



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

Head Teacher
K McAlaney

14th August 2025

S4 Parent/Carer Information

Dear Parent / Carer

I hope this communication finds you safe and well and you had a great summer holiday. We are about to start another busy school year, and I am looking for all our S4 pupils to hit the ground running. This is the best time to communicate with you about the year ahead and provide information about key dates, expectations and messages that will allow your child to make a positive start to the new term. 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 vision at Hillhead High School is "We Thrive Together." By working in partnership we can ensure this happens.

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 2027. 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 you and your child as we aim to work in partnership to achieve success.

Throughout the next two years there will be tracking reports sent out at various points, with a parents' evening being held to allow more detailed conversations to take place. The date for S4 Parents' Evening and the scheduled distribution of tracking reports for session 2025/26 are highlighted below. If at any point you have questions about your child's well-being, please contact their Pastoral Care teacher (contact details below), if you have specific subject related questions, please contact the Faculty Head of the subject on the email addresses also provided below.

S4 Parents Evening: **10th March 2026.**

S4 Tracking Reports will be issued in **October, February & June.**

Departments/Faculty contacts

- English: Miss Southern gw20southernsusana@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





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- 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
- Technologies: Miss Cuthbertson gw10cuthbertsonelain@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

Pastoral Care contacts

4A: Mrs McLennan gw18mclennankarenemm@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

4B & 4E: Miss Hewitt gw09hewittjenny@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

4C: Mrs Alexander gw10higginsnicola@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

4D: Mr Greechan gw07greechanjohn@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

4F: Miss Christie gw21christiehannah1@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

Hillhead High Habits of Learning & Belonging

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. Mobile phones should not be out 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.





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- 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.

Timekeeping and attendance are imperative in ensuring that learning time is maximised. All S4 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.

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

Communication / Support / Information

- **Channels of Communication**

As well as letters like this, updates and information will be communicated through:

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

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

Our S4 Information Night will take place on **Wednesday 3rd 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.

- **Family Drop-Ins**

I will be running monthly optional 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-6.30pm** and each family will have a 5–10-minute time slot with me. Please see dates below;

Wednesday 24th September 2025

Wednesday 22nd October 2025





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Wednesday 26th November 2025
Wednesday 17th December 2025
Wednesday 28th January 2026
Wednesday 25th February 2026
Wednesday 25th March 2026
Wednesday 25th April 2026
Wednesday 27th May 2026

- **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 week beginning **11th May until Friday 5th June** (more information to be shared at our upcoming online information evening).

- **Additional Academic Support**

A reminder that eSgoil (<https://www.e-sgoil.com/>) and WestOS (<https://www.westpartnership.co.uk/west-os/>) offer live and recorded sessions that are available now. These are fantastic online supported study resources which provide another layer of support for 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/>





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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

Steven Neil

Depute Head Teacher Email: gw10neilsteven@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

