

Stowupland High School Bulletin

Friday 30th January 2026



From Mr Walker, Principal of Stowupland High School



Principal's Address

Visit our Facebook page to watch a video summary of this week.

Year 9 Options

The Year 9 Options season officially opens today with the release of this year's Options booklet. If you have a child in the year group, please take some time to look through the booklet with them and discuss what their preferences might be for Year 10 and 11. It is important that they keep an open mind, as two upcoming events will be helpful in guiding their decision making.

Key Stage 4 Options Booklet

The **Options Evening** takes place next week, on

Thursday 5th February.

Full details are in the letter sent last week - note that the original letter stated the incorrect date.

It is Year 9 **Parents Evening**

in the following week - on

Wednesday 11th February

from 4pm-7pm. Please sign up

on School Cloud in the usual way
<https://stowupland.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Stowupland High School
Always Striving for Success



Key Stage 4 Options



2026 - 2028

FAME Musical

You will have seen that tickets for Fame are now on sale. This will be a simply stunning performance, absolutely not to be missed. Performances are taking place in the evenings from the 25th - 27th March. Buy your tickets [HERE](#)



Year 11 news

Thank you to all Year 11 Parents and Carers who came in for the Parents Evening on Wednesday. We had a superb turnout (well over 75% of the year group) and the feedback has been extremely positive. Thank you to all staff involved in the set up especially Mr Hart and the site team, Mrs Nicholson for all the signage and materials, Mrs Southgate for the organisation and Miss Brownsell for co-ordinating the evening.

Maximise Your Potential

This morning Year 11 students have had a superb presentation and activities from Maximise Your Potential. The trainers equipped students with revision skills that deliver measurable results and exam 'know-how'. They focused on goals and short term steps to achieve them - explaining how to keep control of learning whilst minimising stress.

Elevate Education

Elevate Education is an internationally renowned company with a strong track record in supporting parents and students to improve study skills. You can find a huge range of resources here:

<https://www.elevatecoach.co.uk/resources>

Elevate are offering free webinars for parents as follows:

10 Feb, 6:00-7:00pm

How You Can Help Improve Your Child's Memory

3rd March, 6:00-7:00pm

How You Can Help Your Child Prepare for Exams

17th March, 6:00-7:00pm

How You Can Support Your Child During Exams

You can register here:

<https://go.elevateeducation.com/ukparentwebinar>

Karate Champion

Toby Graver, our very own karate champion, was in action at the English open championships last weekend. He is now the **English Open Champion**, with wins in the 13-14 individual kata, 13-14 kumite, 15-17 kumite and U-17s team kata. He has now qualified for the world championships in Abu-Dhabi later on in the year. Congratulations, Toby - we are so proud of you. See below - Toby on the right of the picture with his (many) prizes.

If your child has achieved success in whatever field outside of school we would love to know about it. Please share their stories with Mrs Nicholson at the school

(ideally with a picture or two).

cnicholson@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk



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Attendance Matters

It is well documented that the darker, colder months see a national drop in school attendance.

As much as there are various seasonal bugs and viruses that we attempt to fight off, our bodies are also adapting to the shorter days, fluctuating temperatures, wet/dry conditions. All of this can test our immune systems and lead to lower than usual energy levels.

The Spring school term, although shorter, is as crucial as any other. It is the second full term for our new Year 7 students who are embedding themselves in high school life. It is the decision making phase for Year 9 students to discuss options that will in part sculpt their curriculum for their final two years of school. It is the second term of Year 10 GCSE where key concepts are being covered that will form the foundations of their knowledge and understanding of the course. It is the final full term before Year 11's enter into the summer exam period and where we will cover misconceptions, high frequency errors, positive revision strategies, practical coursework deadlines and final mock examinations.

The school regularly communicates with Parent/Carers regarding attendance. A common misconception is that this benefits the school to have children in school by improving our data. This is not the case. We over communicate about attendance because students who attend more, learn more and therefore achieve more. Whilst there will be circumstance that may restrict a students attendance the outcome is the same, they have missed learning and therefore they have a gap in learning. The greater or more frequent the absences, the greater the gap or number of gaps that develop.

National data shows that students who attend 95% or more place themselves at a significant advantage of successful outcomes regardless of circumstance or background. Students who drop below 90% statistically risk place themselves at a disadvantage of achieving expected standards. In short, the lower the attendance the greater the risk.

The school will:

Communicate overall attendance every half term to parents
Communicate with parents/carers who attend under 90%
Deliver a weekly snapshot to all parents/carers of students attendance, rewards, sanctions and punctuality.

Challenge parents/carers where low attendance is due to unauthorised reasons (them time holiday, lack of communication with school, unsatisfactory reasons for missing the school day)
Communicate each day with students that are off ill in the hope we will see them that afternoon or the next day, to minimise lost learning.

All of the above communications are non judgemental and are simply the school highlighting the importance of attendance. This is to protect the education and future outcomes/opportunities for all students.

If families feel they need support with their child's attendance, they should reach out to the school attendance officer, progress leader and/or medical professionals.

Road safety

We have shared a useful parent up sheet on [Safety on the Road](#).

A majority of students will walk, cycle or scoot to school or designated pick up points for bus routes.

When students are with their friends, rushing or using their devices they can sometimes become complacent to their surroundings and not recognise the risks of passing traffic. This has in the past led to near misses where cars have had to break or swerve suddenly.

We would be devastated if we received news that a student had come to harm when travelling to and from school and therefore we want to give them guidance and support to mitigate this as much as possible by always being aware of the hazards.

We would appreciate your support in communicating this to your children.

Mr Sim
DSL



School Traffic

We have reverted to our original traffic system outside the school. Please note the following:

- Please access and exit the school via the driveway, no longer using Sixth Form Road to exit
- The roundabout to be used in the normal way, no longer cutting across in front and down past Sixth Form
- Parking to be **ONLY** in allocated bays, not on the roundabout and not blocking other vehicles
- Only taxis/buses /mini-buses to use the Sixth Form Road
- Speed limits to be obeyed to prevent injury to the children.

Thank you for your cooperation.

