



Wildern School

An Introduction to Year 9

Forging Ahead



Every Student Matters, Every Moment Counts.



Aim of the Evening

- Our culture and expectations
- Key priorities for all
- Forging ahead
- All about the start
- Welcome to GCSEs
- Building independence and determination
- Healthy body, healthy mind
- How to help
- Expectations
- Communication
- Working together
- Parent Handbook





Our culture and expectations

We want a happy, healthy, safe and focussed school where all staff and students can thrive

We want to be a school where all:

- students speak politely and listen to each other and staff
- students show respect to their teachers through the way they communicate and respond
- students are well mannered to each other and staff
- students respond appropriately in communications
- students respond at the first time of asking
- moments count





Our culture and expectations

So this year to address this our key foci for all staff, students and parents will be

- Culture and ethos
- Routines and expectations
- Metacognition - thinking about thinking





Our culture and expectations

Respectful culture

As a Rights Respecting school, at Wildern we expect all students to be respectful and polite in the way they communicate with all members of our community. We have outlined this as:

Talk - think about your **tone**, **words** and **volume**

Actively listen and **respond appropriately**

Look interested - show positive body language

Kindness - show empathy, avoid judgement, respect others' ideas

Students will learn about this through their Education for Life curriculum, day to day interactions across all subject areas and in tutor time and assembly. This will be a continuous thread throughout the whole academic year.





Our culture and expectations

Uniform expectations

- School identity starts with the uniform
 - Safeguarding
 - Hard wearing (52% of the year is in uniform)
 - Identity and pride
 - A sign of conformity
- Individual identity
 - Being them! (We want to encourage them being them)
 - Bring things to the 21st century!
 - Still want to avoid extremes of fashion
- Safety and security
 - Still has to be a priority

If we get this right, more time is focussed on learning & pastoral conversations.





Our routines

Everyone has clear routines at home and these are crucial to us getting through the day!

A school needs embedded and well-communicated routines

These include:

well-established and understood systems of behaviour (sanctions, corridor and classroom expectations, moving around site)

Removes uncertainty about school expectations, which reduces anxiety and creates a sense of normality and security for students

Allows more time for quality conversations both inside and outside the classroom

It's what we do here, we are Wildern





Routines for all

- Morning routines - tutor time, phones switched off and in bags for the day, equipment and uniform checks
- How students move around site - use of one way corridors to avoid congestion and ensure students and staff can move around our school site safely and purposefully to ensure every minute of learning time is optimised
- Lining up outside classrooms
- Entry and exit routines for all lessons
- Having all equipment and student planner out and readily available every lesson
- Assemblies - where to line up, how to come in and how to leave





Metacognition

This is the science behind cognition, or thinking about thinking

- Includes how we learn
- how our memory works
- how we regulate our thinking and emotions
- how we respond to situations

Students will learn about this through their Education for Life curriculum, curriculum lessons, day to day interactions across all subject areas as well as in tutor time and assembly. This will be a continuous thread throughout this and the next academic year.





Forging ahead



Every Student Matters, Every Moment Counts.



It's all about the start



Every Student Matters, Every Moment Counts.



Why is the start so important?

- In life, the way something begins often sets the tone for how the rest of it will unfold.
- Life isn't a dress rehearsal.
- The start affects the smooth execution of the whole race.
- In chess, making a poor set of opening moves can cost you the game.





Welcome to GCSEs

Reminder:

- Terminal exam assessment for all subjects
- Non-Examination Assessment (NEA) in practical subjects (max 30%)

What this means:

- Knowledge and understanding all assessed by exams in Year 11
- Learning builds throughout Years 9-11 (Year 9 books count!)
- Memory recall skills very important





What this means for the future

- Conceptual leap from Year 8 to 9
- Skills we are focussing on include:
 - developing extended writing in all subject areas
 - fostering growth mindsets in students to have high aspirations
 - developing students' memory techniques for linear assessment





Their future



- Careers focus this year is on employability skills
- These are: communication, team work, problem solving, leadership and perseverance
- Subject lessons will include references to career paths that links with the content or skills being taught
- Opportunities to speak to employers
- College entry requirements are based on average point scores (APS) so all grades count.





Impact of Attendance

- Attendance matters!
- Students who had attendance of less than 95%, achieved on average 1-2 grades lower in their final GCSEs
- Students who were in school above 96% of the time achieved 1.5 grades higher than expected.
- This is the equivalent of 1 day a fortnight
- If students are not in lessons, they are not here to learn in their lessons as well as receive support and feedback from their teachers
- We will not approve absence unless there are extremely exceptional circumstances





Building independence and determination

HELP YOUR CHILD LEARN TO PROBLEM SOLVE FOR THEMSELVES

- Listen
- Do you understand the problem
- Help them come up with solutions
- Help them decide what to try
- Guide and fade
- Let them make mistakes
- Support their choices



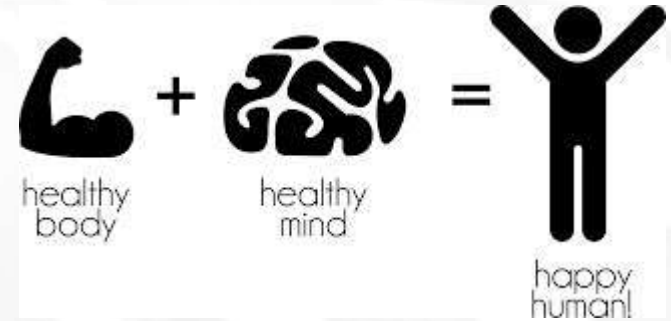
TEACH YOUR CHILDREN HOW TO THINK, RATHER THAN WHAT TO THINK!





Healthy Body, Healthy Mind

- Do not allow them to skip breakfast
- Make sure they eat three meals a day
- Boost their iron
- Build up their bones
- Make sure they drink plenty of fluids
- Limit how much fast food they eat
- Get them to snack sensibly
- Look for changes in their mood/behaviour



A determined learner



Every Student Matters, Every Moment Counts.



Study skills important from day 1

- Revision is not just for Year 11
- Overlearning is key!
- Self-study supports this process
- Good study habits early on
- Environment for working at home





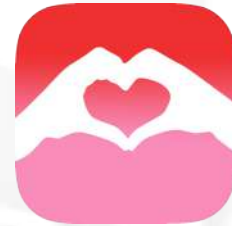
How we support students when there are barriers to learning

- Communication from home - let us know if issues with study/focus/organisation/understanding in class
- Pastoral support through their tutor
- Talk to Learning Support
- Outside agency strategies advice and guidance





- Being Kind
- Anti Bullying Ambassadors
- How we treat each other
- #talk2us



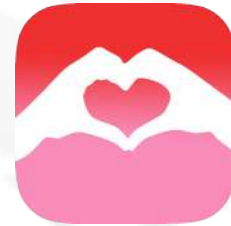
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Student voice

Student voice is very important to us and is shaping our school. This is an ongoing opportunity throughout the whole year. Students views are gathered through

- SLT student meetings
- Student #mywildern
- #talk2us
- Education for Life quizzes and surveys
- Students surveys
- Focus groups
- Subject reviews





Parent voice

Your voice is just as important to us and we value your feedback, when we get it wrong but as importantly, when we get it right.

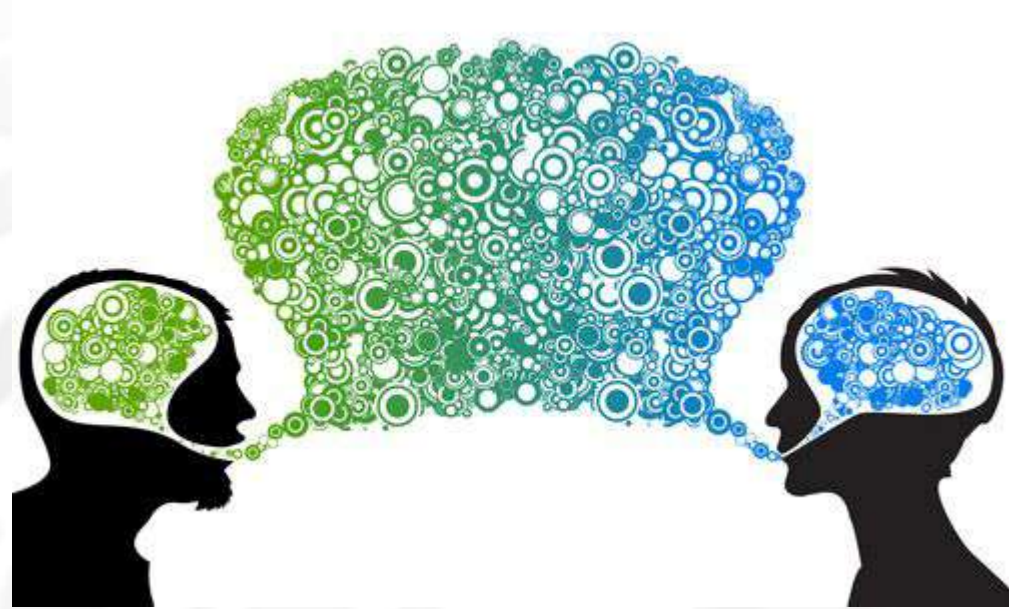
There are many ways you can share your views with us throughout the year. Parent views are gathered through

- Parent survey - biannual
- Mini parent surveys in Wildern Weekly (these appear regularly)
- Email wildern@wildern.org
- Ofsted Parent view (328 completed in 2022 for nearly 2000 students)
- Your child's tutor
- Parent open morning and coffee meets
- Parents evenings - information and communication





Communication



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“Meeting Me” Conversations

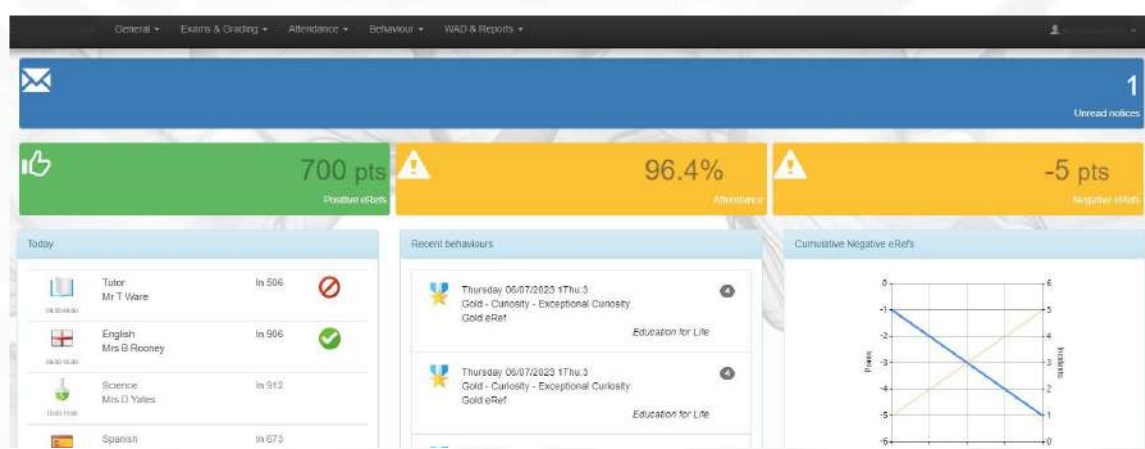
These will take place on Tuesday 5th & Wednesday 6th September

- All students (and parents) will be allocated a time to meet their tutor over these 2 days
- Face to Face
- Discuss the year ahead
- Share any news from the summer
- Meet possible new tutors
- Share any concerns
- Give over any new information
- If needed can be virtual for the parent (students must attend)





INSIGHT



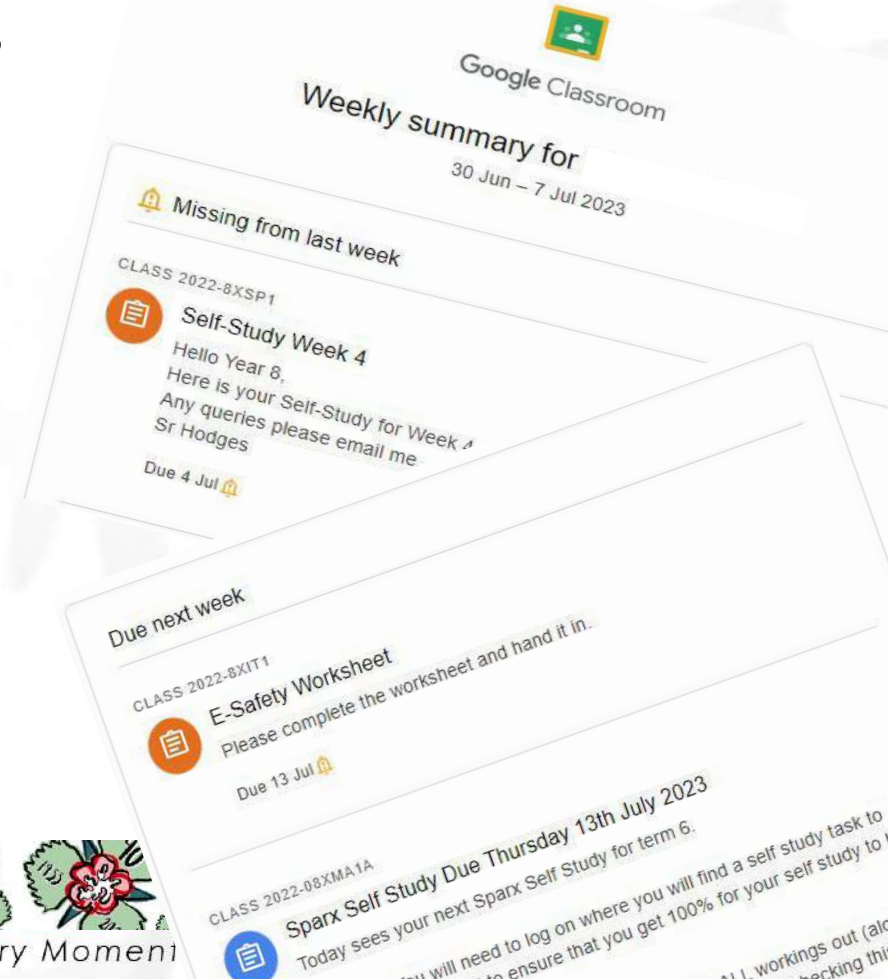
- Check Student Attendance
- Check Student Achievement and Behaviour
- Check Student Timetables
- Update Student and Parent Information
- Report an Absence
- Check the School Calendar
- Receive messages from the school
- To set up your INSIGHT account we need to have your email address on our system - we will then send you an invitation.





Google Guardians

- Sends you a daily or weekly summary
- Includes any work:
 - that has been set,
 - that has **not** been handed in
 - that is due the next few days
- Useful to help you support your child in managing their self-study
- Informs you of what has and hasn't been done





Wildern Weekly

- Sent out on Fridays
- Links for all letters
- Reminders & key dates
- Spotlight features
- Advice & guidance
- Food menus
- Extra curricular
- Sports results
- All previous issues are available on our website



Wildern Weekly

Parent Bulletin

Friday 7 July 2023



I'm Mrs Dixon, Director of Learning for Humanities and subject leader for Geography.

The Humanities subjects at **Wildern** are History (subject leader Miss Greensword), Religious Education (subject leader Mrs Watson), Travel and Tourism (subject leader Mrs Mistry) and Geography. I love all of the humanities subjects because they help to explain our place in the World, create empathy and to always consider the impacts our actions have on the World and people around us.

July 11th is World Population Day, a day which seeks to bring awareness to the growing pressures and opportunities a growing population can bring. This week there is an opportunity for us all to reflect on our population of 8 billion people and how our humanities subjects are woven into this. Our population is able to live longer due to historical breakthroughs in medicine and growing international efforts for peace. Our population of 8 billion all have rich and diverse religious, cultural and social backgrounds which we can all celebrate not just within this week but always. Then we have to decide how we can balance the challenges of a growing population in an ever fragile World.

If you're curious to find out a little more, find out which billionth person you are by using this website <https://worldpopulationhistory.org/my-population-number/>.

If you have any concerns with your child's progress or attainment in Humanities, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or myself and we will be more than happy to discuss this with you.



Recent events @ Wildern

On Wednesday evening we celebrated our annual Awards Evening. Congratulations to all our winners and their families. Special mention to George and Sophie for the outstanding performances in such a large venue, the staff behind the scenes and the Kings Community Church.

A final huge thank you to our Senior Student Leadership Team: Harry, Evie, Josh and Flo for the brilliant way they hosted the evening. Supported by a team of really helpful prefects around the venue.

We have also had two Headteachers lunches for 140 student with an aet score over 700 this week.

Start of Term Arrangements 2023-24:



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Partnership

You are not alone



Over the next year what the school will also offer;

- Fresh starts to focus on subjects chosen
- Learning about Careers through curriculums
- Personalised curriculum support
- Access to the school counsellor
- Practice exams

Parent Information Evenings focusing on:

- **Preparing for exams** - (Oct 2023)
- **Love Languages** - (Nov 2023)
- **Wellbeing** - (Nov 2023)
- **Edtech to support learning** - (Dec 2023)
- **E-safety** - (Jan 2024)
- **Supporting your teenager** - (Feb 2024)
- **Stretch and Challenge** - (March 2024)
- **Relationships and Sex Education** - (May 2024)
- **How to support your child's' reading** - (June 2024)
- **Healthy Eating** - (June 2024)





Partnership

How we work together



- Behaviours for learning
- Participation
- Uniform
- Feedback
- Self-study
- Behaviour in the community

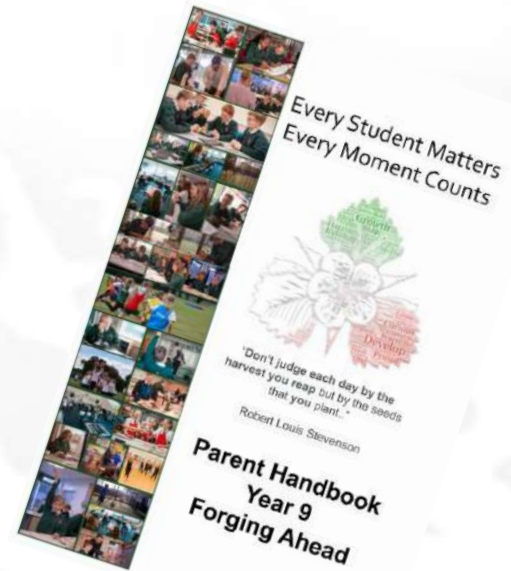


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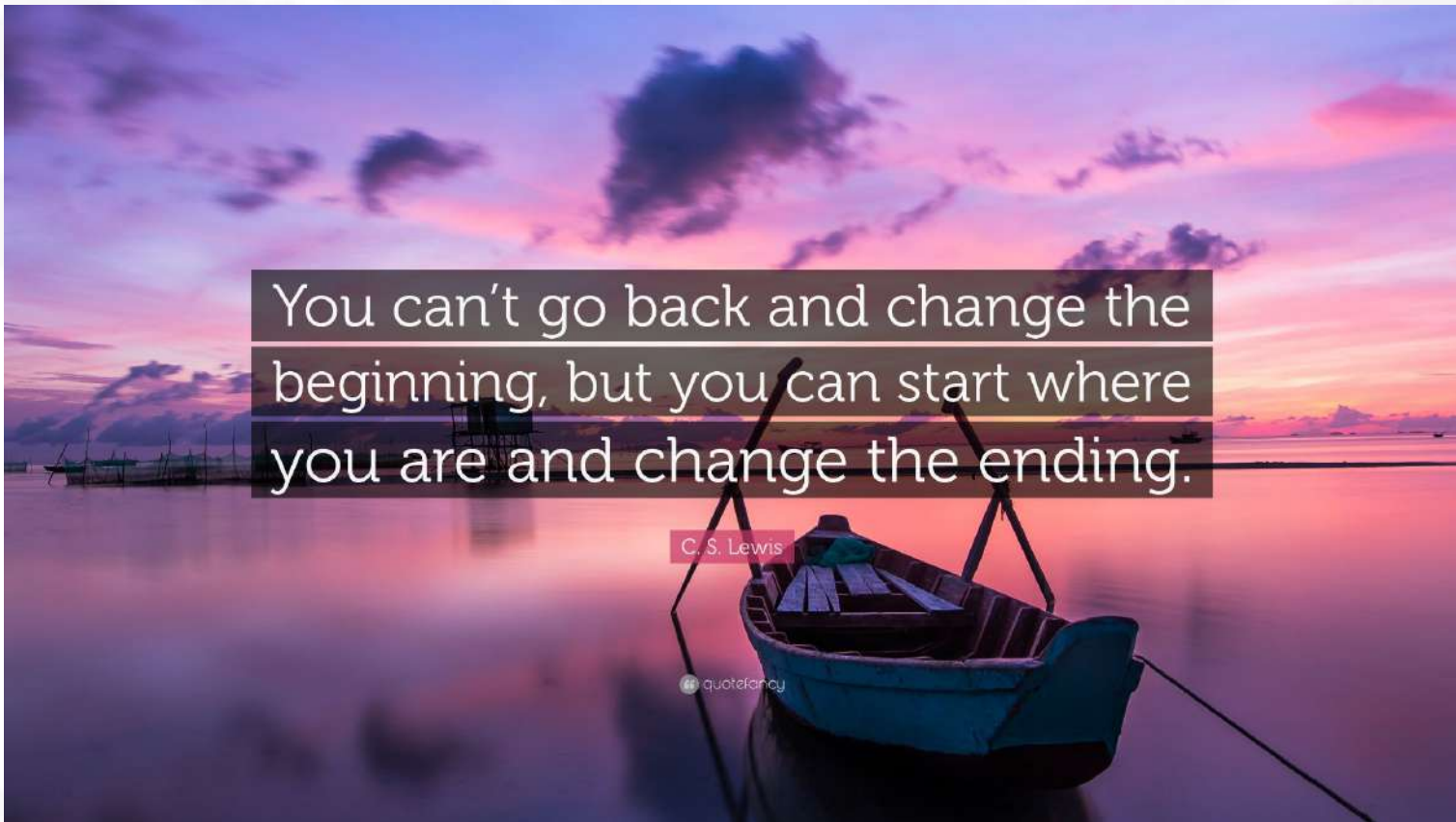


Parent Handbook

- Your comprehensive guide for day to day information
- Curriculum info
- Pastoral info
- Key dates
- First point of reference for questions



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You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending.

C. S. Lewis

quote fancy



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Please give us
feedback on tonight
(4 quick questions)

