



ELTHORNE PARK

HIGH SCHOOL

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE IN A LEARNING COMMUNITY



Message from the Headteacher

At Elthorne, we take the safety of your child very seriously and it's important that we put procedures in place and plan even for those events that are very unlikely to occur. With this in mind, next week we will be practising a new procedure called a "security lockdown." This is a standard health and safety procedure, similar to a fire drill. Our security lockdown procedure would be used when there is a threat to the safety of our pupils and staff, and when it's safer for everyone to remain in school rather than evacuate. The aim is to keep people safe by confining them to a secure place of safety. Situations where the security lockdown procedure may be used include:

- A disturbance or dangerous situation in the local community that could affect the school
- A potentially dangerous person on the school site
- A nearby chemical incident or other risk of air pollution
- An incident related to terrorism.

We have explained to students that during our lockdown drill the bell will 'pulse', rather than ring. Students should give their teacher their full attention and remain in silence in their seats in the classroom. Teachers will lock the door to the room, turn off the lights and teachers on the ground floor will lower the blinds. Classes doing PE outside will move to the MUGAs. We don't anticipate the drill lasting for more than 10 minutes from start to finish and our staff will reassure the students after the drill that they're safe, and that practising procedures like this will help to make sure that our school remains a safe place to be.

Please remember that on **Tuesday 12th March** and **Wednesday 20th March** we have two early closures at 12:30pm to give our teachers time to mark and moderate the Year 11 and 13 students' Pre-Public Examinations.

With all good wishes,
Mr Wong, Headteacher

Parent Workshop - Social Media

On **Monday 25th March from 5pm to 6pm** the school along with our Safer Schools Officer will be running a workshop to support parents to understand how to support their child to be safe online. [Please sign up](#) if you would like to attend.

Ms Reeves, Deputy Headteacher

EduLink - Our Student & Parent App

We have produced [a parent guide](#) to help you navigate the different aspects of the portal. On page 8 you will find a step by step guide on how to update your contact information. You can download the app by clicking on one of the icons to the left or access the portal via the web. Almost 1,000 parents have already logged on - please email edulink@ephs.ealing.sch.uk to get your own login details so that you can have an informed overview of your child's school life. All Autumn & Spring Term progress reports are available to download from the app and you can also keep an eye on your child's attendance in the attendance tab.

Mr Ryan, School Operations Manager



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Dates For the Diary

Tuesday 12th March 2024
School closes @ 12:30pm

Thursday 14th March 2024
Year 8 HPV Immunisations

Monday 18th March 2024
Yr11, 12 & 13 Awards Evening

Wednesday 20th March 2024
School closes @ 12:30pm

Tuesday 26th March 2024
Wider Opportunities Day

Wednesday 27th March 2024
Shakespeare Festival @ 7pm

Thursday 28th March 2024
End of Spring Term
School closes @ 12:30pm

Monday 15th April 2024
School resumes @ 8:40am



You said, we did update

Thank you to all students in Years 8 to 13 who completed either the Health Related Behaviour Survey or our annual Personal Development Survey in November. We are committed to using feedback from students to help develop our PSHCE lessons, our understanding of how to keep you safe in school and our approach to strategies such as behaviour and uniform. This year we have taken student feedback on so many of our school's features such as EWOD, our careers programme, our canteen services and our rewards structure. We have already started to make changes based on this feedback including a big project happening in March - we will be re-planting lots sections of the school site to make it greener and to add more seating. We are also working with the canteen to reduce the single use plastic in the school which will include a revamp of the drinking water facilities and an adjustment to the meal deal. Please continue to help our cause by providing students with a water bottle each school day.

Ms Crix, Assistant Headteacher

**Behaviour Focus Group**

At EPHS, we're dedicated to ensuring a nurturing and conducive environment for every child's learning and development, and your invaluable input as stakeholders is key to achieving this goal. We are excited to extend an invitation to you to join our upcoming Behaviour Focus Group. This initiative aims to harness the collective wisdom and perspectives of our parent community to enhance our approach to promoting positive behaviour for learning in our school.

As a member of this focus group, you will have the opportunity to:

- Share your insights and experiences regarding behaviour management techniques.
- Collaborate with other parents and school staff to brainstorm innovative strategies for fostering a positive school culture.
- Provide feedback on existing policies and suggest potential improvements.
- Play an active role in shaping the direction of our school's behaviour management initiatives.

Your involvement in this focus group will benefit our school community and provide you with a platform to contribute to your child's educational journey actively.

If you are interested please [email me directly](#).

Mr Laryea, Assistant Headteacher

Uniform Shop

The final opening date for the on-site shop for collection will be Saturday 23rd March. The last date for submitting orders online is Sunday 3rd March. You will be able to order through [Juniper](#) and [School Bells](#) from 2nd April. **Preloved uniform shop** - Following the success of the free school uniform shop in the summer, Ealing Broadway Shopping Centre are rerunning the initiative over the Easter break. The donation box will be open from now onwards and parents can visit the 'shop' runs daily from Saturday 6th April to Saturday 13th April between 10am and 4pm.

Finance Team

Uniform Reminders

It's been refreshing having the senior leadership team support year teams with uniform checks. We have seen a marked improvement with the vast majority of our students wearing their uniform with pride - Proud being one of our core values. Thank you for your continued support in this area. Our uniform policy remains: Lanyards must be worn and on show at all times, shirts must be tucked in at all times, skirts must be worn to knee length, trousers must be tailored uniform style (not skin-tight or flared), trainers are not permitted, bracelets are not permitted, nor are hooped earrings or visible make-up. A reminder that our school uniform policy is in place in order to ensure students are prepared for the wider world in which there will be professional standards like these for them to adhere to in whatever path they choose to take.

Mr Laryea, Assistant Headteacher

Student Academic Year 2023 - 2024

Spring Term 2024

Spring/1

Monday 8th January - Friday 9th February

Half-Term

Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February

Spring/2

Monday 19th February - Thursday 28th March

Easter Holiday

Friday 29th March - Friday 12th April

Summer Term 2024

Summer/ 1

Monday 15th April - Friday 24th May

Half-Term

Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May

Summer / 2

Monday 3rd June - Wednesday 24th July

Summer Holiday

Thursday 25th July onwards

Student Academic Year 2024 - 2025

Autumn 2024

Autumn/1

Monday 2nd September - Wednesday 23rd October

Half-Term

Thursday 24th October - Friday 1st November

Autumn/2

Monday 4th November - Friday 20th December

Christmas Holiday

Monday 23rd December - Friday 3rd January

“Think like a queen. A queen is not afraid to fail. Failure is another stepping stone to greatness.”
(Oprah Winfrey)



News from Key Stage 4:**Year 10**

Unbelievably we have already reached the midway point of this half term, with only three weeks left to go. It has been great to see so many of our students looking towards the upcoming PPEs (Pre-Public Examinations) after the Easter holidays. There has been a lot of chatter amongst them about the best revision strategies, interventions that they are attending and about generally wanting to do well. If you are looking to support your child in their revision then please take a look at the Academic Support and Revision section of our school website, where you can find support on revision strategies and topics. The general timetable will be in next week's newsletter. Just a reminder that this half term we are continuing to focus on home learning and ensuring that students are completing tasks set along with offering additional support to get them done where needed. From Tuesday to Friday each week students are able to access an IT room to complete any home learning. This will provide them with a space that is manned by a member of staff who will be able to help them if help is needed. Please contact myself or ask your child to come and see me if they wish to take advantage of this.

Thank you for your support as always.

Ms Maddox and the Year 10 Team

Year 11

We've finally reached the end of the PPE window, and I'm sure students are relieved that they now have a break ahead of the exams beginning in the summer term. A huge well done to the year group for their excellent conduct and resilience throughout these past few weeks. We do strongly encourage students to continue revising and maximising the time remaining ahead of their GCSEs and once staff have had the opportunity to mark the papers students will be able to further refine their revision.

We are continuing to email parents when a student is at risk of having their prom ticket removed as part of the 'Passport to Prom'. A reminder that this continues until the end of spring term, and students who receive 30 behaviour points or 10 lates during this time will not be able to attend. Please can you continue to encourage your child to meet our expectations each day so we can include them in our celebrations on Thursday 4th July.

Thanks for your continued support.

Mr Simmonds and the Year 11 Team

News From Key Stage 5:**Year 12**

The Year 12 Duke of Edinburgh Silver training took place last week and I'm pleased to inform you that they all arrived back in one piece! Well done to the students involved and good luck for your actual expedition.

The attendance and punctuality of some students is not meeting our expectations. Please ensure students are in school by 8:40am for an 8:45am start as AM registration is compulsory.

Year 12 exams begin on 24th June until 5th July. This feels like a long way away but it will come around very quickly. Please support your young adult to ensure they have no gaps in their knowledge and direct them to their subject teachers if they are unsure of anything. They should be completing their super curricular study on top of their usual homework.

Mrs Trueman and the Year 12 Team

Year 13

Year 13 have completed their PPEs and I wanted to say a HUGE well done and thank you to you as parents/carers. I hope this has provided the students with confidence as they head into the public exams this summer. Teachers will be busy marking during the next few weeks and then students will begin to receive their papers and feedback. It is essential the students read the feedback carefully so they can act upon it. Your young adults must also request further support from teachers if needed. Please remind them that is why we are in this profession: to help them to succeed to the best of their ability. As I said in an earlier assembly, ***'It's not going to be easy but it is going to be worth it'***! With three weeks left of this term Yr13 need to ensure 100% attendance and punctuality. Every minute in school is vital and important. Your young adult also needs to be reminded that the Sixth Form team is here to support and have an open door policy. Mental health and wellbeing is important and we will do our best to help all our Yr13s.

Important dates:

19th March - Year 13 Celebration Assembly Period 2

25th March - Year 12 & 13 Reward trip - students will be notified shortly if they have been successfully selected for the trip

Thank you for your support.

Mrs MacDonald and the Year 13 Team



Attendance and Punctuality

We wish to work with you and offer help and support, if needed, to help your child attend school. It is vital that all students have excellent attendance at EPHS. Research shows that even a few days of absence can have a negative impact on students' performance. We are committed to working with students and parents/carers to achieve our overall attendance target of 97%. At EPHS we value all students and believe they are entitled to an excellent education. As set out in our attendance policy, we will work with families to identify the reasons for poor attendance and try to resolve any difficulties. Early intervention will be a priority. Every school day counts.

As part of our commitment to ensuring the well-being and safety of all students, we request that parents/guardians submit **medical evidence** for any student absences due to medical appointments or extended periods of absences from school. This evidence helps us maintain accurate records and ensure that we are aware of the well being of our students. Additionally, we would like to emphasise the importance of reporting your child's absence on a daily basis. This can be done [our parent portal](#), by emailing attendance@ephs.ealing.sch.uk or leaving a voicemail on the absence line.

Attendance last week:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
94.7% <i>(down 0.3%)</i>	94.7% <i>(down 1.3%)</i>	93.9% <i>(down 1.7%)</i>	93.8% <i>(down 0.4%)</i>	95.2% <i>(down 1.3%)</i>	92.9% <i>(down 1.6%)</i>	79.3% <i>(down 1.0%)</i>

Students should leave home with plenty of time to get to school on time and are expected to arrive **on school site** by 8:40am each morning, so that they are able to be in their tutor rooms at 8:45am when the registers are taken. On occasion, unavoidable lateness will happen and please inform the attendance team if this is the case. Students arriving late to school without communication from parents/carers that is authorised by the school will result in a same day lunchtime detention and a notification will be sent in all cases of lateness. Punctuality is monitored closely and plays a crucial role in students' achievement. Persistently late students will trigger additional monitoring.

Please note that authorised medical and dental appointments do count as absence on your child's record, although won't result in a late detention if the school has been informed with notice. You can support your child to improve their attendance by organising (where possible) all non-emergency medical/dental appointments outside of school hours. Please also provide supporting medical evidence for all appointments.

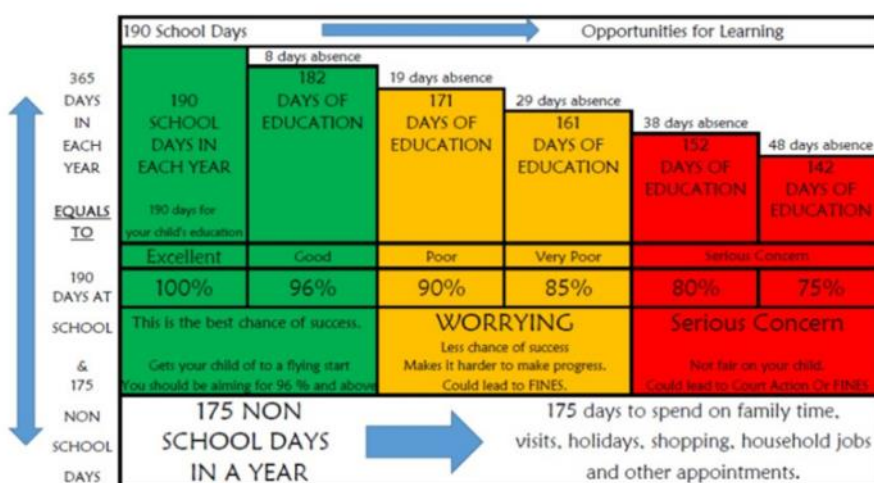
Lateness reduces learning time

- Arriving 5 minutes late every day adds up to over 3 days lost each year, that's 15 lessons missed
- Arriving 15 minutes late every day adds up to 2 weeks absence a year, that's 50 lessons missed
- Arriving 30 minutes late every day adds up to 19 days absence a year, that's 95 lessons missed

Request for holidays during term time

Unfortunately we are unable to authorise holidays during term time. We understand that emergency situations may arise and if you wish to request a Leave of Absence due to an exceptional circumstance you should make a request to the Headteacher using the 'Request for leave during term time' form here. The local authority may choose to issue a fine for unauthorised holidays taken during term time.

Mr Laryea, Assistant Headteacher



Please help us to help you. If you are worried about your child's school attendance, then staff are available at school and within the local authority who can help and support you. Gaps in education can mean your child will not reach their full potential.

Elthorne Park High School
presents...
The 2024
Shakespeare Festival



Help us
celebrate
World
Theatre
Day!

- ★ *KS3-5 students will perform extracts from a range of Shakespeare plays.*
- ★ *Featuring an abridged version of **Romeo & Juliet** performed by the Year 10 Drama GCSE ensemble.*

When: Wednesday 27th March, 7pm

(Doors open at 6.30pm)

Where: The Main School Hall

(Including a 20 minute interval with refreshments provided by the PTFA)

Tickets: £2 Students/Concessions £3 Adults



**Subject: Warning Regarding Dangerous Vape Devices in Ealing**

I hope this letter finds you well. We write to bring your attention to a concerning issue affecting our school community. There have been reports in London of young individuals experiencing health complications after using vape devices containing drugs.

We wish to emphasise the importance of informing parents about the hazards associated with unregulated vape pens, given the recent surge in related incidents. Law enforcement authorities across London, including our local police officers, have seized numerous vapes from students in the past weeks. Some of these devices are currently undergoing testing to detect dangerous Class B substances such as Spice or THC, the active component in cannabis.

It has come to our understanding that certain reusable vape pens are being illicitly filled with drugs by dealers. Officers have received information about students falling ill after using these altered devices, which are then believed to be distributed among young people through platforms like Snapchat and other social media apps.

Parents/Caregivers must be aware that unregulated vape pens pose a serious threat to the health of young individuals. Those contemplating the purchase of these unauthorised, home-filled devices are unaware of their contents and the potential dangers they pose. THC and Spice are harmful psychoactive substances that can lead to severe health problems, necessitating heightened vigilance on the part of parents/Caregivers.

THC, the primary psychoactive compound in cannabis, and Spice, a group of synthetic Class B drugs, are known to mimic the effects of cannabis. Inhaling Spice through a vaping pen is particularly hazardous for young people, leading to various health issues such as breathing difficulties, chest pains, heart palpitations, seizures, extreme anxiety, paranoia, suicidal thoughts, psychosis, vomiting or diarrhoea, and acute kidney injury. In some instances, a single dose can prove fatal.

Our Ealing Police Schools Officers are collaborating closely with our schools and partners to share information and intelligence on this matter so we can better understand the issues. We urge parents, guardians, and anyone with pertinent information about those supplying these vapes to contact the Police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously online at www.crimestoppers-uk.org, <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/fearless> or by calling 0800 555 111.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. Your cooperation and awareness are crucial in ensuring the safety and well-being of our children.

Sincerely,
PS Chrissy Harvey
Safer Schools Team Ealing

