



Year 13 Parent Information Evening

Andy Rayner

Director of Sixth Form

Andrew Evans

Deputy Director Sixth Form

Our aim:

To create a platform for students to allow them to transition from a school setting into an aspirational destination.



Outstanding success

Personal success

6 students moved onto degree apprenticeships

13 students secured advanced apprenticeships

90% plus students secured University first choice

20% students applying to university secured places at Russell Group universities

97% of students secured meaningful destinations at the end of Year 13

A level results

A* to A 22%

A* to B 48%

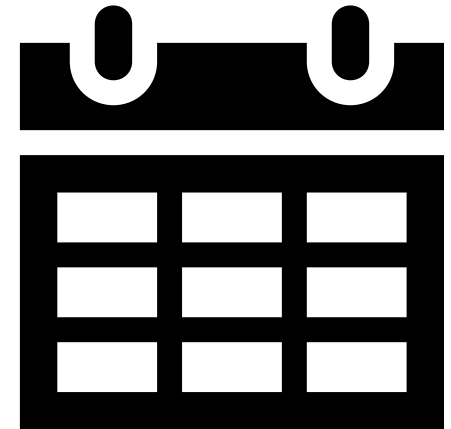
A* to C 78%



Key Dates 2023-24

Autumn Term :

- 9th to 13th October: Assessment Week
- 22nd November: AP1 report to parents/carers
- 30th November: Parents Evening



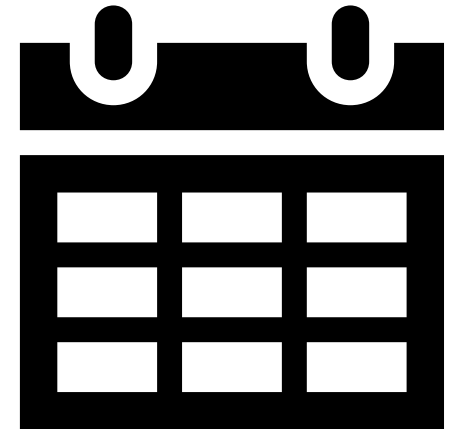
Year 13 October Assessment Week

<u>Date</u>	<u>9am</u>	<u>1pm</u>
Mon 9th Oct	Chemistry 2:00 Geography 2:00 English Literature (Paper 1) 2:30 Product Design 2:30 Music 2:30	Maths (Pure) 2:00 IT 2:00
Tues 10th Oct	Computing 2:30 Ethics 3:00 Economics 2:00 Photography 3:00 English Language (Paper 1) 2:30	Further Maths (Mechs) 1:30 Psychology 2:00
Weds 11th Oct	Biology 2:00 English Literature (Paper 2) 3:00	History 2:30 Further Maths (Pure) 1:30 Sport (Unit 3) 1:00
Thurs 12th Oct	English Language (Paper 2) 2:30	Physics 2:00
Fri 13th Oct	Art 3:00 Politics 2:00	Maths Applied 1:00 Media 2:00

Key Dates 2023-24

Spring Term :

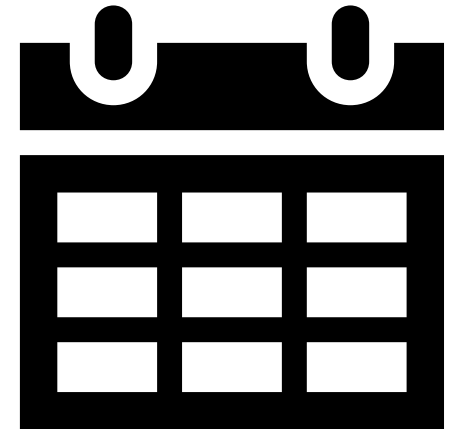
- 10th January: January External Exam series begins
- 14th February: AP2 report to parent/carers
- 11th to 15th March: Year 13 Mocks Week (students on study leave)



Key Dates 2023-24

Summer Term :

- 24th February: AP3 report to parent/carers
- 9th May: Summer 2024 exams begins
- 24th May: Year 13 Study Leave begins
- 26th June: Summer 2024 exams contingency date
- 15th August: A level results day



Provision through our two-week timetable

- Ten x one hour taught lessons per fortnight per subject
- Nine **independent learning** sessions
- All other sessions are **unregistered study** sessions (not frees). Students have flexibility to leave site for these **after lunchtime**
- Form period everyday (mentoring by form tutor)
- Two x one-hour periods every Wednesday period 1 devoted to VESPA and PSHE

Green	M	T	W	T	F
1			Tutor		
2	Chemistry		Biology	Chemistry	Biology
3	Biology	Chemistry		Maths	
	Reg	Reg	Reg	Reg	Reg
4			Biology		Chemistry
5		Maths			Maths

Yellow	M	T	W	T	F
1		Maths	Tutor		Chemistry
2		Biology	Biology		Maths
3	Maths				Biology
	Reg	Reg	Reg	Reg	Reg
4	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry		Chemistry
5	Maths	Maths	Biology	Maths	Biology

Why is independent learning important?

Engaging in purposeful learning activities outside of the home learning tasks set by teachers is beneficial to students in a number of ways:

- Research shows that students who fulfil their potential at sixth form complete an additional **20 hours of studying** towards their subjects per week – homework alone will not fulfil this.
- Independent learning allows students to **personalise** their learning so that you can spend additional time on the areas they require most help on.
- Independent learning tasks provide you with examples of ‘Supra-Curricular’ experiences that you can use to populate your personal statement for university as well as supporting statements for apprenticeships and jobs.

What could independent learning look like?

- ✓ Completing revision (cue cards, replicating mind maps etc)
- ✓ Past paper questions – even better in exam conditions of time and no notes
- ✓ Reattempting/redrafting work that has been marked, using the feedback to improve
- ✓ Reading ahead (pre-reading) to build your confidence in the area/s you are studying next.
- ✓ Completing wider reading and **making summary notes**. Reading sources could include online articles, journals, books related to what you are learning. [Google Scholar](#) and [Google Books](#) are both great at finding additional academic reading.
- ✓ Listening to an academic podcast and **making summary notes**.
- ✓ Watching an online tutorial/revision video and **making summary notes**.
- ✓ Watching a [TED talk](#) related to what you are studying and **making summary notes**.
- ✓ Completing a MOOC (Massive Online Open Course) – you can research the free ones that are available through Unifrog.

The screenshot shows a MOOC platform interface for 'A-level economics'. At the top, there's a header with 'A-level economics • Know more'. Below that, a search bar and filters are visible. The main content area is divided into three columns: 'Starting soon (1)', 'On demand (52)', and 'Already started (20)'. Each column lists several courses with their titles, institutions, and workloads.

Starting soon (1)	On demand (52)	Already started (20)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unleash Your Potential: Global Citizenship University of Bristol Workload: 3 hours per week 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foundations of Central Bank Law The International Monetary Fund Workload: 9 weeks to complete Contract Law- From Trust to Promise to Contract Harvard University Workload: 8 weeks to complete Immigration and Labour Markets in Economic History University of Bayreuth Workload: 8 weeks to complete Introduction to International Criminal Law Case Western Reserve University Workload: 7-8 hours of lectures and assessments Intellectual Property Law and Policy: Part 2 University of Pennsylvania Workload: 7 weeks to complete Civil Liberties Princeton University Workload: 7 weeks to complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human Rights and International Criminal Law: An Introduction University of Padova Workload: 6 hours per week How Well Does International Human Rights Law Serve Marginalised Peoples? The University of Kent Workload: 4 hours per week Human Rights, Ways of Life, and the Future The University of Kent Workload: 4 hours per week What is International Human Rights Law? The University of Kent Workload: 4 hours per week What is International Human Rights Law? The University of Kent Workload: 4 hours per week Introduction to the Rule of Law The University of Law Workload: 4 hours per week

At the bottom of the screenshot, there's a banner for 'economic development' with the text 'Understand how to focus your answer' and a logo for 'PHILIP ALLAN FOR HODDER EDUCATION'.

Successful Students and Parent/Carer Support

<i>A successful student...</i>	<i>This can be supported by...</i>

Successful Students and Parent/Carer Support

<i>A successful student...</i>	<i>This can be supported by...</i>
Has a high attendance (95%+)	Reinforce the benefits of a high threshold for absence. Book holidays outside of term time.
Consistently completes 20+ hours of additional study (homework and independent learning tasks)	Discuss the benefits of completing wider learning experiences at home and link to future aspirations and the long-term value in sacrificing some time outside of sixth form.
Is organised	Have a check every now and again and support in ensuring work is in folders and not just loose in a bag/A4
Takes up opportunities an offer at within the sixth form and in the wider community.	Use our communication home to discuss and encourage participation in the opportunities available.
Meets expectations within sixth form of punctuality, independent study, dress and vaping.	Having knowledge of the expectations we set and reinforcing them at home. Supporting us in our sixth form expectations policy, ensuring students accept and serve sanctions, e.g. attend Friday night detentions which are issued for students not meeting expectations 3 times in a week.
Maintains a positive balance and manages stress positively.	Celebrate successes! Encourage time away from studies and engagement in positive activities. Keep us (form tutor, Mrs Pass and myself) informed with any concerns.

Dress Code

Alsager Sixth Form gendemeutral dress code allows members of the Sixth Form to set a high standard in their personal appearance and conduct. All items on the list below may be worn by Alsager Sixth Form students:

- Smart trousers
- Smart skirt of an appropriate length
- Smart dress of an appropriate length
- Smart shirt with collar
- Smart blouse
- Smart jumper
- Smart cardigan
- Smart leather or suede shoes/ankle length boot (or shoes of leather/suede appearance)
- Smart jacket or blazer
- Smart suit
- Formal items, such as waistcoats and ties, are optional

Your lanyard forms part of your expected dress and should be worn at all times.

Please also be aware of the following:

- Coats may be worn but are to be removed once inside classrooms/study areas
- A single piercing in each ear is permitted, as well as a single clear nose stud
- Hair should be of a natural colour

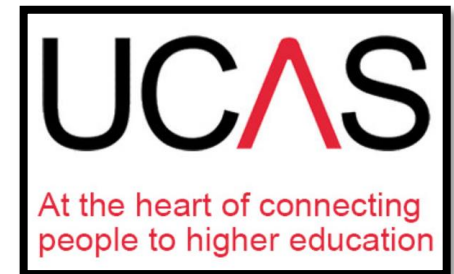
Please assume that anything not specifically listed above is not allowed. For example, denim, visible tattoos and facial piercings are not included on the list, so are not permitted. Any clothing with rips, holes or large logos/slogans will not be deemed as being smart and the judgement of the Director of the Sixth Form will be final on all matters relating to the Sixth Form Dress Code.

* Sweatshirts that are single coloured and have a logo that is no greater than an inch in diameter are permitted to be worn.

University Applicants

At this stage most students will have:

- Researched their choice of courses.
- Produced a short list of universities.
- Attended university open days.
- Be well underway with completing the final draft of their personal statement.
- Registered their application details on ucas.com/apply and linked to the sixth form using the buzzword 'Alsager62024'.



The UCAS Process at Alsager Sixth Form

Student fills out the details of their application on UCAS Apply, accessing this through their UCAS Hub account. When making choices students need to make sure they match the UCAS projected grades. Students need a range of courses - aspirational, realistic and back up. The maximum number of choices is 5.

Student completes their personal statement and asks form tutor to check it for them. They should not show it to more than one person or it will lead to conflicting suggestions or duplication of workload for staff. Once the personal statement has been checked students can upload it to their UCAS apply account.

Students should check in with their tutor at this stage to allow time for them to finalise their reference. Students should support tutors with this by adding information to the 'Notes for reference writers' section on Unifrog.

Student presses pay (£27.50) and send - **this does not send the form to UCAS** - just to the administrator (Mrs Haskew).

**Our internal Alsager
Sixth Form deadline is
November 30th 2023**

Tutor uploads the reference and sends it to Mrs Haskew and Mr Rayner for final checking. We then send the form with the reference attached to UCAS - no changes can be made after this point.

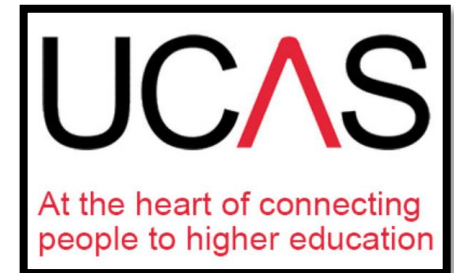
What happens after applications are sent...

- UCAS will e-mail with a confirmation and students need to continually check their email account and UCAS Hub for updates.
- Students could be asked to attend an interview or applicant day, submit a portfolio or simply be given an offer.
- Responses from universities:
 - Conditional offer
 - Unconditional offer
 - Application unsuccessful
 - Application withdrawn
- Once all offers are received students can confirm their '**Firm**' or '**Insurance**' choices – no need to rush, wait until after March mock exams.
- On results day students will be notified on UCAS Hub if their application has been successful at 8:00am.



UCAS applications and clearing

- Clearing is the list of courses released by UCAS to show the places universities still have available.
- The clearing list is released on 5th July 2024.
- Useful for students who:
 - Are unsuccessful with the offers from their initial choices.
 - Have declined all of their received offers.
 - Have applied after 30th June 2024.
 - Have received better results than expected and wish to explore different options.



Student Finance

- Martin Lewis 'Student Loans Decoded' - [LINK](#)
- Tuition fees loan:
 - Typical tuitions fees = £9,250 per year (be aware these are no longer capped).
 - Fees are not paid up front. Students can apply for a tuition fee to cover all or part of fees
- Maintenance/living costs loan:
 - Help towards living expenses, such as accommodation, food and course materials
 - Amount is dependent on student circumstances (location and **household income**)
 - E.g. student studying outside of London whose household earns less than £25,000 per year or less = £12,667
 - <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator>
- Repayment
 - Based on earnings
 - Threshold = £25,000 per year (£2,083 per month or £480 per week)
 - Repayment of 9% of what is earned **over the threshold**
 - Interest is accrued and any outstanding debt after 40 years is written off*

Student Finance

Pro's:

- A university degree can unlock earning potential.
- Some careers will require students to be educated degree level.
- Repayment is linked to earning.
- Debt is written off.

Con's:

- Even with loans students are likely to require additional funding during their time at university.
- Interest rates are still applied to student loans (based on the RPI – currently 13.5%).
- A degree level apprenticeship may allow for student loans to be avoided.

Apprenticeships / Work Pathways

- An apprenticeship is a job, with training, leading to the acquisition of a nationally recognised qualification.
- Benefits:
 - Paid Salary (minimum wage to £500 per week)
 - Potential progression opportunities
 - Increased future earning potential
- The level of the apprenticeship is reflected in the qualification obtained and the salary paid.



Apprenticeships

Name	Level	Equivalent educational level
Intermediate	2	5 GCSE passes at Grades A*– C or 9 – 4
Advanced	3	2 A level passes
Higher	4, 5, 6 and 7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 and 7	Bachelor's or master's degree

How do we support students?

Employment Readiness Programme delivered by the Cheshire and Warrington Pledge.

- Workshops with experts in industry and local businesses.
- Hour long workshops on how to both research and be a successful applicant for apprenticeships and jobs

As the research and application begins in earnest from January further support is provided included:

- Tutor sessions to provide mentoring and guidance.
- Lunchtime tutor support with Mrs Haskew

**THE
CHESHIRE AND
WARRINGTON
PLEDGE**

Where to look for apprenticeships and jobs

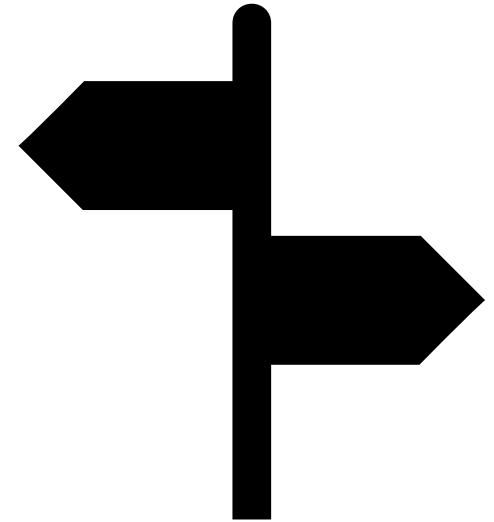
- Be prepared to be looking at lots of different platforms and places for information on apprenticeships, for example:
 - Gov.uk
 - Unifrog
 - Linked In
 - Indeed
 - Organisation websites
 - Friends and family
 - Direct contact
- As a sixth form we will inform students via email about opportunities that are sent to us.
- These will also be shared with you as parents.

As seen in job advertisements

- **“The ability to prioritise and make effective decisions to ensure deadlines are met”**
- **“Can show examples of working at pace to deliver results in a time sensitive fashion” – Bentley**
- *“Self-motivated and eager to exceed targets/objectives set” – Recruitment Agency*
- *“Team player but able to work off own initiative”*
- *“Flexible and reliable”*
- *“High standards of Health and Safety”*
- *“Follow all company communication standards, procedures, guidelines and policies at all times”*

Gaining wider experiences

- We actively encourage students be engaging in wider activities out of school such as:
 - Clubs/societies/D of E Gold Award
 - Volunteering
 - Work experience
 - NCS (National Citizenship Service)
 - Lectures/talks/university days
 - Part-time work
- Students should try to make full use of online experiences, such as webinars, conferences etc.



Post-18 Destination Planning

- Our online platform 'Unifrog' supports students with this.
- As a parent you can also use Unifrog to:
 - Research careers information.
 - Search university and apprenticeship databases.
 - Access information videos to better understand the options available and how to support applications.
- The sign in details for this will be included in the email sent after this session.

The logo for Unifrog, featuring the word "unifrog" in a lowercase, rounded, teal-colored font.

Contacts or questions

Our team:

Mr Rayner Director of Sixth Form

Mr Evans Deputy Director of Sixth Form

Mrs Pass Pastoral Officer

Mrs Haskew Career guidance

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Many thanks for your continued support, we look forward to another successful year.