



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

**Head Teacher**  
K McAlaney

21<sup>st</sup> August 2023

### **S4 Parent/Carer Information**

Dear Parent / Carer

First of all, I hope this communication finds you and all your family safe and well. With the new school year underway I thought this would be a good time to communicate with you about the year ahead and provide you with information about key dates, expectations and messages that will allow your child to make a positive start to the new term and plan to ensure success. This information will allow you to work in partnership with us, as we look to provide the best learning environment for your child as they start their Senior Phase (S4-S6) journey here at Hillhead High School.

### **Our two-year structure, tracking reports, parents' evening and contacts**

Your child has now started their individual journey towards the best qualifications they can achieve. At Hillhead High School our S4 pupils benefit from a two-year timescale of study for their qualifications. This model allows greater depth of learning to take place and allows more time to gather evidence of work in each subject, so your child is truly ready to undertake their formal SQA examinations in May / June 2025. Support and challenge are important throughout this time and at the beginning of this journey it is vital that key messages are shared consistently with both our young people and their families as we aim to work in partnership to achieve success.

Throughout the next two years there will be tracking reports sent out to families at various points, with a parents evening being held to allow more detailed conversations to take place. The date S4 parents' night is below, and tracking report dates will be shared with you once they are finalised. If at any point you have questions about your child's progress, you should contact the Faculty Head of the subject on the email addresses also provided below.

S4 Parents Evening: **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

### **Departments/Faculty contacts**

English: Miss Southern [gw20southernsusan@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw20southernsusan@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Expressive Arts: Mr Reid [gw10reidross@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10reidross@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Humanities: Mr Elder [gw10elderdouglas3@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10elderdouglas3@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Mathematics: Mr Scanlan: [gw15scanlanmarkdanie@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw15scanlanmarkdanie@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Modern Languages: Mrs Campbell-Young [gw10campbellyounglau@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10campbellyounglau@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)



KINDNESS



AMBITION



INTEGRITY



RESILIENCE



RESPECT





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P.E. and Health & Wellbeing: Mr Gemmill [gw14gemmilljohn3@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw14gemmilljohn3@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)  
Science: Mrs Hill [gw21hillkathryn@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw21hillkathryn@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)  
Technologies: Miss Cuthbertson [gw10cuthbertsonelain@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10cuthbertsonelain@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

### Pastoral Care contacts

4A: Miss Campbell [gw19campbellkirstin@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw19campbellkirstin@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

4B & 4C: Miss Christie [gw21christiehannah1@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw21christiehannah1@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

4D: Mr Greechan [gw07greechanjohn@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw07greechanjohn@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

4E: Mrs McLennan [gw18mclennankarenemm@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw18mclennankarenemm@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

### Hillhead High Habits and Expectations

Regular in-school tannoy messages and posts on the S4 Year Group Teams page will continually reinforce our school values and expectations. It is crucial that your child always conducts themselves in an appropriate manner, both within our school building and across our wider community. We expect our pupils to live our positive ***“Hillhead Habits of Learning & Belonging”*** where we promote,

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.

- S4 pupils should wear full school uniform every day. PE kit should be brought in a bag and all pupils should change into their kit at the beginning of the lesson and back into their school uniform at the end.
- S4 pupils should come to school fully prepared with all materials and equipment for class, including their fully charged school iPad.
- S4 pupils should arrive on time and attend all classes each day, including daily registration and Friday Period 5.
- S4 pupils should work hard and give 100% effort during **every** timetabled class.
- S4 pupils should complete all classroom and homework tasks to the best of their ability.
- S4 pupils should not be using or have their mobile phone out in class, the focus should be on learning.
- S4 pupils should model our school values consistently.



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Our school values and “Hillhead Habits” will continue to be reinforced throughout S4 and in our year group assembly which takes place on a Thursday morning in the hall during registration.

### **Support / Information**

- **S4 Information Night (Online via Microsoft Teams)**

Our S4 Information Night will take place on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September, 6.30-7.30pm, via Teams**. The meeting will be set up on the S4 Year Group Teams page and will be accessed using your child’s school iPad. During the evening I will explain the structure of S4, provide more information about expectations and give details of the supports in place for your child.

- **Coaching and Mentoring**

Over the last two years our S4 pupils have benefitted from our S4 coaching and mentoring programme. The programme allows our S4 pupils to work closely with designated teachers in one to one and small group settings throughout the year. Conversations take place regarding study / revision techniques, time management and organisation along with general support. The building of strong relationships between pupil and coach / mentor has proved highly beneficial and is another layer of support for our young people.

- **Family Drop-Ins**

I will be running monthly family drop-ins via Microsoft Teams starting in September. These drop-ins are optional for families and allow you to log in with your child using their school iPad, to discuss any issues or concerns you may have. These sessions will run from 6pm-6.45pm and each family will have a 10-minute time slot with me. Please see dates below;

**Wed 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**Wed 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

**Wed 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

**Wed 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

**Wed 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**Wed 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024**

**Wed 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**Wed 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**Wed 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**Wed 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024**



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### **S4 Evidence Gathering**

At Hillhead High School we are keen to promote the importance of continuous hard work and effort and that every piece of work has value. We are more than an exam factory; however assessments are of course a vital part of school life and as our pupils' progress through their Senior Phase journey it is important to gather information on their progress across their subjects in a more formal setting to give them experience of the "exam environment". Our S4 pupils will complete this experience through their evidence gathering window which will take place around week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> May until Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June (more information to be shared at our upcoming online information evening).

We are keen that every S4 has a successful two years. The journey begins now.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Steven Neil

Depute Head Teacher Email: [gw10neilsteven@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10neilsteven@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)



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