

6th February 2026

Headteacher

Responsible, Resilient, Ambitious

We have completed the final round of Year 11 mock exams prior to the public exams commencing in May. As usual, our students rose to the challenge of a significant number of exams in a short period of time, demonstrating the school values of resilience, responsibility and ambition. Many students could be seen using their own revision resources prior to each exam demonstrating that they are following advice and preparing well. The results for these mocks will be published on 5th March alongside the Year 11 Parent's Evening.

Year 9 Progress Evening is on Thursday 12th February next week from 4:00 to 7:00, this is the one of the key events prior to the options process commencing for Year 9 students.

There will be a non-uniform day for a donation of £1 on the last day of term next week Friday 13th February to raise money for Macmillan, full details later in the bulletin.

Finally, in this bulletin are the confirmed term dates for next year and the dates of the PD days.

Wishing you a restful weekend.

Mr Gibb

2026-2027

Sapientia Education Trust- Term Dates

Autumn Term:

- Starts: Thursday 3rd September 2026- All Students
- **PD Day- Friday 18th September 2026- No Students**
- Half-Term: 19th October - 30th October 2026
- Last day: Friday 18th December 2026

Spring Term:

- **PD Day- Tuesday 5th January 2027- No Students**
- Starts: Wednesday 6th 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 2027
- Half-Term: 31st May - 4th June 2027
- Last Day – Friday 23rd July 2027

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Pastoral Notices

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>

Key Dates

Week beginning 9th February is Week A on our timetable

12th February Year 9 Progress Evening

16th February Half Term

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Subject Spotlight- DT KS3

Why is this subject important in this key stage?

Design is everywhere, the cars we drive, the clothes we wear, even the toothbrush we use to brush our teeth in the morning, these things were all created by a designer. Design & Technology is a wide subject encompassing all elements of design, which can lead onto careers including, Product Design, Architecture, Fashion Design, Graphic Design, and Construction to name just a few. It also builds life skills for students.

Implementation of Curriculum

We begin by researching a topic, creating a Mood board, and looking at the work of other current designers/artists. We create a Mind map for the development of ideas and follow an industry inspired iterative design process, so that students are prepared for a design career when they leave school, should they wish to choose that career path.

What are students covering in the Key stage/course?

Currently KS3 students are designing:

YR 7 - Textiles – Monster toy design

YR 8 – Polymers & Woodwork – Pop Art clock design

YR 9 – Woodworking & Electronics – Anglepoise Lamp design

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

Encourage your child to draw and make at home, crafts etc. The ability to draw and communicate ideas is highly beneficial to a career in Design.

Current news, books, research, or links to websites etc. Students might find the below interesting/useful in order to access their studies or provide wider context and skills.

If your child is interested in design, they may wish to visit these museums or their respective websites:

The Design Museum – <https://www.designmuseum.org>

The V&A (Victoria & Albert Museum) - <https://www.vam.ac.uk>



Week of 26TH Jan TOP 10 Students

1.S RICHARDSON
2.O KERRIDGE
3.L INGER
4.C SMITH
5.T RAYNOR

6.M CLEVELAND
7.P HOANG
8.L FOREMAN
9.C MATTHEWS
10.R GUEST

Class Leader Board

1	9 Yare	89.1
2	10 Severn	81.3
3	8 Stow	77.3
4	11 Indus	71.3
5	8 Yox	68.4
6	11 Nile	61.5
7	10 Ouse	60.5
8	8 Dove	60.2
9	7 Butley	60
10	9 Nene	59.6
11	10 Trent	55.3
12	11 Tiber	55
13	7 Minsmere	54.3
14	7 Orwell	51.5
15	7 Box	50.7
16	8 Brett	47.9
17	11 Amazon	44.5
18	9 Waveney	42.8
19	9 Chet	42.6
20	9 Lark	40.9
21	8 Gipping	40.3
22	10 Thames	32.3

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Work Experience

Year 10 work experience deadline is Friday 20th March. How can I help my young person?

- Ask them what they are interested in - this could be hobby based or a future career - not all young people know what they want to do, but will have a interest in something. Work experience is about the **whole** experience; this may be things they like or things they realise they do not like.
- If unsure complete the questionnaire on Prospect - [Prospects | Job & Course Search | Career & University Advice](#) - this will help with a possible career path and start to spark interest.
- Once an interest is found - Search their interest in your local area, what businesses come up?
- Make a list of places and phone numbers, email addresses.
- Get your young person to contact these places in person, by phone or email. They have their careers booklet to help them with these discussions.
- Once they have a confirmed placement, they need to complete the application form. [Y10 Work Experience Application 2025-2026](#)
- Once this is complete, Mrs Heath will contact the company for confirmation and send the appropriate documents for the company.

If you have any concerns, form time appoints can be made with Mrs Heath and your young person.

Careers

Week Commencing 2nd March is careers week in school. There are many things planned for that week, including a careers fair for year 7-11, Mock interviews for year 10, assemblies and opportunities for our young people to have meaningful encounters. Some changes to the timetable will be implemented and this information will be given after half term.

If you are a small business owned and have experience with interviews and would like to take part in support our young people with Mock interviews and assemblies, please email Mrs Heath d.heath@ixworthhighschool.org

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Non-Uniform Day- 13th February

James Morris, the husband of Mrs Morris, is running the London Marathon 2026 to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. James is taking on this incredible challenge in loving memory of Mrs Morris' nephew, Mason, who sadly passed away last year. His fundraising honours Mason's strength and helps support the vital work Macmillan does for individuals and families affected by cancer.

To support this cause, we will be holding a non-uniform day on **Friday 13th February**. Students are invited to donate £1 to wear non-uniform, and any additional donations made via James's JustGiving page below would be greatly appreciated.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/james-morris-1>



In memory of Mason Morgan

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

DONATE
£1