THOMAS TALLIS SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Steve Parsons
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9 September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 11

This letter contains important information about the academic year ahead and a reminder of some of the school procedures, which you may find useful. Please be aware some things have changed.

Key dates for your diary

Below you'll find some key academic dates for your diary. It is important you are aware of these to help support your child, and to attend those events where you are expected, please.

Autumn

Tuesday 22 September 2026	Futures Fair (more information to follow)
Thursday 24 September 2026 16:30-17:30	Settling In Evening for Parents and Carers
Wednesday 14 October 2026	Post-16 Open Evening
Week beginning 23 November 2026	Autumn Mocks
Wednesday 13 January 2027	Mock Results Day, and Parents Evening

Spring

Week beginning 22 February 2027	Spring Mocks
Wednesday 24 March 2027	Parents Day (invite only)

Summer

Tuesday 4 May 2027	Summer Exams start
Date to be confirmed	Prom and Celebration Ceremony

As you can see, we have a Settling In Evening this month. Please do attend. We will have the directors of Maths, English and Science on hand at the event to offer advice and guidance, as well as Ms Odd on Post-16 progression, Dr Talbot on expectations, and Ms Dedman on pastoral care. This is an opportunity to meet the team that will be supporting your child throughout Year 11.

Year 11 Team and Tutor Groups

There is a team of us working with the Year 11 students. Below is a list of our names, our roles, and our contact email addresses.

Michelle Dedman: Head of Year
mdedman@thomastallis.org.uk
For pastoral matters, which cannot be solved by your tutor, attendance, and student wellbeing.

Ria Williams: Deputy Head of Year
rwilliams@thomastallis.org.uk
Homework club and attendance monitoring.

Deran Paris: Pastoral Lead for Year 11
dparis@thomastallis.org.uk

Heather Odd: Assistant Headteacher, KS4 Standards
hodd@thomastallis.org.uk
For curriculum matters and overall progress, achievement, and intervention.

Attendance and absence
attendance@thomastallis.org.uk

As you are aware, we had some changes to tutors at the end of the last academic year. Your child's tutor is always your first point of contact. To contact your tutor, their email will always be the tutor's first initial and surname followed by the Tallis email address e.g. bbaako@thomastallis.org.uk

Tutor Group	Tutor
11BB	B Baako
11SS	S Shortt
11RW	R Williams & G Field
11MW	M Warner & M Thompson
11WM	W Murray-Bruce
11BA	A Bangura
11SC	S Caulker
11OH	S O'Hara
11JP	J Park & M Neza

How we communicate with you

Our preferred contact method is email, which will come to your inbox and/or your My Child at School (MCaS) app, depending on your communication preferences. We also upload letters to our website on the Letters Home page here, and on the GCSE Support and Guidance page here. The Support and Guidance page is bespoke to Year 11, and a one-stop shop for all we offer to Year 11 students. This includes revision ideas, exam information, and intervention.

Mobile phones

As you know, our policy on phones and tech devices is now "*Never Seen, Never Heard*". All devices must be switched off and placed in students' bags before they enter the school site. They must not be used at all throughout the school day. Students can only access their devices once they have exited the school gates. Please remind your child of these rules, as a confiscation will mean losing their phone or any device until Friday, when we ask you to come and pick it up. The full policy can be found here and on the Policies page of the Tallis website.

Attendance, punctuality, absence, illness and conduct

Students need to attend over 96% of lessons to have the best chance of success. Attendance that falls below this leads to significant missed learning time and therefore has a significant impact on GCSE results. We ask that you do not take your child out of school during school hours or during term time unless necessary. On the rare occasion that your child is not well enough to attend school, please let us know as soon as possible by calling in or emailing attendance@thomastallis.org.uk, giving your child's name, tutor group and reason for their absence.

Celebration Events, including prom!

We have several celebration events at the end of the school year to recognise and reward the students' hard work during their time at Tallis and their GCSE exam period. While we anticipate all children will attend, these events are a privilege. If there are concerns regarding behaviour during Year 11 or a lack of commitment to academic studies, we may withdraw their invitation to attend at any stage of the year.

Homework

Please find below a copy of the student homework timetable detailing when it will be set on Bromcom and visible to you via MCaS. Homework for Year 11 should take between 40-60 minutes per piece and they will be set 2-3 subjects a night. This means through MCaS and their planner you will be able to monitor your child's homework. We recommend you check this every day and discuss with your child what they need to do that evening. We recommend that students complete homework on the night set.

Monday	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**
Option D English Maths	Option C Maths	English Science	Option E	Option F Science

Intervention

Ms Odd will be writing to you shortly with an intervention timetable, and details of sessions that your child is expected to attend. The timetable can be found on the GCSE Support and Guidance page of the school website.

Homework support

Ms Williams will be offering homework support this year for any students who needs guidance on organising themselves. This will run for one hour a week. Ms Williams will let you know the day, time and location of these sessions.

Lunchtime study hall

There is a space available for studying available every lunchtime for Year 11 students, supervised by key members of staff such as Ms Odd. Students must eat their lunch first and work silently when in the Study Hall.

Pastoral support

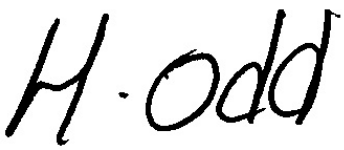
We take our students' wellbeing seriously at Tallis and we will continue to do this throughout Year 11. It is important to us that students understand how to recognise their own wellbeing, as well as the wellbeing of others. It is important they know what they can do to seek help, support and advice. We actively encourage students to:

- Take action if they are concerned for themselves or someone else.
- Speak with any member of staff that they feel comfortable with.
- Contact any member of our Safeguarding Team with further concerns. This is Ms F Kamei, our Safeguarding Lead, or Ms Nassolo, our Deputy Safeguarding Officer.
- Use our Report a Concern form, which can be accessed via the homepage of our school website. This form will go directly to our behaviour team.

We encourage you to use our school website to find regularly updated information about Tallis, including our calendar and term dates. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions or something that you would like to discuss with us.

We look forward to meeting you on the 24 September and wish your child every success for the year ahead.

Yours sincerely,



Heather Odd
Assistant Headteacher: Personal Development and KS4 Standards

Michelle Dedman
Head of Year

Daniel Talbot
(Acting) Deputy Headteacher