

20 November 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Behaviour standards

At Hall Green School, we expect the highest standards of behaviour from all pupils—within school, on their journey to and from school, and online. We are proud that the vast majority of our pupils consistently meet these high expectations, and visitors regularly comment on both the excellent behaviour, and the friendliness of our pupils.

Occasionally, we do have to address instances of unkind or inappropriate behaviour, including online activity outside of school hours. We kindly ask that you speak with your child about the importance of positive behaviour, particularly online, and remind them to always treat others with kindness and respect. Helpful guidance for parents/carers can be found at: <u>Talking to your child about online safety | NSPCC</u>

Please also take a moment to discuss the key messages shared during our recent Standards Assemblies (week beginning 10 November 2025). Our aim is to work in partnership with you to help children grow into responsible young adults who can manage their own behaviour effectively. At Hall Green School, we place great emphasis on our core value of compassion, which we know is equally important to the families we serve. We do not tolerate behaviour that is unkind or disrupts learning.

The key messages in the Standards Assemblies:

- Demonstrating kind behaviour to others at all times;
- Expectations of behaviour during unstructured times;
- Expectations of behaviour during lesson time to ensure everyone can learn, free from disruption;
- Pupils are expected to maintain and promote the school's positive reputation within the community.

Searching, screening and confiscation

A reminder that as part of the work that the South Area Network does in collaboration with the School Intervention & Prevention Team from the West Midlands Police (Hall Green Constituency), our School Intervention and Prevention Officer here at Hall Green can bring a metal detector arch to school. It is an initiative that is commonly used by local schools to educate pupils regarding what is safe and what it is not safe to carry in schools and in the local community. This initiative is also very different to powers that the police have within the community, such as 'stop and search'.

In a recent Police Sharing Panel meeting, it was shared with all schools that best practice when searching, screening or confiscating pupils require that searches are completed unannounced. They particularly highlighted that best practice in schools should also include the random search of a class or form group, or group of pupils, at any time and without any warning. As a school we will be putting this advice into

practice, and we will start this with immediate effect. We will always complete these searches with due regard to privacy.

I would like to reassure you that this is not in response to any particular incident, or that we are worried about anything in school.

Further information can be found in our Searching, screening and confiscation policy in our school website: Microsoft Word - HGS Screening Searching and Confiscation Policy Mar 2021

Attendance

We continue our focus on ensuring pupils attend school regularly. Pupils who attend over 95% of the time consistently perform at or above expected levels in their GCSEs; it is one of the key indicators of success. Congratulations to the pupils who attended the recent rewards breakfast for significantly improving their attendance.

Uniform consultation

School uniform helps to build a sense of identity and community among pupils and with their school. The Department of Education has asked all schools to review their Dress Code/Uniform policies, and seek parents/carers views on our current policy, with a particular emphasis on affordability and the number of branded items. Please see further correspondence from Mr Rodriguez about a survey that we would like all parents/carers to complete this half-term. <u>Uniform consultation November 2025 – Fill in form</u>

Year 11 mock exams

Congratulations to Year 11 pupils who have recently sat mock exams. Their behaviour and focus during these exams were exemplary and will have laid good foundations for the summer exams. Keep up the hard work!

Book of Excellence Initiative

A reminder that we introduced our "Book of Excellence" last academic year, which celebrates pupils' achievements outside of school. We invite parents and carers to nominate pupils whose efforts, talents, or contributions shine beyond the classroom. Whether it's excelling in sports, arts, community service, or any area of personal growth, we love to recognise and share these successes within our school community. Nominated pupils meet with myself to discuss their achievements and sign the book, recording their name in Hall Green's history. Please send any nominations through using this link: https://forms.office.com/e/g4e4kYYgK5

Charity fund-raising

We are very fortunate to live and work in a community that shows immense compassion to those in need. I am particularly proud of how our community supports those in need across the world when disasters occur. We are currently supporting those in Jamaica through raising money for the British Red Cross: Hurricane Melissa Emergency relief fund (Donate to Jamaica | Hurricane Melissa | Disaster Fund). There are a number of our staff and pupils who have families affected by the recent devastation. Donations can be made through ParentPay.

EasyFundraising

We have recently joined a scheme that enables donations to be made to Hall Green School when people shop using the EasyFundraising app. The app can be accessed using this QR code or via the <u>website</u>. Many retailers are available through the app (or online) with the donation being funded by the retailer and not the buyer.



Christmas dinner

Christmas dinner will be served in our school canteen on Thursday 11 December for those who wish to partake.

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 and email through the Gateway app, and also through Class Charts notifications.

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. Again, communication will be through the Gateway app and Classcharts. If you wish a staff member to make contact with home BEFORE dismissing your child during an emergency closure, 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

A reminder that we are closed on **Monday 1 December** to pupils and staff as one of our disaggregated training days. Pupils should be in school as normal at 8.40 am on Tuesday 2 December.

We break up for the Christmas holidays on **Friday 19 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 £1 (or more) donation to their House charity for this privilege (payable via ParentPay).

To enable staff to undertake statutory safeguarding training, pupils will have a slightly later start when they return to school on **Monday 5 January.** The school gates will be open from **11.25 am** with the canteen open for food and drink. Pupils must be on site by **11.40 am** to be on time for Period 3 at 11.45 am. All pupils on time to Period 3 will be entered into a <u>prize draw for a £50 Amazon voucher</u>.

Drop offs and pick ups

My continued plea goes out to all parents and carers in terms of the use of Southam Road. We value our relationship with parents/carers *and* with our local neighbours. We do our best as a school to manage arrival and dismissal of over 900 pupils to minimise disruption to our immediate neighbours and urge the

whole Hall Green community to work together to ensure mutual respect and safety of the children in our care.

Please, therefore, 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. I thank for your co-operation on this matter.

Other key dates

Thursday 4 December 2025 – Year 8 Parents Evening Thursday 22 January 2026 – Year 11 Parents Evening

Many thanks for your continued support in ensuring our school is a compassionate, aspirational, responsible, and excellent place of education for all!

Yours faithfully,

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Miss Slater Headteacher

Return to the School Office

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:
,	ontacts provided and kept on school file in the order of hich person and number you wish to be contacted first
Name of person:	Relationship to pupil:
Contact number:	Date:

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