

12 Sept 2025



BRAMHALL
HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Parents & Carers

I hope this letter finds you well and that you've enjoyed a restful and restorative summer break. As we begin the new academic year, I'd like to extend a heartfelt welcome back to all our families—whether returning or joining us for the first time.

We start this term with much to celebrate. Our Year 11 students achieved a truly impressive set of exam results this summer, reflecting not only their hard work and resilience but also the dedication of our staff and the unwavering support from home. Our results are above all Stockport and national averages. These outcomes are a testament to what can be achieved when we work together with high expectations and shared values.

Equally encouraging has been the way our new Year 7 cohort has settled into life at high school. Their enthusiasm, kindness, and growing confidence have already made a positive impact on our community. We're proud of how they've embraced new routines, friendships, and opportunities with such maturity and curiosity.

This year also marks a significant chapter in our school's journey, as we move forward with the planning phase of our rebuild. This transformative project will bring long-term benefits to our students, staff, and wider community—creating a learning environment that is inclusive, future-facing, and reflective of our core values: respect, resilience, and excellence. We'll continue to keep you informed as plans progress and look forward to working closely with you throughout.

Attendance Matters

Good attendance is one of the most important factors in a student's success. Being in school every day helps young people build strong relationships, stay on track with learning, and feel part of our wider community. Even occasional absences can disrupt progress and confidence—so we ask for your continued support in ensuring your child attends regularly and punctually.

Please note that **all absences must now be reported via ClassCharts** by the parent or carer. If your child is unwell, has a non-avoidable appointment, or if you need to provide supporting documentation for attendance, please use the **Report Absence** tab on ClassCharts. If you require help accessing your ClassCharts account, our reception team will be happy to assist.

Every day in school counts—and together, we can ensure every student has the best possible chance to thrive.

Clarity in the Classroom: 'Teacher Talk'

This term, you may hear your child mention the phrase "*Teacher Talk*"—a simple but powerful tool we're using across classrooms to support focus and high-quality learning. When staff use this phrase, it signals that students should be listening carefully to the teacher's explanation or instruction. Teachers will clearly indicate when it's time for peer discussion, quiet independent work, or active listening. This approach helps minimise distractions and ensures that every student can benefit from the expertise and guidance of their teachers. It's part of our wider commitment to clarity, consistency, and excellence in every lesson.





Open Evening

A reminder to all our parents and carers that our Open Evening is being held on Thursday 25th September. In line with other Stockport schools and as in previous years we will be closing early at 12.20pm to prepare the site. Buses will be leaving the school site at 12.30pm on that day.

Celebrating Our PTA

We are incredibly grateful to our wonderful and supportive PTA, who have worked tirelessly over the past year to raise much-needed funds for our school. From a lively PTA quiz night to two impressive, sponsored bike rides—one a 70km mountain bike challenge through the Peak District, the other a 100-mile road ride—and a successful pre-loved uniform sale to close the summer term, their efforts have made a real difference. We're now looking to grow our PTA team, and if you're interested in getting involved, please contact Mr Wraith at: pwraith@bramhallhigh.stockport.sch.uk. If time is tight, the simplest way to support is by joining our school lottery. It costs just £5 a month and offers the chance to win both a monthly school prize and a national jackpot. Any help you can give—big or small—is deeply appreciated and goes directly toward enriching our students' experience.

Looking Ahead to Culture Day

This December, we're excited to host our first *Culture Day*—a joyful and unapologetically vibrant celebration of the many cultures, identities, and heritages that make up our school community. We want staff and students alike to feel proud of who they are and where they come from, and we encourage everyone to wear traditional clothing or outfits that reflect their cultural background or personal identity. Think gurung dresses, saris, kurtas, asoebi & gele, football shirts from around the world—anything that speaks to who you are.

The day will feature live music, food from different parts of the world, and contributions from faith leaders and community voices. It promises to be a powerful moment of connection, belonging, and celebration. If you're able to support us—whether through food, music, storytelling, or simply helping on the day—please contact Miss Kennedy at: jkennedy@bramhallhigh.stockport.sch.uk. We'd love to hear from you.

Supporting Stockport Foodbanks

As you know, we proudly support Stockport Foodbanks every December, recognising that for many families, they are a vital lifeline. This year, we've brought our collection forward, as local foodbanks are currently experiencing extremely low stock following the increased demand over the summer break.



If you're able to donate—brilliant, thank you! Please also encourage your child to support this initiative through their form group. We are seeking donations of the following long-life items, which can be dropped off at main reception over the coming weeks:

- Tinned meat and fish
- Tinned vegetables and fruit
- Tinned soup
- Cooking sauces
- Tea and coffee
- Long life milk
- Long life fruit juice
- Biscuits
- Rice puddings
- Tinned potatoes
- Tinned baked beans
- Pasta and rice
- Shampoos, soap and toiletries

Every contribution makes a difference, and we're grateful for your generosity and community spirit.

Pupil Premium: Extra Funding for Your Child and Our School

We've enrolled on a new platform called *Online Free School Meals*, which allows us to quickly and easily check if families are eligible for support. Students entitled to Free School Meals receive a daily allowance of £3.48 pre-loaded onto their cashless canteen account, plus a 60p breakfast contribution available before 8:20am.

Importantly, if your child receives Free School Meals, our school also receives additional *Pupil Premium* funding. This helps us provide targeted tuition, additional staffing, curriculum trip contributions, uniform support, and food technology ingredients. We encourage **all parents/carers** to enter their details once on the Online FSM Application—even if you're not currently eligible, as circumstances can change over time.

For any questions, please contact Mrs K Thorpe, Associate Assistant Headteacher: kthorpe@bramhallhigh.stockport.sch.uk.

Careers: Post-16 Careers Week 2025

We're delighted to be participating in *Stockport Post-16 Careers Week*—a week-long virtual careers fair for students in Years 10 to 13. It's designed to spark ideas and start conversations about life after secondary school and college.



You can download the Stockport Digital College & Sixth Form Prospectus to explore pathways and providers. To support post-16 choices, we encourage families to attend the following live webinars:

- **Choosing to Study A-Levels** – Monday 29th September, 7.00–8.00pm
- **Studying T-Levels, BTECs and NVQs** – Tuesday 30th September, 7.00–8.00pm
- **Apprenticeships at 16+ and 18+** – Wednesday 1st October, 7.00–8.00pm
- **SEND or EHCP Support** – Thursday 2nd October, 12.30–1.30pm

These sessions are ideal for students and families exploring their next steps. We'll continue to support students through careers guidance and tailored advice throughout the year.

Parents' Evenings 2025–26

Parents' Evenings are an essential part of the home–school relationship. They offer a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress, celebrate achievements, and work together to support learning and wellbeing. We strongly encourage all families to attend.

This academic year, our Parents' Evenings will take place on the following dates:

Year Group	Format	Date
Year 11	Face-to-Face	16 October 2025
Year 11	Intervention	5 February 2026
Year 8	Online	29 January 2026
Year 9	Online	19 March 2026
Year 10	Face-to-Face	26 March 2026
Year 7	Online	14 May 2026

All appointment bookings will be made via the school website using **SchoolCloud**, and letters with full details will be sent out through **Classcharts** closer to each event. Whether online or in person, we look forward to welcoming you and continuing our shared commitment to every child's success. Please contact Mr Longworth at: jlongworth@bramhallhigh.stockport.sch.uk.





Key Dates for Your Diary

To help you stay organised, here are a few important dates coming up this term:

- **Thursday 18th September** – Year 11 Information Evening
- **Thursday 25th September** – Open Evening – school finishes at 12.20pm.
- **Monday 23rd to Friday 27th September** – Stockport Post-16 Careers Week
- **Thursday 9th October** – Year 7 Pastoral evening
- **Friday 24th October** – School closes for half-term
- **Monday 3rd November** – School reopens
- **Friday 19th December** – End of Autumn Term
- **Culture Day** – Thursday 18th December
- **Ongoing** – Foodbank donations accepted at reception

We'll continue to share updates through newsletters, social media, and our school website.

As ever, thank you for your continued support. We are excited for the year ahead and all that we will achieve together.

Yours Sincerely

Paul Williams

Headteacher