The conduct of Sixth Form students around school is expected to be polite and respectful.



Sixth Form students should recognise they are ambassadors and role models for the school.

Post-19 Choices available



HIGHER
EDUCATION



APPRENTICESHIPS



STUDYING
ABROAD



GAP YEAR



GETTING A JOB

Register for the UCAS Hub to understand the options available and make choices that are right for you: ucas.com/hub

What is UCAS?

UCAS is an independent charity providing information, advice and admissions services. We're there to help people discover what their next step might be.

UCAS does:

- provide information, advice, and support
- process applications
- complete fraud and verification checks
- take part in education sector engagement

UCAS doesn't:

- make decisions or offers
- set entry requirements
- advise on finance
- advise on immigration or visas for individuals

UCAS Deadlines

14th January 2026:

(18:00 UK time) Equal consideration date for applications for most undergraduate courses. You can still apply after this date, but universities and colleges do not guarantee to consider applications they receive after 14th January 2026, and some popular courses may not have vacancies after this date.

GMS Deadline: Before the end of term (tbc)

15th October:

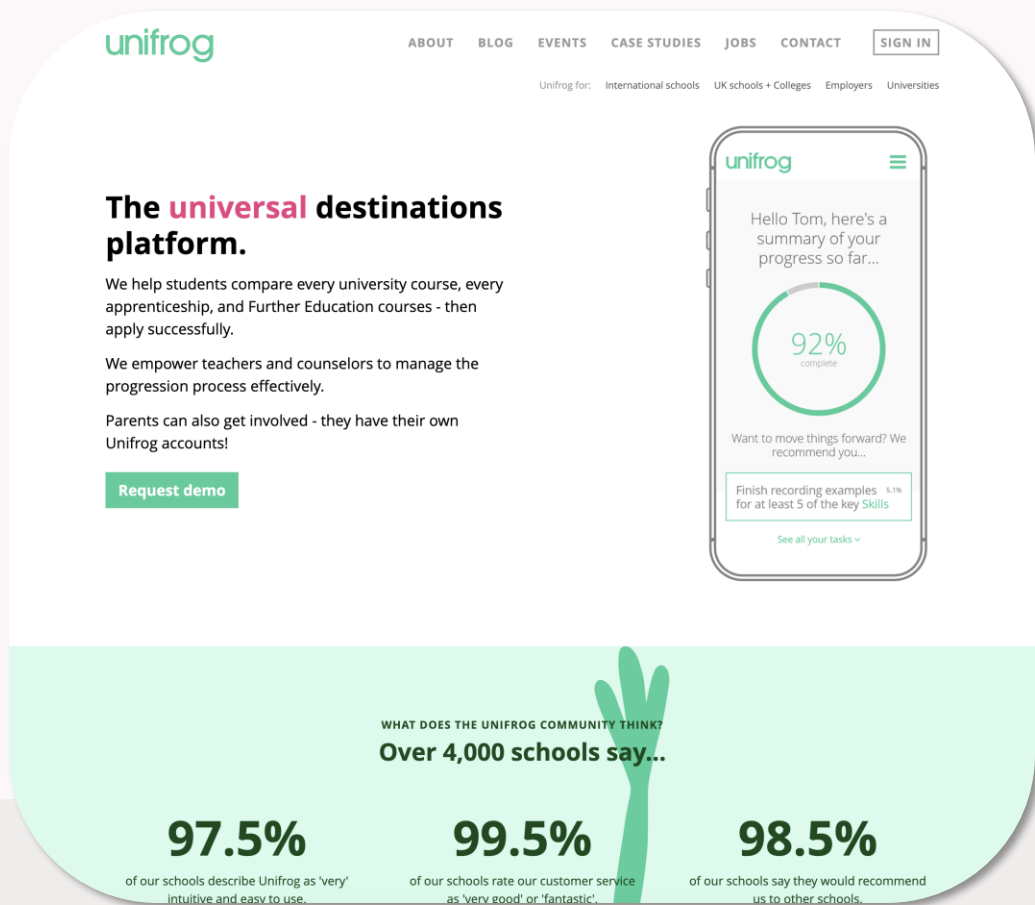
(18:00 UK time) Deadline for applications to the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and for most courses in medicine, dentistry, and veterinary medicine/science

UCAS Predicted Grades

All students in Year 13 will need predicted grades for their university applications.

- We do not have a policy of hyper-inflating grade predictions
- We always look to be 'positive, but realistic'
- Students should apply for degree courses that best suit their interest and their predictions-choice of 5
- Student references: not all subjects are needed!
- Predicted grades are NOT based only on mock examinations
- Predicted grades are not a secret – students should ask their teachers, so that their UCAS application can be realistic

Unifrog



The screenshot shows the Unifrog website. At the top is a navigation bar with links: ABOUT, BLOG, EVENTS, CASE STUDIES, JOBS, CONTACT, and a SIGN IN button. Below the navigation bar, it says 'Unifrog for: International schools, UK schools + Colleges, Employers, Universities'. The main content area features the heading 'The **universal** destinations platform.' followed by three paragraphs describing the platform's benefits for students, teachers, and parents. A green button labeled 'Request demo' is positioned below the text. To the right of the text is a smartphone mockup displaying a user interface with a 'Hello Tom' greeting, a '92% complete' progress circle, and a task list. At the bottom of the screenshot is a green banner with the text 'WHAT DOES THE UNIFROG COMMUNITY THINK? Over 4,000 schools say...' and three statistics: 97.5% (schools describe Unifrog as 'very' intuitive and easy to use), 99.5% (schools rate customer service as 'very good' or 'fantastic'), and 98.5% (schools say they would recommend Unifrog to other schools).

The **universal destinations platform.**

We help students compare every university course, every apprenticeship, and Further Education courses - then apply successfully.

We empower teachers and counselors to manage the progression process effectively.

Parents can also get involved - they have their own Unifrog accounts!

[Request demo](#)

WHAT DOES THE UNIFROG COMMUNITY THINK?
Over 4,000 schools say...

Statistic	Percentage	Description
of our schools describe Unifrog as 'very' intuitive and easy to use.	97.5%	
of our schools rate our customer service as 'very good' or 'fantastic'.	99.5%	
of our schools say they would recommend us to other schools.	98.5%	

- Unifrog brings information about all post-school opportunities, including every UK university course and apprenticeship scheme, into one place. This makes it easy for students to compare and choose the best opportunity for them.

UK Universities via Unifrog

- Students can enter subject of interest and projected grades to see all relevant university courses available in the UK
- Rank and filter opportunities by factors like hours of lectures, price of accommodation and graduate job rates
- Get direct links to university information pages, with impartial information on courses and institutions
- Save unlimited shortlists to refer back to later



English Literature - 3FT/6PT BA (Hons)

Oxford Brookes University

Safe - TEF Silver



English Literature offers the opportunity to study an exciting range of modules, blending the study of classic texts and literary traditions with current theoretical models for understanding literature as a dynamic, global phenomenon. Our course is renowned for its inspirational teaching and research excellence. In the 2013 National Student Survey (Source: Unistats), 93 per cent of students agreed that staff had made the subject interesting.

Full-time undergrads at the uni: 13,905 Domestic / Int'l undergrads at the uni: 84% / 16%

[Website](#)
 [Open Day](#)
 [Course page](#)
 [Finance page](#)
 [Unistats](#)

Getting in

Overall Application success rate
21%

UK Application success rate
22%

Entry requirements A Level

Full-time 3 Years: Grade B in A-level English Literature or English Language required.

Entry requirements UCAS points
112 points

IMPORTANT: check the [course page](#) to see if your qualifications are accepted.

Additional requirements
GCSE: GCSE English - Grade 5 2 x further GCSE - Grade 4, normally to include Maths.

Last year's successful applicants
89.8% of successful applicants did the same qualification types as you, and of these a typical result was:
A Level: C

Unofficial overview

"Oxford Brookes is spread across three suburban campuses in Oxford and the small university city has a friendly feel. Oxford Brookes pioneered the modular system of study and the academic year is split into two semesters rather than three terms. The university has a strong reputation for sport, and there are also strong links with industry. Despite the fact that the city is tiny, nightlife is lively and students enjoy studying here."

Campus or City: CAMPUS



Attendance



[email: ks5attendance@gms.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:ks5attendance@gms.bucks.sch.uk)

Students need to be in school from 8.30am to the last lesson of the day and may only leave after 12.30pm.

Students who are late without a valid reason will attend a detention at breaktime. If this is missed, they will receive an after school-detention.

Students are not allowed to leave the school site unless they have a prior engagement which has been authorised by your parents/carers.

If students leave the school site, they must use the QR code to sign out or do so at reception.

Attendance



*All study periods **MUST** be attended*



*All PE lessons **MUST** be attended*



*All timetabled lessons **MUST** be attended*

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

Changes to Toilet Use



KS5 Students will not be permitted to leave lessons to use the toilet, except in cases of genuine emergency.

Any student with a recognised medical condition or specific toilet needs will, of course, be exempt from these restrictions.

We have made these changes to minimise disruption to student learning and to help maintain a calm and focused classroom environment, while still ensuring the wellbeing of our students.

If you have a medical need that requires special consideration, please contact Mr Hollyman or Miss Jones so we can ensure appropriate arrangements are in place.



Important Dates

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School Calendar



You will find the school calendar on our website.

It shows when progress reviews are issued.

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	8:00 am - 10:00 am Governor Monitoring Visit: Exam Results	6:00 pm - 6:45 pm Y8 Parent / Carer Information Evening followed by Rowing Information Evening	12:30 pm - 3:00 pm SCHOOL CLOSES			
6:00 pm - 6:45 pm Y9 Parent / Carer Information Evening followed by Rowing Information Evening	8:45 am - 5:00 pm Y10 Art Trip: Tate Modern / Borough Market		1:15 pm - 3:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting			
	3:15 pm - 4:15 pm Teaching & Learning Meeting		5:00 pm - 8:00 pm Y6 Open Evening: book through website from September			
	6:30 pm - 8:00 pm FoGMS AGM and Committee Meeting: T4					
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Week 2						
3:15 pm - 4:15 pm New Staff Meeting: Safeguarding / Teams	3:15 pm - 5:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting	9:15 am - 10:30 am Y6 Open Morning: book through website from September	School photos: Y7, Y9, Y10 & Y12	8:30 am - 3:00 pm DfE Surveyors on site: CDC2		
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm GMS Local Governing Board		3:15 pm - 4:15 pm Learning Development Group Meeting	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		
			9:00 am - 3:00 pm School photos: Y7, Y9, Y11 & Y13			
				9:15 am - 10:30 am Y6 Open Morning: book through website from September		

Progress Reports



Target grades are aspirational



Predicted grade – gives an indication of the grade a student will achieve, in A-level, BTEC or T-level, should they continue to work at the level achieved at the time of the assessment.



Mock exams – give students a grade in their subjects. The professional judgement of the teacher and the grades achieved by the student generate the spring term predicted grades.



Access Arrangements

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Access Arrangements



If you have any questions about exam access arrangements, please contact the SENCO:

senco@gms.bucks.sch.uk



Safeguarding & Wellbeing

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



Inappropriate Behaviour

- Homophobic, misogynistic, racist, sexist or transphobic language will not be tolerated at Great Marlow and is not considered as banter. It needs to be called out and addressed.
- Pulling down trousers (in the same way as upskirting or flicking bra straps) is classed as sexual misconduct and is likely to result in a suspension from school, it is not just a joke.



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 – The National College <https://nationalcollege.com/parents> 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 PowerPoint will be available to view on the website under
Parent & Carers >> Information Evenings