

HGSF Weekly Newsletter

Monday 18th May 2026



PT Time	
Monday	Key Messages
Monday Launchpad	Year 12 (Atrium) : UCAS - Personal Statements
Tuesday	Week Ahead and Notices
Wednesday	Year 12 : The Big Conversation
Thursday	PT Quiz
Friday Extended PT	Year 12 (Atrium) : Gap Years

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What's on this week

Monday 18th May	Voice Workshop with Tom Morrison - <i>students involved have been advised</i>
Thursday 21st May	Geography Fieldwork Trip: Happy Valley Nature Reserve- <i>students involved have been advised</i>
Friday 22nd May	Finish for Half Term

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Upcoming

Monday 1st June	Return to Sixth Form after Half Term
Tuesday 9th June	Geography Fieldwork Trip: Stockport Town Centre- <i>students involved have been advised</i>
Wednesday 10th June	Geography Fieldwork Trip: Manchester City Centre- <i>students involved have been advised</i>
Friday 19th June	Inset Day - Please note we do have A Level Exams taking place on this day
Mon 22nd June to Mon 29th June	Year 12 Internal Exams - All Year 12 are on study leave, further details to follow
Wednesday 24th June	A Level Exam contingency day - all year 13 students should be available up to and including this date
Monday 29th June	HGSF Offer Holders Morning - <i>we will be asking for volunteers to attend this event</i>
Tues 30th June to Sat 4th July	Gold DofE Qualifying Expedition
Thursday 9th July	Last day of Lessons for Year 12
Friday 10th July	Last Day of Summer Term

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Student Notices:

Recycling Reminder – Sixth Form Refectory: Please ensure that the plastic waste bin in the refectory is used for plastic items only. Unfortunately, it is currently being filled with general waste, which prevents effective recycling. If this continues, the bin will need to be removed. Thank you for helping us reduce waste and recycle responsibly.

Life After Laurus, Plans After A Level: All year 12 students will receive an email asking them to complete their Life After Laurus, Plans After A Level form by 9am on Monday 15 June. This information is integral to assisting us to write your UCAS references. [Life After Laurus - Data Collection](#)

UCAS Buzzword: This has now been shared with all year 12 students, you need to use this to link your account to us. Please ensure that you have set your UCAS account up using your personal email address NOT your school one!

Room Bookings: Classrooms will not be available to book during our exam season.

Room Changes: During our exam season there will be lesson room changes, please check notice boards weekly for any changes.

Exams: Please see all Exam Timetables [here](#). If you have any questions or are unsure about anything please come to the office or contact Mrs Divall on exams@hazelgrovehigh.co.uk.

Year 13 Study Leave: The Study Centre will be open as normal should students want to come into school to revise. Please remember that professional dress (including your lanyard) must be worn and students must sign in/out of the building when entering/exiting the site.

Year 13 Locker keys and Student ID Cards: These should be returned to Sixth Form reception following your last exam.

The 16-19 Bursary: The 16-19 Bursary Fund is a scheme to help students facing financial hardship to continue in full time education after Year 11. We would encourage all students to read the information [here](#), or to see Mrs Gill for further advice. The bursary is discretionary and you do not always need to meet the criteria outlined.

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Saint John's College, Cambridge - Natural Sciences Residential 2026

MONDAY 13 & TUESDAY 14 JULY 2026

St John's College Natural Sciences Residential programme is aimed at exceptional pupils at the end of Year 12 (England/Wales) or equivalent (S5 Scotland, Y13 Northern Ireland), who are considering applying to Cambridge in 2026.

Over two days, participants will attend Q&A sessions, workshops, and taster lectures delivered by Cambridge academics, exploring a range of exciting topics from the Natural Sciences Tripos and learning about the application process.

There will also be the chance to meet current St John's students and hear first-hand what it is like to live and study here.

All meals and accommodation are provided free of charge by St John's College.

Applications for this residential programme are now open to students who are on track to meet or exceed the entry requirements for our Natural Sciences (Biological) and Natural Sciences (Physical) courses. A reference from the applicant's science teacher is required to confirm predicted grades.

Applications are assessed on academic merit and places are limited. When selecting participants, we may take personal background into account as well as strong academic ability and potential, with priority given to students who attend maintained sector schools outside London and the South-East.

St John's College is not responsible for securing permission from students' schools to attend this residential. Should students be offered a place, we will require permission from a parent/guardian for the successful applicant to attend.

The closing date for applications is 4pm on Wednesday 3 June 2026.

Successful applicants will be notified by Thursday 11 June, and will be sent further details about the programme including travel information.

[Submit your application](#)

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Saint John's College, Cambridge - Webinars 2026

St John's College is hosting a webinar series for those interested in information and guidance on applying to Cambridge and other competitive universities.

May to July 2026

Location: Online

Date and times:

See programme

St John's College is hosting a webinar series for those who are interested in information and guidance on applying to Cambridge and other competitive universities.

These monthly webinars are an excellent opportunity for prospective applicants and their supporters (family and teachers) to gain insight into the Cambridge admissions and decision-making process from St John's College academics and staff who have been involved in the process for several years. The webinars will include Q&A time.

The webinars will be held via Zoom. You will have to register for each webinar you are interested in attending, at which point you will be automatically sent the joining information for that Zoom webinar. The sessions will not be recorded.

Please sign up below and contact Schools Liaison Officer with any questions.

Programme and registration

- Thursday 21 May, 5pm – STEM Q&A: [register](#)
- Wednesday 17 June, 5pm – Making a competitive Cambridge application: [register](#)
- Thursday 25 June, 5pm – Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Q&A: [register](#)
- Thursday 16 July, 5pm – Personal statements: [register](#)

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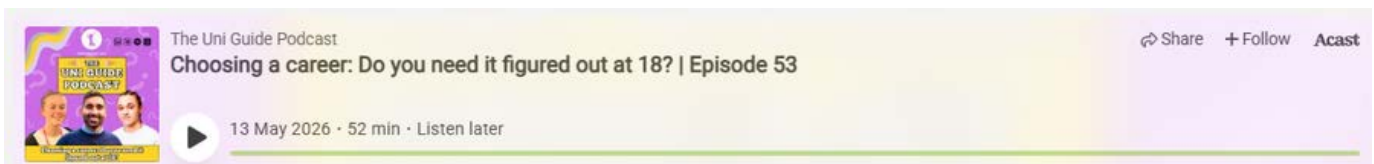


The Uni Guide Podcast

Key University Guidance, Guest Experts, Student Panel & Always Impartial

In this podcast series, we will be providing listeners with the cutting edge and most up-to-date information and conversations about university. In plain English, without the jargon, and from the lived experience of everyone involved in the process - including guest experts, current students and recent graduates.

Episode 53 of the Uni Guide Podcast explores career decisions and why students do not need everything figured out at 18. Featuring educator Baasit Siddiqui (yes, from Gogglebox), it is a reassuring listen for students feeling unsure about their next steps.



Search University events (Summer Schools/Residentials)

University summer schools and residentials offer students a chance to experience university life and live like a student for a short period. These programs may include academic aspects as well as activities like sports, cultural excursions, and social events to give students a taste of the university experience. Eligibility criteria, such as being from underrepresented backgrounds, may apply to these events.

 Search university events

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The
Alan Turing
Institute

The Turing Summer Experience

Find out more about how the UK intelligence agencies and defence organisations use data science and artificial intelligence to help keep the country safe.

Ages 16-17 years
Manchester: 3-7th August 2026

Free breakfast and lunch supplied. Support with travel expenses will be provided.



Experts and guest speaker panels



Teamwork and challenges



Data understanding and critical thinking

- Solve problems with other like-minded young people with hands-on application of new skills.
- Explore emerging real-world applications of data science in one of three challenge areas: deep learning, LLMs or cryptography.
- Learn how to collaborate using online tools such as GitHub.
- Get advice about future study and work opportunities and how to talk about your experience on a job application.
- Find out about the wide range of career paths in the sector, including in defence and security.

Click here or scan to apply



In partnership with:



The
Brilliant
Club



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HAZEL GROVE
SIXTH FORM

IMPERIAL SCHOLARS SUMMER SCHOOLS



IMPERIAL



The Brilliant Club

Take part in an exciting summer school experience with either the Department of Chemistry or Department of Life Sciences!

This project is an opportunity for pupils who are now in Year 12 and interested in studying Biological Sciences and Biochemistry, or Chemistry at Imperial College, London.

It aims to support students in developing relevant skills and knowledge to make successful applications to study at university.

**Apply for Life
Sciences here**

27 - 31 July - online

**Click
Here**

**Apply for
Chemistry here**

29 - 31 July - London

**Click
Here**

For Chemistry, you must be based within one hour's public transport of Imperial College, SW7 2AZ.

You can only attend one summer school. If you apply for both and are successful we will contact you to find out your preference.

Successful applicants will:

**Application deadline: Thursday
22 May at 12pm**

- Attend a series of tutorials with a researcher from Imperial
- Produce a written final assignment on a cutting-edge area of research
- Meet current students in the department
- Attend a research seminar on a ground-breaking scientific area
- Learn how to showcase your experiences on a UCAS application
- Prepare for the transition from Year 13 to university

Graduates of the summer school who go on to enrol in the Department of Life Sciences or Chemistry will be eligible to receive a bursary to support a research internship of their choice.

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FUTURE LEADERS
PROGRAMME



Free Year 12 Career Insight Day at BT Group



HAZEL GROVE
SIXTH FORM

Do you feel like you do not have enough work experience to make your personal statement stand out and are you curious about careers in Law, Finance, Technology, AI or Human Resources at BT Group, if so, this exclusive Career Insight Day is for you.

One of the biggest challenges students face when applying to university is knowing what to include in their personal statement. Universities look for clear evidence that you have explored your interests beyond the classroom and taken the initiative to engage with potential career pathways.

This opportunity is designed to give you exactly that!

Future Leaders UK is a multi-award-winning social mobility organisation that supports young people to build their confidence, develop their skills, and increase their access to education and empowerment opportunities.

Future Leaders is hosting an exclusive Career Insight Day with BT – a global leader in communications and digital innovation. This event is perfect for students interested in exploring a variety of career paths within a leading global company.

The day will be held at BT Offices in Manchester on Wednesday 8th July from 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

What to Expect:

- Hear from BT professionals about their career journeys and learn how different teams collaborate to drive innovation and business success
- Explore exciting roles across Law, Finance, Technology, AI, and Human Resources
- Network with BT staff during lunch and gain valuable career advice and guidance
- Get hands-on experience with real-world projects that will challenge and inspire you

How to apply:

If you want to apply, please complete the Google form below **by Friday 22nd May 9pm**. You will be asked to answer the following question in 100 words:

Why do you want to be part of the BT Career Insight Day?

<https://forms.gle/7ySu5tXDtyTqfB9V7>

Places are limited to 50 students. We will review applications and notify you if you have been selected.

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The 34 Best Super-Curricular Activities for Applicants to Top Universities



OXFORD ROYALE®
LEADING SUMMER SCHOOLS OF THE WORLD

As the new university application season opens for another year, you may be considering some extra ways in which you can enhance your personal statement before you submit your UCAS form.

Top universities will be expecting you to demonstrate your love of your subject, so you can't do much better than enjoying your subject by taking part in a variety of so-called 'super-curricular' activities: that is, extra-curricular activities that relate specifically to your subject. Our suggestions for each subject are below, with a final section devoted to general super-curricular activities for any subject at the end.

English

1. Take part in a writing challenge, such as National Novel Writing Month
2. Visit Stratford-upon-Avon
3. Go to the theatre

Maths

4. Visit Bletchley Park

5. Enter maths competitions

History/Classical Civilisations

6. Museum visits
7. Site visits

Geography

8. Field trips
9. Read National Geographic magazine

Languages

10. Visit a country where the language is spoken
11. Watch films in the language you're studying
12. Gain a pen friend
13. Read foreign-language newspapers

Science subjects

14. Perform scientific experiments and studies at home
15. Subscribe to scientific publications
16. Visit science museums
17. Join scientific societies
18. Take part in National Science and Engineering Week
19. Arrange a visit to an observatory

Art

20. Visit art galleries
21. Build a varied portfolio

Music

22. Take graded instrument exams
23. Perform
24. Compose
25. Go to concerts

General super-curricular activities

26. Read widely beyond the A-level syllabus.
27. Start a blog about your subject.
28. Tweet about your subject, and follow others who do the same.
29. Listen to subject-related podcasts.
30. Join a society or club dedicated to your subject.
31. Do some work experience in a career related to your subject.
32. Enter competitions related to your subject, such as essay competitions.
33. Take extra qualifications relating to your subject.
34. Join Mensa.



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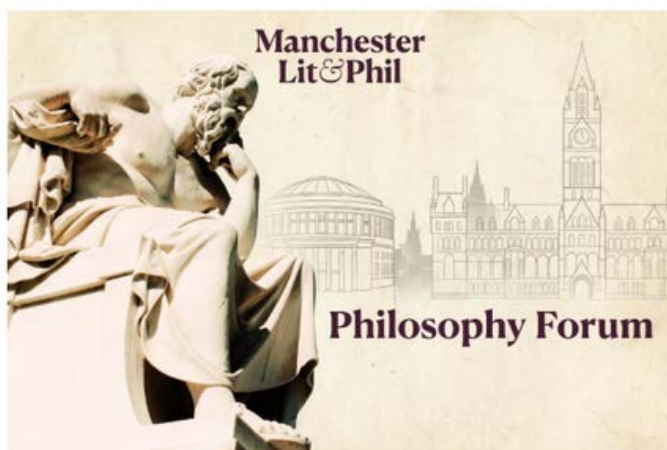


Manchester Lit&Phil

Tuesday 16 June, 7pm - 9pm

Friends' Meeting House

Mount Street, Manchester M2 5NS



Can Machiavellianism Be Used For Good in the Modern World?

The case for pragmatic morality

For centuries, Niccolo Machiavelli and his philosophy has been shorthand for manipulation, cynicism, ruthless power and an ends justifies the means approach. Yet beneath the caricature lies an interesting and perhaps uncomfortable question: in a world where power is real, stakes are high, and ideal conditions don't always exist, can his philosophy be used for ethical purposes?

What to Expect

The Lit&Phil Philosophy Forum is a space where serious ideas meet joyful exploration. Whether you are a seasoned philosopher or a curious newcomer, our discussions are designed to foster a spirit of open-minded inquiry. We prioritise respectful dialogue, intellectual curiosity, and the shared pursuit of understanding over adversarial debate. This is philosophy as it should be – dynamic, inclusive, and profoundly engaging.

£5.00 General Admission / £3.00 Students / Members book for FREE

Book Now

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Hazel Grove Sixth Form