



Sixth Form Message

Sutton Trust

Experience university life for FREE this summer with Sutton Trust summer schools

Want to experience university life before you apply, without paying a penny?

Applications for the Sutton Trust Summer Schools are now open!

The Sutton Trust's UK Summer Schools offer you the chance to attend a residential summer school at a leading university and experience student life. For more information about this opportunity please find below a link to the [Sutton Trust website](#) and also the attached [letter](#) outlining this great opportunity in more detail:

Connolly Foundation - Funding Opportunity - £600 to £1200

The Connolly Foundation supports young people by providing grants and rewarding those who actively seek to make the most of the opportunities available to them. Emails have been sent to students identified as eligible for this funding. There are two awards available: the Main Award (requiring 120 UCAS points) and the Discretionary Award (school-nominated). Students will have received the relevant application form.

Applications must be completed electronically, printed, signed, and returned to Miss Schumann as soon as possible. Successful applicants may also apply for funding in future years.

Year 12 - Valentines Disco

This week, our Year 12 students have been getting stuck into the planning and organisation of the annual Junior School Valentine's Disco, which is due to take place on February 12th. All students are encouraged to get involved on the evening. It's a fun event and gives students the opportunity to take part in activities they can refer to in future applications.

Year 13 Assembly- Mocks feedback

Yr13 students are currently receiving feedback from their teachers on their recent mock papers. Hopefully there will be much to celebrate, especially now students know what they are aiming for with the university offers rolling in. I spoke to the students about how to move forward from these mocks and use them as a catalyst for success over their final few months, whether they are happy or disappointed with their results. We looked at how important it is to be self-reflective; identifying any barriers to their learning, understanding exactly what the examiner wants to see by reading widely-available examiner reports and using past questions to practise using their extensive content knowledge in the correct way to answer the questions in front of them. Last year we definitely saw an improvement in focus and motivation after the mocks as students had a clearer idea about what they were working towards, and the areas they needed to improve in order to get there. Research has shown that the best performing students spend an extra 5 hours outside of lessons on each subject every week by consolidating notes, acting on feedback given and doing past papers. If a student were to spend an extra 1 hour every day on their studies, by the time the exams arrive, this will amount to almost an extra 100 hours of study time. So small changes in routine now can make a big difference in the summer. Of course our subject teachers are always available to support students academically, whilst we are always on hand to support students with their well-being, should they find the pressure of the final few months daunting. Please encourage your child to ask for support if they need it.

Chloe Dowden

KEY INFO

- [Degree Apprenticeship presentation](#)
- [Sixth Form Dress Code](#)
- [School photo code: C40-3DB-26B1](#)
- [Martin Lewis: Five things EVERYONE needs to know about student finance 2025/26](#)
- [UCAS - Search / Open Days and Events](#)
- [Explore Forage](#)
- [This is what makes us special...](#)
- [Student finance](#)
- [Preparing for Your Future: UCAS, CVs, and Degree Apprenticeships.](#)
- [Year 13 UCAS applications parents' guide](#)

KEY DATES

Yr 12 criminology exam Thursday 22nd & Friday 23rd January
Yr13 reports issued Friday 30th January
Yr12 parents evening Thursday 5th March
Yr 12 UCAS discovery trip / ExCel London 24th March
Yr13 business, sociology & psychology trip Thursday 26th March
Yr13 final reports issued Friday 27th March
Yr12 geography trip Tuesday 14th to Friday 17th April
Yr13 art and photography exams Tuesday 5th to Thursday 7th May
Yr13 exams begin Monday 11th May

CONTACT DETAILS

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Driving Lesson / Test - Permission Form: [Driving Permission Form](#)
Gym Permission Form: [Gym Permission Form](#)

SUPPORT

Emotional and Physical Support:

Bedfordshire Counselling Service: [Open Door](#)

Hitchin Counselling Service: [HCS](#)

Mental Health Charity: [Young Minds](#)

Mental Health Support: [Kooth](#)

HelpLines: [Samaritans](#)

Sexual Health: [iCaSH](#)

Vaping: [Childline](#)

Delete social media: [BBC](#)

Remove nude images: [NSPCC](#)

ETA Safeguarding: [Etonbury Safeguarding](#)

[Drugs and alcohol: FRANK](#)

[Drug and alcohol: BLMK NHS](#)

[Addiction: Aquarius:](#)

NHS Mental Health Crisis Line: 111 and select option 2

Academic Support:

Funding: [Harper Trust](#)

Funding: [Sutton Trust](#)

Funding: [Connolly Foundation](#)

Bursary: [16 - 19 Bursary](#)

DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS

- [Presentation 2024/25](#)
- [Occupation Maps](#)
- [STAR](#)
- [Unifrog](#)
- [Bedfordshire Raising Aspirations - LinkedIn](#)

EXAM INFORMATION

[Please use this link to find information on when your exams are taking place](#)

[YEAR 12 & 13 BTEC EXAM DATES 2026](#)

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