



SCHOOL NEWS 14 MAY 2026

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 11 Leavers Assembly	22/05/2026
May Half Term	25/05/2026 – 29/05/2026
Year 7 ARE	04/06/2026
INSET Day	19/06/2026
Year 11 Prom	25/06/2026

INSET Days for Academic Year 2025 - 26

The school will be closed to students on these days:

Friday, 19 June 2026

Wednesday, 22 July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As a Trust, we recognise the many benefits that Artificial Intelligence (AI) can bring to schools and families. At Worthing High School, we are continuing to develop the use of AI to support both students and staff, and when used appropriately, it can offer significant advantages across a range of tasks.

However, we are also mindful of some of the challenges associated with AI. In particular, we are seeing an increasing number of communications from parents and carers that have been drafted using AI tools. While we appreciate how helpful these tools can be, we are also encountering a growing number of inaccuracies, misunderstandings, and incorrectly interpreted legal references within these messages. This can make it more difficult for staff to respond accurately and resolve matters efficiently.

We kindly ask that, if AI tools are used when communicating with the school, all information is carefully fact-checked before being sent. As a Trust, we also recommend removing any language, terminology, or legal citations that are not fully understood or cannot be verified independently.

Mr P Panayiotou
CEO SDET

Mr A Cook
Headteacher

Following the launch of our new smartphone-free policy, we would like to thank the many families who have already shown their support and shared positive feedback about this important step for our school community.

We understand that, for some families, this represents a significant change and there may naturally be questions or concerns as students adjust to new routines. We want to reassure parents and carers that the school will continue to work closely with families to support a smooth and positive transition over the coming weeks and months. In order to support families with navigating a smartphone free childhood we will be hosting a locality meeting from Smartphone Free Childhood on June 18 at Worthing High School with presentations from experts in cybercrime, mental health and representatives from Smartphone Free Childhood. Details will follow in the next week once all speakers are confirmed.

This decision has not been taken lightly. As a school, we have engaged in extensive research, worked closely with other local schools, and considered national guidance and

evidence around the impact of smartphones on young people's wellbeing, focus, learning, and social development. The overwhelming message from schools that have already introduced similar approaches is that removing smartphone use has a positive impact on behaviour, engagement, attendance, and students' overall wellbeing.

Our priority remains creating the very best environment for learning, relationships, and personal development. We are confident that this policy will support students in developing healthy habits, stronger social interaction, and greater focus throughout the school day.

We appreciate the continued support of our families as we implement this change together.

Elsewhere in the school, a huge well done to our Year 11s who have started their first full week of exams in exemplary fashion. We are very pleased with how mature they are being and how well they are conducting themselves in and out of exams. A reminder to all Year 11 families to contact Mrs Rhodes if you have any wellbeing concerns, as they navigate this challenging period.

Mr A Cook
Headteacher

Student Leadership

Hello everyone! We are excited to introduce ourselves as the newly appointed Head Student Team for Worthing High School 2026–2027: Emma Ludlow, Louis Le Gac, Zante Dumbleton, Leah Hades, Thomas Young, and Harrison Wells. We are thrilled to lead this year's amazing team of Prefects and the Whole School Council. Each of us is deeply passionate about Worthing High, and we are proud to represent our school over the coming year. Our goal is to foster a more aware community regarding pressing issues such as mental health, while ensuring WHS remains inclusive by truly listening to student voices. We want to ensure everyone feels heard and encourage our peers to embrace the school's core values, understanding their significance throughout their journey at WHS.



Louis:

Hello parents and carers, I am delighted to introduce myself as the Head Boy of Worthing High School. I'm here to inspire your children to "always pursue excellence" and make WHS the best place it can possibly be! I'm a coach at Worthing Gymnastics Club, and I'm excited to transfer my skills from there to lead and work with all prefects this year. I am an avid athlete and academic, and I want to make WHS an even more inclusive school, ensuring your children feel just as at home here as I do!

Emma:

Hello all, I am Emma Ludlow and I am delighted to be the 2026/27 Head Girl here at Worthing High School. I am very excited to start this journey, and I want to open up more opportunities around the performing arts because they are so important to me. I am a strong musician and dancer who would love to introduce more of the arts to our current students and the new students joining us. I have had a really positive experience at this school and I want other students to feel the same. I hope to inspire others and make sure all students' voices are heard. The Head Student Team and I are proud to represent the school in the best possible way.

Action your Potential

Two new webinars from [Action Your Potential](#) coming in June and July.

Thursday 11 June 8pm**We Need To Talk About Mobile Phones**

[Video ad is here](#)

[Zoom Link Is Here](#)

Monday 13 July 7pm**Stepping Up To Challenge and Change - Managing transition**

[Video Ad is here](#)

[Zoom Link is here](#)

You can follow our [One Brain At A Time Podcast here](#) or watch [it on YouTube here](#).

Year 11 Canteen and Locker Refunds**Catering**

PS Catering are proud to provide the catering services at Worthing High School. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your custom while your child has been at Worthing High. Any monies still remaining on student accounts after 16 June 2026 will be refunded via their Wisepay accounts as long as the card used to top up, is still valid, or any balance can be transferred to a siblings account.

Cash refunds will only take place for those students who topped up their accounts with cash, or for those whose visa cards have expired.

Any requests for cash refunds must be made to the Canteen Manager accompanied with a signed and completed form which can be found at the bottom of this letter.

Students are encouraged to use any remaining funds on their accounts prior to their final exam.

Lockers

All lockers are to be cleared out and keys are to be returned to the Facilities Office by 19 June 2026.

If a locker key is returned and the spare key is available, a refund of £2 will be made in cash.

FOWHS

🌿 Save the Date – Bingo Night 🌿

We're excited to announce that our Bingo Night will be taking place on **Friday 3rd July!** More information, including how to book your place, will be shared soon.

🌿 Sponsors Wanted for Our Upcoming Bingo Night! 🌿

FOWHS are currently looking for local businesses or individuals to help sponsor our event.

Sponsoring our events allows FOWHS to raise even more funds to support the school and its students.

By supporting our charity, your business will receive great exposure through:

- ✦ Event promotions
- ✦ Promotion on the night
- ✦ social media shoutouts

Do you own a business — or know someone who does? We'd love to hear from you!

✉ **Get in touch: fowhs@worthinghigh.net**

Thank you for helping us make this event a success while supporting a great cause ❤️

Friends of Worthing High School – Pre-Loved Uniform Donations Needed

Friends of Worthing High School are kindly asking for donations of good-quality school uniforms for our pre-loved uniform sales.

These sales are a wonderful way to recycle uniforms, support our school community, and help keep school uniforms affordable and accessible for all families.

We would especially encourage Year 11 students who may no longer need their uniforms to consider donating them.

Donations can be dropped off at the school reception at any time that is convenient for you.

Thank you for your support and generosity in helping to make school uniforms more accessible for everyone.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Physical Education and Dance Clubs

Please see the attached updated posters for Summer Term. Click the link to view the updated [Summer Term 1 Clubs and Fixtures Timetable](#).

Non-Sports Clubs

Please find the [Non Sports Clubs](#). If you have any questions, please get in touch with the member of staff running the club.

Drama club will run on the following dates this term (They may be some Tuesday sessions for pupils who arrange this with Mrs Batchelor)
Wednesday 20 May

3 June – End of term - Every Wednesday except Wednesday 10 June

VACANCIES AT WORTHING HIGH SCHOOL

We advertise staff vacancies on our website under **Join Us/Vacancies**. Please take the time to have a look and share the information with anybody you know who might be interested in applying.

We are currently advertising for the following positions:

Teaching

No current vacancies

Non-Teaching

No current vacancies

SOCIAL MEDIA

For up-to-date information don't forget to follow us on the links below:

Instagram

Whole School: [worthingschool](#)

IT: [worthinghigh_it](#)

PE: [worthinghigh_pe](#)

FOWHS: [friendsofworthingschool](#)

X

Whole School: [@WorthingHigh](#)

Headteacher: [@WorthingHigh_ht](#)

South Downs Education Trust: [@sdetrust](#)

Trips: [@worthinghighout](#)

Worthing High Careers and Employability Service: [@WorthingHighCar](#)