


 23rd January 2026

Headteacher
Responsible, Resilient, Ambitious

The school has got back into its rhythm after the Christmas holidays; however, the weather has not been kind with numerous wet breaks, and a forecast of snow next week! We had good attendance at the Y10 Parents Evening on Thursday, and we will begin the final set of mock exams over the next two weeks for Year 11 students before the public exams season. Mock information is highlighted in this bulletin in orange.

Mock exams are a step up from assessments that are carried out in the classroom. Mocks are used to not just test, but to also provide valuable experience for students around revision, planning, and the resilience to concentrate and write for extended periods of time. Our teachers use the mocks to identify gaps in learning, both common and for individuals. This is so that they can adapt their lessons in the run up to the exams, so that every lesson makes a difference to what our students can achieve.

A reminder to please complete the Parent Survey below, that has been sent to all parents, it is important we collect your views as it guides us to areas we need to develop, as well as recognising areas we might be doing well in.

Ixworth- Parent View 2026 – Collaboration

Wishing you a restful weekend.

Mr Gibb

Headteacher
Key Dates

Week beginning 26th January is Week A on our timetable

26th January- 6th February Year 11 Mocks

12th February Year 9 Progress Evening

16th February Half Term



Week of 12TH Jan **TOP 10 Students**

1.K Nowaczynski	6.F Bennett
2.H Maudlin-Moss	7.O Kerridge
3.A Ralfe	8.L Nicholson
4.L Inger	9.T Sheer
5.M Benn-Shallow	10.P Holden

Class Leader Board		
1	9 Yare	90.7
2	11 Nile	82.3
3	10 Severn	78
4	11 Indus	76.8
5	7 Minsmere	69.1
6	8 Stow	66.7
7	11 Tiber	64.8
8	10 Ouse	62.7
9	8 Yox	59.2
10	10 Trent	57.5
11	9 Nene	57.5
12	7 Butley	56.2
13	11 Amazon	54.2
14	8 Brett	51.5
15	7 Box	47.5
16	10 Thames	44.1
17	7 Orwell	44.1
18	9 Waveney	39.6
19	8 Dove	38.4
20	8 Gipping	33.5
21	9 Chet	33.2
22	9 Lark	32.4

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2026-2027

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Sapientia Education Trust- Term Dates 2026/27**Autumn Term:**

- Starts: Thursday 3rd September 2026
- Half-Term: 19th October - 30th October 2026
- Last day: Friday 18th December 2026

Spring Term:

- Starts: Tuesday 5th January 2027
- Half-Term: 15th February- 19th February 2027
- Last Day: Thursday 25th March 2027

Summer Term:

- Starts: Monday 12th April 2027
- Bank Holiday/ School Closed: 3rd May
- Half-Term: 31st May - 4th June 2027
- Last Day – Friday 23rd July 2027

Year 11 Mocks- Important Information

- Students must register with their tutor first and then head to their allotted room on time. Lateness could result in no-entry.
- Students are not allowed headphones or mobile phones, these along with the rest of their belongings should be left in their lockers.
- Students must be in full school uniform and need to remove any writing on hands or arms, bracelets, rings, necklaces etc.
- Students will need their own calculators; this is the candidate's responsibility to provide them.
- Students' stationary needs to be in a see-through container, and any water bottles must be transparent with no labels.

Careers**Year 10 Work Experience placement forms must be completed by Friday 20th March.**

Careers Week begins week commencing Monday 2nd March! If there are any businesses interested in supporting, please contact d.heath@ixworthhighschool.org

23rd January 2026**Pastoral Notices****Responsible, Resilient, Ambitious****Student Related Enquiries**

General enquiries about students or student-related incidents should always in the FIRST instance go to their Tutor. If for any reason this does not resolve the issue, please then contact the Head of Upper or Lower school, whichever is relevant to your child.

Student Absence

Student absences should be registered with the School Office Team- aaa@ixworthhighschool.org by 9:00 am.

Lost Property

Items of lost property will be kept at the school Office. Please ensure you have all school uniform and sports kit clearly marked with your child's name on the inside of the item.

Safeguarding

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Miss Burgess, she is contactable via the school office.

We continue to push on high levels of attendance for our students across the school and in Forge. Thank you to the parents and carers in our community who support their children to make the right choice every day. Research tells us that 95% plus attendance adds one grade, on average at GCSE.

Below you will see the link to our Attendance and Punctuality Policy. This can be accessed on our website under Policies.

<https://www.ixworthhighschool.org/assets/Documents/Attachments/Attendance-and-Punctuality-Policy-2024.pdf>

Art

The Art Department is currently running low on magazines and would be very grateful for any donations.

If anyone has magazines and would be willing to donate them to the school, they would be used for collage work in art lessons and greatly appreciated. Donations from parents, carers, or members of the local community are all very welcome. Please leave these with the front office.

Thank you for your continued support.



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Student Wellbeing Survey

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We're delighted to invite students to take part in **My Health, Our Future (MHoF) 2026**. Suffolk's largest programme exploring young people's physical and mental wellbeing. There is also a brochure attached to this bulletin with further information.

Now is the perfect time to get involved.

MHoF is an anonymous online survey for Suffolk secondary school and college students aged 11 to 19 (or up to 25 for young people with SEND).

This year's survey has been refreshed with **new questions**, developed with young people, schools, NHS leaders and other partners, to provide more meaningful insights into students' wellbeing.

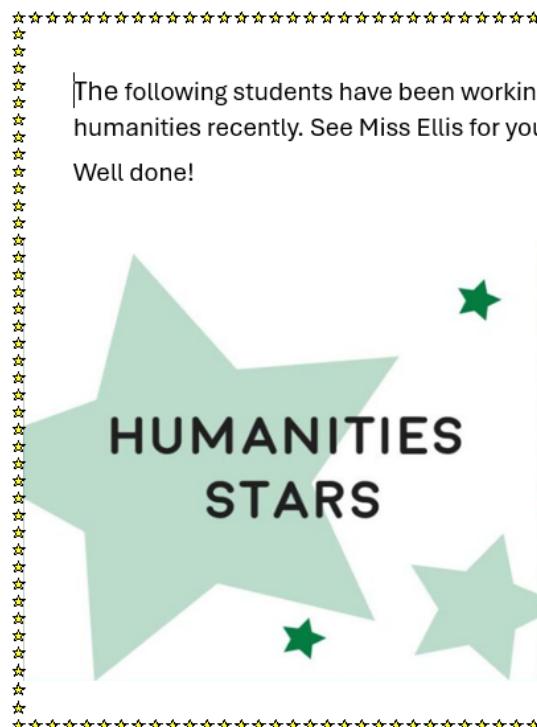
How to take part

It's easy for students to take part, please use this link: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/lxworth2026/>

The survey takes 10 to 15 minutes and works particularly well during lessons such as PSHE, though some schools also choose to share it via email. We've attached our **CYP signposting card** which highlights support available for a range of health and wellbeing concerns and can be shared alongside the survey.

Additional support and resources

- FAQs for schools and colleges: [here](#)
- FAQs for parents and carers: [here](#)
- The survey includes links to support services for young people who may be concerned about their wellbeing. Further signposting information is available [here](#).



Geography

Olivia B – Yr 9

Matthew D – Yr 7

History

Ethan H - Yr 9

Millie S - Yr 8

RF

Charles I. Yr 7

Citizenship

loss W - Vx 10

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Year 10 Work Experience

There is 8 weeks until all students need a confirmed placement and a completed application form. Deadline date is **20th March 2026**. Every day could be a placement filled by another student, use this weekend to follow your dream.

Over this week and next, Year 10's are working through "how to apply for work experience", using their booklets in their PSHE lessons. These are to be used at home and for parents/carers to support them with the process. Students need to contact their placements and ask those questions. Once they have a confirmed slot, they need to complete the form attached.

[Y10 Work Experience Application 2025-2026 – Fill out form](#)

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs Heath d.heath@ixworthhighschool.org. Student appointments are available for additional support. Please ensure they speak to form tutors to arrange these.



Change your story



We are very excited to have been chosen by Pearson Edexcel, in partnership with the National Literacy Trust, to participate in their 'This is Lit', book club.

This has been designed to celebrate the best of 21st century British literature during The National Year of Reading 2026.

As a school, we are looking for 20 students who would be happy to read 3 books per academic year and write 3 book reviews.

Students will receive each of the books, certificates and pin badges to recognise their participation.

Please email s.baker@ixworthhighschool.org or speak to Mrs Baker to express your interest.



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Subject Spotlight- Geography

Why is your subject important in this key stage?

Geography is one of the most critical subjects in helping us to understand the complexities of the modern world and to construct solutions that benefit modern society and our environment. It has a valuable role to play in developing responsible citizens especially in relation to sustainable development education and global citizenship. Geographical topics like population, nationality, place, migration, landscapes, sustainability, climate change, energy, flooding, globalisation, poverty, inequality, health, transport, and access to diminishing resources like water, oil and food, should be a fundamental part of any child's education.

Any teaching methods/strategies that would help people understand how teaching is taking place (implementation of curriculum)?

Students will have new skills/concepts modelled for them to ensure they see an example of what a good one looks like. Longer writing tasks will have scaffolding to help students reach their potential and provide them with support to complete the work independently.

What are students covering in the Key stage/course? Any overarching themes, skills, concepts that are trying to be achieved.

In KS3 students will cover key concepts that they will use throughout all 5 years within human and physical geography such as development and core processes. The idea is that each year students will build on their key knowledge and add to their core geographic skills as they move towards KS4.

At GCSE we follow the AQA exam board and have 3 exam papers, physical, human and geographical skills with fieldwork.

How this fits into the wider curriculum?

The key core processes are vital to students' geographical knowledge and having a sound understanding of these will enable them to link topics together. As well as giving them a good overview of the world in which students live in and gives them skills that will be of real benefit to them once they have left school.

How can parents support or extend their child in your subject?

Ask questions, if you have looked at the news, ask students how it links to geography, is it human or physical? Does it link to any topics they have covered in school? When you go on holiday, ask students what geographical features they can see.

Anything current in the news, new books or research links to websites etc. that students might find interesting/useful to access their studies or provide wider context and skills.

Just checking the news regularly will be a bonus! It will really help give students an idea of current global geographical issues. Internet Geography (www.internetgeography.net) is a useful website particularly for GCSE as it goes over a lot of the case studies that we will look at.

Careers links/ties to post-16/university etc.

Geography qualifications are highly desirable as they provide lots of skills that employers are looking for. Some key careers links for geography are

[Architectural technologist](#), [Business analyst](#), [Cartographer](#), [Data analyst](#), [Environmental consultant](#), [Geographical information systems officer](#), [Marketing executive](#), [Nature conservation officer](#), [Social researcher](#), [Sustainability consultant](#), [Town planner](#)