Highlands School Newsletter

13th November 2026



Photos: Sixth form open evening 2026

Dear parents and carers,

This week on Wednesday, we held our annual sixth form open evening. Our sixth form has grown in size over the past few years, from enrolling between 160-180 students into year 12 each year to, now, 250. Our sixth form is now at full capacity. Our academic progress measures have also improved, placing us consistently among the best-performing sixth forms. Our open evening is a key reason for our success. Year 12 students and staff gave up their evening to help, many staying past 9pm. We welcomed a large number of prospective families to come and view the sixth form on Wednesday night and feedback was very positive. Thank you to everyone who helped make the event a success.

On the same day, 11th November, we marked Remembrance Day, taking time to honour and reflect on the bravery and sacrifices of those who have served in conflicts past and present.

To commemorate this important occasion, our talented students created beautiful art installations displayed in the art corridor and sixth form area, paying a moving tribute to those who have served. Our library has also put together a special Remembrance Day book display, encouraging students to explore the history of the World Wars and reflect on their lasting impact. A huge well done to all the students involved for their creativity and thoughtful contributions. Their wonderful artwork has truly captured the spirit and significance of remembrance.

Finally, I would like to extend our warmest wishes to all our families who celebrated Diwali, Bandi Chhor Divas and New Year!

Mr McInerney,
Headteacher

Key dates for next half term:

- Wednesday 18th November: year 13 parents' evening
- Monday 7th December: winter music concert
- Wednesday 9th December: year 9 parents' evening
- Thursday 10th December: Christmas jumper and Christmas dinner day
- Friday 18th December: end of term, half day, students dismissed at midday

148 Worlds End Lane, London N21 1QQ | 020 8370 1100 | postbox@highlearn.uk | highlands.enfield.sch.uk

Sixth Form Open Evening 2026

We were delighted to welcome prospective students and their families to our sixth form open evening on Wednesday 11th November. The event provided a fantastic opportunity for visitors to explore our wide range of courses, meet our dedicated staff and students and discover the exciting opportunities available at Highlands Sixth Form.

It was wonderful to showcase our vibrant sixth form community and demonstrate how we support every student to succeed. Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make the evening such a success! You can watch highlights of the event here.



Sixth form applications for 2027-2028

Applications for **internal students** will take place during pathways meetings in the week commencing **25th January 2027**.

New applicants (external students) can apply using the following link: **Apply here.**

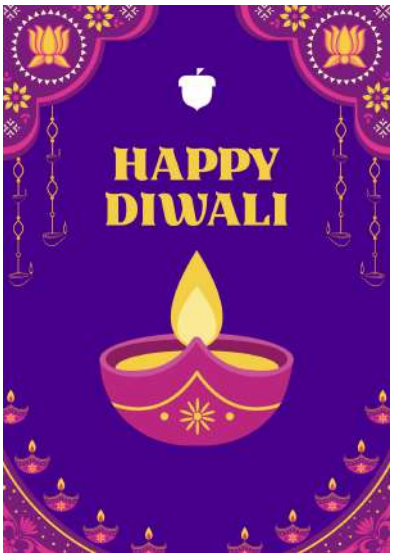
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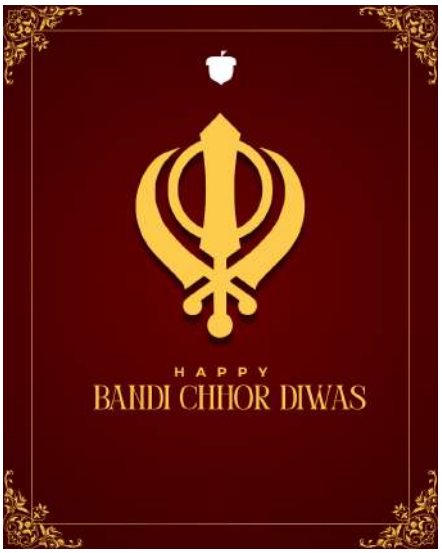
Celebrating Diwali, Bandi Chhor Divas and New Year

We would like to extend our warmest wishes to all our families who celebrated Diwali, Bandi Chhor Divas and New Year!

Diwali, the Festival of Lights, celebrates the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil. Bandi Chhor Divas is an important Sikh festival commemorating the release of Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji from imprisonment, symbolising freedom and justice. Hindu and Jain New Year celebrations, observed by different communities around this time, mark new beginnings, hope and prosperity.

We hope all our families celebrating enjoyed these special occasions filled with happiness, peace and togetherness!





Winter Raffle: coming soon!

Look out for next week's newsletter, when we launch the HPFA Winter Raffle 2026. It's one of the HPFA's most important fundraisers, and every ticket helps to provide valuable resources for our children's learning and school life. We already have some fabulous prizes lined up, but we'd love to make sure there's a good mix for all ages and interests.

Can you help with prizes?

We would be delighted to receive donations of raffle prizes in advance. Anything from gift vouchers, hampers and treats to experiences, services or new toys and games would be very welcome. If you run a local business or have contacts who might like to contribute, we would love to hear from you too.

For any questions, please contact us at the HPFA via email: hpfaeventtickets@gmail.com

Thank you for your generous support. Every prize and every ticket makes a real difference to our school.

Remembrance Day at Highlands





Remembrance Day assemblies

This week, we held special Remembrance Day assemblies led by our sixth form students to commemorate and honour those who have lost their lives in conflict and those who have served and sacrificed for our freedom.

Observed each year on 11th November, Remembrance Day provides an important opportunity to reflect on the courage, bravery and sacrifices of our armed forces, both past and present. Our sixth form students delivered thoughtful and moving assemblies, highlighting the significance of remembrance and encouraging our school community to reflect on the importance of peace, respect and gratitude.

As a mark of respect, our school community also came together to observe a two-minute silence, providing a moment of quiet reflection to remember and honour all those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.



A week at the Houses of Parliament

Year 13 student Polina recently had the exciting opportunity to undertake a work experience placement with her local Member of Parliament, Bambos Charalambous, at the Houses of Parliament.

During the week, Polina gained a valuable insight into the role and responsibilities of an MP, discovering first-hand how elected representatives work to support their constituents and contribute to national decision-making.

Her placement provided a fascinating opportunity to observe parliamentary business in action. Highlights included attending several Select Committee meetings, including one discussing humanitarian aid for Ukraine, and observing a debate on Meta smart glasses and their wider impact on society.

Polina also gained practical experience by drafting emails to constituents and had the memorable opportunity to watch Prime Minister's Questions from the public gallery, witnessing parliamentary debate at the heart of British politics.

Reflecting on her experience, Polina described the placement as an incredibly exciting opportunity, allowing her to explore the world of politics and develop a deeper understanding of how Parliament operates.

This was a fantastic opportunity for Polina to gain first-hand experience of public service, democracy and political decision-making. We are delighted that she was able to make the most of this experience and look forward to seeing how it inspires her future aspirations.



Year 9 boys football

On Monday 9th November, the year 9 boys' football team hosted Winchmore School. In a game of high quality, Highlands won 4-0 thanks to goals from Mikey, Paul, Rayan and Alex.

Players of the match: Adam Humphreys, Pav Panayi and Rayan Mousawy.



Players of the match: Adam, Pav and Rayan

Year 7 and 8 girls football

On Wednesday, the year 7 and 8 girls' football team played Enfield County in their second league game of the season. It was a dominant display from start to finish with four goals from Nicole, three from Robyn, and one each from Persie, Nel, Tess, Elissa and Jialin contributing to an emphatic 12-0 win. Elissa was picked as the player of the match. Well done girls!

Mrs Walters



Highlands Christmas card competition 2026

Our year 7 students have been busy getting creative, designing entries for the official Highlands School Christmas Card 2026! We received so many wonderful designs this year, making it incredibly difficult to choose our winners.

A huge congratulations to Angelina Kakouris (7RCM), who was awarded 1st place! Her winning design will be professionally printed and sent to our community schools, and Angelina will also receive copies to share with her family and friends.

Well done to Mae Lai (7RSQ), who achieved 2nd place, and Vincenza Bilotti (7OSM), who came 3rd. A special mention also goes to our three other talented finalists, whose fantastic designs impressed us all. Congratulations to everyone who took part – your creativity and artistic talent have truly shone through this year!



1st: Angelina Kakouris



2nd: Mae Lai



3rd: Vincenza Bilotti







Special mentions to the following students for their wonderful designs - left to right:
Alfie Williams-Bew 7OSM, Summer Weinling 7WNL and Myla Kambo-Sarratt 7WNL

Year 9 food and nutrition - Chef of the day!

A huge well done to year 9 food and nutrition students Sophie and Holly, who were awarded *Chef of the Day* for their fantastic sausage rolls! Their creations stood out for their beautifully golden pastry, consistent shapes, neat presentation and impressive pastry techniques, including plaiting and lattice work.

Congratulations to both students on their excellent work!

Ms Stavrou



Deaf history lessons

Students from our Deaf Base, across years 7 to 12, recently took part in an engaging Deaf history lesson delivered by Dr Barnaby Lamb, who holds a PhD in Deaf Studies. The session provided a valuable opportunity for students to explore Deaf history, culture and heritage, developing their knowledge and understanding. Deaf history lessons are an important part of our Deaf Base provision and are delivered annually as part of our ongoing commitment to enriching students' learning experiences.



EXPLR - National STEM Festival

EXPLR is bringing the National STEM Festival to the UK for the first time in May 2027. The Festival is free to enter, and students aged 13-19 are invited to submit their own STEM projects tackling real-world challenges, from health to the environment.

Up to 40 students will be selected as National STEM Champions and invited to London to showcase their projects at Parliament, The Strand and RSA House, with all costs covered. They'll also have the chance to meet industry leaders and explore STEM careers. It's a fantastic opportunity to celebrate their creativity and hard work, build their confidence and help them discover where their interests could take them.

Applications close on 22 November, and we're keen to encourage as many students as possible to take part.

Dr Len



Gymnastics success

A huge congratulations to Sibora in year 10, who achieved fantastic success at the recent Catleap Gymnastics Competition! Sibora was awarded the highest overall score and highest score on vault, demonstrating her incredible talent, skill and dedication.

To make the experience even more special, she also had the exciting opportunity to meet a coach from the Great Britain gymnastics team. What a fantastic achievement – well done, Sibora!



Impressive ice hockey achievement

We are delighted to share a fantastic achievement for Latif Defreitas in year 10, who was selected to represent the Elite British Selects Programme (EBS) at the prestigious CCM World Invite ice hockey tournament in Chicago, USA last week. The CCM World Invite is one of North America's largest and most highly regarded youth ice hockey tournaments, giving the leading U15 players from the UK the opportunity to compete against the leading U15 players from the USA.

Latif's selection was a significant achievement and a fantastic opportunity for both his sporting and personal development. EBS secured two wins from four games, and Latif played an important part in their success, assisting an outstanding goal against the Chicago Phantoms. Congratulations to Latif on an incredible achievement and experience!



Headteacher Award

It is with immense pride and joy that we celebrate the exceptional achievements of our students as we honour the recipients of this week's prestigious headteacher award, an award that is presented to nominated students who exemplify dedication, hard work and excellence.

This week, the headteacher's award is proudly presented to the following students:

- **Beth Rognaldson 9RAC:** Awarded for exceptional kindness and assisting to staff.
- **Alara Ali 8OFD:** Awarded for exceptional kindness to staff and students.
- **Lara Kacar 10BGH** and **Hazal Sezek 10BGH:** Awarded for noticing another student was suffering with their wellbeing, and acting quickly and calmly to discreetly notify a member of staff, who thanks to her intervention, was able to provide the student with the necessary support
- **Mikey Demetriou 9RKM:** Awarded for outstanding effort and improvement in English Lessons.
- **Ada Keskin 9BAS:** Awarded for showing outstanding dedication and work in GCSE Geography.
- **Yashar Ismailoglu 10RGA, Erin Eastwood 10ODM, Imogen Carlisle 8WDD, Paxton Wright 8WDD, Emmy Celiz 8WDD, Javaeh July-Clarke 8RTM, Kye Wynter-Hudson 8OPH, Stela Besimova 8RNC, Gabriela Demetriou 9OMK, Joseph McHale 9RAC, Zachary Photi 7RCM, Teegan Crew 7OSM, Jack Norman 7OSM, Jack Kadiu 7WNL** and **Despina Charalambous 7WNL:** Awarded for their hard work and effort in Spanish.
- **Sanai Edgehill 8BNI, Candace Asoegwu 8BNI, Rheo Ahmet 8BJC, Micah Codrington 11WMP, Tyanna Ferreira 11OCM, Racqueah Francis 9RAC, Jemimah Cherotich 9BHV, Francesca McNeil 9RKM, Na'Rae Rodney 9RKM** and **Casper Floyer 8BNI:** Awarded for your outstanding delivery of the Black History Month Assembly.
- **Zoe Mathews 9BHV, Maya Muller 9BHV** and **Naive Pratt 9WGK:** Awarded for volunteering to help create props to represent A level Literature for open evening.



The wonderful cake created by year 9 students Zoe, Maya and Naive for sixth form open evening.

School announcements

Annie school production orders - ready to collect

A huge thank you to all the families who have purchased a recording of our wonderful production of *Annie*! Orders can be collected from the admin office from **Monday 16th November.**

Nut allergies

May we remind parents that we do not allow nuts of any kind on site, as we have several people on site with a nut allergy. This includes peanut butter, chocolate or cereal snack bars with peanuts in, sushi with sesame seeds, or ground almonds for cooking purposes. Please also remind your child not to buy snacks with nuts in. The school has an allergen/anaphylaxis policy, a copy of which is on the school website.

Parking around Highlands School

We would ask that parents park considerately, well away from the school site and NOT on the roundabout area between Grange Park and Highlands schools, or on the zig zag lines and zebra crossing on Worlds End Lane. This is to ensure the safety of all our students as well as the local residents. Enfield traffic parking enforcement teams regularly patrol those areas, taking photos and issuing tickets to offending cars.

Lunch accounts

Please can parents make sure they regularly check their child's lunch account to ensure there is enough credit for their weekly lunches. Please set your parentpay accounts to "**auto top-up**" meaning whenever the balance is low it will automatically top up.

If you are informed your child's lunch account has no money on it, and therefore you owe the canteen money for their lunch, please ensure you top up their Parentpay account enough to clear that debt and then enough for them to continue being able to buy lunch.

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. If your child is missing any items, please ask them to come to the school office next week to check if we have them.

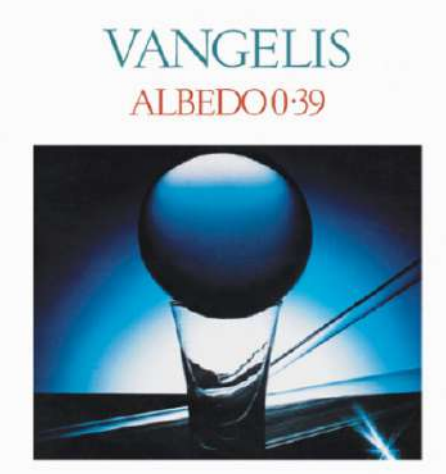
School lettings

School Hire and Functions Ltd manage all our bookings for hiring of the astro, sports hall, field, main hall, dance and drama rooms and general classroom hire. We have had new floodlights installed on the astro meaning we can now take bookings in the evenings during the winter months.



For all booking enquiries, please contact **Jo Bukin, Director**, at **07855 042027** or email: school.hire@yahoo.co.uk. You can also find more details at www.school-hire.com

Vangelis at Southbank Centre



Guildhall School of Music & Drama is offering our students and their families complimentary tickets to *Vangelis: Albedo 0.39*, a spectacular live performance taking place at the Southbank Centre on **Saturday 21st November 2026**, with performances at 5pm and 8pm.

Part of the London Jazz Festival, the concert celebrates 50 years of Vangelis' pioneering electronic album, reimagined through live electronics, jazz and orchestra. This is a fantastic opportunity for students interested in music, composition and music technology to experience an inspiring evening of live music.

Tickets are completely free (normally £33.50+) and can be booked using the code VANGELISCOMP or by clicking here.

Notifying the school of student appointments

If your child has an appointment scheduled during school hours, please ensure you notify us promptly by emailing postbox@highlearn.uk for years 7-11 and sixthform@highlearn.uk for years 12-13 or by phoning us on the day of the appointment.

Your notification must include the date of the appointment and the exact time the student needs to leave school. Where possible, please also attach or provide proof of the appointment to the email.

To ensure your child is released smoothly from their lesson, please write a clear note on the appropriate day of your child's student planner, indicating the time they need to leave class. Students must show this planner note to their teacher to be excused from the lesson. They will then proceed to the school reception to officially sign out before being released to meet you at your pre-arranged location. Many thanks for your cooperation with this.



House weekly winners

This week's winner is the house with the highest achievement points minus concern points, plus the points from the year 7 Christmas card competition. Congratulations **Rowan**!

	Beech	Oak	Rowan	Willow
Positive points	6,571	7,677	7,092	7,823
Negative points	-412	-359	-412	-416
Points overall	6,159	7,318	6,680	7,407
Y7 MFL quiz			1,000	
Total points	6,159	7,318	**7,680**	7,407

Top students in year 7

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Elisabeta	Peposhi	7RCM	R	71
Zachary	Photi	7RCM	R	67
Alexandra	Bascherini	7RCM	R	66
Paraskevas	Koumourou	7RCM	R	65
Luca	Hosier	7RCM	R	63
Amelia	Stena Malaj	7RCM	R	62
Bruno	Oleszczak	7RCM	R	62
Sophia	Mene	7RCM	R	61
Holly	Makani	7RCM	R	61
Sophia	Stavrinoudis	7RCM	R	60
Sofia	Van Der Hoven	7RCM	R	60
Aahna	Datta	7RCM	R	60
Finley	Eastwood	7RCM	R	60



Top students in year 8:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Rheo	Ahmet	8BJC	B	80
Aisel	Koxha	8BJC	B	72
Sophie	Winter-Taylor	8BJC	B	68
Jaiden	Camacho-Merchan	8BJC	B	66
Rosie-Mae	Lyle	8WTH	W	60
Kamran	Ali	8BJC	B	59
Baris	Oguz	8OPH	O	59
Seraphina	Mumba	8WTH	W	57
Dylan	Ebberson	8RNC	R	56
Noah	Sonubi	8WDD	W	56
George	Kolovos	8WTH	W	56
Arthur	Butcher	8BJC	B	56
James	Saat	8BJC	B	56
Zerya	Unek	8OPH	O	56

Top students in year 9:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Maria	Manescu	9OSB	O	39
Afifa	Hakime	9BHV	B	36
Shamaya	Gitu	9OSB	O	33
Jannah	Silvera	9OSB	O	33
Paul	Munjal	9OMK	O	32
Hatice	Bolat	9OSB	O	32
Ioanna	Hoxha	9BHV	B	31
Zoe	Lindsey	9OSB	O	31
Rowan	Vaughan-Williams	9RKM	R	30
Hayal	Karakas	9BHV	B	29
Hollie	Chambers	9RAC	R	29
Joseph	Taylor	9WEL	W	29



Top students in year 10:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Aldjo	Kumaraku	10ORD	O	43
Aaliyah	Lascelles	10WSW	W	34
Aariah	Udahemuka	10WSW	W	33
Maya	Paterson-Mckenzie	10RGA	R	32
Alara	Kilic	10RGA	R	32
Sumeyra	Kiymaz	10RGA	R	32
Sophia	Andreou	10RGA	R	30
Evie	Howlett	10WSW	W	29
Yashar	Ismailoglu	10RGA	R	28
Dylan	Olaogun	10WSW	W	28

Top students in year 11:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Kavish	Amuwitagama	11ORF	O	31
Alara	Ucar	11ORF	O	31
Zachary	Ekkeshis	11ORF	O	29
Jackson	Benbow	11ORF	O	26
Oscar	Cattarossi	11ORF	O	25
Emily	Newton	11RAB	R	25
Zulaikha	Chaudhry	11RAB	R	24
Kayla-Faith	Muhelele	11RAB	R	24
Xhorxhia	Kuvertaris	11RCX	R	24
Helia	Azad	11ORF	O	23
Hasan	Kasmani	11ORF	O	23
Sienna	Margolis	11WMP	W	23

Top students in year 12:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Alexandra	Drikou	12R	R	16
Elize	Savva-Faruk	12WSN	W	12
James	Cooper-Dobson	12BTD	B	10
Laura	Santos Vettore	12RCG	R	10
Lilah	Chibah	12WSN	W	10
Amelia	Khan	12WSN	W	10

Top students in year 13:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Veronika	Tsoma	13BAD	B	12
Alfie	Horn	13WBS	W	12
Dayana	Karatopraklieva	13OMA	O	10
Lyra	Heywood	13RCW	R	10
Nathaniel	Daley	13WBS	W	10
Mirella	Sidoli	13WBS	W	10
Eva	Chrysostomou	13BJT	B	9

Scholastic Book Fair: 27th November - 2nd December

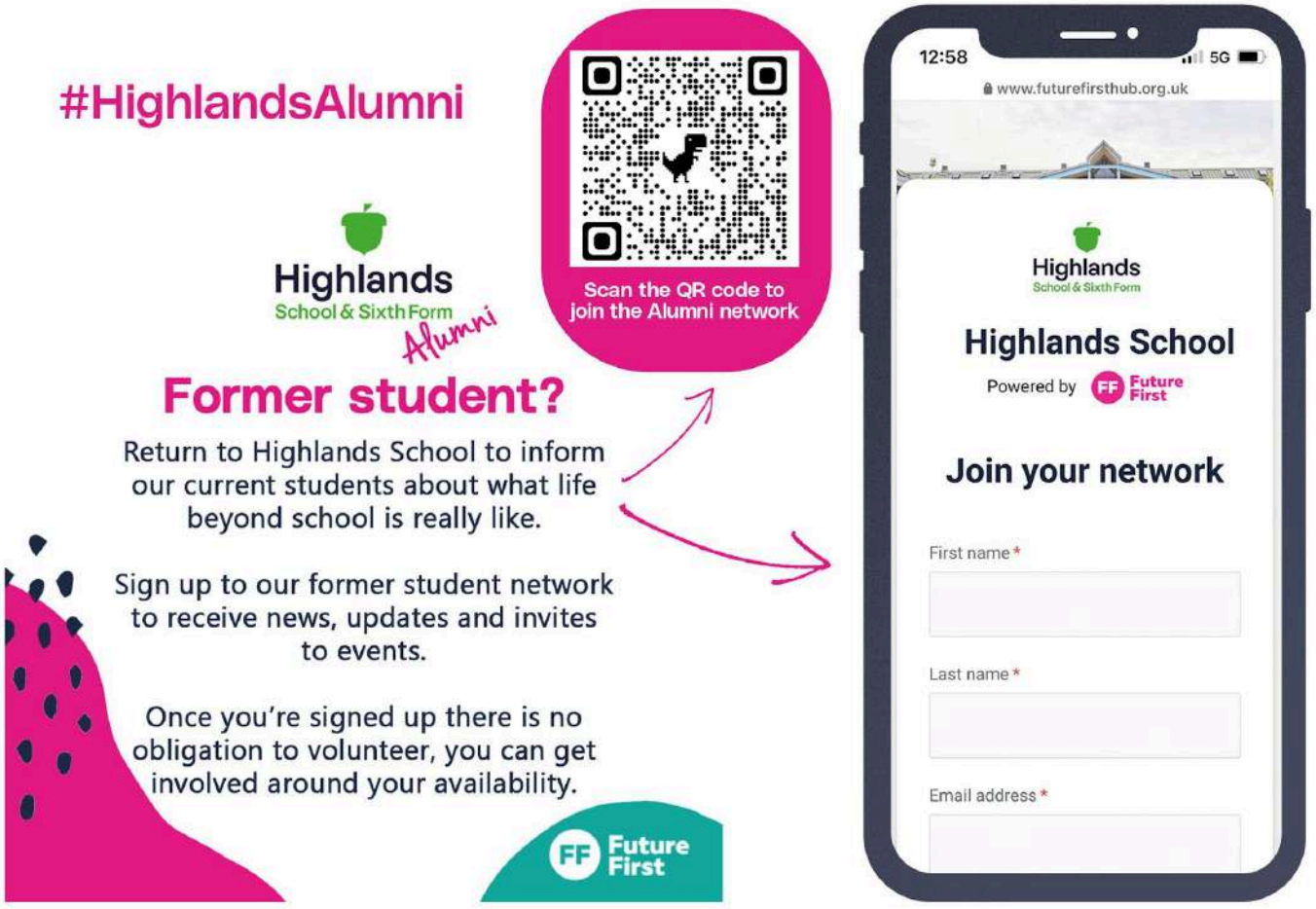


Highlands School Alumni

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 or alternatively scan the QR code below.

More information is on our website and if you have any questions please contact our Alumni Programme Manager at Future First: Faithia Garffus – faithia.garffus@futurefirst.org.uk



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.

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.





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 call 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 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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