



Dear Parents/Guardians,

We were delighted to receive our Ofsted report this week. The link is on our website and I would encourage all our school community to read it. In this report you will see that we achieved Good in all four areas, with a Good judgement overall. We are obviously delighted about this and what this means for our school, pupils, you their families and this community. I hope you and our young people feel as proud of the report as I do. The reports contains so many positives, but some of of my favourite comments are "Hillside High School is an accepting community. Pupils feel welcome and diversity is celebrated" "Pupils behave well and are respectful" "Relationships between staff and pupils are warm. Pupils understand that staff only want the best for them." I am sure you will agree these comments demonstrate that the inspection team really 'got' our school. Throughout the two days our pupils were an absolute credit to us and they really do deserve this Good judgement.

A reminder to anyone who has a child in Year 6 that the deadline to submit your **application form for secondary school is 31st October**. If anyone missed Open Evening or would still like to find out more about our amazing school, do not hesitate to contact admin at admin@hillsidehigh.co.uk and we will arrange a tour for you, this can be either during the school day or at the end of the day.

For parents of children in Year 9 please see inside this week's newsletter for information about Duke of Edinburgh. This is something I have always wanted to run at Hillside and I am delighted that now Mr Wellington has joined 'Team Hillside' our first cohort of young people will have the opportunity to participate in Duke of Edinburgh.

Amanda Ryan, Principal

Attendance

At this point of the Autumn Term we wanted to give all members of our school community some reminders regarding our expectations in terms of attendance and punctuality. It is important that we are all focused on improving our whole school attendance.

If your child is unable to attend school, you will need to ring the school office on 525 2630 between 7:30-8.30am. Your call will be received by one of our Attendance Team who will discuss with you the reason for your child's absence. *Please be aware that dependant on the reason and your child's current attendance there will be some challenge as to why your child is not able to come to school.

Each day at 9.30am the pastoral team will meet and establish who is absent and the reason why. Dependant again on the individual's attendance and the reason for absence the most likely outcome will be a member of the pastoral team visiting the home of pupils who are absent to discuss how we can get the young person back into school with as limited time absent as possible.

The following information is from the DfE website and it outlines the responsibilities that parents have in terms of school attendance.

You must make sure your child gets a full-time education. Children must get an education between the school term after their 5th birthday and the last Friday in June in the school year they turn 16. You'll be contacted by either:

- the school - if your child is enrolled in school and does not turn up (even if they're only absent for a day)
- the council's education welfare officer - if they think your child is not getting a suitable education at home

You can be prosecuted if you do not give your child an education. You'll normally get warnings and offers of help from the local council first.

When your child can miss school

You can only allow your child to miss school if either:

- they're too ill to go in- please note in line with school policy medical evidence will be required depending on your child's current and historic attendance.
- you've got advance permission from the school

There's [extra support available](#) if your child cannot go to school for long periods because of a health problem.

GOV.UK



I am delighted to share our published report from Ofsted with you. This is now live on our website for staff and parents to access. The link is here: [Hillside High School - Hillside is a Good School!](#)



admin@hillsidehigh.co.uk



0151 525 2630



Bedrock

bedrock learning

Weekly praise for our top *Bedrockers!*

Top for weekly points earned

Iwinosa Aigbe	8MC 118 points
Betty Radu	8SC 106 points
Marius Matei	8SC 103 points
Mr Gibaud	

Top for weekly time spent on Bedrock

Malinsa Wijesinghe	9Sw 6h 14m
Bingye Xue	7CH 2h 56m
HaiYing Xue	9Sw 2h 55m

Optimistic October 2023

SUNDAY

1 Write down three things you can look forward to this month

MONDAY

2 Find something to be optimistic about (even if it's a difficult time)

TUESDAY

3 Take a small step towards a goal that really matters to you

WEDNESDAY

4 Start your day with the most important thing on your to-do list

THURSDAY

5 Be a realistic optimist. See life as it is, but focus on what's good

FRIDAY

6 Remind yourself that things can change for the better

SATURDAY

7 Look for the good in people around you today

8 Make some progress on a project or task you have been avoiding

9 Share an important goal with someone you trust

10 Take time to reflect on what you have accomplished recently

11 Avoid blaming yourself or others. Find a helpful way forward

12 Look out for positive news and reasons to be cheerful today

13 Ask for help to overcome an obstacle you are facing

14 Do something constructive to improve a difficult situation

15 Thank yourself for achieving the things you often take for granted

16 Put down your to-do list and do something fun or uplifting

17 Take a small step towards a positive change you want to see in society

18 Set hopeful but realistic goals for the days ahead

19 Identify one of your positive qualities that will be helpful in the future

20 Find joy in tackling a task you've put off for some time

21 Let go of the expectations of others and focus on what matters to you

22 Share a hopeful quote, picture or video with a friend or colleague

23 Recognise that you have a choice about what to prioritise

24 Write down three specific things that have gone well recently

25 You can't do everything! What are your three priorities right now?

26 Find a new perspective on a problem you face

27 Be kind to yourself today. Remember, progress takes time

28 Ask yourself, will this still matter a year from now?



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together



Key Dates 2023

19th October—Last day of Term

30th October—Back to School

2nd November —Please note change of date to Presentation Evening

16th November—Year 10 Progress Evening 4:15-6:45pm



Hillside High School

Extra-Curricular Sports Clubs

	Monday	
Boys Football (Years 7 & 8), Netball Training (Years 7, 8, 9, 10)		
	Tuesday	
Boys Football (Years 9 & 10), Netball Fixtures (Years 7, 8, 9, 10)		
	Wednesday	
Girls Football (Years 7, 8, 9, 10), Boys & Girls Rugby (Years 7, 8, 9, 10), Boys & Girls Dance (Years 7, 8, 9, 10)		
	Friday	
Boys & Girls Badminton (Years 7, 8, 9, 10)		

'Excellence in the Heart of the Community'

Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Award

I am excited to announce that we now have a fantastic opportunity, for our Year 9 pupils, to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award. This opportunity allows our pupils to experience new skills, meet new people and develop their independent learning skills in physical challenges, skill development, volunteering in the community and leading an overnight expedition.

We already have a number of pupils who are excited to take part in this adventure, if you think your child is prepared to take on this challenge, learn new skills and gain a Bronze qualification in the Duke of Edinburgh Award, please ask them to pass their name onto Mr. Wellington.



Take on your DofE- and show that nothing can hold you back.

Doing DofE helps you leave your limits behind. It's the perfect way to try new things, meet new people, discover new talents, learn new skills, give to your community, feel more confident, make a difference, recognise your potential, boost your wellbeing – and know that nothing can hold you back.

What's involved?

There are three levels of Award – Bronze, Silver and Gold. For each one you need to complete four sections – Volunteering, Physical, Skills and the Expedition. For Gold, you also need to complete a five-day residential.

What you do is up to you.

From surfing to salsa dancing, coding to candle making, bee keeping to BMXing – it's your call. The expedition lasts between one and three nights, depending on which award you're aiming for, and you get all the support you need to make sure you're fully prepared.

Who's it for?

Everyone! DofE is non-competitive and everyone aged 14-24 is welcome – whatever your interests, background and abilities. It's about finding the confidence to be yourself, and knowing that when things get tough, you can find a way through. So what are you waiting for...

How do I get involved?

Find out more and sign up for DofE by contacting:



Join DofE at www.dofe.org

Breakfast Club

Come along to our fantastic breakfast club which is free of charge to all pupils.

Mrs McGing will be in the Dining Room everyday between 7:45am-8:20am



National School Breakfast Programme



National School Breakfast Programme

Safeguarding, Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health

Black History Month 2023: Saluting Our Sisters



October is Black History Month, a time to celebrate the contributions of black people and highlight those unsung heroes who have made the world a better place. It was first introduced in Britain in 1987 by Akyaba Addai who had visited America in the 1970s and observed the success of the occasion.

At Hillside we are celebrating the theme of 'Saluting our Sisters' – honouring the achievements of black women in Britain and all over the world. During form time our students will be learning about trailblazing black women who have made incredible contributions to literature, music, business, politics and more. Through these discussions we will amplify their voices, stories and achievements in order to inspire future generations to carry on their legacy.

We have been celebrating in assemblies and our students are also being encouraged to mark Black History Month by drafting a poem or designing a piece of art linked to this year's theme. Our school foyer has also been decorated with a balloon arch and we will also be hosting an after-school film to honour this landmark occasion.

Mr Rayson



Thought for the Week

The time is always right to do what is right.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

