

Hodge Hill College

2026-2027
Family Handbook

v3

www.hodgehill.bham.sch.uk

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Welcome to Our School



Welcome to Hodge Hill College, a popular and welcoming 11-16 community school that provides our pupils with a first-class education and amazing life experiences. As one of the highest achieving schools in Birmingham, we work hard to get the best out of everyone; whether that is on the sports pitch, performing in one of our musical and drama productions, producing stunning artworks or taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award, Team Hodge Hill will always go above and beyond.

Everything we do in school as pupils and staff comes back to CARE;

Courtesy – we are polite to everyone in and out of school
Achievement – we celebrate our successes together and be resilient in ensuring we achieve our very best
Respect – we treat each other with respect; being kind, honest and caring towards each other
Excellence – we go above and beyond every day and strive for excellence in everything that we do

Our pupils always strive for excellence in everything they do. We want them to leave us with qualifications that open doors but also with happy memories and wider experiences beyond the curriculum that will stay with them for life.

I am immensely proud to work with the big team here at Hodge Hill College.

Hannah Herrmann
Headteacher

Mission & Ethos



Together we create a safe, caring and successful environment, committed to empowering students to achieve their full potential.

courtesy

we are polite to everyone in and out of school

achievement

we celebrate our successes together, and be resilient in ensuring we achieve our very best

respect

we treat each other with respect; being kind, honest and caring towards each other

excellence

we go above and beyond every day and strive for excellence in everything that we do

Hodge Hill College

Key Staff & Contacts

Senior Leadership Team

Mrs H Herrmann
Headteacher

Mrs L Millington
Deputy Headteacher: Curriculum & Standards

Mrs T Abdul-Karim
Assistant Headteacher: Literacy, Equality & Diversity

Mr R Fradley
Assistant Headteacher: Behaviour & Attitudes

Mr Z Naqvi
Assistant Headteacher: Progression & Intervention

Mrs C Southern
Assistant Headteacher: Enhanced Provision (SENDCO)
senco@hodgehill.bham.sch.uk

Mr R Patel
Deputy Headteacher: Behaviour & Safeguarding

Mr J Broadrick
Assistant Headteacher: Inclusion

Mr N Mughal
Assistant Headteacher: Teaching & Learning

Miss R Palfrey
Assistant Headteacher: Enrichment

Mr R Stewart
Associate Assistant Headteacher: Leading Learning Behaviours

Pastoral Team

Miss R Perks & Mrs S Nazir
Year 7

Mr A Khan & Mrs A Savic
Year 8

Mr D Lawrence & Miss A Patel
Year 9

Mr R Ahmed & Miss E Maleady
Year 10

Mr M Popo & Mrs A Savic
Year 11

Directors of Learning

Mr A Ali
Science

Mrs S Cartwright
English & Literacy

Mr P Iqbal
Maths & Numeracy

Mr A O'Grady
Humanities

Ms S Ayub
Professional Learning

Mrs S Edgley
Sport & Leadership

Mr M Northmore
Creative Design

Mr D Sadi
Languages

Address
Hodge Hill College
Bromford Road
Birmingham
B36 8BH

Telephone: 0121 783 7807
Email: enquiry@hodgehill.bham.sch.uk

Term Dates

Autumn Term 2026

Autumn Term 1: Tuesday 1 September 2026 to Friday 23 October 2026

Pupils Start: Year 7 & 11 – Wednesday 2 September 2026 | Year 8, 9 & 10 – Thursday 3 September 2026

Half-term: *Monday 26 October 2026 to Friday 30 October 2026*

Autumn Term 2: Monday 2 November 2026 to Friday 18 December 2026

Spring Term 2027

Spring Term 1: Monday 4 January 2027 to Friday 12 February 2027

Pupils Start: Tuesday 5 January 2027

Half-term: *Monday 15 February 2027 to Friday 19 February 2027*

Spring Term 2: Monday 22 February 2027 to Thursday 25 March 2027

Summer Term 2027

Summer Term 1: Monday 12 April 2027 to Friday 28 May 2027

Half-term: *Monday 31 May 2027 to Friday 4 June 2027*

Summer Term 2: Monday 7 June 2027 to Wednesday 21 July 2027

Staff Training Days

Day 1: Tuesday 1 September 2026

Day 2: Monday 23 November 2026

Day 3: Monday 4 January 2027

Day 4: Friday 2 July 2027

Day 5: *To Be Confirmed*



The School Day



Good punctuality is an important part of self-discipline and is essential to good time management. The gates open at 08:30 and pupils should be in their form before 08:40. If they arrive after 08:40, your child will be registered with a late mark and will be given a late detention.

Monday

	Start	Finish
Line Up/Movement Form	08:30	08:40
Form Time	08:40	09:10
Lesson One	09:10	10:10
Lesson Two *including break*	10:10	11:40
Lesson Three	11:40	12:40
Lesson Four *including break*	12:40	14:10
Lesson Five	14:10	15:10
Lesson Six	15:10	16:10

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

	Start	Finish
Line Up/Movement Form	08:30	08:40
Form Time	08:40	09:10
Lesson One	09:10	10:10
Lesson Two *including break*	10:10	11:40
Lesson Three	11:40	12:40
Lesson Four *including break*	12:40	14:10
Lesson Five	14:10	15:10

Friday

	Start	Finish
Line Up/Movement Form	08:30	08:40
Form Time	08:40	09:10
Lesson One	09:10	10:10
Lesson Two	10:10	11:10
Lesson Three *including break*	11:10	12:40
Lesson Four	12:40	13:40

School Uniform

All pupils are expected to wear full school uniform and their appearance should be appropriate to a working environment. Shirts must be tucked in, top button fastened and ties worn correctly. If pupils are not in the correct uniform, and they refuse to borrow a replacement uniform, parents/carers will be contacted, and the pupil sent home to change. We ask all parents/carers to uphold the correct wearing of school uniform by their child and to support the school.

The Headteacher's decision will be final in all matters relating to uniform, jewellery and hairstyles.

Uniform

- Black blazer with school badge (Griffin)
- White shirt
- Black trousers/knee-length straight skirt/tunic
- Clip-on school tie
- Black or dark grey socks
- Appropriate leather shoes (not trainers or boots and no embellishments)
- Black headscarf – *this is optional* and headscarves with the school logo are available to buy

PE Kit

- Red polo shirt with school logo
- Navy Blue football shorts
- Red football socks
- Trainers
- Plastic moulded studded football boots
- Plain navy blue tracksuit trousers or leggings
- Quarter zip navy blue and red top with school logo (available to purchase from Mansuri Schoolwear/Clive Marks)

Please ensure all uniform and PE kit is labelled with your child's name.

All pupils have access to the 3G rubber crumb pitch during PE lessons and extra-curricular clubs. This is a fantastic facility, which due to the high grading requires specific footwear to use it.

All pupils must have a pair of plastic moulded studded football boots as part of their PE kit preferably black, but not compulsory.

During Cold Weather

- Pupils are permitted to wear a black v-neck jumper under their blazer as an option
- Outdoor coats should be plain, waterproof, and warm
- Fleeces, hoodies, sweatshirts, and gilets are not acceptable
- Blazers must still be worn regardless of the weather conditions

Jewellery

- Pupils may wear one plain stud in each ear and a single nose stud
- Pupils wearing inappropriate or unsafe jewellery will be asked to remove it and parents/carers asked to collect the confiscated items at the end of the school day

Hair & Makeup

- Pupils should not wear makeup to school
- Haircuts and hairstyles must be appropriate

Items of Clothing Not Permitted

- Trainers or non-uniform footwear
- Sweatshirts, tracksuit tops, hoodies, gilets and sleeveless jackets
- Caps, gogglehats/coats and pouches
- Floor-length skirts or dresses and leggings

Official Suppliers

- **Clive Mark,** 2286 Coventry Road, Sheldon, Birmingham, B26 3JR
- **RAK Uniforms,** 225 Cotterills Lane, Alum Rock, Birmingham, B8 3RS
- **Mansuri Schoolwear,** 163 Yewtree Lane, Yardley, Birmingham, B26 1AY
- **Crested Schoolwear,** 71 High Street, Erdington, Birmingham, B23 6SA

Please note, Hodge Hill College is not affiliated with any retailer and our uniform can be purchased from any retail store. Only the school badge, tie and hijab can be purchased from the School Office.

School Meals

Healthy Eating

We fully support Government initiatives that encourage pupils to lead a healthy lifestyle. As your child spends a significant portion of their life at school, we understand the importance of providing a conducive environment for healthy living. Poor diet is a major contributing factor to lack of concentration, dehydration and poor behaviour.

We strongly encourage parents to ensure that their child has a nutritious breakfast each morning. Please note that fizzy drinks, crisps, sweets, chocolate, and chewing gum are not allowed in school. Pupils are expected to bring a reusable bottle of water to school every day - **we have banned the use of plastic single-use bottles**.

Research studies have shown that children who eat a nutritious breakfast, such as a bowl of cereal, toast, or a piece of fruit, have higher levels of concentration and are more actively engaged in their learning.

We have a strict policy against consuming food in classrooms or corridors. Any litter or unwanted food should be placed in a bin and not dropped on the floor. Students are allowed to drink water during lessons if necessary, and water bottles should be kept in their bags at all times.

School Canteens

Our school has two dining rooms, East Canteen and West Canteen. Pupils can find a range of food options in either canteen, including hot meals, cold snacks, salads, and sandwiches.

On average, a meal costs £2.70. However, if pupils prefer, they can bring their own lunch instead of purchasing food from the canteen. Copies of the current menus are available on the school website: www.hodgehill.bham.sch.uk/schoolmeals

Please note, that all pupils must remain on-site at break and lunchtimes.

Mellors Catering Services

Mellors Catering Services is an established and highly regarded school catering provider, dedicated to *"Fuelling Minds and Nourishing Futures."* They are committed to delivering a high-quality, nutritious meal service that supports pupils' health, wellbeing and readiness to learn.

A varied menu of freshly prepared, seasonal dishes will be available at morning break and lunchtime, offering pupils both choice and value. Mellors focus on using quality ingredients and creating appealing meals that meet a wide range of dietary needs and preferences, ensuring all pupils can enjoy a positive dining experience.

ParentPay

ParentPay provides you with the convenience to make payments at any time and from anywhere, 24/7, with complete confidence in the top-notch internet security technology being used.

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 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.

Making payments is easy, and ParentPay maintains a record of your payment history for future reference. No card details are stored anywhere in the system. Once you activate your account, you can start making online payments right away.

For further information on ParentPay, please visit www.hodgehill.bham.sch.uk/parentpay.

Breakfast Club

Pupils are welcome to join us in West Canteen for our Breakfast Club, open every morning from 08:00 to 08:30am. We offer a free breakfast including toast and hot drinks. It's a fantastic way for your child to start the day, especially if they arrive early to school. The Breakfast Club is a supervised space filled with games and fun activities, making it a great place to connect with friends before classes begin.

Free School Meals

The Government gives extra money to schools to help children from low-income families do their very best. This funding is called 'Pupil Premium' and means that every child registered for Free School Meals receives a daily meal allowance amounting to over £500 per year, whilst Hodge Hill College receives £1050 in extra funding for each Pupil Premium child.

With this money we could increase the educational opportunities available to your child and their peers through funding educational visits, providing additional classroom resources (such as laptops and interactive devices), improving school facilities etc. The possibilities are endless.

Please register as soon as possible to make sure your child and others in their class don't miss out.

How Does It Work?

1. First check if you qualify – it is not just if you are unemployed, so please look at the list below
2. Applying is quick and easy – simply visit: https://www.hodgehill.bham.sch.uk/freeschoolmeals
3. If you would like your child to have a free, healthy meal at lunchtime that's great – they will get the free meal (saving you more than £500 a year), extra benefits and the school gets an additional £1050
4. If you do not want your child to have school meals they don't have to; as long as you register and qualify for FSM, the school still gets the extra funding

Who Can Apply?

Your child may be eligible for free school meals if you receive **any of the following benefits:**

- Universal Credit
- 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 are 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)

Important update from September 2026

- If you receive Universal Credit, you may now be eligible regardless of your income level
- You do not need to work this out yourself — simply apply and your eligibility will be checked

How to Register for Free School Meals

All you need to do is apply online at: https://www.hodgehill.bham.sch.uk/freeschoolmeals. You will need to provide:

- Your name and date of birth
- Contact details
- National Insurance Number or National Asylum Seekers Number
- Child's name and date of birth

- School your child is attending/will attend

Once you have registered, the online system will automatically update if your circumstances change in future; there is no need to reapply! If you have any queries or need help in applying for Free School Meals, please contact the School Office on 0121 783 7807.

Hodge Hill College

Claim your Free School Meals and
save up to £50 per child every month!



To apply for Free School Meals, please visit
https://www.hodgehill.bham.sch.uk/freeschoolmeals

Home-School Communication

The school operates a paperless communication structure to ensure efficient delivery of important documents and to stay eco-friendly.

Emails

Email is the primary mode of communication for sending letters, pupil progress reports, and other digital documents.

MyEd App & Messaging

The MyEd app is designed to keep parents/carers updated with their child's school activities. The app allows priority 1 contacts direct access to their child's attendance, timetable, absence records, achievements, behaviour, and much more.

Important messages about your child's education will be sent through the MyEd App. We will also remind you of school events and contact you for emergency purposes. Whenever we send you a message, you will receive a notification, and there is no cost for the messages you send us.

The MyEd app is free and available for download on both iOS and Android devices. We urge all parents/carers to install it. To get started, search for Hodge Hill College on MyEd.

If you have any questions, please email communication@hodgehill.bham.sch.uk or call 0121 783 7807.

Contact Details

It is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure that the school has the correct and up-to-date contact information, including email address and mobile phone number, for the priority 1 contact so that they can receive all important information.

Please submit new contact details through the **Change of Pupil Details Form** on the MyEd app or visit the School Office.

Please note, to protect our students, we have a facility to record Court Orders confidentially. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to keep us fully updated with the details of the Court Orders. We will try to act by them at all times. It is also important for the parents/carers to inform us of information that needs to be sent to more than one address as a result of adults with parental rights living separately.

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening is very important for all parents/carers, pupils and teachers. The evening provides teachers with an opportunity to discuss your child's academic progress and, crucially, give advice on suggested next steps to secure further improvements.

We place a huge emphasis on working in partnership with families, and therefore, you must take this opportunity to discuss with teachers how your child is performing in relation to their potential and what could be done together to further support them.

All pupils are given their latest report during the evening, and this forms the basis for discussion around attainment and effort. We will email you ahead of parents' evening confirming the date and time.

Policies & Documents

Parents/carers can access the school's policies via the school website or request paper copies by contacting enquiry@hodgehill.bham.sch.uk. All our school policies are approved by the Governing Body. You can view the school's stance on important issues that may affect your child and also see the Codes of Conduct which your child should adhere to as a member of the School Student Body. Listed below are school policies and information

you can access and download from our school website: www.hodgehill.bham.sch.uk/policies.

Privacy Notice for Parents & Pupils

As a secondary school for pupils aged 11-16, Hodge Hill College collects and processes data about our pupils to operate effectively.

- Why we collect pupil data
- What data we collect
- How we use and store this data
- The rights parents and pupils have over their data

Our Data Protection Officer, Mrs S Butt, is available to answer any questions about how we handle your child's information. You can contact her at:

Hodge Hill College
Bromford Road
Birmingham
B36 8HB

Tel:0121 783 7807
Email: enquiry@hodgehill.bham.sch.uk

We take data privacy seriously and are committed to being transparent about the pupil information we collect and process as your local authority-maintained school.

For more information on our Privacy Notice for Pupils & Parents, please click here.

Attendance & Punctuality

Attendance

At Hodge Hill College, all pupils are expected to have 100% attendance. We regularly review attendance and regard it as an essential part of a pupil's academic and social success.

Learning and friendship opportunities are also enhanced by sustained periods of unbroken attendance and we rely on our partnership with parents/carers to ensure that this is achieved.

Excellent attendance helps improve the chances of pupils being academically successful.

If a child is registered at school, parents/carers have a duty under the Education Act 1996 to ensure that their child attends regularly and is punctual. The school has high expectations regarding punctuality.

Absence Reporting

Illness

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 to the Absence Hotline via our MyEd app at any time or by calling 0121 783 7807 from 08:00.

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

Medical Appointments

Appointments should be made during school holidays or at the end of the school day. On occasions when this is not possible, pupils should come into school as normal, be collected and taken to their appointment and returned to school immediately afterwards.

If your child has an appointment, please inform the school by sending an in-app message via our MyEd app or calling 0121 783 7807 by 08:30.

Proof of appointment will be required when collecting your child from school. This can also be sent via the MyEd app or emailed to enquiry@hodgehill.bham.sch.uk.

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. Any pupil who arrives after 08:40 will be considered late and marked accordingly by the staff members present at the gates. The main school 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.

If parents/carers know that their child is going to be late, for example, due to a medical appointment, they must inform the school by sending an in-app message via our MyEd app or calling 0121 783 7807 by 08:30.

The school reserves the right to modify its sanctions for lateness during the school year based on whether the above sanctions are effective or not.

For more information on our Attendance Policy, please click here.

Behaviour

The Behaviour for Learning policy is the underpinning structure by which the school operates a consistent approach in order to:

- Provide a safe, calm, purposeful climate for effective teaching and learning.
- Promote good relationships and respect between all members of the school community.

The school recognises that positive behaviour and a healthy attitude to learning are essential when creating an establishment where academic expectations are valued and allow pupils to achieve their best.

Expectations of Pupils

Good behaviour is promoted through clear expectations which require all pupils to respect one another, staff, visitors and members of the community. It requires us all to ensure we create a safe and respectful environment for all through our CARE brand: Courtesy, Achievement, Respect and Excellence. We encourage all pupils to look smart in their appearance, conduct themselves in an appropriate manner and come equipped for their learning. Pupils can demonstrate their positive attitude towards our standards through the following positive actions:

- Wearing the correct uniform every day
- Ensuring the correct hairstyles without shaved lines or patterns
- Following college policy on digital devices
- Completing homework and revising for tests and exams
- Treating others how we would like to be treated ourselves
- Following the advice and guidance of teachers and support staff
- Behaving in a way which allows every pupil equal access to education
- Self-manage behaviour in unstructured time
- Acknowledge that verbal, electronic or physical assault will not be tolerated

Bullying

The school operates a no-bullying policy for all pupils to adhere to. We feel very strongly about this if anyone is found to be bullying, the situation is investigated and followed up. For any pupils who experience bullying, please tell somebody you trust. This may be a Tutor, Subject Teachers, Achievement Coordinators, Assistant Achievement Coordinators, Safeguarding Lead, Friends, Parents, Assistant Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, or the Headteacher.

Rewards and Sanctions

We understand that our high standards require a significant commitment from staff, governors, pupils and their families. Excellent behaviour and work is the 'norm' and we want to reward all pupils appropriately and to communicate this with you to share our appreciation.

Pupils are expected to engage in lessons for the duration of the lesson. The school uses a consequence system to encourage a healthy climate of reflection to address poor behaviour. The consequence system is illustrated below. Sanctions may take the form of any combination of the following strategies:

Consequence	
C1	Verbal Warning
C2	Move Seats
C3	Removal from Classroom

- being good neighboured to another classroom
- being placed on report
- detentions at lunch times and/or after school
- moving tutor group or teaching groups
- parental contact

We take an inclusive approach to behaviour management and have a number of interventions at our disposal to support pupils to improve their behaviour and to meet our high expectations.

Should your child be late to school or behave poorly, a detention will be given. More serious issues may result in a suspension or even a permanent exclusion. Please note permanent exclusions are rare. It is essential that we help pupils to understand that actions always have consequences.

We all make mistakes and a polite, prompt apology which denotes our understanding is very important.

Hopefully, as your child grows in maturity, their mistakes will reduce, and they will be in a position to mentor younger pupils in school.

For more information on our Behaviour for Learning Policy, please click here.



Child Protection & Safeguarding

Hodge Hill College is deeply committed to ensuring the highest standards of protection and safeguarding for the children under our care.

Our school is dedicated to supporting every child by promoting a safe, caring and positive environment within the school premises. We aim to encourage self-esteem and self-assertiveness while effectively tackling bullying and harassment. Our goal is to create an atmosphere where all our children can feel secure, valued and listened to. Furthermore, we encourage pupils to speak up and report any concerns to someone they trust

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mr R Patel
Deputy Headteacher: Behaviour & Safeguarding

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads

Mr R Ahmed
Achievement Coordinator

Miss C Dodd
Aspiring Leader: Pastoral

Mr D Lawrence
Achievement Coordinator

Miss R Perks
Achievement Coordinator

Mrs C Southern
Assistant Headteacher: Enhanced Provision (SENDCO)

Mr J Broadrick
Assistant Headteacher: Inclusion

Mr A Khan
Achievement Coordinator

Miss E Maleady
Assistant Achievement Coordinator

Mr M Popo
Achievement Coordinator

Mr R Stewart
Associate Assistant Headteacher: Leading Learning Behaviours



Curriculum

The curriculum at Hodge Hill College aims to provide breadth and balance for all pupils at both Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. All pupils undertake studies in the core subjects: English, mathematics and science, together with humanities, language, arts, design and sports-based subjects. This is maintained at key stage four to ensure that pupils gain a balance of qualifications which will provide them with the widest possible opportunities for progression into sixth form. This breadth also offers diverse opportunities for university, apprenticeship and employment choices. Balance ensures doors are held open at all times to all pupils.

As a school, we are committed to ensuring that pupils gain an understanding of the contribution the arts play to enriching their lives, and the key part they play in the national and global economy. Learning to contextualise our common history, geography and religious beliefs build greater understanding, character and stronger communities. Finally, healthy bodies support healthy minds and as a school, we believe, all our pupils need to understand how these two issues are intertwined. Enabling all pupils to take charge of their health secures good learning and future economic.

Key Stage 3 Curriculum Overview

Years 7, 8 & 9 Curriculum Pathways

We have a 3-year Key Stage 3 curriculum. All pupils in Year 7, 8 & 9 study a wide range of subjects including Art, Design, Performing Arts, Personal Development, a Modern Foreign Language and Computer Science. Year 7 & 8 pupils will also have a specific Reading Recovery lesson that focusses solely on developing reading skills. We recognise that reading is an incredibly important skill that underpins academic success across all subjects. Reading Recovery aims to promote reading for pleasure and progress.

Key Stage 4 Curriculum Overview

Year 10 & 11 Curriculum Pathways

All pupils in Years 10 and 11 study core GCSEs in Maths, English Literature, English Language and Science. Dependent on which pathway they will either take two (trilogy) or three separate science (triple) GCSEs. In addition, all pupils in Years 10 and 11 study BTEC Sport. A full list of the core and non-core subjects offered can be found on the school's website.

Personal Development

At Hodge Hill College, we aim to provide a community ethos that reflects fundamental British values and enables pupils to grow as individuals, helping them to understand the world they live in and their place within it. Throughout the Secure Curriculum, staff in all subjects work towards developing the personal development including personal, social, health and economic education understanding of all pupils. The Secure Curriculum, Tutor Time programme and Personal Development lessons (KS3 only) develops pupil's appreciation and understanding of different people's feelings and values, cultural diversity and different communities. Pupils are also taught about the protected characteristics outlined in the Equality Act (2010). Where appropriate all topics within the Tutor Time programme and Personal Development lessons also include reference to British Values and UN Rights of a Child. Hodge Hill College has a caring ethos that is embodied in the school's CARE brand and Secure Curriculum. These create an ethos that nurtures the whole student. Personal Development lessons, Tutor Time Programme and the Secure Curriculum are a vital part of a pupil's character development to ensure they become fully rounded and valued people.

RSHE

We aim to provide an environment at Hodge Hill College where young people can develop and flourish. RSHE (Relationships, sex and health education) is a fundamental part of our Secure Curriculum preparing students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life. RSHE at Hodge Hill College focuses on relationships and issues that arise from them. In delivering RSHE it is our aim for pupils to develop a healthy, safer lifestyle.

The school believes that the aim of RSHE should be to provide students with the knowledge and skills to enable them to make informed and responsible choices, emphasizing the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. Sex and

relationship education should contribute to promoting the spiritual, moral, cultural, emotional and physical development of students and prepare them for the responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

Our RSHE policy at Hodge Hill College is informed by DFE statutory guidance, and a full copy of our policy document can be accessed via the school website. Parents/carers have the legal right to request to have their child excused from sex education, which is delivered as part of the RSHE curriculum. For any child to be withdrawn, a request would need to be put in writing to the Headteacher. This can be done by emailing personaldevelopment@hodgehill.bham.sch.uk. Parents/carers only have the legal right to withdraw children up until three terms before the child turns 16. After this point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school would make arrangements to provide the child with sex education as this is the policy dictated to the school by the government.

Assemblies and Collective Worship

At Hodge Hill College, we have a collective worship calendar that provides pupils with an opportunity to consider spiritual, social and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs. The aim is to develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values, and reinforce positive attitudes. Each week, all assemblies have a focus that provides pupils with an opportunity for reflection and spiritual development. In addition, 'Thought of the Day' is used to introduce the topic covered during Tutor Time activities for pupils to reflect on before exploring the topic in more detail.

Character Education

Character Education at Hodge Hill College is delivered in a wide variety of curricular and extra-curricular activities, including assemblies, Secure Curriculum, Thought of the Day, CARE brand, subject lessons, Personal Development lessons, workshops/talks provided by specialist external agencies/speakers, sports, performance art, outward bound activities, enrichment activities, CEIAG activities, UNICEF Rights, Protected Characteristics and British Values. These opportunities help young people to explore and express their character and build the skills they need for resilience, empathy and employability.

Tutor Time – The Secure Curriculum

The Secure Curriculum encompasses all elements of personal development at Hodge Hill College. Our pupils always strive for excellence in everything they do; we want them to leave us with qualifications that open doors but also with happy memories and wider experiences beyond the curriculum that will stay with them for life.

We work hard to get the best out of everyone; whether that is on the sports pitch, performing in one of our musical and drama productions, producing stunning artworks or taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award. At Hodge Hill College we want pupils to know more, do more and go further.



Secure Your Voice

Your place in the school, the communities and the world, expressing opinions, ideas, beliefs and personal views

Secure Your Passions

Develop your interests, attend extra-curricular clubs and experience something new

Secure Your Future

What are your next steps? We will help you take them

Secure Your Well-Being

Your mental and physical health and learning to support these

Secure Your Relationships

How you connect with others, making relationships safe and meaningful

The Secure Tutor Time curriculum aims to develop our pupils' skills, character and understanding of the wider world. The curriculum is designed to develop our pupils' cultural capital and it fosters a greater sense of cohesion across the school by allowing pupils to learn about the 'theme of the week' in greater depth. It provides an opportunity for pupils to learn about and discuss ideas they might not have a chance to cover in their academic curriculum, for example, UNICEF Rights, Remembrance Day and Black History Month as well as covering important personal development topics.

Tutor Time Framework

Throughout the week, all year groups will complete a range of activities in Tutor Time. These activities include:

- Personal Development Activity - at Key Stage 3, this acts as an introduction to their Personal Development lesson that week
- Guided Reading (except Year 11)
- Secure Journey
- UNICEF/News Discussion (adapted from resources provided by Secondary Picture News)
- Skills for the Future (except Year 11)
- Unifrog – a platform used as part of our extensive CEIAG provision
- Assembly
- The Climb – a Year 11 only initiative designed to promote independent learning in the build-up to GCSE exams

Homework & Independent Learning

Homework plays a vital role in reinforcing learning, developing independent study skills, and fostering a sense of responsibility in pupils. It provides valuable opportunities for pupils to consolidate knowledge, practise key skills, and revisit areas of learning at their own pace. Regular completion of homework supports academic progress and helps to build confidence and resilience.

At Hodge Hill College, homework for English, Maths and Science across all year groups is set using Century, an online learning platform that creates personalised pathways for each pupil. This ensures that pupils focus on the areas where they need the most support or challenge. Pupils complete short, targeted activities and receive instant feedback, helping them to check their understanding and address misconceptions. Every pupil is provided with a login and is expected to complete weekly tasks set by their class teacher at home.

For all other subjects, homework is set via ClassCharts (pupils will receive a unique code) or through paper-based tasks, such as revision cards or workbooks. These tasks are designed to complement classroom learning and may include research, extended writing, or revision activities. Homework in these subjects is set at least once per half term.

Pupils are expected to complete all homework to the best of their ability and submit it on time. Parents and carers play an important role in supporting this by providing a suitable environment for study, encouraging good routines, and taking an active interest in the work set. Together, this partnership helps to ensure that all pupils develop the skills and habits needed for long-term success.

ClassCharts
www.classcharts.com

CENTURY
app.century.tech/login

The Climb

The Climb is Hodge Hill College's initiative designed to support Year 11 pupils in achieving success through consistent effort, resilience, and personal responsibility. It encourages students to take ownership of their learning and develop the habits needed for successful GCSE outcomes.

Pupils use "passport" checklists to track key areas such as attendance, homework, behaviour, and independent revision. This helps them stay focused, monitor their progress, and identify areas for improvement.

Parents and carers play an important role by regularly checking the passport, discussing targets, and encouraging positive study habits at home.

Pupils are rewarded for their effort and progress through ClassCharts, where they earn points that can be exchanged for Year 11-specific rewards, helping to maintain motivation throughout their GCSE journey.



The Impact of Reading Every Day

It is recommended that pupils read every day. At Hodge Hill we suggest pupils choose a library book and read it daily to their parents/carers and themselves. There is a list of Recommended Reads for Key Stage 3 and 4 which can be found on our website. Consistent reading at the pupils reading age or above brings several benefits such as vocabulary expansion, memory improvement, stronger analytical thinking skills and better writing skills which will be valuable for progression within all subjects. Reading is also a great tool for stress reduction and can provide mental stimulation keeping the brain strong and healthy.

Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
20 minutes a day 3600 minutes per school year 1,800,000 words per year	5 minutes a day 900 minutes per school year 282,000 words per year	1 minute a day 180 minutes per school year 8,000 words per year
Scores in the 90th percentile of standardised tests	Scores in the 50th percentile of standardised tests	Scores in the 10th percentile of standardised tests

Our Reading Recovery Curriculum

Q: Why do we have a Reading Recovery Curriculum?

A: At Hodge Hill College, we recognise that reading is an incredibly important skill which underpins academic success across all subjects. Reading Recovery aims to promote reading for pleasure and progress.

Q. How are the lessons structured?

A: Pupils in Years 7 and 8 receive one lesson per week focussing solely on developing reading skills. We do this through the explicit teaching of vocabulary, modelled and shared reading, which is then followed by active reading tasks like comprehension questions, summarising and reviewing what has been read.

Q. What do we read?

A: We read a range of stories from different parts of the world, some of which are written by award-winning authors. We intend to select stories that will engage and challenge our students whilst celebrating diverse voices. Texts are vibrant and are language-rich containing themes that inspire debate, conversation and discussion on a wider level inside and outside of the classroom.

Q. How do we assess in Reading Recovery lessons?

A. After a series of lessons, pupils complete multiple-choice quizzes. This checks their ability to recall prior learning, their understanding of core vocabulary and their ability to use reading strategies to read and interpret unfamiliar texts.

Our Reading Recovery Curriculum Aims to Develop

- Increased reading ages at Key Stage 3 with a view to improved student comprehension, engagement and performance at Key Stage 4
- Further development of essential reading skills such as using and condensing prior knowledge, predicting, summarising, making deductions and inferences based around evidence, visualising, questioning, sequencing, searching for and selecting evidence and understanding the structure of a text
- Wider understanding and appreciation of British and world literature through exposing students to a wide variety of texts
- Applying skills learned within Reading Recovery sessions across the wider curriculum

First Aid & Medical

If your child feels unwell during school hours, they will be encouraged to stay in school. If this is not possible, your child's Achievement Coordinator will be informed, who will decide if your child should be sent home. Pupils should not contact parents/carers themselves.

Hodge Hill College has many staff members trained as Emergency First Aiders. They provide first aid to injured pupils during school hours. If a pupil has any other injury or medical problem, the first aiders cannot deal with it. The child should be taken care of by their family doctor or local hospital. It is your responsibility to inform the school of any medical conditions your child has.

Parents/carers will be contacted if their child needs medical attention or needs to attend the hospital. The school must have up-to-date contact telephone numbers for parents or carers.

Pupils who need medication should ask their family doctor to prescribe it for use outside of school hours. All medication must be administered by the child independently or by the parent or carer if the child is unable to do so.

If your child has a medical condition that needs specialist input and guidance, inform the school and provide emergency contact numbers. The school will not be able to provide specialist medical advice or assistance.

First Aid

At Hodge Hill College, we have procedures for dealing with and monitoring accidents and illnesses that may occur while your child is in our care.

If a child has a minor accident, such as a fall, a member of staff will report it to a first aider who will assess the situation. We will not always send pupils home, and we may telephone you to advise you of the incident, particularly if your child is distressed.

If the injury is serious or is causing particular concern, we will contact you immediately and advise that your child needs to be collected as soon as possible and taken to a doctor or hospital.

In any instance where there is a serious and obvious injury, such as an open fracture, the school will contact the ambulance services and inform parents/carers.

Medication

If your child needs to take prescribed medication during the school day, they must leave the medication in the School Office, and a consent form must be signed by the parent/carer. Medications must be taken in the presence of a member of staff to ensure the right dosage.

All medication must be in the original container with the child's name and dosage instructions. If your child has asthma, they must carry an inhaler with them at all times and they can keep a spare in school in case of emergency. Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring their child's medication is renewed and has not expired.

Wellbeing

Physical Health

At Hodge Hill College, we encourage all pupils to eat well during the day by following our healthy eating policy. This means that crisps, sweets, chocolate, chewing gum, sugary snacks and drinks are not allowed on the school site. The only drink allowed is plain water in a reusable bottle. Any banned items found will be confiscated. Parents and carers are requested to ensure that packed lunches brought to school do not contain crisps or chocolate.

Physical Education (PE) is an integral part of the school curriculum, and all students are expected to attend. Pupils have 2 hours of PE per week and opportunities to exercise during breaks. They can play football on the 3G pitch and the outdoor MUGA area, table tennis, use outdoor gym equipment, or take a walk on our "walk a mile" route. We offer many clubs that allow your child to be active during and after school. If possible, we encourage pupils to walk or bike to school rather than being collected by car. This is not only good for physical fitness but also for the environment.

A good bedtime routine is still important for secondary school pupils. If your child is tired during the day, they may find it difficult to concentrate and may behave badly in class, which could affect their relationships with peers. It is recommended that mobile devices are not taken into bedrooms. They should be left to charge somewhere else in the home. Also, pupils should stop using screens about one hour before they go to bed. The NHS recommends a minimum of 8 hours of sleep for teenagers.

Mental Health

We want all pupils in Hodge Hill College to know that they can tell a trusted adult if they have a problem or a concern about themselves or a friend. This will often be a Form Tutor or member of the Pastoral Team but every adult in school has had safeguarding training and will know how to help a pupil find the right person to support them.

We have a team of wellbeing prefects who have received specialist training in how to support their peers with their well-being. Our Year 9 & Year 10 Peer Mentors currently run a mentoring programme during tutor time for younger pupils. Mental health & well-being are topics we cover frequently in our tutor time programme and pastoral curriculum more broadly to make sure all pupils understand what positive mental health looks like and how they can keep themselves healthy. There are a number of things we do at Hodge Hill College to support the mental health and well-being of our pupils, and details of this are available to read on https://bit.ly/4b1w139.

Wherever there are lots of people in an organisation there will be people who try to bully others. This is unacceptable and makes people very unhappy which can affect mental health and wellbeing. We have zero tolerance for bullying and will always take any reports seriously and endeavour to support victims and make bullying stop. We define bullying as behaviour that is: deliberate, repetitive, intended to cause hurt and harm, and which often involves some sort of imbalance of power. See the school Anti-bullying Policy: https://www.hodgehill.bham.sch.uk/policies.

There are many useful resources online to help if a young person is struggling with their mental or emotional health:

- https://youngminds.org.uk/
- https://www.forwardthinkingbirmingham.org.uk/services/13-pause
- https://www.kooth.com/
- https://the-waitingroom.org/

Enrichment

As part of our broad curriculum at Hodge Hill College, we continue to develop our enrichment and extra-curricular provision. We believe that all pupils need to experience a range of activities to broaden horizons and develop interests and talents.

When planning enrichment activities, we match opportunities to meet the needs of our school community. Where possible, we organise experiences across whole year groups to create maximum impact. The programme is an extension of the school's curriculum and builds on our CARE brand whilst instilling British Values and creating Cultural Capital.

We offer quality provision designed to provide pupils with many opportunities to develop resilience, character and performance. We expect all pupils to contribute towards:

- The enrichment activities
- Extra-curricular clubs
- Creating Cultural Capital opportunities

Our ethos centres around creating a sense of community, and our enrichment and extra-curricular programme supports this. We review the timetable regularly and make additions where necessary.

Examples of our enrichment programme of activities include:

- Raising Aspiration university visits
- Geography and photography field trips
- Sports events
- Guest speakers
- Reward events
- Residential trips
- Long Mynd walks
- Workshops delivered by professional artists, craftspeople, authors and musicians
- Drama productions



Enhanced Provision

Enhanced Provision aims to embrace all people irrespective of race, gender, disability, medical or other needs. It is about giving equal access and opportunities and getting rid of discrimination and intolerance. At Hodge Hill College, Enhanced Provision underpins every aspect of school life. Every member of the school community is regarded as being of equal worth and importance. Enhanced Provision recognises differences; meeting the needs of individuals and taking positive action, so that everyone has equal access to the educational opportunities offered by the school. Further information on our Enhanced Provision can be found on our website at https://www.hodgehill.bham.sch.uk/send.

Hodge Hill College