

Welcome

Year 9 Information Evening





Head of Year Overview

Head of Year - Mrs Tarbutton

Form Tutors

9A – Miss Benmoussa

9B – Mr Sutton

9C – Mrs Coe

9F – Miss Twomey

9J - Mrs East/Mrs Beattie

9P - Mr Crowther

9R - Miss Murch

9T - Mrs Lingham

Y9



Head of Year Overview

- Transition to KS4 / GCSE Options
- Friendships
- Role Models
- Clubs & Extra Curricular



Head of Year Overview - How parents can help

- Well-being
- Sleep
- Use Headstrong
- Monitor use of
Phone/Social Media

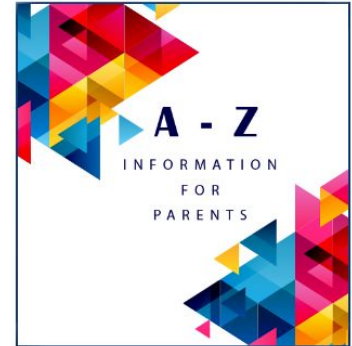
Student Wellbeing

HGS was shortlisted for the Wellbeing and Mental Health Award in the TES Schools Awards 2020.

Headstrong



Parent Info A-Z





HITCHIN
GIRLS'
SCHOOL

About Us

News

HGS Life

Sixth Form

Student Wellbeing

Community

Contact Us

Quick Links



Key Stages 3 & 4 Options

"HGS provides a wide range of opportunities for all students, and helps every individual reach their fullest potential. I've been immensely supported by staff at each stage of the journey."

Khaela, Year 13

Head of Year Overview

Who to contact (admin@hgs.herts.sch.uk)

- Subject teachers/Heads of Department
- Head of Year - Beth Tarbutton
- Form Tutors

9A – Miss Benmoussa

9B – Mr Sutton

9C – Mrs Coe

9F – Miss Twomey

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Year 9 Curriculum

Year 9 is a key moment in your child's education. In the Spring term, your child will undertake an options process that allows them to choose 3 or 4 subjects to continue for their GCSEs.

Year 9 provides an opportunity to hone their skill sets and interests to ensure they are prepared for the next step while also demonstrating to themselves and their teachers that they are capable of the level of academic study required at GCSE to succeed.

In some subjects, some GCSE content is introduced in Year 9.



Year 9 Options



Hitchin Girls' School



**GCSE Option Choices Booklet
2024-26**



Year 9 Options

This evening is a mere introduction to the options process. More information will be shared later in the Autumn term but below is a brief timeline:

Tuesday 28th November:	Year 9 Parents' Consultation Evening
Monday 8th January:	Options website goes live
Mon 15th/Tues 16th/Weds 17th:	Options assemblies
Friday 19th January:	Option forms 'go-live'
Friday 26th January:	Deadline for return of Option choices
Spring Term	Options interviews with SLG
Summer Term	Students will be notified of the finalised option blocks and timetables will be confirmed during this term

The purpose of this evening is to begin the thought process of what options your child may want to explore.

It is a long and very important process.

Take some time this evening to visit some of the different departments to learn what you might study.

You will not speak to all of them but much more information will be shared via the dedicated options website and assemblies

	Downstairs		Upstairs
M1	English Language, Literature and Media Studies	M16	History
M2	Maths, Entry Level Maths and Further Maths	M17	Geography
M3	Science, Combined and Separate	M18	Classic Civilisation and Latin
M4	French and Spanish	M21	Art and Design
M5	PE options and Dance		
M7	Health & Social and Sociology		
M8	Philosophy and Ethics options, Computing and Business		
Drama Room	Drama, Music and Technology options		

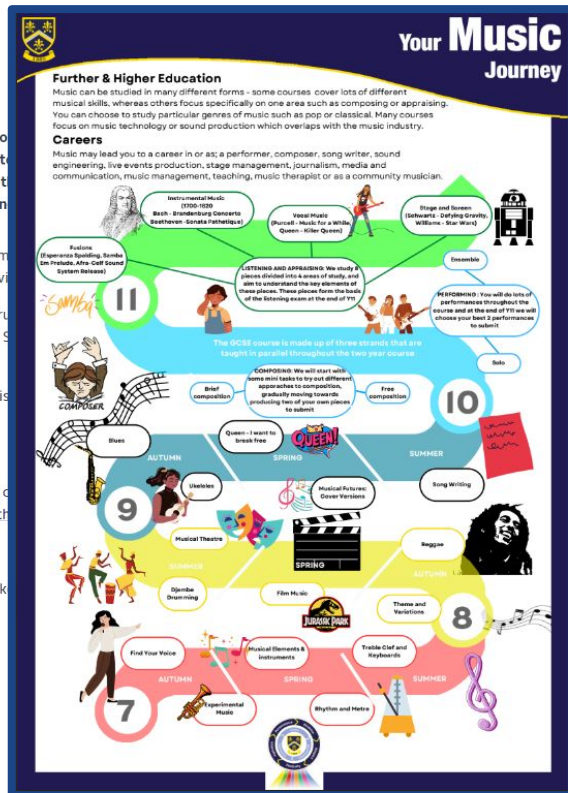
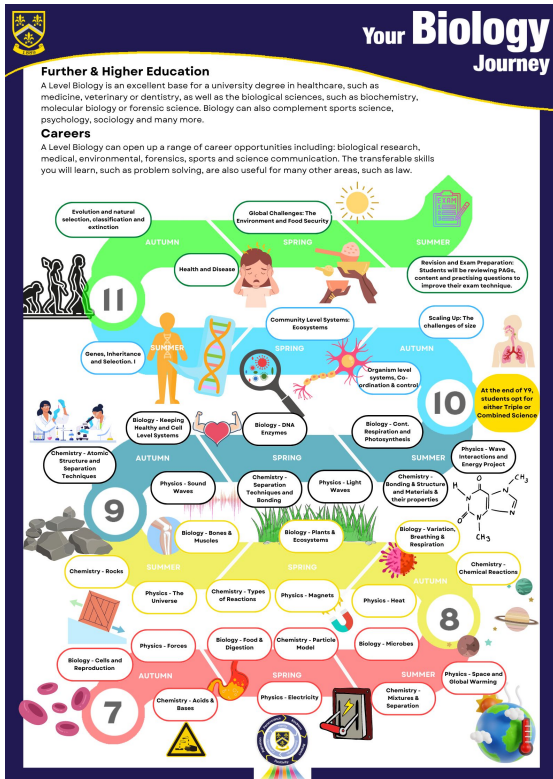


How can I support my child in Year 9?

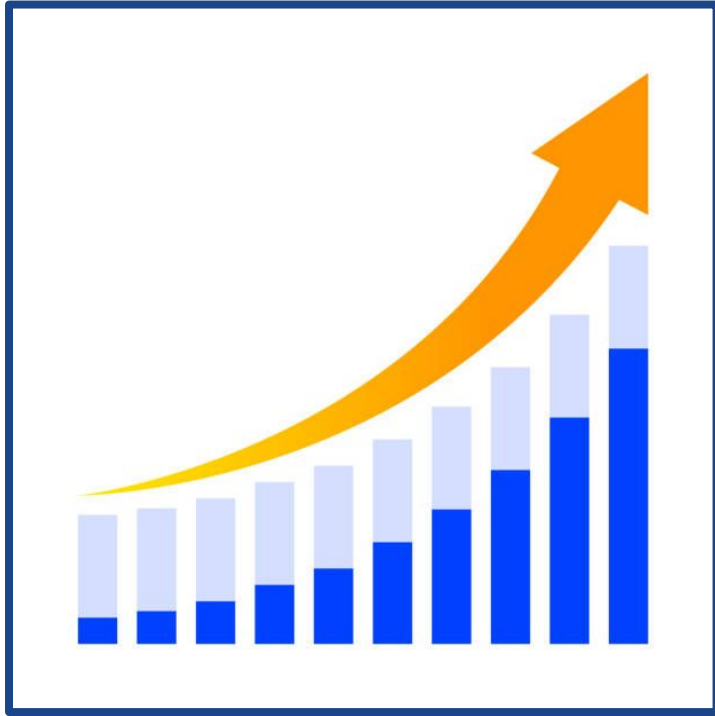
- Take an active interest in their studies
- Encourage your child to engage with extra curricular activities
- Enrich their learning with conversations that might relate to areas of study, i.e. news stories
- Keep an eye on what is being studied presently so that you can play an active role
- Support and communicate regularly with your child's teachers
- Regularly log into Go4Schools and attend virtual consultation evenings
- Give your child a safe and quiet work space that they can use - try not to tidy it!
- Support them to have appropriate 'down time' and manage their time effectively



Where can I find out more?



Years 7,8,9 Assessment Structure

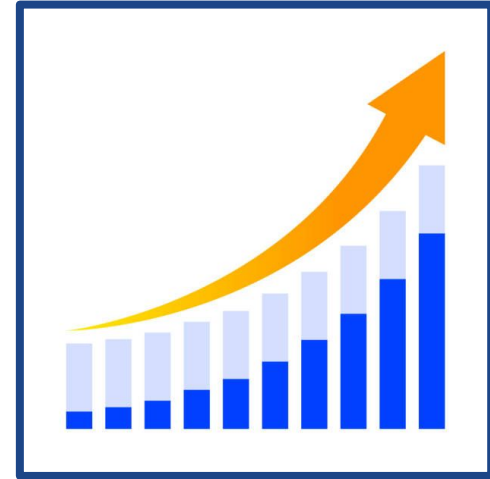


“We aspire to have a curriculum that through its flexibility and breadth nurtures and develops skills and interests to promote high levels of success and enjoyment for all.”



Years 7,8,9 Assessment Structure

It is our aim that every child has - as a minimum - a **secure** understanding of our curriculum.



Progress

Summary

☒ Subject name ☐ Grade value

Ac/Dr/Lt/S...	Art & Design	Computing	English	French	Geography	History	Maths	Music	PE	Philosophy ...	Science	Technology
-	-	-	Secure	Advancing	Secure	Developi...	Secure	-	Excelling	-	Advancing	-

Grades

☒ Compact view (main grades only) ☐ Broad view (all grades) ☐ Detailed (main grades plus marksheet grades)

Subject	Minimum Expected Level	Current Working Level
Ac/Dr/Lt/Sp Carousel, Mrs K Rowe	Secure	-
Art & Design, Miss N Collins	Secure	-
Computing, Mrs J Grainger	Secure	-
English, Miss E de Wild	Secure	Secure
French, Mrs H Crossman	Secure	Advancing
Geography, Mr R Sutton	Secure	Secure
History, Miss S Benmoussa	Secure	Developing
Maths, Mrs S Lingham	Secure	Secure
Music, Miss A Atkins	Secure	-
PE, Miss J O'Leary, Mrs L Johnson ⓘ	Secure	Excelling
Philosophy & Ethics, Mr B Adams	Secure	-
Science, Miss K Murch, Mrs S Andrews (+1)	Secure	Advancing

Year 7 Science - Curriculum Overview and KS3 Progress Descriptors 2023/24



	<i>Developing</i>	<i>Secure</i>	<i>Advancing</i>	<i>Excelling</i>
Curriculum Content & Working Scientifically	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am starting to remember some of the key content explored in the Y7 curriculum. I am starting to be able to describe some scientific ideas such as the structure of cells, that all things are made of particles, or that a force is a push or a pull. I am not always able to use my understanding to explain their observations. I can usually follow instructions to carry out a scientific experiment but may need guidance and reminders to conduct it correctly and safely. I am beginning to write down observations, but I am not always able to correctly draw a table or graph from data. I am yet to have the confidence to ask relevant questions to help develop my understanding further. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can remember some of the key content explored in the Y7 curriculum. I can describe some scientific ideas using the correct scientific vocabulary but my explanations are at times incomplete. I can follow instructions to carry out a scientific experiment correctly and safely, but may not yet be able to identify variables or say whether the experiment is valid. I can write down observations and am likely to be able to correctly draw a table or graph from data. I am beginning to have the confidence to ask and answer relevant questions in class. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am able to remember the majority of the key content explored in the Y7 curriculum. I can both describe and explain most of the ideas covered at a KS3 level using key scientific vocabulary, and can communicate my understanding competently. I can not only follow instructions to carry out a scientific experiment safely and correctly, but am able to plan investigations, identify variables and obtain accurate data. I can draw appropriate graphs with the correct scale and draw lines of best fit. I am likely to be able to spot patterns in their data. I am always keen to answer questions and am beginning to ask questions to further my understanding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am able to remember the vast majority of the key content explored in the Y7 curriculum with only the odd mistake. I can not only follow instructions to carry out a scientific experiment safely and correctly, but am able to plan investigations, identify variables and obtain accurate data. I can draw appropriate graphs with the correct scale and draw lines of best fit. I am able to spot patterns in their data, and am likely to be able to identify limitations and drawbacks with experiments, and evaluate them effectively. I am always keen to ask and answer relevant questions to further my understanding. This is often at a level above KS3 content. I have demonstrated that I have extended my knowledge of the topics independently.

Years 7,8,9 Assessment Structure

Excelling

Advancing

Secure

Developing



Year 9 Assessment and Reporting Calendar

At any point during your child's education at HGS, you can log into Go4Schools to monitor their most recent assessments in each subject. In addition, you will receive two reports that detail their engagement with learning along with tips on what they could do to improve this. More information on these will be shared shortly

1. Initial EwL	27/11/23
2. EwL with tutor comment	wc 15/07/24



Year 9 Consultation Evening (virtual)

Tuesday 28th November 2023

Year 9 Options Website Launch

w/c 8th January 2024



Attendance

‘Attend today, Achieve tomorrow’

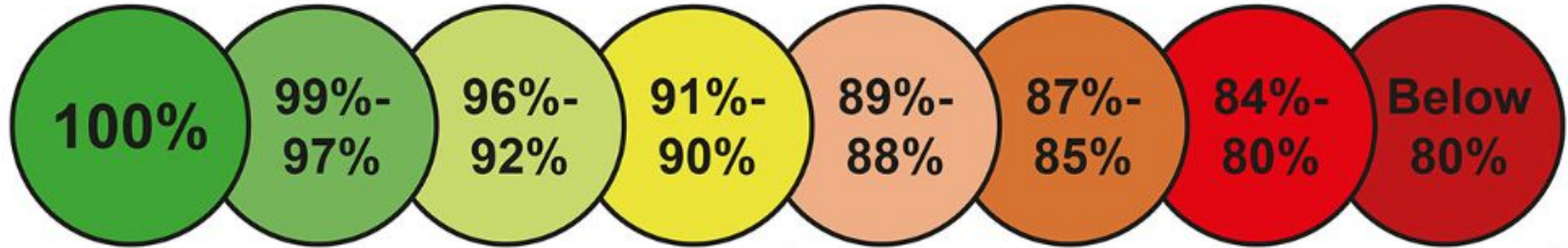
The importance of good attendance for your child



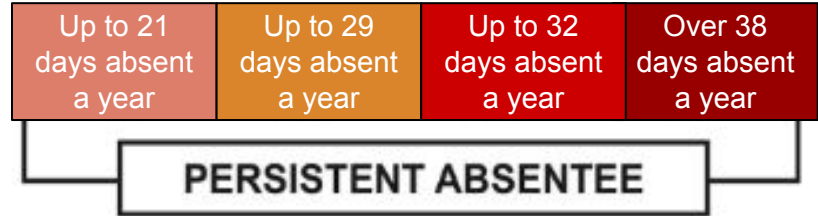
ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Exceptional attendance for all = 97%+ daily attendance

Attend today, Achieve tomorrow



Attendance impacts of academic outcomes, the **more** school students miss, the **less** likely they are to achieve their potential.



Which CIRCLE is your child in?



Attendance

90% attendance over 5 years = half a year of schooling missed.

80% attendance over 5 years = a whole year missed.

Improving attendance will help students to achieve their potential as days missed will always mean lost learning.



Attendance

National data and our historical data shows that students who have attendance above 90% make better progress and achieve better GCSE outcomes than those whose attendance is below 90%.

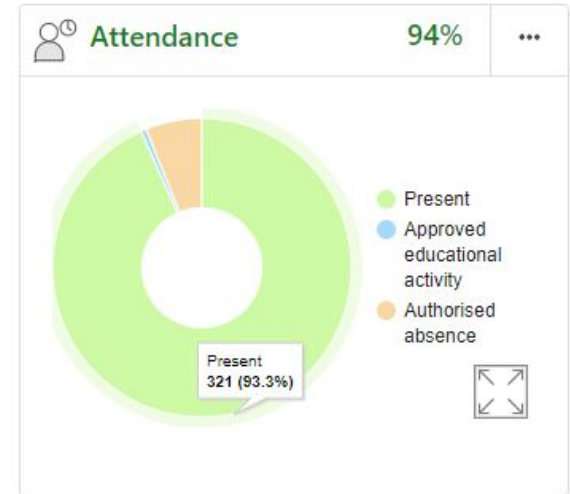


Attendance - Go4Schools



Your child's attendance will be visible this year.

You will be able to check your child's attendance by using your parental login for Go4Schools.



SEND Support

Key contacts:

- Mrs Cole = Assistant Headteacher and SENCO
- Miss Lennon = Assistant SENCO

If you have any concerns about your child's learning, please contact the team so we can work with you to establish a plan to support them.



SEND Support

SEND interventions

There are 6 LSAs at HGS. They will work in the classroom with some students and also deliver a range of interventions which take place during registration, at lunch and in exceptional circumstances, during lessons.

The team runs homework club every lunch time.



Access Arrangements

The Learning Support Department and the Exams team work together to ensure that students receive access arrangements in line with JCQ regulations.

Key things to note:

- To receive access arrangements, this must be the students normal way of learning.
- Evidence must be provided of need from teaching staff.
- Medical evidence may need to be provided.
- Testing cannot take place prior to year 9.



Thank you

Year 9 Information Evening

