

Kings Langley Sixth Form

Head of Sixth Form Fortnightly Bulletin: Week 25 - 2023/24

This bulletin, written by the Head of Sixth Form, provides a brief summary of updates, upcoming events, and useful information for students and their home. Further information can be found on our website www.kls.herts.sch.uk and clarification of policy can be found in the sixth form handbook.



Introduction

Over the last fortnight since my last bulletin, I have had the pleasure in witnessing the skills and confidence of a group of students in the running to become either a Head Student or part of the Student Leadership Team. Assisted by my two very able and professional Head Students, Ariana and Samaira, the process has reminded me of the power of student voice and how resourceful young people can be. The students in the process showed how determined they are to be part of the continuing development of the Sixth Form and how they value the positive culture of belonging that we strive to achieve in our Sixth Form. Thank you to the students who have participated in this process whether this is the candidates themselves, the current Head Students, or students friends and peer groups who have championed the candidates and supported their campaigns. It gives me a great sense of pride to be working alongside students with values and visions aligned to the culture of Kings Langley Sixth Form.

Letters and communication home

Please be advised, as per parent voice requested, communication of events, important information and notices to students and parents are collated in the fortnightly HoSF Bulletin which is sent out every other Monday.

In the digital age that we live in, our inboxes are busier than ever and we are looking at reducing our email volume into your inbox alongside making it easier to find information by having one place, the HoSF Bulletin. You can find letters and communication from subjects and other members of staff in the back pages of this bulletin.

If you are unsure of where to find information, please visit our Sixth Form website where we upload all letters, bulletins and important information that you will need.

Vist: [Kings Langley Secondary School - Unlocking Potential for Life \(kls.herts.sch.uk\)](http://Kings Langley Secondary School - Unlocking Potential for Life (kls.herts.sch.uk))

Yr13 Intervention and Exam Preparation

Details of the intervention and exam preparation sessions provided by individual subjects within the Easter holidays will be made available to students and parents in the next bulletin. It is important that students and home consider attendance to these sessions as it will provide focused assistance on preparing for the forthcoming summer exams.

Head Student Results

Unfortunately, whilst we were hoping to be able to announce the results of the Head Student selection process and the subsequent student leadership team, it has now been postponed until next week (week commencing Monday 18th March due to technical issues of students campaign videos and the communication of these to the student body.

We appreciate that this causes unrest for those involved but we now hope that these issues have been resolved and we can continue with our process.

An update on this will feature in the next HoSF Bulletin (week 27).

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the students, staff, and parents who have contacted me with regards to this process and how we can further develop the process. It is conversations with our stakeholders that allows us to refine and improve all aspects of our Sixth Form provision. In 2025 we will be publishing a recruitment pack which provides detailed information about the selection process, the rationale and advice to those considering applying for this important role.

UK University and Apprenticeship Fair, by Georgia 12DLK

On Friday 1st March, the year 12 students took a trip to Tottenham stadium to experience the exciting opportunity of a careers fair. With many other schools in attendance, it was a packed and popular event. A wide array of tables filled the venue, with representatives from universities, apprenticeships, or even unique opportunities to further understanding and provide valuable life skills. For each of these, there were either highly informed people to speak to, or even students themselves, who were happy to give their own advice about firsthand experiences.

The students themselves found the day extremely worthwhile, with some saying it was 'very informative' and 'it made me realise there's lots of opportunities available to me'. With this being a confusing time for many students, who often feel unsure and overwhelmed about what post-18 path to take, this was a great chance to understand some of the many options better in order to figure out the next steps they should take. It is positive experiences such as these which provide needed clarity for a-level students and help with the development of future plans and goals.

Following on from their visit the even organisers have put together a collection of webinars on [StudentStream](#) to help students catch up on any seminars they missed on that day.

Upcoming events and diary dates:

14th March—Parent & Home Engagement Forum, 5-6pm

26th March—Community Iftar event, 5.30-7.30pm

28th March—End of term, Sixth Form closes at 12.55pm

29th March—Bank holiday

End of term—please see the intervention schedule below, for Yr13 students for events taking place during the two week holiday.



We want to ensure that we provide the best student experience possible at Kings Langley Sixth Form. We would love to hear from you about what events, activities and experiences we can organise and put on for our students. Please speak to a member of the Sixth Form with your ideas.



The first stage of The Perfect Man Project took place with all students in Yr12 and Yr13 being invited to participate in an initial survey. This survey allowed us to explore what areas of men's mental health and masculinity are our priority for further exploration.

The results of the survey are very interesting and we are now able to identify four areas of focus which the Sixth Form will include in our Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging strategy. Some further information is provided below, on how we will do this. This is however, just the start and it is envisaged that we empower our students to lead on these as part of our development of personal leadership.

We are also pleased to announce that in connection to this project, we have invited BOLD Voices to visit the Sixth Form on Tuesday 23rd April to lead on a session that explores gender-equality and they will provide Sixth Formers with education on this area as well as lead workshops on specific areas that link into our work on equality.

Gender-Inclusive Language

- Removing gender-biased rhetoric and narratives in connection to curriculum and careers.
- Introduce signage that reminds members of our community about the need for sensitivity in language i.e., removing 'man up', 'man-flu' and 'fights like a girl'.

Empowering men through improving confidence

- Providing workshop opportunities to all students who are interested in raising self-confidence in a wide range of areas from relationships to public speaking.
- Giving increased opportunities for men of all backgrounds to explore new challenges and experiences.

Increasing education of our Sixth Form and wider school community on contemporary masculinity

- Increase the work and advocacy of BOLD Voices into our Sixth Form culture
- Provide increased literature available to students on the topics impacting men in contemporary society

Increasing dialogue to increase openness and feeling safe to express and champion

- Celebrate diversity and equality for all students through increased celebration and awareness events
- Increase education and opportunities for discussion on contemporary areas of society relating to expression and championing diversity

Student Recognition

On Friday 1st March letters for 100% attendance and letters for improved attendance were given out to students across Yr12 and Yr13. 40 100% letters were given out and 21 letters for much improved attendance were given out. Well done to all the students who received these.

There has been a noticeable improvement in attendance, particularly since the 'cold and seasonal illness' season is passing. Every student who received a letter will be entered into the Scholarship Award draw where, if selected at random, will win a £50 Scholarship Award.

Two students have received £50 scholarship awards in the last fortnight for their dedication to their studies:

Todd—Superb photographic work that were taken in a self-organised trip to a pro-Palestine march in London. The photographs are of an amazing quality and show great technical ability. These photographs

Sereena—A superb accolade of having a piece of essay work marked by Cambridge University. The feedback was highly impressive and gives a great platform for further progress. Sereena also organised for Yr12 to receive automated external defibrillator (AED) training as part of the Yr12 LifeSkills programme.

In addition to these two awards, other students have been added to the half termly draw to win a £50 scholarship award. This is drawn on the last assembly of the half term. Two students, Terri and Jake, were entered into the draw for their impressive planning and engagement at the University and Apprenticeship Fair.

Study Leave—Yr13

Following careful consideration of the study leave policy, we can now advise students and parents that official study leave commences from **Monday 13th May (inclusive)**. This is to provide students with the ability to utilise the maximum amount of the day to prepare and revise for examinations, in an environment that they feel is best suited to these preparations. Students will be invited to an end of Sixth Form event on Friday 10th May at Kings Langley Cricket Club (information to be sent out in the near future), following which, students will be able to start their study leave.

Students who would prefer to study in Sixth Form will be able to utilise the Sixth Form building but will need to check in with the Sixth Form office as per safety and emergency evacuation requirements and for safeguarding reasons.

Prior to students commencing study leave, they will be required to get a study leave conformation sheet signed by all of their subject teachers to ensure that resources such as textbooks and other bits of equipment, as well all NEA work submitted and final examination documentation confirmed.

A-Level Examination Dates—Yr13

Yr13 students have now received their examination dates for the final exams in Summer. Please carefully check these and contact the exams office immediately if you have any queries.

Please also be advised that the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) have published the examination contingency dates as follows. These dates should be considered when booking holidays or other plans for the end of the exam season as all students are required to be available for these dates.

6th JUNE, 13th JUNE and 26th JUNE

The Library

Books of the Month

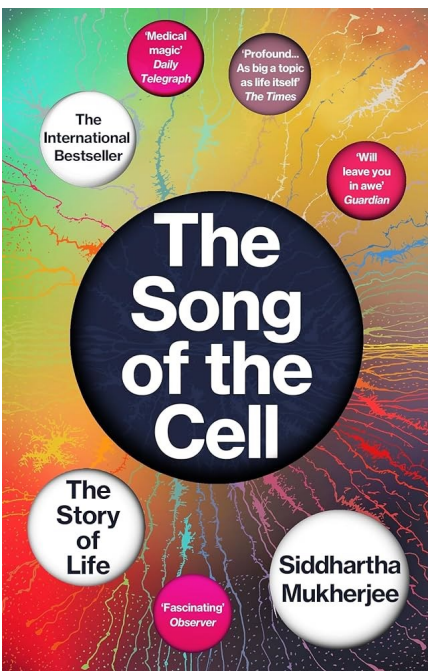


Sixth Form Fiction

Mort by Terry Pratchett

Death is the Grim Reaper of the Discworld, a black-robed skeleton carrying a scythe. He is also fond of cats and endlessly baffled by humanity. Soon Death is yearning to experience what humanity really has to offer, but to do that, he'll need to hire some help.

It's an offer Mort can't refuse. As Death's apprentice he'll have free board, use of the company horse - and being dead isn't compulsory. It's a dream job - until Mort falls in love with Death's daughter, Ysabell, and discovers that your



Sixth Form Non-Fiction

The Song of the Cell by Siddhartha Mukherjee



From the dawn of life itself, every being that has ever lived owes its existence to the cell. The discovery of this vital form led to a transformation in medicine but also in our understanding of ourselves - not as bodies or machines but as ecosystems. It has also given us the power to treat a vast array of mortal maladies... and even to create new kinds of human altogether.

Rich with stories of scientists, doctors and the patients whose lives may be saved by their work, *The Song of the Cell* is a stunning ode to the building blocks of life and the

Follow Us on Social Media:



@klslibrary



@klslibraryuk



The purpose of this forum is to increase the opportunity for parents and carers to be part of the consultation and development of sixth form policies, as well as identify how parents and carers may want to contribute to the sixth form provision. It will also offer an additional form of communication between the sixth form team and home.

These informal forum meetings are chaired by Mr Tubb, Head of Sixth Form, and parents and carers are invited to attend as frequently as they wish; membership is not required, and contributions are entirely discretionary. Each forum has a focus and enables the sixth form to inform parents about our approach and rationale behind policies and procedures. Parents and carers can also identify areas that they wish the sixth form to consider or explore.

The next meeting will be held on:

Wednesday 13th March, 5-6pm, in the Sixth Form building

Next meeting agenda—Post-18 preparation, achieving educational excellence + any areas identified by parents/home

For more information or to express an interest in attending or for agenda items, please contact Mr Tubb directly on tubbj@kls.herts.sch.uk

Student Voice—Consultation on Dress Code

Following the recent Pulse-Check for student voice students have requested further clarification on the dress code. To ensure that the rationale is clear and that students can raise any queries with regards to this policy, there will be a student consultation session at 1.5pm on Wednesday 13th March in the Whitaker room, in the Sixth Form. This is a consultation event which is open to all Sixth Form students.

Free webinar on Dyslexia revision skills at A-Level

Unlock the secrets to successful revision with the British Dyslexia Association's exclusive webinar. An enlightening hour where effective revision techniques tailored for teenagers facing exams are explored. Our expert-led session will focus on comprehensive planning, addressing mental health considerations, and fostering a positive mindset during the crucial exam period.

TUESDAY 26TH MARCH, 7-8pm (link below to register)

[Free Webinar - Revisions Skills for GCSE's & A-Levels - British Dyslexia Association \(bdadyslexia.org.uk\)](https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk)

Action on Bullying & Anti-Social Behaviours

We have an outstanding community of staff and sixth formers at Kings Langley Sixth Form where everyone can expect to study, work, and enjoy an environment where they are safe, happy and respect one another. Bullying and peer-on-peer abuse is never ok, and Kings Langley Sixth Form does not tolerate it.



Need support with your wellbeing?

At Kings Langley Sixth Form we believe strongly that positive emotional wellbeing and mental wellness are not only crucial in enabling students to feel happy and fulfilled within themselves as individuals, but also in enabling them to thrive and flourish during their time with us here at school. Students who enjoy positive mental health and wellbeing are better able to cope with the normal stresses of life, work productively and fruitfully, fulfil their own potential and make a contribution to their wider community.



Safeguarding

If you or someone you know is at risk of harm (emotionally, physically, mentally or sexually) to themselves or to others, please ensure that you report this to a member of staff immediately. If outside of sixth form or school, you can report concerns to the police by dialling 999.

FRANK
0800 77 66 00 talktofrank.com
Friendly, confidential drugs advice

Switchboard
LGBT+ helpline
0800 0119 100

Gamblers Anonymous
Phone: 0330 094 0322

Feeling low?
Anxious?
Struggling to cope?

Text SHOUT
to **85258**
for free, confidential support, 24/7

The Sandbox
Online mental health support for Children and Young People

fearless
part of Crimestoppers
0800 555 111
100% anonymous. Always.

Reporting Crimes inc.
County Lines

Keeping Safe Online—KS5 specific

Mrs Battaglia has researched an area of online safety for this HoSF Bulletin. With a lot of advice about Keeping Safe Online available, as a Sixth Form, we wanted to highlight that whilst many of our students in Sixth Form feel that they know how to stay safe online, there are some areas that may become new to them which they should consider. Dating and online profiles being one of these areas.

In this day and age dating apps such as Tinder, Bumble and Hinge to name a few are becoming increasingly popular with 16-19 year olds. Most online dating apps claim to be for over 18s only but, in some cases, relaxed age verification also allows children to access them. Although most young people use them safely, but online dating can have its risks. Speak to your child before they sign up keeping the following in mind.

Catfishing and scams – creating a false identity to deliberately lure people into a relationship (whether romantic or platonic) online is known as catfishing. Commonly, someone pretends to share interests or beliefs with their victim and gradually gains their trust. A younger person's feelings for this fake 'friend' may cloud their judgement and can lead to them surrendering money, personal images, passwords and so on. You never truly know who you are speaking to unless you know them in real life. Some dating apps have a 'verified' feature, but even these are not 100% accurate.

Meeting someone in person – If they are planning on meeting someone, make sure they have got to know them on the app first. Arranging their own transport, someone they have never met picking up or dropping off (especially to or from home) is not a good idea. It is best to meet in a public place with lots of people, such as a café and always get your child to inform you or friends where they are going and who they are meeting. It's a good idea for them to text if there has been a change in plan or letting you know how it is going.

Stalking and Harassment – Stalking is obsessive behaviour by a fixated individual which disrupts their victim's life; it can bring severe distress and even the fear of violence. There have been frequent reports of stalking cases that originated on dating apps, with perpetrators creating a new account in response to being reported or blocked. It's a particular cause for concern if a young person has ever given out personal details (such as their street or school name) online.

Webcam blackmail – Some people have been coaxed into getting nude or semi-nude on a video chat with someone they met on a dating platform. They're then told that, unless they hand over a certain amount of money, a recording of the video will be posted online (or possibly sent to their contacts). This is traumatic for any young person and, in extreme cases, has resulted in self-harm and even suicide.

Advice for parents & carers

If your child is interested in using online dating sites or apps, strongly encourage them to choose one that offers the facility to conceal both parties' email addresses when messaging prospective dates. If that's not possible, ensure that the young person sets up a separate email address which doesn't include their real name. This is easy to do via providers like Hotmail, Yahoo! Mail or gmail.

Talk to your child about some of the obvious red flags in online dating: requests for money, for instance, should always ring alarm bells. Likewise, if a young person is in contact with someone who they feel is pressuring them into providing personal or financial information, or who they suspect is trying to trick them into it – they should end communications immediately and contact the dating service provider.

Keeping Safe Online—KS5 specific

OnlyFans –

It has been reported an increase in sign ups to this platform. However, there are concerns about the dark side of OnlyFans. More underage young people are using this platform to sell sexually explicit content of themselves for money. The platform was originally used for people to pay for content (photos, videos and live streams) via monthly subscription. Content was mainly created by YouTubers, fitness trainers, models, content creators and public figures in order to monetise their profession. However, it is also increasingly popular among sex workers. The BBC documentary, #Nudes4Sale, investigated the rise of under 18's selling explicit adult content online. The documentary found as many as a third of Twitter users who advertised explicit images were under 18.

Why would a teen want an OnlyFans account?

Teens may want to join as an 'easy' way to make money. Reportedly, some creators can make as much as £30,000 a month. However, teens don't understand that this is a very small percentage.

Ways to protect your child and what to watch out for

Use this conversation to highlight the risks of engaging in any type of online sexual activity, both as a viewer and as an active participant. Remind them that they can speak to you without judgement, and if they ever felt they couldn't, you'd be happy for them to speak to another trusted adult. If the issue is about making money, discuss safe and age-appropriate options. Point out that social media influencers who claim to make their money in 'easy ways' are not the rule, but rather the exception. If something seems too good to be true, it probably is.



KS5 Letters and Important Communication

In order to reduce the volume of emails from the Sixth Form, we collate letters and important communication into this HoSF Bulletin. Please see below for letters and communication from staff across the Sixth Form and school.

Message from: Outreach programme

FAO: Home & Students

Date: 27th February 2024

Message:

Dear Head of Year 12/Careers,

We are contacting you to let you know that applications for the free **online** London Med Schools Summer Programme 2024 are now open. This programme is for **Year 12** students living in England (outside of Greater London), who have only attended non-selective state schools since age 11 and are currently studying A-level biology and chemistry. For more details on student eligibility, you can [visit our website](#) or access [the application form here](#).

Funded by Health Education England, the London Med Schools Summer Programme brings together four of London's medical schools (King's College London, Queen Mary University of London, St George's University of London, and University College London) to give 75 Year 12 students from across England an opportunity to find out what it is like to study medicine in London.

Working with patients and student ambassadors, participants will gain a greater understanding of the realities of being a doctor and the skills needed to succeed.

The main summer school programme takes place from Monday 15th July to Friday 19th July on Zoom. There will also be additional events delivered in conjunction with the summer school which are detailed on the website and application form.

For more information and to apply, [students should follow this link](#). Students can also access the application form using the following QR code:



The deadline to apply is **9am on Friday 19th April 2024**.

KS5 Letters and Important Communication

In order to reduce the volume of emails from the Sixth Form, we collate letters and important communication into this HoSF Bulletin. Please see below for letters and communication from staff across the Sixth Form and school.

Message from: Miss Sudbery

FAO: Home & Students

Date: 27th February 2024

Message:

An introduction to Non-Examination Assessment (NEA) at A-level

Dear Year 12 Students and Parents

Most students and parents will remember from GCSE courses that non-examination assessment (NEA) is a form of internal assessment, similar to old-style coursework, used in qualifications where it is the only valid means of assessing essential knowledge and skills that cannot be tested through traditional written exams. The majority of A-level subjects have a component of NEA that forms part of the assessment of the qualification and contributes towards the final grade. Students have started work on the NEA in some subjects, with most others due to start before the end of 2024.

The attached document shows all the A-level subjects that include a component of NEA with details of rough start and deadline dates along with the percentage of the final grade that the NEA is worth; exact deadline dates for students will be confirmed at the start of Year 13. It is important that students and parents understand that, whilst some NEA components may seem to be worth relatively small percentages of the final grade, students can often secure an improved final grade through consistent effort and performance on their NEA; it is also possible for final A-level grades to fall by a number of grades should students perform poorly in the NEA.

For some practical subjects, specific dates will be scheduled for practical performances and tasks towards the end of the A-level course. These include Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Drama, Music and PE, and leaders of these subjects will write to students and parents in Year 13. The attached overview is also saved in the Year 12 exams area of the school website.

I am also obliged to inform you of other documents available in the general exams area of the website relating to NEAs. These include the JCQ document that outlines the key information on NEAs for candidates and two related school policies: the *Non-Examination Assessment Policy* and the *Non-Examination Assessment Appeals Policy*.

Please contact your child's subject teachers or the relevant subject leader with any subject-specific questions relating to NEA. For more general questions, please contact either me or Miss Jones, the Examinations Manager.

Kind regards

Mrs L Sudbery Deputy Headteacher

KS5 Letters and Important Communication

In order to reduce the volume of emails from the Sixth Form, we collate letters and important communication into this HoSF Bulletin. Please see below for letters and communication from staff across the Sixth Form and school.

A-Level NEA Overview and Provisional Deadlines 2024-25



Kings Langley School
Unlocking Potential for Life

Subject	NEA Start Date	NEA Title	Percentage of Final Grade	NEA Deadline for Students	NEA Marks to Students	Deadline for Requests for Reviews of Marking from Students	NEA Exam Board Deadline	Exam Board	Spec	Unit
PE	Autumn Term Year 12	Practical Performances	15%	January 2025	Mar 2025	Mar 2025	Fri 31 March 2025	OCR	H555	H555/05
	Autumn Term Year 12	Evaluation and Analysis or Performance for Improvement (EAPI)	15%	Mar 2025						H555/06
History	Summer Term Year 12	Independent Research Enquiry	20%	Feb 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025	Mon 15 May 2025	Pearson	9H10	9H10/04
Extended Project	Spring Term Year 12	Independent Research Project and Presentation	100%	Jan 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025	Mon 15 May 2025	AQA	7993	7993
Drama	Spring Term Year 12	Creating Original Drama (Working Notebook and Devised Performance)	30%	Oct 2024	Apr 2025	May 2025	Wed 31 May 2025	AQA	7262	7262/C
	Spring Term Year 12	Making Theatre (Practical Performance and Reflective Report)	30%	Jan-Mar 2025						
English Literature A	Summer Term Year 12	Independent Critical Study - Texts Across Time	20%	Feb 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025	Mon 15 May 2025	AQA	7712A	7712/C
Biology	Autumn Term Year 12	Practical Endorsement*	0%	Mar 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025	Mon 15 May 2025	OCR	H420A	H420A/4
Chemistry	Autumn Term Year 12	Practical Endorsement*	0%	Mar 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025	Mon 15 May 2025	OCR	H432A	H432/4
Physics A	Autumn Term Year 12	Practical Endorsement*	0%	Mar 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025	Mon 15 May 2025	OCR	H556A	H556/4
Geography	Summer Term Year 12	Independent Investigation	20%	Mar 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025	Mon 15 May 2025	Pearson	9GE0	9GE0/04
Music	Autumn Term Year 12	Performance	34% or 26%	Date of Examiner Visit TBC	NEAs marked by the exam board so no internal marking or review process	Mon 15 May 2025	WJEC	A660PA or A660PB	A660PA (Specialism in Performance)	
		Composition	26% or 34%	Mar 2025					A660PB (Specialism in Composing)	

KS5 Letters and Important Communication

In order to reduce the volume of emails from the Sixth Form, we collate letters and important communication into this HoSF Bulletin. Please see below for letters and communication from staff across the Sixth Form and school.

Message from: Mr Ellis

FAO: Home

Date: 7th March 2024

Message:

Dear Parents,

To assist in maximizing your child's outcomes in this summer's Economics A Level, I am pleased to announce that we will be offering a free Economics revision day on Tuesday 9th April from 10am-2pm.

Mr. Shephard will be taking your child through two papers with the focus on analysis and application.

Such interventions are invaluable in ensuring your child is on track to achieve the outcomes they are capable of.

When your child arrives, please ask them to go to G306. They should arrive for a prompt start at 10am, be prepared to learn and should also bring a packed lunch to eat in class during the assigned break.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr. Ellis

Head of Business and Economics

KS5 Letters and Important Communication

In order to reduce the volume of emails from the Sixth Form, we collate letters and important communication into this HoSF Bulletin. Please see below for letters and communication from staff across the Sixth Form and school.

Message from: Mr Scott

FAO: Home

Date: 7th March 2024

Message:

Dear parent(s)/carer(s)

Re. Examination Preparation Revision Booklet

Year 12 and Year 13 A Level students are approaching significant examination periods in the next few weeks. The final examination period for Year 13 students begins on Monday, 13th May 2024 and the Year 12 Examination fortnight also begins on Monday, 13th May 2024.

It goes without question that preparing for any examination is of great importance. A Level subjects have significant levels of content and academic challenge that necessitate carefully planned and effectively executed revision programmes.

To support our students' examination preparation, we have put together a Revision Booklet that covers lots of advice and guidance that has been proven to be of benefit to students at this stage of education.

The booklet, which can be found on our website [[here](#)], addresses revision in four stages encouraging students to:

Prepare (ensure they have access to relevant content)

Consolidate (techniques to engage with the content)

Memorise (techniques to recall the content)

Apply (practising exam-style questions)

All these stages are important for effective revision and should be approached in this order for maximum effect.

The Revision Booklet has informed revision sessions that have been part of the Year 13 Tutor programme for several weeks and Year 12 tutors will also use this to help students prepare in the coming weeks. A copy of the booklet has been shared with students on Teams as well as with sixth form teaching staff.

I would like to thank you in advance for supporting your child at home with their examination preparation and would encourage you to use the booklet to find ways of offering practical assistance during this important period.

Yours faithfully

Mr Jeremy Scott