



9 September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

This letter should be beginning with the positive news and excitement of starting a new term. Unfortunately, the sad news of Her Majesty the Queen passing away yesterday has changed the initial tone of this correspondence. This morning as a school all tutor groups have reflected on her reign as well as the inspiration and presence she was to the whole country. She will be sorely missed by many people around the world. As a country we will await to see how the details of the transition to a new monarch will be undertaken and the effect this may have on school. Once I receive any information I will write to parents and carers again.

Nonetheless the term started for all students on Monday. All students attended an assembly and extended form period before starting lessons. I have been very impressed by the way the students have settled back into school. The students are looking very smart coming into school and also around the school. I must thank all the school community for their efforts on this.

In particular I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new Year 7 students, parents and carers. I spoke to the students in their first assembly about the importance of first impressions which need to be positive and a good start. I am happy to say they have risen to this message and have transitioned into High School tremendously well. I am also very pleased to report that we are now oversubscribed in Year 7 as we welcomed 270 new students into school this week. This is extremely encouraging news as together with being full in Year's 8 and 9 shows that Bramhall High School is an expanding school.

This follows, of course, the excitement of our GCSE and vocational results for our ex-Year 11 students. There were multiple successes for individual students, but overall results continue to be well above Stockport and national averages. In particular 82% of students achieved five or more 9-4 full GCSE grades including English and mathematics and two thirds of students achieved the rigorous five or more 9-5 full GCSE grades including English and mathematics. In fact, half of all the GCSE grades were at grade 6 or higher. Results like these really open doors for students in the future and we are delighted that so many of these students choose to go on to Sixth Form to continue their studies. This is great news for the school.

### Our Standards

As you can see it has been a positive start to the academic year on many levels. You will appreciate what an emphasis we place on high standards at Bramhall High School; it is what our parents and community expect from us and sets a vital tone for learning for our students. May I take this opportunity to thank all our parents and carers for their support for our standards and expectations. This does not mean we will not be listening to the feedback the school has received from some elements of the school community especially surrounding uniform. As I have stated to some parents and carers already, we pride ourselves on being a listening school and have long standing relationship of working with parents and carers to improve our provision.

**Headteacher: Mr Paul Williams BSc (Hons), MAEd**

Bramhall High School, Seal Road, Bramhall, Stockport, SK7 2JT

Email: [Office@bramhallhigh.com](mailto:Office@bramhallhigh.com)

Telephone: 0161 439 8045

Website: [www.bhsweb.co.uk](http://www.bhsweb.co.uk)



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It is with this in mind that we will begin canvassing the school community's views on our school uniform policy. The outcome will be a full review of Bramhall High School's uniform and PE kit. The process is outlined below:

- Acting on the feedback we have received we will be shortly sending out a short online questionnaire to canvass the wider views of the school and suggestions for change. There will be an opportunity for all students to contribute their feedback and suggestions as well.
- The responses from this questionnaire will be added to the existing feedback and analysed. Throughout this process careful consideration will be given to seasonal adjustments to consider higher temperatures during the summer months.
- We will then initiate parent and carers focus groups to discuss the feedback and potential changes.

Whilst we will initially look at the school uniform policy other focus groups will be established to consider other aspects of school life including but not limited to behaviour, rewards, curriculum and site improvement.

May I also highlight to parents and carers a further opportunity to contribute to school and its development. On Monday we will be sending out communication asking for nominations to the School Governing Board. If you have a strong interest in the growth and future of the school as well as the time to attend meetings etc your nomination would be most welcome. We will be sending all the relevant details out on Monday. If you do not receive the forms please email Mr R Baker on [rbaker@bramhallhigh.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:rbaker@bramhallhigh.stockport.sch.uk)

### **Our Forthcoming Events.**

Our calendar will shortly be available from our website and shows what planned events are coming up. I am looking forward to welcoming parents to our many events concerts and shows.

### **KS4 Evening Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September**

After a successful round of outcomes for last year's Year 11 our focus turns to our new Year 11. This evening is always well attended and is the starting gun to the interventions, guidance and support we provide during this pivotal year. Please contact Mr P Wraith (Assistant Headteacher) if you are a Year 11 parent or carer and have not received the information about this event.

### **Open Evening Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September**

We will be holding a live face to face Open Evening this year. As in previous years, and as is the practice in many Stockport High Schools, we will be closing early on that day. As such buses will be leaving the school site at 12.30pm. This is after Lesson 3 on that day. We will be providing a Refectory service at breaktime for students to access.



### Our staff

As we return to school we are delighted to announce a number of new colleagues joining the staff. I am sure you will join me in welcoming them to school community.

- Mr I Brown – Deputy Headteacher – Pastoral.
- Mr L Malony – English.
- Ms N Stoney – Science.
- Mrs S Tribe – MFL.
- Miss M Bertonneau – MFL.
- Miss H Wild – Behaviour Mentor.
- Miss S Furey – Reception.
- Miss S Boyle – Teaching Assistant.
- Miss S Fildes – Teaching Assistant.
- Miss I Barton – Teaching Assistant.
- Miss H Burns – Catering Assistant
- Miss S McGuigan – Catering Assistant

### Our communication

We know that the start of a new year can be a time of uncertainty, in school there is much to organise and communicate to students and parents and a delicate balance to walk between informing people of new systems without overwhelming them. We use a platform called Class Charts as our main point of communication. It is vital that parents and carers have downloaded the App to ensure you are kept informed. If you do have any questions or concerns please contact your child's Head of Year as follows:

- Year 7 – Mrs S Ahmed ([sahmed@bramhallhigh.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:sahmed@bramhallhigh.stockport.sch.uk))
- Year 8 – Mrs A Conduit ([aconduit@bramhallhigh.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:aconduit@bramhallhigh.stockport.sch.uk))
- Year 9 – Mrs S Watkins ([swatkins@bramhallhigh.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:swatkins@bramhallhigh.stockport.sch.uk))
- Year 10 – Mr J Flynn ([jflynn@bramhallhigh.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:jflynn@bramhallhigh.stockport.sch.uk))
- Year 11 – Mr J Ryan ([jryan@bramhallhigh.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:jryan@bramhallhigh.stockport.sch.uk))

If your query is more general, you can email us at [office@bramhallhigh.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:office@bramhallhigh.stockport.sch.uk)

I do hope everyone has a restful weekend.

Take care

*P Williams*

Mr P Williams

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