



URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL

Welcome to Year 11 Information Evening



Welcome

Headteacher: **Mr Kelly**

Deputy Head: **Mrs Alexander**

Head of Year 11: **Miss Guiheen**

Pastoral Support Assistant: **Miss Kargbo**

Head of KS4 Maths: **Mr Tyler**

Our **School Directory** which includes contact details for all staff can be found [here](#).

Important information re. Year 11 can be found in the Year 11 [Curriculum Guide](#).

Our Purpose

Our school theme for 2026-2027 is 'Growing together in Faith'

Our Year 11 virtues are:

- Autumn term - Discernment
- Spring term - Hopeful
- Summer term - Courageous



Prayer of Saint Angela



Gracious God,
Let us remain in harmony,
United together;
All of one heart and one will.
Let us be bound to one another
By the bond of love,
Respecting each other,
Helping each other,
And bearing with each other
In Jesus Christ.
For if we try to be like this,
Without doubt,
You, Lord God,
Will be in our midst.
Amen



Outcomes at the end of Year 11 are Outstanding

- ▶ What is the Secret to this at UHS?
 1. Motivation and belief
Group Spirit
 2. Character
Humility
 3. Most importantly **Standards**
(Most importantly **Attendance**)



Results (Our programme)- Top 5% of schools

- ▶ The schools' outcomes are really outstanding at GCSE with 49% of all grades were grade 7+ (A Grade) (almost twice the national average), 82% Grade 5 and 91% Grade 4.
- ▶ This data has equipped our students with the grades they need to enrol in our fantastic 6th Form which celebrated excellent outcomes last week. Remarkably 200 grade nines were achieved across the subjects at GCSE.

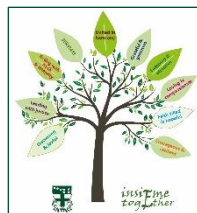
Assessment, Recording & Reporting (ARR) Cycle

- ▶ Autumn A EMB grades x2
- ▶ Academic Review PM 22nd/23rd October
- ▶ Autumn B EMB grades x1

Year 11 Mock Examinations 7th Dec* & Results Envelope 19th Jan 2027

Parents evening 27th Jan 2027. No study leave granted.

- ▶ Spring Term A EMB x2
- ▶ Spring Term B EMB grades x1
- ▶ GCSE Exams begin **May 10th 2027**
- ▶ Last exam **Friday 18th June**
- ▶ Celebration **Tuesday 22nd June**
- ▶ Study leave after May half term



Miss Guiheen

Head of Year 11

Friday Mocks

October

- ▶ Friday 18th September Statistics in G Block
- ▶ Friday 2nd October Algebra in Hall
- ▶ Friday 9th October Chemistry Paper 1 in Hall
- ▶ Friday 16th October - Eng Lit Paper 1 in Hall

November

- ▶ Friday 6th November Biology Paper 1 in Hall
- ▶ Friday 9th - 13th November - MFL Mock Orals
- ▶ Friday 13th November- Math Number Mock
- ▶ Friday 20th November Physics paper 1

January

- ▶ Friday 15th January - Eng Lit Paper 2
- ▶ Friday 22nd January Maths Non Calc Mock in hall
- ▶ Friday 29th January Physics Paper 2

February

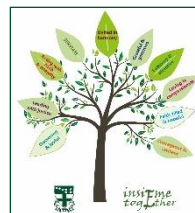
- ▶ Friday 26th February Bio Paper 2 Mock

March

- ▶ 1st - 5th March MFL Mock Orals
- ▶ Friday 5th March Maths Non Calc
- ▶ Friday 12th March Chemistry Paper 2
- ▶ Friday 19th March Calc Mock

April

- ▶ Friday 16th April Calc Mock in hall



All students have access to revision materials.

The screenshot displays the Microsoft Teams interface for Ursuline High School. The top navigation bar includes a search bar, the school name, and a user profile. The left sidebar shows navigation icons for Activity, Chat, Calendar, Assignments, Teams, Files, OneNote, Staff App, Insights, and Apps. The main area is titled 'Teams' and contains a grid of channels. A red circle highlights the 'Year 11 Revision Materials' channel.

Channel Name	Icon
School Photography & Resources	Colorful circle icon
School effectiveness	Red square with 'Se'
Science Faculty	Pink square with 'SF'
Sixth Form Open Evening Flyers	Orange square with 'SF'
Social Science Faculty	Red square with 'SS'
Triple Science Revision Resources	Yellow square with science icons
Y6 Transition	Green square with speech bubbles
Year 10 Revision Materials	Red square with 'YR'
Year 11 Revision Materials	Teal square with orange circle
Year 12 and Year 13 Careers Appointments	Green square with 'YY'
Year 7 Revision Materials	Yellow square with orange circle
Year 8 Revision Materials	Yellow square with orange circle
Year 9 Revision Materials	Yellow square with orange circle

At the bottom of the screen, the Windows taskbar is visible, showing the search bar and several open applications including Teams, Edge, and Word.

Time Management

- ▶ Organisation (a *dedicated quiet place to work* uninterrupted, resources to hand)
 - ▶ 3hrs homework per night
 - ▶ Routine (working, eating, relaxing, sleeping)
 - ▶ Set time for chores or other responsibilities
 - ▶ Plan ahead - allow for family events
 - ▶ Weekend 3 to 4 hours both days
- ▶ **Reviewing & revising (Year 10 material) to help consolidate and maintaining rote learning.**



Use of AI

Research shows that using AI without a critical approach reduces student learning significantly.



Using AI poses significant safeguarding risks.



Our aim is to empower students to use it safely, with purpose and critically.

Use of AI - Exam board / JCQ stance.



Students using AI to complete any assessed work are at risk of severe sanctions from exam boards.



All NEAs at UHSW are run through Turn It In Originality - the same software exam boards use.



Any unacknowledged use of AI can result in the student being barred for all exams for that exam board.



Acknowledged use of AI will result in that section only being discredited.



Students should not be using AI for homework. AI gives you the end result without the learning journey.

References to *Miss Guiheen*

- ▶ Not individualised due to time constraints.
- ▶ A generic letter and latest report is sent.

Attendance

	Equivalent of...	Learning lost per year...
95%	Half a day off every 2 weeks.	2 weeks
90%	A day off every 2 weeks.	1 month
85%	A day and a half off every 2 weeks.	Half a term
80%	A day off every week.	Over half a term



Mr Tyler

Head of KS4 Maths

2026 Results

	9-7	9-5	9-4
National Avg.	17%	41%	57%
Ursuline	41%	75%	89%

Higher Boundary	
9	90%
8	78%
7	65%
6	50%
5	36%
4	22%
3	15%

Foundation Boundary	
5	73%
4	60%
3	44%
2	28%
1	12%

Revision Strategy

Stage 1 Skills revision

- Notes
- Videos
- Basic questions

Stage 2 Problem-Solving revision

- Topic-based worksheets
- Websites

Stage 3 Exam practise

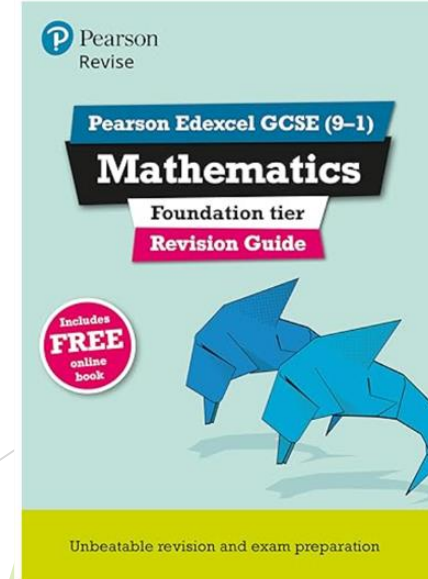
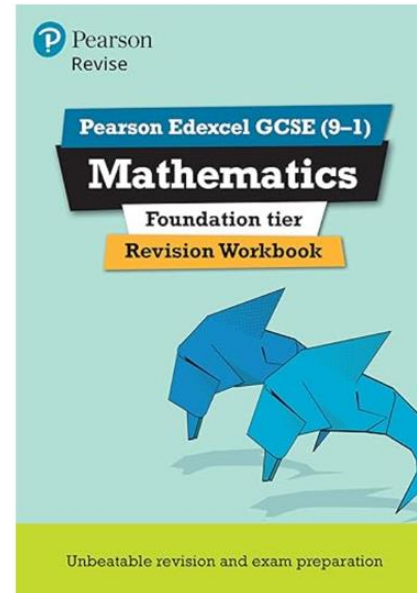
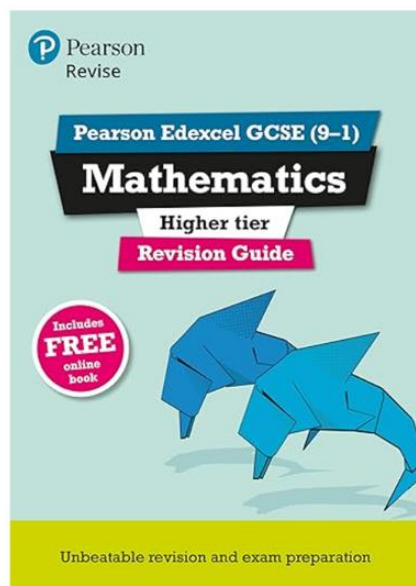
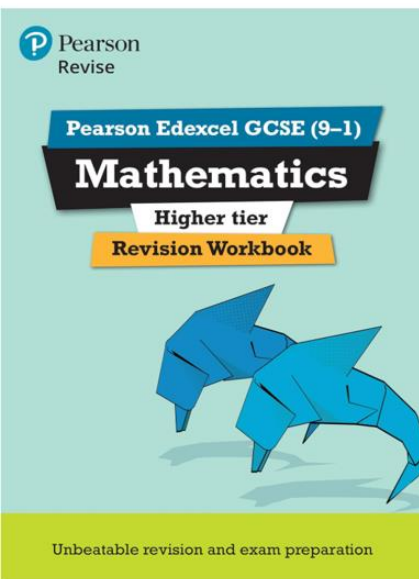
- Exam technique
- Past papers
- Timed conditions

Exam practise and problem solving relies on solid knowledge of the topics, however they do not need to wait to cover all topics areas before starting some of the other two stages.

There is no point attempting the most challenging questions before the basics are secure.

Revision

- ▶ The exam board is EDEXCEL for both Higher and Foundation
- ▶ We recommend their revision guides:



Maths Mocks

- Topic-based mocks:
 - Printed revision booklets
 - The **only chance** to revise these topics
 - Feedback will be given by teacher
- Students will get a revision list for the December Mocks **only** for the areas of Geometry and Ratio (*which will form key parts of the revision in spring term*)
- Revision support will gradually be removed to prepare students for fully unseen papers in summer

Year 11 Mock Dates		
	Date	Topic
AUT A	18 Sep 26	Statistics
	02 Oct 26	Algebra
AUT B	13 Nov 26	Number
	07 Dec 26	December Mocks x2
SPR A	22 Jan 27	Past Paper
SPR B	05 Mar 27	Past Paper
	19 Mar 27	Past Paper
SUM A	16 Apr 27	Past Paper

Advice for Students

- ▶ Autumn term is crucial - improving from your Dec Mock grade is very challenging
- ▶ Students who are aiming for a grade 7 should focus on accuracy in the first quarter (20 marks) of the paper
- ▶ Foundation has higher grade boundaries, so requires you to be accurate - check for silly mistakes!
- ▶ Be proactive with your revision. If you are stuck on something, ask your teacher or come to Maths Clinic
- ▶ Do your own revision on top of what is set - check your Y10 End of Year to find topics to work on
- ▶ Start now!

Intervention and Support

- ▶ Students may be invited to compulsory intervention sessions after school on Mondays
 - Already started - thank you for support so far
 - Reviewed after each half term, students may be removed or added
- ▶ KS4 Maths Clinic runs after school on Tuesdays in G7 with Mr Tyler - optional
 - Help with home work/revision/quiet space to get with some Maths work

Useful websites

- ▶ Maths genie- has all the past papers and revision by topic
Maths Genie - Free Online GCSE and A Level Maths Revision
- ▶ 1st Class maths - Exam questions by topic and grade and 'spicy questions'
GCSE (Edexcel) Revision | 1st Class Maths
- ▶ The GCSE maths tutor youtube channel - great for whole topic area revision and exam technique
The 5 Calculator Hacks You NEED to Know for the GCSE Maths Exam | TGMT (youtube.com)
- ▶ GCSE math revision .com - practise questions and exam questions
GCSE Maths Revision Questions | Revise for GCSE Maths
- ▶ Maths society - Key topics by grade
GCSE Maths Year 11 | Free Revision (mathsociety.org.uk)
- ▶ Cognito - YouTube channel. Great videos for the basics of topics with examples.

Mrs Alexander

English

Year 11 English - the year ahead



Completion of the GCSE English Language and Literature course by Christmas.



Regular retrieval and revision of literature texts in class and for homework.



An increased focus on exam technique, timed responses and independent practice.



Mock examinations on all papers, giving students experience of full examination conditions.



Clear, targeted feedback after mocks so students know exactly what they need to do to improve.



From Autumn B onwards, students will have the option to attend Critical Thinking Lectures to support their deeper interpretation and analytical thinking for Literature.

Year 11 is about students being able to apply their knowledge independently and confidently under exam conditions.

English GCSEs - Language and Literature- Top 1% in the country!!

- ▶ Your daughter will sit two GCSE exams for English: Language and Literature, with two papers for each exam.
- ▶ Our exam board is AQA for both.
- ▶ Our 2026 GCSE results:

English Language

47% achieved a grade 7 or above
80% achieved a grade 5 or above
94% achieved a grade 4 or above

English Literature

48% achieved a grade 7 or above
86% achieved a grade 5 or above
95% achieved a grade 4 or above

English Literature: Knowledge, Quotations and Critical Thinking

- ▶ It is a **closed book exam**.
- ▶ It is essential that students regularly consolidate their class notes at home.
- ▶ Students should steadily learn a manageable bank of quotations for each text throughout the year. Trying to memorise quotations close to the exams will not work.
- ▶ Students should revisit characters, themes and context regularly.
- ▶ The English department provides wider reading materials on TEAMS.
- ▶ Wider critical reading can help students develop more sophisticated and conceptual interpretations that grades 7-9 require.

At home, encourage students to spend short, regular periods revising notes and testing themselves on quotations.

English Language: practice

Success in English Language comes from regular practice with unseen texts and exam questions.

Students will practise reading, analysis, evaluation and writing throughout year 11.

Reading a range of high quality non-fiction at home supports comprehension, vocabulary and confidence with unfamiliar texts.

Students should practise exam questions as well as complete papers.

After feedback from mock exams, students should re-do the questions to improve them.

CGP English Language workbooks are recommended for additional practice at home.

Improvement for English Language comes from practice - feedback - improvement and further practice.

How you can help your child at home:

Support

Support students with memorising quotations by testing them or checking in on what quotations they are learning this week.

Encourage

Encourage students to keep Literature notes organised in a folder and revise them regularly.

Check

Check that students are accessing the resources, wider reading articles and revision materials on TEAMS.

Encourage

Encourage regular reading, particularly non-fiction and quality journalism.

Support

Support regular English Language question practice using school resources or CGP workbooks.

GCSE Science

Science GCSEs- exams

GCSE Combined Science	GCSE Triple Science
• 6 exams (1 hour 15 minutes) • 21 required practical tasks • Awarded 2 GCSE grades in Combined Science	• 6 exams (1 hour 45 minutes) • 28 required practical tasks • Awarded 3 GCSE grades in Biology, Chemistry and Physics



Science - December Mocks

► Combined Science - Tiers determination

Students should achieve a minimum **average grade of 5** to be considered for entry to the Higher Tier.

► Triple Science - Course determination

Students should achieve a minimum **grade of 5** in each individual science subject (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) to be considered for entry to the Triple Science examinations.

Science - Revisions

- ▶ Revisions guides
- ▶ Flash cards (loads)
- ▶ Mind maps
- ▶ Past papers / exam questions practice (loads)

Useful websites:

- All rounder (including short explanatory videos)
Cognito Science: [GCSE Science Revision | Past Papers, Exam Questions, Flashcards & Quizzes | Cognito](#)
- Exam questions:
<https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/>
- Past papers: <https://www.savemyexams.com/>

Sold by the school at approximately half
the retail price.

Available to purchase via Arbor.

Combined

Triple (higher only)



Foundation

Higher



Science - into A-Levels...

Both **Triple** and **Combined Science** students can progress to study Science A-Levels.

- ▶ **Combined Science** - A minimum grade of 7 is required.
- ▶ **Triple Science** - A minimum grade of 6 in the relevant science subject is required.

Useful websites

- ▶ Maths genie- has all the past papers and revision by topic
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- ▶ 1st Class maths - Exam questions by topic and grade and 'spicy questions'
GCSE (Edexcel) Revision | 1st Class Maths
- ▶ The GCSE maths tutor youtube channel - great for whole topic area revision and exam technique The 5 Calculator Hacks You NEED to Know for the GCSE Maths Exam | TGMT
(youtube.com)
- ▶ GCSE math revision .com - practise questions and exam questions GCSE Maths Revision Questions | Revise for GCSE Maths
- ▶ Maths society - Key topics by grade GCSE Maths Year 11 | Free Revision (mathsociety.org.uk)

Safeguarding Team at UHS



Mrs Rachael Gilmore
Assistant Headteacher; Inclusion,
Designated Safeguarding Lead,
Mental Health Lead



Mrs Sarah McCourt
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead,
Wellbeing Lead



Mrs Michelle Alexander
Deputy Headteacher; Standards,
Safeguarding Officer



Ms Kerry Connor
Assistant Headteacher;
Ethos and Behaviour,
Safeguarding Officer



Mrs Victoria Jefferies
SENDCO,
Safeguarding Officer



Ms Katarina Zatkovicova
SEMH Lead,
Safeguarding Officer



6th Form Open Evening
Wednesday, 7th October

Parent Engagement & Communication

We are committed to ensuring parents/carers are engaged in supporting their daughter's academic progress and personal development.

Parents are given many opportunities over the year to meet with their daughters' teachers and tutors to discuss their progress and receive regular progress reports.

We provide opportunities for parents/carers to learn more about the world their daughters live in, through resource sharing, information evenings, and specialist sessions on issues such as online safety and mental health. We have an expansive [library of resources](#) for parents of adolescents including our [online safety specific resource library](#).

We are committed to effectively communicating with our parents and carers about school life and we use a range of mediums incl. Arbor, email, website, information meetings, communications from the Head and other staff, our suite of newsletters and social media.

Parent Engagement & Communication

We communicate with the email addresses on record. Do let us know if your details do change.

Emails will come from Ursuline High School or a staff member. We recommend notifications are enabled, that you add us to your safe senders list.

Please check for emails from the school daily, to ensure you are up to date on news from the school.

Remember to check your junk/spam to ensure nothing important/urgent is missed.

We use a suite of portals to support various elements of our students' learning journeys, including Arbor (payments, records & reports) and Evolve (consent forms/trips).

If you're on Instagram and you don't already follow us, please do. You can find us @uhswimbleton. This is not compulsory - important communications will be shared directly.

Visit the website to read more about our [Communications Strategy](#) and [Parent Portals](#).

Contact Us

- Please use email to contact us.
- **Form tutors** - general enquires about the Ursuline, friendship issues, organisation, homework, clubs/enrichment, uniform, equipment, travelling to/from school, punctuality, trips/calendar events.
- **Head of Year or Pastoral Support Assistant** - Mental health, bullying, safeguarding, online safety, absence request forms, request for your daughter to receive school counselling/educational well-being practitioner, financial support/free school meals.
- **Attendance Officer** - Attendance and punctuality/lateness. All absences and lates must be reported via email or phone no later than 8.45am on the day in question.
- **Subject teachers** must be contacted for any subject specific enquiries.
- **Our IT Helpdesk** is available to help with any parent portal, laptops, and other IT queries.
- All staff contact details can be found on the [Ursuline directory](#) on our website and in the year group [Curriculum Guide](#).

Governors Development Fund

- ▶ The Governors Development Fund is the schools' parental contribution scheme.
- ▶ As a Catholic Academy Trust school, we rely on good financial management of school funds and the fantastic generosity of our school community to enable and enhance the education experience to our students.
- ▶ All additional funding secured makes a significant impact on our school's offering and the programmes we provide for our students.
- ▶ Your support goes directly towards **enriching the educational opportunities** for our students **maintaining the exceptional environment, School's Chaplaincy programmes and our Laptop Scheme.**
- ▶ In recent years, your contributions have supported many works including:
 - refurbishment of student services
 - construction of the accommodation of T Level Nursing, our Katherine Johnson T Level Digital Building, Business and T Level Science
 - the new roof at St Angela's
 - new doors, floors and heating upgrades/repair, renovation of our main kitchen / dining room, tennis court upgrade, and LED lighting
 - CCTV throughout the Main School.

Governors Development Fund

We ask all parents/carers to make a voluntary contribution of £30 per month to the school for the duration of their child's education at Ursuline High School. An annual payment of £360 can be made if preferred.

Monthly donations will be collected by Direct Debit. We ask parents/carers to make their first donation on the date of their daughter's interview. Further donations will be collected by Direct Debit from September onwards.

Gift Aid: If you are a UK taxpayer, we can claim back the tax you have already paid, from the Inland Revenue. For every pound you donate, the school receives an additional 25 pence, at no extra cost to you.

For those facing financial constraints, the **school supports families who are unable to afford the full donation**. If this is the case, please let us know. Also, your ongoing support through involvement in school activities, volunteering, and fostering a sense of community is equally invaluable.

To discuss the Fund, and/or your donation please contact our [finance department](#).

Thank you and all our families for your continued support. It is appreciated and defines the schools' overall success.

Parent/Carer Services & Resources

- ▶ Access our [Directory](#) of charities and teen experts sharing practical strategies, and powerful insights to help inform your conversations at home. From parent webinars to guidance on hot topics including wellbeing, road safety, healthy eating & sleeping, friendships and risky behaviour, our library is expansive.
- ▶ Visit our expansive [online safety library](#) for our Smart Devices & Social Media Guidance document and other valuable online safety resources.
- ▶ Thank you in advance for your support. We need to work together to support our young people, and we are stronger when we all do the same.

Phones and Smart Devices at School

- ▶ **Smartphones** are huge safeguarding concerns which you will all be aware of due to ongoing research, campaigning and media attention.
- ▶ Academic research is clear that mobile phone use in school is a distraction, negatively impact behaviour, progress and attainment, compromise the integrity of assessments, enable access to apps we cannot control or monitor in school and are banned by JCQ, the exams regulatory authority.
- ▶ We have a **clear policy in place** regarding the use at school.
- ▶ **Y11 Students are permitted to bring a mobile phone to school for travel purposes.**
- ▶ **Regardless of phone make/model**, and in accordance with research, Government guidance and our Digital Learning & Safety Policy, if you choose to send your daughter to school with a mobile phone, it must be switched off, placed in their padlocked locker at the start of the day and remain there until the end of the day.
- ▶ **Any phones seen or heard in school will be confiscated.**
- ▶ **Smart Watches of any kind are not allowed on school premises at all.** Please keep them at home.
- ▶ There are **exceptions for medical reasons**, please speak to us.
- ▶ If a phone (or other device) is confiscated, a letter will be sent home to inform parents and request that they collect it from Student Services. **Confiscated devices will not be returned on the same day.**

Social Media

► BeReal, Discord, Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, Snapchat, TikTok, X(Twitter) and WhatsApp etc

► **Social media** is a huge safeguarding concern. Whilst social media does not negatively impact everyone, every child who uses these platforms is exposed to dangerous algorithms that care nothing about their wellbeing.

► Whilst some apps do bring a level of socialisation and connectivity, there are huge risks including harmful content, online grooming & sextortion, bullying, dangerous viral challenges, negative and dangerous impact on self-esteem, unreliable news source and so on.

► The minimum age which is currently 13+ will be raised to 16+ in Spring 2027 - with Y11s turning 16 this year, this change may impact some students, depending on their month of birth.

► Be aware that if your child was younger than 13 when they set up their account then they would have had to fake their date of birth. This means that the algorithm thinks they are older than they are and will be feeding them content that may not age appropriate.

► In accordance with our [Digital Learning & Safety Policy](#) if students do use social media, this will be taken into consideration when dealing with issues raised.

Online Safety - Recommendations

- To keep our children safe, it is essential they are media literate, can think critically and have boundaries.
- Normalise difficult conversations and hold open and ongoing discussions around **online safety, challenges and dangers, fake news, algorithm bubbles and how to change them, echo chambers** etc.
- Should you allow your daughter(s) to have a smartphone/digital devices/social media, we recommend **following expert advice**:
 - **Research apps** to understand the **dangers and risks** before they are allowed but be aware that a child's **algorithm** is usually more dangerous.
 - Agree family rules including **family digital contracts**.
 - Set up **parental controls, screen time, app limits and content & privacy restrictions and Ask to Buy**.
 - Always use their **accurate date of birth**.
 - Know what she is doing online - open space at home for access - **removing screens from bedrooms** especially during homework and overnight.
 - **Logins/password sharing** and regularly **checking your child's devices**.
 - **Delaying / limiting social media**.
- **School monitoring** of devices - even at home (Smoothwall)
- [Parent/Carer Online Safety](#)

Social Media for Education

There is a vast number of tutors and exam gurus sharing their expertise and insight via social media (in particular; Instagram, TikTok and YouTube).

There are lots of great teachers and subject experts out there but there are just as many poor ones. There are also many students claiming to know how to get a grade 9!

In the same way parents do their due diligence before employing a tutor, students should do their research before deciding to follow and listen to an 'expert' via social media.

It is essential students make informed decisions on who they are taking advice from, to ensure they are getting relevant and accurate advice/insight relevant to their courses.

Please seek guidance from UHS teachers in the first instance who will guide you in the direction of tried and tested resources.