



Highlands School News



18 September 2020



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Last week we welcomed all of our students back to school in a phased return. Students have responded excellently to the changes we have made to the school day and routines at school. I have been genuinely delighted with the mature and responsible attitude our students have shown on their return. Behaviour in the mornings and afternoons and during lunch time is better than at any time since I became headteacher of Highlands. Our new behaviour policy has supported this. The policy sets very clear expectations so students know exactly how they should behave. Detentions, held on the same day as the negative behaviour event (if set before 1:25 p.m.), allow us to immediately sanction behaviour. The policy ensures consistency in the way behaviour events are dealt with, something that I know staff, students and parents and carers value. Once we have our new management information system, Bromcom, functioning fully, we will provide parents and carers with login details and they will be able to see all positive and negative behaviour events and what they were issued for. We know that sometimes we have not been able to communicate the reasons for detentions as quickly as we would hope to, we are working to resolve this. Please keep in mind that students should be able to explain why they have been in detention, as the detention would normally have been issued earlier that day.

In the event of a case of COVID-19 at Highlands School we will email parents to inform them of any actions we will be taking. Please be sure to regularly check your emails to make sure that you are kept updated. Please read the newsletter every week as it is our main way of communicating with the wider school community. In the event that students have to work from home, we will use Google Classroom to set work. We are using our IT lessons to make sure that all students have their Google logins and we have surveyed students to check whether they have equipment at home that lets them get access to the internet.

Students who left their PE kit in lockers before lockdown can collect it from school next week please look at details on when and how on **page 6**.

Vincent McLnerney, headteacher

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BEHAVIOUR POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

Last term we shared our new [behaviour policy](#) and parent [information pack](#). We would like to bring parents/carers attention to the following important points:

Footwear - only smart black leather (or leather look) shoes are permitted. This means that trainers, Converse, Air Force 1 and any other canvas shoes are not permitted. Parents/carers have asked if leather Kickers are permitted. These are permitted as long as they are plain black shoes and not boots or the trainer variety of kickers (see photos below).

Below are some examples of shoes which are/are not acceptable. The headteacher reserves the right to determine which shoes are acceptable and which are not, to be in line with our policy.

ACCEPTABLE



NOT ACCEPTABLE



Mobile phones - are not permitted anywhere on the school grounds. This means anywhere within the school gates. Students seen with their phone or if a phone rings or pings while on site, will have their phone confiscated and will receive a detention. On the first occurrence of mobile confiscation the student be issued with a 40 minute on the day detention. If the phone is confiscated before the cut off point for detention, it can be collected by the student that day, after detention. If the phone is confiscated after the cut off point for detention, it can be collected at the following day, after detention. On the second occurrence of mobile phone confiscation a parent/carers (or any other adult nominated by the parents/carers) will have to collect the mobile phone after a minimum period of **two school days** from the day of confiscation. On the third and all subsequent occurrences of mobile phone confiscation a parent/carers will be required to collect the phone after a minimum period of **three school days** from the day of confiscation. A meeting with the head of year or the behaviour mentor will also be required.

Our mobile phone policy extends to smart watches, earphones, airpods, ipods and all electronic devices.

Uniform - students are expected to be in full school uniform, with shirts tucked in, from the day students arrive for their induction. There will be a member of staff on duty each morning conducting uniform checks. If students are not in the appropriate uniform the member of staff on duty will issue an appropriate sanction. If there is an exceptional and unavoidable reason why a student is not in the appropriate uniform, then parents/carers should email the school for the attention of the behaviour mentor for their child's year group by 8.20 a.m. explaining the circumstances. Year 12 and year 13 are required to follow the sixth form dress code.

Please can students, parents/carers also be aware that the following will not be permitted and this has been enforced from the induction day onwards.

- No nail varnish, nail extensions or any type of false nails.
- No brightly dyed hair or hair extensions.
- No shaved patterned hairstyles or eyebrows.
- Only one pair of stud earrings. No other jewellery (apart from a religious symbol worn under the shirt).
- No makeup other than light face makeup. No eye make up, lipstick or lip gloss etc. Lip gloss is a banned item.

RULES ON FACE MASKS

REMINDER: It is compulsory for students to bring their own face masks to school and ensure they are wearing them in the corridors during break, lunch and in between classes.



It is mandatory for students in years 9 to 13, to wear a face mask while in corridors. This is as a safety measure while students in the years 9 to 13 zone transition between lessons.



Years 7 & 8 students will remain in the same classroom for the vast majority of their lessons and therefore will not be mixing with other year groups. However, should they wish to wear a face mask on the few occasions where they are mixing with other year groups in the corridor, they may do so.



Face masks must not be worn in classrooms.



A member of staff reserves the right to ask a student to remove their face mask in order to identify them, while implementing safety measures.



The type of face masks worn must follow the guidelines below:



Blue surgical masks



Reusable, material face masks. Only in: black, grey, dark green and white.



No patterned face masks, scarfs or bandanas are permitted.

We hope that parents/carers and students will find this extra safety measure reassuring.



CORONAVIRUS RELATED ABSENCES- QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

What to do if...	Action needed	Code	Return to school when...
... my child has coronavirus symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not come to school. Contact school daily. Self-isolate. Get a COVID-19 test. Inform school immediately about test result. 	Code X	...the test comes back negative
... my child tests positive for coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not come to school. Contact the school daily. Self- isolate for at least 10 days. <u>Inform school immediately about test result.</u> Inform MPH and LEX. 	Code I	... they feel better. They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell/ taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection has gone.
... somebody in my household has coronavirus symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not come to school. Contact the school daily. Self-isolate. Household member to get a test. Inform school immediately about test result. 	Code X	... the household member test is negative
... somebody in my household tests positive for coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not come to school. Contact the school daily. Self-isolate for 14 days. 	Code X	... the child has completed self-isolation for 14 days.
NHS test and trace have identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms or confirmed coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not come to school. Contact the school daily. Self-isolate for 14 days. 	Code X	... the child has completed self-isolation for 14 days.
We/my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not take unauthorised leave in term time Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel Provide information to school as per attendance policy. <p><u>Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not come to school. Contact the school daily. Self-isolate for 14 days. 	Code X	... the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed.
... we have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not come to school Parent must provide medical evidence/doctors letter. Contact the school as required by the pastoral team. Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again. 	Code X	... school to inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again.
...A member of the household is shielding so my child cannot come to school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform parent that the school is deemed safe for students to attend even if family member is shielding. Treat as below 	Code O	.. the student should return to school immediately.
... we are concerned about our child catching coronavirus.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety measures are in place to ensure the school is as safe as possible. Pupils are expected to attend school from Septemebr 2020 and absence will not be authorised. Attendance Officer to refer the matter to HOY and inform LEX/ MPH. 	Code O	... the student should return to school immediately.



BACK TO SCHOOL

FIRST WEEK BACK AT HIGHLANDS SCHOOL



YEAR 7 INDUCTION WEEK

Our new year 7s have made an excellent start to their time here at Highlands. They have all worked really hard in their induction sessions and taken on board our school policies and are already becoming experts at STAR! They have shown kindness towards other members of their classes and I am very pleased that we've been able to give out so many achievement points already. They have done sessions on well-being, diversity and equality, growth mindset and metacognition as well as on the new behaviour policy and are showing themselves as being great role models for these areas. Well done year 7 and keep it up!

Rachel Halsted, head of year 7

SIXTH FORM INDUCTION DAY

On Tuesday 8th September we welcomed back our year 12 and 13 students for a induction day assembly followed by tutor time and a bespoke teaching timetable. It was wonderful to see so many of our students back in the building ready for learning. Students were fantastic, adapting to new changes in the school and are now prepared to resume their normal timetables from Thursday 10th September.

Given recent announcements from the government we are now asking that students only attend their timetabled lessons and are not expected to be in school full time. They will need to register in and out of the building at reception. If they have a lesson period one they will be registered by their teachers. We thank all students and parents for their patience and cooperation on this matter. If any further clarification is needed please email husseyia@highlearn.uk.

Aygul Husseyin, director of sixth form



NOTICES



COOKING CHAMPIONS

Cooking champions are a food focused organisation who have been supporting families in Enfield for the last six months.

They provide fresh produce and homemade meals for families who currently need an extra bit of support. This covers a range of circumstances including health and financial related issues.

If you would like to find out more about receiving this free service please contact Cooking Champions directly on 07598 675595 or info@cookingchampions.net.

STAY SAFE

We are always here to support our students whenever they need it. If students feel like they need any kind of support, please speak to a member of staff on the school premises so we can help.

Alternatively, when off school premises or if you would like to speak to someone anonymously, you can also call or chat online with trained professionals at Childline.

www.childline.org.uk



COLLECTION OF BELONGINGS FROM LOCKERS

As some students left items in their locker before the school closure, we have now emptied all lockers and their belongings have been bagged up and need to be collected. The opportunity to do this will be after school next week when 2 members of staff will be in designated areas so students can collect their belongings on the way home.

Below are details, please ensure your child is made aware of where to go.

Date and Time	Year group	Area to collect from
Monday 21 September 3.35 p.m. - 4.05 p.m.	Year 8	Collection outside the main reception doors (left hand side)
Tuesday 22 September 3.35 p.m. - 4.05 p.m.	Year 9	Collection outside the main reception doors (left hand side)
Wednesday 23 Sept 1.35 p.m. - 2.05 p.m.	Year 10 and 11	Collection from their designated section of the playground near the sail canopy



A MESSAGE FROM TFL

From Tuesday 1st September TFL have added over 230 extra buses to the network to bolster some of the busiest low-frequency routes for school children to travel on, including adding more vehicles to existing school bus services. In addition, they have been designating some existing regular buses as school services, which would be prioritised for school travel and would operate at full seated capacity, as is permitted by government guidelines for school bus services. Signs will clearly indicate that these are school services and they are planned to operate on half of all buses during school travel times on certain high-frequency routes.

Customers aged 11 and over are required to wear a face covering when using public transport services (including our school services) or stations, or taxi and private hire services, unless they are exempt on health or equality grounds. TFL advise anyone exempt from wearing a face covering to carry an exemption card. For more details please see [HERE](#). They are also asking people to carry hand sanitiser and wash their hands before and after they travel.

The service changes are proposed to remain in place until at least the end of October, although could be subject to change. You can find all travel guidance regarding school reopening and all bus routes effected on the TFL website [HERE](#).

LAMDA
Autumn 2020
SPEECH & DRAMA EXAM CLASSES
Exclusive to Highlands School
Acting, Public Speaking, Verse & Prose (Solo & Duologue)

- Develop stronger communication
- Improve confidence
- Build Acting repertoire
- Develop audition technique
- Earn UCAS points (Level 3)

Online tuition also available

- Beginner to Advanced Levels (Grades 3 to 8)
- Every Wednesday afternoon*
- 60 minute lessons (group)
- Individual lessons also available**
- Small, focused groups
- Social distancing compliant
- Fully qualified and experienced tutors
- £10 per week***

For more information,
email the Drama Department
mcginlew@highlearn.uk

* Alternative days available on request (subject to availability)
** Subject to availability, £25 per week
*** Payable termly in advance or monthly by direct debit

We teach
LAMDA
Exams & Qualifications

LAMDA

LAMDA speech and drama examinations have been offered to Highlands students as an optional part of the drama department's extended curriculum since January this year. During lockdown, lessons moved online and students were able to take their acting (solo) examination in July. We are delighted to announce that every student has been awarded a pass with distinction, including one student taking grade 6 who has now earned valuable UCAS points.

This would have been an outstanding achievement at the best of times but under the extraordinary conditions of lockdown it is all the more impressive. We want to congratulate all the LAMDA students for their hard work and outstanding achievement.

Face to face lessons resume on Wednesday 16th September from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. with social distancing and Covid safety measures in place. In addition to acting, students can now take exams in speaking verse & prose or public speaking.

If parent would like their child to enrol, please contact the drama department for more details.