



Highlands School Newsletter

05 September 2025



Dear parents and carers,

I'm delighted to welcome you and your children to the 2025-6 academic year at Highlands.

September 1st this year marked a significant moment in the history of our school. Not only did our school turn 25 years' old, September 1st marked the end of our PFI (Private Finance Initiative) contract. Highlands was the first school in England to be built under this government scheme, and was proudly opened by then-Prime Minister Tony Blair in 2000.

We are now the first school in the country to successfully exit a PFI agreement. This major milestone has involved an enormous amount of behind-the-scenes work, with staff and our dedicated site team working tirelessly over the summer. As a result, many areas of the school have been refreshed or upgraded, ready for a new chapter in Highlands' history. We will let you know more about plans to celebrate our 25 year anniversary and the end of the PFI contact as the year goes on.

We welcomed our students back this week with a series of assemblies and tutor times. We celebrated some exceptional GCSE and A level results as well as welcoming record numbers of students into our sixth form. We will write to you with more information about our results and the amazing destinations of our students soon.

I am excited about the upcoming academic year, we are all set to make it one of the best in our 25 year history!



Parent information webinars

We will be holding parent and carer information webinars next week to make sure parents and carers are aware of the priorities for the upcoming year for each year group. Please make a note of these times in your diaries. We have now sent out by email the relevant links to those meetings. Students are encouraged to watch along with parents and carers.

Years 12 and 13	Tuesday 9th September 6:00pm	Link: meet.google.com/kib-ikiv-hwx
Years 7 and 8	Wednesday 10th September 6:00pm	Link: meet.google.com/tmk-jxbu-cnp
Years 9, 10 and 11	Thursday 11th September 6:00pm	Link: meet.google.com/eip-vbnx-oxz

Mr McInerney,
Headteacher.

Key dates for this half term:

- Friday 3rd October: inset day - school closed to students
- Thursday 9th October: DARE Day 1
- Friday 10th October: DARE Day 2
- Monday 13th October: early finish for open evening (students leave at 12:40pm)
- Tuesday 14th October: late start following open evening (students arrive at 11:20am)
- Friday 17th October: final day of half term (two week half term holiday commences)
- Monday 3rd November: first day of new half term (students return to school)



Welcome to Highlands year 7!

Our new year 7s have made a fantastic start to life at Highlands!

Over their first three days, they've settled in brilliantly, enjoying a tour of the school, learning about our house system and DARE values, and taking part in orienteering and team-building activities. It's been great to see them getting to know their year group and beginning their journey with confidence.

We wish them the very best of luck as they begin this exciting new chapter!



Highlands School - end of PFI contract

As of 1st September, Highlands School has officially taken control of its own building, marking the end of our 25-year PFI (Private Finance Initiative) contract. Highlands was the first school in the UK to be built under this government scheme, and was proudly opened by then-Prime Minister Tony Blair in 2000. We are now the first school in the country to successfully exit a PFI agreement. Staff who were employed by the PFI company are now Highlands staff.

This major milestone has involved an enormous amount of behind-the-scenes work, with staff, governors and our dedicated site team working tirelessly over the past couple of years on planning the exit strategy and overseeing final improvements and repairs to the building over the summer. As a result, many areas of the school have been refreshed or upgraded, ready for a new chapter in Highlands' history. This photo shows the cleaning team who are now part of Highlands.





A level Results Day 2025

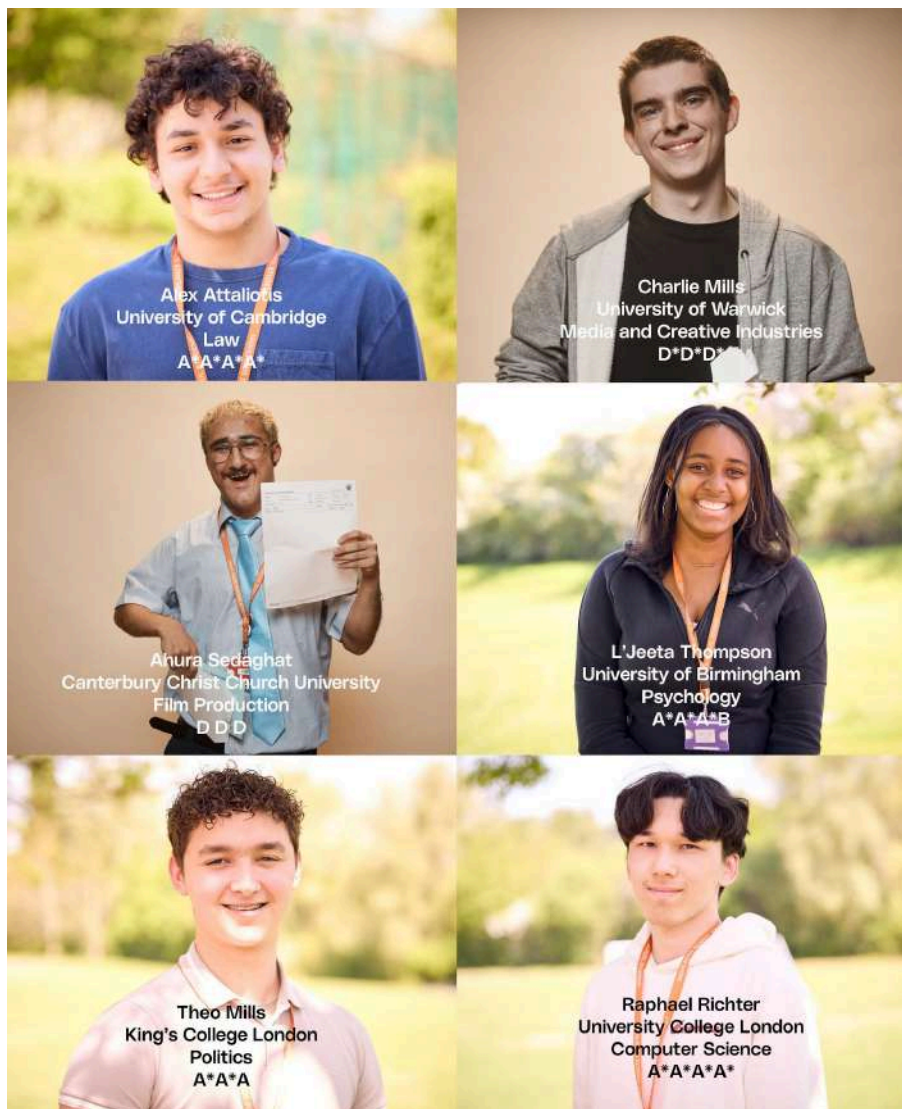
We are proud to share that 81% of our sixth form students secured their first-choice university destination this year - a reflection of their exceptional dedication and the high academic standards we uphold at Highlands. Impressively, 43% of our disadvantaged students and 41% of our non-disadvantaged students are progressing to Russell Group universities. Among our many standout achievers, Raphael Richter, one of a few students to achieve 4 A*s, will be studying Computer Science at University College London. We also celebrate Alex Attalotis, who will be reading Law at the University of Cambridge; Charlie Mills, who will study Media and Creative Industries at the University of Warwick; and Brownicia Kiakoulanda, who will begin Midwifery at King's College London. Congratulations also to Peter Pieretti, who has secured an apprenticeship with Deloitte, and Ahura Sedaghat, who will be studying Film Production at Canterbury Christ Church University. A huge well done to all our students and staff - we couldn't be prouder.

You can watch our A level results day videos on our [YouTube channel](#) or [Instagram](#) page or via the links below.

[A level Results Day 2025 - short edition](#)

[A level Results Day 2025 - long edition](#)

[A level and GCSE Results Days 2025](#)





GCSE Results Day 2025

A huge congratulations to all our students who received their GCSE results this summer. Their commitment, resilience, and determination have truly paid off, and we couldn't be prouder of what they've achieved. We're especially delighted that so many of them have chosen to continue their journey with us at Highlands Sixth Form. Whether they're joining us for further study, beginning an apprenticeship, or heading off on a new path, we wish every student the very best for the exciting chapter ahead.

You can watch our GCSE results day videos on our [YouTube channel](#) or [Instagram](#) page or via the links below.

[GCSE Results Day 2025 - short edition](#) | [GCSE Results Day 2025 - long edition](#) | [A level and GCSE Results Days 2025](#)





Highlands Sixth Form

We are delighted to share that many of our students have chosen to stay on with us in the sixth form, along with a number of external students who have joined us this year. We also had the pleasure of welcoming our new year 12 cohort this week for their induction.

Due to high demand, our sixth form is now fully enrolled, and our waiting list is also full. This reflects the excellent teaching and learning environment we offer, as well as the strong support we provide to all our students, ensuring they thrive both academically and personally.





Chicago: Teen Edition - video production for sale

Due to a slight delay in the video production, the purchasing window for *Chicago: Teen Edition* has been extended until September. The new deadline to order your copy is **Thursday 11th September**.

Two performance dates are available to purchase on **ParentPay - Thursday 26th June** and **Friday 27th June** - with each video priced at **£7**. All orders can be collected in September.



Chicago: Teen Edition - photos for sale

We're also pleased to announce that production photos are now available to purchase via the links below, deadline date for orders: **30th September, for free delivery to the school, deadline date is 14th September**.

- [Thursday 26th June 2025](#)
- [Friday 27th June 2025](#)

Thank you for your continued support, and we hope you enjoy reliving this spectacular show!

Careers newsletter - don't miss out on your future

A reminder to all students to check out the weekly [Careers Newsletter!](#) It's packed with exciting opportunities to apply for, Job of the Week, employer and university spotlights, upcoming events, and so much more. Stay informed, stay ahead, and make the most of what's out there!

Got a talent, hobby, or achievement outside the classroom?

Whether it's sports, drama, dance, music, art, photography, volunteering, coding, writing, or anything you're passionate about, email us and you could be featured in our Student Spotlight!





School announcements

School photographs

On Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th September our photographer will be coming into school to take all students' photographs. Students will be informed when they should arrive at the sports hall for their session, and they will return to lessons straight after. The schedule is below.

Period	1	2	3	4	5
Tuesday 9th	10bw/Sci 8WEL/Cp	11bw/En 8BHV/Ar	8OMK/Hi 8OSB/Eng 8RAC/Dr 8RKM/Re 8BAS/Dr	9bw/En	7bw/Ma 8WEF/Ge
Wednesday 10th	10or/Sci	11or/Sci	7or/Ma	9or/En	

Year 12 and 13 students will be able to have their photograph taken in their free periods.

All students should be in full uniform, including a blazer. If your child has dance or drama on these days they should come to school wearing full school uniform. If your child is in Y9, 10, or 11, and has PE GCSE on either of these days, they should come to school wearing full school uniform, and bring their PE kit to change into.

A proof of the individual photos will be sent directly to the school a week later, and parents will then have the chance to order these - full information on this will follow. Years 7 and 12 will have their photos printed onto their permanent student ID card that they wear on their lanyard.

Flu immunisations years 7-11

The Immunisation Team will be at Highlands to carry out the Flu vaccinations this term for students in years 7-11. To give consent for your child to have this vaccine, please click on the link below:

<https://ncl.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2025/enfield>

There are also webinars with more information that you can join.



Enrichment Activities – Autumn Term Start Date & Information

We are pleased to confirm that all Ed-Extra enrichment activities, held on Wednesdays from 2:10 - 3:15pm, will begin on **Wednesday 24th September** and run for **12 weeks** during the autumn term.

Year 8 students:

Year 8 students have the option to opt into enrichment. Parents/carers were contacted over the summer to register their child's place. Those who opted in will receive a confirmation email shortly. Students will be asked to reaffirm their place once confirmed.

Please note:

*If you wish to amend or cancel your child's place, this must be done by **Wednesday 10th September**. After this date, no changes will be accepted and students will be expected to attend each session. **They will not be authorised to leave school before 3:15pm.***

Year 7 students:

Enrichment is mandatory for year 7 students.

Further information, including details of the enrichment club options and orchestra placements (for students who play an orchestral instrument), will be sent to year 7 parents/carers on **Friday 5th September**. Students should review the options with you and return their completed preferences by **3:15pm on Wednesday 10th September**.

Year 7 students are asked to select a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice. While we do our best to allocate students to one of their top choices, this cannot be guaranteed due to demand. All students will rotate between STEAM and Sports across the terms (e.g., if they have STEAM in autumn, they will have Sports in the spring, and vice versa).

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please don't hesitate to contact Ms. D. Maple before the deadline on 10th September.

Lost property

Please click [here](#) for a list of lost property received since the start of term. If your child has lost anything listed, or any other item, please ask them to check with the school office, as things arrive daily. All items being claimed will need to be identified by the student. Please can we also remind parents/carers to label all uniform and belongings so we can get items back to students as quickly as possible.

Highlands meal prices - September 2025

[Here](#) is a list of Highlands meal prices for September 2025.



School car park

Please note that the Highlands School car park is for staff and visitor use only. We've recently noticed a number of year 7 parents using the car park at drop-off and pick-up times. To ensure the safety of our students and to avoid congestion, we kindly ask all parents and carers to refrain from entering the school car park. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Journeys and Places survey

Enfield Council is proposing to introduce 20mph speed limits on residential streets and roads in town centres — part of our wider plan to make the borough safer, cleaner and greener for everyone. Speed was a contributing factor to 61% of recorded injury-related collisions in Enfield over the past 5 years. Evidence shows that lower speed limits reduces the number of accidents and makes everyone feel safer in their local areas.

We want your views on our 20mph proposals. Your feedback will help shape how we roll out these changes to benefit the whole community. Find out more and take the survey at <https://letstalk.enfield.gov.uk/20mph> by Sunday 21 September 2025.

We invite students to write to or email us to share their views on how 20mph speed limits might make them feel safer when walking, cycling and travelling in other ways to school or around Enfield.

Students and teachers can email us at journeysandplaces@enfield.gov.uk or write to us at:

ATTN: Journeys and Places
Enfield Council
Silver St
London EN1 3XA



School lettings

We're excited to announce that a new lettings company, **School Hire and Functions Ltd**, is now managing all our venue bookings - including the astro, courts, field, main hall, and various rooms within the school. They've already received a high volume of bookings for the next three months, so be sure to get in touch soon if you're interested.

For all booking enquiries, please contact **Jo Bukin, Director**, at **07855 042027** or email



The graphic features a background image of the school building with a large green apple logo at the top center. The text 'Highlands School' is prominently displayed in a large, dark blue font. Below it, the address '148 Worlds End Lane, London, N21 1QQ' is written in a smaller, bold font. A descriptive paragraph follows, highlighting the school's modern facilities. Three circular images show the school's outdoor spaces and indoor hall. At the bottom, there is a green banner with contact information and a list of facilities.

Highlands School

148 Worlds End Lane, London, N21 1QQ

Modern and spacious facilities to hire for community events, sports groups, dance and drama classes, language school, tutoring services...and more!

JOINING SCHOOL HIRE & FUNCTIONS LTD FROM 1ST SEPTEMBER 2025

CONTACT TODAY
07855042027

- ✓ 4G Astro pitch
- ✓ Drama studios
- ✓ Sports hall
- ✓ Mirrored dance studio
- ✓ Classrooms
- ✓ Outside spaces

school.hire@yahoo.co.uk. You can also find more details at www.school-hire.com



PSHE topic for this term - Autumn term 1

Year Group	Topic	Lessons
Year 7	Unit 1: Transition to Secondary	Lesson 1: An Introduction to PSHE. Lesson 2: Expectations at Highlands. Lesson 3: Emotional Health. Lesson 4: Positive Relationships. Lesson 5: Managing conflict in relationships.
Year 8	Unit 1: Mental and physical health	Lesson 1: Introduction to health. Lesson 2: Mental health: Resilience part 1. Lesson 3: Mental health: Resilience part 2. Lesson 4: The impacts on emotional wellbeing on relationships. Lesson 5: The impacts of emotional wellbeing on body image. Lesson 6: Managing our emotional wellbeing and mental health.
Year 9	Unit 1: Drugs - awareness and managing risks	Lesson 1: Types of drugs. Lesson 2: Awareness and peer influence. Lesson 3: Managing risk. Lesson 4: Assessing risk and personal safety. Lesson 5: Drugs exploitation.
Year 10	RS unit: Debate topic: "This house believes assisted suicide should be legalised"	Lesson 1: Introduction to the ethical topic. Lesson 2: Arguments for assisted suicide. Lesson 3: Religious views on assisted suicide. Lesson 4: Arguments against assisted suicide. Lesson 5: Debate preparation. Lesson 6: The grand debate.
Year 11	Unit 1: Parenting and pregnancy	Lesson 1: Readiness for parenthood and different routes to parenthood. Lesson 2: Fertility, age and health. Lesson 3: The stages of pregnancy and childbirth. Lesson 4: Miscarriage and abortion.
Year 12	Unit 1: Employment rights	Lesson 1: The Equality Act. Lesson 2: Rights and responsibilities in the workplace. Lesson 3: Minimum wage and trade unions. Lesson 4: Laws around young people and employment. Lesson 5: Work-life balance.



YEAR 10 BOYS FOOTBALL TRIALS

FRIDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER
3:15PM - 4:45PM
ON THE ASTROTURF

**Shin pads must be worn, PE kit only,
no studs.**

To be selected for the first school fixture,
students must show up to trials.

FOOTBALL TRIALS

YEAR 8 & 9 BOYS

THURSDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER
ON THE ASTROTURF
3:15PM - 4:45PM

Shin pads must be worn, PE kit only, no studs.

**TO BE SELECTED FOR THE FIRST
SCHOOL FIXTURE, STUDENTS MUST
SHOW UP TO TRIALS.**

GIRLS

FOOTBALL TRIALS

YEARS 9 - 13

TUESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER

3:30PM - 4:45PM

ON THE ASTRO

Please ensure you attend if you want to be considered for the school teams.



Parenting programmes for parents

Programmes are available for parents/carers with children of all ages, such as:

- *Triple P (Baby)* - parents-to-be and parents with a baby up to 12 months old.
- *Circle of Security* - Parents/Caregivers of children ages 4 months to 5 years old.
- *Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities* - Parents/Carers of children aged 0-18
- *Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities* in **TURKISH** – Turkish & Kurdish speaking parents of children aged 0 – 18.

The flyer is for the SFSC Programme for Parents - Carers in Turkish. It features the 'Minik Kardes' logo at the top left and the 'ENFIELD Council' logo at the top right. The main title is 'Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities (SFSC) Programme for Parents - Carers in Turkish'. The text describes SFSC as an inclusive evidence-based parenting programme. It lists the course content, including different parenting approaches, positive discipline, and cultural information. A yellow banner with 'FREE' indicates the course is free. Contact information for Sevil Kotan is provided, along with logos for 'Start for Life' and 'YOUTH & FAMILY HUB'.

Minik Kardes

In partnership with
ENFIELD Council

Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities (SFSC)
Programme for Parents - Carers in Turkish

SFSC is an inclusive evidence-based parenting programme developed by the Race Equality Foundation and is designed to promote protective factors associated with good parenting and better outcomes for children in all communities.

Enfield has partnered with Minik Kardes to deliver SFSC to Turkish; Kurdish Turkish Cypriot and Bulgarian Turkish parents/carers living in Enfield.

This 13-week course will be delivered in Turkish and includes:

- Different approaches to parenting
- The process of positive discipline
- Childhood characteristics and information on developmental stages
- Importance of identity, culture, and traditions
- Improving parent-child relationship

FREE

When?: 9.30-12.30 Every Thursday from 18 September 2025 to 18 December 2025
Who is it for?: Turkish and Kurdish speaking parents of children aged birth to 18 years
Where?: Ponders End Youth and Family Hub 141 South Street Enfield EN3 4PX

Certificates will be given to everyone who completes the course/ Refreshments and light snacks will be provided / Creche is available.

How to Book?: self-referral / Referral from professionals email for referral form

Contact information: For more information, contact Sevil Kotan
Tel: 020 7923 7226 or 07792202108 E-mail: s.kotan@minikkardes.org.uk

Start for Life

@minikkardes

YOUTH & FAMILY HUB
HELPING CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES THRIVE

Check out the Parenting Directory for a range of other evidence-based programmes - [Home - Enfield Parenting Directory](#)

If you have any question/feedback we'd love to hear from you directly at parentingprogrammes@enfield.gov.uk



Help us fund raise for our school

Did you know when you sign up to [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and purchase goods from shops on the **website** or **app**, **Highlands School** will earn a **commission from the sale?**

All you have to do is search for **Highlands School Enfield** and select us as your chosen charity and shop as usual.

Highlands School Enfield

© Winchmore Hill, London

£3,565.00 raised

96 supporters

Sign up and support this cause

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

GET STARTED

How to support Highlands School Enfield

- 1** Sign up
Provide us with a few details to set up your profile with easyfundraising.
- 2** Download our browser extension
Our Donation Reminder plug-in pops up automatically when you shop to let you know when a donation is available.
- 3** Track your donations
You'll be able to see how much you've raised in your account and we'll send updates on when Highlands School Enfield gets paid.

Support us through
easyfundraising



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](https://www.futurefirsthub.org.uk) 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

#HighlandsAlumni

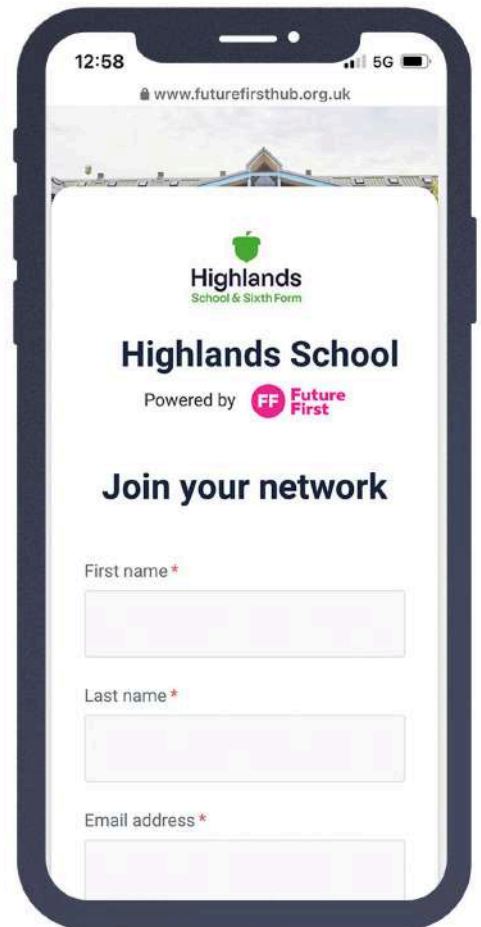


Former student?

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.





Student medical needs

If your child needs to take regular medication in school, please fill out the following [Medicines Consent Form](#) to give the school consent to administer medication to your child. All medications that are kept in school must be stored in the medical room.

Mental health

We are continuously working hard to improve our understanding as a community of mental health, to enable us to provide the best possible outcomes for the young people in our lives. If you are ever concerned that your child is at risk due to very poor mental health please inform the school. You can also contact one of these numbers to seek support from a specialist. The Crisis line is there to offer guidance if your child may be having suicidal thoughts and is possibly in immediate danger. If you do ever find yourself in a position where you need to use these resources for your child, please make the school aware so we can provide appropriate support within school for your child.

Urgent mental health support - 24/7 crisis lines

Area	Boroughs covered	24/7 crisis line number
North West London	Brent, Hillingdon, Harrow, Kensington & Chelsea and Westminster	0800 0234 650
	Ealing, Hounslow and Hammersmith & Fulham	0800 328 4444
North Central London	Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey and Islington	0800 151 0023
North East London	City & Hackney	0800 073 0006
	Newham	0800 073 0066
	Tower Hamlets	0800 073 0003
South West London	Barking & Dagenham, Havering, Redbridge and Waltham Forest	0300 555 1000
	Kingston, Merton, Richmond, Sutton and Wandsworth	0800 028 8000
South East London	Croydon, Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark	0800 731 2864
	Bexley, Bromley and Greenwich	0800 330 8590

Every mental health trust in London has put in place a **24/7 crisis line** for people of all ages - children, young people and adults. The lines which are free to call can provide advice to those in a crisis. These crisis lines are supported by trained mental health advisors 365 days a year.

You can find the 24/7 crisis line numbers using the NHS Service Finder ([link below](https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/mental-health/find-an-urgent-mental-health-helpline)) but the table provides all of the telephone numbers in London.

<https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/mental-health/find-an-urgent-mental-health-helpline>

Urgent and other support available

shout
85258

Shout offers confidential 24/7 crisis text support for times when immediate assistance is required
Text "SHOUT" to 85258 or [visit Shout Crisis Text Line](#)

SAMARITANS

Samaritans 24/7 365 days a year - they are here to listen and provide support
Call: 116 123 or email: jo@samaritans.org

Crisis Tools

Crisis Tools helps professionals support young people in crisis - short accessible video guides and text resources
Sign up for free resources [here](#)

PAPYRUS

Papyrus provide confidential support and advice to young people struggling with thoughts of suicide, and anyone worried about a young person
Call: 0800 068 41 41 or Text: 07860 039967 (opening hours 9am to midnight - 365 days a year)

childline
SOMEONE ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME

Childline confidential telephone counselling service for any child with a problem
Call: 0800 1111 anytime or [online chat with a counsellor](#)

Good Thinking

Good Thinking is London's digital wellbeing service and provides a range of resources for young people to help improve mental wellbeing including free NHS-approved apps

THE MIX

The Mix provides free, confidential support for young people under 25
Call: 0808 808 4994 (11am - 11pm every day) or [Email](#)

Beat

Beat provide support to help young people who may be struggling with an eating problem or an eating disorder
Call the Youthline (under 18's) 0808 801 0711 or Studentline 0808 801 0811 (9am - 8pm during the week and 4pm - 8pm on weekends and bank holidays)

kooth

Kooth is a free, safe and anonymous online mental wellbeing community including live chat with the team, discussion boards, magazine with helpful articles and a daily journal a magazine



Safeguarding contacts

If you are concerned about your child's wellbeing or the wellbeing of any other student at Highlands School, please contact the school on 020 8370 1100 or email the DSL at staysafe@highlearn.uk. This email address can also be used for students, parents and carers to share any safeguarding concerns or to request support.

If you are concerned that a child has been harmed or is at risk of being harmed and school cannot be contacted, please contact Enfield Children's Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 020 8379 5555, and all the police on 999 straight away.

Helpful numbers and websites

Childline: 0800 1111

NSPCC helpline: 0808 800 5000

The police: (if you are in danger): 999

LGBT switchboard: 0300 330 0630

Kooth: www.kooth.com - support service for students wellbeing

Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub: 0300 500 80 90

Barnardos: 0800 008 7005

Sign Health: <https://signhealth.org.uk/contact/>


Deaf young people: <https://signhealth.org.uk/with-deaf-people/supporting-young-people/>

Talk to someone....

- if you feel upset or worried about anything at all (even if you think it is not important)
- if you feel anxious or unable to cope
- if someone has hurt you physically, emotionally or mentally
- if you feel upset or worried about anything at all (even if you think it is not important)
- if you feel worried about someone at home
- if you are being threatened or forced to do things
- if someone has done something to you without your consent
- if you feel unsafe in school, at home or on the streets
- about anything else worrying you

Follow Highlands School on:

 [x@Highlands_sch](https://twitter.com/Highlands_sch)

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

 YouTube [Highlands School Enfield](https://www.youtube.com/Highlands_School_Enfield)

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

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