

PARENT BULLETIN



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - AUTUMN TERM 2023/2024

25TH SEPTEMBER 2023 - POST-16 EVENING

2ND OCTOBER 2023 - YEAR 7 VIRTUAL PARENT CONSULTATION MEETING

2ND OCTOBER 2023 - YEAR 6 OPEN EVENING

27TH OCTOBER 2023 - FINAL DAY OF AUTUMN TERM 1

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

START AND END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

THE BROMFORD ROAD GETS VERY BUSY AT THE START AND END OF THE SCHOOL DAY. WE POLITELY REQUEST THAT PARENTS/CARERS DO NOT PARK IRRESPONSIBLY ON THE SURROUNDING ROADS AND STAND BACK AWAY FROM OUR PEDESTRIAN ENTRANCE SO THAT THE PAVEMENT IS NOT BLOCKED, AND OUR PUPILS CAN LEAVE THE SCHOOL PROMPTLY AND SAFELY. PUPILS SHOULD USE THE NEARBY CROSSINGS AND BE ALERT WHEN CROSSING THE ROAD. PUPILS SHOULD NOT BE DROPPED OFF OR PICKED UP FROM INSIDE THE SCHOOL WITHOUT PRIOR PERMISSION.

PARENT PAY AND SCHOOL GATEWAY ACTIVATION REMINDER

A REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS OF YEAR 7 PUPILS TO ENSURE THAT YOUR CHILD'S NEW PARENT PAY AND SCHOOL GATEWAY CREDENTIALS ARE ACTIVATED FOR USE IN SCHOOL.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS (FSM)

IF YOUR CHILD HAS JUST STARTED WITH US IN YEAR 7, PLEASE REMEMBER TO COMPLETE AN ONLINE APPLICATION FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS:

[HTTPS://APPLY.CLOUDFOREDU.ORG.UK/OFSM/BIRMINGHAM](https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/birmingham)

EVEN IF YOUR CHILD ALREADY RECEIVED FSM AT PRIMARY SCHOOL, PLEASE COMPLETE A NEW APPLICATION SO THAT THE SCHOOL HAS THIS ON RECORD TO ENSURE YOUR CHILD RECEIVES THEIR FSM ENTITLEMENT.

A POLITE REMINDER TO PARENTS/CARERS THAT IT IS **ONLY THE LUNCH TIME MEAL WHICH IS APPLICABLE UNDER FSM**. PURCHASING FOOD/DRINK ITEMS AT BREAK TIME ARE NOT APPLICABLE UNDER FSM. IF YOUR CHILD WISHES TO PURCHASE FOOD/DRINK ITEMS AT BREAK TIME, THEIR PARENT PAY ACCOUNT SHOULD BE TOPPED UP APPROPRIATELY TO COVER THESE COSTS.

DETENTIONS AT HHGS

TEACHERS HAVE THE LEGAL POWER TO PLACE PUPILS IN DETENTION. AT HODGE HILL GIRLS' SCHOOL WE USE DETENTION AS A SANCTION.

PARENTAL CONSENT IS NOT REQUIRED FOR DETENTIONS, BUT OUT OF COURTESY STAFF WILL AIM TO GIVE 24 HOURS' NOTICE OF AN AFTER-SCHOOL DETENTION. STAFF ARE PERMITTED TO ASK PUPILS TO REMAIN AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY FOR 10 MINUTES WITHOUT ANY PRIOR NOTICE. WITH LUNCHTIME/BREAK TIME DETENTIONS PUPILS WILL HAVE REASONABLE TIME TO EAT/DRINK AND USE THE TOILET. FAILURE ON THE PART OF A PUPIL TO ATTEND DETENTIONS WILL BE SEEN AS A BREACH OF THE SCHOOL DISCIPLINE CODE.

YR11 PARENTS POST-16 INFORMATION EVENING

THERE ARE SO MANY CHOICES AVAILABLE TO YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY. THIS EVENING WILL PROVIDE IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT DIFFERENT PATHWAYS AVAILABLE TO PUPILS ONCE THEY HAVE LEFT THEIR SECONDARY SCHOOL AND HOW TO APPLY. PLEASE SIGN UP TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE VIA THE LETTER SENT ON SCHOOL GATEWAY.

LEARNING PERFORMANCE WORKSHOP FOR YEAR 7 AND 8 – SUPPORTING YOUR DAUGHTER AT HOME

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO INVITE YOU TO A PARENT/CARER WORKSHOP WITH LEARNING PERFORMANCE TRAINING ON THURSDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 4:00PM AT HODGE HILL GIRLS' SCHOOL. WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND ALONG WITH YOUR DAUGHTER. THE WORKSHOP WILL FINISH BY 5:00PM. THE WORKSHOP WILL BE FOCUSING ON WAYS IN WHICH YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR DAUGHTER WITH HER LEARNING AT HOME.

LEARNING PERFORMANCE IS THE UK'S LEADING STUDY SKILLS COMPANY. THEIR INTERACTIVE AND MOTIVATIONAL WORKSHOPS DEMONSTRATE TO PUPILS AND PARENTS A RANGE OF DIFFERENT STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF GOOD LEARNING TECHNIQUES, TO ENSURE ACADEMIC SUCCESS AT GCSE AND BEYOND.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT LEARNING PERFORMANCE AND THE WORK THEY DO WITH SCHOOLS, PLEASE VISIT WWW.LEARNINGPERFORMANCE.COM

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

AT HHGS WE RUN A RANGE OF DIFFERENT EXTRACURRICULAR CLUBS. THESE CLUBS OFFER STUDENTS VALUABLE OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLORE THEIR INTERESTS, DEVELOP NEW SKILLS, AND BUILD SOCIAL CONNECTIONS OUTSIDE OF THE REGULAR CLASSROOM SETTING. THESE CLUBS CAN COVER A WIDE VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS, SUCH AS SPORTS, ARTS AND CRAFTS, ACADEMIC SUBJECTS, AND MORE. THE EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUB TIMETABLE IS ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE, PLEASE USE SCHOOL GATEWAY TO SIGN YOUR CHILD UP FOR EVERY SESSION OR CONFIRM YOUR CHILD'S PLACE IF THEY HAVE BEEN ASKED TO ATTEND BY THEIR TEACHERS.

A REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS/CARERS THAT ANY EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS YOUR CHILD WISHES TO ATTEND SHOULD BE APPROPRIATELY SIGNED UP FOR ON THE SCHOOL GATEWAY APP - IF YOUR CHILD WISHES TO ATTEND MORE THAN ONE CLUB, PLEASE SIGN UP INDIVIDUALLY TO EACH CLUB.

PERIOD 6 - YEAR 11 REVISION

STARTING W/C TUESDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER 2023

TO SUPPORT YEAR 11 WITH THEIR GCSE'S, THEIR TEACHERS ARE RUNNING EXTRA TUITION SESSIONS AT ALLOCATED TIMES AFTER SCHOOL, WE CALL THIS PERIOD 6 (2.45-3.45PM). THE TABLE BELOW SHOWS THE DAYS EACH INTERVENTION IS RUNNING. WE POLITELY REQUEST PARENTS TO SUPPORT BY ENSURING YOU CONFIRM YOUR CHILD'S PLACE ON SCHOOL GATEWAY FOR EVERY SESSION IF THEY HAVE BEEN SELECTED BY TEACHERS. THIS ALLOWS PARENTS TO MONITOR ATTENDANCE.

WEEK A

TUESDAY - HISTORY GEOGRAPHY, PHOTOGRAPHY, FRENCH, SPANISH, SPORTS SCIENCE

WEDNESDAY - MATHS

THURSDAY - FOOD AND NUTRITION, ART, BUSINESS STUDIES, GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, CITIZENSHIP

FRIDAY - SCIENCE

WEEK B

TUESDAY - PHOTOGRAPHY, MUSIC, HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE, BUSINESS STUDIES, HISTORY

WEDNESDAY - ENGLISH

THURSDAY - RELIGIOUS STUDIES

FRIDAY - COMPUTER SCIENCE, URDU, FRENCH, SPANISH, HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE, HISTORY

GCSE POD

PARENTS, WITH END OF YEAR ASSESSMENTS AND GCSE EXAMINATIONS UNDERWAY, PLEASE REMIND YOUR CHILD TO MAKE USE OF GCSEPOD REGULARLY. GCSEPOD IS DESIGNED TO ENGAGE STUDENTS IN THEIR LEARNING AND REVISION BY USING A COMBINATION OF INTERACTIVE LEARNING TOOLS, PODS (SHORT VIDEOS), QUIZZES AND ASSESSMENTS. AS WELL AS GCSE, GCSEPOD ARE LAUNCHING KEY STAGE 3 CONTENT SOON WHICH WILL BE BENEFICIAL TO STUDENTS IN YEAR 7, 8 AND 9.



WELL DONE TO YEAR 7 WHO HAVE ALREADY SIGNED UP. YEAR 7 PARENTS PLEASE CONTINUE TO ENSURE YOUR CHILD SIGN'S UP TO GCSEPOD, INSTRUCTIONS ON SIGNING UP HAVE BEEN SHARED VIA FORM TEACHERS AND EMAIL.

TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION ON HOW GCSEPOD CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD PLEASE ATTEND THE ONLINE PARENT WEBINAR ON 27TH SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 5PM, PLEASE USE THE [HTTPS://WWW.GCSEPOD.COM/PARENT-RESOURCES/](https://www.gcsepod.com/parent-resources/) TO REGISTER.

YEAR	% STUDENTS SIGNED UP TO GCSE POD
7	16%
8	83%
9	78%
10	94%
11	98%

SPARX MATHS**Sparx Maths**

WE ARE EXCITED TO INFORM YOU THAT FROM THURSDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER, YOUR CHILD WILL BE USING SPARX MATHS TO COMPLETE THEIR WEEKLY MATHS HOMEWORK. SPARX PROVIDES A HIGHLY PERSONALISED WEEKLY HOMEWORK TO PUPILS, TAILORED TO THEIR ATTAINMENT LEVEL AND WORKING SPEED.

YOUR CHILD'S HOMEWORK WILL BE SET ON WEDNESDAY AND DUE ON TUESDAY EVENING EVERY WEEK. WE KNOW YOU WANT TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S MATHS PROGRESS, SO WE ARE SENDING THIS LETTER TO EXPLAIN HOW SPARX WORKS AND HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD COMPLETE THEIR HOMEWORK EACH WEEK.

WHAT IS SPARX MATHS HOMEWORK?

SPARX MATHS PROVIDES PERSONALISED HOMEWORK TO EACH CHILD, WITH QUESTIONS THAT ARE CHALLENGING YET ACHIEVABLE, AND TAILORED TO THEIR LEARNING NEEDS. THE MAJORITY OF EACH WEEK'S HOMEWORK WILL BE BASED ON RECENTLY LEARNT TOPICS, BUT IT WILL ALSO INCLUDE SOME QUESTIONS FROM PREVIOUS TOPICS TO HELP REINFORCE THEIR LEARNING.

PUPILS ACCESS THEIR HOMEWORK ON THEIR ONLINE SPARX ACCOUNT, WHERE THEY'LL GET IMMEDIATE FEEDBACK FOR EACH QUESTION ABOUT WHETHER THEIR ANSWER WAS CORRECT OR THEY NEED TO HAVE ANOTHER TRY.

WHILE HOMEWORK IS ACCESSED ONLINE, IT IS PREDOMINANTLY A WRITTEN HOMEWORK AND PUPILS SHOULD RECORD THEIR WORK IN THEIR WORKBOOKS. SPARX HAS A "BOOKWORK CHECKS" SYSTEM TO HELP PUPILS FORM THIS HABIT. EVERY QUESTION IN SPARX HAS A SUPPORT VIDEO ATTACHED TO THAT YOUR CHILD CAN GET HELP INDEPENDENTLY.

HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR CHILD WITH THEIR HOMEWORK?

- PROVIDE A QUIET SPACE FOR YOUR CHILD TO FOCUS ON THEIR HOMEWORK EACH WEEK.
- ENCOURAGE THEM TO START THEIR HOMEWORK EARLY SO THEY CAN GET HELP FROM THEIR TEACHER BEFORE THE DEADLINE IF THEY GET STUCK. TO ENSURE NO GAPS FORM IN YOUR CHILD'S MATHS KNOWLEDGE, HOMEWORK IS NOT MARKED AS COMPLETE UNTIL ALL OF THE COMPULSORY QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED CORRECTLY.
- CHECK THE WEEKLY EMAIL YOU'LL GET FROM SPARX AND PRAISE YOUR CHILD FOR STARTING OR COMPLETING THEIR HOMEWORK. ENCOURAGE THEM TO FINISH IT BEFORE THE DEADLINE IF THEY HAVEN'T ALREADY DONE SO.
- TRY NOT TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH A QUESTION UNTIL THEY'VE HAD A GO FIRST. IT IS ESSENTIAL THEY TRY TO COMPLETE THEIR HOMEWORK INDEPENDENTLY SO THAT SPARX CAN GIVE THEM QUESTIONS THAT ARE AT THE RIGHT LEVEL FOR THEM. REMEMBER THEY CAN WATCH THE SUPPORT VIDEOS IF THEY NEED TO.

WHAT SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE AT HODGE HILL GIRLS' SCHOOL?

- THE SCHOOL'S HOMEWORK CLUB IS AVAILABLE AFTER SCHOOL EVERY DAY AND CAN BE BOOKED VIA SCHOOL GATEWAY.
- STUDENTS HAVE ACCESS TO COMPUTERS IN THE UILZ AND LIBRARY EVERY LUNCHTIME
- WHETHER THERE IS ANY SUPPORT AVAILABLE IN TERMS OF BORROWING DEVICES
- HELP FROM THE CLASS TEACHER (ASK FOR HELP DIRECTLY OR VIA EMAIL)

WE HOPE YOU AGREE THAT SPARX WILL PLAY AN EXCITING AND IMPORTANT ROLE IN GROWING YOUR CHILD'S UNDERSTANDING, SUCCESS AND CONFIDENCE IN MATHS.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT **MISS AINGE – M.AINGE@HODGEHGS.BHAM.SCH.UK** OR **MISS SIKANDER – N.SIKANDER@HODGEHGS.BHAM.SCH.UK**



SCHOOL TERM DATES 2023/2024

AUTUMN TERM 2023

TERM STARTS: MONDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 2023 TO FRIDAY 27TH OCTOBER 2023

HALF TERM: MONDAY 30TH OCTOBER 2023 TO FRIDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2023

TERM 2 STARTS: MONDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2023 TO FRIDAY 22ND DECEMBER 2023

TERM ENDS: FRIDAY 22 DECEMBER 2023

SPRING TERM 2024

TERM STARTS: MONDAY 8TH JANUARY 2024 TO FRIDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2024

HALF TERM: MONDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2024 TO FRIDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2024

TERM 2 STARTS: MONDAY 19TH FEBRUARY TO FRIDAY 22ND MARCH 2024

TERM ENDS: FRIDAY 22 MARCH 2024

SUMMER TERM 2024

TERM STARTS: MONDAY 8 APRIL 2024 TO FRIDAY 24TH MAY 2024

HALF TERM: MONDAY 27 MAY 2024 TO FRIDAY 31 MAY 2024

TERM 2 STARTS: MONDAY 3RD JUNE 2024 TO MONDAY 22ND JULY 2024

TERM ENDS: MONDAY 22 JULY 2024

TEACHING TRAINING DAYS

MONDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 2023

TUESDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2023

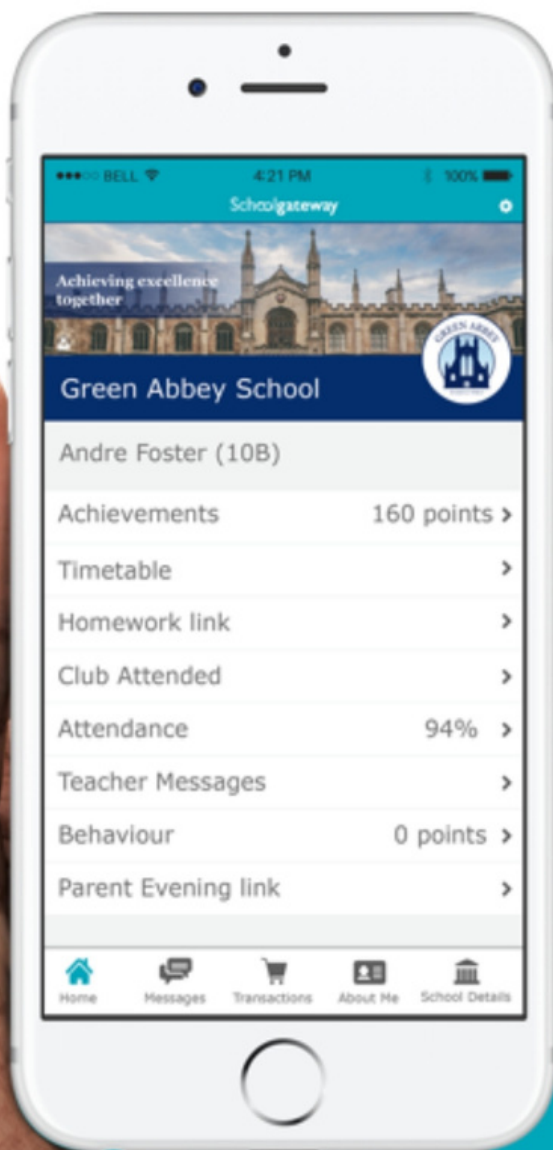
MONDAY 8TH JANUARY 2024

FRIDAY 28TH JUNE 2024

MONDAY 22ND JULY 2024

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