



Year 9 Update

23/01/26

Stakeholder Feedback Survey

Vanguard Learning Trust is committed to ensuring that all students feel safe, supported and able to thrive in our schools. Your views are incredibly important to us and we would be grateful if parents/carers could complete a short survey [[click here](#)] this term on the theme of safeguarding. Your child will also have the opportunity to complete a version of the survey in school designed for students. **The deadline for responses to this survey is 4pm on Friday 6th February 2026.**

Safeguarding Snapshot

This week's safeguarding snapshot [[click here](#)] contains information for parents/carers on understanding the dangers of vaping.

Year 9 Options

We had a fantastic turn out at the Year 9 Options Information Evening on Wednesday, thank you for your support and engagement with the process so far. Please use this [link](#) to access the slides from the evening and the options booklet. Students will be receiving further information and guidance in the coming weeks.

Subject Specific Enrichment Activities

Imperial College Opportunities

Year 9 Girls Engineering Summer School: 4 - 7 August

If you enjoy maths and science and are curious about engineering as an area of study and potential career, this may be the programme for you!

This non-residential summer school for Year 9 girls will promote the breadth of engineering disciplines available if you continue to study science and maths beyond GCSEs. Find out more and apply at the link [here](#)

Oxford University Opportunities

Flash Fiction Competitions in French, Spanish and German

Complete story of **no more than 100 words**, in French, Spanish, or German, for the chance to win up to £100. Entries are judged by a panel of academics who are primarily looking for creativity, imagination and narrative flair, as well as linguistic accuracy. Pupils' language skills will be considered in the context of their age and year group: in other words, we will not expect younger pupils to compete against older pupils linguistically. Each language competition is divided into three age categories:

- Years 7-9 (ages 11-14)
- Years 10-11 (ages 14-16)
- Years 12-13 (ages 16-18)

Please submit your entry by midday on 31st March. [View full details](#)

Young Historian Awards 2026

The purpose of these Prizes is to encourage you to think, research and frame your own questions that you will answer from further reading and research. This might be the result of a piece of work your teacher has set you to do at home, or it may be a piece of research you are carrying out for your own interest. It is also an opportunity to perhaps tell some of the untold stories around the themes.

Deadline: 17th July

Open to: students aged from 11-19

[Find out more here](#)

The Institute of Mathematics and its Applications' Maths in Medicine and Health Poster Competition

The Brief: Make a poster to help Young People find out about how Maths is important in Medicine and Healthcare. Focus on one possible career or topic.

Deadline: 28th February

Open to: students from Year 7 (P7 – Scotland, Y8 – N.I) to Year 13 (S6 – Scotland, Y14 – N.I)

[Find out more and enter here](#)

Spring Term Key Dates

Friday 30 th January	FOV Quiz Night
Monday 16th to Friday 20th February - Half Term	
Friday 27 th February	Year 9 reports issued
Monday 2 nd March	Y9 options form opens
Wed 4 th , Thur 5 th & Fri 6 th March	School Production
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day (details to follow)
Thursday 12 th March	Year 9 parent consultation evening (online)
Friday 13 th March	FOV Quiz Night
Monday 16 th March	Year 9 options deadline
Friday 27th March	End of Spring Term (3pm finish)

Summer Term Key Dates

Monday 13th April	Start of Summer Term
Friday 15 th May	FOV Quiz Night
Monday 25th to Friday 29th May – Half Term	
Monday 15 th June	Student Photos - Y8, Y9, Y10
Wednesday 24 th June	Sports Day (year groups tbc)
Thursday 25 th June	Sports Day (year groups tbc)
Friday 26th June	Inset Day (school closed to students)
Friday 10 th July	Year 9 reports issued
w/c Monday 13 th July	Silver awards assemblies – Years 7, 8, 9 and 10
Friday 17th July	End of Summer Term (12.20pm finish)