



**Our Overview newsletters contain the key information you'll need each term.**

Briefing on curriculum content, extra-curricular opportunities, current school messages and more, parents and carers can use this outline to support students and help them succeed at school.

## Learning

For a full breakdown of curriculum content for all subjects, visit our [Curriculum Maps](#) webpage.

### ENGLISH:

#### Non-fiction reading and writing

Students will consider non-fiction texts, and will learn to write to express opinion in response to a brief.

### MATHS:

Individual class focus for this term:

- Mr Poolman's class: Building on KS3 work on angles in straight lines, around a point, in polygons and in parallel lines.
- Miss Keeble's class: Analysis of Year 10 mock exams, Sequences & Graphs
- Mr Smytheman and Mr Whitley's classes: Analysis of Year 10 mock exams, Algebra and brackets, 3D Shapes
- Mrs Payne & Miss Morgan's class: Probability and Transformations

### SCIENCE:

#### Triple Science

In **Biology**, students will be studying homeostasis and the nervous system. They will learn the structure of neurones, the difference between conscious and reflex actions and how messages travel across a synapse. They will also complete a required practical, investigating reaction time.

In **Chemistry**, students will study the factors that affect the rate of a chemical reaction and carry out experimental work to investigate this. They will also complete a topic looking at crude oil and fuels.

In **Physics**, students will study the topic of waves, looking at the different types of waves and their properties, uses and dangers. They will also look at wave properties such as reflection and refraction, and carry out experimental work to determine the speed of waves in various materials.

#### Combined Science

In **Combined Science**, students will study a **Biology** topic on homeostasis, firstly looking at nervous control in reflexes and conscious actions. They will move on to look at hormonal coordination, focusing on blood glucose control, and the menstrual cycle. In a **Chemistry** topic, students will study exothermic and endothermic reactions, and draw energy profiles for these reactions.

### Core PE:

Students will be working in competitive and semi competitive situations. Some students use the time to develop their confidence in their GCSE PE practical areas and others participate in a more recreational but purposeful way. Our 'healthy active lifestyles' motto remains at the core of everything we do.

### PSHE:

Relationships – Students will identify and understand various aspects of healthy, long-term connections. Emphasis will be placed on differentiating between lust, attraction, and attachment, recognising healthy and unhealthy patterns, and where to seek support and advice for fostering positive relationships and behaviours.

# Aspiration

## IMPACT PROGRESS CHECKS

During the w/c 22<sup>nd</sup> April, students should receive their first GCSE Impact Progress Check. Feedback for each subject includes specific targets set by teachers that, if completed, will have a positive impact on your child's progress. Teachers will write reports following the mock exams, and they will include the grades students received in each exam. We would be very grateful to have parents' support in encouraging students to complete these targets by:

1. Reviewing the targets with your child and discussing how and when they will achieve them.
2. Placing the report somewhere prominent and regularly checking to see if they have completed their targets.

## PARENT TEACHER CONSULTATION EVENING

A Year 10 Parent Teacher Evening will be held online on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May, 4.30-7.30pm, and is an opportunity to discuss the recent mock exam results. Bookings via [Epraise](#) are expected to open from 6pm on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May.

## PERIOD 6 STUDY SUPPORT

A reminder that Key Stage 4 students are welcome to use the upper school space in East block after school to revise or complete homework. There are computers, revision guides and exam past papers to aid study.

# Opportunity

## CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

View our updated extra-curricular offer at: <https://www.fitzharrys.oxon.sch.uk/students/clubs-and-activities/>

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH – SILVER AWARD

Year 10 students working towards the DofE Silver Award are currently practising canoeing skills on the river every Tuesday, ahead of their practice expedition on the Upper Thames next term.

# Integrity

## UNIFORM

Students can choose to wear our optional summer uniform during Terms 5-6; full details on our [Uniform](#) webpage. The summer uniform options include a blue school-logo polo shirt and tailored shorts. If students decide not to wear the summer uniform, they should remain in shirt, tie and blazer. We politely remind students that, as always, they should not wear hooded jumpers to school, and they should continue to wear formal school shoes, not trainers. Many thanks for your continued support with maintaining the high standards we expect at Fitzharrys School.

## WELLBEING WELCOME

In Term 4, we welcomed our fantastic new Student Wellbeing Manager, Lisa Higgins, who has joined the KS4 team. Lisa has already made a brilliant impact and will be working alongside Mr O'Neill and Miss David to support Year 11 students in this final stretch, to make sure that they are finding balance and staying happy and healthy throughout the exam period.

## THE WELLBEING HUB

We are pleased to be able to introduce free access for parents to The Wellbeing Hub by Teen Tips. This online platform is crafted with expertise in child and adolescent mental health, offering resources to support your child's social and emotional wellbeing. Benefits include audio/video courses, weekly resources (podcasts, articles, tips), live monthly Q&As with psychotherapists, career advice, and a comprehensive and evolving Q&A library. Additionally, there are self-care resources, member offers, and access to expert webinars on various topics. You will have access to resources which are made for parents as the target audience.

You can find a Guided Video Tour of The Wellbeing Hub for Parents here:

<https://vimeo.com/818403262/d7891fd5a3?share=copy>, and a Visual Guide linked here:

<https://club.teentips.co.uk/app/uploads/2023/04/Parent-Guide-The-Wellbeing-Hub.pdf>

To sign up as a parent, please use this link:

<https://club.teentips.co.uk/register/parents/?ca=b0b22db7c0c44f6ebbe4c320c6fb6ec5>

Pupils were recently introduced to the platform in school. They can access age-specific resources, including educational films, blogs, and career guidance. For any queries, contact [info@teentips.co.uk](mailto:info@teentips.co.uk) and [dwhitley@fitzharrys.school](mailto:dwhitley@fitzharrys.school). We hope The Wellbeing Hub enriches your family's experience and look forward to your feedback.

## Key Dates

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May, 6pm

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May, 4.30–7.30pm

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

Y10 Reward Trip: Xscape, Milton Keynes

Y10 Impact Progress Reports due out this week

BANK HOLIDAY (school closed)

Y10 Bookings system opens on Epraise for Parents Evening

Y10 Parent Teacher Consultation Evening – online

Last day of Term 5 – school closes at 3.15pm

HALF TERM

Start of Term 6 (Week A)

## Key Contacts

Head of Key Stage 4: **Mr M O'Neill**

KS4 Student Wellbeing Managers: **Miss R David**

**Ms L Higgins**

Assistant Head, Personal Development: **Mr J Clelland**

## Useful Links

School Website: [Careers](#) | [Exams Office](#)

Revision Resources [Padlet](#)

Post-16 Choices [Padlet](#)

Adviza Careers [Portal](#)

## News

School Website: [Home page](#)

Facebook: [@fitzharrysschool](#)

Instagram: [fitzharrys](#)

X: [@fitzharrys](#)

## Queries

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to [contact](#) the school.

Main school office email: [office.4127@fitzharrys.school](mailto:office.4127@fitzharrys.school)

Main school office phone: **01235 520698**