

Year 10 Information Evening

2nd October 2025

Ambition

Bravery

Kindness

Meet the Year 10 Team



Head of Year – Mr Finnegan



Pastoral Manager – Mrs Hatton



Assistant Headteacher – Mr Coggan

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Year 10 - Important Dates

- **Information Evening:** 2nd October 2025
- **Assessment Point 1:** 15th December 2025 – 9th January 2026 (*in-class assessments*)
- **Data Drop 1:** 26th January 2026 (*reported home after moderation*)
- **Parents Evening:** 2nd March 2026
- **Assessment Point 2:** 18th May 2026 – 5th June 2026 (*in-class assessments*)
- **Data Drop 2:** 22nd June 2026 (*reported home after moderation*)



Subject Guidance - Core

English

	Autumn 1 8 Weeks	Autumn 2 7 Weeks	Spring 1 6 Weeks	Spring 2 5 Weeks	Summer 1 6 Weeks	Summer 2 7 Weeks
Focus	Conflict Poetry + Paper 1 Q5	A Christmas Carol	Macbeth	Language Paper 2 Q5	An Inspector Calls	S+L – 2 Weeks Unseen – 4 Weeks
Assessment	<u>Assessment Point 1</u> <i>Week before and week after Christmas break (date TBC)</i> Assessment: English Language Paper One: Q5 (Creative Writing) & English Literature Paper One: Section B (A Christmas Carol Essay)		English Literature Section A: Macbeth Essay	<u>Assessment Point 2</u> <i>Week before and week after half term (date TBC)</i> Assessment: English Language Paper Two: Q5 (Viewpoint Writing) & English Literature Paper Two: Section A (An Inspector Calls Essay)		Speaking & Listening
N.B.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">By the end of Y10, students will <u>not</u> have studied Section A of both Language papers. This must be a priority in Y11.As students have already read Macbeth and A Christmas Carol, teaching of these texts in Y10 should be skills focused.Over the course of Y10, teachers should ensure that students are exposed to the Power + Conflict anthology poems. This should be done by teaching 2-3 poems every half term in a thematic way. (E.g. Macbeth & MLD, Remains; ACC & London)Speaking and Listening: GCSE Spoken Language Endorsement. Must be moderated and a sample of 30 students filmed.					



Feedback within English

Whole Class

- Live Marking - Visualiser
- Cold-Calling
- Success Criteria checklists
- Mid-point assessment sheets

Individual

- Individualised Questioning
- Verbal feedback stamps
- End of topic assessments

Resources to support home learning

SOCIAL MEDIA WARNING!!!

THE EXAMINERS' REPORT THIS YEAR SPECIFICALLY STATED THAT PUPILS WERE USING SOCIAL MEDIA REVISION MORE THAN THEIR TEACHERS' EXPERTISE!

THIS CULMINATED IN A LOT OF WEAK RESPONSES, ESPECIALLY IN LITERATURE.

IF YOUR CHILD IS USING SOCIAL MEDIA TO HELP THEM TO REVISE, PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT THEY ASK THEIR TEACHER WHETHER OR NOT IT IS A RELIABLE SITE.

Subject Guidance - Maths

- Year 10 features regular, rigorous **assessments** that help inform **settings** and student **progress**. There are **five** such assessments, each taking place during the **first week back** after each half term.
- Students **will not use SPARX** maths for their GCSE course; homework will be **written**. Homework will not be as voluminous as in year 11.
- Lessons place a strong emphasis on **re-exposure** to skills through review exercises, which are heavily focussed (stylistically) on questions students can expect in the **formal examinations**. Students will inevitably find year 10 **more challenging than year 9**.
- Our Exam Boards are **Edexcel (Higher Tier)** and **OCR (Foundation Tier)**



Subject Guidance - Science

<https://www.alderbrookschool.co.uk/science-resources/>



GCSE SCIENCE SUMMER EXAMS

YOUR SCIENCE EXAMS

- BIOLOGY PAPER 1 – 1pm Tuesday 12th May
- CHEMISTRY PAPER 1 – 9am Monday 18th May
- PHYSICS PAPER 1 – 9am Tuesday 2nd June
- BIOLOGY PAPER 2 – 9am Monday 8th June
- CHEMISTRY PAPER 2 – 9am Friday 12th June
- PHYSICS PAPER 2 – 9am Monday 15th June



Subject Guidance - Science

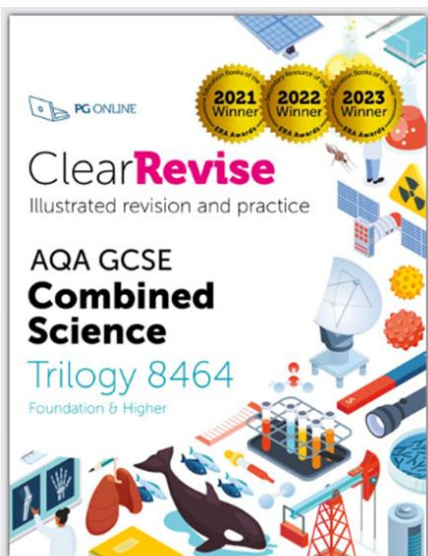
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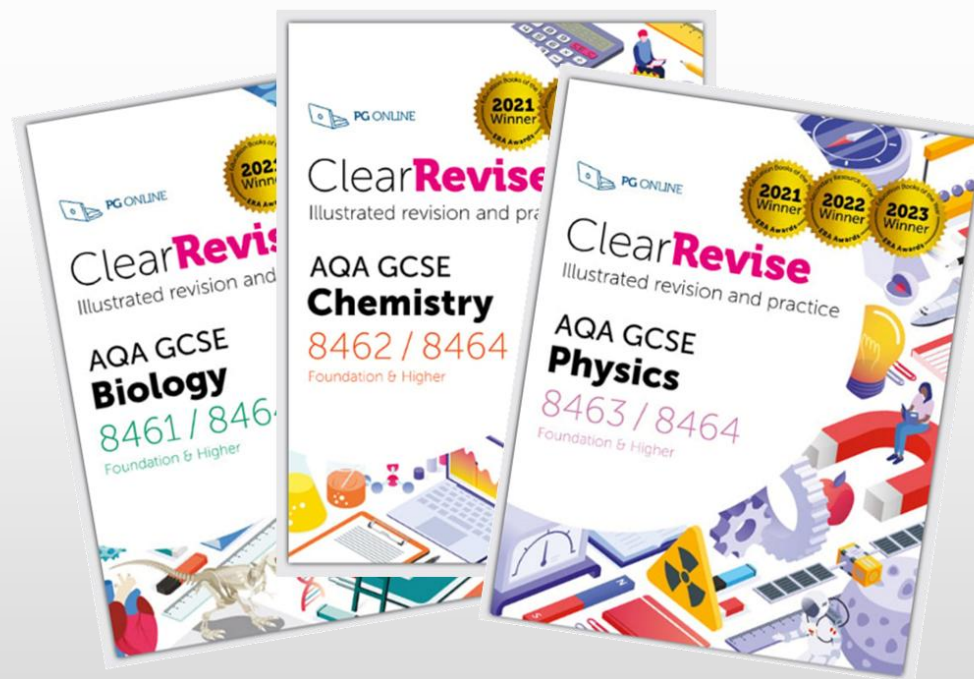
KEY STAGE 4 SCIENCE REVISION DASHBOARD		
Biology	Chemistry	Physics
B1 Cell Biology	C1 Atomic structure and the periodic table	P1 Energy
B2 Organisation	C2 Bonding structure and properties of matter	P2 Electricity
B3 Infection and response	C3 Quantitative chemistry	P3 Particle Model
B4 Bioenergetics	C4 Chemical change	P4 Atomic Structure
B5 Homeostasis and response	C5 Energy change	P5 Forces
B6 Inheritance, variation and evolution	C6 The rate and extent of chemical reaction	P6 Waves
B7 Ecology	C7 Organic Chemistry	P7 Magnetism and Electromagnets
	C8 Chemical analysis	P8 Space (triple only)
	C9 Chemistry of the atmosphere	
	C10 Using resources	
BIOLOGY 1 - Tuesday 12th May (pm)	CHEMISTRY 1 - Monday 18th May (am)	PHYSICS 1 - Tuesday 2nd June (am)
BIOLOGY 2 - Monday 8th June (am)	CHEMISTRY 2 - Friday 12th June (am)	PHYSICS 2 - Monday 15th June (am)



Subject Guidance - Science



Science Revision Guides – soon to be available on ParentPay



Subject Guidance – Option (GCSE 9-1)

Subject	Exam Board	The best way to support at home	Key dates this year	Resources to access
French	Edexcel	Monitor homework set on Classcharts and check that this is being done students have adequate support in their work booklet to do the tasks.		Purchase CGP Revision Guide, Vocabulary book and Exam Practice Workbook - via Parentpay. Use of the Sentence Builder website to learn vocabulary
Geography	AQA	Buy the revision guide that the geography department will be offering this term	There is a compulsory Fieldwork trip to Carding Mill Valley in the last week of this half term, and a compulsory fieldwork trip to Birmingham in June	
History	AQA	Use revision and homework tools that are provided by the classroom teacher. This includes Seneca, flash cards and question booklets.		Flash cards will be provided by the classroom teacher.
Spanish	Edexcel	Encourage students their unit booklets which contain all key grammar and other activities Students should log in to Pearson Active Hub to complete activities		All students have a Edecel Vocabulary QR codebooklet for Quizlet Purchase CGP Revision Guide via Parentpay

Subject Guidance – Option (GCSE 9-1)

Subject	Exam Board	The best way to support at home	Key dates this year	Resources to access
Art & Design	OCR	Ensure students complete 1 independent study hour a week Gallery visits/ other activities that encourage creative input. 60% of the mark is the coursework.		Art Pack offered by the department to support independent study. Trips. general enthusiasm and interest about the subject and its wider career opportunities.
Photography				
Drama	AQA	Supporting with their resilience through positive reinforcement. Help with line learning. Supporting late pick ups after exam practice rehearsals after school.	All exams are completed in year 11 but there will be mocks for all practical and written exams in year 10. Dates to be confirmed in the spring term.	
Media Studies	Equcas	Encourage students to engage with the materials included in their digital revision map	Last week of summer term - submission of NEA	

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Subject Guidance – Option (GCSE 9-1)

Subject	Exam Board	The best way to support at home	Key dates this year	Resources to access
GCSE PE	AQA	Ensuring students are taking part regularly in at least one sport outside of school. Ensure students are attending extra curricular clubs and catch up sessions on Fridays after school.	Topic assessments each half term and Paper 1 mock in summer term	BBC Bitesize / Seneca Learning/ Everlearner/ AQA Past papers/ Revision Guides/ Flashcards
Design & Technology	AQA	Ensure students are accessing the online resources via their Sharepoint	Topic assessments each half term	AQA Exam booklets/revision guides available on Amazon.
Music	OCR	Encouraging them to practice their instrument and listen to a wide range of music at home!		Instrumental lessons (speak to your music teacher to arrange instrumental lessons in school)
Computer Science	OCR	Ensuring child completes all homework set and proactively uses Smart Revise to practise exam questions.		Working laptop with Python (Idle) installed on to allow pupil to develop programming skills at home.

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Subject Guidance – Option (Vocational P1-D2*)

Subject	Exam Board	The best way to support at home	Key dates this year	Resources to access
Dance Btec	Edexcel	Ensuring they are up to date with their written Non Examined Assessment (NEA). Using the Pearson Set Assignment Brief (released in November) Checking Class Charts for homework	March - deadline for Component 1 NEA	Exemplar work will be shared on Teams
Sports Science Cambridge National	OCR	Ensure students are up to date with their written Non Examined Assessment (NEA). Ensure students are completing their coursework on Class Charts	March - deadline for Unit 1 NEA	Resources are distributed in lessons and students keep them in their plastic wallets

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Home Learning - Seneca

- Seneca is an online platform that can be used as an effective & engaging interactive learning and revision tool using
 - Dual-Coding
 - Elaboration
 - Interleaving
 - Spaced practice
 - Retrieval practice
 - Concrete examples
 - Practice exam questions (AI Auto-marked)

The TWO main types of processors are:

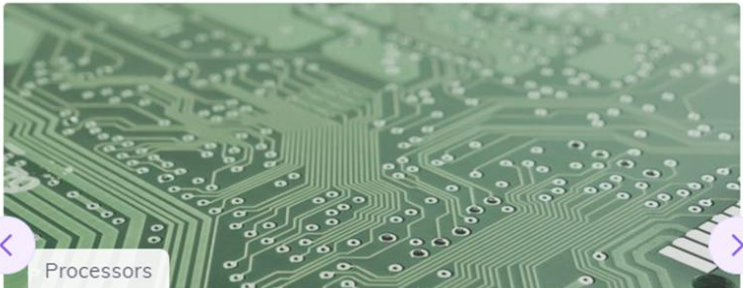
- ① Central Processing Unit (CPU)
- ② G: Processing Unit (GPU)

Type your answer here...

Check

Elements of Computer Systems

Computer systems are made of hardware and software which work together. Hardware are the physical components of the computer, such as:



Processors

- A processor is a special component that processes data and instructions to control other components within the computer.
- The two main types of processor are:
 - Central Processing Unit (CPU).
 - Graphics Processing Unit (GPU).



Get Started as a Parent

Monitor your child's progress in all their subjects for FREE!

[Sign up](#)

1. Sign up for a free parent account

Sign up
Try without signing up?

[Continue with Google](#) [Continue with Microsoft](#)

or

[Sign up with email](#)

By signing up you agree to Seneca's Terms and Conditions

Already have an account? [Login](#)

2. Tell us about yourself

Tell us about yourself 2 of 2 steps

[I'm a student](#) [I'm a teacher](#) [I'm a parent](#)

3. Accept the connection

Connect to Alexander Rowland?

alex@seneca.co has invited you to connect accounts.
Once connected, you will be able to monitor their learning progress.
You can disconnect at any time in your settings.

[Reject](#) [Accept](#)

4. Track your child's learning

You have visibility of assignments, courses and a live study feed.

Stephanie's recent activity

- Scored **0%** and won 18XP in Fractions 2w a
- Scored **0%** and won 18XP in Exam-Style Questions - Recurring Decimals 2w a
- Scored **17%** and won 22XP in Cultural Issues 2w a
- Scored **38%** and won 24XP in Legal Issues 2 2w a
- Scored **17%** and won 22XP in Legal Issues 2w a

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www.senecalearning.com

2. Track your child's learning

You have visibility of assignments, courses and a live study feed.

Stephanie's assignments

[See all](#)

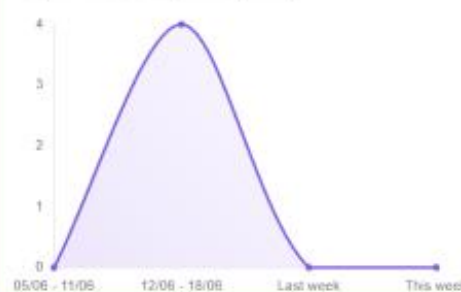
Due: 16th Jun 2023 Score: **0%** Marks: -- / 25
[1 day left to finish](#)

Homework - exam questions revision
Due: 19th Jun 2023 Score: **0%** Marks: -- / 23
[4 days left to finish](#)

Stephanie's recent activity

- Scored **0%** and won 18XP in Fractions 2w ago
- Scored **0%** and won 18XP in Exam-Style Questions - Recurring Decimals 2w ago
- Scored **17%** and won 22XP in Cultural Issues 2w ago
- Scored **38%** and won 24XP in Legal Issues 2 2w ago
- Scored **17%** and won 22XP in Legal Issues 2w ago

Stephanie's study time (mins)



Stephanie's courses

Last year

Course	Rank	Study time	Avg. score	Wrong answers
Biology: AQA GCSE Higher	10	21min	59%	36
Physics: AQA A Level	10	1min	52%	4
Biology: AQA A Level	10	2min	43%	22

Monitor your child's progress for free

Support for your child in school

- How to access subject support

Speak with your subject teacher, they are specialists in their subject!

- How to access pastoral support

Form Tutor, Mrs Hatton (Pastoral Manager), Mr Finnegan (Head of Year), Mr Coggan (Assistant Headteacher).

Best times to access is before/after school, break/lunch time, form time.

- SEND support



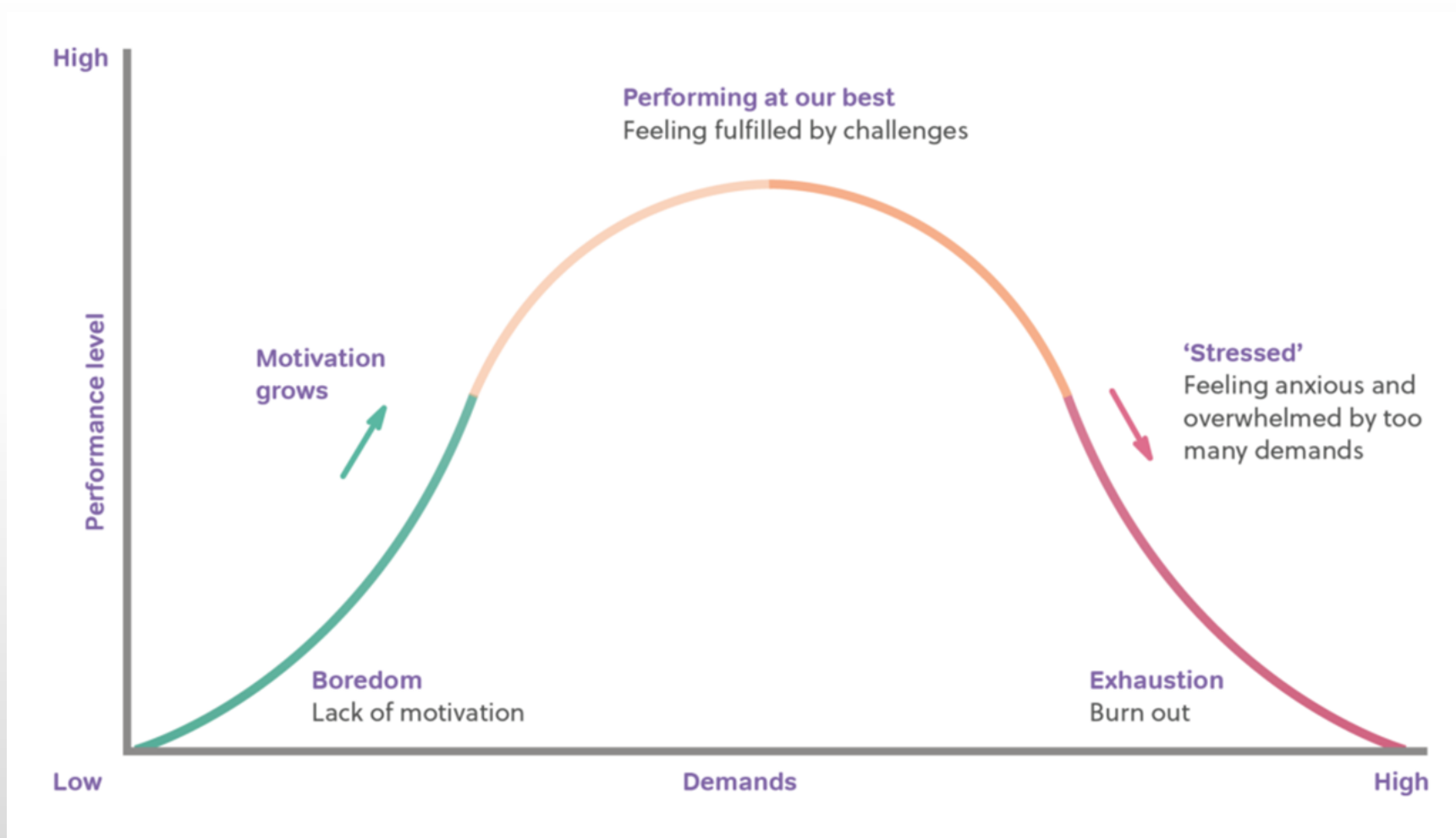
Support for your child at home

- **Stress** is the adverse reaction people have to excessive pressure or
”
other types of demand placed on them

- Stress is a normal emotion that everyone feels
- It can sometimes be useful to enhance our performance but it can become a problem when it interferes with everyday life



The benefits of stress . . .



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Identifying stress

- Stress can affect us in four main ways....
 - Physical
 - Emotional
 - Behavioural
 - Thoughts

Crisis support

- **Birmingham Mind** – crisis support available for urgent mental health help. Ring 0121 262 3555 for 24/7 hour support.
- **NHS** – call 999 if you believe someone is at risk, or if you feel you cannot keep yourself or someone else safe.
- **Young minds** – They have a crisis messenger service across the UK – text ‘YM’ to 85258
- **Papyrus** – charity for young people experiencing thoughts of suicide under 35 years – text 07860 039 967 or call 0800 068 4141 (9am-12am midnight).
- **Kooth** - A Free, Safe, and Anonymous Online Mental Health Support Service. Open 12pm to 10pm on weekdays and 6pm until 10pm on weekends. Open 365 days a year, even on Christmas Day!



My crisis plan:

Urgent Support:

Monday-Friday 9am-5pm you can contact Solar to discuss with your care co-ordinator or the duty worker, on [0121 301 2750](tel:01213012750).

Urgent Out of Hours Support:

If urgent mental [health](#) support is required outside of the office hours, you can call [0121 301 5500](tel:01213015500) and ask to speak to the Solar Crisis Team or be directed towards the appropriate people for support/advice. Monday-Friday 5pm-8pm, Saturday & Sunday 8am-8pm

Coping During a Crisis

The mental health charity Mind has information on ways to help yourself cope during a crisis. This includes calming exercises and a [tools](#) to get you through the next few hours. Search for 'Mind What can I do to help myself cope?' or search: <https://www.mind.org.uk/need-urgent-help/what-can-i-do-to-help-myself-cope/>

In an Emergency

Call 999 or go to A&E now if:

- Someone's life is at risk – for example they have seriously injured themselves or taken an [overdose](#)
- You do not feel you can keep yourself or someone else [safe](#)

A mental health emergency should be taken as seriously as a physical one. You will not be wasting anyone's time.

Other helpful support services and Apps

Below are some free services which you can use if you are struggling. They all offer confidential advice from trained volunteers, and you can talk about anything that's troubling you. There are also some useful mental health apps.

The Young Minds Crisis Messenger text service provides free, 24/7 crisis support across the UK - Text "YM" to 85258 -



You can also reach Childline for support on [0800 1111](tel:08001111). This service is available 24/7, free of charge and the number will not show up on your phone bill. They also have an online chat where you can speak 1-2-1 with a counsellor.



Call [116 123](tel:116123) to talk to Samaritans, or email: jo@samaritans.org for a reply within 24 hours.



KOOTH offers online mental wellbeing support. You can access this website free and anonymously on kooth.com.



Contact Shout for 24/7 support. This is a free text service that you can contact if you are struggling to cope and need immediate help. Text [85258](tel:85258)



'What's Up?' App uses different activities to help you with your mental [wellbeing](#)



Smiling Mind is a mindfulness meditation app for all different age [groups](#)



Finch is an app for writing your thoughts and has breathing and distraction [activities](#)



Calm Harm and DistrACT are apps that can help you if you are having thoughts of hurting [yourself](#)





Year 10 Work Experience

- Student Launch Assembly: 24th October
- Parent/ Carer Launch Email: Week Beginning 20th October
- Placements should be secured by 13th February
- Students will fill in the organisation contact details on the UNIFROG Placement Tool
- Work Experience Week: 8th – 12th June 2026



Year 10 Work Experience

- Students are expected to find their own placements
- Placements do get booked quickly so encourage them not to wait
- Work Experience in the Constituency Office, Solihull must be applied for by 31st December.
- Email workexperience@alderbrookschool.org for an application form
- Good Luck!

