

Headteacher: Patrick Cozier BSc (Hons), MA, NPQH

9<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well. The new term has begun positively, and I am pleased to report that students have settled back into school life with focus and enthusiasm. There is a wonderful sense of calm and purpose across the school, which has been noted by staff and visitors alike. This week, we were fortunate to welcome behaviour specialist Mark Finnis, who spent three days observing our school and working with staff. His focus was to help us further develop our positive relationships focus. He was highly complimentary about the atmosphere and praised the positive relationships he witnessed.

#### Apologies for Late Notification

I would like to apologise for the very late notification in my previous letter about the start-of-term arrangements. I fully understand that informing you at such short notice that most students would begin their first day in January mid-morning was unhelpful. I am sorry for any inconvenience caused. I will ensure we communicate more promptly in the future.

#### Parent Survey Feedback

Thank you to those parents and carers who took the time to complete our recent survey. Your feedback is invaluable, and we are currently reviewing it carefully. I look forward to sharing some reflections and updates in my next letter in a couple of weeks.

#### Year 11 and Year 13 Updates

Congratulations to our Year 11 students, who have just completed their Pre-Public Exams (PPEs). Their attitude, commitment, and adherence to expectations have been outstanding, and we are incredibly proud of them. We look forward to sharing their results later this month.

On Friday, our Year 11 students will participate in a Post-16 Taster Day, allowing them to experience a typical day as a sixth former. We wish them the best of luck!

Our Year 13 students are about to begin their PPEs tomorrow, and we wish them every success during this important time.

#### Top Field Restoration Project

We are excited to share plans for the potential restoration of the school's sports field (Top Field) in partnership with Highgate Cricket Club and North London Cricket Club. If this initiative proceeds, it will include two football pitches, a high-quality cricket square, a running track, and a long jump pit. These upgrades would significantly enhance our students' sporting experience. The project is still in the early stages and will be funded by the cricket clubs, who would use the facilities outside of school hours.

However, some local residents have opposed these plans due to the school's intention to fence the area for safeguarding purposes. A 'Town Green Application' has been submitted to Haringey Council to preserve the field as an open public space.

We encourage parents and carers to share their views to support the school being able to progress further towards providing excellent facilities for your children. Any person wishing to object to the registration of the land as a town or village green should send a statement of the facts on which the objection is based to [planning.policy@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@haringey.gov.uk) on or before 6 February 2025.

### Toilet Upgrades

Thank you for your incredible support in helping the school secure funding from Haringey Council to upgrade the toilets in the Admin Building. The improvements have had a significant impact on the student experience. We now aim to upgrade the toilets in the Windrush Building, though this will likely require fundraising efforts as further council funding is not anticipated. We will provide more details in due course.

### Recent Events and Parental Engagement

We have had some excellent recent events, including Learning Review Day and the Year 9 Options Evening. It was wonderful to see so many parents and carers engaging with staff. We hope you found these opportunities for dialogue productive and helpful.

### SEND Queries

For any new SEND-related queries, please use the query form on the school website <https://hws.haringey.sch.uk/learning/teaching-learning/learning-support-send/>.

This ensures that communications are directed to a dedicated inbox, allowing us to triage and follow up more efficiently. Thank you for your cooperation.

### Sensory Differences and Behaviour Seminars

Haringey Occupational Therapy are running a series of seminars designed to support parents and carers to understand how best to support children who have sensory processing differences. Any parent living in Haringey can access this free seminar. The next date is on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March, but there are four more between now and the end of 2025. I have included the Haringey flyer for this as a separate attachment.

### Vaping Concerns

I have written previously about the dangers of vaping, which remains a significant concern for young people across the UK. We have become aware of a local shop, Naz Organic Archway, that appears willing to sell vapes to children. We have reported this and spoken to the shop directly but wanted to bring it to your attention. If you wish to report a trader for such activity, you can do so using the following link: <https://www.londontradingstandards.org.uk/report-consumer-crime/>.

A few dates for your diary...

- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2025
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025
- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025
- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2025
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025
- Mon 17<sup>th</sup> to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Feb 2025
- Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025

**Year 11 Post 16 Taster Day – All Day**

**Year 9 Rewards Trips**

**Year 11 PPE Results Afternoon**

**Year 8 Rewards Trips**

**Year 7 Parent/Carers' Evening – 5pm to 7pm**

**Year 7 Rewards Trips**

**Last Day of Half Term – Students finish at 2.55pm**

**February Half Term Holiday**

**Start of Second Half of Term – 8.30am**

... And Finally

The only sure way to avoid making mistakes is to have no new ideas.

— *Albert Einstein* —

Thank you all for your continued support.

Regards



Patrick Cozier  
**Headteacher**