



Monday 26th January 2026

PHE Y12 Week A

Priority
updates

PHE begins for Y12 – Week A students. Attendance compulsory – see the lists on the wall in the corridor.

A reminder about expectations for Sixth Form uniform.

- Shoes should be black
- Jumpers / sweatshirts should not be branded – DJCS Hoody
- White shirts should be worn in addition to black jumpers / sweatshirts. No T-Shirt style tops should be worn.

Punctuality. There has been a rise in the number of students arriving late to school over the past few weeks. Friday detentions will continue for repeat offenders. Please ensure you arrive into school before the gate is locked at 8.20am.

Year 12 Hoodies - We are again offering the opportunity for you to purchase a black Sixth Form hoodie which can be worn as part of our uniform policy. If you choose to wear a hoodie it should be a branded school item.

If you wish to purchase a hoodie you should complete an order form which can be collected from the Sixth Form office. Payment of £18 per item ordered should then be made on Parent Pay. The closing date for additional orders to be made will be Friday 30th January.

Y12 Subject drops – forms can be collected from the sixth form area.

Lots of new super-curricular and Oxbridge opportunities to take note of below - Murray Edwards College's Webinar Series not just for Oxbridge applicants – useful for anyone wanting to study Law, History, Economics, HSPS, English, Modern and Medieval Languages

Monday

Meeting in SFA during form time – anyone interested in podcast

Chamber Choir lunch time

MedSoc SC3 lunch time

Tuesday

Y13 students meeting SFA form time 8.25am start – we will register you there – any Y13 students who are interested in applying for apprenticeships

Period 1 – Brilliant Club

Wind Band Jazz 3pm

Debating History department 3pm

Sunderland First Choice Scheme – Skills session – BS1 3pm

Sixth form use of gym after school

Wednesday

Paired reading – both groups in SFA/Cafe6

Y13 assembly James Hall

Committee – lunch time in SS3

Senior choir 3pm

Thursday

Y12 assembly James Hall – guest speaker

Extended Form time

Senior orchestra 3pm

Friday

Y13 assembly James Hall



Sport and Wellbeing Sports clubs on each night after school: support with KS3 and KS4 students welcomed. Please volunteer: find out more at PE office.

Volleyball competition – Wednesday 4th February. Sign up outside of the office – no food to be taken, make sure you have trainers.

Use of gym after school for sixth form. Only one night a week – will change each week dependent on PE staffing. This week, Tuesday 27th January. Maximum 16 students. Must sign up on the list outside of the office.

University admissions Support with STEP webinar (Saturday 31st Jan or Wednesday 11th Feb)
For Y13 students preparing to take the STEP this year, or Y12s interested in taking the STEP.
Scroll down to the bottom of this page and click on the 'calendar'
<https://www.vantageadmissions.co.uk/course/sixth-term-examination-paper>

Leeds Uni Summer Schools

Our 2026 Leeds Summer Schools will open for applications soon. Please share with students who may be interested and encourage them to complete the Expression of Interest form to be notified when applications go live.

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=qO3qvR3IzkWGPIlypTW3yyi4m_Xdd_pAhpcLjasZ2opUQVVHSUIHRjREV09aNEVFQ1JRUIjhQT05aQy4u&route=shorturl

[Register your interest for 2025/6 Sutton Trust programmes](#)

[How to apply - Sutton Trust](#)

Destination Durham - Durham University

https://durhamuniversity.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_87UeMSxeKQEpheS

[UCAS launches scholarships tool to help students find funding for study and living costs | UCAS](#)

Careers Insight **Get Into Law Workshop Evening**, a special event where you will hear directly from **leading law firms and legal experts** about the different pathways into the legal profession through interactive workshops.

This event is designed for students exploring options such as **legal apprenticeships, solicitor training contracts, and university pathways**. Whether you are looking for an alternative to university or seeking clarity on the legal profession, this session will give you the information you need to make an informed decision about your future.

Event Details:

Date: Monday 9th February

Time: 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

For: Year 11, 12 and 13 and University students interested in law (S4, 5 and 6)

Location: (Zoom link provided upon registration)



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Meet Leading Law Firms & Institutions

You will have the opportunity to engage with representatives from some of the most prestigious law firms in the UK (**Slaughter and May, Browne Jacobson, Charles Russell Speechlys, University of Law & Farrer & Co**)

Register Here

Durham University Work Experience

'We are offering a one-week programme for sixth form students interested in careers within the world of museums and collections. Participants will have the opportunity to meet professionals from Durham University's Library and Collections department, finding out what they do and taking part in tasks relating to their work. The dates for the week will be **Monday 13th July to Friday 17th July 2026**.

If you have any questions about completing this form, please do email us at: 4schools@durham.ac.uk

We will be giving prior consideration to applicants who attend schools or colleges that meet the University's Widening Participation guidelines. Please note, support may be available to those successful applicants who meet our criteria to enable everyone to attend our Work Experience Week.

This is just a quick reminder that applications to Durham University Library and Collections' Work Experience July 2026 **will close at noon on Friday 30th January**. Do please remind any of your students who may be interested to apply via the form available at this link: [Work Experience Week July 2026 - Application Form – Fill in form](#).

More details can be found on our website at: <https://www.durham.ac.uk/things-to-do/learn/schools-and-home-education/work-experience-and-placements/>

Imperial University Work Experience Programmes

- [Bioengineering](#)
 - [Biomedical Research](#)
 - [Chemical Engineering](#)
 - [Grantham Institute for Climate Change and the Environment](#)
 - [Materials](#)
 - [Mathematics](#)
 - [National Heart and Lung Institute](#)
- [Year 12 Work Experience Programme | Be inspired | Imperial College London](#)

Online student Law conference Wednesday 4th February 08.55 to 12.25

The list of speakers includes;

1. **Will Liebrecht**
Will is a solicitor at Taylor Wessing in London working in immigration law.
2. **Caroline Watson**
Caroline Watson trained and qualified as a solicitor in a commercial law firm, Ward Hadaway



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3. Emma Dogra

Emma is a Solicitor-Advocate with rights of audience in both the civil and criminal courts.

4. Joanna Stewart

Joanna studied politics at Nottingham University before converting to law. She trained at Allen & Overy LLP (now AO Sherman) and qualified there as a property solicitor before moving to Farrer & Co

[Oxford High School Law Conference: Sign-up](#)

Y12 – deadline 20th February [Scholarship Scheme – InvestIN Education](#)

[Exploring Law Course: Studying Law at University | Faculty of Law](#)

<https://www.stem.leeds.ac.uk/physics/workexperience/>

[The Sixth Formers' Guide to Degree Apprenticeships](#)

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/apprenticeships/degree-apprenticeships/>

[Law and legal studies apprenticeships | UCAS](#)

[Degree Apprenticeships \(Level 6-7\) | Best Apprenticeships](#)

Oxbridge

Think Cambridge series – online sessions talking you through the application process. The series runs from 4 February to 13 February 2026. **Must register here:**

[Think Cambridge | Undergraduate Study](#)

Christ's-Trinity Women in Maths Programme

Women in Maths targets potential female applicants to Mathematics and adjacent highly mathematical courses at top universities. The programme will next take place from Thursday 26 March to Saturday 28 March 2026.

Applications are now OPEN. Please read the full information on this page prior to applying. https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0lnky45AkIklat8

Murray Edwards College's Webinar Series 2026 (begins 27th January)

The aim of these webinars is to give students who are considering applying to the University of Cambridge an insight into the breadth of the degree programmes we offer; the content and research that is involved; and the teaching style that is used.

Arts, Humanities, Languages and Social Sciences Season (STEM will take place in summer)

We begin our series with a 10 webinar focus on Arts, Humanities, Languages and Social Sciences.

This includes -



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Law
History
Economics
HSPS
English
Modern and Medieval Languages
Find out more here: [Webinars](#) | [Murray Edwards College](#)

Outreach Webinar Series

Magdalene College is hosting several outreach webinars throughout the year to inform students ranging from Year 10 to Year 13 (or equivalent) about various topics relating to University. A member of the admissions team and current students will be discussing a range of topics listed below. There will also be a Q&A at the end of each webinar.

Whilst the webinars will be recorded, we encourage students to attend live, so they can have their questions answered.

Please sign up using the links below and register for our newsletter to receive more information and sign-up links when they are available.

- Choosing a University Course
3 February 2026, 5 pm
- Introduction to UCAS
24 February 2026, 5 pm
- Finances at University
17 April 2026, 5 pm
- Preparing to Apply to Cambridge University
21 April 2026, 5 pm
- Personal Statement
5 May 2026, 5 pm
- Introduction to Magdalene College
19 May 2026, 5 pm

[Online Events](#) | [Magdalene College](#)

[Why Cambridge](#) | [Undergraduate Study](#)
[An exceptional education](#) | [University of Oxford](#)

Read about [Admissions tests](#) | [University of Oxford](#)
Programme begins in February for prospective applicants (Y12)

MedSoc

[Medical Schools - Medical Schools Council](#)

The Institute of Mathematics and its Applications' Maths in Medicine and Health Poster Competition



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The Brief: Make a poster to help Young People find out about how Maths is important in Medicine and Healthcare. Focus on one possible career or topic.

Deadline: 28th February

Open to: students from Year 7 (P7 – Scotland, Y8 – N.I) to Year 13 (S6 – Scotland, Y14 – N.I)

[Find out more and enter here](#)

Leeds Uni 'So You Want to Be A Doctor' Webinar – sign up now

[Leeds Access to Medicine Society Webinar - 'So You Want To Be A Doctor' | Health Sciences Outreach Team](#)



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Super-
curricular

Dukes Plus Essay competitions Open to ages 15-17, £1800 in prizes

Submissions are **now open** for our new 2026 Essay Competition! Your students are invited to answer one of the following questions encompassing themes in education, healthcare sciences, and law/politics:

- 'The role of a university is not to create 'well-rounded' individuals; it is to effectively teach students an academic subject.' Discuss.
- 'Effective government cannot rely on unspoken rules and the good behaviour of rulers. All rules of government must be written down and consistently followed in all cases.' Discuss.
- What is the greatest healthcare challenge in the world at the moment, and what steps can we take to solve it?

Maximum Word Count: 1,500 words

Deadline: 27th February 2026

Prize: £300 cash prize, plus a coveted place on our [Oxbridge Research Scholars programme](#).

[Dukes Plus Essay Competition 2025-2026 | Dukes Plus](#)

Gresham College lectures

Find the list of upcoming lectures [here](#). These can be watched both online and in-person.

Find playlists of past lectures [here](#).

Open to: GCSE and A Level students

Featured lecture: Alien Earths: What Makes Us Special?, 4th February

Fitzwilliam College Year 12 Competitions

This year Fitzwilliam College is holding eight essay competitions, two translation competitions, and an architectural design competition.



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Deadline: 6pm, 27th February

Open to: students in Year 12 (S5 – Scotland, Y13 – N.I)/equivalent

[Find out more and enter here](#)

Cambridge Future Museum Voices

This innovative programme invites 30 young people from across the UK to spend a week in Cambridge co-curating a public exhibition on the relationship between people and the natural world at the Museum of Zoology and the Cambridge University Botanic Garden. Participants stay in Clare College undergraduate accommodation, explore behind the scenes at the University's museums, and meet world-leading researchers.

Deadline: 5pm, 6th February

Date: 7th April–11th April

Open to: UK state-school students in Year 12 (S5 – Scotland, Y13 – N.I)

[Find out more and apply here](#)

Homerton College Design Programme

Are you a budding designer, architect or engineer? The Homerton College Design Programme will help you to develop crucial university-level skills and thinking. You will gain access to a series of workshops run by academics and students, providing the grounding you need to produce your own sustainable design solution to any environmental problem that we are facing. After this, those who meet certain criteria will be invited to Homerton College's free student Health & Sustainability Conference!

Deadline: 9am, 5th February



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Date: Programmes launches in April, and the in-person conference will run in August

Open to: students in Year 12 (S5 – Scotland, Y13 – N.I)

[Find out more and apply here](#)

Homerton College Essay Programme

Are you interested in learning the skills to plan and write essays in the style of a university student on a topic you are passionate about? The Homerton College Essay Programme is for you! You will gain access to a series of sessions run by academics and students providing the grounding to produce your own essay in response to a choice of questions. After this, those who meet certain criteria will be invited to Homerton College's free student Health & Sustainability Conference!

Deadline: 9am, 4th February

Date: Programmes launches in April, and the in-person conference will run in August

Open to: students in Year 12 (S5 – Scotland, Y13 – N.I)

[Find out more and apply here](#)

University of Cambridge's Exploring Law Course

Aspiring law students are invited to join our free online course: [Exploring Law: Studying Law at University](#)

This online course has been developed by the University's Faculty of Law to help students decide whether law is the right course for them.



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They'll learn the basics of law, explore fascinating issues in depth, develop key skills, and hear first-hand from university law students and inspirational figures from the world of law. Free enrolment gives access to the course for six weeks.

Deadline: enrolment will be open between 26th January and 9th March, and learners will have access for 6 weeks

Open to: designed primarily for 16 to 18-year-olds who are considering studying law at university in the UK

N.B: This course is offered through the platform FutureLearn, which offers some paid options. We would not recommend paying for any of these services as the 'limited access' version of the course gives you full access for 6 weeks. There's also no need to pay for the certificate upon completion of the course.

[Find out more and enrol here](#)

Northumbria University Lecture series – Lit and Phil Newcastle – free evening lectures

[NU Ideas | Season 4 Talk 3 | Permafrost & Zero Emission - The Lit & Phil](#)

[NU Ideas | Season 4 Talk 4 | Wireless Web of Invisible Currents & Hidden in Plain Sight - The Lit & Phil](#)

[NU Ideas | Season 4 Talk 6 | Staying safe in a fake world & Pain, Immunity, and the Preservation of Autonomy in Robots - The Lit & Phil](#)

[NU Ideas | Season 4 Talk 7 | The James Webb Space Telescope & Bringing Microwave Light Out of the Cold - The Lit & Phil](#)

<https://www.manchester.ac.uk/study/online-blended-learning/moocs/>

<https://www.coursera.org/partners/manchester>

<https://www.futurelearn.com/partners/university-of-manchester>