

Welcome to GDST Runway

Imagine having over 2,000 people you can ask, who have already done the things that you are wondering about.... welcome to GDST Runway.

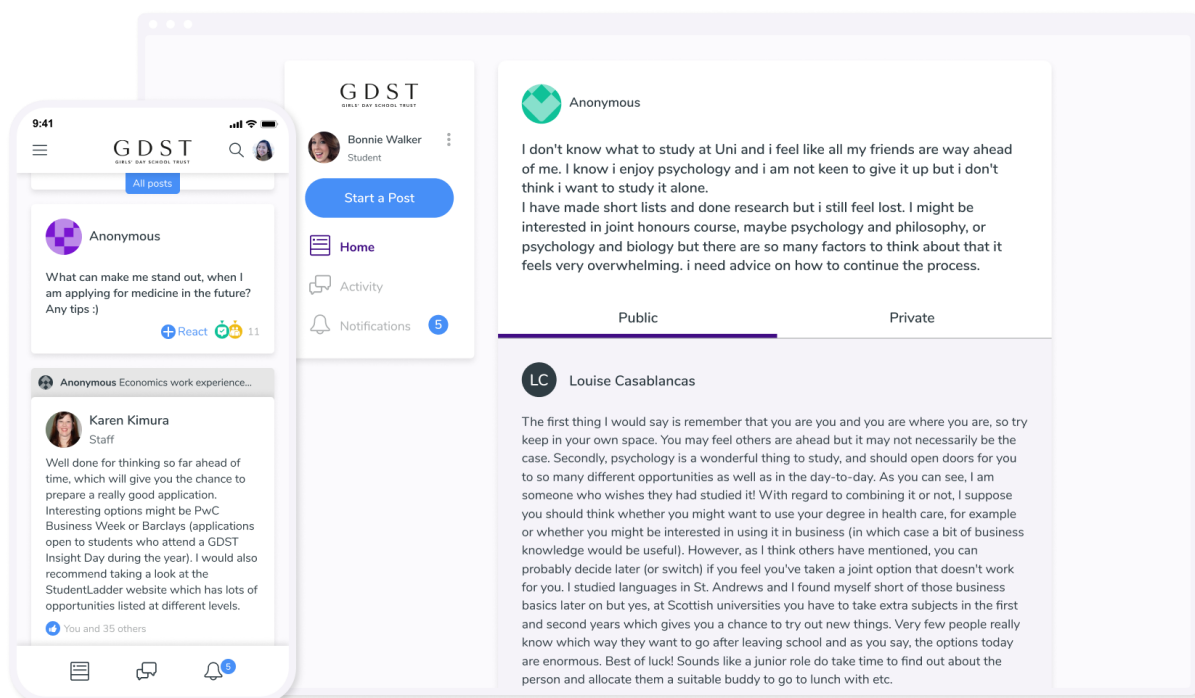
Now more than ever, our sense of community is really important. As a member of a GDST sixth form you have access to Runway, our online chat forum which connects you with alumnae who can answer your questions about life beyond school.

How it works

The app provides access to a closed community of GDST sixth formers, alumnae and staff.

You can post a question any time, any place, from a computer or via the app, and have it picked up and answered by one or more of our Runway mentors (an alumna, member of staff or perhaps even a peer).

But here is the key. You can choose to post questions anonymously: and all responses are named (which holds our mentors accountable for their advice). Your mentor(s) can choose to reply privately to you (one-to-one), or they can share their reply for the benefit of all. Private conversations will be visible to you and your mentor only.



Here is the process, in a nutshell.

- We have already got hundreds of mentors registered on the app and sixth formers from across the GDST actively posting their questions.
- As you start your GDST sixth form journey, we are inviting you to join the Rungway community.
- As mentees, you can post questions – anonymously if you want (but open to all).
- Mentors can respond – always visibly, but with the option to choose whether their reply is a private conversation or an open conversation thread.
- This way, advice can be given one-to-one, or shared openly for a bigger conversation which others can join.

How to access

It is quite simple. All mentors and mentees are invited to join the app by using this link: by following this link: <https://app.rungway.com/gdst/request-invite> Please register, download the app to your tablet or phone, and start joining in the conversation. Browser access is available on a PC, too.

Safety

The GDST takes a safety-first approach to any technology and has spent a lot of time to get all the assurances needed to know that Rungway is a secure platform, properly moderated, and with clear instructions for use.

In outline, safeguards have been built into the app which will identify risk in three areas:

- Content: being exposed to illegal, inappropriate or harmful material
- Contact: being subjected to harmful interaction with others
- Conduct: personal online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm

And there are three stages to the moderation system behind the app.

- Stage 1: AI/ key words pick-up
- Stage 2: Eyes on (at Rungway.com)
- Stage 3: Escalation, as required, to a nominated school staff member

When registering onto the app, all users will be asked to sign up to the terms of conduct.

Escalation and anonymity

All students' posts on the app will always be anonymous. You will only lose your anonymity if you breach the terms of conduct; that is, if you are not following policy or are being abusive or breaking the law.

If there is a delicate wellbeing situation that requires escalation to a specialist, this can still be dealt with anonymously – over the app - and it is up to you whether you want to reveal yourself to receive more personal support from school.

Since Rungway's launch we have welcomed over 2500 students and alumnae to the platform and look forward to welcoming you to the Rungway community soon.

Thank you!