



Hillhead High School
Oakfield Avenue
Glasgow G12 8LJ
Phone 0141 582 0100



Head Teacher
K McAlaney

21st August 2023

S6 Information Letter

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am delighted to welcome back our returning S6 pupils to their final year of secondary school as their year-group head. Having been appointed to the role in June, I am looking forward to working with you and your young person throughout this year.

Channels of Communication

I am sending this letter to share some essential information for the year ahead. As well as letters like this, updates will be communicated through:

- our Twitter account (<https://twitter.com/HillheadHS>)
- the GroupCall app
- our website (<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/hillheadhigh/>)

Your first point of contact with the school will usually be your child's Pastoral Care teacher. Pastoral classes are assigned for this year as follows:

6A – Mrs McLennan gw18mclennankarenemm@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

6B – Miss Hewitt gw09hewittjenny@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

6C and 6D – Mr Greechan gw07greechanjohn@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

6E – Miss Campbell gw19campbellkirstin@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

6F – Miss Christie gw21christiehannah1@glow.sch.uk

Furthermore, I can be contacted by email at gw11carsonthomas3@glow.sch.uk.

An online information evening for S6 will take place on **Thursday 7th of September** on Teams from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. More details will be shared closer to the time.



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Progress Updates

Parents' Evening, where one-to-one meetings can be scheduled with each of your child's teachers, will take place on **Tuesday 10th of October** from 4.15pm to 6.45pm.

A usual, tracking reports are shared to give you a snap-shot of your child's progress throughout the year. Dates for these will be shared soon.

As Mr Neil did for S5 last session, I will be running **online drop-in sessions** each month. These are an opportunity to log-in to ask me any questions. These will take place from 7.30pm to 8.15pm on the following dates: 20th Sept, 11th Oct, 15th Nov, 13th Dec, 17th Jan, 21st Feb, 13th Mar, 17th Apr, 15th May, 5th June.

Reminders for all these events will be shared via the usual channels.

In the meantime, if you have questions about your child's progress in any subjects you can contact the Faculty Head of the subject on the email addresses below:

- English: Miss Southern gw20southernsusan@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
- Expressive Arts: Mr Reid gw10reidross@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
- Humanities: Mr Elder gw10elderdouglas3@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
- Mathematics: Mr Scanlan: gw15scanlanmarkdanie@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
- Modern Languages: Mrs Campbell-Young gw10campbellyounglau@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
- P.E. and Health & Wellbeing: Mr Gemmill gw14gemmilljohn3@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
- Science: Mrs Hill gw21hillkathryn@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
- Technologies: Miss Cuthbertson gw10cuthbertsonelain@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

Hillhead Habits of Learning and Belonging

S6 pupils are role models for younger year groups and help set the tone for the rest of the school in terms of positive habits. At Hillhead, we believe in instilling the following:

- Quality **Learning Time** – maximising time in class
- Positive **Learning Quality** – maximising focus in class
- Being **Part of the Team** – feeling a sense of belonging and pride in our school community

Full school uniform (white shirt, blue tie, black trousers or skirt) is essential in fostering a sense of belonging in our school community. Enforcing a low-cost school uniform is inclusive and minimises pressure on pupils to wear expensive designer clothing.

As well as this visible sign of leadership, all S6 pupils will join **committees** this year which are designed to support school identity and community. This work will not only support the wider life of



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the school develop key skills, it will also give the opportunity for all pupils to obtain their Level 6 SQA Leadership Award. Pupils will sign up to committees following an assembly this week.

Timekeeping and attendance are imperative in ensuring that learning time is maximised. All S6 pupils are required to attend registration each morning at 8.54am to find out essential information as well as opportunities. If we have concerns about attendance, letters will be sent out by Pastoral Care teachers to communicate this and support us all working together to support your child.

Financial Information

While we work hard to minimise the cost of the school day for all pupils, any payments (e.g for prom, ties) must be made to the school via ParentPay. More information on ParentPay can be found here: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/hillheadhigh/shop/>

S6 pupils may be entitled to a monthly payment through the Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA). Details of criteria and how to apply for EMA have been posted on the S6 Teams page.

We also have a Financial Inclusion Support Officer (FISO) who is available to provide free advice regarding finances. This includes entitlements such as EMA, Free School Meals and school clothing grants. Her name is Nicola McCaskill and she can be contacted in confidence at 0141 648 2022 or at schools@money mattersweb.co.uk.

More information regarding financial supports can be found here:
<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/hillheadhigh/school-information/cost-of-the-school-day/>

Examinations and Supports

The 2024 SQA exam diet starts on Monday 22 April and finishes on Thursday 30 May. The full exam timetable is due to be published by the end of August.

To support with the examinations, S6 Evidence Gathering will take place this year from Monday 29th January to Friday 16th February. Time is also built into this period for mop-up due to absence as well as supporting the completion of the Level 6 Leadership Award.

As ever, there will be a huge amount of academic support available to young people throughout S6. The school's supported study timetable is always comprehensive and will be shared in due course. In the meantime, eSgoil (<https://www.e-sgoil.com/>) and WestOS (<https://www.westpartnership.co.uk/west-os/>) offer live and recorded sessions that are available now.



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Leaving School

A lot of work goes into helping prepare our pupils for leaving school. A great deal of support from the Pastoral Care and Pathways Teams to ensure they pupils are ready for life after Hillhead High School. UCAS, college and modern apprenticeship deadlines will be shared in the coming months. We will be hosting an information evening (date to follow) which will cover the range of supports that are available, as well as provide information about the application process for college, university, employment and apprenticeships.

I am looking forward to working with you to ensure that your child has a fulfilling and successful final year at Hillhead High School.

Kind regards,

Mr Tom Carson

Depute Head Teacher

0141 582 0100

gw11carsonthomas3@glow.sch.uk



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