

# Weekly Bulletin

11 May 2026 - 15 May 2026

Important Dates	
5 May-17 June	<u>GCSE Examinations</u>
25 May-29 May	May Half-term
1 June	Pupils Return to School & Roll Up to New Year Groups
15 June-26 June	New Year 11 Mock Exams
1 July	New Year 7 Induction Day & Welcome Event
3 July	Staff Training Day (School Closed)
6 July-16 July	New Year 11 Work Experience
17 July	New Year 11 Work Experience Debrief & End of Summer Term
20 July-31 August	Summer Holidays
1 September	Autumn Term Starts & Staff Training Day (School Closed)
2 September	Year 7 & 11 Pupils Start
3 September	Year 8, 9 & 10 Pupils Start

## School Commute Road Safety

Each year, thousands of pupils are seriously injured on Britain's roads while walking or cycling. Please remind your child of the key safety protocols for their journey to and from school:

- Always cross at a safe place where your child can see traffic and be seen by drivers
- Wear bright or reflective clothing so your child is easily visible on dark mornings and evenings
- Plan a safe route to school with your child, using pedestrian crossings whenever possible

Remind your child never to run into the road or attempt to cross busy streets. Please take time to discuss road safety together to help reduce injuries. If you collect your child, always use crossing points together and set a good example. Do not encourage unsafe road crossing to reach your car.

You can help keep all our children safe by following these guidelines:

- Drive within the speed limit for the road and your vehicle type
- Do not park on zig-zags, yellow lines, across driveways, or on pavements, as this blocks the view of oncoming vehicles and children crossing the road
- Be considerate of families with buggies and our neighbours when parking and walking near the school. Please do not block driveways when parking
- Model high safety standards by walking your child to and from the pedestrian crossing when dropping off or picking up

Thank you to all parents and carers for your ongoing support in making the journey to and from school safer for everyone.

## Useful Links



[Hodge Hill College](#)



[ParentPay](#)



[MyEd](#)



[Birmingham City Council](#)

# MY Ed

Connecting parents, students and schools



## Download our school app NOW

Step 1: Go to your app store

Step 2: Search for My Ed

Step 3: Download the app

1



2



3

**FREE**  
Download

## Information about your student and school direct into your pocket.

95%

### Attendance

Keep up to date with your child's attendance details.



### Forms

Fill in forms securely on your app and return them directly to school.



### Timetables

Get regular updates on timetables.



### Key Dates

Important dates the school needs you to know.



### News

Access the latest school news.



### Info Packs

Digital information packs reduces time, hassle & paper.



**GET THE APP HERE**

SCAN ME



Find out more

[www.myedschoolapp.com](http://www.myedschoolapp.com)

## Top Tips for Looking After Your Mental Health

We all know that exercise and eating well are good for your physical health, but what about your mental health? What can you do to keep your mind fit and healthy? To help boost your emotional wellbeing, Forward Thinking Birmingham have put together some top tips on looking after your mental health:

- Talk about how you feel
- Stay connected
- Keep active
- Have a break
- Eat well
- Give back
- Accept yourself for who you are
- Remember to have fun

Visit the [Forward Thinking Birmingham](#) website for more information and tips.

## Year 11 Extra Tuition Available Throughout the Week

We are pleased to offer extra tuition sessions for Year 11 pupils throughout the week to help support their learning and exam preparation. We encourage all parents to check the [Year 11 Extra Tuition Timetable](#) for more information.

## Absence Reporting

If your child is going to be absent from school, please let us know before 08:30. You can do this by sending an in-app message (free of charge) to the Absence Hotline via our MyEd app or calling 0121 783 7807.

Parents/Carers may be asked to provide medical evidence where there are repeated absences due to reported illness.

## Punctuality

All pupils must arrive on time each day to run the school efficiently. Pupils are expected to be on school premises by 08:30.

The Key Stage 3 and 4 gates will close at 08:37, and any pupil who arrives after this time will need to sign in via the School Office.

If a pupil is late for school, they will receive a 30-minute detention on the same day. Similarly, if a pupil is late for a lesson, they will receive a 30-minute detention on the same day.

If a pupil is marked late more than once in a day, the detention time will be increased on the same day.

## Learning Wallets, School Bags & Equipment

All pupils have been given a learning wallet containing the equipment they need to bring to school to support their access to the curriculum.

This needs to be brought into school every day in a school bag to ensure it is kept safe. Failure to bring in the learning wallet or school bag will result in a 60-minute detention.

If pupils lose any of their equipment, they are responsible for replacing it. Stationery items are available for purchase at both canteens for a nominal amount of 10p per item (cash).

If your child needs to replace their calculator, you can either provide one or purchase a new one through ParentPay/the School Office for £15 (cashless).

Empty learning wallets are also available to purchase through ParentPay/the School Office for £1.70 (cashless).

## School Policies & Documents

Parents can access the latest school policies and important documents on the [policies page](#) of our website. This includes our behaviour and expectations policies, which outline how we promote a safe, inclusive and positive learning environment and support high standards of conduct for all pupils.



**DONATIONS  
WELCOME**

**HH** Hodge Hill College

# Food Bank

**BE PART OF OUR HELPING HANDS**

**OPEN EVERY THURSDAY FROM  
3:10PM TO 3:30PM  
IN THE STUDIO**

**0121 783 7807**

**HOUSEHOLDSUPPORT@HODGEHILL.BHAM.SCH.UK**

**TO REQUEST SUPPORT, KINDLY COMPLETE  
AND SUBMIT THIS FORM: [HTTPS://BIT.LY/3UXZI4X](https://bit.ly/3UXZI4X)**

## Year 11 GCSE Examinations

The timetable, rules, and regulations for this year's GCSE examinations are now available on our school's website: [Hodge Hill College - GCSE Examinations](#).

## NHS Pharmacy First Service

Local Community Pharmacists can offer free, confidential advice for a range of minor illnesses. If appropriate, they can also provide treatment without the need for a GP prescription\* for the following seven common conditions:

- Urinary tract infection (women aged 16–64)
- Sinusitis (adults and children aged 12+)
- Sore throat (adults and children aged 5+)
- Earache (children and young adults aged 1–17)
- Infected insect bite (adults and children aged 1+)
- Impetigo (adults and children aged 1+)
- Shingles (adults aged 18+)

Using the Pharmacy First service can help parents, staff and students avoid GP wait times, get treatment sooner, and return to school more quickly.

For more information on how your Community Pharmacist can help visit [Think pharmacy first: NHS Birmingham and Solihull](#), or watch the Pharmacy First video for parents by clicking here: [Think Pharmacy First- for parents](#).

\*Usual prescription charge rules apply.

## New NHS Career Support App for Refugees

A new digital app has been launched by NHS Employers, in partnership with Ryalto, to support refugees interested in NHS careers.

The Refugee Employment Support App provides clear information on three main pathways:

- Entry-level roles
- Nursing and allied health professions
- Doctor and dentist careers

More than 650 users have already registered.

The app also links individuals to organisations offering support with registration, language development, employment preparation and returning to practice.

It has been developed with input from partners including the British Red Cross, Breaking Barriers, Ukrainian Medical Charity, REACHE, Building Bridges, the Lincolnshire Refugee Doctor Project, REPOD, and ReSTORE.

The app is available by searching for “Ryalto” (workforce app) in the Apple App Store or Google Play.

## Saltley Viaduct Closure - Journeys Affected

From 10 May, Saltley Viaduct will be closed for approximately 18 months to allow for the construction of a taller, stronger, and safer bridge over the existing railway, the new HS2 railway, the canal, and the River Rea.

Further details on the closure, including diversion routes, can be found in the [HS2 Update newsletter](#).

Please be aware that several bus routes will be affected and will remain on diversion for the duration of the works.

The latest updates on the [Saltley Viaduct and High Street road closures](#) are available on the school website.

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ADULT ANIMATED CONTENT

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Bright, bold, and widely shared, adult animated content is more popular than ever, but not always what it seems. These videos, which may appear cartoonish and harmless, often contain strong language, explicit themes, graphic violence, or dark humour. Many are accessible through platforms like YouTube, TikTok or streaming services, where filters may not catch them in time.

### MISLEADING VISUAL STYLE

Many adult animations mimic the colourful, exaggerated look of children's cartoons. This can easily mislead not just children, but also adults, into thinking they're suitable for younger viewers. Without watching the content fully, parents or educators might approve a show or video that contains explicit jokes, graphic imagery, or highly inappropriate language, all disguised beneath a playful and fun visual style.

### EXPOSURE TO HARMFUL THEMES

A number of adult animated shows and online videos explore mature or disturbing themes, such as addiction, trauma, abuse, self-harm, or violence, and often do so in a stylised or humorous way. Younger viewers may not have the emotional maturity to process this content, leading to confusion, distress, or the normalisation of very serious issues that should be discussed in a supportive context.

### RISK OF DISTRESS AND FEAR

Some adult animations, especially horror-based content or 'creepypasta' style stories, include disturbing imagery, unsettling music, and sudden scares. These videos sometimes feature distorted versions of well-known children's characters, such as Sonic the Hedgehog or Peppa Pig, in frightening or violent scenarios. Children can be negatively affected if they come across this unexpectedly, leading to sleep disturbances, anxiety, or long-lasting fears, especially if children have existing worries or sensitive personalities.

### INFLUENCE OF EDGY HUMOUR

Dark, edgy humour is common in adult animation and often includes jokes about topics like sexism, racism, mental illness, or abuse. When children hear these jokes, they may repeat them without fully understanding their meaning. This can lead to inappropriate behaviour in school or online spaces, and in some cases, it can reinforce harmful stereotypes or desensitise children to real-world injustice and discrimination.

### ALGORITHMIC RECOMMENDATIONS

Video platforms are designed to keep users watching by suggesting similar content. If a child watches one mature animation, they may quickly be shown more, including even darker or more extreme videos. These recommendations are based on viewing patterns, not age-appropriateness. Without strict settings in place, this can lead to a rapid spiral into unsuitable, upsetting, or even harmful content online.

### DESENSITISATION TO VIOLENCE

Stylised violence in animation is often exaggerated and constant. Repeated exposure to it can reduce a child's emotional response to harm, making aggression or cruelty appear entertaining or acceptable. Over time, children may become less empathetic or more tolerant of harmful behaviours in real life, especially if they see others online reacting with humour, memes, or praise for violent characters or scenes.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### LEARN WHAT CHILDREN ARE WATCHING

Take time to ask children what they're watching and who their favourite creators are. Sit down and watch a few videos to get a full understanding. This helps you spot inappropriate content early and shows children that you're interested and engaged in their online world, not just policing it.

### USE PLATFORM SETTINGS WISELY

Make use of built-in safety tools like content filters, restricted mode, and age settings on platforms such as YouTube, Netflix or TikTok. Turn off auto-play where possible and regularly review what children are being recommended. Although these settings aren't foolproof, they add an important layer of protection and help reduce the risk of children encountering disturbing or adult content accidentally.

### TALK ABOUT WHAT'S APPROPRIATE

Keep communication open and non-judgemental. Talk about why certain themes or jokes are not appropriate for children, even if they appear in animated form. Help children understand that just because something is popular or shared widely, it does not mean it's suitable or safe. If they've seen something upsetting, respond calmly, offer reassurance, and explain things in an age-appropriate way.

### ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Help children think carefully about what they watch. Talk about the difference between fictional exaggeration and reality, while helping them question why certain content is made. Is it informative, entertaining, or meant to shock? This builds digital resilience and encourages them to make safer choices in future, rather than simply following viral trends or peer pressure to watch mature content.

## Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. We offer memberships and packages to help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

## Zero Tolerance

Please note that Hodge Hill College operates a zero-tolerance policy about verbal and physical aggression.

If you become abusive towards a member of staff, we will need to:

- Close down any conversation and not speak with you any further
- Ask you to leave and come back another time
- If necessary, call the police for assistance

Please be respectful of our staff in the School Office team. They will do their best to help you but in a large school with several buildings, over 150 members of staff, and approximately 1200 pupils, they may not always be able to find out what you want to know or locate a member of staff immediately, so please be patient.

## Is my child too ill for school?

We know that, at certain times of the year, children pick up bugs and illnesses. However, please remember that children can come to school with some illnesses if they feel well enough. The NHS guidance can be accessed online via the [NHS Guidance](#) page.

## Medical Appointments During the School Day

In order to ensure that your child's learning is not disrupted, it is strongly recommended that non-urgent GP, dentist, or optometrist appointments are scheduled outside of school hours.

If your child has a hospital appointment or requires specialist medical care, please inform the school in advance. You can do so by sending a photo of the appointment letter via MyEd or by submitting it in person to the School Office. A copy of the letter will then be sent to your child's AC and AAC to authorise the absence.

## Medication

As a parent or carer, it is your responsibility to provide the school with accurate and updated information regarding your child's medical needs. You should also be involved in developing and reviewing your child's individual healthcare plan.

If your child has any medical needs or needs to take medication during school hours, please visit the School Office to complete a Parental Medical Consent Form and drop off any medication that needs to be kept in school.

If your child has asthma, we highly recommend that they always carry an inhaler with them. Please provide us with an inhaler by dropping it off at the School Office in case of any emergencies, and completing the consent form.

## Contact Details

Please remember to inform the school of any changes to your contact details.

This is important because we may need to contact you if your child is injured or taken ill, to provide you with information about trips and closures or to send you reminders and cancellations of any event.

Please update and submit any new details via the Change of Pupils Details Form on the MyEd app. Alternatively, you may visit the School Office to complete an electronic/paper copy of the form.

## Confiscated Items

If a pupil has an item confiscated, their parents/carers can pick it up from the School Office after school on the same day between the following times:

- Monday: 16:10-16:45
- Tuesday to Thursday: 15:10-16:00
- Friday: 13:40-14:30

If parents/carers cannot collect it on the same day, they must pick it up on another day after school. Pupils are not permitted to collect the item.

# REWARDS

EARN POINTS | CLAIM PRIZES | CELEBRATE SUCCESS!

## Prize Drawer Entries

£40 Uber Eats Voucher  
Raffle Ticket (*Termly*)

45

Laptop Raffle Ticket  
(*Yearly*)

75

Game Console Raffle  
Ticket (*Yearly*)

75



## Creative & Sports Equipment

LEGO Mini Figures

300

Colouring Book

350

Water Colour Paint Set

450

Felt Tip Pens

500

LEGO Technic Mercedes

800

Table Tennis Bat

400

Nike Football

850

Wilson Basketball

900



## Academic & Learning Supplies

Wobbly Fuzzy Head Pen

75

Book of Choice

250

Learning Wallet (*Empty*)

100

Calculator

500



## Audio Rewards

Wireless Headphones Bluetooth Speaker

1200

1300



## Experience & Lifestyle

Free Slush Pass

50

Jump the Queue Pass  
(*1 Day Only*)

75

Free Breaktime  
Snack or Drink

100



SAVE YOUR POINTS OR SPEND THEM - THE CHOICE IS YOURS!

## Help Your Child Get the Most from Work Experience - Monday 6 July 2026 – Thursday 16 July 2026

This summer, students will have the exciting opportunity to take part in a work experience placement from Monday 6 July 2026 to Thursday 16 July 2026. We would like to encourage all parents and carers to support their child in finding a suitable placement that interests them.

Work experience is a valuable step in preparing young people for the world beyond school. It gives students the chance to explore different careers, develop confidence, and gain real-life skills that can't always be learned in the classroom. Whether your child already has a career in mind or is still figuring out their interests, this experience can be incredibly beneficial.

Parents play a vital role in this process. A quick conversation at home, asking relatives, friends, neighbours, or local businesses, can often open doors that students may not feel confident approaching on their own. Placements don't need to be in large companies—small local businesses, community organisations, schools, charities, and workplaces you already know can all provide excellent learning experiences.

During their placement, students will develop key skills such as communication, teamwork, time-keeping, and problem-solving. These are qualities employers value highly and will support your child in future education, training, and employment. Many students also find that work experience boosts their motivation and helps them make more informed decisions about their next steps.

We ask that you begin discussing work experience options with your child as early as possible to allow plenty of time to secure a placement. Further guidance will be shared by the school, but your encouragement and support at home can make a huge difference.

Thank you for helping your child make the most of this important opportunity. Together, we can ensure that every student gains a positive and rewarding work experience this summer.








### Attendance - Why It Matters

**HH** Hodge Hill College

## ATTENDANCE - WHY IT MATTERS

Persistent absence means pupils who miss more than 10% of the school every year

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<h3 style="color: red;">-£750</h3> <p>For each additional day of absence between Years 7 to 11, the typical pupil could miss out an average of <b>£750</b> in future lifetime earnings</p>	<h3 style="color: red;">-£10,000</h3> <p>Persistently absent pupils in Year 10 and 11 could earn <b>£10,000 less</b> on average at age 28, compared to pupils with near perfect attendance</p>		
<p>This rises to almost <b>£20,000 less</b> on average at age 28 for those who are severely absent</p> 	<p>For employability over a sustained period, people age 28 were around:</p> <table style="width: 100%;"><tr><td style="text-align: center;"><p>Less likely to be employed when <b>persistently absent*</b></p></td><td style="text-align: center;"><p>Less likely to be employed when <b>severely absent*</b></p></td></tr></table> <p><small>*Compared to their peers with near perfect attendance</small></p>	 <p>Less likely to be employed when <b>persistently absent*</b></p>	 <p>Less likely to be employed when <b>severely absent*</b></p>
 <p>Less likely to be employed when <b>persistently absent*</b></p>	 <p>Less likely to be employed when <b>severely absent*</b></p>		

### How to Cope with Distressing Events in the News

If you ever find yourself struggling to cope with things happening in the news, or in the world – you're not alone.

If you're finding things hard, you might find [these tips](#) from Mind to be helpful. But if something doesn't work for you, be kind to yourself. You could try something else, or try again later. Remember different things work for different people at different times.

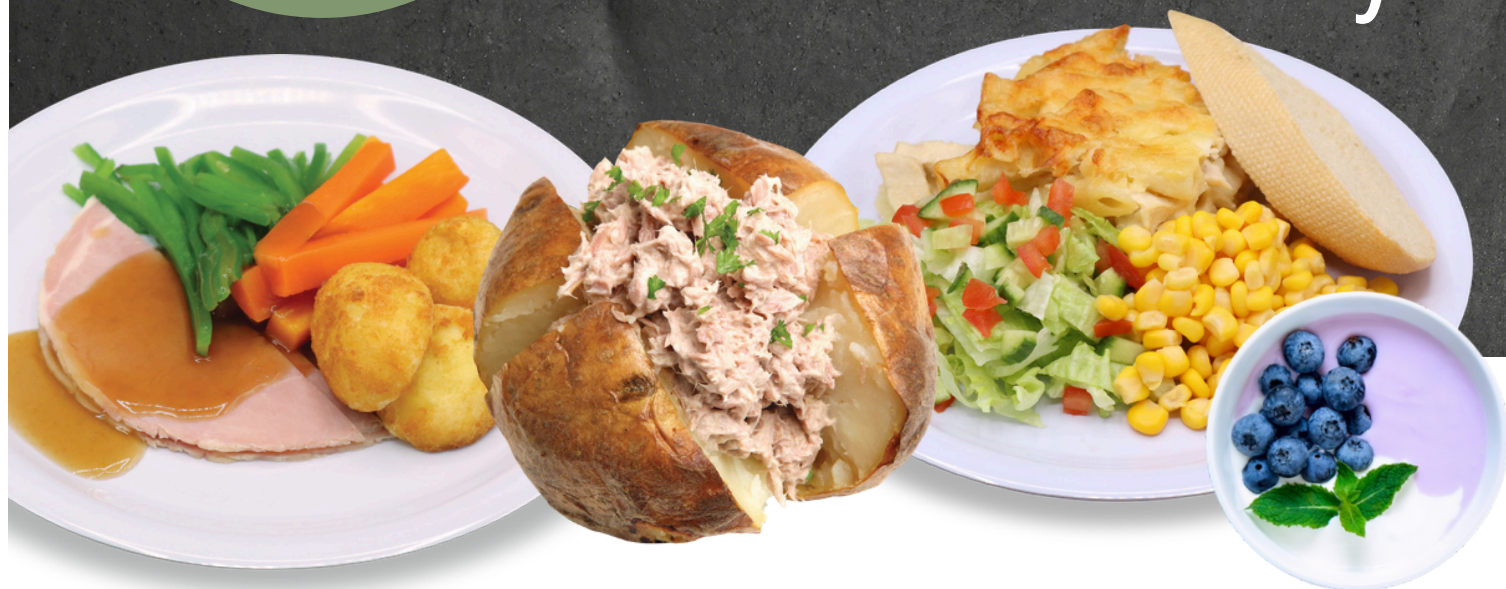
Visit the [Mind](#) website for more information and tips.

Did you know...

The price of  
a supermarket  
packed-lunch is  
increasing?

# COME DINE WITH US

## Savetime & money!



## All our meals are freshly made!

We understand how important it is for every child to receive a healthy, nutritious meal.

Serving delicious menu options:

- Vegetarian & Special Diets
- Jacket Potatoes with a range of fillings
- Tomato & Basil Pasta
- Sandwiches & Salad Bar available daily
- Yoghurt, Jelly or Fruit
- Dessert of the Day

You could **save**  
**£400 a year** by  
not having to provide  
a packed lunch  
for your child!

Find out if your child is eligible for free school meals, visit the Government website:  
[www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals](http://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals)

• INSPIRED FOOD •  
*mint*  
• FOR EDUCATION •

## ParentPay

ParentPay enables parents/carers to make secure payments for their child's lunches and school trips.

### ParentPay Activation

When pupils join Hodge Hill College, parents/carers are issued with a ParentPay Activation Letter that contains a temporary ParentPay username and password. As part of the account activation, the parent/carer will need to choose an email address and new password to use with ParentPay. Parents/carers should follow the instructions in the letter, and on [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com) to successfully activate their account. If you have more than one child at our school or have children in other schools that use ParentPay, you can create a single account to manage them all.

### Forgotten Password

If a parent/carer can't get into their ParentPay account, they should go to [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com) > For Parents > Parent Login, and click on the "Forgotten password" link. Parents/carers should not need to contact school to regain access to ParentPay accounts.

### Outstanding Balances

If you have an unpaid balance on your child's ParentPay account, we kindly request you to settle it as soon as possible by logging into your account. Your child will need to bring their own packed lunch and they will not be able to use the school canteen until the account is topped up and the debts have been cleared.

If you need help with adding credit to the account, please visit the School Office with your debit card.

### FAQs & More Information

- FAQs: [www.hodgehill.bham.sch.uk/parentpay](http://www.hodgehill.bham.sch.uk/parentpay)
- More information: [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)
- Call the School Office: 0121 783 7807

## Free School Meals

### Who is eligible for Free School Meals?

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

### Apply for Free School Meals

We encourage you to [apply for Free School Meals](#) through the online service found on our website. You can also telephone (0121 783 7807) or come into school and complete a Free School Meals application online with a member of staff if you prefer.

Please make sure you have the National Insurance Number with you for the named person who receives either working tax credit/child tax credit and we will be happy to help.

## Weekly Lunch Menu

The [school lunch menus](#) are available to view on our website and provide an overview of the menu items that will be served each day.



Responsibly sourced,  
Safe British Produce,  
Good Animal Welfare.



Organic Product Suppliers



Healthy Food  
Fresh Ingredients  
75% freshly prepared



Highest Standards in UK  
Egg Production



Wild fish or Seafood from  
Sustainable Fishing



FAIRTRADE Sourced Ingredients



Sustainably Farmed Products



Commitment to ongoing  
environmental improvement.



# B.Y.O.B

BRING YOUR OWN BOTTLE

As part of our move towards sustainability, single-use plastic cups are no longer available in school.

All pupils must take responsibility for bringing in their own reusable water bottles.

Reusable water bottles are available to purchase from West Office using money on ParentPay.

## Detentions

Hodge Hill College operates a detention system. If your child is late, misbehaves or doesn't hand in their homework on time, they will be given detention at lunchtime or up to 30 minutes at the end of the day. You will usually get a text or an in-app message on [MyEd](#) to inform you. Please ensure your contact details are up to date. For more serious matters, staff can issue an hour's detentions after school without giving parents/carers notice.

### What the Law Allows

- Teachers have the power to issue detention to students (aged under 18)
- Schools must make clear to students and parents/carers that they use detention (including detention outside of school hours) as a sanction
- The times outside normal school hours when detention can be given (the 'permitted day of detention') include:
  - any school day where the student does not have permission to be absent
  - weekends - except the weekend preceding or following the half-term break
  - non-teaching days – usually referred to as 'training days', 'INSET days' or 'non-contact days'
- Parental consent is not required for detentions
- As with any disciplinary penalty, a member of staff must act reasonably given all the circumstances

This guidance is available on the Government's [Behaviour in Schools](#) page.

## Uniform & Standards

As part of the school's continued drive to improve standards, we would like all pupils to consistently adhere to the expectations on appearance, conduct and equipment. We are a professional environment and as such, we need all pupils to look smart, professionally conduct themselves and come equipped for their learning.

If a pupil does not meet the standards consistently, they will sit a 30-minute detention. We must have your support to raise our standards collectively. Please can we remind you that pupils are not permitted to wear nose studs and patterns and lines are not to be shaved into hairstyles or eyebrows.

If there are any problems in acquiring uniform, please contact the school and we will endeavour to work with you to address these issues. Such cases will be treated with due sensitivity and confidence.

Our full school uniform and PE kit list can be found on the [uniform page](#) of our website.

## Year 11 After-school Tuition

We have introduced a comprehensive new tuition model to support Year 11 pupils' academic progress. Pupils requiring additional help are identified early through mock exams and subject-led assessments.

Teachers use focused tuition sessions to provide targeted support in small groups. There are dedicated after-school sessions each week for Maths, English, Science, and other core subjects. Those making significant progress can move out of the tuition program, while those who require further support may receive more intensive interventions with subject specialist teachers.

This multi-layered approach aims to collect and utilise data effectively, allowing teachers to adapt and personalise tuition to meet individual pupils' needs throughout the academic year.

This timetable is available on the [tuition page](#) of our website.

## Extra-curricular Activities & Clubs

At Hodge Hill College, our enrichment and extra-curricular provision provides our pupils with a breadth and balance of activities designed to broaden their horizons, allowing them to develop their own interests and talents. The programme is an extension of the school's curriculum and builds on our CARE brand whilst instilling British Values.

We offer quality provision which provides our pupils with a number of opportunities to develop their resilience, character and performance. Our sports provision has continued to improve to develop pupils physically and mentally.

**Please note, that all pupils must sign in at reception upon arrival for before-school sessions each morning.**

More information and the activities timetable are available on the [extra-curricular page](#) of our website.

## Penalty Notices

From 19 August 2024, the new National Framework for issuing penalty notices will apply.

### National Threshold

There will be a single consistent national threshold to consider if a Penalty Notice must be considered by all schools in England of 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school week period.

These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence.

The 10-school week period can span over different terms and school years.

### Penalty Notice Fines will continue to be issued per parent per child.

Example: 2 parents with 3 children would receive a total of 6 Penalty Notices

# 1

## First Offence

- £100 per parent, per child paid within 28 days
- Reduced to £60 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days
- Unpaid Penalty Notices after 28 days may result in a prosecution

# 2

## Second Offence (within 3 years of the First Offence)

- Where it is deemed appropriate to issue a second Penalty Notice to the same parent for the same pupil within 3 years of the first notice
- £100 per parent, per child paid within 28 days
- Unpaid Penalty Notices after 28 days may result in a prosecution

# 3

## Third Offence and any further offences (within 3 years of the First Offence)

- The third time that an offence is committed for either a term time holiday and/or irregular attendance, a Penalty Notice will not be issued, the case may be proceeded straight to prosecution under the Education Act 1996, Section 444
- If found guilty of the offence of "failure to secure their child's regular attendance at a school" the Magistrates can impose a fine of up to £1,000 and you will have a criminal record

### Please Note

If you take any Leave of Absence PRIOR to 19 August 2024 (e.g. in July 2024) then the Penalty Notice will be at the old rate of £60/£120. Any Leave of Absence taken in or after September 2024 will be charged at the new rates as above.

## Personal Development Timetable

As a part of your child's education at Hodge Hill College, we promote personal well-being and development through a comprehensive Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education programme.

PSHE education is the curriculum subject that gives young people the knowledge, understanding, strategies and practical skills to live safe, healthy, productive lives and meet their full potential.

Our PSHE programme is delivered through form-time activities to all year groups and through our Personal Development weekly lessons to pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9.

Please find below a table of topics pupils will be learning about in tutor time and Personal Development lessons:

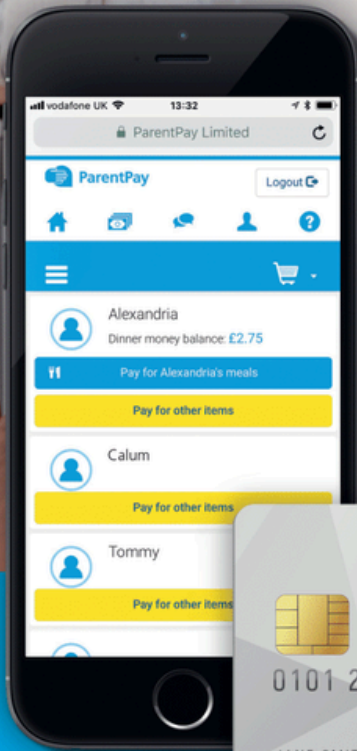
W/C	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
13 April	What is money and what does it mean to me?	Criminal activity: county lines	Gangs: drugs	What are laws	GCSE Revision
20 April	Values and attitudes to money	Criminal activity: knife crime	Gangs: knife crime	Structure of UK Government	GCSE Revision
27 April	Basic banking	Criminal activity: role of police in dealing with crime	Gangs: radicalisation	What does a MP do?	GCSE Revision
4 May	What is saving?	Criminal activity: what can communities do to prevent crime	Young people and the justice system	What do local councils do?	GCSE Revision
11 May	Celebrating nurses	Celebrating nurses	Celebrating nurses	Celebrating nurses	GCSE Revision
18 May	Reflections on Y7 & moving to Year 8	Importance of having positive role models	Looking forward to Year 10	Looking forward to Year 11	GCSE Revision

If you would like to discuss our Personal Development & Tutor Time curriculum, please email [personaldevelopment@hodgehill.bham.sch.uk](mailto:personaldevelopment@hodgehill.bham.sch.uk) and a member of staff will be in contact to arrange a meeting.

# THE EASY WAY TO PAY

We're using ParentPay so parents can easily pay online for school dinners, trips and clubs.

**No stress, hassle free.**



**SIMPLE  
QUICK  
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### Key Stage 3 Assessment and Core Vocabulary Booklets

This term's assessment and core vocabulary booklets are linked below. These booklets feature key vocabulary that pupils will learn this term, along with definitions. They are organised by subject area for easy reference. This will support pupils in their comprehension and language development.

[Year 7](#)

[Year 8](#)

[Year 9](#)

### Curriculum Handbook

You can find detailed information about the curriculum and the specific subjects and skills your child will be learning each year on the [curriculum page](#) of our website.

### Our Community and the Cost of Living

Now more than ever, with the rising cost of living, many families are feeling the squeeze. As a school, we are actively seeking to do whatever we reasonably can to support our students and their families with these rapidly growing pressures.

We are continuing to open West Canteen to pupils every morning before school between 8:00am and 8:30am to provide a free breakfast including toast and hot drinks. Please encourage your child to attend this, particularly if they arrive early to school in the morning, as it is a supervised space with access to games and other activities.

If you are facing particular hardships, please feel free to get in touch with us here at Hodge Hill College at [householdsupport@hodgehill.bham.sch.uk](mailto:householdsupport@hodgehill.bham.sch.uk). All requests will be treated with the utmost confidentiality and we will look at what support we are able to practically provide.

Further information about support being provided by Birmingham City Council can be found on their [cost of living crisis](#) page on their website and this may be of use to you in signposting where you can get help, support, and advice if you are affected.

We have a second-hand store of pre-loved uniform items, all washed and ready if you need them. Please get in touch with the school at the email address above if you would like to take advantage of this.

### Uniform Donations

Throughout the year, we kindly request your help in supporting other families in need. If your children have outgrown their old school uniforms, please consider donating them to the School Office. We will collect all donated uniforms and distribute them to pupils who would greatly benefit from them. Even a single donated item can make a significant difference.

We are happy to accept donations of new uniforms too. Whether gently used or brand new, your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Please make sure to wash any used uniforms before donating and ensure they are in good condition. You can send the uniforms with your child or drop them off at the School Office yourself. We appreciate anything you can provide to help clothe and equip pupils whose families are facing financial difficulties.

Together, we can ensure that all our students feel comfortable, confident, and ready to learn.

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

## Translate Our School Website Using Google Translator on Chrome

If you need help understanding information on our school's website, Google Chrome has a built-in translation feature that can translate the pages into your preferred language.

To use this, first make sure you have the latest version of Google Chrome installed on your device. Then navigate to our school's website and click on the three-dot menu icon in the top right corner of Chrome. Select **"Translate"** from the menu. This will bring up a sidebar where you can choose which language you want to translate the page into. Click on your desired language and Chrome will automatically translate everything on the webpage.

The translation may not be completely perfect, but it should help convey the key information and allow you to understand important updates from teachers or the school administration.

This feature works for dozens of popular languages - just select the one you feel most comfortable with.

### Examples:

#### Arabic



#### Bangla



#### Chinese



#### Romanian



#### Polish



#### Urdu



### Homework - Useful Links



[ClassCharts](#)



[MathsWatch](#)



[My GCSE Science](#)



[Century](#)

