



Gosford Hill School Parent Bulletin

No. 16 – Friday 9th January 2026

www.gosfordhillschool.org

Key Dates and Upcoming Events

Next Week (A)		
Date	Event	Time
Mon 12th January	Parents CAN Meeting (See details)	9:15am - 10:45am
Tues 13th January		
Weds 14th January	Sixth Form Open Evening	5:30pm - 7:30pm
Thurs 15th January	Friends of Gosford Hill School Relaunch Meeting (See details)	5:00pm - 6:00pm
Fri 16th January	Southern Science and Technology Challenge Final at Royal Docks Centre for Sustainability, London	All day

Following Week (B)		
Date	Event	Time
Mon 19th January	A Level Drama Dress Rehearsals (DR1)	3:45pm - 6:15pm
Tues 20th January		
Weds 21st January	Year 8 HPV Vaccinations Year 10 Parents Evening	4:00pm - 6:30pm
Thurs 22nd January		
Fri 23rd January		

Next Parents CAN (Connect and Natter) Meeting – Monday 12th January 2026



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Our next Parents CAN (Connect And Natter) meeting will be on Monday 12th January from 9:15am to 10:45am. Our Parent CAN meetings offer a supportive space for parents to meet up and talk about anything that might be on their mind, in relation to parenting and supporting their children, over light refreshments. These meetings are facilitated by our Lead School Counsellor. There will be a talk at 9:30am where we will be thinking this time about anxiety and how it can affect school attendance.

Posted on behalf of Parents CAN

Friends of Gosford Hill School Relaunch Event – Thursday 15th January (5:00pm - 6:00pm)

Parents, carers, friends and alumni of the Gosford Hill School Community, are warmly invited to join us for an informal community meeting to discuss the exciting plans and proposals for the official relaunch of the Friends of Gosford Hill School.

 Date: Thursday 15th January

 Time: 5:00pm – 6:00pm

 Location: Gosford Hill School, Oxford Road, Kidlington

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This is a relaxed chance to come together over refreshments to hear about our plans, share ideas, and see how you might like to get involved. Whether you're brand new or have been involved before, everyone is very welcome.

If you'd like to attend (or can't make it but want to find out more), please email officegosfordhillschool.org so we can plan for numbers. We hope you can join us and be part of this exciting new chapter!



Posted by – Mr Bateman

Sixth Form Open Evening – Wednesday 14th January 2025 – 5:30pm to 7:30pm

**Year
10 & 11**

Join our Sixth Form Open Evening on Wednesday 14th January where you can explore our Sixth Form Centre and find out more about studying A Levels at Gosford Hill School. Hear from our Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form, meet current students, and discover the benefits of a personalised education at GHS. You will also have the opportunity to discover our dedicated enrichment programme and how we prepare students for post-18 options. We look forward to seeing you there!

Posted by – Miss Brimble

Collection of Summer 2025 Examination Certificates

Summer 2025 examination certificates will be available to collect from Reception during the following dates and times:

Monday 12th January – Friday 23rd January 2026 (between 9:30am and 4:00pm)

Candidates may arrange for certificates to be collected on their behalf, or posted via recorded delivery (at a cost) by completing the form on the 'Exams Information' page of our website:

<https://gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk/information-for-parents/exam-information/>

Authorised persons must provide photographic ID evidence on collection of certificates.

We recommend that you collect your certificates as soon as possible. Gosford Hill School will keep your certificates for a maximum of one year. After that, they will be destroyed. Please look after your certificates, as some awarding bodies do not offer a replacement certificate service.

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Posted by – The Exams Team

Safeguarding

If you have a safeguarding concern within school hours, please send a message to the following email address: safeguarding@gosfordhillschool.org

If you have any safeguarding concerns outside of school hours please contact our local MASH Team (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) on **0345 050 7666**.

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Posted by – Mr La Porte

A Guide for Parents on Managing Children's Digital Lives

Supporting children's safety is a shared responsibility between families, schools and wider society. For parents and carers, this responsibility has become increasingly complex as children's lives are now deeply intertwined with the digital world. Many parents face difficult decisions about how to balance protecting children from online harm with enabling access to spaces that are now central to learning, socialising and play.

In response to her direct involvement with children in England, Dame Rachel de Souza, the Children's Commissioner for England has recently published a new guide, [What I wish my parents or carers knew: A guide for parents on managing children's digital lives](#), which focuses on the challenges parents and carers face in managing children's everyday online habits.

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This guide was written with the direct involvement of children in England and is a reflection of their views. Interestingly, when asked about what they would do differently when it comes to being online, with the benefit of hindsight, young people almost unanimously stressed that they would not give a smartphone to their own teenager as they would want them to be protected from it as long as possible.

As parents, carers, and educators, our job must begin and end with our children's care and safety. It's what they expect and what they want from us.

As one young person said: "Don't be afraid to be firm... If you are worried [that] your child is seeing harmful content and you don't know what they're watching and it's affecting the behaviour, just take it that you know best – they don't."

As parents and carers, I hope this guide will be a useful resource.

Posted by – Mr La Porte

The path to your future starts here...

Sixth Form Centre



Sixth Form Open Evening

Wednesday 14th January 2026
5:30pm to 7:30pm

 **GOSFORD HILL SCHOOL**



Dedicated Sixth Form facilities

Bespoke pastoral support

Consistently outstanding grades

 www.gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk/sixth-form  01865 374971


School Aged Immunisation Service

Oxford Health
NHS Foundation Trust

Does your child still need a Flu Vaccination?

We are still vaccinating!

 

Follow the QR code / link to consent for your child and make a community clinic appointment

If you've already filled in the consent form, please book your appointment using the reference number that was emailed to you from school.immunisations@nhs.net when you consented

For more information visit
www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/imms

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ESSENTIAL ONLINE SAFETY

Children and young people use the internet every day to learn, play, and connect, but the online world is not always safe. For adults, it can be hard to keep up with the risks, including harmful content, cyberbullying and scams. These 10 tips provide clear and practical advice to support safer and healthier digital habits, helping young people to make informed, secure choices when using technology.

1 START EARLY CONVERSATIONS

Begin talking about online behaviour from the moment children start using devices. Use age-appropriate language and revisit topics regularly, making it clear they can speak to you about anything that upsets or confuses them. Keeping these chats open helps build trust, so children are more likely to come to you when needed.

2 PROMOTE SAFER SHARING

Children can overshare without understanding the risks. Remind them that photos, locations, or messages can be copied or shared beyond their intended audience. Explain how even private messages or group chats can be saved and/or misused. Talk about what is appropriate to post, message, and who it's safe to share with.

3 ENCOURAGE DIGITAL BALANCE

Many apps and games are designed to keep users engaged through rewards, likes, or constant updates. These features can make it hard for children to switch off. Talk openly about how these systems work and help children recognise when it's time to take a break. Building in tech-free routines supports a healthier balance and awareness of their screen time.

4 CREATE A SAFE SPACE FOR CONCERNS

When children come to you with a concern, respond with interest and care, rather than with alarm. Keeping your reaction measured helps them feel safe and supported. This doesn't mean ignoring serious issues; it means showing that you're there to help. When children trust that they can speak openly, they're more likely to feel supported through unpleasant online experiences, and to ask for help in future.

5 STAY INFORMED AND CURRENT

With emerging technologies like AI moving and changing so quickly, it's important to stay updated on how children are using new platforms, apps and games. Ask them to show you what they use and let them take the lead as you explore together. This opens up valuable conversations and helps you stay ahead of emerging risks and trends.

6 TEACH CRITICAL THINKING

Talk to children about how to recognise unreliable information or scams online. With AI-generated videos, photos, and stories becoming harder to spot, help children question what they see and encourage them to look for evidence, check sources, and ask questions. These skills will help them avoid risks, make smart choices, and develop healthy habits for the future.

7 SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES

Involve children in conversations about device usage so they feel included. Agree on digital rules such as screen-time limits, age-appropriate apps, and no devices in bedrooms overnight. Use parental controls to block or filter harmful content and explain that rules are there to protect and support them, not to spoil their fun.

8 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Children often copy the behaviour of adults around them. Show them what balanced, respectful, and mindful use of technology looks like, such as avoiding scrolling during family time and speaking kindly in messages. If you expect certain behaviour from them online, make sure your own habits reflect the same standards.

9 EXPLORE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Show children how to use privacy tools on apps, games, and websites. Teach them to use strong passwords, block or report others in response to problems, and avoid sharing personal details. Explore settings together so they feel confident and in control, and explain that these features are there to help them stay safe online.

10 KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Familiarise yourself with tools and organisations that support online safety. The National College offers online safety guides and webinars which provide tips on staying safe. Websites like Report Harmful Content and CEOP can be used to report when something goes wrong. Show children how to report or block users, and where to go if they feel unsafe. Make sure they know that asking for help is always the right thing to do, and be prepared to support them.

Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

See full reference list on our website



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#WakeUpWednesday

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