



HEDINGHAM SCHOOL  
AND SIXTH FORM  
ACHIEVEMENT & EXCELLENCE

Official

10 March 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Year 11 Information 2025**

I am writing to inform you of some key information and important milestones relating to Year 11.

**Dress Up Day – Friday 21 March**

Students who have received their letter and invite for Dress Up Day will be participating in this event on Friday 21 March. This is an opportunity for students to be creative and often work together to celebrate their time here. Awards are given out as part of their leaver's assembly for who has the most creative costume. The event gives students many happy memories and photos to look back on in years to come.

The day culminates in a traditional fancy-dress parade into Sible Hedingham in the afternoon, leaving the school at approx. 2.15pm and heading towards Swan Street. Any support from parents and others in the community is welcomed.

Dressing up is not compulsory and students are still permitted to wear school uniform if they do not wish to partake. The same standards of behaviour and attitude to learning are expected in all lessons and please ensure that discussions are had with students about appropriate costumes.

**Thorpe Park and Credits – Tuesday 22 April**

As shared in a previous email, we propose to offer a heavily subsidised day trip to Thorpe Park on Tuesday 22 April.

There are clear conditions of entry to the trip. The trip is intended to reward those students who demonstrate a positive work ethic and approach to their GCSE study during Year 11. **There are no academic attainment conditions linked to accessing the trip.** Conditions of entry are entirely linked to factors that are directly within the individual student's control. Students who do not wish to attend or who are not entitled to attend are expected to come to school as normal.

To gain an invite to Thorpe Park, students were required to gain **60 credits by Friday 7 March (as shared in a previous letter)**. Below is a reminder of the **credit criteria**:

**Gaining Credits:**

- Achieving weekly 100% punctuality to all lessons = 5 credits
- One house point = 1 credit
- Completion of revision card: 16 credits = (2 per session). Students must demonstrate a positive independent work ethic, completing work outside of the classroom to support work done in lessons. They can do this by:
  - i. Attending revision sessions in school during lunchtimes or after school. Each time students attend; they will have a personal revision card signed by their teacher.
  - ii. Utilise our recommended subject revision on-line learning tools (to practice skills learnt in lesson time) either at home or in the computer suites at school. The recommended online learning platforms are as follows:

- Seneca Learning: <https://senecalearning.com/>
  - All other online platforms have been shared with students in their revision guides
- iii. Evidence revision materials/notes generated at home.

Students have been given guidance of how to access these on-line learning platforms in school.

### **Losing Credits:**

Each behaviour point will deduct one credit from a student's total credits. This criterion has been shared with Year 11 in Assembly and PD time.

### **Parents Information Evening Link**

Thank you to those parents who attended the recent Year 11 Parental Information Evening which outlined the next months ahead for students. The particular focus of the evening was effective revision strategies. If you were unable to attend the evening but are interested, the presentation is available on the school website via the link below:

<https://www.hedingham.essex.sch.uk/home/parent-information/news/year-11-parents-information-evening-slides-2025/>.

### **Revision Sessions**

The schedule for this term has been shared with Year 11 students via email. It is also available on the school website as shared via the above link. We are heavily prioritising attendance at these sessions and are delighted with the number who routinely are attending, especially within Core subjects.

### **Prom – Wednesday 25 June**

The Year 11 Prom will be held on Wednesday 25 June. We wish this to be a special evening for our students, celebrating their time at the school. The Prom will be held at The Essex Golf and Country Club, Earls Colne. This is an excellent venue, which holds successful Proms for many schools in the area. All students are invited to Prom, however any student who continues to breach the school's behaviour policy may have their invite withdrawn.

There will be a cost for the ticket which will potentially include the following:

- Decorated private room hire
- Red carpet
- Non-alcoholic drink on arrival
- Disco
- Buffet
- Photo booth
- Security

This is a special occasion for Year 11, and it is traditional for them to wear smart casual or formal attire on the evening. It should be noted that only non-alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase. The event should be extremely enjoyable for all involved, but parents will be contacted and asked to collect their son/daughter if concerns or problems arise during the evening. We also reserve the right to withhold a student's ticket if we feel that serious concerns have arisen over his/her behaviour prior to the event. Vaping is not permitted inside or outside the venue due to the age of the students. Any student caught vaping by school staff or site security staff will be asked to leave the celebration.

### **Yearbook**

For the last few years, we have produced a very successful Yearbook for Year 11 students to celebrate

their time at Heddingham School. The Yearbook has been commissioned and made by a company called MenoRecollections in full colour (approximately 40 pages) to an excellent standard. Information regarding how students are able to contribute to their sections of the Yearbook will be shared with students shortly.

### Leaver's Hoodies

We are delighted to announce that due to the success last year we are again able to offer a leaver's hoodie for the current Year 11 students as a memento of their time at Heddingham. The hoodies will have the school Logo embroidered on the front and the names of the entire year group on the back.

Students will be able to wear their leaver's hoodie to school from Friday 23 May and throughout the examination period if they wish. Prior to the date stated above, normal uniform expectations and sanctions will be in place.

We are currently finalising quotes for the Prom, Yearbook and Hoodies, once these have been finalised details of cost and how to order will be shared.

I am confident that effort shown working towards summer examinations will reap clear benefits when it comes to the GCSE grades that students' eventually secure. I hope that an opportunity to enjoy a day at Thorpe Park will serve as a well-earned "pat on the back" for those students who have consistently approached their learning with a committed and positive attitude and that the Prom will serve as a motivational milestone leading them through their final weeks at school.

Final reminder of important dates:

- Dress Up Day – Friday 21 March
- Thorpe Park – Tuesday 22 April
- Prom – Wednesday 25 June

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely



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