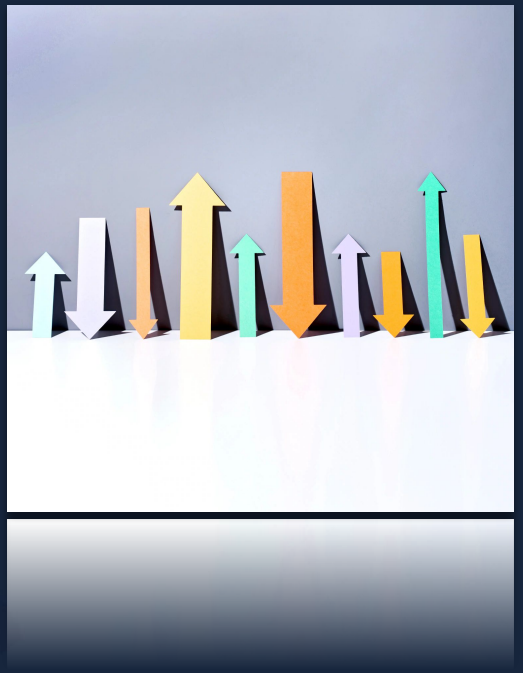
VERULAM
SCHOOL

WELCOME TO

YEAR 13

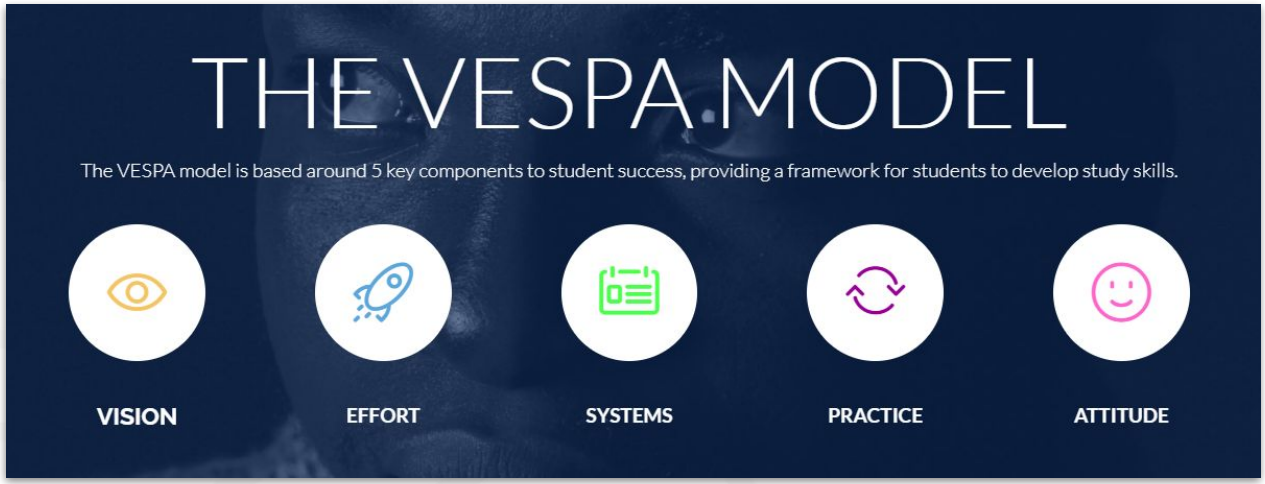
INFORMATION EVENING

Success in Sixth Form



Mr Moane
Headteacher

How to get there – Sixth form mindset



- Goals
- Purpose

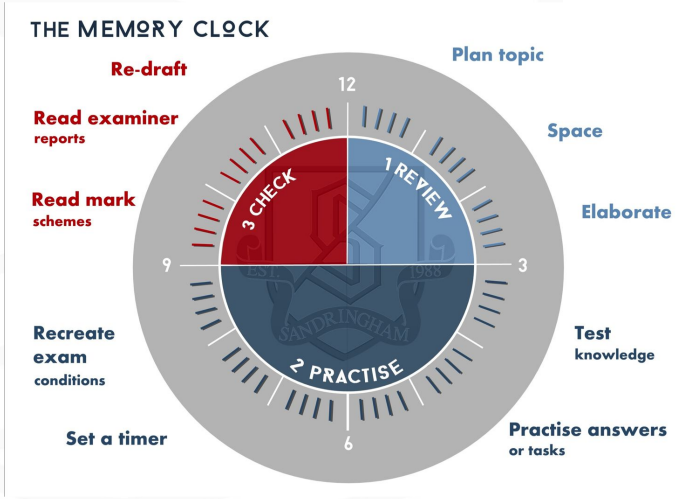
- Academic Perseverance
- The myth of effortless success

- Organising time
- Organising learning

- The Testing Effect
- Interleaving
- Distributed practice

- Academic buoyancy
- Failure-> Feedback -> Learning
- Stress management

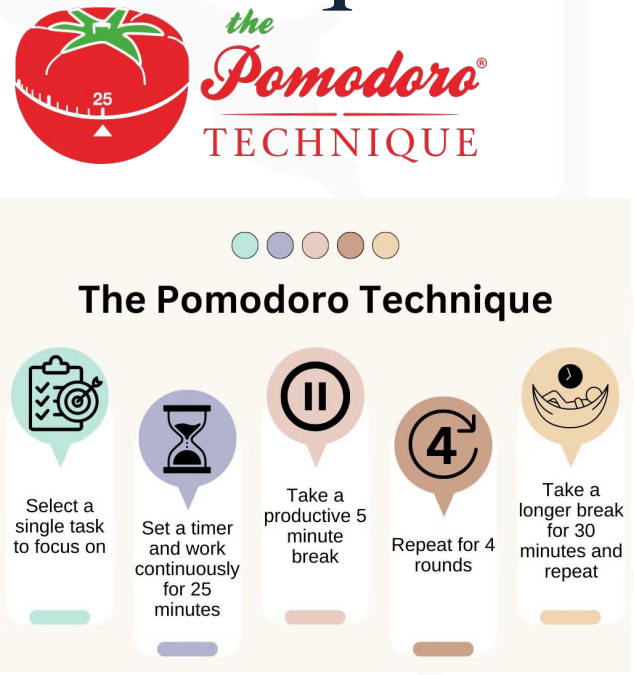
A Tool to facilitate revision – the memory clock



- Active review of previous content (Mind maps, flashcards, Cornell notes etc.)
- Practice past paper questions under realistic conditions for the bulk of the revision time
- Reflect and review

https://sandagogy.co.uk/memory-clock/

Time management – the Pomodoro technique



- A realistic time management technique that understands cognitive loads and concentration spans
- Interleaving of different subjects and topics during a study session

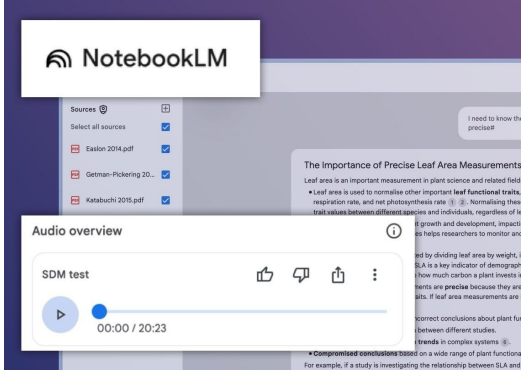
https://www.pomodorotechnique.com/

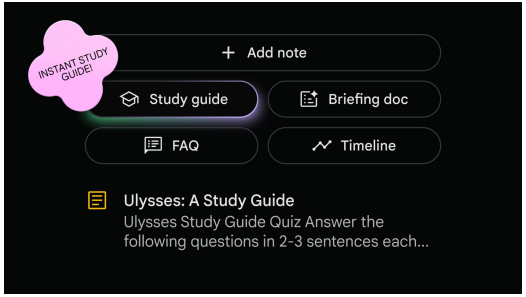
A checklist for parents (and students!)

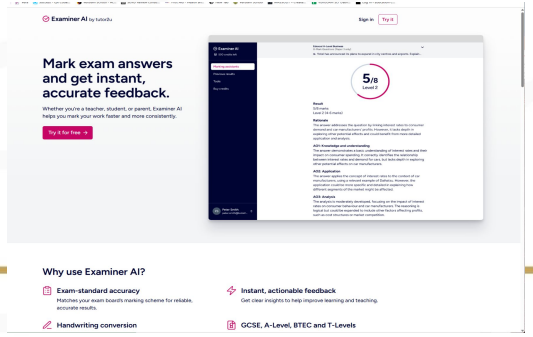
- Are future goals clear? Are targets realistic and achievable?
- How can those goals become more real? (uni visits, careers fairs, seminars etc)
- Is the right time and effort being put into study versus other commitments?
- Neuroscience says that practice is crucial (and the right sort of practice, free of distractions)
- Are systems in place - a revision timetable, ordered approach to study sessions, homework, notetaking
- Will extrinsic motivation help? (Food, free time, holidays, cash!)
- Is the balance between support and interfering/nagging correct? Varies for every individual
- The value of unconditional positive regard and support - having their backs, finding a way through even after setbacks, their life, not yours

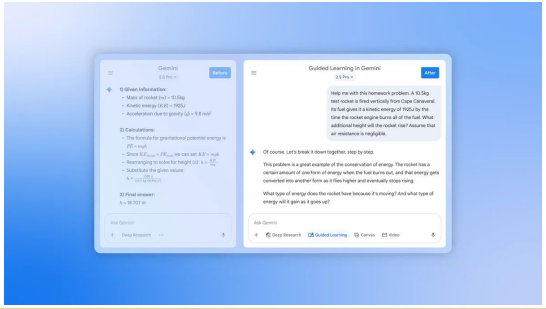
AI for Study Support

- Google's Gemini Notebook for study guides, feedback, interactive podcasts
- Guided Learning Mode in Google Gemini
- We license Massolit and Seneca Learning basic for the whole school
- Subject specific tools such as Examiner AI from Tutor2u (Business, Humanities, Psychology, Sociology)

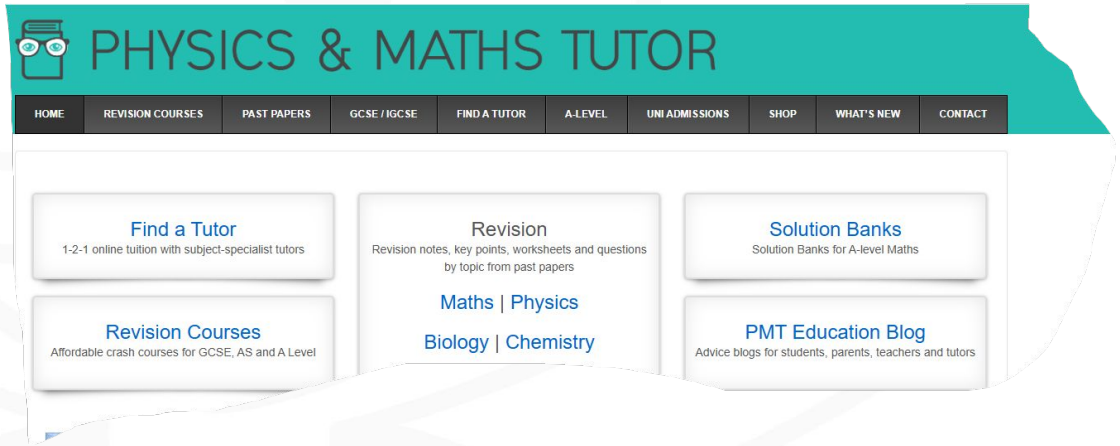








The unrivalled power of past papers…

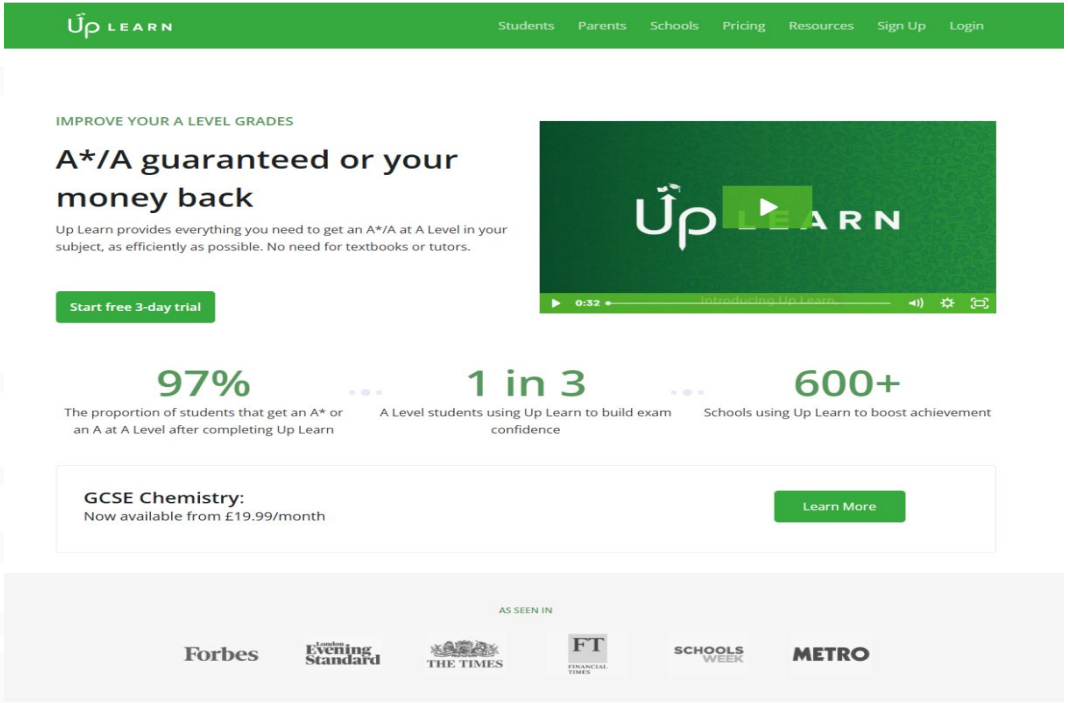


https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/

No better technique than practising with past papers and mark schemes

Exam board websites but also many subject websites with large collections of papers e.g. Physics & Maths Tutor

Uplearn



One to one tutoring is useful … but expensive.

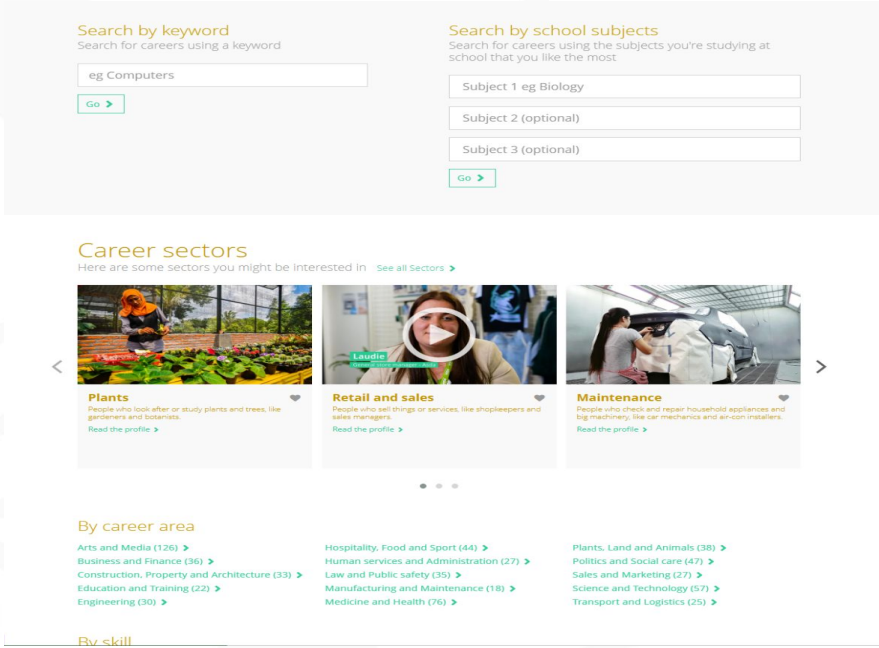
Uplearn has a track record of success – money back guarantee!

Unfortunately school can't fund (although bursary eligible students should ask us)

Planning for the future



Unifrog



https://www.unifrog.org/student/careers

- Careers library for research
- Vast database of apprenticeships
- UK and overseas universities and courses

Twin Track Apprenticeship Toolkit

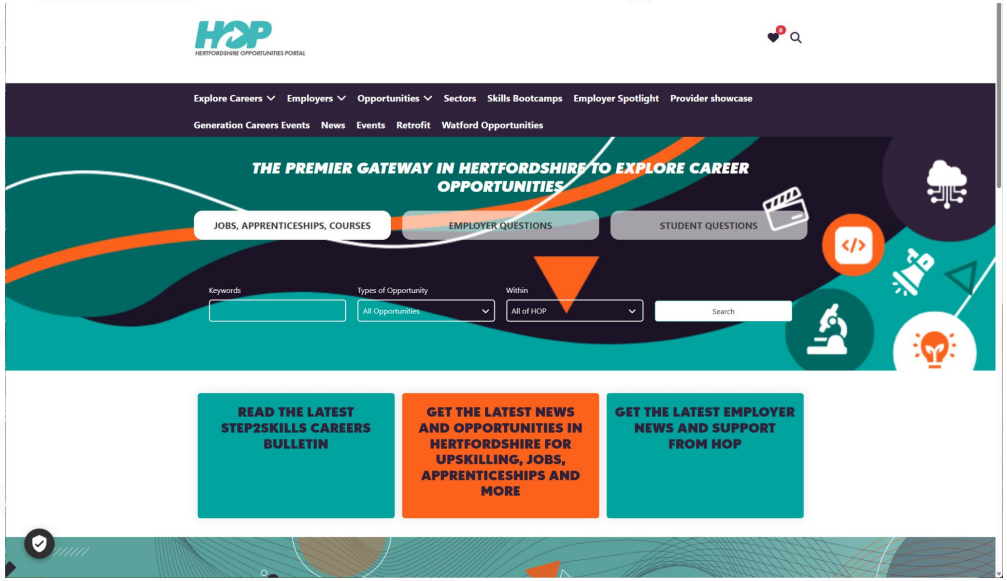


Apprenticeships are competitive, how to apply for them alongside UCAS

Reminder of Apprenticeship Evening on 1st December 2026

https://www.hfleducation.org/sites/default/files/2025-01/twin-track-apprenticeship-toolkit-2024.pdf

Hertfordshire Opportunities Portal



- Local Labour Market information
- Database of apprenticeships and jobs
- Guidance on interviews, CV writing, Q&A

https://www.hopinto.co.uk/

Tiered support to flourish

- Form Tutors
- Academic Mentoring
- Enrichment programme
- Study Skills Programme
- Sixth form pastoral team
- Counsellors
- NHS Mental Health Support Team (Thursdays)
- AET Family Support





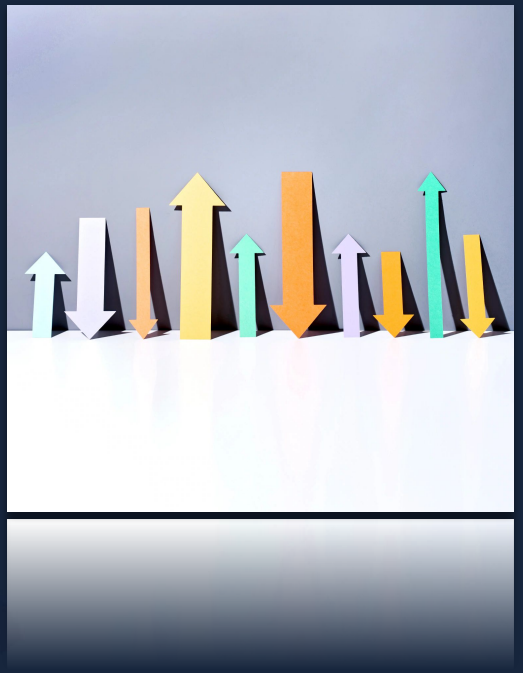


VERULAM

SCHOOL

Logistics & Ethos of Y13

Mr Base
Director of Sixth Form



Y13
Return to School, Assessments, UCAS and Study!

Sixth Form Team September 2026

Mr Bint: Deputy Director of Sixth Form
Mrs Smith: Sixth Form Manager
Mrs Kearney: Sixth Form Study Mentor
Mrs Myers: Sixth Form Study Mentor

Tutor Team

13ICC	Mrs Chirchi	6B
13TDE	Mr Engel	38
13NJP	Mr Phillips	T5
13RLW	Mrs Whitehouse	39



***Form Tutor* is the Key Relationship**

Day to Day

- *Specialise on just 3 A'Levels / BTECs.*
- *27 x 1hr Subject Lessons per fortnight.*
- *3 x 1hr Parallel Study per fortnight.*
- *5 x 1hr 'Study' per week.*

- ***+ 1 Block E 'Enrichment' Subject - Wed P5, Thurs P1/2 & Fri P4/5***



Subject A

Subject B

Subject C

Study

Enrichment

Study & Block E & Sixth Form Cafe

In school for every Lesson.

8:35 AM Reg Mon/Tues/Weds/Fri on days with timetabled P1.

***Study** for Blocks A, B, C, & D can be in School or at Home for students identified as not needing support.



Block E Weds PM P5 Week 1 = 'Enrichment' ***or Home* Study.**

Block E Thurs P1&2 = 'Enrichment' ***or Home* Study.**

Block E Fri P4&5 Week 2 = 'Enrichment' ***or Home* Study.**

Block E Fri P4 Week 1 = PSHE

Sixth Form Assessments 26/27

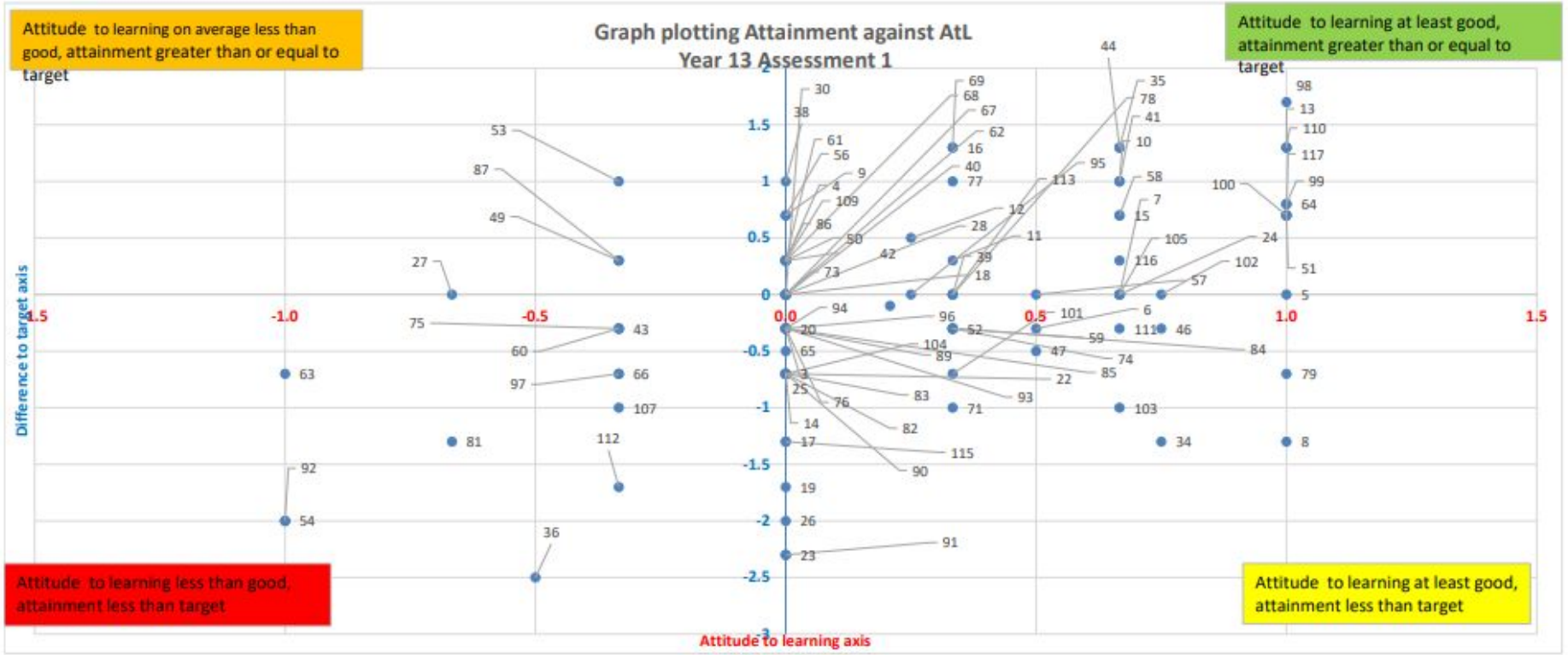
ASSESSMENT CALENDAR & MEETING CYCLE 2026-2027

	31-Aug	7-Sep	14-Sep	21-Sep	28-Sep	5-Oct	12-Oct	19-Oct		2-Nov	9-Nov	16-Nov	23-Nov	30-Nov	7-Dec	14-Dec		4-Jan	11-Jan	18-Jan	25-Jan	1-Feb	8-Feb		22-Feb	1-Mar	8-Mar	15-Mar	22-Mar		12-Apr	19-Apr	26-Apr	3-May	10-May	17-May	24-May		7-Jun	14-Jun	21-Jun	28-Jun	5-Jul	12-Jul	19-Jul
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		1	2	3	4	5	6	7		1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5	6	7		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
U6							D									D BTEC only		E & BTEC	E. SH		D				PCE				D/R							Ex. E	Ex. E			Ex. E	Ex. E	Ex. E				

Key Dates 2026 – 2027

Verulam Y13 Mock Exams	**Tuesday 5th January 2027**
Sandringham Y13 Parents' Evening	***Tuesday 9th February 2027***
Verulam Y13 Parents' Evening	**Thursday 25th February 2027**
Beaumont Y13 Parents' Evening	***TBC***
A'Level Exams Start	**Monday 10th May 2027**
A'Level Exams End	**Tuesday 22nd June 2027**

October Assessment 2026



Objective, Enabling & Meritocratic

Grade Calculation

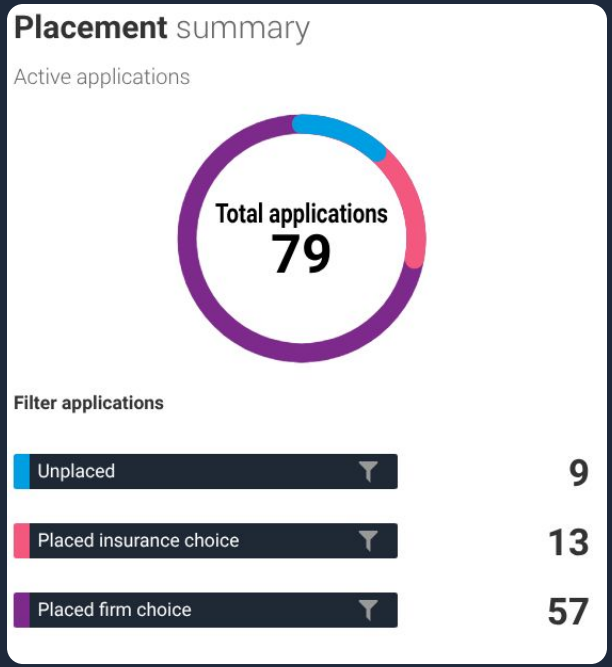
Final UCAS Grade = Average of 4 Assessments:

1. Y12 Jan Assessment
2. Y12 Spring Assessment
3. Y12 Threshold Exam
4. Y13 Sept Assessment

+ 1 Grade Added to Average

Optimistic on progress to access realistic offers.

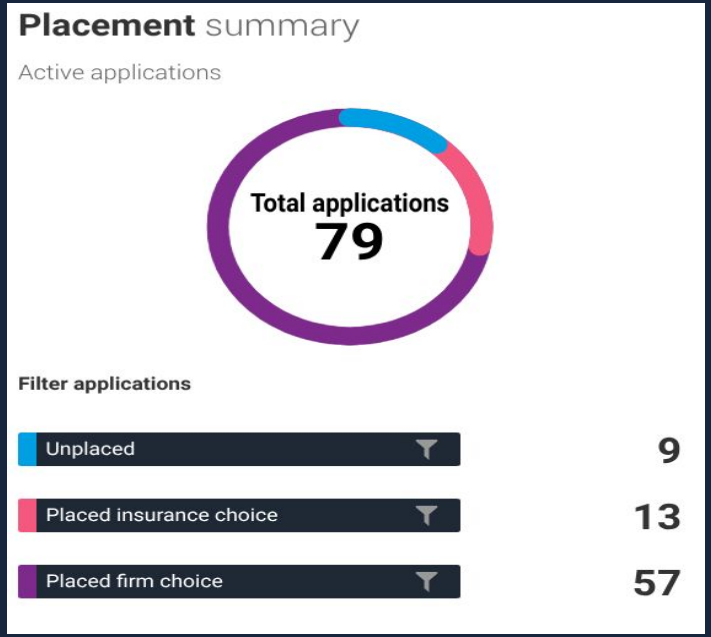
Placement Summary



Objective, Enabling & Meritocratic

Final UCAS grade will be the **average** of (1) *Y12 Jan assessment + (2) Y12 Spring assessment + (3) Y12 Threshold Exam + (4) Y13 Sept Assessment*

….Then + 1 Grade = Optimistic on progress to access realistic offers.



Students



Parent

School

Y13 Study Culture & Ethos

How to be Successful in Y13



- Work Life Balance.
- Organisation, Routines?
- Google Classroom is the conduit of all lessons.
- Efficient Study? In School, At Home, Block E?
- Asking for advice/help and acting upon it.
- Communication with Parents – Tutors.

Climate of Clear & High Expectations

- Purpose of non-timetabled lessons
- Minimum hours of independent learning per week

Grade C: minimum of 5 hours (15 per week)

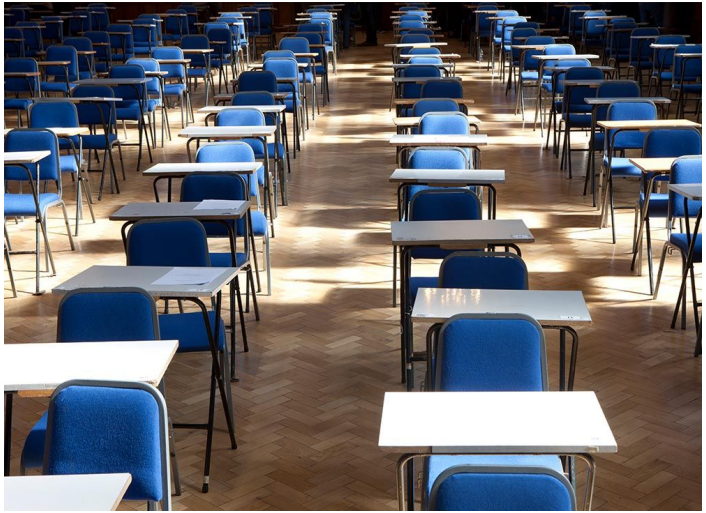
Grade A: Minimum of 8 hours (24 per week)

Study

netsixthform.co.uk

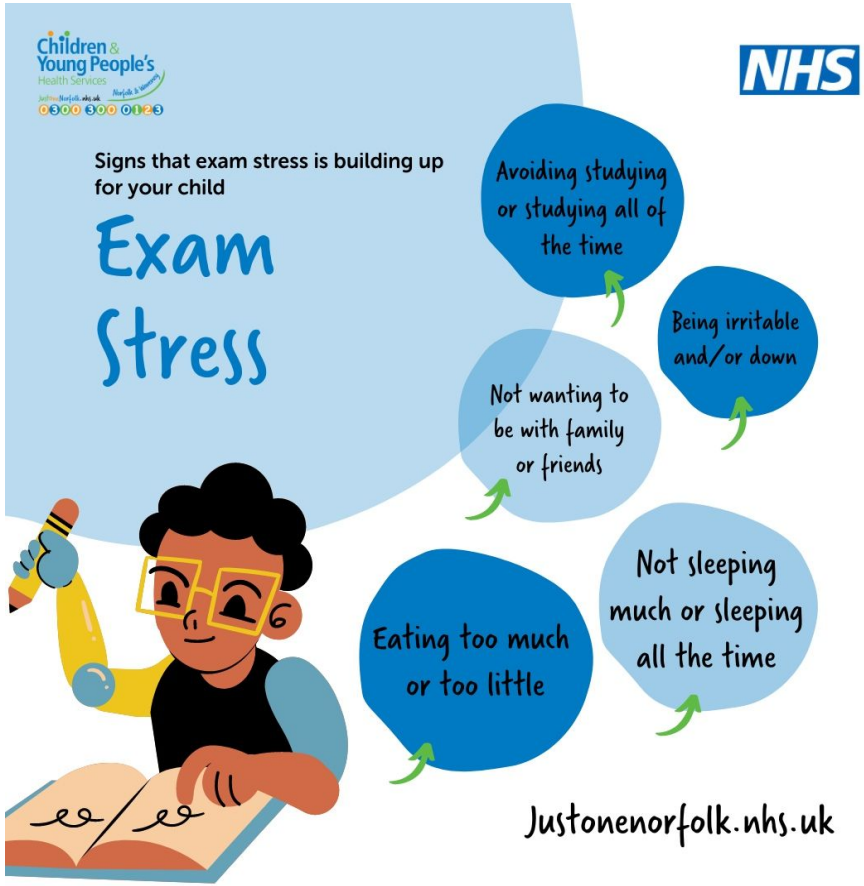
Y13 Mock Exams 5th January 2027

- Full Study Leave!
- 2 Papers x 2hrs per Subject.
- All Y12 & Y13 Topics to Date.
- Back to 2019 Standard.
- Get Serious & Get Prepped!



(Also External BTEC's)

Y13 CED1 is Coming 10/11/26



NHS

HERTFORDSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

HERTFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY

A SPLIT SECOND

Supporting Post-16 students for Post-18!



Solo ***Open Days*** vs Family weekends.

Consumerism of University? Students have made an entrepreneurial shift vs academics online @£100ph

Paid for a ***'product'*** = access to different sector of labour market £££'s

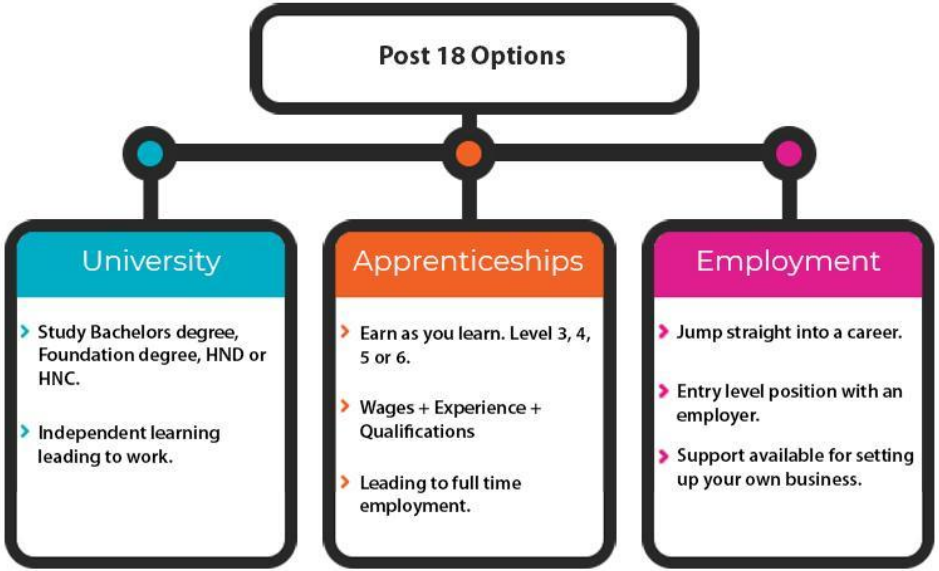
'Mum, Dad, its changed = £50k debt'…….do a Degree Apprenticeship. Now more competitive than Oxbridge!





VERULAM

SCHOOL



I've not included taking a year out, and I want all our pupils to have a plan of what they want to do after their year out.

EIGHT-STEP APPLICATION TIMELINE

STEP 01

Register for UCAS

Set up your hub account and link to the school.

STEP 02

Choose a course

Research subjects that align with your career goals.

STEP 03

Choose universities

Select up to 5 institution choices.

STEP 04

Draft personal statement

Write initial draft outlining academic interest.

STEP 05

Complete super-curriculars

Engage in subject reading and relevant tasks.

STEP 06

Finalise statement

Refine content based on staff feedback.

STEP 07

Finalise application

Review all sections and pay fee.

STEP 08

School reference

Teacher writes reference & submits.

Who does it apply to?

APPLICATION APPLICABILITY & BENEFIT

CORE PRINCIPLE — The UCAS process is relevant to all students, regardless of whether they intend to apply for university.

STAGE 01

Expectations

- Pretty much all students completed half their application back in June.
- We expect all students to complete the application process & personal statement.

STAGE 02

Form Practice

For students not applying, it provides crucial practice to familiarise themselves with the high detail and format of formal online application forms.

STAGE 03

Peace of Mind

It makes things significantly less stressful if someone has a last-minute change of mind!

What if University is not the right path?

GUIDANCE & NEXT STEPS FOR ALTERNATIVE ROUTES

01 **Complete Standard Requirements** — Everyone must complete their personal statement on time and prepare the UCAS application by the deadline.

02 **Notify Us via Email** — Rather than pressing "send" and paying for UCAS, please email to confirm your son/daughter is NOT applying and state their alternative plan.

03 **Application Tracking Update** — Once notified, we will update our system and stop chasing for UCAS submissions.

NOTIFICATION TIMELINE — Please email if applicable during the week beginning: 23rd November

In October…

PERSONAL STATEMENT PREPARATION

STEP 01

3-Person Review

Ask 3 people to thoroughly review your draft:

- Family member
- Form tutor
- Subject teacher

STEP 02

Draft & Refine

Continuously draft and re-draft your personal statement based on constructive feedback to polish tone, structure, and content.

FINAL DEADLINE

Final Statement

Complete all revisions and finalize the text for submission.

DEADLINE DATE

2nd November

Reviewing a personal statement

5 CRITICAL CHECKPOINTS FOR REVIEWERS

01 **Core Value Proposition** — Keep in mind: why would a university find this person interesting or want to have this student on their course?

02 **Avoid Redundancy** — Don’t tell the university about their own subject!

03 **Academic Focus** — Extra-curricular is good, but super-curricular is much more persuasive.

04 **Honest Promotion** — Ensure it "sells" them well, while remaining completely honest.

05 **Impactful Closing** — A concise conclusion should leave an admissions tutor wanting to know more.

In November…

KEY MILESTONES & DEADLINES

MILESTONE 01

School References

Preparation and compilation of official school references.

(more in a moment)

FINAL DEADLINE

UCAS Application

Official submission deadline for student applications.

Submission Date

30th November

What is the reference?

THE REFERENCE IS DIVIDED INTO 3 PARTS

PART 01

General Statement

A “general statement about Verulam school” – this is the same for every student.

PART 02

Extenuating Circumstances

“Extenuating circumstances which may have impacted the applicant's education and achievement” – this may include SEN provision or references to new A Levels.

PART 03

Supportive Info

“Other supportive information specific to the applicant” – written based on the subject references written by teachers in July.

Who will write the reference?

REFERENCE WRITING PROCESS & GUIDANCE

PRIMARY ROUTE

Form Tutor Reference

For most students, your son/daughter's form tutor will write the reference.

ALTERNATIVE REQUEST

Different Staff Member

If requesting a specific member of staff to write it:

- First ask this member of staff
- Then let their form tutor know
- Then let me know so I can monitor the process

IMPORTANT NOTICE & QUALITY CONTROL

Please note that your son/daughter does not get to see the reference, but I will quality control all the references.

Summary of Expectations

KEY MILESTONES & GUIDANCE

UCAS

30th Sept

STEP 01

Hand in first full draft of personal statement to form tutor.

Feedback

STEP 02

Get feedback and continuously improve personal statement.

2nd Nov

STEP 03

Finalise personal statement completely.

30th Nov

STEP 04

Complete UCAS application. Only “submit” and pay if applying.

Attend Form Times

Attend form times regularly so your son/daughter can get all the support they need.

Apprenticeship Applications

If applying to apprenticeships, this should happen at the same time. Use the personal statement to make this brilliant.

Finally – We're Here to Help!

SUPPORT & GUIDANCE CHANNELS

Form Tutors

Pupils should discuss their UCAS applications and references directly with their Form Tutor.

Sixth Form Office

Drop-in support available during lunchtime and after school for extra guidance.

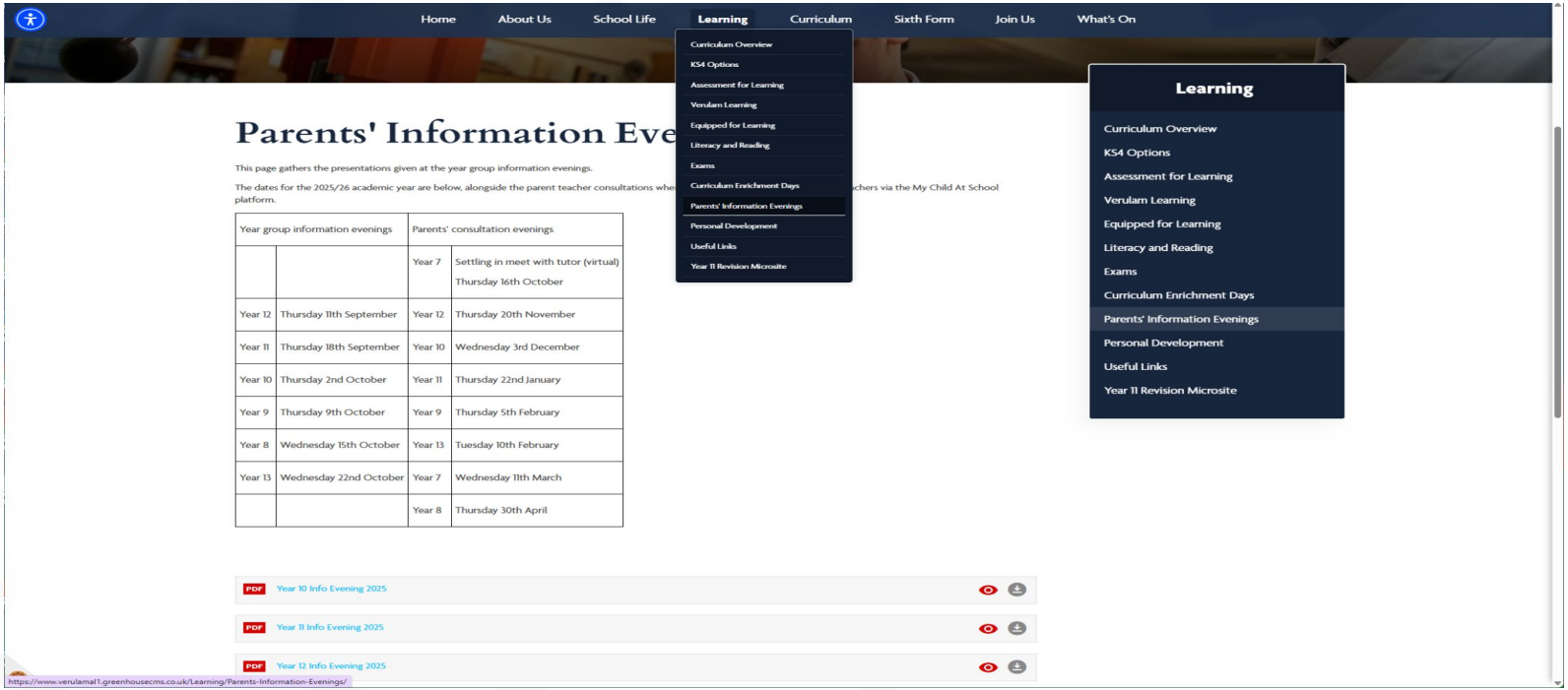
Key Contact

Mrs Kearney is also available and excellent for specialised advice and help.

Email Contact

Send your queries directly to:

admin@verulam.aetrust.uk



Presentation available to download from School Website and will be emailed to you tomorrow

Qs

Specific advance Qs have been hopefully dealt with

Any others……. Please email

sixthform@verulam.aetrust.uk



VERULAM

SCHOOL