



Great Marlow School

Excellence • Compassion • Integrity



Welcome to our Year 8 Information Evening

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.





Vision & Values

Opportunities are Created • Potential is Realised • Excellence is Achieved

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.

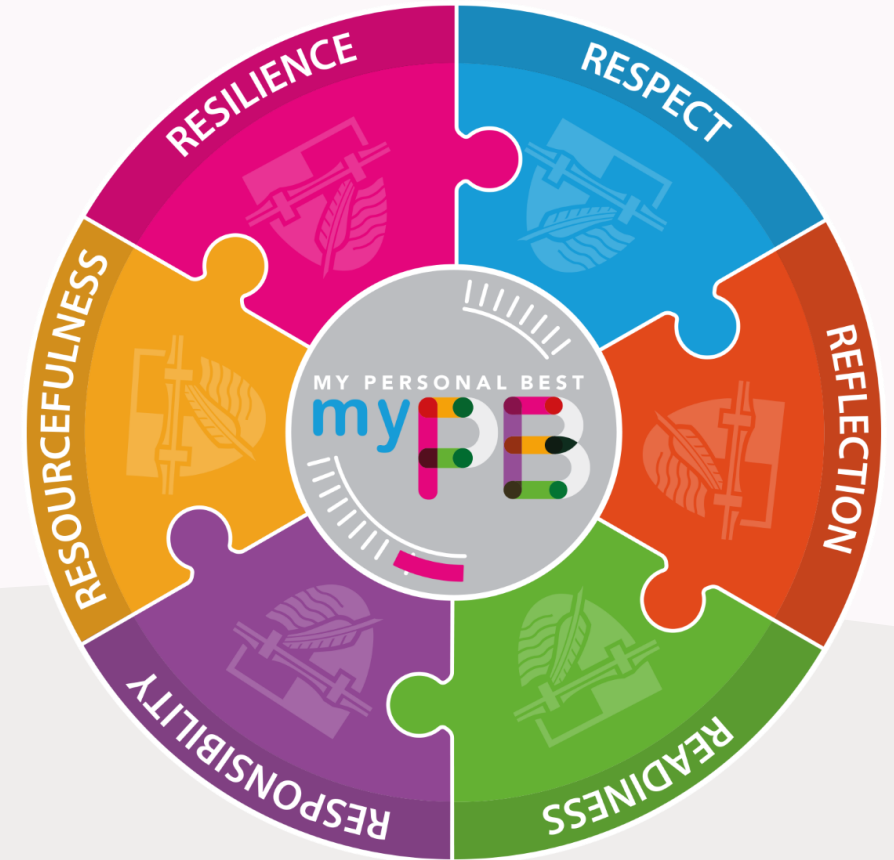


- Good communication between all three stakeholders is important - PARENTS/CARERS, STUDENTS and SCHOOL.

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



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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

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Support for our students



Miss F Tuddenham
Director of Learning



Mrs J Spencer
Student Support
Officer

We will provide:

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

KS3 office – S block

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Form Tutors – First Point of Contact



8E1 – Miss Ashby	8F1 Miss Muttitt	8H1 – Mr James	8K1 – Mrs Chenery & Mrs Lamming
8E2 – Mr Pulsford	8F2 Mrs Perman & Miss Russell	8H2 – Miss Whelan	8K2 – Mr Philpott

Director of Learning Y8 & KS3 – Miss Frankie Tuddenham
ftuddenham@gms.bucks.sch.uk

Y8 Student Support Officer – Mrs Jacqueline Spencer
jspencer@gms.bucks.sch.uk

Student Support
sso@gms.bucks.sch.uk

Form Tutors – First Point of Contact

8E1	mashby@gms.bucks.sch.uk
8E2	rpulsford@gms.bucks.sch.uk
8F1	gmuttitt@gms.bucks.sch.uk
8F2	aperman@gms.bucks.sch.uk rrussell@gms.bucks.sch.uk
8H1	jjames@gms.bucks.sch.uk
8H2	ewhelan@gms.bucks.sch.uk
8K1	dchenery@gms.bucks.sch.uk clamming@gms.bucks.sch.uk
8K2	iphillpott@gms.bucks.sch.uk rrussell@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

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)
1 top set in each House and 2 mixed/middle sets. No bottom set - this has changed from Year 7. 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	Not set but students are mixed in their pathways.	Taught in tutor groups.

RSHE — Relationships, Sex and Health Education

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

Programme of Study for Year 9

- **Autumn Term: Discrimination, mental health and social media, coping strategies and tackling peer pressure.**

Homework



Planners

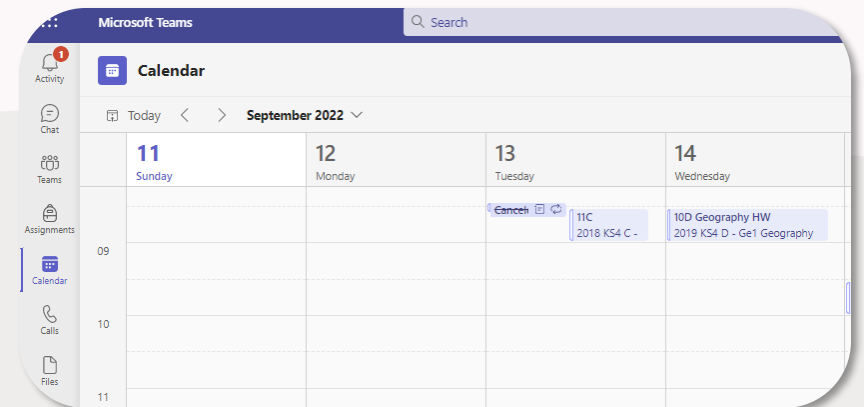
Students should record ALL homework and deadlines in their planners when it's set.

Microsoft Teams

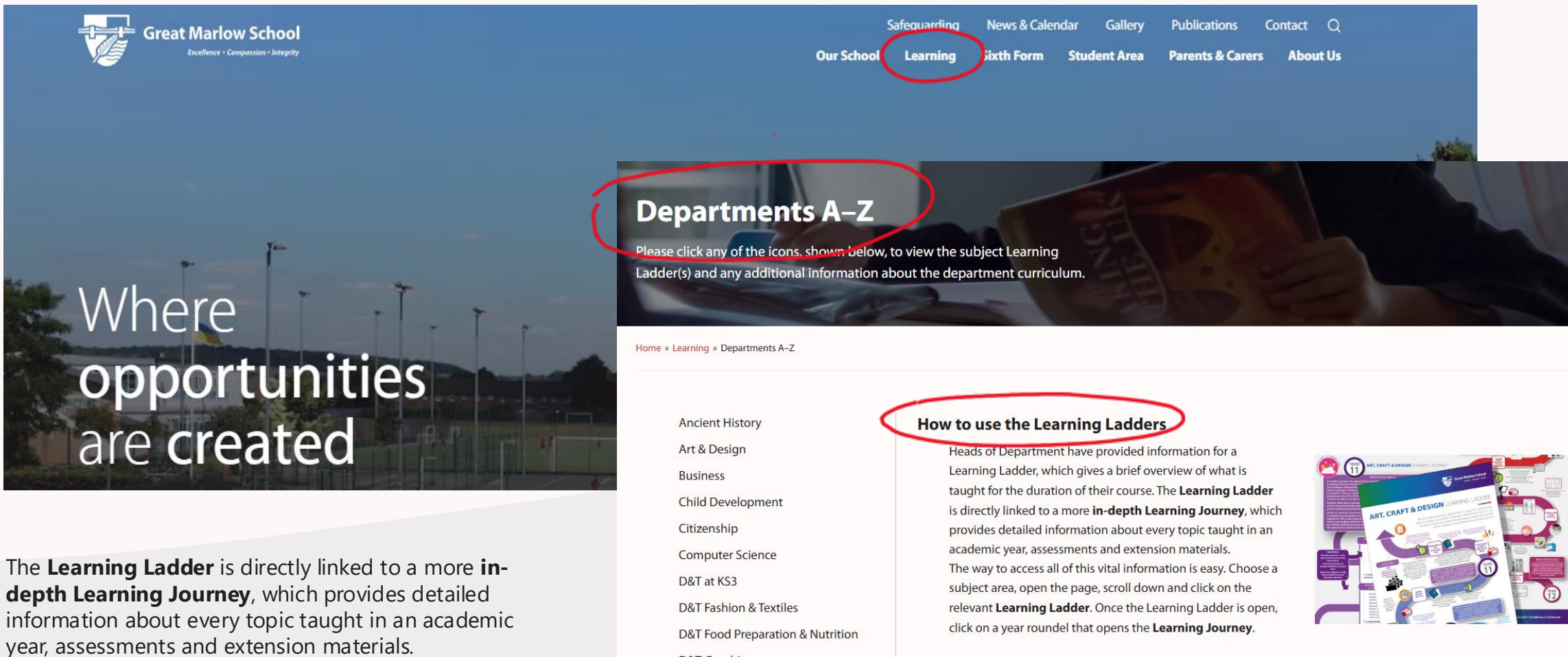
Staff to post homework assignment details on MS Teams – calendar

Parents

Please encourage the completion of homework to the best of the student's ability



Curriculum – Learning Ladders



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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

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**.

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.

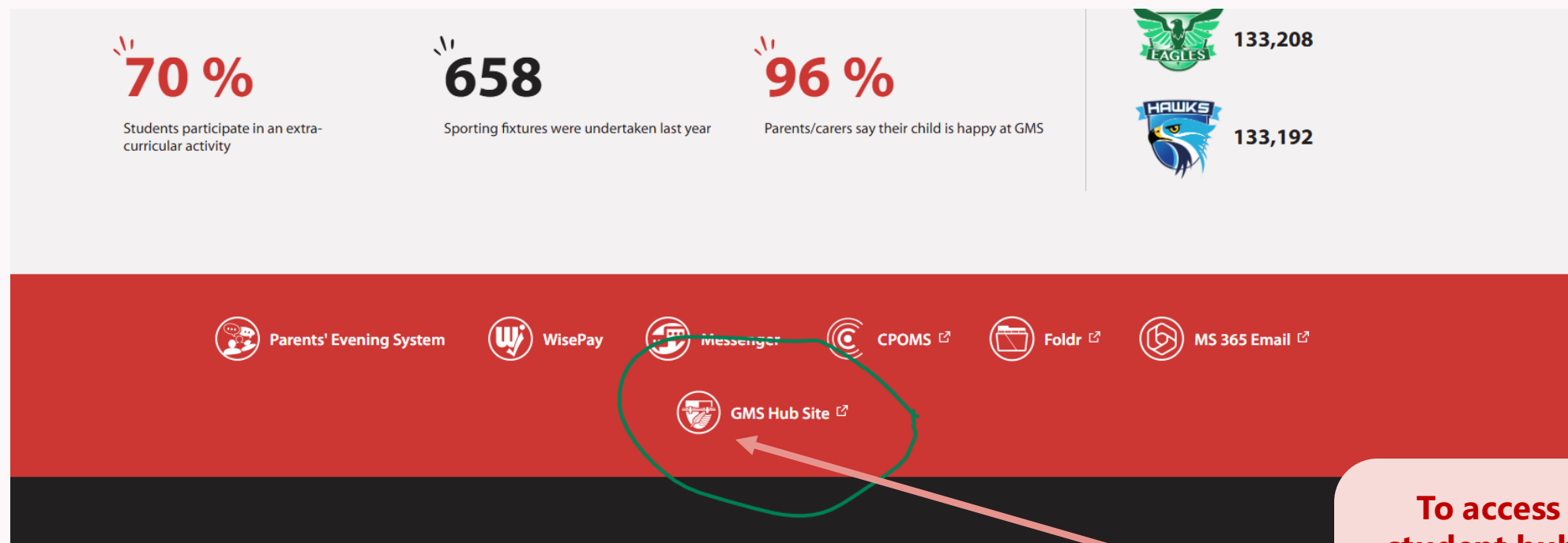
Subjects:
Ancient History
Art & Design
Business
Child Development
Citizenship
Computer Science
D&T at KS3
D&T Fashion & Textiles
D&T Food Preparation & Nutrition
D&T Graphics

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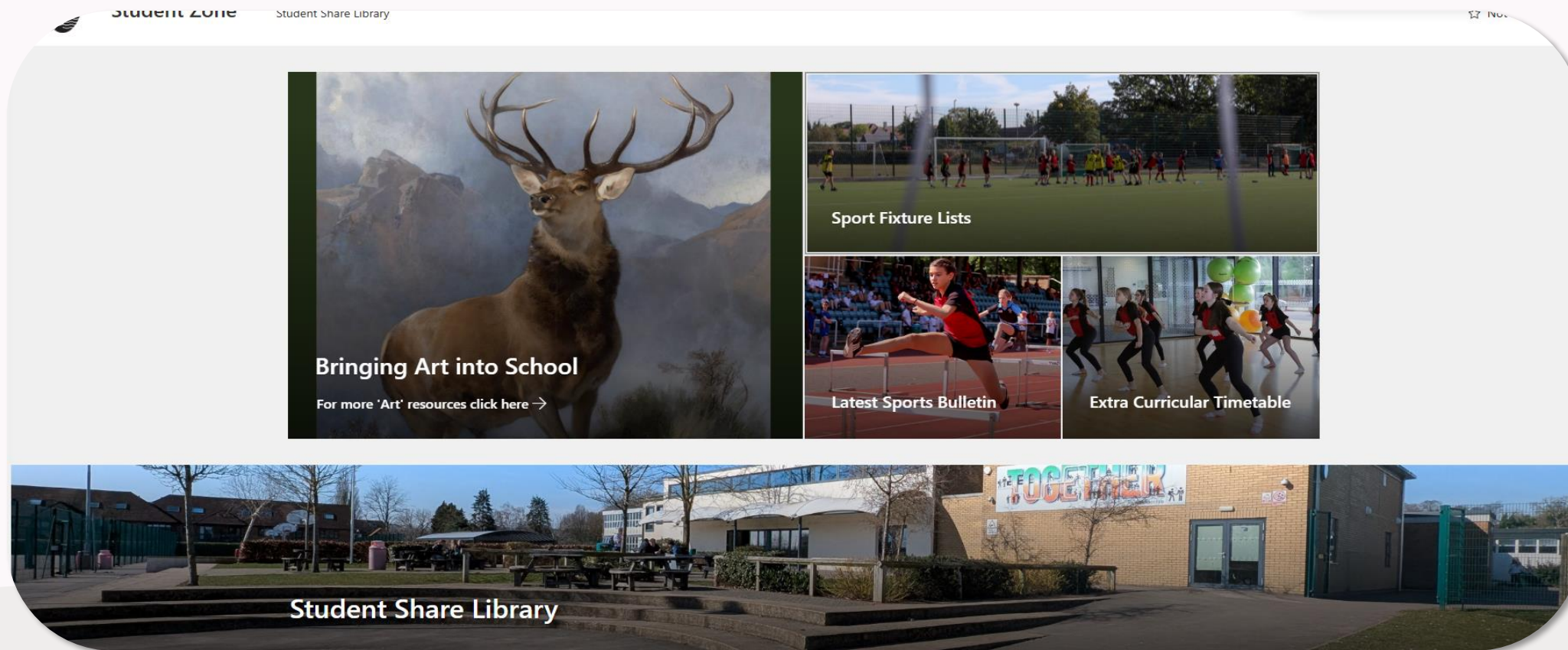
Click on any year roundels to access the in-depth Learning Journey

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

 BandLab Record and mix your music projects using this free resource	 Sparx Maths Supporting students in mathematics with personalised, challenging and attainable homework. Use school MS 365 account to gain access	 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.	 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.
 Reading Cloud Reading Cloud is GMS online library management and booking system	 beanstack Login with your MS 365 school account. Beanstack helps grow your reading with competition, recognition, and proven gamification principles	 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.	



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

Year 8 Form Timetable

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Equipment, planner & uniform check	Assembly	Reading project	TFTW / Form tutor activity	News day
				



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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.”

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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





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Our School

Learning

Sixth Form

Student Area

Parents & Carers

About

31

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

BANK HOLIDAY

Week 1

1

PSE 7 Days

9:00 am

Y13: UCAS opens for applications (references needed first)

2

3

8:30 am - 3:00 pm

START OF TERM Y7, 10 & 12 ONLY

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Catering Fingerprint Induction

3:15 pm - 5:30 pm

Leadership Team Meeting

4

Y10 Silver DofE, Training & Practice Expedition: return time is estimated

8:30 am - 3:00 pm

ALL STUDENTS BACK IN SCHOOL

5

6

7

Y10 Silver DofE, Training & Prac...

Week 2

3:10 pm - 4:10 pm

Directors of Learning Meeting

6:00 pm - 6:45 pm

Y12 Parent / Carer Information Evening: Sixth Form Centre

7:00 pm - 7:45 pm

Y13 Parent / Carer Information Evening: Sixth Form Centre

8:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Y12/13 Rowing Information Evening

8

11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Associate Staff Meeting: Hall

3:15 pm - 5:30 pm

Leadership Team Meeting

6:00 pm - 6:45 pm

Y11 Parent / Carer Information Evening followed by Rowing Information Evening: Hall

9

3:10 pm - 4:00 pm

Tutor Meeting

6:00 pm - 6:45 pm

Y10 Parent / Carer Information Evening (followed by Rowing Information Evening): Hall

10

9:15 am - 4:30 pm

Y13 Psychology Trip: ZSL Regent's Park

3:10 pm - 4:00 pm

New Staff Meeting: SEN / SIMS / Behaviour

6:00 pm - 6:45 pm

Y7 Parent / Carer Information Evening followed by Rowing Information Evening: Hall

11

9:00 am

HoD deadline: KS4/5 exam analysis deadline

12

13

14

Y13 Geography Residential: Cra...

Week 1

3:10 pm - 4:00 pm

New Staff Meeting

15

8:00 am - 10:00 am

Governance Meeting: Main

Screenshot

16

17

9:00 am - 11:00 am

Y10 KS4 Curriculum Session

18

9:00 am

HoD deadline

19

10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Clothing Sale (Twenty Three Living): Hall

20

10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Clothing Sale (Twenty Three Living): Hall

Y10 Silver DofE, Training & Prac...

Y13 Geography Residential: Cranedale, North Yorkshire

Y10 Silver DofE, Qualifying Expedition: return time is estimated

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Progress Reports



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

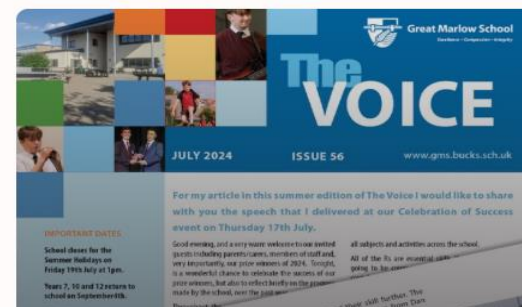
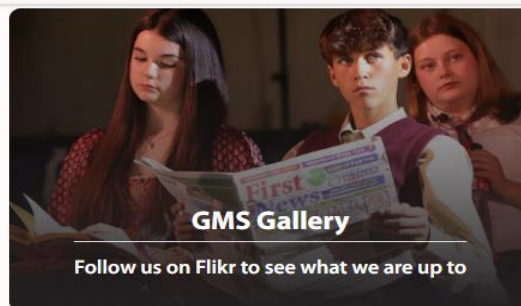
**27th November –
first progress report**

**26th November –
parents evening**

Rewards Include:

- Postcards home
- DOL Certificates
- Achievement Points
- Positive meetings with DOL/SSO

GMS Website



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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 – <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

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.



Thank you for listening

This presentation will be uploaded onto the school website