



INTHEKNOW

Friday, 17th April 2026

www.fairfax.bham.sch.uk

Educake Homework

Homework helps students develop important skills such as time management, independence, and problem-solving, while allowing teachers to assess understanding and reinforce learning.



At Fairfax, many departments use Educake, an online platform that supports retrieval practice. It provides instant feedback, highlights strengths and areas for improvement, and allows students to work independently. Teachers can also use the data to adapt lessons to better support students.

The pass rate for Educake homework will be **70% for Years 7–9** and **75% for Years 10–11**. These thresholds encourage careful engagement while allowing for some mistakes. Students who do not meet the required score should retry the questions until they do. We recommend noting incorrect answers to support improvement.

Compulsory homework will include a maximum of 20 questions. Failure to complete it on time, or to meet the pass mark, will result in a work detention. Optional homework may also be set, but this will not carry sanctions.

Students are encouraged to complete homework early to allow time for support if needed. Any login issues can be resolved at the IT Support Office (opposite B8).

Thank you for your continued support. For any queries, please contact the relevant Associate Assistant Principal...

Mrs Buckley	Associate Assistant Principal Humanities	e.buckley@fairfax.fmat.co.uk
Mrs Mackiewicz	Acting Director of Faculty Humanities	s.mackiewicz@fairfax.fmat.co.uk
Mr Hewitt	Associate Assistant Principal Business & Computing	b.hewitt@fairfax.fmat.co.uk
Mr Hyden	Associate Assistant Principal Science	a.hyden@fairfax.fmat.co.uk

Parent/Carer Calendar – Summer Term 2026

Please see the attached parent/carers calendar for Summer Term 1.

End of Year Exams

As we approach the end-of-year exams for years 7 to 10, topic lists and important information will be shared on Satchel One. Please encourage your child to review and complete all assigned revision tasks to support their preparation.

The maths faculty encourage all students to bring their own calculator to school, particularly as we approach the end-of-year exams. Having their own calculator allows students to become familiar with its functions and layout, helping them to use it more confidently and efficiently during lessons and in exam situations. Regular use of the same calculator can also reduce errors and save valuable time in assessments.

At the end of formal exams, if any Year 11 and Year 13 students who have finished with their calculators and no longer require them are invited to donate them to the school. These donations are greatly appreciated and will help support other students who may not have access to their own calculator. If you are able to donate, please ensure the calculator is in good working condition and hand it in at the school office. Thank you for your support.

Dance Evening 2026

An advance notice: Fairfax look forward to welcoming dancers and their parents/carers to the Dance Evening on Wednesday, 29th April 2026, from 18:00 in the Diamond Suite.

Term Dates Reminder – Summer Term 2026

Summer Term 1

Monday, 13th April – Friday, 22nd May 2026
(Bank Holiday – Monday, 4th May 2026)

Half-term

Monday, 25th May – Friday, 29th May 2026

Spring Term 2

Monday, 1st June – Friday, 17th July 2026



Football News

In addition to the Year 11 football team winning the **All Birmingham Cup Final**, with a 2-0 win which we announced in the last newsletter, we are pleased to announce that the team also won the **Erdington & District Cup** on Monday 23rd March, winning on penalties against Arthur Terry, the **Birmingham Super Cup** 3-0 against Cardinal Wiseman on Monday 13th April and the **West Midlands County Cup** 4-0 on Thursday 16th April, beating Pool Hayes.

#makingfairfaxproud

Uniform Reminder – Fairfax's Home School Agreement

Our Home School Agreement 2025-26 states, Fairfax expects that as a student I will: **'Wear the correct school uniform and wear it smartly, as expected'**.

Fairfax believes that wearing the correct uniform sets the standards for learning, conveys the positive image that the Academy warrants in the local community and ensures that staff are able to focus their attention on students' learning.

In the same way many employers expect their staff to wear a uniform, we expect our students to wear the Fairfax Academy uniform correctly each and every day.

Please ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform in order to support us to maintain high standards.

Blazers

- Blazers should be worn when students are moving around the school.
- Students may remove their blazer when they are seated at their desk during lesson.
- As the weather becomes warmer, we will communicate days when blazers are not required.

Trousers

- Trousers should be worn correctly at the waist and in line with the school uniform policy.
- School trousers should be tailored and straight-leg.
- Tight-fitting trousers or trousers with a large flare are not permitted.
- Please refer to the images previously shared for further guidance.

Skirts

- Skirts should be worn at an appropriate length – no more than two inches above the knee.

Other Uniform

- Shirts must be **tucked in** at all times
- Plain black v-neck jumper or cardigan (no sweatshirts or hoodies)
- The Fairfax blazer is a **priority** over wearing a jumper. If students are too hot, they should remove their jumper
- Ties must be **worn at all times**
- School shoes (not trainers)

ADHD Workshop

Please refer to the attached flyer for details of an ADHD Workshop run by BREWS Education, for parents, which takes place on Thursday 7th May.

PRIDE & Equalities Groups

The above groups held Monday lunchtimes with Mrs Hussain in A14 (groups alternate each week). Please encourage your child to attend, open to all year groups.

Peerscroller Clips FOR Y7-10 & Y12

New clips are being added all the time and utilised in Tutor Time/ both PSHE and subject specialism lessons, please ensure you can access this at home, both parents and students alike to carry on that learning. Peerscroller will be the main source of revision for Y7 and Y9 in the upcoming Summer Assessment Focus Week PSHE assessment.

Download from AppStore or GooglePlay, and key in... when asked...

Student Code: 529260

Parent Code: 174209

Parent Wellbeing Newsletter

Please see the attached parent wellbeing newsletter from the NHS.

YEAR 7

A reminder notice: Year 7 Parents' Evening is on Wednesday, 22nd April 2026, 15:45-18:45 and will take place in the Hall and Gym.

Please be advised that Fairfax uses an online booking system for Parents' Evening. Information about how to log on and book appointments has been sent.

Bookings open on Monday, 20th April at 18:00. If you have any concerns or queries about parents' evening, please email ff-parentsevening@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

YEAR 8

There are no Year 8 notices

YEAR 9

An advance notice: Options allocation letters will be emailed to parents on Friday 1st May 2026.

YEAR 10

A reminder notice: Sparx our online homework platform have added additional resources to support with revision. Each week, revision tasks will be released, with accompanying videos. Please refer to the link for more details [Introducing: Sparx GCSE Weekly Exam-Style Revision](#)

Students who have been entered for a language exam in the summer 2026 exam series should now have received their individual timetable from their form tutor. Please check all the information carefully and ensure you are familiar with the rules and regulations listed on your timetable. Any concerns or queries should be directed to the exams office before the end of the day on Tuesday 21st April.

YEAR 11

A reminder notice: Sparx our online homework platform have added additional resources to support with revision. Each week, revision tasks will be released, with accompanying videos. Please refer to the link for more details [Introducing: Sparx GCSE Weekly Exam-Style Revision](#)

Please be reminded of the additional intervention sessions being offered, which have previously been communicated home. We strongly encourage your child to take advantage of this support during these final few weeks.

Students should now have received their individual timetable for the summer exams from their form tutor. Please check all the information carefully and ensure you are familiar with the rules and regulations listed on your timetable. Any concerns or queries should be directed to the exams office before the end of the day on Tuesday 21st April.

A reminder notice: the Year 11 Prom will take place on Wednesday, 24th June 2026 at Aston Wood Golf Club. Payment is due by Friday, 1st May 2026. Please refer to the separate letter for further details, including details of dietary requirements. Please contact Head of Year 11, Mr Porter on m.porter@fairfax.fmat.co.uk for any further information.

Year 11 Leavers Hoodies

A reminder notice: a letter regarding Year 11 leavers hoodies has been sent, including the link to place orders: [School Leavers Co.](#)

To place your order, please use the following credentials:

- **USERNAME:** 11322
- **PASSWORD:** Mp5hAzZH

The deadline for hoodie orders and payment is Friday, 1st May 2026. Please be aware that the company will not be extending this deadline beyond the stated date.

YEAR 12

Students who have been entered for exams in the summer 2026 exam series should now have collected their individual timetable from the Sixth Form Centre. Please check all the information carefully and ensure you are familiar with the rules and regulations listed on your timetable. Any concerns or queries should be directed to the exams office before the end of the day on Tuesday 21st April.

An advance notice: there will be a Year 12 Parent Information Evening on Tuesday, 28th April 2026 at 18:00 in the Hall.

An advance notice: the UCAS discovery visit to the NEC is on Tuesday 23rd June and a letter with further details is being sent to parents.

An advance notice: the rewards trip to Lane7 will take place on Thursday 2nd July. A letter will be sent with further details.

YEAR 13

An attendance notice: as we approach the final months of sixth form for Year 13, please be reminded of the importance of attendance and punctuality. If your child is absent for any reason, please contact the sixth form supervisors on 0121 378 1288 (ext 3260), and leave the name of the student, reason for absence and when you expect them to return.

Students should now have collected their individual timetable for the summer exams from the Sixth Form Centre. Please check all the information carefully and ensure you are familiar with the rules and regulations listed on your timetable. Any concerns or queries should be directed to the exams office before the end of the day on Tuesday 21st April.

An advance notice: a visit to the University of Birmingham takes place on Wednesday 22nd April.

Year 13 Prom

A reminder notice: our Year 13 Prom will take place on Thursday, 25th June at The Town House in Sutton Coldfield. A letter with more details has been emailed to parents/carers, and we remind you that the deadline for purchasing tickets is Friday 24th April, via ParentPay.