



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

Head Teacher
K McAlaney

21st August 2023

S5 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 now well underway I thought this would be a good time to connect with you and share some important information. 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 begin their second year of their Senior Phase journey here at Hillhead High School.

Tracking reports, parents' evening and contacts

Your child is now halfway through their journey towards SQA qualifications. Support and challenge are important throughout this time and at the beginning of the school year 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 this academic session tracking reports will be sent out to families at various points, with a parents evening being held to allow more detailed conversations to take place. The date for S5 parents' night is outlined below, tracking report dates will be shared as soon as 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. I have also added contact details for our Pastoral Care Team.

S5 Parents Evening: **Tuesday 16th January 2024**

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.sch.uk



KINDNESS



AMBITION



INTEGRITY



RESILIENCE



RESPECT





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Pastoral Care contacts

5E: Miss Campbell gw19campbellkirstin@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

5B: Miss Christie gw21christiehannah1@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

5C: Mr Greechan gw07greechanjohn@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

5A & 5D: Miss Hewitt gw09hewittjenny@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

5F: Mrs McLennan gw18mclennankarenemm@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

Hillhead High Habits and Expectations

Regular in-school tannoy messages and posts on the S5 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.

- S5 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.
- S5 pupils should come to school fully prepared with all materials and equipment for class, including their fully charged school iPad.
- S5 pupils should arrive on time and attend all classes each day, including daily registration and Friday Period 5.
- S5 pupils should work hard and give 100% effort during **every** timetabled class.
- S5 pupils should complete all classroom and homework tasks to the best of their ability.
- S5 pupils should not be using or have their mobile phone out in class, the focus should be on learning.
- S5 pupils should model our school values consistently.



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Our school values and Hillhead High Habits will continue to be reinforced throughout S5 and in our year group assembly which takes place on a Friday morning in the hall during registration.

Support / Information

- **S5 Information Night (Online via Microsoft Teams)**

Our S5 Information Night will take place on **Wednesday 6th 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 provide more information on S5, particularly in relation to evidence gathering and SQA, while also taking time to outline expectations and give details of the supports in place for your child.

- **Coaching and Mentoring**

Throughout S4 your child benefited from having a coach/mentor thanks to the programme created and delivered by my colleague, Mr Tom Carson (Depute Head Teacher) and his Raising Attainment Team. This will continue throughout S5 and all pupils will have the opportunity 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 as they progress through S5.

- **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 6.45pm-7.30pm and each family will have a 10-minute time slot with me. Please see dates below;

Wed 20th September 2023

Wed 11th October 2023

Wed 15th November 2023

Wed 13th December 2023

Wed 17th January 2024

Wed 21st February 2024

Wed 13th March 2024



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Wed 17th April 2024
Wed 15th May 2024
Wed 5th June 2024

S5 Formal Evidence Gathering

Over the last few years at Hillhead High School, we have worked hard to change the messaging around the idea of “prelim examinations” and the thinking that a pupil's performance in one formal assessment should dictate their ability to sit the final exam. From **Thursday 23rd Nov – Thursday 7th Dec** our pupils will sit their formal evidence papers across their subjects. These assessments will have the formality of SQA exams, with invigilators and timed papers, however the purpose is to provide all our S5 pupils with the “exam” experience and allow class teachers to measure progress, while providing robust evidence in appropriate conditions. Your child is more than just one exam/performance!

It is crucial that every pupil makes a positive start to S5. Every piece of work carried out by your child has value. I am sure that with focus, hard work and consistent effort, they will have a successful year.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Steven Neil, Depute Headteacher.

Email: gw10neilsteven@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk



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