



Hall Green School An Academy

3 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

The Hall Green School Community

I hope this letter finds you well and that you've had an enjoyable and restful summer. As we begin a new school year, I want to take a moment to address an important issue that has touched many of our hearts and minds over the past few weeks. The various events that have taken place across the country this summer have brought to the forefront critical conversations about respect, inclusion, and the importance of being a cohesive and welcoming community.

At Hall Green School, we are deeply committed to fostering an environment where every pupil, staff member, and family feels valued, safe, and respected; this is reflected in our CARE values: "Learning with Compassion, Ambition, Responsibility, and Excellence". At this time, I believe it is even more essential that we uphold these values in everything we do. In light of recent events, it is more important than ever to reinforce these principles with our children, ensuring that they understand the significance of treating everyone with dignity and respect, regardless of their background, beliefs, or identity.

I believe that schools play a crucial role in shaping the future of our society, and it is our responsibility to equip our pupils not only with academic knowledge but also with the social and emotional skills they need to thrive in a diverse world. We will continue to teach pupils to embrace diversity, resolve conflicts peacefully, and support one another in meaningful ways. Our goal is to create a culture of inclusion where every member of our school community feels supported and empowered, enabling all to be successful and happy.

We also recognise that some pupils and families may be feeling particularly vulnerable during this time. Support is available within school for anyone wishing to access it. Pupils can speak to any member of staff, or seek the support of the Welfare Team, based in the Pastoral area of school. We are committed to ensuring that our school remains a safe space for open dialogue and mutual respect.

As parents and carers, you play a vital role in reinforcing these values at home. We encourage you to have conversations with your children about the importance of respect, empathy, and celebrating difference. Your support and guidance are key to helping them navigate these challenging times and become compassionate, responsible members of our community.

Parent/carers survey

We are looking to further develop and enhance the work we do with parents/carers to ensure we maximise all opportunities to support pupils. In order to do this, we are keen to get the views of parents/carers and, in particular, fully explore the following points:-

1. What parents/carers need from school in order to fully support their children;
2. What parents/carers can contribute to the school community to enhance the education provided.

Thank you in advance for completing this short survey; we highly value your views.

<https://forms.office.com/e/RjXhVOLNv4>

Return details (including changes to the school week)

Monday 2 September: Staff INSET Day – school closed to pupils.

Tuesday 3 September: Year 7s start at 8:40 am, finish at 3:15 pm.

Wednesday 4 September: Year 7s start at 8:40 am; Years 8-11 start at 10:45 am (going to form time at 11:05 am). All finish at 3:15 pm.

A reminder that this academic year we have made changes to the school week. Further details can be found [here](#).

Changes to our pastoral structure

A reminder that we have switched from a vertical tutor system to a horizontal one. As such, your child's form group and teacher will have changed, as well as possibly their Pastoral Leader.

Year 7 – Ms Wright

Year 8 – Miss Melville

Year 9 – Miss Webster (Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays) and Mr Khan (Tuesdays and Wednesdays)

Year 10 – Mr Prince

Year 11 – Mrs Arm

Uniform expectations

A reminder also of our high uniform standards that are maintained at Hall Green School. The full detail can be found [here](#). Please do ensure your child has the correct uniform and equipment from the first day of term. If there are ever any issues, pupils should bring a note from home and go to the Pastoral Office before school to obtain a yellow slip. If pupils need to borrow any stationery for the day, they may do so by going to the Pastoral Office before school. They won't receive a sanction for forgotten stationery if they get this resolved before school.

The Class of 2024

Congratulations to our Year 11s who collected their results over the summer. We, again, achieved a positive Progress 8 score (provisionally +0.13) and we had our best ever pass rate for pupils gaining a grade 5 or better in both English and Maths of 45.1%. We are immensely proud of both the academic results they achieved and the people they have become. We wish them all the best for the future.

Site improvements

We have invested in our IT infrastructure with significant work over the summer which will make our IT systems safer and quicker for all users.

We have also invested in air conditioning for the hall. This will provide us with optimum conditions for exams each summer as well as giving us a large, cool space for pupils to access on hot days.

New staff

A very warm welcome to the following new staff that join us this term:

- Mrs Choudhury (Maths)
- Miss Habouchi (MFL)
- Mr Houston (English)
- Mrs Rashid (English KS3 Lead)

West Midlands Academy Trust update

Especially to update those parents and carers joining us with pupils in Year 7, the Governing Bodies of Hall Green School, Kings Norton Girls' School, and Swanshurst School proposed in spring 2024 to jointly establish a new multi-academy trust (West Midlands Academy Trust, WMAT) and for all three schools to become academy schools within WMAT.

Hall Green, Kings Norton and Swanshurst are each high-performing, popular and successful. We share high aspirations for our pupils, high expectations of staff and pupils, and cultures of excellence. This proposal is about our shared commitment to future improvement. We are proposing to establish West Midlands Academy Trust (WMAT) because we believe that there are advantages for our pupils and staff.

Public consultation was held during June 2024. The consultation document and a more detailed Question and Answer document were issued to stakeholders, and both are available on this webpage <https://www.hallgreen.bham.sch.uk/wmat-academy-consultation/>. A report detailing the consultation process, feedback received and responses to questions raised is available on this webpage alongside further information. The Governing Body of each school considered all of the consultation responses.

In July 2024 the Governing Body of each school made the decision to proceed with establishing WMAT. It is anticipated that the schools would transfer to WMAT in early 2025.

The schools have confirmed that each school will retain its school name, its age-range, school uniform, admissions criteria, and existing staff. Term dates will continue to be set within the context of local schools. Hall Green will continue to be co-educational, while Kings Norton and Swanshurst will continue to educate girls for Year 7 to Year 11 and have co-educational Sixth Forms.

I will update you during this term as our work towards joining WMAT continues. The webpage above will be updated also.

Road safety

As many of you will know, our entrance to school can be congested for the dismissal of over 900 pupils. Some of our pupils also require transport which needs to come onto the school grounds. For this reason, it is vital that pupils who do not need these adaptations ensure they are collected a couple of roads away if being picked up/dropped off. This eases the congestion and makes the road area far safer for all of our pupils.

It is also important to respect our neighbours and I urge parents/carers not to park on or across the drives of local residents, even if just for a short time. Please also ensure engines are not left running.

Key Dates

Thursday 19 September, Open Evening – 5.30 to 8.00 pm

Friday 20 September, INSET day – school closed to pupils

Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November, Half term break

Monday 23 December to Friday 3 January, Christmas break

And finally, I would like to take this opportunity to say I am looking forward to meeting you through the year at the various school activities and events for parents/carers.

Yours faithfully



Miss K Slater
Headteacher

Hall Green School is a company limited by guarantee. Registered in England & Wales. Registered Number 7892732.
Registered Office: Southam Road, Hall Green, Birmingham B28 0AA Headteacher: Miss K Slater Tel: 0121 628 8787
Email: enquiry@hallgreen.bham.sch.uk www.hallgreen.bham.sch.uk X (Twitter) @HallGreenSch