

Year 12

The Year Ahead

**Dr Winters Year Leader
and Mr Wright Head of Sixth Form**

The Year Ahead 2024-2025

Academic

- Make the transition from GCSE to A Level
- Students on four subjects complete an AS Level in May
- Prepare for the January Assessments, AS Trials and Intervention Exams in March and the Y12 Trial Exams in June

Destinations

- Begin research into Post-18 Destinations – University, Apprenticeship or Employment
- Engage in Work Experience
- Engage in Super and Extra Curricular activities

The Sixth Form Hierarchy of Needs



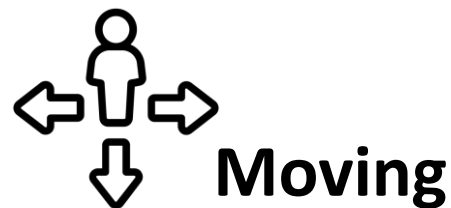
Health and Wellbeing

There is plenty of reading out there that teaches different ways of looking after your wellbeing.

Examples:

- Dr Rangan Chatterjee, *The Four Pillar Plan*
- Isabel Hardman, *The Natural Health Service*
- Mark Williams and Danny Penman, *Mindfulness*
- Emma Mitchell, *The Wild Remedy*
- John Sellars, *Lessons in Stoicism & The Fourfold Remedy*

All of them agree on **four** fundamental things that support your health and wellbeing.



Health and Wellbeing

All Sixth Form students will have one hour of timetabled Personal Development lessons per week delivered by specialist staff covering a range of topics designed to help them make a **safe and successful** transition to Sixth Form and adulthood.

2023-2024 Programme

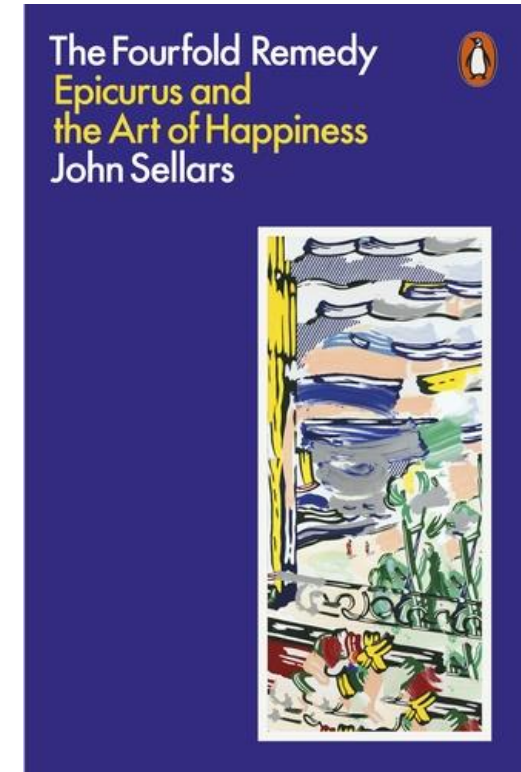
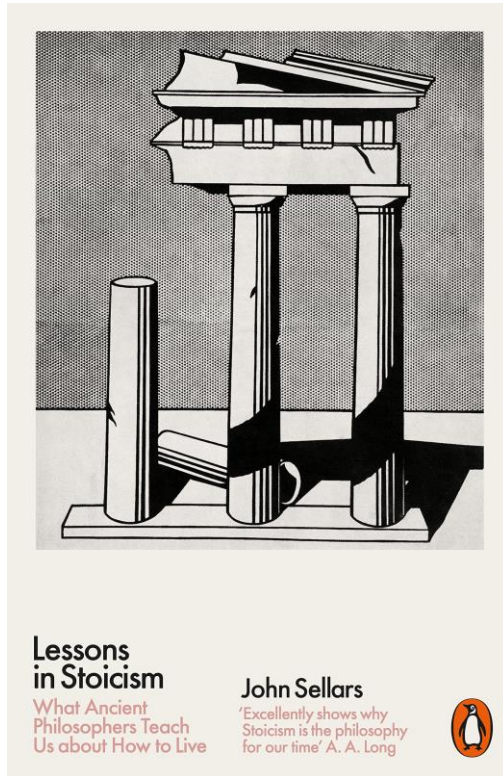
Year 12	Year 13
Business employment and trade unions	Food and Nutrition
Personal safety, relationships, abuse and honour-based violence	Financial contracts, payday loans and debt
Sex	Addiction
Drugs	Equality and diversity
Personal Branding and online presence	Travel
Finance budgeting, housing, car ownership and retirement	Financial ventures including illegal ventures
British values	Health services and personal safety
Mental health	Mental health
Life goals and aspirations	
First aid	

Health and Wellbeing

To support our students to manage their own health and wellbeing, they will also be engaged in Sixth Form Reading during Form Time from the Autumn Term onwards.

They will learn about the Stoics Epictetus, Seneca, Marcus Aurelius alongside Epicurus via John Sellars of Royal Holloway University.

Monday – Assembly/Reading
Tuesday – Assembly/Reading
Wednesday – Bulletin/The Day
Thursday – Pastoral/Unifrog/BILs
Friday – Current Affairs Quiz



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Bursary
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Ms Ridal
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ordinator

Ms Moorwood and
Ms Mitchell
KS5 Safeguarding

Destinations

Mrs Bower
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Ms Williams
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Carol James
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Careers Advisor

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Mrs Peacock
KS5 Administrator

Transition
Mr Hooper
KS5 Transition

Super and Extra Curricular

Mr Wright
Enrichment

Mr Sabbagh
Personal Development

The Sixth Form Hierarchy of Needs



Behaviour and Attitudes

Sixth Form Privileges

Common Room and Café, including Sixth Form Toilet

Free Periods

Permission to leave site at break, lunch and free periods (with parent/carer permission)

No uniform (ID lanyard)

Use of mobile phones and devices in the Sixth Form Common Room (confiscation outside of the Sixth Form area)

Expectations and Sanctions

Most importantly you are expected to act as a **role model** for students in Years 7-11.

Minimum attendance of 96%+

Under 96% letter home; **under 90%** parent/carer meeting; **under 75%** withdrawal of examination fees

Punctuality to AM (9am) and PM (1.30pm) registration and ID lanyard

Same day lunchtime or afterschool detention

On Calls and Suspensions

Same day afterschool detention/withdrawal of UCAS reference

Behaviour and Attitudes

The Points System

Stage 1 -25 **Form Tutor**

Stage 2 -50

Stage 3 -75

Stage 4 -100

Stage 5 -125

Stage 6 –150

Stage 7 - 175

Stage 8 - 200 **Governor**

At Tapton we support our students to develop the behaviours and attitudes to help them make a **safe** and **successful** transition to adulthood.

Please remember that although school rules may have been different at your previous school you are now at Tapton.

Each stage is accompanied by a parental meeting, a report and – at some stages – daily phone confiscation.

Behaviour and Attitudes

Attendance

Where students have a planned absence parents/carers should inform the Sixth Form Learning and Inclusion Coordinator, Ms Ridal, lridal@taptonschool.co.uk two days in advance.

Where students are unwell parents/carers should call the school absence line 0114 267 1414 (Option One) and their absence will be authorised. Sixth-form students cannot authorise their own absences, if a student is unwell this must be reported by a parent/carer listed as a priority contact on the school system.

Where students fall ill during the school day they **must** sign out with Ms Ridal, who will contact home and then authorise their absence.

Behaviour and Attitudes

What absences can and cannot be authorised:

Medical appointments should be made outside of school hours unless unavoidable. If a student is reporting a medical appointment, this should be accompanied with evidence (e.g., medical appointment card/text)

Any exceptional circumstances e.g, **professional sporting events/funerals** should be supported by an email/phone call from parents/carers.

University interviews and/or open days should be evidenced with an email/letter of invitation.

Driving tests can be authorised, however, driving lessons should be taken outside of school time.

Eye tests with providers such as Specsavers / Vision Express will not be authorised. This is due to students being able to schedule these appointments during free periods or weekends.

Behaviour and Attitudes 2023-24

Attendance – Year 12 attendance is currently **95.87%** (226); **7%** (16/226) under 90% attendance

Punctuality – We average **two** (<1%) late detentions per day.

Behaviour – There are **3%** (7/226) students currently on –25 or above negative behaviour points.

Lanyards – We average **one** (<½%) lanyard detention per day.

Sixth Form students should not be receiving sanctions.

The Relationship Between Attendance and Attainment

Attendance Band	Number of Students	A*B%
95%+	97	75%
90-95%	62	55%
85-90%	31	54%
80-85%	18	41%
75-80%	19	17%

Statistics from the 2023 A Level Results

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Teaching and Learning

- The A in A levels stands for advanced, they are harder than GCSEs.
- At A level you will focus on three or four subjects instead of ten, so you will study a lot more content and study things in more detail.
- The exams and coursework will also be more challenging. A level exams tend to be longer than those for GCSE. They have fewer and more complicated questions that require longer and more complex answers.
- Your timetable will change too. At school each hour was accounted for, but at Sixth Form each day will have 'free periods' between some of your lessons.
- This is not time off. Instead, this is time where you direct your own study. You should prepare for upcoming lessons, do wider reading around the subject, catching up on any work missed due to absence, work on improving previously assessed work and revise content you have already covered.
- You will be asked to make use of your free periods to complete additional reading and research. This time will be largely self-directed – in other words it will be up to you to manage your own time and set your priorities.

Teaching and Learning

- Prepare for your lessons by making sure you've done any homework, or by revising the content covered in the previous lesson.
- Wider reading around a subject doesn't just mean sitting in the library: read relevant magazines, listen to podcasts, ask your teacher for recommendations. This will enhance your knowledge and build your confidence.
- Most importantly make sure you revise assessed work. Marked homework shouldn't be hidden away in your file – ask for feedback, find out how it could be improved and make those improvements.
- Elements of your personal life may change too. You may work part time, support family members or develop new pastimes that you need to consider alongside your studies. Balancing these commitments will help you to prepare for managing your own time at university, as well as later, in your working life. **(Source UCL).**

	F	1	2	3	4	5	6	
MON	F	L			FP		Time outside of school	
TUES								
WED				PD				
THURS								
FRI								
SAT/SUN	<p>Three Subjects 5 hours of lessons per subject 9 hours of homework and 3 hours of independent study (12 hours)</p> <p>Four Subjects 5 hours of lessons per subject 12 hours of homework and 4 hours of independent study (16 hours)</p>							

Lessons (L)	4-5 hours per subject per week
Form Time (F)	1 hour 40mins per week
Personal Development (PD)	1 hour per week
Homework	9-12 hours per week
Independent Study	3-4 hours per week
Totals	3 Subjects 29 hours+ 4 Subjects 38 hours+

Homework at Sixth Form

At Tapton, homework is **meaningful, manageable and predictable.**

Meaningful

Homework tasks are embedded into the curriculum and relevant to the learning in the classroom. All homework set supports students and facilitates their in-class performance or revision for assessments.

The **most common homework** in Sixth Form is consolidation of notes, preparation for and/or completion of exam questions, writing up practical work and/or working on non-examined assessments (NEAs).

Manageable

Homework tasks are designed to be short and regular to encourage good study habits in preparation for later study, revision and working life.

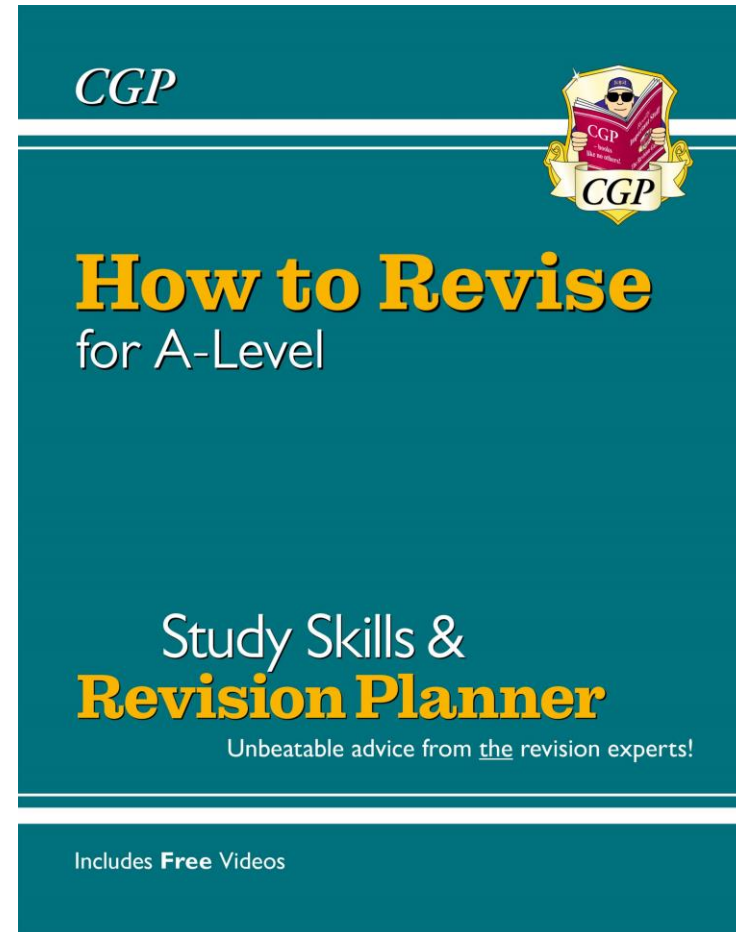
Predictable

At Key Stage Five we expect students to receive weekly homework from each teacher. Homework should take around two to three hours to complete per subject, per week and students should expect to complete a minimum of nine to twelve hours of independent study and homework per week.

Becoming an Independent Learner (BILs)

To support our students to make a successful transition to Sixth Form, they will follow a BILs programme during form time to help them to develop skills such as **time management and organisation** and **note-taking**.

This will be based on the **CGP How to Revise for A-Level** book.



Assessment and NEA Calendar

Year 12

Half Term 1 – Meeting Expectations

Half Term 2 - None

Half Term 3 – Y12 Assessment Week

Half Term 4 – AS Trial and Intervention Exams

Half Term 5 – AS Levels

Half Term 6 – Y12 Trial Exams and UCAS Predicted Grades

Year 13

Half Term 1 – UCAS Predicted Grades Update

Half Term 2 – None

Half Term 3 – Y13 Trial Exams

Half Term 4 – Y13 Assessment Week

Half Term 5 – AS and A Levels

Half Term 6 – A Levels

Please note: In **Y13** Students will also receive a detailed Non-Examined Assessment (**NEA**) calendar.

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The Sixth Form Hierarchy of Needs





National Citizen Service

Opportunities still available for this Summer. Visit www.wearencs.com for more details. Students will be away from home for 4 nights (but there is also an online option if you wish to stay at home). It will not cost more than £95 (students on Free School Meals go free).

NCS encourages 16 and 17 year olds to 'grow their strengths', offering them opportunities that will boost their confidence, support their community and learn new skills.

LIVE IT



BOSS IT



CHANGE IT



THE CHOICE IS YOURS

LIMITED AVAILABILITY

PLACES FILL QUICKLY

EXCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITY

SIGN-UP NOW!

0800 197 8010





#newexperiences

#ihavesignedup

#trysomethingnew

#meetnewfriends

#makethemostofit

KS5 Freshers' Fair

- Big Challenge Business and Enterprise.
- Film Club
- Paired reading
- KS5 Book Club
- Sixth Form Theatre Company
- Social Sciences Film, Book and Podcast Club
- Music ensembles
- Cooking on a Budget
- Duke of Edinburgh Gold
- LGBTQIA+ Friendship Group
- KS5 Climbing Club
- Cultural Newsletter

Tuesday 3rd September

Sixth Form Common Room

Super Curricular Opportunities

STEM Diploma

Inspire Weekly Seminars delivered by University Researchers

Discuss Science Journal Club; Social Sciences Discussion Group; Book club.

Communicate Presentation of Diploma artefact; Poster or talk at a conference.

Research DNA Origami; Motor Neuron Disease

Societies Medical Society; Dental Society; Debating Society.

Super Curricular Challenge

- Super-curricular activities help bridge the gap between school and university and take the subjects you study beyond the curriculum.
- A focus on Humanities.
- You can explore your subject in many ways; for example, by reading, as well as watching videos online, downloading lectures, visiting museums or entering academic competitions.
- You will present your research to staff and peers and take Q&A.
- To get into a top university, it's not enough just to do well at school. Universities want students who are **passionate** about their subject, who **think for themselves** and who are **independent learners**.

Work Experience

The logo for Unifrog, featuring the word "unifrog" in white lowercase letters on a green square background.

Work Experience should take place in Year 12. Students can have one work experience placement lasting up to 5 consecutive days. However, this must not take place during exams or other key dates in the school calendar.

Students are responsible for finding their own work experience placement. However, our Careers Leader Ms Williams is available to support.

In order to be authorized, placements must be put on Unifrog at least two weeks prior to the placement starting. The placement coordinator is Ms Williams.

A guide to work experience will be available on the Careers section of the school website from the start of term.

We will also receive opportunities that we will share via Satchel One by Ms Williams, so it is important you check them. If a placement is shared with you via Satchel One this does not need to be added to Unifrog.

Sixth Form Charity Week

A week dedicated to having fun and raising money for good causes.

In 2023 we raised money for:

- **Doctors Without Borders** - International, medical humanitarian organisation working around the world in conflict zones, natural disasters and epidemics. We go where we are needed most.
- **Young Women's Housing Project** - Supporting young women aged 16-25 years and their children, who have been affected by sexual abuse, sexual exploitation and intimate partner abuse.
- **Roundabout** – Roundabout is South Yorkshire's local youth housing charity providing shelter, support and life skills to young people aged 16-25 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.



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The UCAS Process in Sixth Form

Year 12

September 2024 to July 2025

- Unifrog Registration
- UK Universities and Apprenticeships Fair March 2025
- University of Sheffield and Sheffield Hallam University Outreach
- University of Oxford Outreach
- One-to-one meetings with Form Tutor to prepare UCAS Application June 2025
- Post-18 Destinations Evening May 2025
- UCAS Convention at Sheffield Arena Summer 2025
- UCAS Registration and Destinations Day July 2025
- UCAS Predicted Grades July 2025

Year 13

September 2025 to August 2026

- Completion of UCAS application and reference
- Early Applicant Deadline October 15 2025
- Preparation for Admissions Tests
- Trial Interviews
- Equal Consideration Deadline January 31 2026
- Student Finance England Applications
- Firm and Insurance Choices
- Accommodation and Transition
- Confirmation and Clearing August 2026

Non-University Routes

All students who are pursuing a non-university route, such as an apprenticeship or employment, or a gap year, are able to have a careers interview with our Independent Careers Advisor, **Carol James**.

Furthermore, opportunities to explore non-university routes are provided by guest speakers and workshops organised by our Careers Leader, **Ms Williams**, who also publishes a regular Sixth Form Careers Newsletter, outlining work experience opportunities and events (**shared on Satchel One**).

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Support for Disadvantaged Students and 16-19 Bursary

PPE6

- Students on Free School Meals (FSM) or who were on FSM during their Secondary Schooling are able to access additional support from the Sixth Form Team, including our **KS5 Academic Mentor**.

16-19 Bursary

- Students on Free School Meals (FSM) or who were on FSM during their Secondary Schooling may also be eligible for additional financial support during their time at Sixth Form. **16-19 Bursary is administered by our KS5 Academic Mentor, Miss Deakin.**

Online Platforms

- **MCAS** – This is for parents and allows us to keep you updated with letters, information and announcements. You will also be able to view your young person's attendance and any behaviour points. We will also distribute tracking and reports through the MCAS app. For support around setting up MCAS please email **ssimmons@taptonschool.co.uk**
- **ParentPay** – As a cashless school we use ParentPay to allow parents to pay for equipment, trips and to update their young person's meal balance.
- **Satchel One**– This is where teachers will post homework, including when it is due. There is also a noticeboard where we post information for students, including careers opportunities and events in school.
- **Unifrog** – An online platform used by students to research their post-18 destinations and write their personal statements. For support around accessing Unifrog please email **jwilliams@taptonschool.co.uk**
- **Bursary+** - The online platform used to apply for and manage 16-19 Bursary. Students are eligible where parental/carer income is £17005 or less. For further information and support around accessing the bursary please contact **ldeakin@taptonschool.co.uk**

Communication during Transition

- If you have any concerns over the remaining weeks of term, please contact our KS5 Transition Lead, Mr Hooper, who will provide help and support.
- You should also copy in the Head of Sixth Form.
- Mr Hooper KS5 Transition Lead
khooper@taptonschool.co.uk
- Mr Wright Head of Sixth Form
awright9@taptonschool.co.uk

Communication in Sixth Form

Academic

- Where you have an academic concern, please e mail your child's classroom teacher and/or Subject Leader and copy in the Y12 Year Leader jwinters@taptonschool.co.uk and the Head of Sixth Form awright9@taptonschool.co.uk.

Pastoral

- Where you have a pastoral concern. please e mail your child's Form Tutor and copy in the Y12 Year Leader jwinters@taptonschool.co.uk and the Head of Sixth Form awright9@taptonschool.co.uk.

Results Day, Registration and Start of Term

22th August GCSE Results Day – Internal and External Student Registration. **Please note**, if students have not registered by this date their offer will be withdrawn.

23th August 9am - 12pm – Sixth Form Staff available for any questions or queries.

3rd September Start of Term - **Please note**, students who have not completed their Data Collection Form will be sent home.

Any Questions?

Save The Date

Year 12 The Year Ahead

Tuesday 10th September 6-7pm

Another opportunity to hear this evening's presentation.

Pastoral Consultations with Y12 Form Tutors

Week Beginning 17th September

Tapton
SCHOOL

Key Stage 5 Handbook 2023-2024

Information for Parents, Carers and
Students

How To Grow a Grown Up

Prepare Your Teen
for the Real World

Dr Dominique Thompson
& Fabienne Vailes

Recommended Reading