



## Hall Green School An Academy

1 December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been lovely to see so many parents/carers in school over the last few weeks for the various events. We have had good attendance at the careers fayre, Year 11 parents' evening, Early Help drop-in morning, e-safety workshop, Key Stage 4 'How to Support Your Child' workshop, and a Duke of Edinburgh meeting. Parental engagement is such a key element of a child's success that we are continually looking to develop how we do this. Please do let us know if you have any feedback in terms of how we can further improve.

### **Our values: Compassion, Ambition, Responsibility, Excellence**

Pupils recently had assemblies reminding them of the importance of our values in maintaining high standards. High standards across school and within our community enable *all* pupils to achieve success and are a very important element of what makes us successful as a school. In their assemblies, pupils were reminded of *their* responsibility in making good behaviour choices at all times. The vast majority of Hall Green pupils espouse our values all of the time and this is evident in the increasing number of praises awarded on Class Charts which pupils are using to select rewards of their choice. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all those pupils who have earned praises, particularly those with over 100, and with no penalties.

### **Drop offs and pick ups**

Please ensure you do not arrange to drop off or pick up your child on Southam Road directly outside of school. Whilst we appreciate our school's location makes dropping off/picking up children difficult, it is vital we do not increase the road congestion as this puts our pupils in danger. Instead, please ensure you arrange to drop off/pick up further down the road or off a side street. Your support on this is very much appreciated as the safety of our children and staff is paramount.

### **Class Charts**

We have written to parents/carers previously to inform you of the importance of using Class Charts to monitor your child's behaviour and attendance (<https://www.hallgreen.bham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Class-charts-letter-July2023.pdf>). Since the start of this academic year, we have used Class Charts to communicate detentions to parents/carers. Parents/carers are able to check on Class Charts if a detention has been set at any time, with full details of date and time of the detention. We wrote to all parents/carers who were not accessing this software at the start of the year. If you need help getting set up, please contact school.

### **Emergency closure**

There are times in school that we have to deal with unexpected emergencies. These might be related to the weather, site issues, or other incidences that we simply cannot predict or plan for. For this reason, I think it is important I remind you of the school's position on decision making and how we manage these situations.

All decisions begin with a risk assessment. The health and safety of all pupils and staff has to be at the centre of any decision. In the case of snow, we consider a wide range of things within the risk assessment. For example: supervision levels, safety around the school site, safety on the pavements, public transport availability, and the state of the roads.

In the case of inclement weather overnight, we aim to make a decision about any potential closure by 7.30 am and will communicate this via text, email, and our website. It is important to note that sometimes a decision to close the school can happen at any time during a day. In the case of taking a decision to close the school once pupils have arrived, we will always attempt to inform you with enough time for you to put arrangements in place, although depending on the circumstances, this may not always be possible. **If you wish a staff member to make contact with home BEFORE dismissing your child, it is vital you inform us by returning the slip below.**

Please do take time to talk through with your child what your expectations are if an emergency dismissal is necessary. It is also important to remind pupils that they should go directly home, unless otherwise agreed by yourselves, and ensure their behaviour and conduct is of the highest standard on the way home.

You have my assurances that I will always aim to take the best decision for the safety and welfare of all our school community. This includes starting off with the premise that school should be open to all pupils.

### Key dates

Monday 12 February 2024 to Friday 16 February 2024 - Half Term break

Friday 22 March 2024 - Term ends

Thursday 25 January 2024 - Year 8 Parents' Evening

A reminder that we are closed on **Monday 4 December**. Pupils should be in school as normal at 8.40 am on Tuesday 5 December. We break up for the Christmas holidays on **Friday 22 December at 12.05 pm**. To celebrate the festive spirit on the last day of term, there will be a draw made for a prize of a £50 Amazon voucher. All pupils present on the day will be entered into the draw.

Furthermore, pupils may wear non-school uniform on the last day of term, making a voluntary donation to their House charity for this privilege. We do understand the challenging financial circumstances for some families at present, hence the reason for this being voluntary. Equally, the decision to wear non-uniform is an individual one and not compulsory; pupils may wear their uniform if they prefer.

We return to school on **Monday 8 January**. The school gates will be open from **10.45 am** with the canteen open for food and drink. Pupils must be on site by **11.00 am** to be on time for Period 3 at 11.05 am. All pupils on time to Period 3 will be entered into a prize draw for a £50 Amazon voucher.

Although a few weeks away still, I wish you and your family a safe and happy Christmas break.

Yours faithfully



Miss K Slater  
Headteacher

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## EMERGENCY CLOSURE OF SCHOOL

Please return this form if in the case of an emergency school closure, you wish for the school to NOT dismiss your child until contact has been made with an emergency contact by a staff member.

Name of pupil: \_\_\_\_\_ Form Group: \_\_\_\_\_

We will attempt to make contact with emergency contacts provided and kept on school file in the order of priority stated by parents/carers. Please confirm which person and number you wish to be contacted first in an emergency:

Name of person: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to pupil: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_