

24<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Ref: TEW/raf/Letter Home Y13 Term 1



Dear Parents and Carers

## YEAR 13 START OF YEAR INFORMATION

We wanted to write to you early this term to introduce ourselves as joint Heads of Year 13, and to share some useful resources and highlight some important dates to enable you to support your child throughout their final year here at St John's.

### Lanyards

We would appreciate your support in ensuring your child attends Sixth Form wearing a lanyard; this is imperative for safeguarding reasons. If your child has misplaced their lanyard, please support them and us by purchasing a new one via [ParentPay](#).

We will be monitoring this closely and issuing detentions for those students who repeatedly attend school without theirs.

### Social Studies

Your child has Social Studies once a fortnight on their timetable in Year 13. The focus of this session is to provide wellbeing support and guidance on their next steps. The sessions are run by both St John's staff and external guest speakers and cover university applications, apprenticeships, gap years and a range of wellbeing and life-skills topics.

We will also offer tailored support by our careers officer Mrs Havill for those students unsure on next steps and any student looking to head straight into employment or an apprenticeship. If you feel your child would benefit from some careers support, please ask them to email [fhavill@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk](mailto:fhavill@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk) to arrange a meeting.

### Year 13 Transition Evening

Thank you to those who were able to attend the Transition evening on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July. If you were unable to attend this, we have sent out the PowerPoint slides for your information and you can also access these [here](#).

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### **Key Dates**

I wanted to make you aware of some important key dates that have already been shared with your child:

Internal UCAS deadline for Early Applicants – 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2025

Internal UCAS deadline for all other applicants – 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025

Year 13 Parents Evening 1 – 26<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Mock Exams – 12<sup>th</sup> January to 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026

Year 13 Parents Evening 2 – 12<sup>th</sup> March 2026

A-Level Written Exams Begin – 01<sup>st</sup> June 2026

### **UCAS**

Students have been given key dates highlighting when their UCAS Applications should be submitted. We have quite a few students who have not yet started their applications. Please can you encourage your child to begin working on their UCAS application at home; they should use the Buzzword: GRANHAM26 when starting their application to link it to the centre. Once students have submitted their application, we will review it and then either return with amendments or submit directly to UCAS. We process applications on a first come, first served basis.

### **Student Finance**

Students will have a Social Studies session on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October led by Portsmouth University on Student Finance. Funding applications are not likely to open until February 2026, however, if you would like some additional information ahead of this, see the links below:

<https://www.hud.ac.uk/media/assets/document/parentsandcarers/StudentFinance26-27.pdf>

<https://studentfinance.campaign.gov.uk/>

<https://www.ucas.com/money-and-student-life/money/student-finance/student-finance-england>

### **Useful Resources**

Below are some useful resources to help support you as a parent throughout the university or apprenticeship application process and beyond.

[UCAS Parent & Carer Guide](#)

[Apprenticeship support](#)

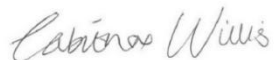
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We look forward to working with you throughout this important year. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch with either of us, or with the Director of Sixth Form, Mrs Haig-Williams ([rhaig-williams@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk](mailto:rhaig-williams@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk)). The Keyworker for Year 13 is Mr Cooper, you can contact him if you have any general questions on [mcooper@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk](mailto:mcooper@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk).

Yours faithfully



**Miss T Willis - Head of Year 13 (0.7)**



**Mr C Luker - Head of Year 13 (0.3) & Assistant Head of Year 13**