

George Abbot Bulletin

...the weekly round-up and preview for GAS parents and carers

16 October 2020



Reminders about Uniform:

Despite the temperature dropping, we must keep classroom windows open in order to keep us all safe. This means students need to wear lots of layers. PLEASE could we ask parents/carers to encourage students to:

- wear a base layer under their polo shirt
- wear a plain blue jumper or hoodie
- wear a school hoodie, if they have one
- wear a coat
- wear warm socks

Staff will allow students to keep coats on in lessons. We really appreciate your support as we enter the winter months. There also follows two good World Health Organisation videos to show your family about important Covid-19 safety measures.

Following our first reported COVID-19 case in Year 11, we must remain extremely vigilant and do everything we can to keep our families and students safe.

Kate Carriett
Headteacher

Please encourage your child to watch the following information videos from the World Health Organisation on the importance of wearing facemasks and maintaining a social distance. For the latest updates and information on COVID-19, please visit: www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/coronavirus/



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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

THIS WEEK	WEEK B—no lesson 4 AUTUMN SERIES: A LEVEL RETAKES
Friday 23 October	INSET Day—School closed for Half Term
Please visit www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/events for full calendar of events.	

Lesson omission until Christmas		
Week Commencing	A or B	Lesson omission
2 November	A	5
9 November	B	1
16 November	A	2
23 November	B	3
30 November	A	4
7 December	B	5
14 December	A	1

Notices	IMPORTANT DATES
	w/c 19 October 2020 = WEEK B—there will be no lesson 4 AUTUMN SERIES: A LEVEL RETAKES
Whole School	<p>⇒ Face masks Please ensure you continue to send your child to school with a face mask. A lot of students continue to come into school without one. It is compulsory to wear one in corridors at all times. Limited budgets mean we cannot provide any more free face masks for students.</p> <p>A payment of 50p per mask should be paid via WisePay on the day the mask is given to the student, who are being told to ask their parents/carers to make the payment.</p> <p>Reminders will be sent to parents/carers who have not paid. Any queries please email finance@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk</p> <p>⇒ Uniform Shop—Updated opening hours Monday 19 October: 3.00-5.30pm Wednesday 21 October: 3.00-6.00pm</p> <p>⇒ Mental Health and Wellbeing Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) have created a set of videos providing advice to parents/carers on supporting your child with understanding anxiety, and some strategies to manage anxiety with regards to COVID-19. To view this resources please visit the following link: www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLFvGWWNqce46lxiVQNTthooXa5PBNESLXY</p>

Sixth Form

⇒ **Year 11 - 13 Academic Clinic – Wednesday 11 November 5.00pm – 7.00pm, online video appointments via the Parents Evening System**

We will be holding the above event on Wednesday 11 November. The aim of the clinic is to provide an opportunity for staff and parents to work together to support students whose progress is of concern in their exam subjects as we approach a key point in both GCSE and A-Level courses. Please note that students are expected to attend the video appointment with their parents/carers.

Appointments are by **staff invitation only**. We will contact parents with appointments if subject teachers have concern about how:

- Year 12 students have started their new exam courses.
- Year 11 or Year 13 students are working in their final year of their courses.

We will notify you via email no later than Thursday 5 November. You may also log in to the Parents Evening system to view your appointments.

If you do not receive notification requesting your attendance but you have concerns about your son/daughter's progress at this stage, please remember you are able to contact the subject teacher or Head of Department via email. Details of how to contact individual members of staff can be found on the school website at www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/contact-us.

Year 13

⇒ **Smith and Williamson Degree Apprenticeship Opportunities**

Smith and Williamson in Guildford, a leading accountancy firm, are offering a great opportunity for any final year students who might be interested in applying for a degree-level apprenticeship role.

Three fantastic entry opportunities are available as part of Smith and Williamson's trainee programmes beginning in September 2021:

- [Trainee Chartered Accountant - Assurance and Business Services \(Audit\)](#)
- [Private Client Tax Trainee](#)
- [Tax Trainee – Business Tax](#)

All roles include further training, development, and qualifications as part of the Association of Chartered Accountants and have the following academic requirements:

- 112 UCAS Points at A-Level or Equivalent (Predicted and/or Achieved).
- GCSE English and Maths – Grade 5 or Equivalent.

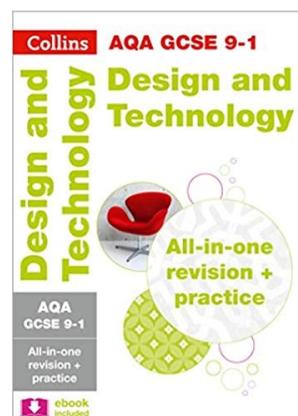
For more information and the online application forms, please use the links provided or call Tim on 01242 236415.

Please note George Abbot School has not organised this opportunity and all applications must be done directly. We would however, be very keen to hear how you get on!

Year 11

⇒ **Design Technology Revision Guide**

To help students to study and revise for the DT exam, we recommend the Collins Design and Technology AQA 9-1 All-in-one Revision guide. This covers all the main topics and includes sample questions as well as a sample paper. This resource normally costs £10.99, but we can purchase these through the school for £3.99. If you have not already purchased one during lockdown, and would like to purchase one through the school, this can be accessed through WisePay. Payments need to be made before Thursday 22 October so that we can place the order before half term.



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⇒ GCSE English Literature Assessment

We are writing, further to the Year 11 Parent Information Evening to clarify the content of the two English Literature papers that current Year 11 students will sit next summer.

The papers for AQA GCSE English Literature will be:

Paper 1 is 100 minutes and is made up of Paper 1b and Paper 1c. It is worth 60 marks.

Paper 1b

- Students answer one question on their 19th-century novel of choice. ('A Christmas Carol')
- 30 marks (AO1, AO2, AO3)
- Duration: 50 minutes

Paper 1c

- Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on their modern prose/drama text of choice. ('An Inspector Calls' or 'Lord of the Flies')
- 30 marks (AO1, AO2, AO3)
- Duration: 50 minutes

Paper 2 is 1 hour 45 minutes. It is worth 70 marks.

Students answer one question on their Shakespeare play of choice. ('Macbeth')
30 marks (AO1, AO2, AO3) + 4 marks (AO4)

Students answer two compulsory questions on unseen poetry.

Part 1

- Students answer one question on one unseen poem.
- 24 marks (AO1, AO2) + 4 marks (AO4).

Part 2

- Students answer one question comparing the first unseen poem with a second unseen poem.
- 8 marks (AO2).

<p>Year 11</p>	<p>To clarify; this means that in English Literature our current Year 11s will not be answering questions on The Poetry Anthology. The only poetry questions that they will answer will be the two unseen questions.</p> <p>For more information please see the AQA website https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702/changes-for-2021 and if you have any further specific queries please contact Sarah Glanville, Head of Faculty: sglanville@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk</p> <p>The George Abbot English Department</p>
<p>Year 9</p>	<p>⇒ Echo Express German Textbooks</p> <p>We have a large number of Echo Express textbooks that have been loaned to students and not yet returned to school. Please could you make sure all books are returned either to your child's German teacher or to the Gallery.</p> <p>The Gallery is open for Year 9 students second break each day.</p>
<p>Year 8</p>	<p>⇒ Maths Autumn Assessment—w/c 16 November 2020</p> <p>The Year 8 Autumn assessment will take place during the week commencing 16 November 2020.</p> <p>This will be one test paper, covering chapters 1 and 2 of Maths Progress Core Textbook 2. Standard maths equipment is required including pen, pencil, ruler, protractor, and a calculator.</p> <p>⇒ Echo Express German Textbooks</p> <p>We have a large number of Echo Express textbooks that have been loaned to students and not yet returned to school. Please could you make sure all books are returned either to your child's German teacher or to the Gallery.</p> <p>The Gallery is open for Year 8 students first break each day.</p> <p>⇒ Matrix drop-in sessions</p> <p>Matrix are going to be hosting a new drop in session at George Abbot School every Tuesday after school. It will run from 3.15-4.15 in room E0 and will be limited to 15 students. It is a drop in, so students are welcome to stay for as long or as little as they want. If you would like your child to be involved, please email: charlotteparrott@matrixtrust.com</p> <p>We will be running games, quizzes, bingo and other activities and will have trained youth workers there for young people to chat to, and to have extra support if they need it! We are COVID-safe and will be following social distancing rules.</p> <p>For more information please email charlotteparrott@matrixtrust.com</p>
<p>Year 7</p>	<p>⇒ English and Mathematics Taster Sessions for Year 7 Parents/Carers</p> <p>This year, the English and Mathematics faculties have recorded presentations to help parents/carers to gain an insight into the nature of work undertaken, its methodology, the modern use of ICT and how best to help and support your child.</p> <p>There is no need to worry if you feel you have limited knowledge of either subject. We hope you will find this opportunity useful to find out how English and Mathematics are now taught in school, and get some ideas as to how you can best support your child's learning in the future.</p> <p>To access the recorded presentations please use the links below: English: https://youtu.be/QT_5oUXZbeA Mathematics: please click here</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Return to home page</p>

Year 7

⇒ WhatsApp Groups

We have had reports of WhatsApp groups in Year 7 that have become large and widespread. Many students have been added to this group without their knowledge or permission. Some individuals in this group have posted comments that are unpleasant and unkind. There have also been reports of inappropriate images being shared on the group as well. It is not possible to know whether the group is solely utilised by Year 7 students or just Gorge Abbot students.

The school does not encourage social media use for anyone under 13, the minimum age for a WhatsApp account is 16. Social media can be used to bully other individuals by making unpleasant remarks that others reply to. It can also be utilised as a tool to exploit young people; this is more concerning in large groups when lots of individuals are added without knowledge of who they are. It is also very easy to share content on WhatsApp that is not age appropriate, such as pornography.

If students are using WhatsApp and other social media platforms, we strongly advise that parents are aware of the any groups that their children access. Parents should ensure children leave groups that are inappropriate and delete all messages associated with that group.

More information and guidance to help support your child if they are using WhatsApp can be found on parentzone.org.

Rob Giles
Designated Safeguarding lead

Focus on

Watch the video below to find out what students have to say about life at George Abbot School! For information on Admissions for the Academic Year 2021-22 please visit: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/open-days/>



PTA

Local Photo Competition

Seymours are running a photography competition where if you upload your favourite photo of the area (taken in 2020), you have the chance of winning either £750, £500 or £250 John Lewis vouchers plus they will match this with a donation the PTA! [For more info please click here.](#)



Second-hand Uniform

There will be another second-hand school uniform drop-off on Thursday 22 October. If you can donate, please send the uniform in with students on this date. They need to be in a sealed bag and students will be directed to leave them on the Elmslie Stage for the required 72 hours.

Our remote uniform shop is open for business. We accept PayPal as payment and will deliver locally for a flat rate of £2.

Please email: PTA@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk and see if we have what you need.



EasyFundraising

So far, we have raised over £14,000 for the PTA for free! [Please sign up to easyfundraising.](#) Over 4,000 sites will give us a free donation every time you shop online. This will help us continue to support people that rely on us.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 3 November 2020, details to follow.

Keeping in Touch

You can keep up to date with what the PTA are doing by checking out [Twitter](#) (which we are going to start using again!), [Facebook](#) and the [webpage](#).

Take care, from the PTA.



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