



Highlands School Newsletter

14 November 2025



Dear parents and carers,

This week was a busy one at Highlands. On Tuesday we marked Remembrance Day by observing a two minute silence across the school. On Wednesday we held our sixth form open evening; we had record numbers of families come to school to learn about our sixth form, which has gone from strength to strength over the last few years. We look forward to receiving applications from our year 11 students and other year 11s from across our part of north London. Today we had a practice lock down; it is important that staff and students know what to do in the event that a threat is identified and we need to lock down the school. The practice went well and students engaged with it with great maturity. Next week the events continue to come thick and fast with our bake sale to raise money for those who have suffered because of the hurricane in Jamaica, year 13 parents' evening and then the Enfield High Achiever's Evening which Highlands is hosting for the second year running.

I was also delighted to see our brand new floodlights be installed and tested over the past week, we will be officially turning them on for the first time in one of our upcoming sports fixtures. Members of the community can hire the astro in the evenings now, so please pass on the details to anyone who might be interested in the use of this sports space in the winter months in the evening. Full contact details of our lettings company can be found on page 2 of this newsletter.

Mr McInerney, Headteacher.

Key dates for this half term:

- Tonight, Friday 14th November: HPFA musical bingo night
- Wednesday 19th November: year 13 parents' evening
- Thursday 27th November: 'Right to Speak' spoken word evening at school
- Wednesday 10th December: year 9 parents' evening
- Thursday 11th December: winter music concert
- Friday 19th December: end of term (half day)



The HPFA Winter Raffle is coming soon

Our much-loved HPFA Winter Raffle is returning soon, and this year's prizes are bigger and better than ever! The first prize is a **Samsung Full HD 40" TV (T5300)**, perfect for those cosy festive evenings. Other fantastic prizes include free personal training sessions, beauty treatment vouchers, LEGO sets, games, and craft sets - with even more to be announced!



Tickets will be £2 each, and the winning tickets will be drawn on **16th December**. Keep an eye out for the raffle link and full prize list coming soon!

We're also appealing for prize donations of gifts or services from our wonderful community to support our HPFA fundraising efforts. If you or your business can contribute - whether it's a voucher, experience, or product - we'd love to hear from you. Your generosity helps us raise vital funds and makes this event a highlight of the Highlands calendar!

New floodlights on our astro

We're pleased to share that brand-new floodlights have now been installed on our Astro! The improved lighting will enhance training, fixtures, and community use all year round, and particularly in the evening during the winter months.

If you're interested in hiring the Astro for sports clubs, matches, or training sessions, please see the details below. Other areas of the school can also be hired, e.g. the main hall or sports hall for parties and events.

For all booking enquiries, please contact **Jo Bukin**, at **07855 042027** or email: school.hire@yahoo.co.uk. You can also find more details at www.school-hire.com





Trip to the University of Oxford

At Highlands sixth form, we have high aspirations for all students and to inspire our current Y12s I took ten students to St Peter's College at the University of Oxford. Throughout the morning we heard from four current students about life at the university and had a masterclass on the applications process including learning how to structure personal statements, plan for admissions exams and what to expect at interviews. After a tour of the college grounds we were treated to a wonderfully generous lunch in a typically opulent Oxford hall. In the afternoon we were given talks on neuroscience and the mathematics of biodiversity from senior fellows at the college.

This was a great opportunity for our students to experience small group tutorials and interact with experts in the field, something students at Oxford have on a daily basis. I hope that this experience has inspired our students to apply to universities like Oxford and look forward to helping them, and others, with their applications next year.

Mr Tuton





Sixth Form Open Evening

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Sixth Form Open Evening this week! It was fantastic to see so many families and students exploring our classrooms, meeting our staff, and experiencing the vibrant atmosphere that makes Highlands Sixth Form such a special place to study.

We hope you enjoyed the evening as much as we did and look forward to welcoming our next cohort of students in September 2026.

Watch our Open Evening highlights on [Instagram](#) to relive the event!





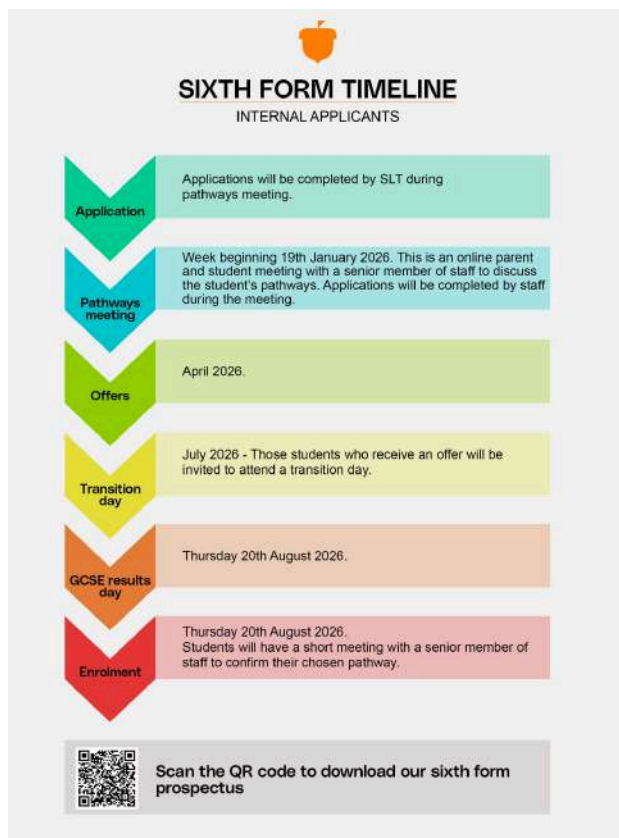
How to apply to our sixth form

For current Highlands students (internal applicants)

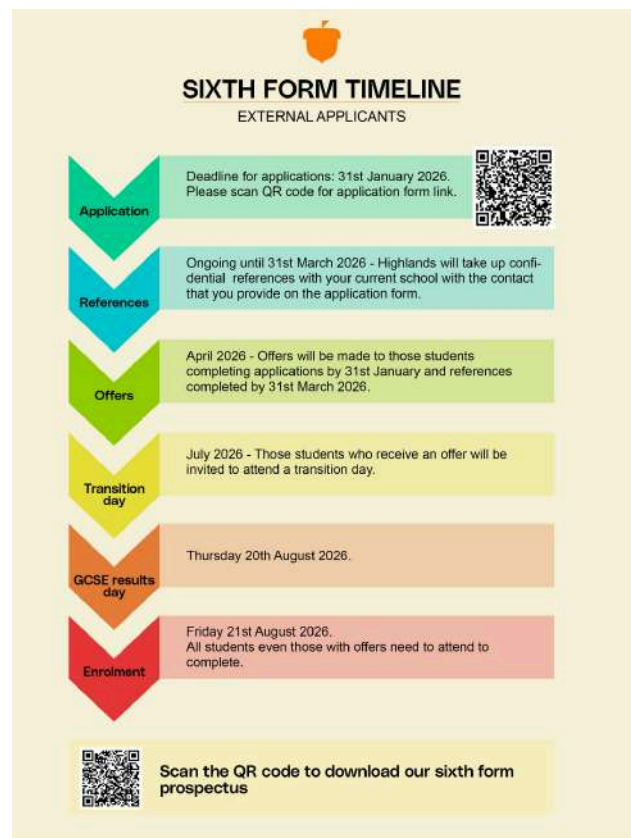
Applications are completed internally during an online pathways meeting with a senior member of staff in the spring term. During this meeting, students will discuss subject choices and future pathways. Offers will be given in April 2026. Please see the application timeline below for important dates.

For external applicants

Students from other schools should apply via our **online application system**, [Applicaa](#). The deadline for applications is 31st January 2026. As part of this process, Highlands School will request a confidential reference from your current school. Please see the application timeline below for key deadlines and next steps.



@Highlands_sch | @highlandssc | Highlands School Enfield | @highlandssc



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Parent governor ballot

Further to the email sent to everyone on Monday, please note the deadline for voting for new parent governors is **Thursday 20th November at 2.00pm.**

Catleaps Gymnastic Invitational champion!

Year 9 student Sibora Myftari competed in the Catleaps Gymnastics Invitational, an event bringing together talented gymnasts from across Enfield and beyond. Sibora delivered an outstanding performance, winning first place overall and earning two additional trophies for achieving the highest vault score and highest floor score in her category.

Go Sibora, we are so proud of you.



Year 10 & 11 boys basketball

On Monday 10th November, the year 10 & 11 boys' basketball team played their first league game of the season against Latymer. After a fast start which saw Highlands race into a 10-2 lead after two minutes, the speed of scoring slowed down which allowed Latymer back into the game. After four quarters the final score ended Highlands 24-51 Latymer.

This was the teams first ever game together so they should be proud of themselves.

Player of the match: Caleb Kintu-Miller

A huge thank you to Centrol Office Supplies for generously sponsoring our new Highlands basketball kit - your support is greatly appreciated!

Mr Avann



Player of the match: Caleb Kintu-Miller



Year 10 - The Great Debate

Year 10 students tackled a thoughtful and timely debate this week: “This House believes that assisted dying should be legalised.” They drew on real parliamentary developments, including the Assisted Dying Bill’s recent progress through the Commons and Lords, and discussed key updates such as replacing a High Court judge with a multidisciplinary team and increasing domestic-abuse training for doctors.

After hearing strong arguments from both sides, students voted 131 in favour and 88 against showing mature engagement with a challenging national topic.



Getting ready for the Deaflympics!

Our deaf students enjoyed a brilliant session with Mr Costi this week, creating vibrant posters to celebrate the upcoming Deaflympics. It was the perfect moment to shine a light on this incredible international event, where deaf athletes from around the world compete at the highest level. The activities not only helped raise awareness but also gave our students a chance to showcase their creativity - and their posters look absolutely fantastic. For more information of the Deaflympics visit www.deaflympics.com





Year 12 student impresses at Transport for London work experience

This half term, year 12 student Rhys had the incredible opportunity to complete a week-long work experience placement with Transport for London (TfL), gaining hands-on exposure to a range of engineering projects across the network.



Rhys impressed everyone he met with his pre-existing knowledge of TfL's past and present rolling stock and his genuine enthusiasm for the transport network. During the week, he visited key projects including the Central Line Improvement Project in Acton, the Beckton DLR Control Room, Beckton Depot Expansion, and the new Piccadilly Line Upgrade train simulators.



On his final day, Rhys presented a summary of the week's activities to a team of over 10 TfL staff. He delivered his presentation confidently, maintaining excellent eye contact and speaking at a clear, professional pace, a skill not easy for everyone, and one he handled exceptionally well.

Rhys's dedication, professionalism, and eagerness to learn have been widely praised by his placement hosts. He is a fantastic example of how our students can engage with real-world opportunities and make the most of them. Congratulations, Rhys!

Mrs Laurenzi

School show theatre awards

We are delighted to announce that the school show we performed at the Millfield Theatre in June 2025, Chicago Teen Edition, is being nominated for the National School Theatre Awards. The National School Theatre Awards mimic the National Theatre awards but are solely for productions performed by either secondary school groups or performances from theatre schools.



This is an incredible achievement and the students who performed so fantastically and professionally in that show should be very proud of themselves.





We are awaiting further details about the nominations and awards and we will not know the final outcomes until 22nd June 2026 - but it is something to look forward to and the whole school community is very proud.

Miss Brown



House charities 2025-2026

Here are the House Charities chosen by our students for the 2025–26 academic year - each reflecting the causes they're most passionate about supporting.

<p>Oak house charity:</p> 	<p>Beech house charity:</p> 
<p>Noah's Ark Children's Hospice is a specialist charity providing compassionate palliative, practical and emotional care to babies, children and young people with life-limiting or life-threatening conditions - and to their entire families.</p>	<p>The World Food Programme is the largest humanitarian organisation saving and changing lives worldwide. They bring life-saving relief in emergencies and use food assistance to build a pathway to peace, stability and prosperity for people recovering from conflict, disasters and the impacts of climate change.</p>
<p>Rowan house charity:</p> 	<p>Willow house charity:</p> 
<p>Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity supports one of the world's leading children's hospitals. Their mission is to help seriously ill children receive the best possible care and to ensure every family has the support they need during the toughest times.</p>	<p>Place2Be is a UK-based children's mental-health charity that works inside schools to provide one-to-one and group counselling, as well as training and resources for staff, pupils and families.</p>



House dance competition

The Dance House Competition took place as part of DARE Days, led by the talented Architects Dance Company - one of the UK's leading street dance groups based in Essex. Over two days, they worked with form groups to create a series of dynamic performance pieces, which were later judged by a panel of neutral staff members. Students had a fantastic creative experience, showcasing teamwork, energy, and originality in every routine. Congratulations to **Rowan** for securing first place, and well done to Beech, **Willow** and **Oak** for their great efforts!

Inter house football competitions

- **Year 10:** Monday 17th November (12:40pm - 1:10pm)
- **Sixth form:** Monday 24th November (12:40pm - 1:10pm)
- **Year 9:** Monday 1st December (1:40pm - 2:10pm)
- **Year 8:** Monday 8th December (1:40pm - 2:10pm)
- **Year 7:** Monday 15th December (1:10pm - 1:40pm)
- **Year 11:** Tuesday 16th December (12:40pm - 1:10pm)



Cultural cuisine days

- **Turkish** cuisine day: Thursday 27th November 2025 (**Rowan**)
- **Mexican** cuisine day - Thursday 11th December 2025 (**Oak**)
- **USA** cuisine day - Thursday 15th January 2026 (**Beech**)
- **Greek** cuisine day: Thursday 12th February 2026 (**Willow**)
- **Jamaican** cuisine day: Thursday 13th March 2026 (**Rowan**)
- **Indian** cuisine day: Thursday 9th April 2026 (**Oak**)
- **Italian** cuisine day: Tuesday 15th May 2026 (**Beech**)
- **Ghanaian** cuisine day: Thursday 11th June 2026 (**Willow**)
- **Spanish** cuisine day: Thursday 16th July 2026 (**Rowan**)



House bake sales

- **Rowan** bake sale: Thursday 27th November
- **Beech** bake sale: Wednesday 3rd December
- **Oak** bake sale: Wednesday 10th December
- **Willow** bake sale: Tuesday 16th December





Music Production & Vocal Performance Competition

Calling all year 10–12 vocalists and producers, here's your chance to shine! We're on the lookout for the most exciting young talent to take part in our Vocal Performance & Music Production Competition. Whether you're a singer with star power or a producer with next-level beats, we want to hear from you. The top 10 entrants will be invited to pointblank music school to perform and hear their music in our state-of-the-art studios, and get a taste of the music industry up close.

When: Thursday December 11th, 4:30pm-7pm

Where: 23-28 Penn Street, N1 5DL

Prizes:

- Best Vocalist: Home Recording Bundle
- Best Producer: Native Instruments MIDI Controller
- Plus, both winners' schools will receive 15 Roland Studio Headphones for their music departments.

Deadline: Saturday 29th November

Submit your entry by sending an mp3 via **WhatsApp: +44 7456 446581**.

Please make sure you also send your: name, email address, year group and school/college. For more information click [here](#).

The poster is divided into two main sections. The left section has a black background with the 'pointblank' logo in the top left. Below the logo, white text reads: 'Open to all Year 10-12s. We're on the lookout for exciting young talent to take part in our Music Production & Vocal Performance competition.' Below this, smaller white text says: 'Scan the QR code overleaf to learn how to enter & what prizes are up for grabs.' The bottom half of the left section features a black and white photograph of a person wearing headphones, looking towards a stage with bright lights. The right section has a white background with the title 'MUSIC PRODUCTION & VOCAL PERFORMANCE COMPETITION' in bold black letters. Below the title, the date and time are listed: 'date: 11 Dec 2025' and 'time: 4:30 - 7pm'. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner of the right section.



School announcements

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.

Notifying the school of student appointments

If your child has an appointment scheduled during school hours, please ensure you notify us promptly by emailing postbox@highlearn.uk or by phoning us on the day of the appointment.

Your notification must include the date of the appointment and the exact time the student needs to leave school. Where possible, please also attach or provide proof of the appointment to the email.

To ensure your child is released smoothly from their lesson, please write a clear note on the appropriate day of your child's student planner, indicating the time they need to leave class. Students must show this planner note to their teacher to be excused from the lesson. They will then proceed to the school reception to officially sign out before being released to meet you at your pre-arranged location.

Many thanks for your cooperation with this.



House weekly winners This week's winner is the house with the highest achievement points minus concern points plus the points from the department competitions and the helpers from open evening. Congratulations to **Rowan**.

	Beech	Oak	Rowan	Willow
Positive points	8,814	7,687	8,448	9,863
Negative points	-522	-385	-332	-386
Points overall	8,292	7,302	8,116	9,477
Dance competition	3,000	2,000	4,000	1,000
Open evening student helpers (x10)	620	740	880	740
Overall points	11,912	10,042	12,996	11,217

Top students in year 7

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Darina	Abdulkadhim	7WTH	W	93
Zahra	Hazzan	7BJC	B	90
Ruby	Clee	7WTH	W	89
Charles	Nottage	7WTH	W	89
Dila	Kartal	7WTH	W	89
Abigail	Hobley	7BJC	B	88
Dominic	Wodzynski	7WTH	W	88
Oriah Mae	Salom-Mason	7WTH	W	88
Logan	George	7WTH	W	88
Seraphina	Mumba	7WTH	W	87

Top students in year 8:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Arya	Arablou	8WEL	W	76
Iyla	Shah	8WEL	W	75
Suryan	Mistry	8WEL	W	75
Selin	Ozturk	8WEL	W	74
Layla	Orchant	8WEL	W	70
Helin	Kekec	8WEL	W	70
Joseph	McHale	8RAC	R	68
Lilah	Zekayi	8WEL	W	68
Orhan	Ekiz	8WEL	W	63
Alexia	Symeou	8WEL	W	62



Top students in year 9:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Hannah	Gibbons	9WSW	W	57
Alara	Aristidou	9BLR	B	55
Barbod	Khosravi	9WSW	W	55
Kaan	Aydemir	9WSW	W	54
Akeesa Induvari	Gurubebila Vitharanage	9BEF	B	53
Evie	Howlett	9WSW	W	53
Raha	Hashemi	9BEF	B	50
Aaliyah	Lascalles	9WSW	W	49
Lyla	Mughal	9WMT	W	48
Soren	Walmsley	9BEF	B	47
Michael	Angeli	9RGA	R	47

Top students in year 10:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Nathan	Lemonious	10RCX	R	52
Liam	Redmond	10RCX	R	47
Theo	Crow	10OAC	O	44
Remilee	Mayers	10RCX	R	41
Kelechi	Nwokeji	10RAB	R	39
Simra	Hassan	10OAC	O	38
Xhorxhia	Kuvertaris	10RCX	R	38
Bibiana	Edwards	10BBK	B	35
Samuel	Malaj	10ORF	O	35
Stefano	Keliris	10RCX	R	34
Sindi	Shaban	10WNK	W	34
Nea	Petritaj	10WNK	W	34



Top students in year 11:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Elyscia	Lazarides	11BLM	B	36
Melisa	Angelova	11BLM	B	34
Alyssa	Ketwaroo	11OSM	O	34
Sophie	Jones	11BLM	B	33
Avril	Brown	11RJC	R	32
Elias	Marinos	11WJQ	W	32
Ikram	Mohamed	11BLM	B	31
James	Butcher	11OSM	O	31
Elis	Cristovao	11WCM	W	31

Top students in year 12:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Jessica	Smyth	12WTA	W	24
Lily Mae	Beisty	12WBS	W	18
Anastasia	Katz	12OMA	O	16
Laina	Constantinou	12RCW	R	16
Evie	Ferguson	12WTA	W	16
Eva	Chrysostomou	12BJT	B	14
Isla	Kirkland	12RSL	R	13
Paula	Shehu	12BCR	B	12
Ellia	Saat	12BJT	B	12
Max	Gilzean	12OMA	O	12

Top students in year 13:

Forename	Surname	Form	House	Points
Tiana	Martindale	13BTD	B	16
Sherihan	Mehmet	13BTD	B	16
Alesha	Okoye	13WAD	W	16
Sia	Loomis	13OES	O	14
Florence	Charlton	13OAL	O	13
Giulio	Pappalardo	13OAL	O	12
Charlie	Skipp	13RHK	R	12
Sophie	Gerrish	13RJB	R	12
Nida	Demirkaya	13RJB	R	12
Zoe	Ellerby	13WDS	W	12



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

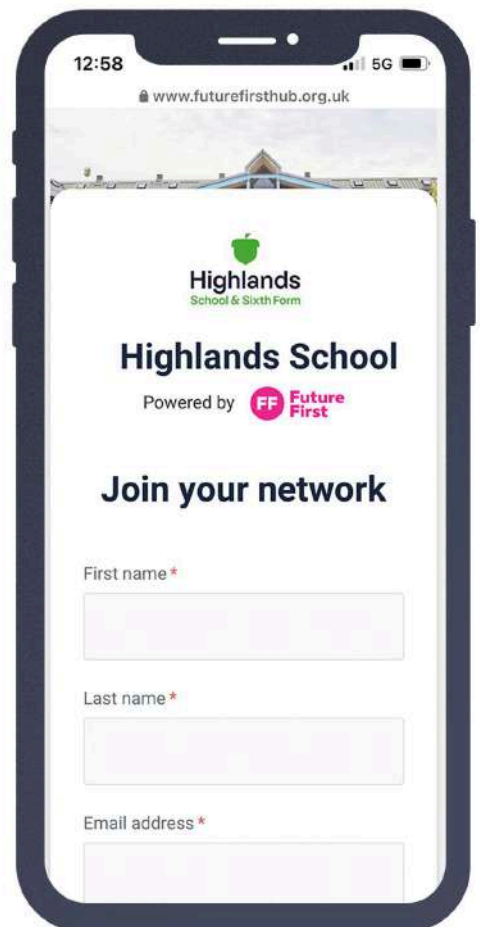


Former student?

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](#)) 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
GROWING UP THE EASY WAY, 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
Dedicated support for under 25s

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)

kooh

Kooh 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

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