



HALL GREEN SUMMER SCHOOL 2021

Summer School at Hall Green ran for two weeks:

Week 1: Week beginning 9 August: 68 pupils (all Yr 6/Yr 7 pupils, 1 Year 8 helper)

Week 2: Week beginning 16 August: 56 pupils (32 Yr 6/Yr 7 pupils, 24 Yr 7 & Yr 8 pupils)

OUR AIMS

The programme we ran was designed to offer a range of activities, some subject-based, with the emphasis being on enrichment and enjoyment alongside providing academic opportunities, and which would:

- support pupils in their transition from primary to secondary and help them to get to know their new environment, especially as they weren't able to visit us for their Transition Day in July;
- enable pupils to experience some of the subjects they would be studying at Hall Green School when they start in September. For example, French, Numeracy and Literacy, and Science and D & T in the workshops;
- enable pupils to access academic education opportunities following the potential of lost learning during the pandemic;
- provide pupils with the opportunity to meet teachers and pupils already here, form friendships, build confidence and feel a sense of belonging to the Hall Green community.

OUR ACTIVITIES

Some of the activities we delivered were:

- ❖ Ice breakers
- ❖ Lingo!
- ❖ Mannequin challenge
- ❖ PSHE/careers
- ❖ Baking cookies
- ❖ Numeracy trail
- ❖ Sambabamba
- ❖ Mindfulness/meditation
- ❖ STEM activities
- ❖ Sports/games
- ❖ Launching rockets

OUR STAFF

- All of the activities were run by 11 HGS teaching staff and 3 teaching assistants.
- There was one outside visitor leading a music workshop (Sambabamba).
- 7 further non-teaching colleagues were involved in supporting summer school in various capacities such as reception duties, clerical assistance, intimate care, welfare etc.
- Organisation and co-ordination of all aspects of summer school, before, during and after the 2 weeks, was carried out by Hall Green School's Transition Lead.
- Catering (lunches, snacks and drinks) was provided by an outside company who delivered fresh, nutritious food every day.

OUR VIEW OF THE BENEFITS OF SUMMER SCHOOL 2021

- From speaking to the pupils who attended and the staff who ran the activities, we believe that the aims as outlined above have been well and truly met.
- Staff have mentioned how well pupils have settled because they recognise staff as they move round school, have an idea of the layout of the school, even to the extent of helping other pupils who didn't attend to find their way around the premises.
- Pupils who were visibly anxious at the start of summer school, reported making friends by the end of the week, helping them to feel happier about starting a new school in September.
- Pupils feel more confident in their ability to complete academic work.
- A reduced number of incidences linked to social issues have been reported compared to the last two years of transition that have been affected by the pandemic.
- Colleagues have also indicated that the pupils who attended seem more confident and this has been clear in the way they conduct themselves around the school, their understanding of the school's high expectations and their confidence in their learning. This appears to have had a positive effect on other pupils in the year group too.
- The praise and thanks we received from parents (via email and on the gate) and the requests we've already received from staff and pupils expressing their wish to be involved again next year, can also be taken as an indication that this has been a successful and beneficial project.

OUR FUNDING – TBC

FEEDBACK

We asked all of the pupils who attended Summer School to complete an evaluation of their week informing us of their views on such things as the activities they enjoyed the most and the least, and what they thought about the food provided, but most importantly what they thought about the week overall, and whether they felt it had helped to prepare them for starting at HGS in September. Here is a selection of their responses:

“I enjoyed this week. It helped with settling in and finding new friends.”

“I think that over this week of summer school I definitely had the time of my life!”

“It was really fun and it was really worth waking up early.”

“It was a great experience and it has helped me for Year 7.”

“Amazing, delightful and pleasant.”

“It was very nice because I made new friends and played football. 10/10 experience.”

“Really good, I made new friends and without this I would be lonely.”

“I think it gave us a taster of what to expect in September and I thought I would get lost but now I know where some of the classrooms are.”

“Yes, it has helped to prepare me for my new school 100%.”

“It was fun meeting some of my primary and new friends. The teachers were super nice and Hall Green is a great school.”

“I thought it was super fun and helpful. I now have a fair few friends.”

“I think it was good and it helped us get used to the school and get to know more about it.”