



Hillcrest School & Sixth Form Centre

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Dear Parent/Carer,

We have three new things to tell you about!! And an exciting prize draw!!

Communicating with parents is an important part of what we do, making sure you get the correct information about activities, parents evenings, school events and things that really matter is something we care about.

1. How the school communicate with you is changing for the better!
2. Online payments (paying for dinner money, school trips, books, ties etc.
3. Hillcrest School mobile phone App

1) Improving School Communications with ParentMail

From 11th February 2019 we will be using ParentMail to communicate with you and will be sending you the following information to your email address, by text or the new Hillcrest School App.

- School information and letters
- Newsletters
- What's on at Hillcrest School
- Reminders about school events (or emergency closure texts)

2) Online payments - Paying for school trips, dinner money and other school items

From 25th February 2019 we will be using ParentMail for all online payments, you will be able to pay online or via the Hillcrest School app to:

- Put dinner money onto your child's account so they can get a hot meal/sandwich at the school canteen.
- Pay for school trips online (so your child doesn't need to carry the money into school)
- Buy school equipment, stationary, revision guides, ties etc online

3) New Hillcrest School App!

We are very pleased to announce that we now have our own school mobile App which you can now use to receive school messages! **We'd like to encourage ALL parents to download our school App.** You can use the Hillcrest School app to pick up messages instantly and top up dinner money or pay for school trips in just a few taps.

It's free for parents to download!

- All school messages will be sent securely
- No need to search through a busy email inbox for important messages
- Read and respond to school messages at work, at home or on the go
- Every message sent arrives as an instant alert on your mobile.

'Pupils' conduct is excellent. Around the School and in lessons, pupils are courteous and confident.'
'Strong ambition for improving outcomes for all pupils has led to good examination results.'
(Ofsted 2017)

How do you register!!

Registering with ParentMail is very easy! Next week you will be sent either an email and/or text message from ParentMail, when you receive this please just follow the instructions in the message.

Please be assured that ParentMail is registered with the Information Commissioner and guarantees that all information you provide will be kept private and will not be passed on to any other organisation.

Have an Android or Apple smartphone? We highly recommend you download the ParentMail App, to do this, simply search for "ParentMail" in your App store.

Contact details

It is extremely important that we have the correct contact details for you, this includes an emergency contact number and your email address.

Please complete and return the enclosed contact sheet – it is very important that you give us the details of the person you wish to be contacted to receive school information, emails and texts and who to contact in the event of an emergency.

Prize Draw!!!

If you complete and return the enclosed contact sheet by the deadline of Friday 15th February 2019 we will enter you into a **prize draw to win £50 in Love to Shop Vouchers**.

If you download the Hillcrest School app by Friday 15th February 2019 we will enter you into another **prize draw to win £100 in Love to Shop Vouchers**.

Love to shop vouchers can be used at over 90 different high street stores.

Need access to the internet to use ParentMail?

We will also be providing an internet access point in the school reception area for you to come into school at any time to use ParentMail online, top up your child's dinner money account, pay for school trips or for us to show you how to download the Hillcrest School App.

If you have any further questions or need assistance, please contact the school on 0121 464 3172.

Yours sincerely



Ms J A Davies
Headteacher