



# Harlington Upper School

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## HARLINGTON UPPER SCHOOL WEEKLY UPDATE – 8th September 2017 New information is presented in blue font.

### WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

#### Examination Results: Highest Ever and Best Upper School in Bedfordshire

We are delighted to celebrate our superb examination results. They are excellent again this year and are all the more pleasing in this first year of the new, tougher GCSE and A level exams. The GCSE results are the best ever at Harlington and are the highest of all upper schools in Bedfordshire. It's a testament to our dedicated students, teachers and supportive parents who have all worked incredibly hard to achieve such wonderful results. It was a privilege to witness so many delighted students and parents in school collecting results.

The new GCSEs are graded from 9 to 1, with grade 9 being the highest. The Department for Education (DfE) has said a 4 on the new scale will equate to a C under the old A\* - G grade system.

Overall, an impressive 81% of Harlington students achieved the benchmark GCSE 9-4 grades in both English and maths, which has proved to be “best ever” for the school. The proportion of students gaining the highest possible grade 9 is well above the national average. 34 students gained an impressive 8 or more top grades (grades A\*/A and 9-7). Many students reached the highest levels of achievement. Overall, one in every two students at Harlington achieved at least one A\* or A grade (or equivalent)

The new revised A level exams had many students, parents and teachers holding their breath in anticipation of the outcome of lots of studying and hard work. They needn't have worried, the results were superb again this year. The pass rate has exceeded last year's excellent tally and an impressive 70% of all results were grades A\*-C. This has been achieved when many A level grades were this year decided solely by final exams, with no link to coursework or AS-levels.

Four students gained an impressive three or more A level grades A\*/A: Sam Ahira, who will now take up a place at Art College; Joseph Field who will study Physics at the University of Bath; Ben Scott who is joining the Royal Marines and Megan Callanan who will also study Physics at the University of Bath. Seventeen students gained at least 2 grade A\*/A:

More information, names and photographs are available in our “press release” which can be found on the front page of our website. S Fell [enquiries@harlington.org](mailto:enquiries@harlington.org)



website: [www.harlington.org](http://www.harlington.org)  
e-mail: [enquiries@harlington.org](mailto:enquiries@harlington.org)

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**Uniform update** - Thank you to all the parents who have responded so very positively to our efforts to improve the students' uniform. The addition of the logo has added to the uniqueness of the Harlington uniform and has made monitoring more straightforward. The vast majority are looking really smart and this allows all parties to focus upon work and achievement. There are still a few students who are not wearing uniform in line with our policy and expectations and we are continuing to work with parents to resolve this. These students will not be in lessons with their class mates until the uniform is right. Although the uniform guidelines are clear, as evidenced by the majority in good uniform, I thought it might be useful to share some additional guidance regarding shoes which need to be formal leather / leather-style shoes (not a trainer style). Examples of the expected footwear can be found at the end of this email. We also stipulate that all skirts must be knee-length. We have noticed that some girls are wearing Prestige skirts with our logo on which are several inches too short. These skirts will need to be replaced as the wrong length has been purchased. [gbillin@harlington.org](mailto:gbillin@harlington.org)

**Show My Homework** - Login details for Y9 students and Y12 students new to the school will be issued early next week. All other students should continue to use their current login details. To view all homework without login details please visit <http://www.harlington.org> and click the link for Show My Homework on our homepage. Click on the 'homework calendar' button on the right of the page and search by year, subject, teacher or class code. [jcarrington@harlington.org](mailto:jcarrington@harlington.org)

**Lockers** – There will be an opportunity on Monday 11th September, break time, for any students who still wish to purchase a locker to do so. The cost of a new locker is £10 which can be paid in advance using ParentPay or on the day by cash/cheque. [lcushen@harlington.org](mailto:lcushen@harlington.org)

**The Careers Team** - would like to say welcome back to existing students and welcome to our new Year 9's. Between us we bring a wealth of experience in HR, Training and Careers Information and Guidance in both the Private and Public Sector. We have worked with both adults and young people. We are both qualified Careers Advisors who adhere to the Career Development Institute's Code of Ethics. We offer an impartial, confidential service to all year groups.

For further information and how to make an appointment please see the attached. You can also find information on the school website, Home>Parents Information>Careers [jbayes@harlington.org](mailto:jbayes@harlington.org) & [wsears@harlington.org](mailto:wsears@harlington.org)

**Music Department** - Instrumental/vocal lessons will mainly start next week. Details have already been sent to those who requested lessons, but it is still not too late to request these- please email [ecarroll@harlington.org](mailto:ecarroll@harlington.org)

A reminder that timetables will be put up during this week in the music corridor and students should pop down to find their times. Students should leave academic lessons 5 minutes prior to their instrumental/vocal lesson starting, mentioning this to their class teacher at the beginning of the lesson. Instruments should be placed in the cupboard in the Music corridor. Mrs Carroll and Mrs Sargeant will be on hand to help new students with any queries.

Instrumental/vocal activities will begin next week. Posters are displayed around the school for information but all activities (with the exception of Harlington Jams which starts at 3pm) start at 8.30am, so students should come directly from the buses to the Music Department to set up. All new comers are most welcome. [ecarroll@harlington.org](mailto:ecarroll@harlington.org)

**Holland Music Tour 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> July 2018** - letters for the Tour can be found on our website <http://www.harlington.org/letters-and-forms>. Please return form and deposit by 20<sup>th</sup> September at

the latest. Any questions, please email Mrs Carroll at [ecarroll@harlington.org](mailto:ecarroll@harlington.org). The Tour is open to all students who attend a music activity and to those new Year 9 students who are intending to join a group this term.

### **YEAR 9**

**ParentPay – Online payments for meals and trips.** Thank you to those parents who have already registered their son/daughter on ParentPay. ParentPay can be used to make online payments for dinner money and school trips. By using their secure website you will be able to pay online using your credit or debit card. ParentPay is our preferred method of making payments to school. ParentPay activation letters were given to all students on their induction days in July, however, if you cannot locate these details please email [finance@harlington.org](mailto:finance@harlington.org) to request them again. Please mention the name & year of your child in the email request. Many thanks, Finance office. [hlamer@harlington.org](mailto:hlamer@harlington.org)

**PE Department** – Year 9 boy's football trials will be held after school on Tuesday 12th September. All boys wishing to be considered for the school football team must attend. If there are any issues with your attendance and availability, please see Mr Bennett before the trials to make him aware of your absence. [abennett@harlington.org](mailto:abennett@harlington.org)

### **YEAR 10**

**Data Collection Sheets** - These have now been issued to Y10 students. Could all parents please check that the information is correct. Please complete any missing information and update as necessary. Please return the signed sheets to the Main Office as soon as possible. Thank you. [jcarrington@harlington.org](mailto:jcarrington@harlington.org)

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

**Updated policy** – The Health and Safety Policy has been reviewed and can be found with our other policies on the school website: <http://www.harlington.org/policies--guidance>

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Tuesday 12th September 2017	Y11 Curious Incident theatre Trip, MK, 6.00pm
Tuesday 19th September 2017	Y11/12/13 Physics at Work Trip, Cambridge
Wednesday 20th September 2017	Supporting Y12 Evening
Thursday 21st September 2017	School Photos
Wednesday 27th September 2017	Y10/11 Fashion Students to visit V & A Museum



have  
**your**  
say...

# ...on the future of home to school/college travel assistance in Central Bedfordshire

Closing date 18 September 2017. Go online to



[www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/consultations)

Central  
Bedfordshire



**SNAP PARENT CARER FORUM**  
CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

**Central  
Bedfordshire**

# INFORMATION MEETING

## Central Bedfordshire Councils School Transport Consultation

<http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/council/consultations/travel-assistance/overview.aspx>

This meeting is being held for parent carers who have a child or young person with Special Education Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) who will be affected by the proposed changes.

**Friday the 22nd of September 2017, 12.45pm – 2.30pm at  
Committee Room One, Watling House, Dunstable, LU6 1LF**

#### Who will be attending?

SNAP PCF has arranged a meeting so parent carers can discuss any concerns or ask questions about the consultation. The Assistant Director Public Protection & Transport Community Services and the Community Intelligence Manager Knowledge & Insight Chief Executive's Team will be attending.

#### Why is the meeting being held?

Within the consultation the following proposals are being made:

- Students over 16 years old with an EHCP or a statement of special educational need (SEN) will be required to make a contribution towards the cost of their travel, unless they are from a low-income family.
- Where a vehicle is provided to a family through the national Motability Scheme, CBC will provide parents/carers with a payment to cover the mileage, in order that they can use their specialised vehicle to transport their child to school or college.
- For those currently receiving support, travel assistance will still be provided in line with our legal duty, however the type of assistance offered may change.  
*(This is not just for new people coming into the service it will be applied to all)*

#### How do I book?

To confirm your attendance please contact:

**SNAP PCF on 07805 002163 please leave a message or text,**

email [admin@snappcf.org.uk](mailto:admin@snappcf.org.uk) or

private message us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/snappcf.org.uk/>

## **Home-Start: Reach Your Goals this Year**

Do you have a couple of hours to spare each week to support a local struggling family with young children? Are you a caring reliable person? Are you looking to increase your skills or considering a career in health or social care?

Home-Start, the leading UK family support charity are looking for parents and grandparents to join their volunteer team to support the increasing number of families who are coming to them for help.

Our fantastic volunteers are carefully matched with a family and visit them at home for a couple of hours each week to provide friendship, emotional or practical support for a period of time. Families come to us for all sorts of reasons including depression, bereavement, poverty and disability.

We train our volunteers for their role and they are supported and supervised by a paid Co-ordinator. Most people visit their family during school time, others go after school/tea time. Mileage expenses are paid. Volunteering with us can be a way of gaining the experience needed to go on to training to be a nurse, midwife or social worker.

For more information about what we do why not take a look at our website [www.homestartcentralbeds.org.uk](http://www.homestartcentralbeds.org.uk) or follow us on Facebook at /HomeStartCentralBedfordshire

Don't miss the chance to volunteer with us. We have an 8 session induction course beginning this month.


To enquire give us a call on 01582 660061 or email [office@home-startcentralbeds.org.uk](mailto:office@home-startcentralbeds.org.uk) We would love to hear from you.


*"To volunteer for Home-Start and to help get a family back on their feet is a wonderful experience."* Home-Start volunteer

## **SEND Parents & Carers Group**



21<sup>st</sup> September 2017  
HUS Library  
6.30 - 8pm


### SEND Parents & Carers Group





- ❖ *An informal get together for parents and carers to discuss SEND support in school*
- ❖ *Share ideas and experiences*
- ❖ *An opportunity for the Learning Support team to hear your views to help improve our practice*
- ❖ *Guest speakers from relevant areas of SEND expertise – as chosen by you*



  
**We  
Need  
Your  
Help  
Please**

b16926  
ucrb

If you are interested in joining us  
please contact Maria Davis at  
[mdavis@harlington.org](mailto:mdavis@harlington.org)  
or phone 01525 755100

## Helpful Shoe Guide!

✓ Some types of Acceptable Shoe Styles ✓



**X Some types of unacceptable Shoe Styles X**

