

Sixth Form Bulletin



City of Norwich School
Sixth Form

An Ormiston Academy | Excellence in all

Friday 3rd November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers of 6th Form,

Last night we welcomed Yr11 students to CNS for our open evening. It only feels like yesterday that our current Yr12 were doing the same!

The students who stayed and helped out from Yr12 and 13 were phenomenal, and we had so many comments from parents and for staff saying how helpful, friendly and communicative they were. It makes us very proud when we have such students showing the absolute strengths as a 6th form.

It was also lovely to be able to share your own comments from the survey around the school for them to read.

In follow up to the survey last half term, you will note that in this bulletin, we have had time to reflect on your suggestions for improvement and you will see a "You said, we did" section below.

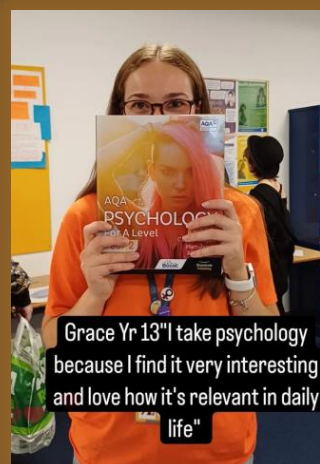
Council met Tom Rees, our new CEO this week. Tom is visiting all 43 schools nationally in the trust and was impressed by the questions that our students asked of him. Please see the council notes in this bulletin.

In assemblies this week, I shared a lot of key information with Yr12 and Yr13 with regards to semester models and pathways. I share this with you in this bulletin too.

Have a super weekend,
Kate Nichols

Director of 6th Form
Deputy Head Teacher
City of Norwich School - An Ormiston Academy

Please follow us on Twitter: [@CNS6F](https://twitter.com/CNS6F)
Please follow us on Instagram: [@cns_6f](https://www.instagram.com/cns_6f)



Key Dates

Nov	24 th	F	No school – Staff Development Day
Dec	4 th	M-F	Yr12 Mid-Semester Exams (No reading week)
Dec	5 th	Tu	Yr13 Parents' Revision Evening
Dec	7 th	Th	Winter Concert
Jan	12 th	F	Yr12 Mid-Semester Reports Sent Home

Absence

If your child is absent, please ask them to notify their teachers and parents should contact Ms King c.king@cns-school.org (Yr12) and Ms Cooper l.cooper@cns-school.org (Yr13) if you have to miss a lesson for either illness or planned trips, visits etc.

Bursary Forms

If you need any assistance with Bursary claims, please email k.blake@cns-school.org#

Go4Schools – Attendance, Homework, timetables



All students should download the Go4Schools app onto their phones. All homework, timetables and attendance information can be found on here.

CAREERS GUIDANCE

Career Guidance Interviews

We now have 2 new careers advisers working in school, Jane Emerson & Tracey Scarsbrook. They are in school 2 days each week.

Appointments can be booked by emailing Mrs Pentney n.pentney@cns-school.org

Appointments are usually scheduled at least 2 weeks in advance, we are already fully booked until half term, so please keep this in mind when requesting a meeting.

UCAS (Year 13 only):

- Continue to re-drafting Personal Statements – remember to seek feedback from another trusted adult on this. **These should be in the final stages now as you look towards the deadline and focus your attention on completing all other sections of the UCAS Application.**
- Completing any outstanding sections of your UCAS Application. **Your ULN can be found on your G4S homepage if you click the 'i' icon next to your photo.**
- Meeting with your Tutor at the specified time to work through Section 3 of your UCAS Reference.

Upcoming deadlines:

- Internal deadline for all UCAS Applications – **Friday 17th November.** **You will have an assembly on Exit Interviews and the processes for these on Thursday 16th November.**

A huge congratulations to all the Oxbridge & Medics students who have already submitted their UCAS Applications and taken their Admissions Test (and of course to Mr Westwood for leading this process) – that's two steps of the process down... only the interviews left! Well done 😊

6th Form Council

Agenda: This week Tom Rees, out CEO of Ormiston Trust came to visit CNS and spent break time with council. Council took the opportunity to ask him some questions.

item	discussion
Feedback to last week's discussion	<p>Market place for recycled textbooks – council to organise how this works</p> <p>Tap in on back gate – no electrics to get out to set it up – too expensive</p> <p>Printers – connection issues/ follow me – printer named/ computers/disk space – all being followed up on.</p>
Tom Rees – CEO of Ormiston Academies in School	<p>Qs:</p> <p>1) Can you tell us about Ormiston and how does CNS fit in and how are the schools all connected to each other?</p> <p>Mr Rees explained about the history of Ormiston: It is a grant-making trust that chiefly assists schools and organisations supporting children and young people. The trust was established in the memory of Fiona Ormiston Murray who died in a car crash with her husband on their honeymoon in 1969. Her brother set up the trust in her name.</p> <p>The trust now has 43 schools and is one of the biggest in the country and has a quarter of a billion pound budget. The trust allows schools to share a common framework and systems to ensure that means that there are efficiencies and effective systems in place to allow school to support the children in them.</p> <p>Tom Rees joined in Sept and is currently visiting all 43 schools so that he can help lead the trust in the best interests of them.</p> <p>2) A business studies student asked as a CEO, what sort of influence do you have on day to day running of schools, for example behaviour?</p> <p>Mr Rees explained that as CEO of Ormiston, a trust that doesn't have blanket rules and policies across the trust, that he allows heads to make their own choices into the running of the schools. Every school in Ormiston is different, and blanket policies for things like behaviours or curriculum wouldn't work.</p> <p>3) What are the key things the trust is working on that might affect me as a 6th former?</p> <p>The trust are focusing on their teaching and learning conference which is coming up. All schools will be present and the focus will be on metacognition and the best ways in which students learn. This is then disseminated to teachers and into classrooms.</p>

Lost Property:

Lost Property should be taken to Mrs Blake or your year office. The lost item will be placed on the lost property shelf on the large grey desk in the study centre (valuable items will be kept in offices.)

Each week, we will publish the items and post pictures. Please go to the grey shelf to claim your lost item.



CNSA UPDATES
QUIZ & CHIPS

CNSA present ?

Quiz 'n'

in the
Fisher
Centre



= on = 6:30 for 7 pm

Friday 17th November

Teams of up to 8 → 
(or join a team on the night)

= MENU = 

Please bring your own drinks,
nibbles, condiments, plates etc.

• Adults £ 6 • 18^s + under £ 4

Tickets must be booked in advance by email to:
Mailcnsa@gmail.com

We will then email you details of how to pay

👉 RAFFLE DONATIONS WELCOME 👉

Any queries: mailcnsa@gmail.com

In VESPA recently, we have been looking at learning from our mistakes. We are encouraging students to:

- 1) Be prepared to make mistakes in our learning – we learn best this way!
- 2) Own the mistake.
- 3) Correct and understand why we made the mistake in the first place.

We have asked students to apply this to their baseline assessments and they have been very good in evaluating what they did and how to do better in mid-semester assessments from 4th December.

Yr12 Semester Exams

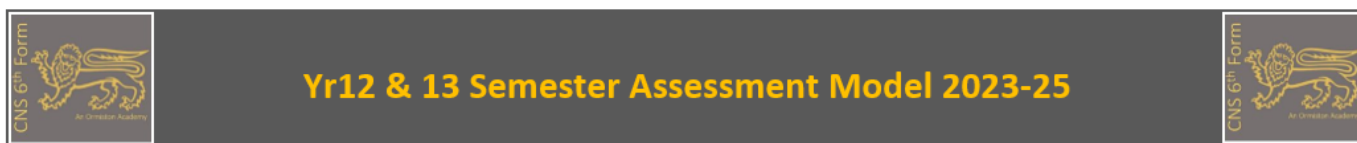
In assembly on Friday, Ms Nichols shared the semester model with Yr12 students.

We know that this is not the most exciting of prospects to know that the next 2 years of internal assessments is all mapped out and we shared that students will probably not like us very much for it initially!

The model works and we are happy to go through this discomfort with students whilst they take part in it and get to a place in the summer of Yr13 that they are confident and well practiced students in their exams.

I will be sharing this with parents in their next information evening.

In the meantime, here is a reminder of the year 12 assessments coming up over the next 2 years and that the mid-semester assessments will take place from 4th December.



Assessment	Date/ Timeframe	Location	Reading week?	Format	Content	Guidance	Grading
Yr12 Gap Tasks	Set on induction day and on the website. Due in from students by Fri 8 th Sept.	Home	No	Open	Pre-work to bridge between GCSE and A-Levels.	Students given tasks at induction and website videos: https://www.cns-school.org/Sixth-Form-Induction-Gap-Tasks/	None / formative /feedback only.
Yr12 Baseline	Assessment is in w/b 2 nd Oct (week 5). Data due on Go4Schools: Friday 21 st Oct. Shared in class.	In class	No	Open format – assesses 25 marks worth of AO1 and AO2 content.	Based on the first 4-5 weeks of A-level teaching only. Music, Art and Tech will be practical based.	Students are told to revise everything covered so far.	Raw score out of 25 marks (no grading)
Yr12 Mid-Semesters 1	w/b 4 th December 2023. Go4Schools: 11 th Jan Reports published Fri 12 th Jan 2024	Gym	No – no new teaching in lessons	Part exam papers – max of 90 minutes.	Assesses work from any aspect of the course but may focus on a particular topic or paper.	Students can be guided in terms of topics or papers but should still be encouraged to revise a wide range.	A-Level Grade (be aware narrow content)
Yr12 End of Semester 1 Exams	w/b 4 th Mar 2024. Go4Schools: Tue 26 th Mar Reports published 27 th Mar Parents' Evening Thu 28 th Mar	Gym	Yes	Full Exam papers x 1 per subject	All content covered so far.	To use past papers. Students must revise full content. This is preparation for a real exam.	A-Level Grade
Yr12 Mid-Semesters 2	w/b 3 rd June 2024. Go4Schools: Thu 27 th June Reports published Fri 28 th June	Class	No	Part exam papers – short 45min papers.	Assesses work from any aspect of the course but may focus on recent topics.	Students should be guided in terms of topics or papers but should still be encouraged to revise a range.	A-Level Grade (be aware narrow content)
Yr13 End of Semester 2 Exams	w/b 16 th September 2024. Data due on Go4Schools on Thu 10 th Oct.	Gym	Yes	Full Exam papers x 1 per subject	All content covered so far.	To use past papers. No narrowing of content for revision other than any government guidance so far. Students must revise full content. This is preparation for a real exam.	A-Level Grade
Yr13 Mock Exams	w/b 13 th January 2025. Data due on Go4Schools Thursday 13 th February.	Gym	Yes	Full Exam papers up to 2 per subject.	All content covered so far.	To use past papers. Only narrow the revision based on any government guidance so far. Students must revise full content. This is preparation for a real exam.	A-Level Grade

Yr13 Key Messages from Assembly:

Applications: *When you submit your application – it comes to us first – not straight to UCAS! This triggers an exit interview.*

Exit Interviews

- 1:1 interviews (20-30 mins) with Ms Nichols, Ms Cook and Mr Etheridge
- In these interviews, we check the whole application – check courses, grades, references, funding (02 – UK funding – Norfolk)

UCAS Timeframe:

- Applications due to CNS – Fri 17th Nov This will guarantee you an exit interview.
- UCAS deadline: 31st Jan 2024
- Make your FIRM and insurance choices - June (no offer will be withdrawn)
- Results – Thu 15th Aug

UCAS FAQs:

- Does my application go straight to UCAS when I submit? NO!
- Do early birds catch the worm? YES!
 - Offers
 - Accommodation
- Can I defer and have a gap year after they make me an offer? YOU CAN ASK,- they don't have to. You should apply for a deferred year using the start date of 2025.
- Can I submit an application after 17th Nov and still get an exit interview? NOT GUARANTEED – we will see if we have slots free.
- Can I submit an application after January? YES – but many courses may have already gone.

Mocks:

- w/b 15th January
- Up to 2 papers per subject and these will be full length papers – up to 3 hours
- It is the last main practice before the summer

Student Loans:

- You apply for 2 types of loan
 - 1) Maintenance (cost of living):
 - Means tested (age, location, household income– up to £9,978 (London £13,022)
 - Paid termly - paid directly to your bank account in three instalments
 - 2) Tuition Loan (course costs):
 - Paid straight to the university
- What if you still don't have enough to live on as the maintenance isn't enough?
 - Most students work alongside their studies
 - Bursaries (check local charities)
 - Interest free overdrafts – do have to be paid back!
 - Sell old clothes on vinted etc.
 - Student union / advisors

Student Loan Repayments:

- You repay after you finish uni.
- You don't have to pay back any of your student loan until you're earning over a certain threshold. Currently £27,295.
- Then 9% of your salary: Earning £28,000 a year mean you will pay £11 per month off your loan.
- Interest rates are currently at ~7%

Celebrating our successes

Senior Maths challenge.

We had 24 students take part, with 11 achieving gold!
Sam Palmer achieved 100%! First time in our school's history.
Isobel Groom got Gold and best in y12, beating many y13s



Student Fundraising

My name is Emily Hubbard and I'm fundraising to go to Kenya for four weeks to take part in projects such as building houses and improving the water supply for the locals. To do this I need to raise £4000. My uncle has kindly donated me 2 tickets at the legends lounge for the Norwich vs QPR match 3pm on 25th November. The experience includes a 3 course gourmet meal before the match, hot drinks and snacks at half time and premium padded seats to watch the game. Arrival for 12pm. The tickets for this game are valuing at £210 each. I'm raffling these tickets off for £5 each so each £5 donated will enter you one time into the raffle, this will be drawn on the 23rd November at 7pm. If you are interested please email me for further details - emily.hubbard@cns-school.org
Please follow this link for a preview of the experience:

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/Cy6BZm1sZSL/?igshid=YzE4YTliZjNIMA==>



STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

NORWICH UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS

PORTFOLIO TALK

Thom Rollett from Norwich University of the Arts will be coming into **CNS** on **Thursday 30th Nov** at **11:30am** in **room 28**. This is to give Y13 students advice on the preparation for creative degree portfolio presentation.

This talk can also include any students wanting to apply for Performing Arts courses and need audition advice. Thom can talk to those students separately at the end of main portfolio talk.

Please complete attendance Form, link below if you are interested in attending so I have an idea of numbers and what kind of creative course you are interested in.

<https://forms.microsoft.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=cCy76NwEk0ilgsR7VNvSkhkYAgSIQHRGgebwXvsE0B5UNERNSTdBmjhNUFJBNIFSVOZPVIIdHWkIOUy4u>

If you would like further information on this event, please speak to Mrs Utting.

Are you interested in animation and visual effects?



The British Film Institute are running a residential course during February half term where you'll get to learn about animation and VFX. You'll get to work alongside industry professionals too. For more details including how to apply, please visit: [here](#)

If you need support with you application, please contact me!

Mr Rootham - j.rootham@cns-school.org

Subject Leader for KS5 English & Film

Personal Statement online workshop for Year 13 Wednesday 29th November

Aimed at Year 13 students looking to apply to university, this workshop is aimed at helping you perfect your Personal Statement focusing on strategies to make your statement stylish, concise, and accurate with lots of examples to peruse from different subject areas.

Click [HERE](#) to register if you haven't done so already and we'll send the invite out to you the day before.

Getting Savvy with your Personal Finances – 2023-24 online with the HSBC Bank

Now more than ever it is critical that you wise up to how to budget, save money where you can, protect yourselves against fraud and begin to prepare the ground for leaving home. Sign up now for these excellent sessions delivered by HSBC:

- Week 1 – Banking lowdown – 8th November
- Week 2 – Fraud and Your Money – 6th December
- Week 3 – Savvy Shopping – 16th Jan
- Week 4 – Kickstart Your Finances – 13th Feb
- Week 5 – Budgeting for Uni – 12th March
- Week 6 – Borrowing Money – 30th April
- Week 7 – Intro to Investing – 14th May
- Week 8 – Moving out of home – 2nd July

Register your interest [HERE](#) if you haven't done so already and we'll ensure we send you links.

Mock Interviews Season - Monday 9th to Wednesday 22nd November

Over 80 students signed up so far – Don't miss this opportunity!!!

- Each year we aim to give every Norfolk student who will face a live or online interview as part of the application process, a mock interview. Depending on what you will be encountering this might be an online one to one interview, a live one to one interview or a live Mini Interview sessions – or possibly all three!
- This round of mock interviews is primarily aimed at those students who must meet the October 16th deadline and/or students who know that they will require an interview as part of the application process. It is an opportunity for you to experience an interview with a subject specialist which we aim to make as realistic an experience as possible. After the interview you will also receive useful and constructive feedback to help you in your preparation for the real thing.
- To organise this for you we need to know your school, subject and in some cases institutions applied for. **DEADLINE FRIDAY 13th OCTOBER**

Once we have all requests collated we will send you a date and time for your interview.

Register [HERE](#)

LUNCHTIME SPANISH CLUB



LUNCHTIME SPANISH CLUB ES

Starting weekly on Friday 3rd November in room 6- all abilities welcome!

Bella B

Agritech Careers Day - Y12 Only

For more info about this taster day taking place at the John Innes Centre on the UEA Research Park and for an application form, email Mr Etheridge.



AGRITECH CAREERS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

John Innes Centre | 19th March 2024

Could you be part of the global agricultural revolution?

AgriTech combines science, technology and engineering to generate innovative ideas to help create a more environmentally friendly, sustainable agriculture for the future. Find out more about the exciting world of AgriTech and the huge variety of careers in the sector with this unique free one day course open to Year 12 Students.

APPLICATION DEADLINE 19TH JANUARY 2024

EDT Residential Insight into University 2024

Dear Student,

Registration for [EDT Residential Insight into University 2024](#) courses is now open.

[Residential Insight into University](#) courses are Industrial Cadets accredited summer schools which can help you decide which degree course might be right for you and also enhance your UCAS application. Courses run over 4 or 5 days where Yr12/S5-6 students get a taster of university life and an insight into a specific STEM subject. Please see below the list of courses available for 2024, with some dates still to be confirmed:

- **Materials Science** at the University of Oxford, 17th June – 21st June 2024 - 4 nights residential
- **Materials Science** at the University of Cambridge, 30th June – 4th July - 4 nights residential
- **Broad based Engineering** at the University of Sheffield - 4 nights residential
- **Aerospace Engineering** at the University of Liverpool - 4 nights residential
- **Maths** at Lancaster University, 29th July – 1st August 2024 - 3 nights residential
- **Mechanical Engineering** at UCL - 3 nights residential
- **Ocean & Earth Science** at the University of Southampton, 21st July – 25th July 2024 - 4 nights residential
- **Additional courses coming soon!**

It's just like studying at university! You will get the opportunity to experience university style lectures and work on activities and group projects with the support of academics and student mentors. Throughout the duration of the course, you will stay in halls of residence and will take part in social activities in the evenings.

For dates, cost, requirements, content of each course and the application form, please click [here](#).

You can select up to three different courses you'd like to apply for. Please submit only one application and note we can only allocate one course place per student. You will need your personal and school details and you will be required to write a short personal statement to tell us why you would like to do the courses you are applying for, which subjects you are currently studying and your predicted grades (please check the course is suitable for you before applying).

Applications are open for a limited time and will close on the 31st of January 2024.

Please make sure you check out our [FAQs page](#) if you have any questions or contact our student support team on studentrecruitment@etrust.org.uk

To hear what students had to say about their residential summer course last summer, please click [here](#).

We look forward to receiving your application!

Student Recruitment and Support Team

EDT (Engineering Development Trust)

Tel: 01707 906106 | Email: studentrecruitment@etrust.org.uk Website: www.etrust.org.uk

The Gresham Competition



an entry?

All the details are here <https://www.gresham.ac.uk/schools-and-colleges/gresham-competition>

If you decide to enter, or if you need help, please let Mr Rootham know j.rootham@cns-school.org

Gresham School is running an oracy competition for KS5 students in state sixth forms.

The prize is £10,000 towards university fees!

That's a lot of money and surely worth making



**CNS Film
and Media**

- **Julian Sturdy** is a multi-award-winning documentary maker. In the past, Julian was Investigations Editor at BBC East, and ran the Inside Out team, commissioning and executive producing documentaries around the world.
- On **Wednesday 8th November, 15:35-16:20** Julian will be presenting a lecture on documentary making. We'll be screening the lecture live in **room 52**.
- **If you'd like to be there**, please contact **Mr Rootham** (subject leader for film and media) – i.rootham@cns-school.org
- **You don't have to be studying film or media to attend!**



A SAFE SPACE FOR MEMBERS OF THE
LGBT COMMUNITY, ALLIES WELCOME!

A ROOM TO CHAT, ASK QUESTIONS AND DO
ACTIVITIES LIKE ART/ BOARD GAMES :)

ROOM 16 ON MONDAY LUNCHTIMES, ANY
YEARS WELCOME, STAY AS LONG AS YOU
LIKE. WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Yr12 Parental Survey Feedback – You said , We did.....

Thank you so much for the valuable feedback from the Yr12 parental survey in the first half term.

We have listened to the areas for improvements, discussed this as a 6th form team and can offer the following information and reassurances moving forward:

Area of improvement	Number of people	You said.....	We already do / The current situation.....	What we will do moving forward.....
All ok / No improvement needed (yet!)	23	Nothing; Carry on; So far so good.		Continue to ask our parents at key stages of the year.
Cover	5	Late cancelled lessons; Not always an email to let students know; Too many cancelled lessons; Issues with long term staff absence;	We overload the teaching across Yr12 and 13 so that we offer more hours of teaching than most nationally. CNS teach 90 hours more than most other schools; this allows for not using cover staff. Work is set and then revisited on the return of a teacher. We send a list out to any affected students at 8:10am each morning, or as soon after as is possible. Initial IT issues did not help us to do this and yes, at times the information was late getting to students - apologies! Any significant affect of staffing is documented in UCAS references to be taken into consideration when offers are made.	Keep an eye on any classes who have more disruption than others and ensure that we have cover in place for longer absences where we can. Any staff absences will be reported to students as soon as we can each morning and by 8:15am.
Curriculum and subject support	6	I would appreciate info about helpful learning resources/ textbooks; We had been told about period 6 lessons beforehand; Students had no more than 2 teachers per subject to avoid confusion; Please offer all subjects (inc. music) at A level; Timetables were managed so that there were less gaps/ long study periods and the sessions were more evenly spread out across the two weeks; The 6th form timetable enabled more mixing of arts and sciences.	We have 2 parent information events throughout both Yr12 and 13 where such materials are shared. The list of textbooks and links to exam boards can be found on the website: https://www.cns-school.org/Curriculum-12102018105330/ Music was not able to run in 2023 as we did not have enough students to make it viable. The music department are working very hard to ensure that students choose A-level in the future. We'd love to have an even balance of days and lessons for all students, but study periods and lessons cannot be any better allocated as we have a very complex timetable to make sure 2000 people are in the right place and room. The timetable is the best fit model for all students to get the A-level packages that they apply for, we use a programme to do this and it gives us the least clash model. Most students who do choose a blended package of arts and sciences are able to do so.	We will ask teachers to share more information about materials and resources in parents' evenings. We have built information into our recruitment resources about P6s and the length of a day.

SEND and Support	2	More communications with parents for children with additional needs. More pastoral support.	Systems in 6 th form are set up so that any request should go through the pastoral manager, Miss King and Ms Cooper. Students and parents can request this. c.king@cns-school.org l.cooper@cns-school.org	Please send any requests through, including if a more regular feedback mechanism is needed. Any SEND needs can be communicated directly with Ms Wynn and her team.
Comms/ Logistics and IT	9	Dropping students off was less hectic regarding traffic; My School Portal had worked properly at the start / IT glitchy; Our child would ideally like to have access to separate toilets for male sixth formers; Communication to ensure students/parents know what and when meetings are; By helping students to set up their 365 accounts.	Traffic is always an issue before and after school – often it is easier if students are dropped down the road away from school and walk a little way in. BIG apologies about the initial IT. We had our main sever go down over the summer and this has fast-forwarded a huge IT change that would have been far better tested before we changed if we have our normal timeframe. Comms wise – we hope the dates and information in each bulletin does share this information well with you. If there are specific instances where this hasn't worked – let us know.	Adobe is still being fixed and printing should be up and running for students very shortly. Thank you for your patience. If students are struggling to log on, they need to see Mrs Blake about a password reset.
Social / Spaces / Food	4	More chairs; More areas for studying; Food was served more times	As a 6 th form, we are very fortunate to have 4 very spacious areas for 6 th formers to study in. In a period, we have never seen any area completely full. The café is open from 9:30-2:15 every day. We encourage students to visit in study periods. Every so often we have to close the café if the main canteen is short staffed.	More chairs will be ordered – just securing finances!
Sports	2	More sport More sports teams	We currently have: Badminton, football (M&W), basketball, skating, yoga. Moving forward we will be participating in a tri-city tournament with Notre Dame and Sir Isaac Newton – please encourage your child to get involved!	If there are specific teams you'd like to see, we can try and drum up interest and get them going.
Transition	3	Offer second transition day for those who couldn't make it; Avoid clashes with DoFE; Structured activities for pupils new to the school;	We will make sure that the DoFE for Yr11s does not clash with the transition day this year! For external students who cannot make it, we offer tours through Mrs Blake. In Sept, we always have 3 days of structured activities, alongside the ice breaker day.	If there were particular activities that students, parents had in mind, please do let us know!