

06 September 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am writing to introduce myself as the Assistant Head of Sixth Form with a focus on Year 12. I have already had the pleasure of welcoming back those who were here last year and greeting the many students who are new starters. We had a busy, informative and, I hope, enjoyable Induction Day on Tuesday, and the students got started with their Sixth Form studies on Wednesday. The week concluded with students choosing their activities for the Autumn Term.

In my opening Assembly I expressed my hopes and aspirations for them all over the coming years. We celebrated them being here and open to the challenges of a rigorous and stimulating Sixth Form curriculum. This year we will focus on what makes for a successful and interesting individual, using Benedictine Scholarship at the heart of our studies in order to lay strong foundations for the final year here at Ampleforth. The tutors and I will be teaching our students about organisation and good study habits through the tutorial programme and looking at:

- Self-awareness and self-discovery
- inteGRITy
- Next steps

In Year 12 there is also a major focus on 'Service', above all in encouraging every student to engage with the needs of people beyond their immediate bubble by participating in the numerous service opportunities available. These include the Friendship Project, the Lourdes Pilgrimage, weekly community service through the Alban Roe project, charity fundraising with FACE-FAW, visits to homeless and drug rehabilitation centres, as well as opportunities for leadership throughout the year.

As well as upholding our Benedictine core values, this year we are encouraging students to be:

- Prompt
- Proud
- Proactive
- Prepared

To help you best engage with their life at Ampleforth you will find overleaf a calendar specific to Year 12.

As well as your child's houseparent they have an academic tutor for the year. For any academic or career-related queries do go to them in the first instance but do feel free also to contact me with any questions or issues.

With best wishes

Hannah Graham

Term	Item	Date(s)	Parents to attend?
Y12 autumn	Begin the Sixth-form courses and check how they are doing in student-tutor one-to-one conversations	September	
	September exeat	Friday 19/9 – Monday 22/9	
	October half-term incl. half-term effort grades	Thursday 23/10 – Monday 3/11	
	GCSE English resits where applicable	First week of November - TBC	
	November exeat	Friday 21/11 – Monday 24/11	
	Christmas holidays incl. effort grades & reports (from Subjects, Tutor, Houseparent, Headmaster)	Wednesday 17/12 – Tuesday 6/1	
Y12 spring	(I)GCSE Maths resits where applicable	Early January - TBC	
	February half-term incl. half-term effort grades	Thursday 12/2 – Weds 25/2	
	<b>Y12 Parents' retreat</b>	<b>Thursday 12/3</b>	<b>Y - limited spaces. Please see newsletter.</b>
	<b>Higher Education Conference (HEC) - a day of careers seminars, visiting university providers, and UCAS advice, to name but some features.</b>	<b>Friday 13/3</b>	<b>Y - please see newsletters for details.</b>
	<b>Y12 Parents' Day</b>	<b>Saturday 14/3</b>	<b>Y - face-to-face or online - please see newsletters for details</b>
	Easter holidays incl. effort grades & reports (from Tutor, Houseparent, Headmaster). Revision lists shared home. <b>Revision needed for this holiday prior to the exams in April.</b>	Friday 27/3 – Monday 20/4	
Y12 summer	Y12 end-of-year exams	Wednesday 22/4 to Thursday 28/5	
	Y12 Retreat	Early May	
	Pupil progress meetings reflecting with each student on their exam performance	May	
	Introduction to UCAS morning - logon to UCAS and start writing personal statements	May	
	Exhibition - House events, Y13 Leavers' Mass, Prize-giving, CCF Inspection, Art Displays, Music performances etc	Friday 22/5 - Saturday 23/5	<b>Y</b>
	May half-term incl. half-term effort grades	Saturday 23/5 – Sunday 31/6	
	Y12 Friendship holiday/final week	Monday 22/6 to Friday 26/6	
	End of term/year incl. reports (from Subject, Tutor, Houseparent, Headmaster)	Friday 26/6 at 17.00	
	<b>Summer holiday work 4-5 hours per subject, to enhance retention and recall prior to September</b>	<b>Friday 26/6 at 17.00</b>	