



Highlands School Newsletter

28 February 2025



Photo: Year 9 The Great Debate

Dear parents and carers,

Over the half term break the Department for Education published the sixth form league tables for schools in England. We are absolutely delighted and very proud to share with you the news that Highlands was ranked 106th out of 4,352 sixth forms in England for value added. Even more impressively, if you count only state schools, we are 47th in the country. Our value added score measures how much better children do in their A levels on average at Highlands, compared with students with the same GCSE starting points in schools across the country. Our score was +0.4, meaning our students do nearly half a grade better in their A levels here than the average for schools in England. Lots of you will have had children in last year's year 13 cohort, you should be very proud of their groundbreaking achievements. We should also thank the sixth form teachers, sixth form leadership team and all those other people who supported last years' year 13 students towards being so successful. We are confident this year's year 13s will do even better!

Please note the important dates below for your diary this half term and, as we approach the holy month of Ramadan, I'd like to wish a very happy month and year ahead to all of you observing Ramadan.

Mr McInerney,
Headteacher.




Key dates for this and next half term:

- Wednesday 5th March: year 7 parents' evening
- Wednesday 12th March: year 10 parents' evening
- Friday 14th March: HPFA quiz night at Highlands
- Wednesday 19th March: year 12 parents' evening
- Friday 4th April: end of term, students released from school at midday



HPFA Quiz Night on Friday 14th March

The Highlands Parents and Friends Association (HPFA) is hosting an exciting Quiz Night hosted by the amazing Mr. McInerney! This promises to be a family-friendly, competitive, and fun-filled evening that you won't want to miss. Mark the date in your diaries, gather your friends and family, and get ready to show off your trivia skills!

 **Date:** Friday 14th March
 **Time:** 7pm
 **Location:** Highlands School

Tickets: Just £5.00 per person!

You can grab your tickets easily via [ParentPay](#) or, if you're not a parent/carer at the school, you can buy tickets [here](#).

What's on offer?

- Delicious food, tasty nibbles, and refreshing drinks will be available for sale at the event, all run by the HPFA!
- You are welcome to bring your own nibbles, but please note any alcohol brought in will be subject to a corkage charge.



Get your team together!

Tables can have up to 8 people, so bring your friends, family, and even your neighbours for a night of laughs, friendly competition, and a chance to show off your knowledge! Children over the age of 5 are welcome to join in the fun.

Raffle prizes wanted!

If anyone would like to donate a raffle prize, we would be incredibly grateful! Please get in touch if you can help out.

This is more than just a quiz night – it's an event that helps raise vital funds for our school and supports the activities and resources that benefit our children. Every penny raised goes directly to supporting the wonderful work happening at Highlands School. So, come along for a fantastic evening while supporting a great cause!

We can't wait to see you there!

HPFA



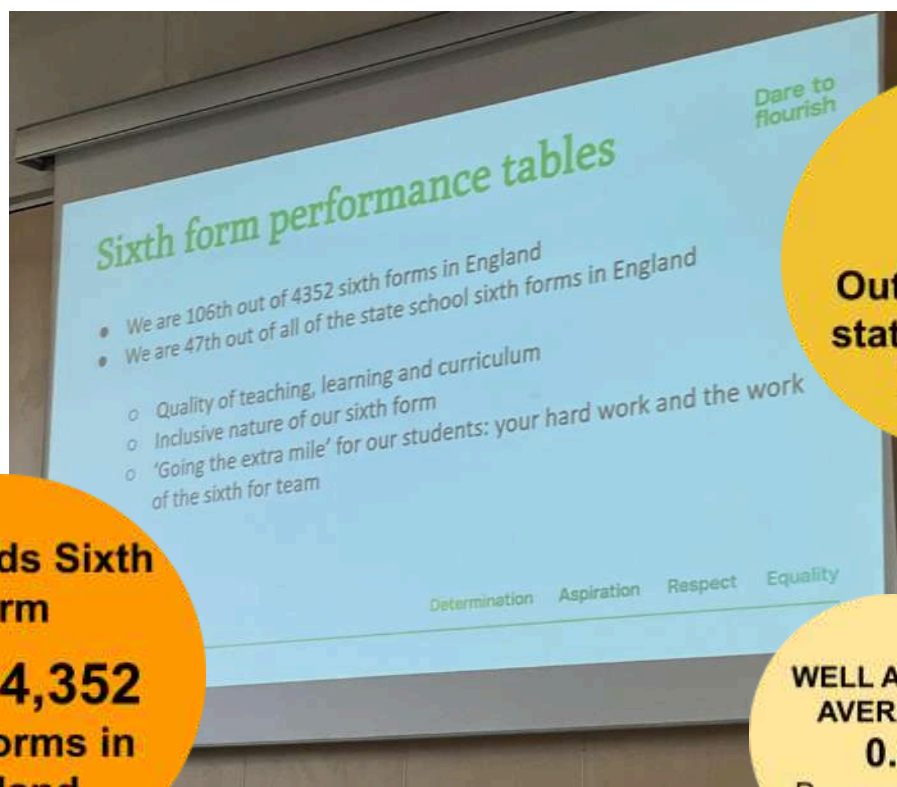
Sixth form success!

Our sixth form is proud to be ranked **106th out of 4,352 sixth forms in England** and **47th among all state school sixth forms**. Our exceptional progress score, which is well above average, reflects our commitment to excellence. This achievement is driven by the quality of our teaching, learning, and curriculum, the inclusive nature of our sixth form, and our unwavering dedication to 'going the extra mile' for our students. It is a testament to the hard work of our students and the relentless support of our sixth form team.

[View the performance table](#)

School or college name	Type of school or college	Number of students with an A level exam entry	Progress Score and Description	Average result		Achieving AAB or higher, including at least 2 facilitating subjects	Grade and points for a student's best 3 A levels
				Grade	Point score		
Highlands School	Maintained school	109	WELL ABOVE AVERAGE 0.4	B	38.79	20.9% 91 students included in measure	B 39.67 91 students included in measure

The progress score figure tells you how much progress students who studied A levels at this school made between the end of key stage 4 and the end of their A level studies, compared to similar students across England. These scores are also known as 'value added' scores. Students at Highlands Sixth Form achieved almost half a grade higher than expected based on their KS4 results.



**Ranked
47th
Out of all of the
state schools in
England**

**Highlands Sixth
Form
106 / 4,352
Sixth forms in
England**

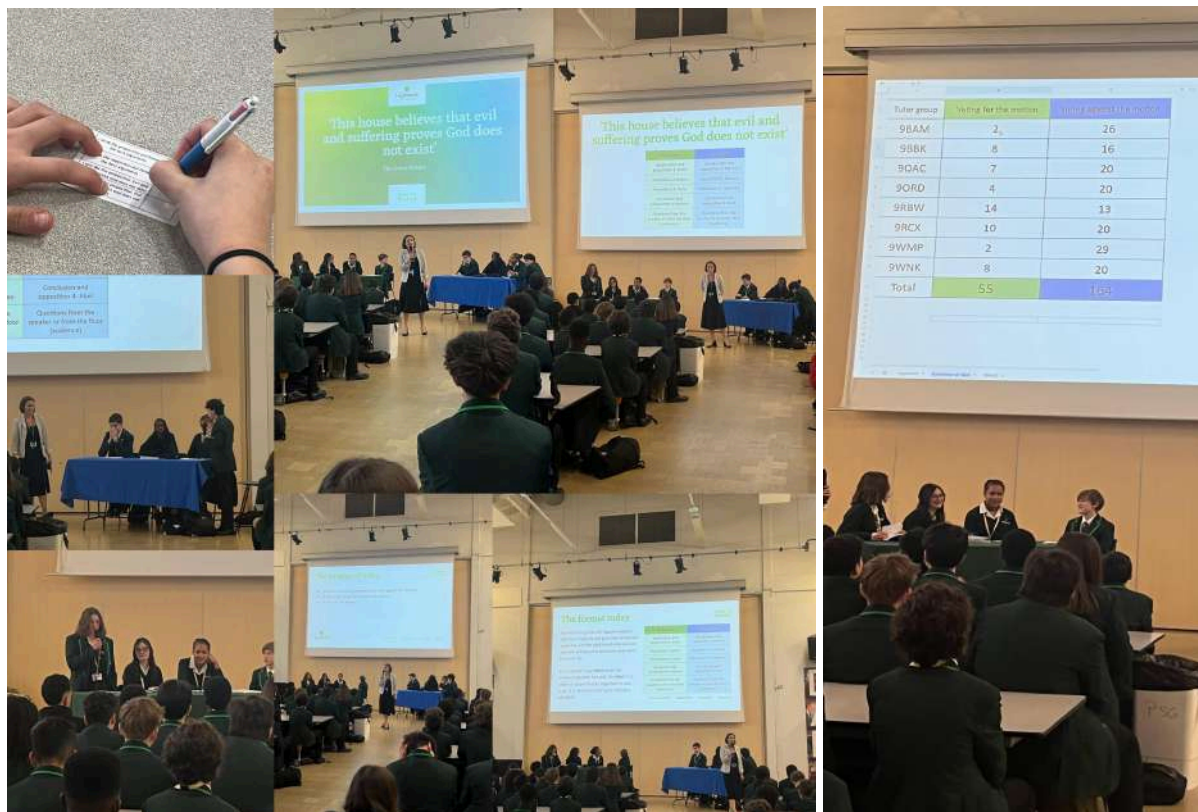
**WELL ABOVE
AVERAGE
0.4
Progress Score**



Year 9 The Great Debate

This week, year 9 took part in The Great Debate, tackling the challenging question: "Does evil and suffering prove that God does not exist?" Students passionately argued both for and against the proposition, presenting thoughtful perspectives on faith, morality, and the nature of suffering.

The debate sparked deep reflection and lively discussion, with compelling arguments made on both sides. In the end, 75% of the students voted in favour of the belief that God *does* exist, showing how persuasive and thought-provoking the discussion had been.



World Book Day - KS3 book selfie house challenge

With 'World Book Day' fast approaching, both the library and the English faculty challenge you to take the most interesting selfie of yourself with your favourite book.

Upload your selfies to the library Google Classroom or hand it in to your English teacher.

Deadline: Monday 3rd March 2025



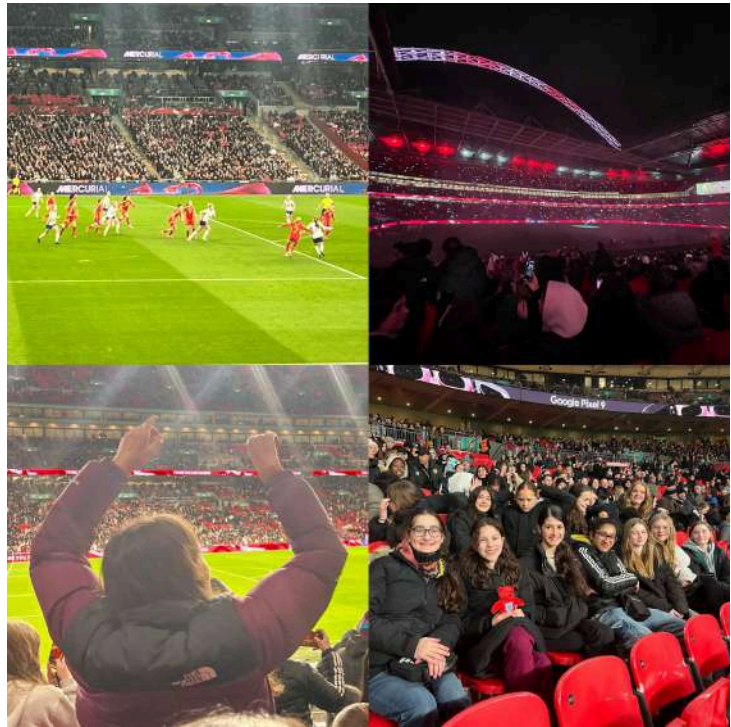


Trip to England vs Spain at Wembley

On Wednesday night, the PE department took a group of very excited girls from years 9-13 to Wembley to watch the highly anticipated Nations League game between England and Spain. It was an enjoyable evening full of lots of cheering, plenty of snacks and a Lionesses win! The girls came home tired but inspired by seeing some of their sporting heroes in action.

A reminder that the girls' football club takes place every Tuesday after school, all are welcome!

Mrs Walters



Year 7 and 8 netball

Now that the afternoons are staying lighter for longer the netball season has started back up again. On Monday the year 7 and 8 teams played away at Enfield County.

The year 7 team lost a very tight game 1-0 and the year 8 team beat Enfield county 7-5.

Well done girls!

Mrs Walters





Beech Greek cuisine day



We had a great time celebrating Greek Cuisine Day this week at Highlands - opa! Hosted by Beech House and our school caterers, Chartwells. Everyone enjoyed delicious food, including tasty pork with potato wedges and mint sauce, pitta bread, and a yummy vegetarian option with mixed beans and vegetables. It was a fun way to bring our school community together.



Dancers of the week

The dancers of the week are Toni Spinelli Finho in Year 7 for his great work in ballet and Adem Payne and Delina Yemane in Year 8 for their hard work in the Aladdin performance.

Well done to you all.

Miss Brown





Show Racism the Red Card competition - Monday 3rd March

What is the competition?

The Show Racism the Red Card (SRtRC) school competition is free to enter and open to young people of all ages and abilities. This is a unique opportunity for schools to proactively demonstrate their commitment to equality and tackling racism by taking part in the **UK's largest equalities themed school competition.**



How is it judged?

An independent panel of judges select the winning entries and winners are invited to a special awards ceremony at a **Premier League stadium**. Prizes are presented by special guests including current and former professional footballers.

The categories

Young people are welcome to produce work in any medium: **artwork, creative writing, song, film, music, t-shirt or football boot designs.**

If it's about racism, we want to see it!

Design a boot category

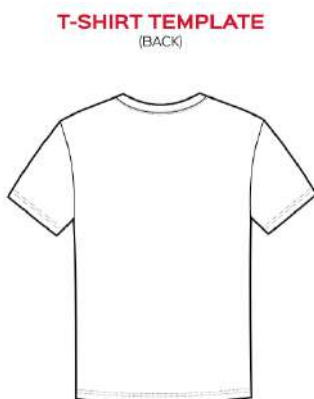
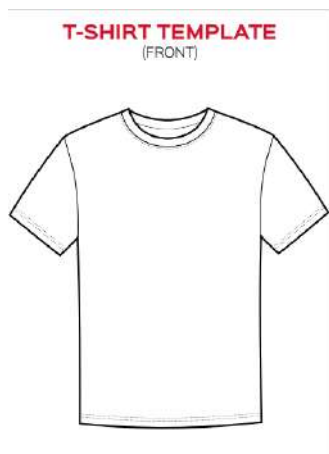
The "Design a boot" category is your chance to design a boot to be featured in one of the world's most popular video games. If you want to design the outstep and instep of the boot you must use [this template](#)





T-shirt design category

For the front and back t-shirt design you must use [this template](#).



How to enter

All entries to be handed or sent to the D&T office by Monday 3rd March 2025

Please check the rules and write the following information on the back of each entry:

Name of entrant

Year group

Name of school

Paper templates of the boot and t-shirt can be found in the DT office or via the links above.





The Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair will be running at Highlands School from **28th March to 2nd April**.

Students will be able to use their £1 book token which the school library will be providing, towards purchasing a book.



PE Clubs: February - Easter

Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
Netball Years 7,8,9,10 Courts Ms Berrill/Mrs Walters 3:15 - 4:30	Basketball All Years (boys + girls) Mr Edwards Sports Hall/Courts 3:15 - 4:30	A Level PE intervention Year 13 SL6 Mr Avann 3:15 - 4pm	Year 10, 11, 6th form Football 3G astro Mr Avann 3:15 - 4:15
	Girls Football Year 7,8, 9 Mr Cross/Mrs Hutchinson 3:15 - 4:30 Sports Hall/3G astro	GCSE PE Theory Intervention 2nd year students PE4 Mrs Hutchinson/Mrs Walters 3:15 - 4pm	

How to join a PE club

- Simply show up after school at the PE changing rooms at 3:20pm.
- You must wear your Highlands PE kit to take part.
- You must wear your school uniform to school and get changed after school in the changing rooms (unless you have a practical PE lesson on the day of your club).
- Bring any medical devices e.g., asthma pump with you.
- All clubs are for all students in the year groups stated. Year groups and clubs will change each half term.
- Inform your parents/carers that you are attending a club and your finishing time at school will be later (4:15pm or 4:30pm depending on the club).



School announcements

Lost property

Please click [here](#) for a list of lost property received since the start of term.

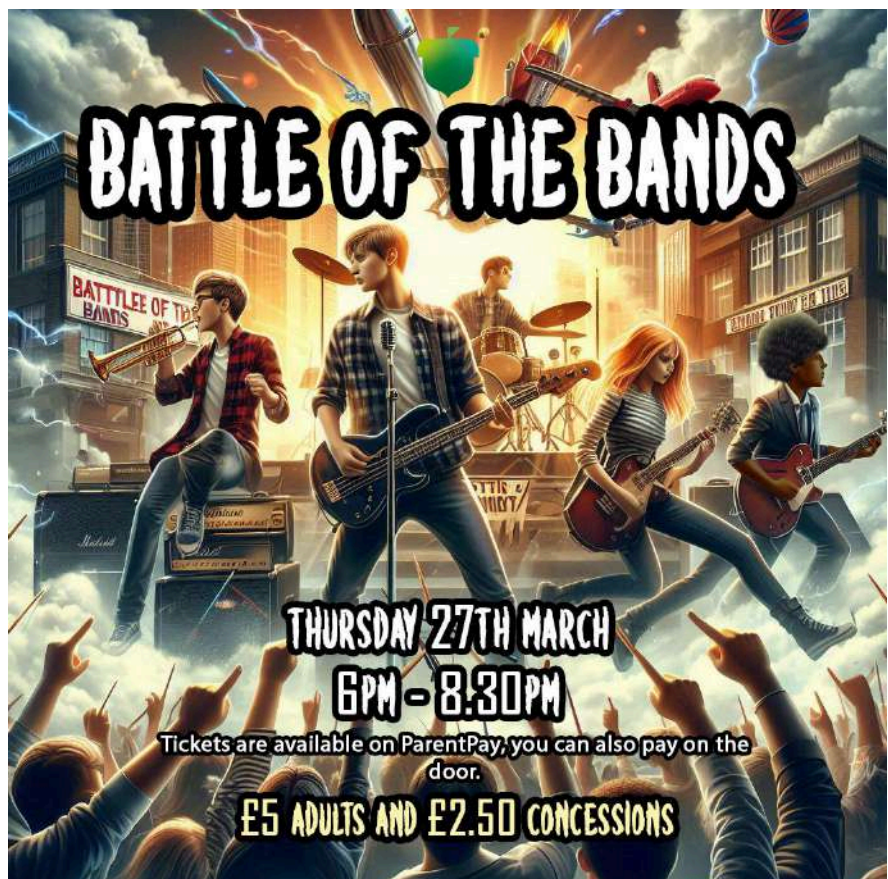
If your child has lost anything listed, or any other item, please ask them to check with the school office, as things arrive daily. All items being claimed will need to be identified by the student. Please can we also remind parents/carers to label all uniform and belongings so we can get items back to students as quickly as possible.

Battle of the Bands

We are excited to announce a Battle of the Bands event will be taking place on **Thursday 27th March** in the school's main hall.

The event will run from 6.00pm to 8.30pm and tickets are available to purchase on Parentpay, or you can also pay on the door.

-  **Date: Thursday 27th March**
-  **Time: 6pm - 8.30pm**
-  **Location: Highlands School**
-  **Cost: £5 adults**
-  **£2.50 concessions**





Highlands School book of the month - March

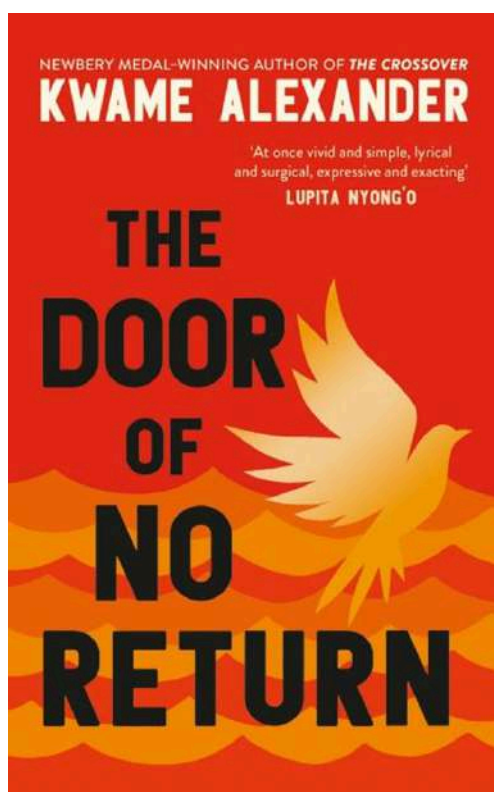
Recommended read for KS3: Refugee by Alan Gratz

Josef is a Jewish boy living in 1930s Nazi Germany. With the threat of concentration camps looming, he and his family board a ship bound for the other side of the world...

Isabel is a Cuban girl in 1994. With riots and unrest plaguing her country, she and her family set out on a raft, hoping to find safety in America...

Mahmoud is a Syrian boy in 2015. With his homeland torn apart by violence and destruction, he and his family begin a long trek toward Europe...

All three kids go on harrowing journeys in search of refuge. All will face unimaginable dangers - from drownings to bombings to betrayals, but there is always the hope of tomorrow. And although Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud are separated by continents and decades, shocking connections will tie their stories together in the end. This action-packed novel tackles topics both timely and timeless: courage, survival, and the quest for home.



Recommended read for KS4: The Door of No Return by Kwame Alexander

Dreams are today's answers for tomorrow's questions. Eleven-year-old Kofi Offin has dreams of water, of its urgent whisper that beckons with promises and secrets. He has heard the call on the banks of Upper Kwanta, where he lives. He loves these things above all else: his family, the fireside tales of his father's father, a girl named Ama, and, of course, swimming. But when the unthinkable - a sudden death - occurs during a festival between rival villages, Kofi ends up in a fight for his life. What happens next will send him on a harrowing journey across land and sea, and away from everything he loves

Yet Kofi's dreams may be the key to his freedom...



House weekly winners

This week's winner is the house with the highest achievement points minus concern points. Congratulations **Oak**!

	Beech	Oak	Rowan	Willow
Positive points	7,016	7,773	7,660	6,609
Negative points	-427	-274	-352	-416
Points overall	6,589	7,499	7,308	6,193

Top students in year 7

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Joseph	McHale	7RAC	R	76
Muhammed	Parlak	7RAC	R	69
Helin	Yaman	7RAC	R	66
Skye	Hawkins	7RAC	R	66
Sienna	Calcutt	7RAC	R	65
Emily	Dent	7RAC	R	65
Daiana	Aybar Ortega	7RAC	R	64
Beth	Rognaldsen	7RAC	R	63
Ibrahim	Karabekmez	7RAC	R	63
Isabella	Kasamias	7RAC	R	62

Top students in year 8:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Evie	Howlett	8WSW	W	54
Betsy	Coneywood	8OJT	O	53
Syerah	Islam	8WSW	W	51
Georgia	Argue	8ODM	O	49
Florence	Holyomes	8WSW	W	49
Benjamin	Taheny	8OJT	O	48
Hasti	Zare	8ODM	O	47
Erlind	Cela	8RJG	R	47
Priya	Jangra	8OJT	O	46
Liliana	Jonczyk	8OJT	O	46

**Top students in year 9:**

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Chloe	Shi	9WMP	W	49
Gulay	Yuksel	9BBK	B	48
James	Petrie	9BBK	B	48
Marianna	Pallikaros	9WMP	W	45
Ryaan	Imran	9WMP	W	44
Lara	Almeida	9BBK	B	43
Bibiana	Edwards	9BBK	B	43
Harry	Stylianou	9WNK	W	43
Azat	Secgin	9WNK	W	42
Aisha	Gambo	9BBK	B	41
Sena	Oguz	9WNK	W	41

Top students in year 10:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
James	Cooper-Dobson	10BYC	B	69
Ayse	Carmanbar	10BLM	B	61
Nathan	Mazele	10BYC	B	59
Nicole	Kozinos	10RTC	R	53
Nicholas	King	10WJQ	W	53
Jorja	Hodge	10RTC	R	45
Bana	Tahsen	10BLM	B	44
Liya	Ali	10BLM	B	43
Omyur	Karadzхова	10BLM	B	43
Oscar	Shariff	10BYC	B	43

Top students in year 11:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Ender	Guccuk	11BNI	B	40
Alexandra	Drikou	11OKK	O	33
Livanur	Atakli	11OKK	O	32
Max	Gilzean	11OAB	O	30
Naa Shidaa	Quartey	11WTH	W	25
Mikael	Chaudhry	11OAB	O	24
Oliver	Skrzyrkowski	11OAB	O	24
Alexia	Allen-Zavrou	11OKK	O	24
Nicolas	Raymond-Semerak	11OKK	O	24
George	Kapas	11OKK	O	24



Top students in year 12:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Grace	Zelechowski	12RHK	R	17
Daisy	Warner	12RHK	R	17
Suleyman	Degirmenci	12RJB	R	17
Iris	Williams	12WAD	W	17
Raya	Gotseva	12OES	O	16
Spyros	Yiallourous	12BTD	B	13
Tiana	Martindale	12BTD	B	13
Fathima	Dahir	12RHK	R	12
Zoe	Ellerby	12WDS	W	12
Holly	Thewlis	12OAT	O	11

Top students in year 13:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Alexia	Chrysostomou	13OMA	O	12
Katie	Brookman	13RSL	R	12
Ledia	Xhetani	13RSL	R	12
Charlie	Mills	13WTA	W	12
Emily	Pintacuda	13BCR	B	8
Louie	Kyprianou	13BCR	B	8
Estella	Yilmaz	13BJT	B	8
Isobel	Kennedy	13OMA	O	8
Eimaan	Abbas	13OPL	O	8
Rachel	Lok	13WBS	W	8

HIGHLY RATED School Holiday Camps!!!

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*Minimum 3 days. *Not to be used in conjunction with other offer codes

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Help us fund raise for our school

Did you know when you sign up to **easyfundraising.org.uk** and purchase goods from shops on the **website** or **app**, **Highlands School** will earn a commission from the sale?

All you have to do is search for **Highlands School Enfield** and select us as your chosen charity and shop as usual.

Highlands School Enfield

Winchmore Hill, London

£3,565.00 raised

96 supporters

Sign up and support this cause

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

GET STARTED

How to support Highlands School Enfield

- 1** Sign up
Provide us with a few details to set up your profile with easyfundraising.
- 2** Download our browser extension
Our Donation Reminder plug-in pops up automatically when you shop to let you know when a donation is available.
- 3** Track your donations
You'll be able to see how much you've raised in your account and we'll send updates on when Highlands School Enfield gets paid.

Support us through
easyfundraising



Highlands School Alumni

As a school, we want to reconnect with our former students so that we can keep in touch and let them know about volunteering opportunities that will benefit our current students. We want to show them the variety of pathways available to them after leaving Highlands School, and who better to showcase this information, than former students!

We are working with education charity Future First to set this up, and all you need to do to get involved is sign up here: [Highlands School Alumni](https://highlands.school.alumni) or alternatively scan the QR code below.

More information is on our [website](https://highlands.school) and if you have any questions please contact our Alumni Programme Manager at Future First: Tara Human – tara.human@futurefirst.org.uk

#HighlandsAlumni



Former student?

Return to Highlands School to inform our current students about what life beyond school is really like.

Sign up to our former student network to receive news, updates and invites to events.

Once you're signed up there is no obligation to volunteer, you can get involved around your availability.




Scan the QR code to join the Alumni network

12:58 5G

www.futurefirsthub.org.uk

Highlands School & Sixth Form

Highlands School

Powered by  Future First

Join your network

First name *

Last name *

Email address *





Student medical needs

If your child needs to take regular medication in school, please fill out the following [Medicines Consent Form](#) to give the school consent to administer medication to your child. All medications that are kept in school must be stored in the medical room. We recently sent out a [medical and allergy survey](#) to all parents - thank you to all those who have completed this - if you haven't already done so, please can this be completed as soon as possible so we can update our records.

Mental health

We are continuously working hard to improve our understanding as a community of mental health, to enable us to provide the best possible outcomes for the young people in our lives. If you are ever concerned that your child is at risk due to very poor mental health please inform the school. You can also contact one of these numbers to seek support from a specialist. The Crisis line is there to offer guidance if your child may be having suicidal thoughts and is possibly in immediate danger. If you do ever find yourself in a position where you need to use these resources for your child, please make the school aware so we can provide appropriate support within school for your child.

Urgent mental health support - 24/7 crisis lines

Every mental health trust in London has put in place a **24/7 crisis line** for people of all ages - children, young people and adults. The lines which are free to call can provide advice to those in a crisis. These crisis lines are supported by trained mental health advisors 365 days a year.

You can find the 24/7 crisis line numbers using the NHS Service Finder (link below) but the table provides all of the telephone numbers in London.

<https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/mental-health/find-an-urgent-mental-health-helpline>



Area	Boroughs covered	24/7 crisis line number
North West London	Brent, Hillingdon, Harrow, Kensington & Chelsea and Westminster	0800 0234 650
	Ealing, Hounslow and Hammersmith & Fulham	0800 328 4444
North Central London	Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey and Islington	0800 151 0023
North East London	City & Hackney	0800 073 0006
	Newham	0800 073 0066
	Tower Hamlets	0800 073 0003
	Barking & Dagenham, Havering, Redbridge and Waltham Forest	0300 555 1000
South West London	Kingston, Merton, Richmond, Sutton and Wandsworth	0800 028 8000
South East London	Croydon, Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark	0800 731 2864
	Bexley, Bromley and Greenwich	0800 330 8590

shout
85258

Shout offers confidential 24/7 crisis text support for times when immediate assistance is required
Text "SHOUT" to 85258 or visit [Shout Crisis Text Line](#)

SAMARITANS

Samaritans 24/7 365 days a year - they are here to listen and provide support
Call: 116 123 or email: jo@samaritans.org

Crisis Tools

Crisis Tools helps professionals support young people in crisis - short accessible video guides and text resources
Sign up for free resources [here](#)

PAPYRUS

Papyrus provide confidential support and advice to young people struggling with thoughts of suicide, and anyone worried about a young person
Call: 0800 068 41 41 or Text: 07860 039967 (opening hours 9am to midnight - 365 days a year)

childline

Childline confidential telephone counselling service for any child with a problem
Call: 0800 1111 anytime or [online chat with a counsellor](#)

Urgent and other support available

Good Thinking

Good Thinking is London's digital wellbeing service and provides a range of resources for young people to help improve mental wellbeing including free NHS-approved apps

THE MIX

The Mix provides free, confidential support for young people under 25
Call: 0808 808 4994 (11am - 11pm every day) or [Email](#)

Beat

Beat provide support to help young people who may be struggling with an eating problem or an eating disorder
Call the Youthline (under 18's) 0808 801 0711 or Studentline 0808 801 0811 (9am - 8pm during the week and 4pm - 8pm on weekends and bank holidays)

kooh

Kooh is a free, safe and anonymous online mental wellbeing community including live chat with the team, discussion boards, magazine with helpful articles and a daily journal a magazine



Safeguarding contacts

If you are concerned about your child's wellbeing or the wellbeing of any other student at Highlands School, please contact the school on 020 8370 1100 or email the DSL at staysafe@highlearn.uk. This email address can also be used for students, parents and carers to share any safeguarding concerns or to request support.

If you are concerned that a child has been harmed or is at risk of being harmed and school cannot be contacted, please contact Enfield Children's Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 020 8379 5555, and all the police on 999 straight away.

Helpful numbers and websites

Childline: 0800 1111

NSPCC helpline: 0808 800 5000

The police: (if you are in danger): 999

LGBT switchboard: 0300 330 0630

Kooth: www.kooth.com - support service for students wellbeing

Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub: 0300 500 80 90

Barnardos: 0800 008 7005

Sign Health: <https://signhealth.org.uk/contact/>

Deaf young people: <https://signhealth.org.uk/with-deaf-people/supporting-young-people/>

Talk to someone....

- if you feel upset or worried about anything at all (even if you think it is not important)
- if you feel anxious or unable to cope
- if someone has hurt you physically, emotionally or mentally
- if you feel upset or worried about anything at all (even if you think it is not important)
- if you feel worried about someone at home
- if you are being threatened or forced to do things
- if someone has done something to you without your consent
- if you feel unsafe in school, at home or on the streets
- about anything else worrying you

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 YouTube [Highlands School Enfield](https://www.youtube.com/Highlands_School_Enfield)

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