



The Howard School



A Specialist Sports College
"To Strive and Achieve is to Succeed"

29th July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

This year has been exceptionally challenging, but our school community has risen to the challenge. I want to thank you as parents and carers for your ongoing support of the school. We have a separate newsletter going to parents that contains our many good news stories, but I want to tell you about some of the things happening over the summer and in September:

Mr Johal will be Acting Head of School from September 2021

I am really pleased to announce that Mr Johal will be Acting Head of School next year. Mr Johal is committed to building a happy school, where students excel and to ensuring The Howard School remains the excellent school that it is. He has lots of new and exciting ideas to make The Howard School even better. Mr Johal has been a successful Head and he brings that experience to this role. I will remain as Executive Headteacher at The Howard School and will be based between Waterfront UTC and The Howard School.

The start of term September 2021

The government has published guidance regarding the testing of all students at a facility using LFD tests for September 2021. The Howard School will offer two voluntary tests to students and students can return to school, if the first test is negative. Information has already been sent out to parents/carers regarding testing. This has impacted the start of term which will now follow the plan below:

Return to School Arrangements										
Year group	Tue 31 Aug	Wed 1 Sep	Thu 2 Sep	Fri 3 Sep	Mon 6 Sep	Tue 7 Sep	Wed 8 Sep	Thu 9 Sep	Fri 10 Sep	Mon 13 Sep
7	Test 1			Invited students only Induction	ALL Y7 induction	Full school day Test 2	Full school day	Full school day	Full school day	Full school day
12	Test 1				Y12 induction	Full school day Test 2	Full school day	Full school day	Full school day	Full school day

www.thehowardschool.co.uk

Executive Headteacher: Ms C Reid

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8					Test 1	Full school day	Full school day	Full school day	Full school day	Full school day Test 2
9				Test 1		Full school day	Full school day	Full school day	Full school day Test 2	Full school day
10			Test 1			Full school day	Full school day	Full school day Test 2	Induction and full day	Full school day
11		Test 1				Full school day	Full school day Test 2	Induction and full day	Start P2	Full school day
13		Test 1				Full school day	Full school day Test 2	Full school day	Start P2	Full school day

Collection of Examination Results - Summer 2021

Students in Years 12 &13 will be able to collect their examination results on Tuesday 10th August, between 8.30am and 12.00pm from the main school hall.

Students in Year 11 will be able to collect their examination results on Thursday 12th August, between 8.30am and 3pm from the main school hall. If you have applied to the Sixth Form you will be able to enrol on collection of your results. Even if you have not applied to the Sixth Form previously, you will still be very welcome to enrol on the day and there will be senior staff present to guide you through the process.

As results day and Sixth Form enrolment takes place within the summer holidays, we understand many families/students may be unable to attend School on this day. If this is the case, then please be aware that results will be sent via the Arbor portal to students on Friday 13th August. Can students please email Mr Loftus loftuss@thehowardschool.co.uk should you wish to secure a place in the Sixth Form and cannot attend the enrolment days.

Certificates will be available for collection from the Exams Office from the end of November. If you require someone to collect them on your behalf, written authority will need to be provided and the person collecting will require proof of identity.

Year 11 students moving into Sixth Form

For academic entry into the Sixth Form for September 2021, the decision has been made to adjust the entry requirements for all subjects by lowering them by one grade e.g. to study Geography, you would now need to achieve grade 5, rather than grade 6 as advertised in our prospectus.

This decision reflects the disruption and challenges Year 11 students have faced over the last year and we wish to provide students with the increased opportunity to study their first-choice subjects at A Level.

For some students, this may allow you to study an alternative course that you have not previously selected. (Subject to available places)

Entry to the Sixth Form will remain as advertised in our prospectus. 5 grade 4s with one of these being in any English qualification or Mathematics.

Parental/ carer survey

Please can I thank parents and carers for their response to the recent survey. We are so pleased that your responses are overwhelmingly very positive. The vast majority of parents/ carers said that The Howard School has high expectations for their son, or daughter in the sixth form. In terms of how the school dealt with bullying or other concerns, the vast majority of parents said that this was not applicable and where applicable, The Howard School had dealt with issues quickly and effectively. When asked if there were a good range of subjects offered and if they would recommend The Howard School to other parents, again, the responses were extremely positive. The response regarding Parents Evening was predominantly in favour of the continuation of School Cloud.

However, as a result of your feedback and in our continued drive for excellence, there are two planned changes for September. Firstly, updated behavioural expectations and secondly, a focus on assessment, study skills and feedback. More details will follow regarding other initiatives, but for now, I attach our behavioural expectations and rationale for the changes we are implementing.

Behaviour Expectations 2021/2022 & Uniform & Equipment Standards

We believe that to promote the very best experience at school and to ensure that students gain the best qualifications, the expectation of our students needs to be very high.

The booklet 'Behaviour Expectations 2021-2022' details our expectations from September 2021. We hold a shared belief that every pupil is capable of meeting very high expectations of behaviour, albeit with support in some cases. Also attached is our Uniform and Equipment requirements for September 2021.

High standards of behaviour and uniform are entirely compatible with a friendly, happy, relaxed school and form the platform for high expectations of academic achievement.

The goal is that everyone knows the expectation, the mechanics of the system and what will happen in any given circumstance. We have spoken with the students during assemblies about behavioural expectations for 2021/2022, so students are clear about what to expect. We will allow a period of time at the beginning of the academic year for students to acclimatise to the new standards.

Invicta Summer Academy information attached for any Parents/Carers that may be interested. This is completely free.

Free dance and martial arts workshops for young people aged 7-20

Medway African and Caribbean Association (MACA) is pleased to announce that they are launching another funded programme to encourage young people to keep active.

Starting on 12 August, young people aged 7- 20 years can choose from dance workshops including hip-hop and urban dance as well as many other styles from around the world, led by acclaimed tutor, Sherisse Basram, from the Brit School. The martial arts programme will be an introduction in the art of Taekwon-do with workshops running

until March 2022. Classes will be taught by renowned instructor, David Harper, a 6th Dan Black Belt in the art of Taekwon-do. These two workshop programmes aim to not only build confidence, physical and mental ability, but bring together young people of all backgrounds.

Spaces are limited so early booking is advisable. Visit the website for more information and to register: <https://macacharity.org.uk/young-people/>

Child Friendly Medway **FREE summer football sessions**

This is a great opportunity over the summer - and it is totally free.

FREE DROP-IN FOOTBALL IN MEDWAY PARKS THIS SUMMER

SAT, 17 JULY - SAT, 4 SEPTEMBER

Location	Under 7	8 -12	13-16
Gillingham Park	10-11am	11am-12pm	12-1pm
Palmerston Park	10-11am	11am-12pm	12-1pm
Jacksons Field	1.30-2.30pm	2.30-3.30pm	3.30-4.30pm
Pottery Road Rec	2-3pm	3-4pm	4-5pm
Rainham Rec	10-11am	11am-12pm	12-1pm
Darnley Road Rec	1.30-2.30pm	2.30-3.30pm	3.30-4.30pm

NO NEED TO SIGN-UP JUST JOIN US ON THE DAY

Programming Sponsored by **CHILD-FRIENDLY MEDWAY**

Please contact childfriendly@medway.gov.uk if you have any questions about programming or would like to be involved in supporting Medway's initiative to be more Child-Friendly.

Medway Sport
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Finally, I would like to wish you and your families a happy summer.

C. Reid

Ms C Reid
Executive Headteacher