



# Highlands Sixth Newsletter

July 2025

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF SIXTH FORM

Dear all,

As we approach the end of a very full and rewarding term, I want to take a moment to reflect on some of the fantastic achievements across our sixth form community.

A huge well done to our year 13 students, who have now completed their exams and time at Highlands. We marked the end of their journey with a wonderful prom celebration, thank you to all who attended and made it such a memorable evening. I wish you all the very best as you take your next steps and look forward to seeing many of you again on results day, Thursday 14th August.

Congratulations also go to year 12 for successfully completing your end-of-year assessments. Alongside exams, this term has been packed with opportunities to explore future pathways through our destinations programme. Work experience placements, university and apprenticeship events have all contributed to developing your plans.

A special mention to Neriah in year 12, who won the national *Show Racism the Red Card* competition. She was invited to 10 Downing Street where she met the Prime Minister, and has become a youth ambassador for the charity, what an incredible achievement!

Looking ahead, we're pleased to announce that Mr Marcus will be taking on the role of Director of sixth form from September. Many of you will have already met him during transition events and around the school, please give him a warm welcome. He's a fantastic addition to the sixth form team, and we're excited for what's to come.

Have a restful summer, and best of luck to our year 13 leavers!

**Miss Husseyin**  
**Director of sixth form**

## NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

*Show Racism the Red Card*  
national winner

Trip to Osmington Bay

Chicago: Teen Edition

House champions

Year 13 Prom

Year 12 Taster Day

Year 12 work experience

## Important dates for the diary:

- Thursday 14th August: year 13 results day.
- **Tuesday 2nd September:** year 7 and year 12 in school.
- **Wednesday 3rd September:** all year groups in school for assembly and tutor time .
- **Thursday 4th September:** normal teaching commences for all year groups.



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Highlands School Enfield



highlands.enfield.sch.uk

## WELCOME FROM THE NEW DIRECTOR OF SIXTH FORM

I am incredibly excited to be joining Highlands in September as Director of sixth form.

I have spent the past seven years in Camden, where I led the turnaround and expansion of a successful sixth form in an inner-city comprehensive school.

My academic background is as a history and politics specialist, and my particular interests are political ideologies and American social history. I am a graduate of the University of Edinburgh, University College London and most recently the University of Pennsylvania, having been awarded a Thouron Scholarship to travel to the US and complete a Masters degree in Educational Leadership (2021).

I look forward to working with the entire school community to build on the excellent foundations in place at Highlands Sixth Form. I am incredibly ambitious for our existing sixth formers and look forward to welcoming our new students in September!

**Mr Marcus**  
**Director of sixth form (September 2025)**



## NATIONAL SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AWARD

We're proud to share that Highlands School has received the National School Attendance Award, placing us in the top 10% of all FFT secondary schools in England. This fantastic achievement reflects the commitment of our students, staff, and families in promoting strong attendance and a positive school culture.

Well done to everyone!



## YEAR 12 TASTER DAY

Our year 12 taster day took place this term at Highlands and it was a resounding success, providing students with a glimpse into the exciting opportunities awaiting them in their first year of sixth form. They participated in a variety of engaging sessions, from subject workshops to insightful talks from sixth form staff at our subject fair. It was an enriching experience, leaving our new year 12 cohort eagerly anticipating the challenges and achievements of sixth form life.



## FAREWELL AND GOOD LUCK YEAR 13

Our year 13 students marked the end of their time in sixth form with a farewell pizza party. As part of the celebration, they reflected on their journey by looking back at photos from year 7 and listening to messages from staff acknowledging their growth and achievements. Students danced, signed shirts, and reminisced about their time together. We wish all members of the Class of 2025 the very best in their future educational paths and look forward to celebrating their results on Thursday, 14th August.



## NERIAH MEETS THE PRIME MINISTER AT SRTRC HALL OF FAME CEREMONY

We are incredibly proud to share the news that Neriah Muhelele in year 12, had the honour of closing the proceedings at the *Show Racism the Red Card* Hall of Fame ceremony at No.10 Downing Street on Monday 2nd June.

Not only did Neriah have the opportunity to meet Sir Keir Starmer, but she also captivated attendees with a powerful recital of her winning spoken word piece - a moment that truly showcased her creativity, confidence, and passion.

This prestigious event recognised Neriah's achievement as the overall England winner in the national *Show Racism the Red Card* Schools Competition. You can read her remarkable poem via this [link](#), along with many other school entries.

Neriah's performance has already opened doors, including an invitation to become a youth ambassador for the organisation. Encouragement from prominent guests in attendance has also sparked calls for her to publish her poetry - a testament to the powerful impression she made on the evening.

Founded in 1996, *Show Racism the Red Card* is the UK's leading anti-racism education charity. The Hall of Fame event celebrates the charity's most dedicated supporters and changemakers. To have a Highlands student invited to take centre stage in this setting is an incredible honour.

We know this is only the beginning of Neriah's journey. Her voice, vision, and talent are something truly special, and we can't wait to see what comes next, more spoken word, more impact, and more opportunities to use her gift to make change.



**SHOW  
RACISM  
THE  
RED  
CARD**



## NERIAH MEETS THE PRIME MINISTER AT SRTRC HALL OF FAME CEREMONY

*“Being invited to Downing Street was a surreal experience that I wasn’t expecting. To be recognised for my work in front of the Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer, and a room full of acclaimed chairpersons, footballers, basketball players, and rugby players is something I will forever cherish.*

*Seeing the reaction from people and the way I inspired them was a life-changing moment. This event has opened doors I never imagined and has encouraged me to continue writing poetry.*

*Applying to Show Racism the Red Card was the best decision I could have made.” - Neriah*

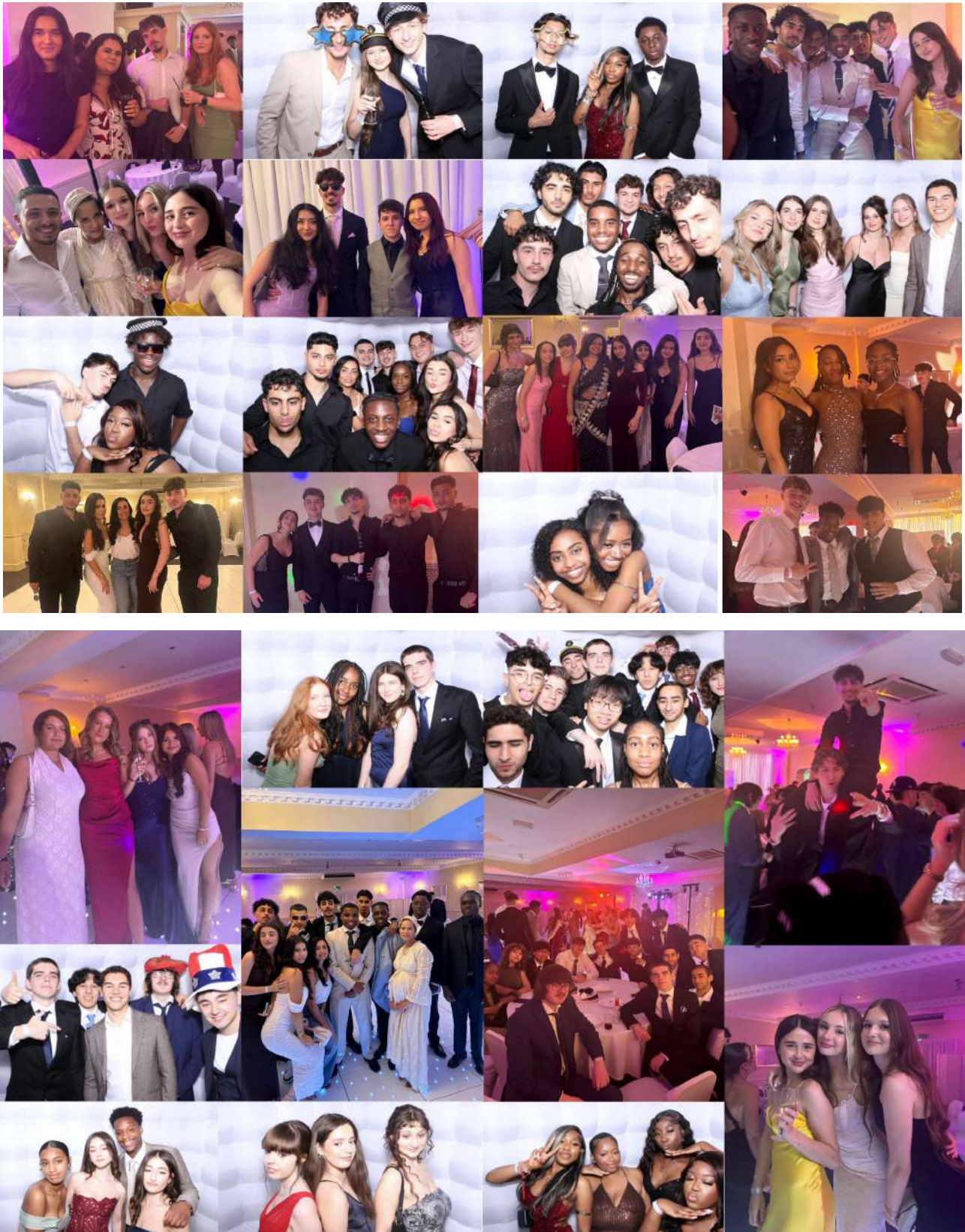
**SHOW  
RACISM  
THE  
RED  
CARD**

Bambos Charalambous, MP for Southgate and Wood Green, visited Highlands School to meet Neriah and Elis, winners of the Show Racism the Red Card competition. He spoke with them about the importance of standing up to racism and praised their powerful entries. Neriah also shared her experience of attending the Hall of Fame event at 10 Downing Street.



## YEAR 13 PROM

Our wonderful year 13s celebrated their prom in style, a final farewell before they head off on exciting new adventures at university, apprenticeships, or into the world of work. It was a fantastic evening filled with laughter, memories, and well-deserved celebration. We're so proud of everything they've achieved and wish each of them the very best of luck for the future.



## CHICAGO TEEN EDITION SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Wow! It was all razzle dazzle as *Chicago: Teen Edition* lit up the stage with a dazzling display of talent, energy, and hard work. From the iconic numbers to the slick choreography and show-stopping performances, it was a spectacular production that left the audience in awe.

A huge well done to all the students and staff who brought the magic to life.



## DUKE OF EDINBURGH - YEAR 12, SILVER

Our year 12 Duke of Edinburgh Silver students completed their training expedition in Ashdown Forest.

Over three days in scorching conditions, they built on their Bronze-level skills and applied them to more challenging terrain. Their determination and resilience were clear throughout, and all students successfully passed the training. They now look ahead to their assessed expedition at the end of September.

Well done to everyone involved!



## PEER MENTORING PROGRAMME

This year, Highlands launched a Peer Mentoring Programme to support younger students with various aspects of school life. Sixth formers Isaac Mooney, Stephanie Anastasiades, Gracie Mae Ticehurst, Joseph Brooks, Michael Chacholiades, Charlotte Crowley, Suleyman Degirmenci, Du Xiaoxia Hardyman-Rice, Yagmur Olcay and year 10 student Francesca Georgiou successfully completed their training and have been providing valuable guidance and support to their younger peers. While staff are always available, this initiative recognises that students often connect more easily with older peers who understand their experiences. The programme, piloted through weekly sessions, has already had a positive impact across the school. Well done to you all.



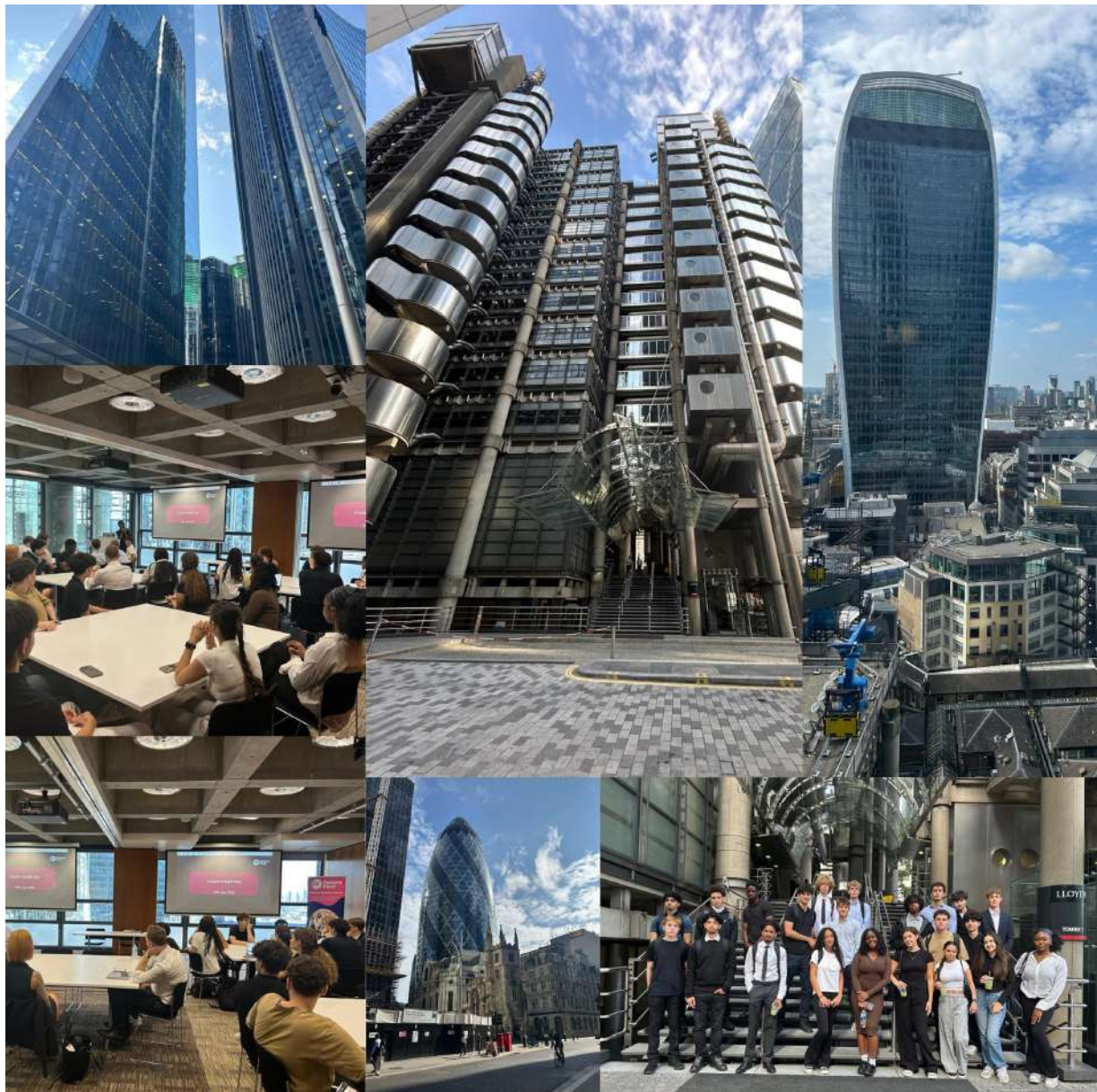
## YEAR 12 INSIGHT DAY AT LLOYDS OF LONDON

Thirty of our year 12 students recently enjoyed an exciting Insight Day at Lloyd's of London, organised in partnership with Future First.

Lloyd's of London, located in its iconic building in the heart of the City, has been at the centre of the world's insurance market for over 300 years. Students were given a guided tour, learning about Lloyd's rich history and its unique building design, including its famous exterior lifts and striking modern architecture, which made the day even more memorable.

During the visit, students took part in one-to-one mentoring sessions with Lloyd's volunteers, exploring career pathways, building confidence, and developing CV and interview skills. The day also included practical workshops on aspirations and resilience, helping students prepare for life beyond school.

We would like to thank Future First, Lloyd's of London, and our students for making the day such a success. Students left feeling inspired, better informed about the world of work, and motivated to take their next steps with confidence.



## SPORTS DAY 2025

Sports Day at Highlands was packed with energy, competition, and team spirit and our sixth formers played an important role in making it all happen! From helping run events to taking part in the thrilling sixth form relay, their support was invaluable. Congratulations to Rowan, who won the relay race, a victory that could well have secured their overall Sports Day Champions title for 2025 in what was an incredibly close contest with Willow.

The day was full of action, with events ranging from football to track and field, and even some staff getting involved! Well done to everyone - especially Rowan. Go team Rowan!



### HOUSE CHAMPIONS 2024 - 2025

After an incredible year of effort, teamwork and determination, we're proud to announce that **Oak House** are the 2024 - 2025 House Champions! Congratulations to all Oak students, their hard work and dedication has truly paid off. They'll be celebrating their victory with a well-earned trip to Thorpe Park, and their name will be proudly written into Highlands' history.



## YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE

Organising and monitoring work experience for 244 year 12 students is far from easy, but when everything comes together, it is one of the most empowering feelings in my role. Last week, our students stepped out of their comfort zones, gained new skills, and represented our school in workplaces across the region with maturity and enthusiasm. The feedback we have received from employers has been truly inspiring, and I am so proud of every single student for the way they embraced this opportunity. Thank you to ALL the employers, students and families who made this possible.

Below, you will find a selection of reflections from our students and messages from employers that capture the spirit of this fantastic week.

We hope these reflections give you a glimpse into the impact that work experience can have on our young people's confidence and aspirations. It has been a privilege to see them grow through this experience, and we look forward to seeing how they build on these skills. Well done year 12, you have made us all incredibly proud.

### Mrs Laurenzi

#### Learning joinery skills workshop

*"During my work experience, I had the opportunity to learn a wide range of practical skills in a joinery workshop while helping to prepare materials for a beauty salon fit-out and kitchen installation. I started by cutting MDF and edging it on the edgebander to create wall panels, as well as cutting additional MDF for kitchen units, I then filled, sanded, and edged the MDF to prepare it for assembly, ensuring the panels were ready for the next stage.*

*As the week progressed, I manufactured drawer boxes out of MDF for the kitchen units and installed the runners for the drawers, developing my understanding of how the pieces come together. I also learned how to spray finish the MDF wall panels and kitchen units, preparing them for delivery to the site. Towards the end of the week, I assisted in the manufacture of a corian worktop for the kitchen, gaining insight into the different materials and processes involved in joinery work.*

*This experience allowed me to see the full process of how a project is prepared in the workshop before being installed, and it helped me develop practical skills that I will be able to use in the future."*

- Nathan Fisher



## YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE

### My experience on an Active RAF Base

*"I recently had the incredible opportunity to spend time at RAF Waddington with two other students, meeting the people who help the base run smoothly every day. We toured different facilities, including the planning rooms and the 31st Squadron, where we learned about the new protector drones. Speaking with pilots and weapons operators gave us a real insight into the work of the RAF and the different career paths within it.*

*A highlight was visiting the on-base fire station, where we talked to the firefighters, tried on their gear, operated the fire trucks, and even used the hoses, which showed us the physical strength needed for the job. We also had the chance to see a C-17 Globemaster cargo plane up close and capture photos as it took off for Qatar.*

*One of the most exciting parts of the visit was touring the Red Arrows' facilities. We were able to sit inside one of their retired Hawk trainer aircraft, known for its high manoeuvrability, and we saw the suits and equipment the pilots use for different climates. Although the Red Arrows team was out training, we were still able to take excellent photos of their aircraft.*

*I feel extremely fortunate to have been given this opportunity to explore these facilities and meet the people who work hard to keep our skies safe. It was an inspiring experience that gave me a deeper understanding of the many different roles within the RAF." - Zac Maclean*



### Unifrog feedback for Sean Ketcher - for the virtual live work experience week with employers The British Army / NHS / EDF / Lantra / Forvis Mazars

*"I just wanted to pass on some praise to Sean in your year 12 cohort. He has attended the VWEX week this week but has also been posting about it every day on LinkedIn, sharing what he has been doing and learning. We just wanted to let him know it hasn't gone unnoticed by us, and likely by other employers as well! It's great to see someone taking the time and energy to engage with their future. Please do pass on a thank you from us. A huge well done to Sean for showing initiative, reflecting on his experiences, and actively engaging with his future career goals." - Simon Warner - Unifrog*



## YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE

### My work experience in property management

*"I really enjoyed my work experience - the staff were polite, humble, and treated me like a proper colleague, which made me feel welcomed and valued. I learned a lot about property management, including how properties are sold, the legal requirements involved, and the rules landlords set for tenants. During my placement, I completed various tasks such as organising files alphabetically and sorting purchase documents by invoice number. Two tasks stood out as my favourites. The first was deactivating compliance records for properties that were either sold or no longer needed. I updated this information on the computer system.*



*The second involved managing key records - I was given a list of key codes, found the matching key tags in the key room, and logged them digitally. Everything was clearly explained to me step by step, which made the tasks easy to follow and enjoyable to complete."* - Arda Asla

### YVA Solicitors

*"During my week at YVA Solicitors - a firm specialising in areas such as property, family, and employment law - I gained an incredible first-hand insight into the legal profession. I shadowed a solicitor in leasehold enfranchisement, attending client meetings and helping to draft tenant notices and formal letters. I also observed a solicitor working in litigation, which was particularly engaging as I explored real-life cases involving disputes and claims.*



*The highlight of my experience was attending a family court hearing at the Royal Courts of Justice. This gave me a rare opportunity to witness court proceedings and shadow a barrister, sparking a new interest in family law - an area I hadn't previously considered. Overall, the placement was invaluable and has strengthened my ambition to pursue a career in law."* - Elena Giudice

### Warburtons employer feedback

Ariella made a lasting impression during her placement. Staff and senior leaders praised her confidence, positive attitude, and professionalism, describing her as a "shining light" and an asset to her school and family.

Phil Howitt, Manufacturing Manager at Warburtons, shared: *"Ariella is a confident and capable young person. I believe she would be a great asset to the business in the future."*



## YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE

### Work experience at Highlands School

*"During my work experience at Highlands, I had the opportunity to support both staff and students across a variety of settings. I spent time in the school's medical room, where I helped by recording student names and checking stock levels of medical supplies. This taught me the importance of organisation and confidentiality in a school environment.*



*I also assisted with the year 12 transition day, helping new students feel more confident and settled as they joined the sixth form. As part of the DARE Days programme, I supported various student activities, including a STEM workshop for year 8s where they developed entrepreneurial skills through fun buying and selling tasks. I also helped run theatre and performance sessions with year 7s, which were lively and engaging.*

*Overall, the experience helped me develop my communication, teamwork, and leadership skills, while giving me valuable insight into how schools support student wellbeing and enrichment beyond the classroom." - Rhea Mehta*

### Mental-health care home

*"I was kindly given a work experience placement based in a mental health care home. During my placement, I was able to work alongside vulnerable adults who lived with mental health issues such as Schizophrenia, HIV, dementia and drug and alcohol dependencies. Each day offered a deep dive on a different health issue. I was given tasks of reading articles to inform myself on the subject (such as learning the different antipsychotic medications each resident takes and their side effects), completing questions to cement my knowledge and conversing with the resident who is affected by the health issue.*



*A particularly interesting learning experience was that an individual can develop viral-induced schizophrenia (eg: HIV) as a side effect.*

*Additionally, it was intriguing to find commonalities between the resident and I, creating a familiar sense; the manager expressed that the residents enjoy the connections they are able to have as they are often ostracised by others.*

*I appreciate this opportunity as it gave me insight on the world of medicine and healthcare and I hope that society will become less stigmatised towards the people who need support the most." - Jihan Barre*





## TOM TOUMAZIS MBE INSPIRES STUDENTS WITH LIFE LESSONS

This term, we were delighted to welcome Tom Toumazis MBE to speak to our year 12 students. Tom, an accomplished entrepreneur with an outstanding career across the entertainment, media, and technology industries, delivered a truly inspiring and thought-provoking talk.

Tom shared his personal journey, beginning with his first job washing dishes in his father's Greek restaurant at the age of 12, through to becoming Deputy Chairman of major companies and a respected public speaker. His early experiences taught him valuable lessons in teamwork and responsibility, skills that paved the way for a successful career with renowned organisations such as ITV, Yahoo!, Eurosport, and Disney.

Beyond his professional achievements, Tom has made significant contributions to charitable causes, including the NSPCC and the University of Westminster. In recognition of his dedication to supporting children, he was awarded an MBE in 2015 after helping to raise an incredible £9 million for Children in Need.

During his visit, Tom spoke about the importance of gratitude, encouraging students to remember the simple power of saying "thank you." He also shared practical advice on personal development, recommending that students explore TED Talks to gain insights from leaders across different industries - and even challenged them to create their own talks to express their ideas.



## TOM TOUMAZIS MBE INSPIRES STUDENTS WITH LIFE LESSONS

At the end of the session, Tom gifted each student a blank thank you card and envelope, encouraging them to reflect on the talk and consider writing a personal note of thanks to someone who has made a difference in their lives, a thoughtful gesture that beautifully reinforced the message of gratitude.

Tom's visit left students feeling motivated and energised, reminding them that success is not just about competing with others, but about striving to improve oneself every day. He also spoke about the influence of key mentors in his life, highlighting how early guidance and positive role models can make a lasting impact.

We are extremely grateful to Tom for generously sharing his time and experiences with our students, and for providing such valuable inspiration as they start to plan their own futures.

By the end of Tom's talk, students felt motivated, energised, and ready to tackle not just their upcoming exams, but their future ambitions as well.

### Mrs Laurenzi

***"Tom made me think differently about competition, it's not about beating others, it's about improving yourself every day."***

***"The advice about saying 'thank you' really stuck with me and getting a thank you card to write was such a nice idea. It made me realise how important it is to appreciate the people who support you."***

***"Tom's talk was so inspiring, it made me realise that success doesn't happen overnight, and that small steps and hard work really do make a difference."***

***"Tom's energy and honesty made the whole talk so engaging. I left feeling much more confident about the future."***

## STUDENTS GAIN HANDS-ON FILM AND MEDIA EXPERIENCE

Over the spring break holiday, three of our year 12 students successfully secured placements on an exciting media and marketing development programme at the Dugdale Arts Centre (DAC) in Enfield Town. Competing against applicants from across the borough, they were selected to work alongside professional videographers from Crispy Dog Productions to help produce DAC's brand-new marketing video.

During the project, students were involved in all stages of the creative process, from storyboarding and planning, to filming and contributing ideas on set. Their dedication and enthusiasm impressed both the Dugdale Arts Centre team and the professional production crew, and each student earned a valuable CV credit for their hard work.

We are incredibly proud of our students for giving up part of their free time to take part in this unique opportunity, and for representing our school with such creativity, professionalism, and confidence. Congratulations to Charlie Skipp, Georgia Kouvakli and Aydun Salih on an outstanding achievement!

The project continues with an exciting editing insight day still to come, where students will learn about post-production processes. They will also receive a personal copy of the finished video they helped create, along with a complimentary ticket to a future event at the Dugdale Arts Centre.

A huge thank you to the teams at Dugdale Arts Centre and Crispy Dog Productions for offering this fantastic opportunity to young people in Enfield. We can't wait to see the final video and celebrate the brilliant work our students contributed.

***"It was amazing to work with a real production team, I learned so much about what goes into making a professional video and being involved in the whole process, from storyboarding to filming, really opened my eyes to all the creative roles behind the scenes."***



**Charlie Skipp**



**Aydun Salih**

***"I'm really proud that I took part, it's great knowing I helped create something real that will be used by a professional arts centre."***

***"The experience has made me even more excited about working in the media one day. It was so inspiring!"***



## STUDENTS GAIN INVALUABLE SURGICAL EXPERIENCE

Three of our year 12 students gave up their spring break to take part in an incredible opportunity at Chase Farm Hospital. Working alongside senior team leaders and theatre staff, they observed a wide range of surgeries, including orthopaedics (hip, knee, and shoulder replacements), gynaecology, maxillofacial, general surgery, and ear, nose, and throat procedures.

As part of their experience, they were also able to follow a patient through a complete day surgery pathway, from admission right through to discharge, gaining a full understanding of the patient journey and surgical processes.

Well done, Rukiye Coban, Yagmur Olcay and Oliver Hoxha - we are incredibly proud of your dedication and commitment, and would like to sincerely thank the amazing staff at Chase Farm for their ongoing support and for providing such valuable learning opportunities for our students

***"It was an incredible experience seeing how much work and teamwork goes into every patient's care. It made me even more certain I want to work in healthcare."***

***"Following a patient's journey and observing surgeries firsthand was an unforgettable experience, it really brought everything we've learned to life"***

***"Everyone at Chase Farm was so welcoming and supportive. This opportunity has definitely inspired me to keep pushing towards a career in medicine."***

**Chase Farm  
Hospital**  
(Enfield/Middlesex)

**NHS**



## THE MAYOR VISITS HIGHLANDS SCHOOL

The Mayor, Cllr Mohammad Islam visited our school for a tour of our learning environment.

It was a really positive visit and a fantastic opportunity to showcase everything that's great about our school.



## CARIBBEAN CUISINE DAY

This term we celebrated Caribbean Cuisine Day, hosted by Oak House, with a delicious menu that brought vibrant island flavours to our school.

Students and staff enjoyed jerk chicken or a roasted veggie chickpea curry, served with rice and peas, coleslaw, and a sweet finish of Jamaican fruit cake with custard.

It was a fantastic celebration of culture and community, thank you Chartwells, and well done to Oak House for organising such a great event!



### CULTURAL AND HERITAGE DAY

This term we proudly celebrated Cultural and Heritage Day with a vibrant display of diversity and unity. Staff and students came dressed in cultural garments and the colours of their national flags, showcasing the rich variety of backgrounds within our school community. At break time, a cultural bake sale brought everyone together to share traditional foods from around the world, with all proceeds going towards house fundraising. It was a fantastic event, filled with pride, vibrant colours, and connections. It was lovely to see the many different cultures we celebrate at Highlands and to take part in a day that was suggested by our student leaders three years ago and is, now, becoming one of the most eagerly anticipated days in the school calendar each year. .

Read more about the event in this week's [special feature newsletter](#), including highlights from the day and a spotlight on important figures from different cultures



## ALUMNI INSPIRE YEAR 12 WITH HIGHER AND DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS

Year 12 students were given an invaluable opportunity to gain insights into the world of higher and degree apprenticeships, courtesy of an inspiring visit from one of the school's alumni. Tia El-Ahmadi returned to speak to students about her personal journey into the apprenticeship world, offering first hand advice on navigating the application process, preparing for interviews, and succeeding in the workplace.

Tia, who now works as a degree apprentice at BlackRock, one of the world's leading providers in asset management firms, began her presentation by recounting her own experiences during year 12. *"When I was your age, I had no idea what direction I wanted to go in,"* she said. *"I knew I wanted to get into a professional career, but university didn't seem like the right fit for me. That's when I discovered the apprenticeship route."*

She explained how she had researched various apprenticeship programmes, selected the one that matched her career goals, and put together a standout application. *"What stood out in my application was my practical experience, and my drive to succeed. Don't just list your qualifications – show the company what you bring to the table,"* she advised.



## ALUMNI INSPIRE YEAR 12 WITH HIGHER AND DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS

### Tips for applying

One of the most valuable parts of the session was the practical tips shared by Tia. She encouraged students to start preparing early by researching different apprenticeship programmes and learning about the specific qualifications needed. She stressed the importance of building skills outside the classroom, whether through part-time jobs, volunteering, or extracurricular activities.

*"I cannot emphasise enough the importance of building your network. LinkedIn, professional events, and even online forums are great ways to connect with industry professionals who can offer advice or mentorship,"* she shared.

### Q&A session: Real-life advice

After the presentation, students had the chance to ask Tia questions directly during a lively Q&A session. Questions ranged from how to stand out in a competitive field to managing time between work and study.

One student asked about the challenges she faces during her apprenticeship. Tia responded, *"It's definitely a balancing act. The workload can be intense but it's all about time management and staying focused on your goals."*

### Student feedback

The session was incredibly well-received by the year 12 students. Many left the event feeling more informed and motivated about their future pathways.

The session ended on a high note, with students expressing genuine appreciation for the insight they gained. She's also kindly offered to return to work with smaller groups and lead public speaking workshops, which has quickly become one of her standout strengths.

This event highlighted the importance of alumni engagement, offering students not just theoretical knowledge, but real-world advice from someone who once stood in their shoes. It's clear that events like these are invaluable in helping students make informed decisions about their futures.

***"It was so helpful to hear about the real-life experiences of someone who has already walked the path we're considering. The advice on how to tailor our applications was so practical and eye-opening."***

***"I never considered an apprenticeship as an option before, but now I see how it can be a great alternative to university. The whole session was really interesting and gave me a lot to think about."***

***"Tia reminded us how important it is to believe in yourself, keep pushing to improve, and not get caught up comparing yourself to others. Everyone's journey is different - just focus on being the best version of you."***



## HAPPY VE DAY

Happy VE Day! On 8th May, we celebrate Victory in Europe Day and honour the courage and sacrifice of those who helped bring peace at the end of the Second World War. Our beloved therapy dog Freddy dressed up in his finery for the occasion.

With his cheerful spirit and smart outfit, Freddy brought smiles to everyone's faces, spreading joy as we remembered this important moment in history.



## NORTH LONDON HOSPICE CHARITY WALK

It was a fantastic day filled with great energy and community spirit as Ms Simons took on a 10-mile charity walk in support of the incredible North London Hospice.

The route began in East Finchley and went through some of London's most iconic green spaces, including Hampstead Heath, Parliament Hill, Primrose Hill, Regent's Park, Hyde Park, Green Park, and St James's Park, before finishing at Westminster.

Ms Simons has so far raised an impressive £1,219 for North London Hospice, a charity that is very close to her heart, and as a group, the walkers collectively raised a remarkable £100k for this vital cause.

Go Ms Simons, we are so proud of you!



## YEAR 12 TRIP TO OSMINGTON BAY

Our year 12 biologists took part in an exciting trip to Dorset. The purpose of the trip was for students to complete their A level field studies.

They began by travelling to Upwey, where the River Wey starts. Students conducted various studies, examining the width and flow of the river, as well as identifying different animals and insects living in the water.

On the second day, they travelled to Studland Beach to assess how plant distribution changes across the sand dunes. In the dunes, students spotted the UK's only carnivorous plant - the sundew. They also observed how human conservation efforts are helping to protect the sand dunes, after nearly 80% have been lost in the last 100 years. It was a fascinating day, filled with new knowledge before students carried out their own investigations.

On the final morning, students enjoyed both zip lining and archery - an enjoyable end to a memorable and educational trip.

### Ms Ward



## YEAR 12 TRIP TO OSMINGTON BAY



***"Studland Beach was a beautiful location to complete our field studies." - Mercedes***

***"I really enjoyed exploring a new area of the UK and completing our field studies in a an environment different to London" - Bella***

***"Seeing the UK's only carnivorous plant was interesting." - Aras***

***"My highlight of our trip was definitely walking on the sand dunes with really heavy rain pouring down at us. Seeing all of the different species of animals in a river was also really intriguing. It was a very unique experience overall and we made so many unforgettable memories." - Yagmur***

## BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE EXAM SUCCESS

Congratulations to our five members of staff: Mrs Brewerton, Miss Lewis, Miss Pia, Mrs Vaughan-Long and Miss Lunat, who have successfully completed their Level 1, 101 exam in British Sign Language (BSL)! We're incredibly proud of their achievement. They've done a fantastic job, and their commitment helps to promote deaf awareness and make our school a more inclusive place for everyone.

In the photo, they're signing a word - can you work out what it is?



## HIGHLANDS SCHOOL LOGO - A MATHEMATICAL MASTERPIECE

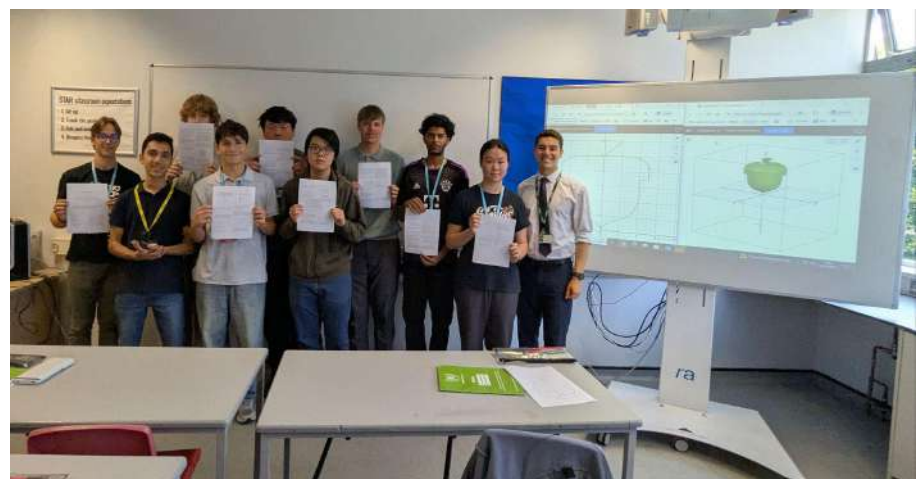
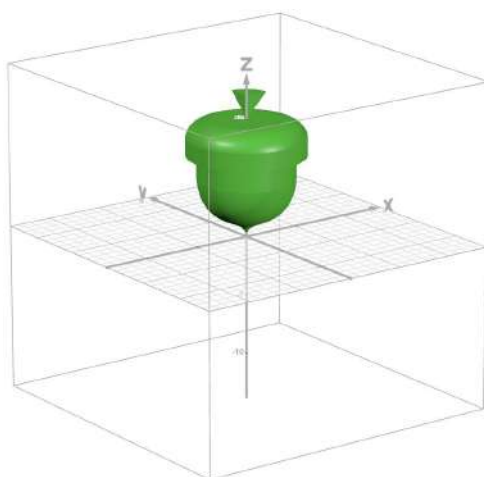
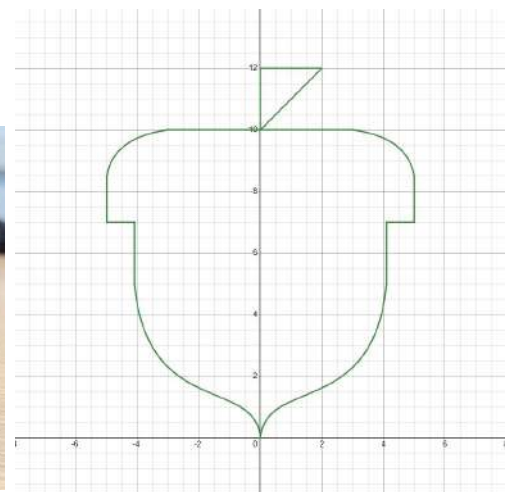
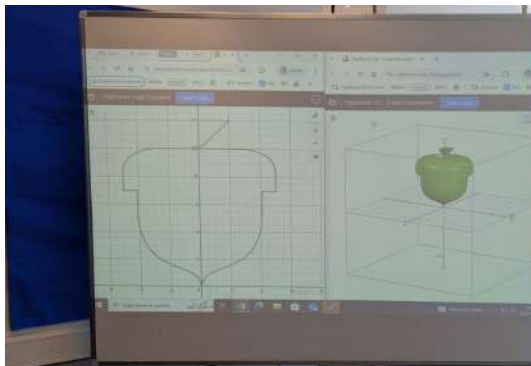
At the start of the year, year 13 further maths students at Highlands collaborated with Mr Tuton to take on a unique mathematical challenge: to construct a set of equations that would recreate the Highlands acorn logo. Their initial version featured proudly at Open Evening. This summer, the project was taken even further by the year 12 further maths class, working alongside Highlands alumni Nicholas Andreou (now studying at Imperial College London), who developed a 3D model of the design.

Using advanced mathematical techniques such as coordinate geometry, Bezier curves, and Gaussian elimination, students explored how A level and undergraduate-level maths could bring an image to life. They were also introduced to LaTeX via Overleaf, developing technical writing skills as they began documenting the project in a [formal article](#).

A 3D-printed version of the logo has now been produced, and there's growing excitement around turning this into a permanent school display. The work represents not only impressive academic achievement but also a fantastic opportunity for students to showcase their creativity and apply maths in the real world.

[View the 2D Model](#)

[View the 3D Model](#)



## UNIVERSITY AND APPRENTICESHIP SEARCH FAIR

On Friday 13th June, 200 year 12 students attended the University and Apprenticeship Search Fair at the iconic Emirates Stadium, home of Arsenal FC. The London Summer 2025 event brought together representatives from universities and apprenticeship providers across the UK, offering students an invaluable opportunity to explore their post-18 options.

Throughout the day, students engaged directly with university representatives from a wide range of institutions, including Russell Group, Red Brick, Specialist, and Modern Universities. They also attended a variety of informative seminars aimed at helping them navigate the next steps in their education and career journeys.

In addition to universities, the fair featured some of the UK's leading apprenticeship providers, higher education colleges, specialist institutions, and student-focused organisations. The event catered to students of all academic backgrounds, helping them make well-informed decisions about their futures.

***“It was a valuable experience to explore different universities and learn about the variety of options they offer.”***

***“It was good to meet university representatives and speak to them directly. I feel more prepared now and have a clearer idea of the courses I want to apply for.”***

***“The fair was really useful - I was able to ask questions to student ambassadors and get real insight into university life, all in one place.”***



**UK** university  
search



## FORMER STUDENT AND WATERCOLOUR ARTIST

We're proud to share that a former Highlands A Level art student, Abbey Miller, who achieved an A\*, is now showcasing and selling her artwork locally in Winchmore Hill.

A great success story and a proud moment for our school community!

Check out Abbey's [Instagram page](#).



## INTER HOUSE QUIZZES

The inter house quizzes took place this term, and it was a close contest across most year groups! The winning teams took home the house quiz trophy and secured a crucial 4,000 points for their house. Well done to everyone who took part!



1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Beech	Willow	Rowan	Oak

## INDIAN CUISINE DAY

Beech House proudly hosted Indian Cuisine Day this term, bringing vibrant flavours to the Highlands canteen.

Chartwells served up a delicious choice of chicken tikka rice box or spinach and chickpea daal with rice, accompanied by a sweetcorn salad.

The dishes smelt amazing and tasted just as good. Well done to everyone involved!



## USA CUISINE DAY

Willow House proudly hosted USA Cuisine Day this term, bringing a flavour of America to Highlands!

Chartwells served up a delicious choice of a Philly cheese stack burger or a Smokey Joe crispy burger, both accompanied by chipotle wedges. To finish, students enjoyed a rich Mississippi mud pie for dessert.

A big thank you to Willow House and Chartwells for a tasty celebration!



## AMAZING APPRENTICESHIPS RECOGNITION

We're proud to announce that Highlands School has been featured as a case study on the new "Officially Amazing" platform launched by Amazing Apprenticeships to mark their 10-year anniversary.

Our sixth form has been recognised for its dedication to supporting students, and a photo from our prospectus has been shared nationally across Amazing Apprenticeships' social media channels. With their platform supporting over 4,500 schools and reaching millions each year, we're honoured to be part of this inspiring initiative.



## FOLLOW OUR SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS

Following Highlands' social media accounts can provide numerous benefits for students. Here are some key reasons why students should consider doing so.

- Stay informed about important updates.
- Learn about events and opportunities.
- Connect with the school community by engaging with fellow students and alumni.
- Enhance your professional development by connecting with alumni and industry professionals who are associated with Highlands for mentorship and career guidance.
- Get inspired and motivated through success stories.

Follow Highlands School & Sixth Form:

X: [@Highlands\\_sch](https://twitter.com/Highlands_sch)

Instagram: [@highlandssch](https://www.instagram.com/highlandssch)

YouTube: [highlandsschoolenfield5741](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

Threads: [@Highlandssch](https://www.threads.net/@Highlandssch)

Facebook: [Highlands School](https://www.facebook.com/Highlands_School)

LinkedIn: [Highlands School](https://www.linkedin.com/company/Highlands_School)

## A LEVEL & BTEC LEVEL 3 RESULTS DAY

### A Level & BTEC Level 3 results - Thursday 14th August 2025, 8:30am

On **Thursday 14th August** the school will be open from **8.30am** for students to pick up their A Level and BTEC results. Results will also be available electronically at 8am on 'student portal' ([bromcomvle.com](http://bromcomvle.com)) to give students an opportunity to view their results from home and to contact universities as soon as possible, should they need to.

Once students have collected their results from the hall, members of staff will be available to offer support in the canteen. If students do not need any support following the collection of their results, they will be asked to leave the site. This will include support with UCAS and results support.

UCAS Track will go live at **8:00am** on results day. Here students will be able to see whether they have met the conditions of their university offer. There is a lot of information on the UCAS website, but support will be on hand with this.

Essentially, UCAS Track will show one of five outcomes:

1. Firm offer is now confirmed as a place.
2. Insurance offer is now confirmed as a place.
3. The university have not yet decided (in which case we advise to call them).
4. A place has not been secured which means students are eligible to go into clearing. In this case students need to follow UCAS track guidance and start exploring which universities have clearing places.
5. Students have exceeded the conditions of the offer and can choose to use the 'Adjustment' process on UCAS to search for a course which has higher entry requirements than the course they have applied to.

If students are unhappy with the place they have confirmed, they can decline the place and voluntarily go into clearing. Members of staff will be available to support during this process.

If they now wish to take a gap year, they can ring or write to the university and ask them to defer the place for a year; or they can just withdraw from UCAS and re-apply in the next cycle.

If you have any questions before or after results day, please email [sixthform@highlearn.uk](mailto:sixthform@highlearn.uk) and a member of the sixth form team will be in contact with you. We hope to see every student on results day and we hope that the outlined system for collection gives you the confidence to attend this celebratory moment. Please note that students will only be allowed to collect their results on site.

More information can be found on our [website](#).

### [Understanding results and grades: a guide for students, parents and carers](#)

If you have any queries regarding your results, please either call or email the Exams officer.

**Mrs C Bell: 0208 370 1182**

**Email: [bellc@highlearn.uk](mailto:bellc@highlearn.uk)**



## GCSE RESULTS DAY

### GCSE Results Day: 21st August 2025 and Highlands Sixth Form enrolment day

Year 11 results will be available for collection at school on **21st August 2025**. Students should arrive at the following times and line up on the concourse before entering the building to collect their results from the canteen.

- **9.00am:** Oak and Rowan house
- **9.45am:** Beech and Willow house

They will be given an envelope containing their results and a letter letting them know whether they have a confirmed place at Highlands Sixth Form. Pre-ordered year books and leavers' hoodies which have not already been collected will also be available for collection. Results will be available online later on in the day.

Year 10 students will be able to access their results via the My Child At School app from 10am. Students in year 10 should only come on site if they have accessed their result via MCAS and require the additional face-to-face support of a member of staff.

Highlands' sixth form enrolment day will also take place on the **21st August from 9am**. After students have collected their results they will have a progression interview with a member of SLT or the sixth form team about their next steps and enrolment. If your child is unable to enrol on that day then you will need to email the sixth form team before the 16th July on [sixthformadmissions@highlearn.uk](mailto:sixthformadmissions@highlearn.uk). Year 12 students will be returning to school on Tuesday 2nd September, but information will be provided about the first day and induction process in September during the enrolment process.

We appreciate that some students may prefer to open their envelopes at home so there will still be an opportunity for these students to speak to a member of staff about their sixth form decision making process the following day. For this reason, Highlands' sixth form enrolment will also be taking place from **9 - 9.45 am, Friday 22nd August 2025**. Mrs Halstead and Mrs Hutchinson will also be available if students wish to speak to them.

More information can be found on our [website](#).

### [Understanding results and grades: a guide for students, parents and carers](#)

If you have any queries regarding your results, please either call or email the Exams officer.

**Mrs C Bell: 0208 370 1182**

**Email: [bellc@highlearn.uk](mailto:bellc@highlearn.uk)**



## CREATING A LINKEDIN PROFILE

By setting up a comprehensive and professional LinkedIn profile, it can effectively showcase your academic background and aspirations, helping you to network and find opportunities in your desired field.

### 1. Visit the LinkedIn website

- **URL:** Go to [www.linkedin.com](https://www.linkedin.com).



### 2. Sign-up for an account

- **Homepage:** On the LinkedIn homepage, you'll see a sign-up form.
- **Enter details:** Input your first name, last name, email address, and password.
- **Agree and join:** Click the "Agree & Join" button.

### 3. Email verification

- **Check email:** LinkedIn will send a verification link to the email address you provided.
- **Verify email:** Open the email from LinkedIn and click the verification link to confirm your email address.

### 4. Enter personal information

- **Country and postal code:** Select your country and enter your postal code.
- **Job title:** Select "I'm a student."
- **School or university:** Enter the name of your school/sixth form
- **Degree and field of study:** Input your degree and field of study.

### 5. Customise your profile

- **Upload a profile photo:** Choose a professional-looking photo to upload. A headshot with a plain background works best.
- **Profile headline:** Write a brief headline that describes your current studies or career aspirations (e.g., "Computer science student at Highlands Sixth Form" or "Aspiring marketing professional").
- **Industry and location:** Select your field of study and location.

### 6. Build your network

- **Import contacts:** LinkedIn will prompt you to import contacts from your email to start building your network. You can skip this step if you prefer to do it later.
- **Connect with people:** LinkedIn will suggest people you may know. You can send connection requests to classmates, professors, and industry professionals. Don't forget to connect with the Highlands LinkedIn account:

## CREATING A LINKEDIN PROFILE

### 7. Complete your profile

- **Education:** Add details about your educational background, including schools attended, any notable achievements or honours.
- **Experience:** List any internships, part-time jobs, or volunteer work, including job titles, organisations, and descriptions of your roles.
- **Skills and endorsements:** Add skills relevant to your field of study and career goals. You can also receive endorsements from your connections.
- **Summary:** Write a summary that highlights your academic achievements, career goals, and any relevant experiences or projects.

### 8. Additional profile sections

- **Courses:** Include courses relevant to your field of study.
- **Projects:** Highlight any academic projects or extracurricular projects that showcase your skills and knowledge.
- **Certifications:** Add any certifications you have obtained.
- **Languages:** List languages you are proficient in.
- **Volunteer experience:** Include any volunteer work that demonstrates your commitment and skills.

### 9. Privacy and settings

- **Adjust settings:** Go to the "Me" icon at the top of your LinkedIn homepage, select "Settings & Privacy," and customise your privacy settings according to your preferences.

### 10. Start engaging

- **Post updates:** Share updates about your academic journey, projects, and achievements.
- **Join groups:** Join LinkedIn groups related to your field of study or interests to expand your network and knowledge.
- **Follow companies and influencers:** Follow companies, influencers, and professionals in your desired subject field to stay updated on trends and opportunities.
- **Send messages:** Reach out to connections through LinkedIn messaging to start conversations, seek advice, and build relationships.

Follow Highlands' social media accounts to stay informed about important updates and news and events.

# Highlands School Alumni

As a school, we want to reconnect with our former students so that we can keep in touch and let them know about volunteering opportunities that will benefit our current students. We want to show them the variety of pathways available to them after leaving Highlands School, and who better to showcase this information, than former students!

We are working with education charity Future First to set this up, and all you need to do to get involved is sign up here: [Highlands School Alumni](#) or alternatively scan the QR code below.

More information is on our [website](#) and if you have any questions please contact our Alumni Programme Manager at Future First: Faithia Garffus – [faithia.garffus@futurefirst.org.uk](mailto:faithia.garffus@futurefirst.org.uk)

## #HighlandsAlumni



### Former student?

Return to Highlands School to inform our current students about what life beyond school is really like.

Sign up to our former student network to receive news, updates and invites to events.

Once you're signed up there is no obligation to volunteer, you can get involved around your availability.




Scan the QR code to join the Alumni network

12:58 5G

www.futurefirsthub.org.uk

Highlands School & Sixth Form

Highlands School

Powered by  Future First

Join your network

First name \*

Last name \*

Email address \*

