



Hillcrest School and Sixth Form Centre Parents' Handbook 2020 – 2021

*'Pupils' conduct is excellent. Around
the school and in lessons, pupils are
courteous and confident.'*

(Ofsted July 2017)

*'Strong ambition for improving
outcomes for all pupils has led to good
examination results'*

(Ofsted July 2017)

www.hillcrest.bham.sch.uk

Twitter @HillcrestSch



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| Deputy Headteacher | Steven Connor-Hemming |
| Deputy Headteacher | Sam Abbotts |
| Assistant Headteacher | Shamim Palmer |
| Business Manager | Sharron Johnson |
| Chair of Governors | Dee Mcilmurray |
| SENDCO | Julie Penn |
| Emotional Well-being Co-Ordinator | Mary Bunce |

This booklet has been produced to introduce you and your child to Hillcrest. Please read it carefully and keep it for reference.

In the light of current educational trends some information in this booklet may change during your child's school career. You will, of course, be notified of any changes via our many circulars, newsletters and the website.



School Values and Ethos

Hillcrest School and Sixth Form Centre is a **safe and respectful** learning environment where **every child is valued as an individual** with **unique talents and ambitions**.

We:

- are an **outward looking** and **confident** community, actively promoting the **fundamental British values** of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs;
- are a **happy, responsible** and **fair** school respected by the community;
- improve our environment to meet the **educational demands of the twenty-first century**;
- raise expectations and **achievement for all**;
- prepare everyone for the **challenges of modern Britain** and a **changing world**; and
- develop a **passion for life-long learning**



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Welcome to Hillcrest School

At Hillcrest, we provide each student with the opportunity to achieve their full potential in both academic and social terms. I hope within these pages you will discover something of how we combine the best of traditional values with the very latest in teaching methods and technologies to inspire our students to succeed in everything they do.

We have very high expectations of our students. Great emphasis is placed on: self-discipline and self-respect; hard work and achievement; and high standards of behaviour.

We have a highly qualified team of staff committed to delivering quality education to all our students. Your child will enter a safe and secure environment in which high quality learning can take place effectively. We are proud to play our part in helping students become the thoughtful, caring, confident and well educated young adults of tomorrow.

We believe our school is an ideal size, since it is large enough to provide a full range of subjects and to enable us to employ specialist teachers, but not so large that the individual becomes lost in the crowd.





The School Day

School Day Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|-------|-------------------------------|
| 8.45 | - | 8.50 | |
| Morning Registration | | | |
| 8.50 | - | 9.48 | Period 1 |
| 9.48 | - | 10.46 | Period 2 |
| 10.46 | - | 11.06 | Break |
| 11.06 | - | 11.26 | |
| Assembly / Form time | | | |
| 11.26 | - | 12.25 | Period 3 |
| 12.25 | - | 1.10 | Lunch |
| 1.10 | - | 2.10 | Period 4 |
| 2.10 | - | 3.10 | Period 5 |
| 3.10 | - | 3.15 | Afternoon Registration |



School Day: Wednesday

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| 8:45 – 8:50 | Morning Registration |
| 8:50 – 9:40 | Period 1 |
| 9:40 – 10:30 | Period 2 |
| 10:30 – 10:50 | Break |
| 10:50 – 11:40 | Period 3 |
| 11:40 – 12:30 | Period 4 |
| 12:30 – 1:10 | Lunch |
| 1:10 – 2:00 | Period 4 |
| 2:00 – 2:05 | Afternoon Registration |

The canteen serves breakfast between 7.30am and 8.30am. Upon arrival students should use the main student entrance adjacent to Room 5.

If students are not sat in their form rooms by 8.45am they will be marked late. If a student is late twice in a week they will receive a 30-minute after school detention. If they are late three times in a week they will receive a 60-minute after school detention and, in addition to the 60-minute detention, they will be internally isolated in room 35 if they are late to school more than three times in a week.

If there is a legitimate reason why a student is late to school, including transport difficulties, medical appointments or car breakdown, we would ask parents/carers to contact the school to inform us in advance. Your child will be marked late but we will take this into account when deciding to issue a detention.

Attendance

We believe that all students should develop habits of excellent attendance and punctuality and we ask for the support of parents in this.

School attendance regulations require every student to attend school except when ill. Attendance below **95%** is unsatisfactory and can affect academic and social progress. Students with attendance below **90%** will fall into the '**Persistent Absentee**' category and parents may be invited into the school to meet the **Deputy Headteacher (Mr Connor-Hemming)** and **Educational Welfare Officer (Anita Gray)** to agree an Attendance Action Plan as part of the Local Authority's '**Fast Track**' programme. This may result in a fixed penalty fine or legal prosecution if a child is absent from school for ten days in the previous twelve month period and appropriate medical evidence has not been provided by parents / carers.

When your child is absent, please telephone the school on the first morning to let the **Attendance Officer (Miss Stuart)** know the reason. Otherwise, it is our policy to contact you asking for a reason.

- There is also a voicemail telephone service and parents may be automatically contacted if a student is absent from school. Continuous contact will be made until the telephone call is acknowledged.
- If a student persists to have unauthorised absences the school will request parents to provide medical evidence to explain absence i.e. a doctor's medical note or appointment card.
- When your child returns to school she should give her form teacher a note from you giving the reason for the absence.
- If the tutor does not receive a note your child's absence will be recorded as unauthorised.
- If a student is absent for more than three days and we have not received a letter or phone call from parents/carers, the school may contact the police to carry out a 'Safe and Well Check' to ensure the student is safe or may refer concerns to Children's Social Care for additional support.
- Please try to make dental and medical appointments outside school hours. Where this is not possible, your child should give either a note



or an appointment card to her form tutor in advance. No note is then required when she returns.

- When students enter or leave school premises for medical appointments they must report to Student Reception who will record their arrival or departure time and will give them a slip. This authorises them to be out of school and your child may be asked by the Police to produce it to verify that she has permission to be out of school during the day. This also enables us to know where students are if there is an emergency. Students represent the school when they are in uniform and must ensure they do so appropriately on their journey.
- It is the student's responsibility to catch up on missed work when they return to school.

Holidays (Leave of Absence) during term time

- Family holidays or overseas visits **must** be arranged to coincide with school holidays. The school cannot authorise any time for holidays during term time, unless the circumstances are exceptional. **For all leave of absence requests, please contact school for an appointment with Mr Connor-Hemming (Deputy Headteacher).** The Headteacher has the right to use her discretion to authorise leave of absence during term time, i.e. – family funeral abroad. Parents / carers **will** face a **fixed penalty fine** if they take their child on holiday for more than ten school days without authorisation from the school. Parents will be asked to provide evidence of travel tickets to confirm the dates of travel arrangements. The school has the right to contact Children's Social Care or the police if there are any concerns about a child's safety during an unauthorised leave of absence.

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Birmingham City Council 'Holidays During Term Time are not Allowed' Leaflet

Our updated and revised 'Holidays in Term Time' leaflet has now been published. If you would like to order these for your school, please telephone 0121 303 5121 Cost: £6 / 100 leaflets
Education Welfare Service

For further help and advice, speak to your school attendance officer or Head Teacher

You can also contact your local area Education Welfare Office:

BEN (Birmingham East and North)
Telephone: 0121 303 8900
Email: EWSHelpNorth@birmingham.gov.uk

HOB (Heart of Birmingham)
Telephone: 0121 303 1200
Email: EWSHelpCentral@birmingham.gov.uk

South Birmingham
Telephone: 0121 303 8050
Email: EWSHelpSouth@birmingham.gov.uk

children & young people matter BIRMINGHAM
Birmingham City Council

www.birmingham.gov.uk/educationwelfare

holidays during school term time are not allowed

www.birmingham.gov.uk/educationwelfare



The school will be monitoring your child's attendance as follows:

How wise is your child's attendance?

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| EXCELLENT | <p>Your child's attendance is above 98%.</p> <p>They are 'WISED UP' on attendance.</p> <p>As well as being an excellent attender your child will almost certainly achieve the best grades for her ability and have real opportunity in further education or the world of work</p> |
| GOOD | <p>Your child's attendance is 95-97%</p> <p>They are 'GETTING WISE'</p> <p>Your child is likely to achieve their grades that will give them real opportunities to continue their studies or in the world of work.</p> |
| UNSATISFACTORY | <p>Your child's attendance is 94-90%.</p> <p>They are below the national government threshold of 95%</p> <p><u>Your child will miss up to 18 days each school year and this will make it difficult for her to achieve her best</u></p> |
| CONCERN | <p>Your child's attendance is between 85-90%.</p> <p>They 'NEED TO WISE UP'!</p> <p>Parents / Carers may face a fixed penalty fine as your child's attendance is below 90% and they are 'Persistent Absentees'</p> <p><u>Your child is missing so much time from school that it will be difficult for her to keep in touch with lessons or work</u></p> |
| SERIOUS CONCERN | <p>Your child's attendance is below 85%</p> <p>You need to 'WISE UP and TAKE ACTION NOW as you will face a fixed penalty fine or further legal prosecution if your child's attendance does not improve!</p> <p><u>Your child is missing so much time from school that it will be almost impossible for her to keep in touch with lessons or work!</u></p> |



IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT ALL PARENTS SIGN UP TO <https://www.parentmail.co.uk/> to receive texts/letters from school and pay online for your child's lunch money, school trips etc.

Hillcrest School is committed to ensuring that parents are kept informed on all the exciting events and activities that occur in school. We use a system called ParentMail to communicate with our parents and carers. You can use your ParentMail account from your computer, IPAD or the free ParentMail App on your mobile phone. We will keep you informed of the following via ParentMail:-

ParentMail - Text/Communications

- Emergency/school closure information will be sent by text message.
- Receive messages, newsletters and school letters via email.
- Keep up-to-date with school events and information

ParentMail - Paying for School Items (students **CANNOT** bring cash into school)

- Top-up your child's lunch money so that they can use their swipe card to purchase food and drinks in the school dining hall.
- Pay for items online e.g. all school trips, school ties, revision books, swipe cards, stationary.
- View the meals that your child has eaten at the school dining hall.

Not yet registered?

Registering on ParentMail is simple, all you need to do is make sure that we have your most up-to-date email address and mobile phone number and just activate your account when you are sent a registration link.

Please contact the school and **request a ParentMail link to activate an account** (if you have not already received or lost the ParentMail activation letter).



Need access to the internet to use ParentMail?

We provide an internet access point in the school reception area for you to come into school to use ParentMail online if needed.



Breaks and lunchtime

- Students stay on site during the school day. No student other than a member of the sixth form (Years 12 and 13) may leave the premises during lunch.
- Students may bring their own packed lunch if they wish. However, an excellent school meals service is available in our school dining room before school, at break and at lunchtime. Hot and cold food, snacks, sandwiches and drinks are available and take account of vegetarian and cultural needs. Students who need special diets for medical needs are also catered for. Parents are asked to contact the school in writing or by telephone if they need this provision.
- Students are charged for each item they take so it is not possible to state the exact cost of a full meal; in general about £2.35 per day should be ample. There are Meal Deals available each day that include a hot meal or sandwich, a drink and a fruit pot or snack for £2.35.
- All students are issued with a swipe card that they can use to purchase snacks, food and drinks in the dining room. Parents will need to go to www.parentmail.com to add credit/money onto the card. Students are then able to purchase items in the school dining room. When parents log onto ParentMail they will also be able to view what their child has purchased each day.
- Students who are entitled to free meals are credited with £2.35 on their card each day.
- If you would like to check if your child is entitled to receive free meals the school office can provide you with an application form. Please complete this form (detailing your national insurance number/Asylum support number) and return to Miss Parveen who will then check if your child is eligible. **Please contact Miss Parveen at the school if you would like any further information on free meals.**
- Students bringing packed lunches may eat them in the dining room, form base or in the allocated picnic area.

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- Students may not eat in the corridors or in the Hall.
- The school operates a system whereby if a student forgets their swipe card they can have lunch and parents should add the money onto their child's ParentMail account later that day to reimburse the school.
- Hillcrest has a Healthy Eating Policy. Students should not be bringing 'family' sized packets of cakes, biscuits, crisps, large bottles of drinks or energy drinks into school.

The school dining hall is open to students from 7-30am for breakfast and at break time and lunchtime.



The school dining hall offers:

- A Grab and Go counter
- World kitchen – weekly menu of hot meals
- Hot Deli counter – hot wraps, paninis, topped jacket potatoes, pizza slices and fresh pasta with homemade sauces
- Cold Deli counter – range of homemade savoury and sweet items, freshly baked baguettes, rolls, wraps, sandwiches and salads
- Range of - cold desserts, homemade cakes, biscuits and fruit pots
- Live cooking events on special occasions

The school dining hall guarantees:

- Fresh, high quality and locally sourced food
- British Red Tractor farm assured meat
- Fish from sustainable sources
- Free range eggs



- Locally sourced fruit and vegetables
- All food will be made from fresh ingredients
- Halal and Non-Halal selections

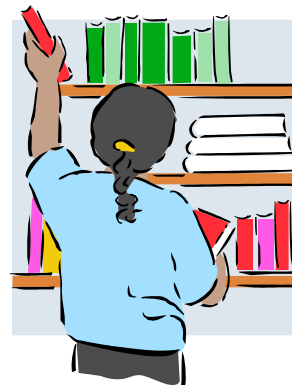
Visiting the school/Parking Near School

- In the interest of **student safety**, parents who bring their children to school by car, or who collect them at the end of the day must park on the school side of Stonehouse Lane or in the car park at the bottom of the drive and not come up the school drive. **Please only park in the marked spaces in the lower car park, any other parking will block the flow of cars and emergency services.**
- We have worked with West Midlands Travel to produce a school travel plan. Student and parents views were part of this review.
- Students must use the pedestrian crossing at the bottom of the school drive.
- If your child has a medical condition that requires you to drop her off and collect her right outside school, please apply directly to the Headteacher for permission. Parents/Carers will be issued with a written pass to confirm they have permission to drive up to school.
- There is a car park behind the school, please turn left at the top of the drive. Disabled parking bays are signposted to the right as you reach the top of the drive.
- If you have a concern of any kind, and you would like to talk to us about it, please do not hesitate to let us know. If, from what your child says, things are not going well at school please contact us rather than worrying, perhaps unnecessarily. College Leaders will normally deal with such matters in the first instance.
- Please telephone school to make an appointment as all staff have teaching and other commitments and difficulties arise if parents arrive at school without an appointment.
- **Please enter via Main Reception when visiting the school and report to the reception desk.** If you have any special access requirements please let us know so that we can make your visit as successful as possible.
- Parents/carers are reminded that Hillcrest is a **no smoking site** which applies to all members of the school community and to all visitors.
- Parents/carers are reminded to adhere to the terms of the 'Parent Code of Conduct' when visiting the school or contacting the school via telephone, email or in writing.

Books and equipment

The school supplies books and teaching materials but **students must replace lost or damaged books and equipment and will be asked to pay for any damage to school property wilfully caused.**

It is normal practice for students to take articles home from lessons such as Food Technology and in these circumstances parents are asked to provide the necessary resources.



It is important that students have the basic equipment for lessons. Suggested essentials are:

- Pens (blue, black and green).
- Pencils, a pencil sharpener, a selection of coloured pencils
- A rubber
- A ruler
- Glue stick.
- A notebook for rough work
- A protractor and compass.
- A Casio fx-83GT PLUS Natural-V.P.A.M Scientific calculator (available from most supermarkets)
- An English Dictionary.
- A French Language Dictionary.
- Scissors and a small stapler.
- Knowledge Organiser.

Students will be issued with a swipe card in order to borrow books from the **Open Learning Centre.**

A selection of equipment is available to be purchased in the Open Learning Centre.



Uniform & Jewellery

We expect our students to take pride in their appearance and we believe that the wearing of school uniform fosters a sense of identity. If students attend school inappropriately dressed, their parents will be contacted. Students are not allowed to attend lessons out of uniform.

Students must wear:

- Black blazer with Hillcrest Badge.
- Black skirt (Not stretched or tight materials. Should be at least knee length) or trousers of regulation style and length (Not leggings or cropped/slim legged/tight fitting trousers).
- Plain black tights, or black socks.
- White school shirt (not a polo shirt) closed collar autumn and spring term and open collar in summer optional in the summer term.
- Black shoes of plain style, well fitting and FLAT HEELED, but not sling backs.
- School tie (correctly worn to the neck).

Optional:

- Black V neck jumper.
- For Religious reasons students may wear the regulation headscarf in white or black plain material.

If students wish to wear extra clothing under their uniform it must not be visible.

Trainers and boots are not to be worn. Students will be expected to wear a pair of school authorised shoes if they fail to wear appropriate footwear for school.

For PE:

- Hillcrest design polo shirt.
- Hillcrest design sports sweater.
- Black shorts or skort (optional).
- Black tracksuits bottoms (Not leggings or tight fitted)
- Black Football socks.

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- Sports Trainers.
- Shin pads
- Black PE Headscarf (Please see our uniform booklet)

Uniform Suppliers 2020-21

Gogna Schoolwear and Sports

67/69 Rookery Road Birmingham B21 9QU

Tel: 0121 5235572

W: www.gognaschoolwear.co.uk

Somal Fashions

11 Faraday Avenue

Birmingham

B32 1JP

0121 423 2969

Colliers

1 Chatham Road Northfield B31 2PH

Tel: 0121 4757874

Jewellery must not be worn. One pair of small stud earrings is allowed. Body piercing, e.g. nose studs, eyebrow studs, tongue studs etc are not permitted. Students will be asked to remove body piercings and will be sent home if they fail to do so. Jewellery, if worn, will be taken and will be returned to students at the end of term, or parents may come in person to collect the item.

Make-up and nail varnish, including nail extensions should not be worn for school. Students who arrive at school wearing make-up or nail varnish will be given the appropriate materials to ensure it is removed.

Hair styles should be appropriate for school and without unnatural colouring e.g. blue, purple, red.



Personal Property

All property brought to school must be marked clearly with the owner's name. Students are asked not to bring valuable items such as smartwatches, MP3 players or ipods to school.

Mobile phones are not encouraged, but we understand that some students may want them as a safety measure on the way to and from school. Therefore, if brought in, they must be switched off and kept in a bag, out of sight as soon as the student first enters the school building at the start of the day. They must remain switched off and out of sight until the student leaves the school building at the end of their day. Mobile phones used, seen or heard in school will be taken from students and a 60-minute SLT detention will be issued. Parents/carers will be asked to collect them in person from the school. If a student refuses to give their mobile phone to a member of staff, they will receive a 60-minute detention and be internally isolated for a day in room 35 for refusing to comply with instructions.

The school can take no responsibility for any phones or other valuables brought into school.

Students are issued with a locker, and should bring a small padlock to safeguard their belongings. Coats should be kept in lockers, and not carried around school during the day.

Money and bus passes should be kept on their person. Large amounts of money should not be brought into school unless absolutely necessary and in this case should be handed to staff for safekeeping.

The Governors have asked us to point out that there is no insurance cover for students' property. Parents should make their own arrangements if required. Insurers will often extend a home contents insurance policy for this purpose.

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School Fund

The School is responsible for its own budget. Within this budget there is very little scope for those little things that make life in school pleasant - such as prizes for students, expenses for visiting speakers and membership fees for various organisations. We ask parents to help by contributing **£10 per year per family**. You may, of course, contribute more if you wish! We do realise that this might cause hardship and, if this is the case, please send a note to your child's College Leader.

Complaints procedure

The school endeavours to respond to any concerns raised positively and promptly. Please contact the school in the first instance to discuss any concerns. Should any parent have recourse to a formal complaint the school has a complaints procedure, details of which can be obtained from the school website.



Curriculum

Year 7 students are arranged in mixed ability form groups in which they are taught for the following subjects: Dance, Drama, PE, Technology, Art, Computing, History, Geography, Music, Religious Education and PSD. Students are placed in ability sets for the core subjects (English, Maths and Science) usually at the end of the first half-term in Year 7. Students are then banded into groups in French during the first term in Year 7.



All Year 7 students will experience the lessons below:

Art

Computing

Dance

Drama

English

French

Geography

History

Mathematics

Music

Personal & Social Development and Citizenship (PSD)

Physical Education (P.E.)

Religious Education (R.E.)

Science

Technology

In Key Stage 4, compulsory subjects are English, Mathematics, Science, French, PE and RE. Advice and guidance about the most appropriate choices is given to all students in Year 9 during the options process. All GCSE courses start formally in Year 10, although students will begin to study course content in lessons in Year 9.



Information Advice and Guidance (IAG)

Information Advice and Guidance (IAG) is an ongoing part of student support as they progress through KS3, 4 and 5. Parents/carers will also receive information regarding curriculum choices and developments at

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parent consultation evenings and via other school communications. Our **Careers Advisor** in school is **Mrs Matto**. Information and support on careers for students and parents can be found on the school website. If parents/carers have any questions about their child's career options, they should contact **Mr Connor-Hemming (Deputy Headteacher)**.

Teaching and Learning

Effective teaching is central to our success. All students are entitled to receive a high-quality education.

We aim to ensure that students develop a habit of lifelong learning, that they acquire the skills needed to continue further into education and work, and that they fulfil their potential over the seven years they will study with us.

Through the delivery of exciting, motivating and relevant topics, students are taught that knowledge is power, and they will learn how to:

- *Question and challenge*
- *Make connections and see relationships*
- *Make predictions*
- *Explore ideas*
- *Reflect critically on ideas*

At Hillcrest, we believe that understanding how you learn effectively is also essential to success. Teachers focus on six key strategies for academic success and they will make explicit links to the work of cognitive scientists and specifically '**The Learning Scientists**'.

More information on the strategies can be found at:
www.learningscientists.org



Education for Personal and Social Growth and Development

The school places considerable importance on personal, social, moral and health education. Learning in these areas is developed through the P.S.D and Citizenship lessons and the day-to-day life of the school. Students in each year group will participate in six 'PSD Days' during the academic year. Normal lessons will be suspended on these days.

It is the school's legal responsibility to provide 'Relationship and Sex' and 'Health' education in the context of family relationships and to inform parents that this is taking place. Parents do have the legal right to withdraw their children from the sex education aspects of PSD days after formally writing to **Ms Davies (Headteacher)** and meeting to discuss the reasons for the withdrawal. The Children and Social work Act 2017 makes RSE mandatory in all schools from 2020. Sex Education in Science is mandatory. Parents are not allowed to withdraw their child from relationship or health education.

Assemblies and Religious Studies

Assemblies and lessons are fully in accordance with the 1988 Education Act and are planned in the awareness that students of all faiths and none are present. The vast majority find no difficulty in joining in. On very rare occasions, parents have found that something said or done in school is not quite in accordance with their religious beliefs or cultural practices. If this should happen, it is likely to be quite unintentional but we would be most anxious to know about it as we are all learning all the time! Parents do have the right to withdraw their child from Assemblies if they wish after discussion with the school. Again, parents should formally write to **Ms Davies (Headteacher)**.

Homework helps our students in a number of ways: -



- To learn how to work independently
- To develop responsibility for planning and organising

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their own time effectively

- To do background reading and research to extend what they have learnt in lessons or prepare for the learning in the next lesson
- To reflect on their work and think things through for themselves

A homework timetable is sent to parents at the start of each school year and is also available on the school website. All homework is recorded on the '**Show My Homework**' section on the school website. Each student and parent will have a **unique username and password** to access the site. Here, students and parents can find information on the nature of the homework, useful resources and deadlines to complete and submit homework. In their first year students should be doing about an hour to 1½ hours each night, and this increases to 2 hours from year 9.

Homework will be set in the following ways:

***It is an expectation your child will read for 20 minutes every evening.
Please support them in doing so.***

- Online Work Hegarty Maths (or other online platforms - Active Learn, Seneca etc.)
- Work set around **knowledge organisers** (self-quizzing on essential knowledge or, preparation for retrieval tests etc.)
- Any other work the class teacher sets (if an extended piece of writing is set, then the teacher will provide feedback on this).

What are knowledge organisers?

Expertise in an area relies on a person possessing a high level of knowledge. Students who know more can understand more and thereby become more successful in their studies.

'Higher-order thinking is knowledge-based: the almost universal feature of reliable higher-order thinking about any subject or problem is the possession of a broad, well-integrated base of background knowledge relevant to the subject'. E D Hirsch

We, therefore, have knowledge organisers for each topic or unit of work. For example, in a unit of study (e.g. 4-6 weeks), teachers compile the 40-50 key facts students need to have acquired in their long term memory to be able to master the topic. (Note: though knowledge organisers can be used



for revision purposes, they are not in themselves, a revision pack. Subject-specific revision packs would be provided by departments)

To keep subject knowledge organisers handy and all in one place, we ask all pupils to obtain a folder with plastic wallets. Pre-collated ones can be bought from the Open Learning Centre for £1.

You can support your child in several ways:

- Check your child's 'Show My Homework' homepage each day to monitor the homework set and ensure your child uses the resources to complete the homework to the correct standard.
- Look at your child's knowledge organiser and support them in learning some of the key knowledge and subject-specific vocabulary.
- Encourage your child to send a message on 'Show My Homework' to her teacher if she experiences any problems completing the homework.
- If it appears that homework is not being set, please contact your child's College Leader. This also applies if too much homework is being set.
- Take an encouraging interest in the homework being completed; help and praise as appropriate.
- Ensure that your child takes her homework books to school the next day.

Our Pastoral system

In **Year 7** students are split into form groups in **Nightingale College**. In **Years 8 and 9** students are organised into tutor groups in **Parks College**. In **Years 10 and 11** students are organised into tutor groups in **Malala College**. Form groups meet during registration periods at the start and end of each day, as well as the daily form period during the day.

Year 7 College Leader – Miss King

Year 8 College Leader – Miss Shaw

Year 9 College Leader – Miss Adenike

Year 10 College Leader – Miss Ankiah

Year 11 College Leader – Mr Kennard

Head of Sixth form – Miss Muncey

Hillcrest

Learning and Emotional Well-Being Mentor – Mrs Bunce
High Level Teaching Assistant – Mrs Preston

Peripatetic Music lessons

Music teachers come to the school each week to give lessons on a variety of instruments. Students already receiving lessons in their primary schools are given priority if we have to limit numbers. Please contact **Mr Nock** at school if you would like any further information about Music lessons.

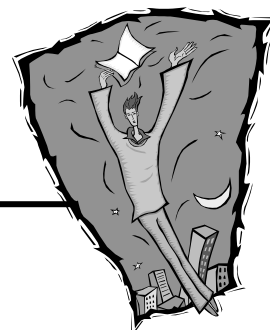
Special Educational Needs and Inclusion

Hillcrest is an inclusive school where the teaching and learning, achievements, attitudes and well being of every child matters. Our SEND policy is in line with the SEND code of practice 2014.

In Year 7, we identify the additional needs of students from information and results provided by primary schools and the completion of tasks focusing on literacy and numeracy skills. This allows us to put the needed support in place for our students, such as in class assistance or small group work following specific programmes. Students also have the opportunity to join lunchtime and after school reading and homework groups. Support is also provided for students who need additional help when English is not their first language.

Key staff will work together with students on the targets for their Individual Education Plan or Educational, Health and Care Plan in consultation with you. We understand that you know your child best and firmly believe that school and home should work closely together. Our **SENDCO (Special Educational Needs Coordinator)** is **Mrs Penn**. Please feel free to contact her at school if you would like any further information about the support your child can access.

To ensure we have the best chance of removing barriers to achievement, Hillcrest also has strong links with vital support agencies outside the school, e.g – Educational Psychologist Service.





Sixth Form

The Sixth Form at Hillcrest is part of 'The Oaks Collegiate' of schools who work together to provide Post 16 education. This allows students to access a broad and balanced range of subjects at Hillcrest and from across the collegiate. Schools in 'The Oaks Collegiate' Sixth Forms are: Hillcrest School, Lordswood Girls' School and St Thomas Aquinas School.

Our Head of Sixth Form is Miss Muncey.

What does this mean?

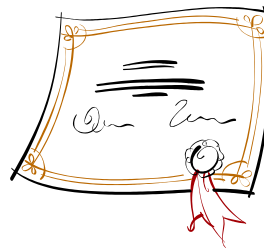
This means that a student can choose to do one or more subjects at Hillcrest School together with a subject (if not taught at Hillcrest) at another school. Every Wednesday students are involved in 'Enrichment' where they can choose from a range of activities. Students in the Sixth Form have their own personal tutor who they meet with to discuss their progress and have personal guidance in completing their higher education or apprenticeship applications.

Many visiting speakers lead sessions for Sixth Form students to give guidance on the options available after Year 12 and then Year 13. Sixth Form students have their own facilities in the school including a common room and a dedicated computer suite.



Rewards

We firmly believe in recognising and rewarding hard work, effort and behaviour.



‘Getting It Right’



It is the aim of the school to create a happy, successful school in which students are able to learn and develop to their full potential. They can therefore expect to be valued and respected as individuals, to be treated with fairness and understanding and to be encouraged and praised for effort. We welcome and encourage the involvement of parents and members of the community in school to enrich and improve education for all. Students must be prepared to follow the ‘Getting It Right’ Policy. The policy rewards ‘good’ behaviour and hard work, but also outlines the consequences issued when students fail to meet school expectations.

Getting It Right Rewards

Getting It Right Rewards underpin every aspect of learning and school life. Every lesson students automatically have a GIR point. Their challenge is to keep their point by the end of the lesson by following school expectations in terms of behaviour, organisation, homework and punctuality to lessons. However, they can lose their GIR point in a lesson if they fail to meet any of these expectations (see page 29). **By the end of the year students are expected to have kept a minimum of 95% GIR points in lessons.** However, they cannot earn their GIR points if they are not in school, so attendance is crucial if students are going to achieve above the 95% threshold. During the year students receive certificates based on their GIR % at the end of each half-term.

Gold certificate awarded to students with **99%-100% GIR total**

Silver certificate awarded to students with **97%-98.9% GIR total**

Bronze certificate awarded to students with **95%-96.9% GIR total**

At the end of the year students who meet the minimum thresholds will receive a ‘**Hillcrest star**’ badge and will be able to take part in specially organised celebration events.



Parents/carers will receive a letter at the end of each term showing if their child's GIR% is above or below the 95% minimum threshold.

Getting It Right Bonus Points

In addition, students can also earn GIR Bonus Points for producing exceptional pieces of work in lessons. There is also a special Headteacher Commendation (worth 5 bonus points). Students are also invited to participate in other celebratory events if they meet the expected bonus point threshold and can achieve different levels of certificates.

Bronze certificate is awarded to students who earn **30 bonus points**

Silver certificate is awarded to students who earn **40 bonus points**

Gold certificate is awarded to students who earn **50 bonus points**

Platinum certificate is awarded to students who earn **60 bonus points**

Diamond certificate is awarded to students who earn **80 bonus points**

Emerald certificate is awarded to students who earn **100 bonus points**

Community Certificate

These will be awarded to students who make a contribution to the Hillcrest community. This might include being part of a team, taking part in an event or being a guide when we have visitors in school.

The Hillcrest Superstar Award:

This is the highest level of award at Hillcrest. A Hillcrest Superstar will be someone at the end of year that has:

- A minimum of 95% Getting It Right points
- 50 or more Getting It Right bonus points
- 6 community certificates
- An exceptional one off achievement e.g. School athletic games medal winner

Hillcrest Superstars will receive a special certificate and their names will be displayed on a roll of honour. They will also be awarded with a special Headteacher tie – one which is of a different design to the school tie. Students who achieve the award for a second time receive a special glass

Hillcrest

trophy; for a third time a Headteacher medal and for a fourth time a Headteacher cup.

An Awards morning is held annually, to which parents/carers are invited. Prizes are presented to those who are judged to have made the most effort or progress or who have given outstanding service to the school throughout the year.



‘Getting It Right’ Policy (GIR). This is a behaviour policy based upon:

- ✓ Praise
- ✓ Choice – students make choices which dictate their actions. These actions can then result in either positive or negative consequences.

‘Getting it Right’

- In all classrooms everyone should feel comfortable and non-threatened
- We expect that in all classrooms there should be three times as much praise as there are Consequences
- ‘Getting it Right’ points – students will start the lesson with a point and will only lose it if they receive a ‘C’ - Consequence
- Every half-term the ‘Getting it Right’ points are added up
- Certificates will then be presented and letters sent home through ParentMail



Supporting learning in the classroom - how does it work?

- *First misbehaviour Verbal warning (C1).*
- *Second misbehaviour Verbal warning (C2).*
- *Third misbehaviour Detention (C3).*
- *Fourth misbehaviour Call Out room for the remainder of the session (C4).*
- *If a student is excluded from school this is classed as a (C5).*

C1 will be issued for.....

- Late to lessons by more than 5 minutes
- Failure to bring equipment, including knowledge organisers
- Failure to bring kit
- Failure to complete homework or not completing homework to the appropriate standard (30 minute detention issued in both cases)
- Misbehaviour in a lesson after an initial warning from the teacher

Supporting the Learning Environment- how does it work?

There are no warnings for misbehaviour around school – C3 detention is given for

- Running or making inappropriate noise in school
(if a student continues to run and not stop to give their name they will get a C4)
- Chewing
- Being in the wrong toilet (not including lesson times)
- If mobile phones are used, seen or heard, at any time of the school day (including before and after school) they will be confiscated and a 60 minute SLT detention issued. Refusal to hand over a phone will result in a C4 and a 60 minute SLT detention.

Supporting the Learning Environment: The canteen* – how does it work?

- Pushing or queue jumping – C3
- Leaving trays or mess at the table – C3
- Students are to follow the Canteen rules in relation to taking food out. Failure to do so will result in a C3.

Hillcrest

- Students who do not follow canteen rules may be banned from using the facility.

**The canteen reserves the right to refuse to serve any member of the school community.*

Supporting the Learning Environment: Water Bottles – how does it work?

- Drinking in a lesson is not a right – permission has to be given by the teacher. Water bottles are then to be used as instructed by the teacher
- Clear water is the only drink allowed during lesson times
- Water bottles are not to be filled during lesson time
- Water bottles are not allowed to be out in Science / ICT lessons due to health and safety issues (this may also apply in other lessons)
- Spillages are to be reported immediately to the teacher
- If a student does not follow the guidance given in relation to Water bottles then the GIR consequence system will be followed – i.e. Warning, C1...

Supporting the Learning Environment: The Community – how does it work?

- Any physical violence will lead to a fixed term exclusion.
- Bullying, verbal violence, swearing at another student or member of staff will result in a warning or a C4 or fixed term exclusion (dependent upon the severity of the incident).
- Any student caught smoking or stood with other students smoking (cigarette, e-cigarette) will receive a fixed term exclusion*.
- Any student carrying inappropriate objects will be excluded and in the case of drugs the school drugs policy will be followed.

* It is illegal to smoke in a public place. This includes school premises and applies to all members of the school community. Any one breaking this law may face legal action.

Supporting the Learning Environment: Information and Communication Technology – how does it work?

- Downloading of inappropriate material from the internet will receive a C3



- Students on inappropriate web sites in lessons will receive a C3
- Students on the internet when they should be working will receive a C3
- Any inappropriate messages sent via the internet or mobile phones will receive a C4
- Drinking or eating in a ICT room will receive a C1

Supporting the Learning Environment: Digital Media – how does it work?

- Recording any member of the school community without their permission is not allowed and will result in a fixed term exclusion.
- The display, supply or posting of any such materials will result in a fixed term exclusion.
- The school does not take responsibility for inappropriate use of digital media outside of school hours or outside of the school premises. Such issues which affect the running of the school will result in the involvement of any appropriate agency and the school following the 'Getting it Right policy towards the individual'. However, the school reserves the right to issue a fixed term exclusion if a student's behaviour out of school brings the school into disrepute.
- Serious incidents may result in a permanent exclusion.

Supporting the Learning Environment: Inappropriate objects / items – how does it work?

The Education and Inspections Act (2006) gives schools the right to search students who it is believed have items which are banned from the school premises.

Examples may include weapons, bladed items, cigarettes or drugs.

1. The student will be informed that a search will take place.
2. Any search will be conducted by a member of the Senior Leadership Team and a witness.
3. Parents / Carers will be informed and if necessary the Police.
4. If a student refuses to cooperate then both Parents / Carers and the Police will be called immediately to the school premises.
5. Bringing a dangerous object onto school premises will result in a permanent exclusion.

Supporting the Learning Environment: Language – how does it work?

1. Staff will always respond appropriately to inappropriate language
2. If staff can hear inappropriate language directed to them or about them the student will be removed from the classroom (C4)
3. If two students are using inappropriate language between them a C4 is given to both
4. A student shouting inappropriate language across the classroom so other students can hear will receive a C4.
6. Any form of verbal aggression towards a member of staff will always be dealt with.

Loud enough to be heard ... loud enough to be punished

GIR Overview - Detentions

- Detention letters for that week are issued to students by their form tutor every Monday morning. Students are expected to give these letters to inform parents of the date and time of the detention.
- Students can receive a 30-minute after school detention under the following circumstances:
 - Receiving a C3 in lesson for inappropriate behaviour;
 - Receiving a C3 for inappropriate behaviour out of lessons;
 - Receiving a C3 for persistent failure to put an appropriate amount of effort into classwork over a number of lessons;
 - Receiving a C3 for persistently failing to bring the correct equipment to lessons over a period of time;
 - Failing to complete a piece of homework;
 - Attempting but failing to complete homework to the expected standard or the student's level of ability; and
 - Arriving late to school two times in a week
- 30-minute detentions for behaviour and homework are held after school each week on Tuesday and Thursday.
- If the student is away from school on this day the detention will be re-issued for the next available detention evening.
- If a student fails to attend the original 30-minute detention, without prior confirmation from parents/carers, a 60 minute detention will



be issued for the next available detention night. Parents will receive another letter to confirm the failure to attend the original detention.

- If a student fails to attend a 60-minute pastoral detention, without prior confirmation from parents/carers. they will be issued with a 60-minute SLT detention after school on a Friday.
- Students can receive a 60-minute SLT detention on a Friday after school under the following circumstances:
 - Failing to attend a 60 minute pastoral detention;
 - Receiving a C4 for behaviour in lessons or around school;
 - Having a mobile phone visible during the school day;
 - Truantiing from school, lessons or form period;
 - Receiving more than two consequences in a week for poor behaviour;
 - Damage to school property;
 - Arriving late to school three or more times in a week; and
 - Verbal or physical aggression towards another student or a member of staff.

If a student failes to attend a 60-minute SLT detention, without any prior confirmation from parents/carers, they will be internally isolated in room 35 on the next day they are in school.

SUCCESSFUL BEHAVIOUR

| Always | Never |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Speak politely and be helpful | Be rude or defiant |
| Be attentive in class | Do anything to stop others learning |
| Follow instructions | Be absent unnecessarily |
| Be on time | Bring chewing gum or eat in class |
| Bring the right equipment | Drop litter or deface school property |
| Look after books and school property | Be out of class without a signed planned |
| Hand in homework on time | Shout or run |
| Walk about school quietly | Break the rules about jewellery and uniform |
| Wear smart school uniform | |

Anti-bullying Policy

It is a basic right of all young people to receive their education free from fear, humiliation and abuse. Every person who is a part of Hillcrest School has a responsibility to take action to care for each other in order to create and maintain a secure and safe environment at school.

The school has an anti-bullying policy, which has been produced in consultation with students, parents, staff and governors: -

Bullying is when an unpleasant situation gets out of control. Bullying can include physical violence, mental abuse such as name-calling, threatening, ignoring or insulting another person or his / her family, religion or race, or anything which intentionally makes a person feel unhappy. Students must speak with their College Leader immediately if they experience any relationship issues with other students in school, out of school or on-line.

What Students should do:

You have a responsibility to prevent bullying.

If you are being bullied, or you see someone being bullied:

- You should talk to someone (teacher, friend or parent)
- Remember we want to put a stop to bullying
- Trust staff to take appropriate action
- You should not encourage the bully
- Students who tolerate bullies are supporting them.

What Staff and other adults employed at school should do:

- Be prepared to listen to students
- Report any instances of bullying straight away
- Examine their behaviour to ensure they are not bullying students or colleagues
- Include teaching of positive behaviour



Parents have a responsibility to:

- Contact school if you are aware or suspect that bullying is taking place
- Encourage your child to talk to someone if they are aware or suspect that bullying is taking place
- Encourage your child not to be aggressive with other people

Parents / carers are encouraged to look at the school website as it contains a great range of information about how to ensure your child is behaving safely and appropriately on-line.

The school has a group of trained peer mentors who will regularly meet with and support any student experiencing difficulties in their relationships with other students in and out of school.

Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying is the use of Information Communications Technology (ICT), particularly mobile phones and the internet, deliberately to upset someone else.

Today's children and young people have grown up in a world that is very different than that of most adults. Many young people experience the internet and mobile phones as a positive, productive and creative part of their activities and development.

Unfortunately such technologies can also be used negatively. As mobile phone and internet use has increased so has the possible misuse of these technologies to bully. If you are concerned about 'Cyberbullying' please contact the school. We would ask all parents / carers to:

- Be vigilant of how their child uses such technologies.
- Use the relevant safety 'tools' that are available to help monitor and manage the internet
- Keep any evidence of offending emails, text messages or online conversations.



Pupil Premium

Pupil Premium is additional funding provided by the Government to enhance the education of the most socio-economically deprived.

Pupil Premium Strategy

Our Pupil Premium Strategy ensures that funding is spent to enable entitled students to receive additional support and resources to remove any barriers to learning. This happens across all key stages where we have extra staff hours to allow smaller groups, small group and one to one tuition and teaching assistant support. Funding is also being used to finance Out of Hours Learning Support Classes, behaviour and pastoral support programmes, revision programmes and materials, special projects and additional resources. For example, the Accelerated Reading Programme, music tuition, Gifted and Talented programmes (The Brilliant Club), Home Learning Programmes and Special Educational Needs resources. The impact on educational achievement arising Pupil Premium expenditure are the outcomes for these students, as demonstrated in achievement, attendance and reward data.

Taking Responsibility

The school is committed to providing as many opportunities as possible for students to take on real responsibilities.

- Each form elects a **College Prefect**. This post is for the whole academic year. College Council meetings are held every week. The students put items for discussion forward and they also organise many whole school charity events.
- We have an active **Student Parliament** that is made up of elected representatives from the College Prefect teams.
- Each form selects an **IAG representative**. This post is for the full academic year and the students selected will organise careers events.
- In Years 8, 9, 10 and 12 students have the opportunity to complete a training programme to become **Peer Mentors**. They work with students who may experience issues with homework and behaviour, as well as any emotional issues they may face.



- In Year 7 students can train to be **Transition Mentors** to work with Primary to Secondary transition.
- In Year 8 every student has the opportunity to take part in reception duty in the Main Reception area.
- In Year 11, students are encouraged to become prefects and to take on a variety of roles in the day to day running of school life.

Assessment and Reporting

We monitor each student's academic progress through regular assessment and testing. School examinations are held each year in the summer term and for older students in December as well. Students are entered for a range of external examinations. Dates of examinations are sent to parents in advance.

Every student receives a detailed written report once a year. A reply slip will be provided for you to acknowledge receipt and to comment if you wish to do so. Parents will also receive two snapshot reports each year. These give an indication of the grade your child is working at and an estimated grade they are predicted to achieve at the end of the year. This report will also show if your child is handing in homework, putting in the required effort and bringing all the correct equipment to lessons on a regular basis.

Home School Partnership Agreement

| |
|------------------------|
| The Parent(s)/Carer(s) |
|------------------------|

I/We have chosen to send my child to Hillcrest School, therefore I/We agree to:

- Send my/our child to school regularly and on time
- Inform the school promptly of the reasons for any absence
- Ensure my/our child has all the necessary uniform, and equipment
- Avoid, except in exceptional circumstances, appointments in school time
- Make the school aware of any concerns or problems that might affect her work or behaviour
- Support my/our child in homework and other learning opportunities
- Support the school's policies and guidelines. This includes all aspects of the 'Getting it Right' policy, the use of sanctions such as detentions and the arrangements of Passport and Managed Move placements in the Oaks Collegiate as required
- Attend parents' meetings and discussions about her progress
- Take an active interest in her life at school
- Encourage my/our child to respect school property
- Encourage my/our child to treat all members of the school community with respect regardless of race, nationality, age, disability, religious belief, gender and sexuality identity and orientation and support the school in its commitment to promote 'British Values' in our school community
- Adhere to the school Parental Code of Conduct



| |
|--------------------------|
| <i>The School</i> |
|--------------------------|

The school will:

- Provide a safe, well-ordered and caring environment.
- Provide a high standard of teaching in line with the requirements of the National Curriculum.
- Expect that all students should achieve their personal best.
- Encourage high standards of work and behaviour through building good relationships and developing a sense of responsibility and ensuring that all students follow the 'Getting it Right' Policy
- Keep you informed through regular newsletters about events and activities
- Promote British Values and respect all members of the school community regardless of race, nationality, age, disability, religious belief, gender and sexuality identity and orientation
- Provide support for students to help them to keep safe in and out of school, including online risks such as child sexual exploitation, forced marriage and extremist radicalisation
- Reward achievements and use appropriate sanctions as necessary.
- Provide continual feedback both in class and in written format once per term
- Develop in students a responsibility for their own lifelong learning
- Provide a range of extra-curricular activities
- Provide quality careers guidance and advice

I will:

- Attend school regularly and on time
- Be organised and well-equipped (bringing my knowledge organiser folder and the essential equipment every day)
- Behave well
- Do homework, class work and coursework to the best of my ability
- Talk to my parent(s)/carer(s) about school
- Value the opportunity to learn
- Wear the school uniform with pride and be tidy in appearance
- Respect British Values and treat all members of the school community fairly regardless of race, nationality, age, disability, religious belief, gender and sexuality identity and orientation
- Keep the school rules and to follow the school 'Getting it Right' Policy
- Attend any detentions or serve any other sanction which is issued to me.
- Treat the school building with care
- Complete any duties with which I am issued as part of the school community e.g. Bin rota
- Use my planner effectively
- Pass on newsletters and other information to parents



| |
|-------------------------|
| <i>Governors</i> |
|-------------------------|

We will:

- Support the school.
- Seek financial efficiency and value for money.
- Ensure school policies are updated regularly in line with current legislation, particularly in relation to the promotion of British Values and other safeguarding issues to protect the safety of all students (ie – Female Genital Mutilation, Extremist radicalisation, Child Sexual Exploitation, Forced Marriages and Honour violence).
- Ensure compliance with statutory obligations.
- Monitor and review all aspects of school life.
- Meet regularly with the Headteacher and members of staff to discuss matters of issue.
- Seek to appoint high quality staff.

Hillcrest

Friends of Hillcrest

All parents/carers of students attending Hillcrest are automatically Members of the Friends of Hillcrest (PTA), as are all members the school staff.

We aim to:

- Encourage activities of all kinds to promote the education and welfare of all students attending the school.
- Assist the school staff in making new families welcome and to feel that they belong to a large community comprising of other parents as well as students and teachers.
- Support the school in times of difficulty whichever way will prove to be beneficial.
- Help the school to maintain and improve amenities, with financial support, which is not provided by central funding.
- To support the school in raising funds for equipment and activities which cannot be provided out of normal school budgets.

The really important consideration is the full and happy education of your child. The Friends of Hillcrest continually strives to this end.

If you would like to know more, please contact Mrs Fowler (Chair of Friends) via the school office.



Extra-curricular and Out of Hours Learning Activities

Activities during the lunch hour or after school are an important part of life at Hillcrest. They encourage students to pursue their interests and help them make friends in other forms or years.

The Performing Arts Department organises a range of choirs, instrumental groups, Dance and Dance activities and parents are invited to our concerts which are held each term. There are various PE teams and activities held during the lunch hour and after school. There is also an Art Club, Maths Clinic, Science Club, Technology Club and Homework Club to name but a few.



Visits have also been to Spain, America, Australia, Alton Towers, Drayton Manor, London and Stratford. Language visits have also taken place to France. There are residential field courses in Geography for Sixth Form students and many day trips for all students in curriculum areas, including Outward Bound Activities. Visits to theatres, art galleries and museums are also an integral part of the school curriculum.

A sample grid showing Out of Hours Learning Opportunities is included on Page 47 of this handbook.

Medical problems and Emergencies

- If your child has any medical problem that is likely to affect her work or her life in school, please inform her **College Leader or Mrs Bunce**.
- The school staff can not give students any form of medicine or tablets unless special arrangements are made with parents/carers in connection with medication prescribed by a doctor.
- All medicines / tablets which have to be brought into school should be clearly labelled with your child's name and form as well as clear instructions regarding the dosage to be taken. This must be discussed with the College Leader or Mrs Bunce who will then ensure the relevant staff are informed.
- In terms of asthma, allergies and diabetes it is the responsibility of the parent/carer to ensure their child has the correct equipment with them in school to deal with any medical emergencies, ie – inhaler, epi-pen, blood glucose monitor. Parents/carers must ensure that their child brings a spare inhaler and epi-pen that can be stored in student reception and used in emergency situations.
- If you have any queries relating to your child's health you may contact the relevant College Leader or the **School Nurse directly at Quinton Medical Practice. Telephone number: 0121 466 3510.**
- If your child is taken ill, or has an accident, we may need to contact you urgently. Every year you are asked to provide us with an update of whom we could contact in an emergency. **If these details change, please ensure that we are informed.**
- Messages can be conveyed to students only in extreme emergencies. Similarly, students may only use the school telephone in an emergency.
- Child Protection is an integral part of the caring ethos of the school. We are committed to protecting and ensuring the safety of all students and the school has a legal duty to follow the Birmingham LA Child Protection procedures.
- If staff become aware of, or have a need to become involved in, situations where a child may be at risk of hurting themselves or others or, if the behaviour of the child seriously disrupts good order in the school or causes damage to property, staff may need to take steps to intervene physically. In such circumstances, staff will follow the school's policy for dealing with such situations. Any parents wishing to view this policy may do so on request.



- The school has separate Asthma and Epipen policies, please refer to these which are available on the school website.

Safeguarding

Hillcrest school is committed to the highest standard in protecting and safeguarding the children entrusted to our care. Information on our safeguarding procedures, along with guidance for parents on e-safety and prevention against extremist radicalisation, can be found in the 'Keeping Children Safe' section on the school website.



Our school will support all children by:

- Promoting a caring, safe and positive environment within the school
- Encouraging self-esteem and self-assertiveness
- Effectively tackling bullying and harassment

We recognise that some children may be the victims of neglect, physical, sexual or emotional abuse. Staff working with children are well placed to identify such abuse.

At Hillcrest in order to protect our children, we aim to:

- Create an atmosphere where all our children can feel secure, valued and listened to
- Recognise signs and symptoms of abuse
- Respond quickly, appropriately and effectively to cases of suspected abuse

If you have a concern that a child is being harmed or is at risk of harm you must contact the following staff members as quickly as possible.

Mr Connor-Hemming (Deputy Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead)

Ms Davies (Headteacher)

Mrs Bunce (Senior Learning Mentor and Deputy Safeguarding Lead)

Mrs Penn (SENDCO and Deputy Safeguarding Lead)

Mrs Preston (HLTA and Deputy Safeguarding Lead)

Emergency Closure of School

In extreme weather conditions or other emergencies when it is necessary to close the school, details will be posted on the school website, sent via twitter and a text message via ParentMail.

If, for any reason, we were unable to re-open as announced because of secondary factors e.g. burst pipes, heating failure, this will be communicated as above.

Please do ensure that students have an alternative place of safety should it become necessary to close the school early in an emergency. It is essential that students are aware of this place of safety, as it is quite impossible to accommodate students using the telephone in large numbers.



The Governing Body

| | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Chair: | Miss D Mcilmurray |
| Vice-Chair: | Mr L Palin |
| Clerk: | TBC |
| Governors: | Mr I Otomewo |
| | Mrs L Bastock |
| | Mr P Early |
| | Mr O Drain |
| | Miss L Macarther-Clare |
| | Dr R Priest |
| | Ms J Davies |
| | Mr D James |
| | Ms R Kanona |

School Holidays 2020-2021

| | Opening Date | Closing Date |
|---------------------|---|--|
| Autumn Term 2020 | Tuesday, 1 st September 2020 | Friday, 23 rd October 2020 |
| | Monday, 2 nd November 2020 | Friday, 18 th December 2020 |
| Spring Term 2021 | Monday, 4 th January 2021 | Friday, 12 th February 2021 |
| | Monday, 22 th February 2021 | Thursday, 1 st April 2021 |
| Summer Term 2021 | Monday, 19 th April 2021 | Friday, 28 th May 2021 |
| | Monday, 7 th June 2021 | Wednesday 21 st July 2021 |

Tuesday 1st September 2019 and Wednesday 2nd September are Teacher's Day.

Thursday 3rd & Friday 4th September is Year 7 Induction Day 1 & 2

Further days designated as Teacher Days remain to be added.

Confirmation of the above dates will be issued in September as part of the school calendar.



An example of our Out of Hours Activities Grid

HILLCREST SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE STUDY SUPPORT AND OUT OF HOURS LEARNING TIMETABLE 2018/2019 TERM 3 (Summer term)

| DAY | BEFORE SCHOOL | LUNCHTIME | AFTER SCHOOL |
|---|--|---|--|
| MONDAY | Open Learning Centre 'Study Zone' 8am, break and lunchtime Breakfast Club in Room 19 from 8am with Mrs Penn/Mrs Preston | Year 11 Dance Club in Room 14 with Mrs Bedyun Cough to 5k Fitness session Room 33- Homework Club Year 11 GCSE Geography Revision session - Room 28 with Miss Glendening Year 11 GCSE Geography Revision session - Room 29 with Mr Gregory Extra Support Art Sessions- Room 45 with Ms Cox Week A Lunchtime with Milo- Room 19 with Mrs Penn Year 11 French Revision Sessions with Mrs Adams in Room 33 Year 11 154 French Revision sessions with Mr Harrison Week 8 Debate Club (Years 7 to 11) in Room 22 with Ms Samra/Miss Glendon GCSE Drama Revision Drop In with Mrs Bedyun and Miss King in Room 10 Room 33- Homework Club Year 9 Netball Group English Challenge Club in Room 37 with Mr James Year 11 History Revision in Room 21 with Miss Widdoway | Open Learning Centre 'Study Zone' BTEC Level 3 Applied Science Enrichment Session with Ms Johnson in BOTCOM Homework Support Sessions in Room 19/IDOTCOM until 4.30pm with Mrs Penn/Mrs Preston |
| TUESDAY Piano/Violin (By appointment only) - 9.05-11.25 | Open Learning Centre 'Study Zone' 8am, break and lunchtime Breakfast Club in Room 19 from 8am with Mrs Penn/Mrs Preston | Year 11 French Revision Sessions with Mrs Adams in Room 33 Year 11 154 French Revision sessions with Mr Harrison Week 8 Debate Club (Years 7 to 11) in Room 22 with Ms Samra/Miss Glendon GCSE Drama Revision Drop In with Mrs Bedyun and Miss King in Room 10 Room 33- Homework Club Year 9 Netball Group English Challenge Club in Room 37 with Mr James Year 11 History Revision in Room 21 with Miss Widdoway | Open Learning Centre 'Study Zone' Netball matches Year 8 & 9 Matches: Practice if no match Year 11 GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition in the Lab until 4.20pm Further Maths Level 2 Course (Week B only) till 4.20pm to commence 8th Oct 18 with Mrs Kappoo in Room 25 Mini Performance Group - Room 10 with Miss King Year 11 Set Poetry Revision Club in Room 40 with Miss Howard Homework Support Sessions in Room 19/IDOTCOM until 4.30pm with Mrs Penn/Mrs Preston Ukulele Club in Room 12 3.30-4pm (Week A) with Mr Nock Miss Roland's Year 11 English Group 3.30-4.30pm in Room 39 (Week B only) Basketball Club 3.20-4.20pm Year 11 Science Revision Session (Week A Only) with Mrs Zahoor/Mrs Kaur in Room 48/58 Clubs/Activities run from 2.20pm |
| WEDNESDAY Dhol Drum (By appointment only) - 9.10am | Open Learning Centre 'Study Zone' 8am, break and lunchtime Breakfast Club in Room 19 from 8am with Mrs Penn/Mrs Preston | Year 7 & 8 Cross Country/Indoor Athletics Room 33- Homework Club Chinese Club- Room 22 with Ms Samra GCSE Philosophy and Ethics- Tackling the 15 mark question with Mrs Abbotts in Room 31 | Accelerated Reader/Study Zone - OLC till 4pm. Year 9, 10 and 11 Cricket at 2.20pm (Start date TBC) Year 8 Dance - Room 12 with Alana Parks |
| THURSDAY | Open Learning Centre 'Study Zone' 8am, break and lunchtime Breakfast Club in Room 19 from 8am with Mrs Penn/Mrs Preston Year 11 History Exam Technique in Room 21 with Miss Widdoway | Choir- Room 12 with Mr Harris Year 11 Set 3 drop in sessions with Miss Howard in Room 40 Year 8 Netball Room 33- Homework Club Year 11 Science Revision in Room 48 with Mrs Zahoor Turkish Language Club- Room 22 with Ms Samra Extra Support Art Sessions- Room 45 with Ms Cox Week B Lunchtime with Milo- Room 19 with Mrs Penn Year 11 154 French Revision session sessions with Mr Harrison | Open Learning Centre 'Study zone' GCSE Support Club 3.30-4.15pm with Mr Nock Year 11 GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition in the Lab until 4.20pm Year 8 Spanish in Room 5 with Mr Harrison Week B Year 9 10 11 GCSE Art Support Group till 5pm- Room 45 with Ms Cox Year 7 Dance and performance Group- Room 12 with Mrs Bedyun Indoor athletics club - Satellite club Steel Pans - Theatre Hall 3.15- 4.15pm Year 11 Travel and Tourism focus group with Mrs Jones in Room 34 Homework Support Sessions in Room 19/IDOTCOM until 4.30pm with Mrs Penn/Mrs Preston Duke of Edinburgh Award Group- 3.30-4.30pm with Miss Glendening (Invite only) KS3 Science Club in Room 48 with Mr Squires Year 11 Maths Exam Skills- Maths Department |
| FRIDAY Vocal lessons and choir (By appointment only) 12.45-2.45pm | Open Learning Centre 'Study Zone' 8am, break and lunchtime Breakfast Club in Room 19 from 8am with Mrs Penn/Mrs Preston | KS3 Book Club (Week A Only) in Room 42 with Mrs Price Room 33- Homework Club Arabic Language Club- Room 22 with Mrs Samra Extra Support Art Sessions- Room 45 with Ms Cox Week A Lunchtime with Milo- Room 19 with Mrs Penn Maths Homework Club and Papers Society- Maths Department in Room 24 | Year 11 French Set 2- Skills for Higher with Ms Cooper until 4.20pm Week A Year 9 10 11 GCSE Art Support Group till 5pm- Room 45 with Ms Cox Homework Support Sessions in Room 19/IDOTCOM until 4.30pm with Mrs Penn/Mrs Preston Year 11 Geography Revision Sessions from 3.30-4.30pm - Room 29 with Mr Gregory Year 11 History Exam Technique in Room 21 with Miss Widdoway |

Hillcrest



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