



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

Head Teacher
K McAlaney

16th August 2024

S3 Parent/Carer Information

Dear Parent / Carer

It is a pleasure to write to you after a successful first week back in school following the summer holiday. I am already very encouraged to see how well pupils have settled back into school routines. It is evident that, across the year group, many pupils have an awareness or sense that S3 is an 'important year'. There are many significant milestones and events that occur through S3, not least with it marking the final year before pupils make choices for National Qualifications (NQ) subjects. With much to be communicated, considered and understood, we know that it is vital for pupils and their families to be able to access the most up to date information.

Channels of Communication

We will continue to provide updates (like this letter) through our existing platforms:

- Our Twitter (X) account (<https://twitter.com/HillheadHS>)
- The GroupCall 'Expressions' app
- Our website (<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/hillheadhigh/>)
- Year group 'Teams' pages (available to pupils through their school iPad)

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

3A – Miss Campbell gw19campbellkirstin@glow.sch.uk

3B – Miss McCarthy gw10mccarthyclaire@glow.sch.uk

3C – Mrs Alexander gw10higginsnicola@glow.sch.uk

3D – Mr Greechan gw07greechanjohn@glow.sch.uk

3E – Miss Hewitt gw09hewittjenny@glow.sch.uk

3F – Miss Christie gw21christiehannah@glow.sch.uk

Furthermore, I can be contacted by email at gw17brownstuart@glow.sch.uk

Departments/Faculty contacts

- 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: Miss Ayton gw11aytonalyson@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk



KINDNESS



AMBITION



INTEGRITY



RESILIENCE



RESPECT





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- Business, Admin, Computing: Miss Cuthbertson gw10cuthbertsonelain@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
- Graphics, Woodwork: Mr Tait gw16taitdavid1@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

Year Group Assemblies

These will continue every Wednesday, throughout the session ahead. Pupils are required to be in the assembly hall at 8.54am. Assemblies provide a vital opportunity for year group wide engagement, information and feedback. One crucial resource for assemblies are iPads. We have already used these to make the experience more interactive and to capture the collective voice of the group. We ask that all pupils enable themselves to be included in these activities by remembering to bring their iPad, charged, to school each day.

Hillhead High Habits of Learning & Belonging

Regular in-school tannoy messages and posts on the S3 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.

- S3 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.
- S3 pupils should come to school fully prepared with all materials and equipment for class, including their fully charged school iPad.
- S3 pupils should arrive on time and attend all classes each day, including daily registration and Friday Period 5.
- S3 pupils should work hard and give 100% effort during **every** timetabled class.
- S3 pupils should complete all classroom and homework tasks to the best of their ability.
- S3 pupils should not be using or have their mobile phone out in class, the focus should be on learning.
- S3 pupils should model our school values consistently.

Timekeeping and attendance are imperative in ensuring that learning time is maximised. All S3 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.



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Upcoming events & longer-term plans

There are a number of significant events and milestones for pupils as they move through S3:

- First tracking report (1 of 3) – Week beginning 16.09.24
- Introduction to S4/S5 options – Week beginning 02.12.24 – a letter will be issued to coincide with this
- Preliminary options survey – as above
- Options initial scoping exercise (pupils indicate preferred options for S4/S5) – Week beginning 09.12.24 until after winter break
- Second tracking report (2 of 3) – Week beginning 16.12.24
- January – Online parents information evening – date TBC.
- S3 parents evening – 04.02.25
- Commencement of final selection of options – Week beginning 10.02.25
- Third tracking report (3 of 3) – Week beginning 17.03.25
- Move to S4 (new timetable) – Week beginning 26.05.25

Financial Information

While we work hard to minimise the cost of the school day for all pupils, any payments (e.g for trips, 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/>

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/>

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Stuart Brown

Depute Head Teacher



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