



DOWNSIDE SCHOOL

KEY DATES 2025-26

OPEN DAYS 2025-26

Saturday 11 October 2025

Saturday 7 March 2026

Saturday 16 May 2026



MICHAELMAS TERM

Sun 31 Aug		Induction Day for New Pupils & Parents
	0930	First, Second & Third Form new boarders arrive
	1000	Sunday Mass, Abbey Church
	1015	Fourth to Lower Sixth Form new boarders arrive
	1045	New day pupils (all years) arrive
	1400	Second & Third Form current boarders return by 1500
	1400	Fourth to Upper Sixth Form current boarders return by 2100
Mon 1 Sep		First School day of the Academic Year
	0800	Day pupils return
	1135	Opening Mass of the School Year
Mon 22 Sep	0840	Fourth Form Retreat
Fri 26 Sep	1115	Downside Association New Parents' Brunch, Weld Cafe
	1200	Parents' Welcome, Theatre
	1245	Whole School Exeat
Sun 28 Sep	1700	Whole School Exeat Ends & boarders return
		First and Second Form boarders return by 1800
		Third to Upper Sixth Form boarders return by 2100

Sat 4 Oct	1120	Sixth Form Subject Fair
Sun 5 Oct	1000	Isabella House at Home
Mon 6 Oct	0900	Third Form Retreat
Thurs 9 Oct	1135	Whole School Mass, SS Roberts and Barlow, Abbey Church
	1830	House Singing Competition
Sat 11 Oct	0930	OPEN MORNING
Sun 12 Oct	1000	Caverel House at Home
Thurs 16 Oct	1830	Music Scholars' Dinner
Fri 17 Oct	1130	Michaelmas Half Term begins
		16+ Scholarship and Bursary Application Deadline
Sun 2 Nov	1400	Michaelmas Half Term ends and boarders return
		First & Second Form boarders return by 1800
		Third to Upper Sixth Form boarders return by 2100
Mon 3 Nov	0800	Day pupils return
	0840	Upper Sixth Form Retreat - Group One
Tue 4 Nov	0840	Upper Sixth Form Retreat - Group Two
Wed 5 Nov	1900	All Souls First & Second Form Liturgy (Old Chapel)
	2030	All Souls - Whole School Prayers Third- Upper Sixth Form (Abbey Church)

Thu 6 Nov		16+ Academic Scholarship Assessment Day 1
		16+ Music Scholarship Assessment Day 1
Fri 7 Nov		16+ Academic Scholarship Assessment Day 2
		16+ Music Scholarship Assessment Day 2
Sun 9 Nov	1215	Concert Band plays at Remembrance Sunday Parade, Bath
Mon 10 Nov		16+ Art Scholarship Assessment Day
		16+ Product Design Scholarship Assessment Day
		16+ Sport Scholarship Assessment Day
Tues 11 Nov	1045	Remembrance Service, Downside War Memorial
		16+ Theatre Studies Scholarship Assessment Day
Sun 16 Nov	1000	St Cecilia's Day Concert, Theatre
Thu 20 Nov	1900	Whole School Exeat Begins
Fri 21 Nov	1245	Whole School Exeat Ends & boarders return
Sun 23 Nov	1700	First and Second Form boarders return by 1800
		Third to Upper Sixth Form boarders return by 2100
Sun 30 Nov	1000	Smythe House at Home
		Powell House at Home

Wed 3 Dec	1900	Communities Christmas Black Tie Meal, Butler Room
Mon 8 Dec	1000	Whole School Mass, Abbey Church
	1815	London Carol Service
Thu 11 Dec	1400	Christmas Fair
	1645	Advent Carol Service, Abbey Church
1830		Michaelmas Term Ends

*Pupils accompanied by their parents/guardians may leave after the Carol Service.
Unaccompanied boarders may stay the night and leave from 9.00am on Friday 12th
December.*

LENT TERM

Mon 5 Jan

11+ & 13+ Scholarship Application Deadline

Wed 7 Jan 1400

Lent Term begins and boarders return

First & Second Form boarders return by 1800

Third to Upper Sixth Form boarders return by 2100

Upper Sixth Form pupils studying BTEC Sport & Enterprise ONLY may return at an earlier time that will be communicated by the School for exam purposes

Thurs 8 Jan 0800

Day pupils return

1135

Start of Term Mass, Abbey Church

Wed 14 Jan

11+ Entrance & Scholarship Assessment including Music, Choral & Sport

Thu 22 Jan

11+ Scholarship Announcement

Fri 23 Jan 1245

First & Second Form Exeat begins

Sun 25 Jan 1800

First & Second Form Exeat ends

Mon 26 Jan

Fifth Form Overnight Retreat

Tue 27 Jan

Fifth Form Overnight Retreat

13+ Academic Scholarship Assessment Day 1

Wed 28 Jan

13+ Academic Scholarship Assessment Day 2

Thu 29 Jan

13+ Art, Product Design, Drama & Music/Choral Scholarship Assessments

Mon 2 Feb		13+ Sport Scholarship Assessment Day
	1900	The Presentation of the Lord, First & Second Form Liturgy
	2030	The Presentation of the Lord - Whole School Liturgy Third - Upper Sixth
Thurs 12 Feb	1900	Fowke Recital Prize competition
	1400	Fifth Form online Parents' Conference
Fri 13 Feb	1135	Lent Half Term Begins. Fifth Form in-person Parents' Conference. 13+ Scholarship Announcements
Sun 22 Feb	1400	Lent Half Term ends & boarders return
	1400	First & Second Form boarders return by 1800
	1400	Third to Upper Sixth Form boarders return by 2100
Mon 23 Feb	0800	Day pupils return. Mock A levels begin.
Fri 6 Mar		Mock A levels end
Sat 7 Mar	0930	OPEN MORNING
Thurs 12 Mar	1135	Whole School Mass, St Gregory the Great
Fri 13 Mar	1245	First & Second Form Exeat begins
Sun 15 Mar	1700	First & Second Form Exeat ends
Sat 21 Mar	1135	Whole School Mass, St Benedict
Fri 27 Mar	1130	Lent Term Ends. First, Second & Lower Sixth in-person Parents' Conference. UCAS talk for Lower SIXTH parents.
	1900	Choral Concert

SUMMER TERM

Mon 20 Apr	1400	Summer Term begins and boarders return First & Second Form boarders return by 1800 Third & Upper Sixth Form boarders return by 2100
Tues 21 Apr	1135	Start of Term Mass, & Blessing of Examination Candidates
Sun 3 May	1000	Barlow House at Home
Fri 8 May	1830	Confirmation Mass, Abbey Church
Thurs 14 May	1135	Whole School Mass, The Ascension of Our Lord
Sat 16 May	0930	OPEN MORNING
Sun 17 May	1000	Roberts House at Home
Tue 19 May		Second Form Retreat, Lamyatt Village Hall
Fri 22 May	1130	Summer Half Term begins

NB Fifth Form and Upper Sixth Form pupils may be sitting external exams on Friday 22nd May & will be permitted to remain onsite until their exam is complete. This should be a key consideration when making travel arrangements for your child.

Sun 31 May	1400	Summer Half Term Ends and boarders return First & Second Form boarders return by 1800 Third to Upper Sixth Form boarders return by 2100
Mon 1 Jun	0800	Day pupils return
Tue 9 Jun	0830	Lower Sixth Form Retreat - Group One
Wed 10 Jun	0830	Lower Sixth Form Retreat – Group Two
Sun 14 Jun	1000	First Holy Communion Mass, Abbey Church
Wed 17 Jun	0900	Lower Sixth Higher Education morning
Fri 19 Jun	1900	Charity Showcase concert
Sat 20 Jun		Fourth Form Virtual Parents' Conference
Mon 22 Jun	0900	First Form Retreat - Witham Friary
Thurs 25 Jun	1700	Head's Prize Assembly (First to Lower Sixth Form)
	1830	Music for a Summer's Evening
Fri 26 Jun	1000	Prize Day Mass
	1400	Summer Term ends
	1900	Upper Sixth Form Leavers' Ball

Please note, school events may be subject to change. Parents will be notified of any date or time changes to events via email

SCHOLARSHIPS & ENTRANCE DAYS

Entrance Days

I1+ Entrance Day on 14 January

I3+ Entrance Day on 10 February

Scholarships

I3+ Sports – 2 February 2026

I3+ Academic Scholarship – 27 + 28 January 2026

I3+ Drama Assessment – 29 January 2026

I3+ Art & Product Design Assessment – 29 January 2026

I3+ Music/Choral Assessment – 29 January 2026

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