



Headmaster's Letter

11th September 2026

Dear parents/carers and students,

I hope that this letter home finds you all well.

Walking around the school, as I have done this week, I have been very pleased to see how well all our 1,100 students and staff have settled into the rhythms of our rich school life here at Crypt. It is particularly pleasing to see our newest students in year 7, in year 12 and others across the school making friends, finding their feet and getting on with enjoying all the opportunities that a Crypt school education offers.

On Thursday evening, the school held its annual Speech and Prize giving evening, which celebrated the achievements, progress and success of our prize winners, and of the school more widely. It was a wonderful evening, the music was truly outstanding and I would like to thank everyone who attended and who made that event so special. It was a particularly special evening, as our guest of honour was Old Cryptian Dr Caitlin Davies (pictured below with fellow Old Cryptian, Dr Lewis Wilkins, head girl Ella and head boy Ollie), who attended the school between 2010 and 2012 in the sixth form, when the school was a boys' only school in years 7-11. Caitlin became the first female Crypt student to be appointed to the prestigious role of School Captain, leading the student executive team in her final year at school. After leaving the school, Caitlin studied biomedical sciences at Cardiff University, before studying for her PhD at Edinburgh University, in Translational Neuroscience. She is currently a senior analyst at LifeArc, who are at the forefront of medical research into rare diseases and drug-resistant infections. I am sure that those present will have



"We are an outstanding co-educational grammar school which places the child at the heart of all that we do..."



been inspired by the words and advice contained in Caitlin's speech. My congratulations to all our prize winners, who should be very proud of their effort and achievements across the last academic year.



Over the summer holiday, I was delighted to learn from Mr Rice (Head of Computing and Digital Strategy) that the school has been awarded the prestigious Gold CyberFirst Award, accredited by the National Cyber Security Centre. This award recognises the exceptional work that takes place at Crypt with regards to our computing and information technology offer and now unlocks for the school many additional exciting opportunities ahead.

Once again this year, we are very keen this year to promote to our students the 8 characteristics that together make up our vision of a successful Crypt Learner. Making progress in one's work, we think, comes down to each student developing important learning characteristics, and in doing so they will ultimately achieve success in their public and school examinations. Families at home may well want to discuss and promote these learner characteristics with their children, with homework of course also forming an important part of our curriculum at Crypt.



The Crypt Learner:

Our first full week back has certainly been busy, with student photographs taking place on Tuesday, and year 7 enjoying an instrumental case on Friday afternoon, acting to encourage them all to consider learning to play a musical instrument, and to get involved in the rich musical life of the school. On Monday after school, it was great to see the cast of our forthcoming whole-school production of Animal Farm rehearsing in the school hall, overseen by Mrs Crozier, head of drama, supported by her colleague Mrs Dale. Performances are scheduled for November and I very much look forward to observing their progress over the next few months.

Some sports practices, clubs and societies have started up this week, and although many school sports fields have yet to recover from the hot summer, it was good to learn of Crypt's U17 XV's friendly start of season rugby game against Marling on Wednesday afternoon in Stroud, of our senior netball teams' success against Marling, and of our year 9 touch rugby players involvement at the national finals held earlier today, under the watchful eye of Mr Farmer. The weekly clubs and societies that will be on offer this coming year are being finalised by Mr Hart, and he plans to issue the list to all students on Monday; the list will also be available to view on the school website. I encourage all students to get involved in something from the extensive programme on offer that will help them relax, have fun, develop key skills and make, or strengthen further their friendships in school.

Tomorrow, the Crypt hosts nearly 500 children for the grammar school entrance test in two sittings. I hope that anyone who has a child sitting the test here tomorrow, or indeed at any one of the country's grammar schools, performs to the very best of their ability. I'd like to thank Mrs Hazel Wasley and our staff and student helpers, who I know will ensure that the test day goes smoothly tomorrow.

Finally, I am delighted to announce that Mrs Rebecca Cantin, who worked at The Crypt School between 2018 and 2023, is set to return to the PE and games department in January, as a teacher of girls' PE. That's really great news for the work of the school.

With my continued best wishes.



Nicholas Dyer
Headmaster

Dates For Your Diary

14 September	Y13 Information Evening – Virtual, 6:00pm
15 September	Y10 Information Evening – Virtual, 6:00pm
15 September	Year Group Photos – Years 7 & 12
16–18 September	Y8 Residential
17 September	Camps International Parent Information Evening - virtual 6.00pm-7.00pm
18 September	Y13 Oxford University Visit
21 September	Y12 Information Evening – Virtual, 6:00pm
22 September	Y8 Information Evening – Virtual, 6:00pm
22 September	Y7 Heritage Day – 9:00am–1:30pm
25 September	Y7 Team Building Day

The Inspired Lecture Series 2026

"We are delighted to introduce this year's Inspired Lecture Series, open to all students at The Crypt School. The talks are designed to provoke debate, challenge students' thinking and broaden their understanding of the changing nature of the modern world. By hearing from a range of engaging speakers, students will gain fresh perspectives and develop the curiosity, confidence and knowledge needed for life beyond The Crypt.

We encourage parents and carers to discuss the programme with their child and support them in attending any talks that interest them. Students can reserve their place using the booking links provided below.

23 September - <https://forms.gle/hzig1YpNADuS7DAMA>

30 September - <https://forms.gle/WRjpkh49drXn32seA>

The poster features a dark blue background with a central illustration of a person's silhouette looking up at a glowing lightbulb. Surrounding the lightbulb are various icons: a rocket, a bar chart, a speech bubble saying 'PROBLEM → OPPORTUNITY', a gear, a globe, and a cloud labeled 'IDEAS'. Below the lightbulb, a list of actions reads: 'CREATE', 'INNOVATE', 'TAKE ACTION', 'MAKE A DIFFERENCE'. At the bottom right, there are three sticky notes: 'BIG IDEAS', 'BRIGHTER FUTURES', and 'YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE'.

INSPIRED LECTURE SERIES 2026

TALK TITLE:
WHAT IF?

The Power of Curiosity, Creativity and Entrepreneurship

IDEAS. OPPORTUNITIES. REAL IMPACT.

SPEAKER:
OLIVER HALE

DATE & TIME:
Wednesday
23 September 2026
1.30pm

LOCATION:
Room C3

WHO IS IT FOR?
Open to all
year students

BE INSPIRED **ASK QUESTIONS** **EXPLORE IDEAS** **SHAPE YOUR FUTURE**

BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVE. DISCOVER POSSIBILITIES. **#TOFLOURISH**

Year 10 & Year 13 Mock Interviews

We are looking for volunteers to support our Mock Interview Events during the 2026/27 academic year. Following the success of our Year 13 programme, we are hoping to expand the opportunity to Year 10 students, giving them valuable experience of the interview process and helping them develop confidence, communication skills and an understanding of employer expectations. Your time and professional expertise could make a real difference to our students as they prepare for their future education, apprenticeships and employment. If you are able to help we would love to hear from you. Please contact Chris Germaine cgermaine@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk for further information.



THE CRYPT SCHOOL

"to flourish"

Volunteer Interviewers Needed

Mock Interview Events 2026/27



Support our students by acting as an interviewer at our Mock Interview Events.



Year 13 Mock Interview Event

Friday 16 October 2026



8:30am–1:15pm



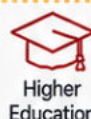
Volunteers will interview Year 13 students in 30-minute sessions, helping them gain valuable interview experience and build confidence for higher education, apprenticeships and employment.



We are also planning a Year 10 Mock Interview Event on **Friday 29 January 2027, 8:30am–1:15pm.**



You can indicate on the registration form whether you are available for the Year 13 event, the Year 10 event, or both.



Higher Education



Apprenticeships



Employment



Register your interest via our [Google Form](#)

Employer Volunteer Registration – Mock Interview Events 2026/27



Your time and expertise will make a real difference to our students.



For questions or further information, please contact Helen Michaluk at hmichaluk@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk



Inspire
Guide
Support
Succeed



Make a
difference
to future
careers

Careers Opportunities

"Now the new academic year has started, many organisations will start to launch their next cohort of apprenticeship and employment opportunities. Each organisation has its own schedule, so it is important to be aware of opportunities as they arise. We will share these with you as we are made aware of them.

Crowe Accountancy have launch their September 2027 opportunities. These can be found here <https://isw.changeworknow.co.uk/crowe/vms/e/careers/search/edit>

They are holding an Open Evening on 5 October 2026 and the registration details can be found here -

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/crowe-uk-early-careers-insight-evening-tickets-1998537722126?aff=erelpanelorg>



PEOPLE
IDEAS
PROGRESS

Smart
people
brighter
tomorrows

A
BRIGHTER
YOU

EARLY CAREERS INSIGHT EVENING

For Year 12 students considering their options after sixth form

 THURSDAY 8 OCTOBER 2026 |  5PM-8PM |  ST JAMES HOUSE, CHELTENHAM



Meet the Audit,
Tax & BAA teams



Network with
current trainees



Discover apprenticeship
opportunities

 **FREE TICKETS**
BOOK NOW ON EVENTBRITE



SEPTEMBER 2027 VACANCIES ARE NOW LIVE >>

Personal Education Development lessons, Term 1

"We are delighted to welcome our new cohorts to Personal Education Development lessons in Term 1 and are incredibly lucky to yet again, have a diverse, and dedicated staff to lead these lessons. We hope your child has settled into lessons well.

Over the academic year, within Personal Education Development, lessons explore personal issues, relationships, and aspirations. Students cover key issues facing them and the lessons at The Crypt School stress the importance of discussing topics such as physical and mental wellbeing, consent, relationships, and sexual orientation. An equally important focus for our students is their academic life: how to use study skills productively – whilst understanding how to deal with the pressures these can bring. The Crypt School also focuses on the students' pathways towards the working world; and this enables every student to reflect on potential careers, the skills required and the routes towards achieving their goals.

Our aim is to allow students to feel safe and to feel informed. We are happy to share a sample of the resources we use with parents and carers. Please liaise with your child's PED teacher for this. We encourage all to work productively and creatively, to build strong and positive relationships with others, and to contribute to their community. Our goal is to enable our students to flourish by gaining better control over their lives and resilience whilst helping them value themselves as individuals in a pluralistic society. Lots of work has already begun in Term 1-

Year 7 is exploring transition to secondary school and adapting to new environments. These include how to identify values, skills, areas for development and set personal targets and goals.. They will consider emotional management skills such as - meditation; self soothing; and being empathetic. Help in school will be signposted to the classes. Outside of school, further support could be found via

<https://www.familylives.org.uk/>

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/>

www.childline.org.uk

Year 8 is assessing how the internet can amplify risks linked to spending money in online environments and gaming platforms; and how peer pressure and social groups can impact financial choices made within digital spaces. They will review the role that targeted advertising, data collection, and algorithms play in shaping online consumer habits. They will revisit how to self-soothe and discuss the connection between mind and body. This will include the effects of sugar; the importance of sleep; and the benefits of physical exercise. Help in school will be signposted to the classes. Outside of school, further support could be found via

www.childline.org.uk

www.childnet.com

www.actionfraud.police.uk

www.cifas.org.uk/youngpeople

www.takefive-stopfraud.org.uk/about/take-five

Year 9 is focusing on factors that affect mental and physical wellbeing throughout adolescence. They will evaluate strategies to manage strong emotions and identify warning signs of emotional and mental health difficulties and be able to explain why self-harm and disordered eating are unhealthy coping strategies. They will evaluate the impact of different influences on decisions relating to body image. Help in school will be signposted to the classes. Outside of school, further support could be found via

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults/>

<https://www.mindful.org/>

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>

www.beateatingdisorders.org.uk

Year 10 is concentrating on making informed healthy and responsible health choices as they transitioned to KS4 academically and physically relating to food, sleep & physical activity. In addition, they should be empowered to know how and where to seek medical advice for issues relating to testicular or breast cancer and for menstruation issues. Help in school will be signposted to the classes. Outside of school, further support could be found via

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

www.childline.org.uk

www.place2be.org.uk

www.nhs.uk

www.teensleephub.org.uk

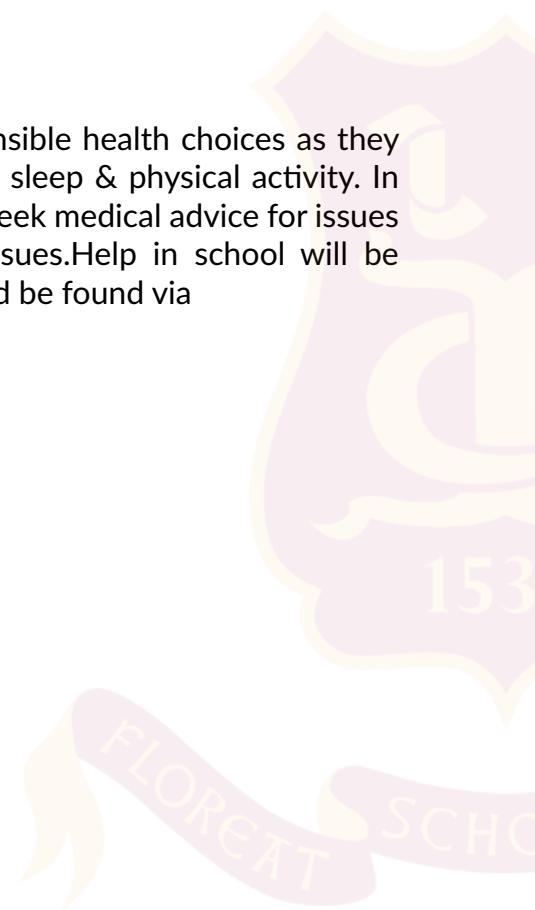
www.wellbeingofwomen.org.uk

<https://orchid-cancer.org.uk/testicular-cancer>

www.preventbreastcancer.org.uk/cancer

Year 11 is focusing on revisiting and building upon prior learning about mental health; exploring strategies that support wellbeing, (especially when managing workload & preparing for exams), dealing with stress, loss, change or grief. Help in school will be signposted to the classes. Outside of school, further support could be found via

www.mind.org.uk/



www.youngminds.org.uk/

www.kooth.com

www.winstonswish.org

www.childbereavementuk.org

Year 12 is discussing the range of post-18 pathways available, developing knowledge & skills to be able to set realistic, yet ambitious, career & life goals and present themselves effectively at interviews. Help in school will be signposted to the classes. Outside of school, further support could be found via

<https://www.unifrog.org/>

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

<https://www.ucas.com/>

Year 13 is focused on post 18 options such as personal statements for UCAS and Apprenticeships applications. Help in school will be signposted to the classes. Outside of school, further support could be found via

<https://www.unifrog.org/>

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

<https://www.ucas.com/>

Apprenticeship Help, Support & Advice

"If your child is interested in exploring apprenticeships, we encourage you to sign up for Amazing Apprenticeships' free monthly newsletter for parents and carers. Each short, focused edition brings trusted advice, useful resources, upcoming events and practical information directly to your inbox, helping you support your child as they consider their future options.

Use this link - <https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/newsletter/?newsletter=parent-carer-newsletter>"



DESTINATION INDIA

THURSDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER

MAINS

CHICKEN BIRYANI
with raita



VEGETARIAN MAIN

**SWEET POTATO
& LENTIL DHAL**
with basmati rice



SIDES

**BOMBAY
POTATO**



**KACHUMBER
SALAD**



NAAN BREAD

GRAB & GO



**VEGETABLE
SAMOSA**
with mango chutney



HANDHELD



**TANDOORI
CHICKEN BROCHETTE**
with mint yoghurt dip



PUDDING



**COCONUT SPONGE
& custard**



caterlink
feeding the imagination

Nature Nurtures

"The Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust are running an exciting program called Nature Nurtures which is aimed at children and young people who struggle with their mental health. The aim is to provide a safe and relaxed space for children and young people age 5-15 to build confidence, connect with others and with nature.

The project runs a block of eight consecutive sessions starting at the end of October, at Robinswood Hill, Gloucester. This is a free afterschool series that families can sign up for individually.

(Leader - Katie Hall katie.hall@gloucestershirowildlifetrust.co.uk) or the link to our website for more information. Any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Nature Nurtures | Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust"



Nature Nurtures

Connecting with nature to support mental wellbeing



Join our **FREE** sessions, running for 8 weeks
at Robinswood Hill, Gloucester

The sessions are designed to get children struggling with low level mental health issues, learning about nature and meeting new people.

Contact Katie at Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust to find out more and sign up: naturenurtures@gloucestershirowildlifetrust.co.uk

Ages 5 - 9

Saturdays
10-11.30am
24th October - 12th
December 2026

Ages 10 - 15

Saturdays
1-3pm
24th October - 12th
December 2026

Thank you to the NHS, our local community and business for making this project possible.





Funded by
UK Government

CRISIS &
RESILIENCE
FUND ●

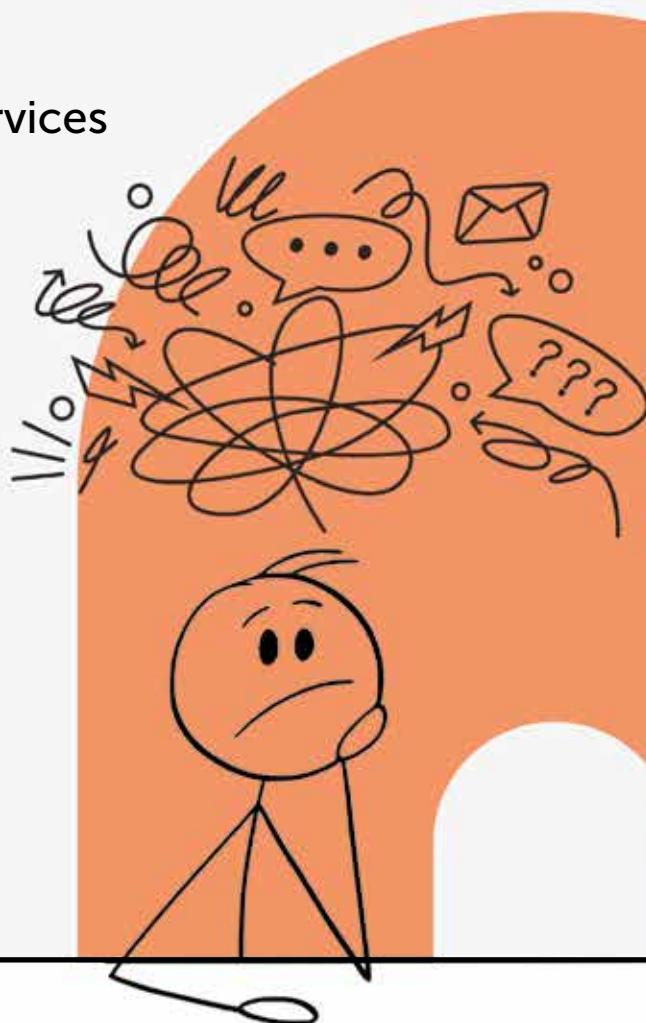
The Crisis and Resilience Fund

Help for people on low incomes in England who are facing a financial crisis.

- ✓ Crisis payments
- ✓ Housing benefits
- ✓ Financial support services

Apply to
Gloucestershire
County Council's
Crisis and
Resilience Fund.

Visit
Gloucestershire
Family Hubs to find
out more.



Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL



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Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL

We want to hear from you!

Understanding the harms in teenage relationships

- Are you aged 16- 25?
- Do you live in Gloucestershire?
- Did you experience red flags or an unhealthy relationship when you were under the age of 16?
- Did you feel like professionals struggled to hear you when you needed help?



Ways to get involved:

Sharing your experience in a **research workshop** with other young people.

Or

Shaping the direction of the project by joining an **advisory panel** with other young people.

Participants will be thanked with a **£25 voucher**.

Any questions?

Contact Annie:

annie.bunce@citystgeorges.ac.uk

Contact Kristie:

07741266901

Or **scan the QR code**

below to express interest.

