



ASPIRATION



RESPECT



EXCELLENCE

w/c 24 April 2023 Week B

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Term dates can be found here: [2022/23](#)

Term 5

Mon 24 Apr: Y11 MFL Speaking Exams
Y12 PPEs
Reading Youth Council Annual Conference Y10

Tues 25 Apr: Y11 MFL Speaking Exams
Y12 PPEs

Wed 26 Apr: Y11 MFL Speaking Exams
Y12 PPEs
Y13 Music Practical
Y7/8 Junior Maths Challenge

Thurs 27 Apr: Industrial Strike Action

Fri 28 Apr: Y11 MFL Speaking Exams
Y9 Assessment Week

HOUSE POINTS

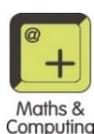
Caversham	115848
Grove	113227
Mapledurham	114192
Rosehill	113168

CHESS CLUB

KS4 and KS5 Lunchtime Chess Club will run on Friday 28 April for one week only in T6
Thereafter, club will resume on a Thursday lunchtime.
Feel free to bring your lunch with you!



Follow us



Information

Latest News

Please download our mobile website app to ensure you receive all the latest news. Click this [link](#) for further information.

Problems with Class Charts

If you are experiencing issues with accessing your Class Charts account, please contact vihamer@highdown.reading.sch.uk



Absence Reporting

Please notify us if your son/daughter is unable to attend either online or onsite lessons due to illness or other reason.

Please report all absences using the Class Charts app rather than by telephone, email or ParentMail. We hope parents will find this route much more straightforward and efficient. You can find out more here:

<https://www.highdown.reading.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=1803&type=pdf>.

ParentMail Accounts

We respectfully request all parents and carers regularly check their student's dinner money balances to ensure they are in credit.

At peak times, around mid-morning, it can take up to 2 hours for the monies to show on the account.

Therefore, if you need to top them up, please allow time for these to be processed, we have found topping up in the evenings to be the quickest way to add monies to the account.

Leave of Absence

Applications for leave of absence during term time **must** be made in advance by the parent/carer. Leave will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances and parents will be made aware that taking unauthorised leave of absence could lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice and/or prosecution.

Holiday will not be authorised in term time.

Application for Leave of Absence forms can be found here:

<https://www.highdown.reading.sch.uk/absence>.

Please complete and return to the school office.

Safeguarding: National Online Safety Courses for Parents and Carers

We would like to encourage parents/carers to complete one of the following parent courses in National Online Safety, presented by Myleene Klass:

The course takes about 40 minutes and leads you on a journey through a child's digital habits, exploring the type of online world they are experiencing now, what risks they might be exposed to, and looks at what you can do to support them.

[Annual Award in Online Safety for Parents and Carers of Children aged 11-14](#)

[Annual Award in Online Safety for Parents and Carers of Children aged 14-18](#)

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many areas which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about OFCOM'S 'CHILDREN AND PARENTS: MEDIA USE AND ATTITUDES' REPORT 2023

Each year, Ofcom – Britain's regulatory body for communications – produces an overview of children and parents' media experiences across the previous year. The latest version has just been released, and we've pulled out some of the report's most thought-provoking findings which relate to online safety ...



PERFORMING

ARTS

LEVEL 3

Showcase

**Annika
Ryan**

**Beau
Brown**

**Ella
Boswell**

**Ciara
Patrick**

19 MAY 2023

DONATIONS WELCOME

pahawkins@highdown.reading.sch.uk

7PM

DR2



Join Us

We currently have the following support staff vacancies. Please follow the link [here](#) to the school website to find out more information.



1560 on roll
11-18 mixed comprehensive
Headteacher: Ms Rachel Cave, BSc, NPQH

HIGHDOWN SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE

EXAMINATIONS INVIGILATOR

- £10.79 per hour
- Flexible hours

We are looking to expand our team of Invigilators to support the running of external and internal examinations at Highdown.

You should enjoy working as part of a team and an interest in working in a school environment is essential. This will ideally suit responsible, punctual, calm, organised and approachable individuals.

Full training will be provided.

For details and an application form visit our website: www.highdown.reading.sch.uk. Please return your completed application form to Miss Nicci Burns, Headteacher's PA, in the post or by email on hnb@highdown.reading.sch.uk

Highdown School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. We are also trained in safer recruitment and the successful applicant will be subject to an enhanced DBS check and a 'Prohibition from Teaching' check.



1560 on roll
11-18 mixed comprehensive
Headteacher: Ms Rachel Cave, BSc, NPQH

HIGHDOWN SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE

CLEANER/HOUSEKEEPING TEAM

- £10.79 per hour.
- 15 hours per week. Monday to Friday 3pm to 6pm. Morning shifts also available.

Come and join our Housekeeping team. Duties include; cleaning classrooms and offices, toilets, emptying bins, vacuuming, mopping floors helping to create a safe and welcoming environment to promote learning for our students

The successful candidate will be conscientious and reliable with a friendly and pro-active attitude. Experience is desirable, but training will be provided.

Applications considered on receipt.

For details and an application form visit our website: www.highdown.reading.sch.uk. Please return your completed application form to Miss Nicci Burns, Headteacher's PA, by email on hnb@highdown.reading.sch.uk

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1560 on roll
11-18 mixed comprehensive
Headteacher: Ms Rachel Cave, BSc, NPQH

HIGHDOWN SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE

COVER SUPERVISOR

Salary: £17,622 - £18,618pa (NIC P14-P17).

30 hours per week, Term time plus 5 staff training days. Part time position considered.

Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre is a very popular, oversubscribed and successful school set in 32 acres of parkland in Caversham to the north of Reading.

We are seeking to appoint a Cover Supervisor to cover lessons for absent teaching staff. Applicants should be confident, supportive and possess good interpersonal and communication skills.

We are keen to appoint a proactive and passionate individual with a strong classroom presence with excellent classroom and behaviour management skills. The ideal candidate will have experience of working in a similar environment.

You will be linked with a curriculum area and will undertake administrative tasks when you are not required for cover.

Why Highdown School?

- We are committed to staff professional learning and leadership development for all staff, at all levels
- We are conveniently located for quick and easy access to London, the rest of Berkshire and Oxfordshire
- Staff have subsidised access to Highdown Sport and Leisure facilities
- Staff have free access to Westfield Health advice and support service

Closing date: Applications considered on receipt.

For details and an application form visit our website: www.highdown.reading.sch.uk. Please return your completed application form to Miss Nicci Burns, Headteacher's PA, by email on hnb@highdown.reading.sch.uk

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1650 on roll
11-18 mixed comprehensive
Headteacher: Ms Rachel Cave, BSc, NPQH

HIGHDOWN SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE

LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT

Full time, term time only plus 2 staff training days (NIC P3-4) Actual Salary: £14,968pa.
8.30am to 3.15pm.

We require enthusiastic and committed candidates, who have experience working with children, to join our hardworking and successful team. You will need a high level of interpersonal skills, be well motivated and enthusiastic about working alongside young people. You will also have an excellent standard of literacy and numeracy.

Funding is available for further training to obtain Qualified Teacher Status.

Closing date: Applications considered on receipt

For details and an application form visit our website: www.highdown.reading.sch.uk. Please return your completed application form to Miss Nicci Burns, Headteacher's PA, by email on hnb@highdown.reading.sch.uk

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Extra Curricular Clubs



Highdown Physical Education

Clubs and Activities Term 5



Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Pre-School 7.00-8.15am	Rugby Sevens (TBB) Mixed	Junior Cricket (TBB) Mixed	Senior Cricket (TBB) Mixed	Junior Cricket (TBB) Mixed	
Lunch Time	Senior Fitness (TBB)	Senior Tennis (AG) Recreational Swim (TBB)	Junior Tennis KS3 (ADP) Beginners Swimming Girls (RSA)	Basketball (LP) Team Swimming Girls (LAA) Tennis KS3 Mixed (ADP)	
Post School 3.15-4.30pm	Kayaking (Starting June)	Kayaking (Starting June) Athletics Boys (AG/ADP) Athletics Girls' Training (VCL/RSA/LAA) Senior Cricket (TBB)	Rounders Girls' Training (RSA/LAA) Rugby Sevens (TBB)	Athletics Boys (ADP/AG) Junior Cricket (TBB) U16 Girls Athletics (VCL/RSA)	
		Note U14 Athletics Fixtures after Half-Term Girls (VCL/LAA) U 16 Boys Athletics (ADP/AG)		Note U16 Athletics Fixtures after Half- Term Girls (VCL/RSA) U14 Boys Athletics (ADP/AG)	

Knit and Natter

Do you love knitting or crochet, or want to learn?

Come to Knit and Natter

Thursdays in DT3

3.15 - 4.30

All Students Welcome

Please complete the Microsoft Form to confirm attendance:

<https://forms.office.com/e/DNcjhUprRB>



Highdown vs The Wren School (3-0) in the semi-finals



In a heated battle, with the sun shining, refereed by Mr Gordan, Highdown dominated from the get-go. The first goal came about 10mins in with a long ball from Toby to Jay, who poked it past the keeper. Highdown scored 2 in the first half with a beautiful goal from Jay from a free kick. Half-time and on came Aghi and Matei. Defensively a solid performance in the second half, we kept a clean sheet with Lucas scoring the sealing goal. Overall, a perfect performance by the Year 11 boys, through to the final next week. Well done to the team!

Canoeing Success : Devizes to Westminster Race

Over the Easter weekend, Max Prins-Mills won what we are calling the DW Lite 2023 - a canoe race over 55 miles from Devizes to Dreadnought Reach (aka Wokingham Waterside Centre). The race was held over two days and had 59 portages around locks.

The race is usually all the way to Westminster over four days, for which Max had been training all winter, but the second part of the race had to be cancelled because the river Thames was simply flowing too fast and the risk was considered too great for many of the junior paddlers. Very frustrating for us all, but there's always next year.

As part of the race preparation, Max and his K2 partner Aidan took part in and won the Waterside series of four races! Well done Max and Aidan!



A Level Music Recital Evening

On Thursday, 30 March it was lovely to watch our A level musicians perform at the A level Recital Evening. It is always one of the highlights of the Music Department calendar as we celebrate the achievements of our Year 12 and 13 students. For our Year 12s it is a good rehearsal to prepare for their own recitals next year; for the Year 13s it is their final concert and an opportunity to shine as individual musicians.

We were entertained by a diverse variety of repertoire from Vivaldi, Chopin and Prokofiev to Mississippi John Hurt. Tamsin and her violin teacher opened the concert with a dazzling rendition of the Bach Concerto in D minor for Two Violins accompanied by Hayley. This was followed by Lexi who beautifully played Chopin's Waltz in Eb Major. Annika delighted the audience with a programme of pieces which ranged from Vivaldi to the more modern Robot's March by Jacob; it was lovely to hear the cello in a solo role. Raven sang the beautifully lyrical, 'There's a Fine, Fine Line' from Avenue Q; what a great teaser for next year's recital. Jakub ended the concert in style with performances on both the piano and acoustic guitar.

We are very proud of all our A level musicians. We are very much looking forward to hearing more from our Year 12s in the coming months and we wish the Year 13s much luck and success as they prepare for their forthcoming examinations and a life beyond Highdown.

The Music Department



Stars of the Week

7C Eliska McKenna
7D Isabelle Lee
7E Luke Preece
7F Emily Applebey
7G George Gealy
7H Ed Martin
7J Rishi Taylor
7K Faris Bushnaq
7L Noah Flint

8C Edward Round
8D Freddie Blackall
8E Balazs Nagy
8F Elin Jones
8G Mya Roy
8H Sammy Smyth
8J Ted Brazil
8K Febe Towers
8L Jacob Pottage

9C Anita Lau
9D Luke Donnelly
9E Muhammadu Sy
9F Jude Lambourne
9G Olivia Mann
9H Callum Pieper
9J Anna Hoang
9K Mariam Sesay
9L Grace Ranson

10C Florence Jones
10D Theo Turay
10E Isla Reynolds
10F Torben Evans
10G Emily Taylor
10H Sannidhi Bairy
10J Rory Cordingley
10K Flo Illman
10L Jenson MacNab
10M Zach Johnston

11C Amy Thornton
11D Zsombor Lovaszi
11E Aghilas Tahi
11F Mwangi Mubanga
11G Max Prins-Mills
11H Mollie-Jane Campbell
11J August Buchan
11K Dipa Ahmed
11L Izzie Gault

Courses in Medicine

PREMEDProjects Online Surgery Work Experience

This online course takes place on Saturday, 13 May 2023 and is a day of Surgery Work Experience.

This interactive day is delivered by practising surgeons & current medical students and is designed to give students a meaningful insight into careers in medicine and surgery. The doctors will guide you through how they would conduct a surgical consultation and how surgery is performed. Students can find out more and register by visiting <https://www.premedprojects.co.uk/course/surgery-work-experience-day>

Apprenticeship Webinar with Deloitte

On **25 April 2023** from **6.30-7.15pm**, Success at School will be hosting a webinar with Deloitte:

- Hear from apprentices about their journey and why they chose an apprenticeship at Deloitte
- Learn about the different apprenticeship pathways on offer and how to make your application stand out from the rest
- Have all your questions answered by the recruitment team during a Live Q&A session

Sign up to attend through the link below:

<https://successatschool.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?>

PREMEDProjects In Person 1 day Hospital Work Experience in London

This in person course is something very special indeed. It takes place at Kings in London on **Sunday, 21 May 2023** where students aged 14-18 are allowed to enter the **dissection room**. It is not a simulated course but rather a real dissection room with NHS doctors leading the day examining real medically donated specimens. When we ran this one in December we had students from all over the UK and Europe who travelled to attend and it was very warmly received. Students can find out more and register by visiting <https://www.premedprojects.co.uk/course/medicine-work-experience-day-event>

Girls into Electronics

Girls into Electronics gives female Year 11's and Sixth Formers the unique opportunity to develop their interest in Electronics.

At the heart of the programme is a one-day event at a leading UK university. During the day, participants will find out more about Electronics and studying the subject at university level, as well as hearing from female graduate engineers working in the Electronics sector.

Visit the website to check locations and dates: [Buy tickets for United Kingdom Electronics Skills Foundation \(tickettailor.com\)](#)

HSBC UK Emerging Talent—Spring 2023

Online Webinars for students in Years 9-13 to hear from experienced HSBC recruiters on topics that will be incredibly helpful to their development and start of their career.

Be the best you - CV applications

An experienced recruiter will talk you through HSBC's top tips for writing your CV and how to use this to achieve your career goals. This workshop will enable you to feel more confident when writing your CV and makes you aware of what employers may be looking for!

Tuesday, 25 April 2023, 18:00-19:30pm.

Please [click here](#) to register for this webinar.

Knowing your voice - Presentation skills

An experienced trainer will deliver a workshop on how to prepare for presentations, including building your confidence when presenting and how to address and engage with the audience.

This workshop will enable you to increase your presentation skills and go into your next presentation with confidence!

Thursday, 11 May 2023, 18:00-19:30pm.

Please [click here](#) to register for this webinar.

Interview tips – How to succeed

An experienced recruiter will present to you HSBC's interview tips, how to best prepare for an interview and improve your chances of success. This workshop will enable you to feel better equipped when preparing for an interview and provide you with practice questions to try!

Wednesday, 24 May 2023, 18:00-19:30pm.

Please [click here](#) to register for this webinar.

HealthReach Experience Weeks

If you are looking for work experience placement in a healthcare setting, this may be for you!

The Experience Weeks are for students who are interested in pursuing a career in healthcare in the future. It will be an opportunity for them to find out about the wide variety of careers in health, learn to do some basic health checks, gain a first aid qualification and network with current health professionals.

HealthReach Experience Week 1

26 -30 June 2023 is for students in Years 12 and 13

8.30am - 3.30pm, University of Reading, London Road Campus, RG1 5AQ

This is an opportunity for students to learn about careers in health and life sciences, do some hands-on experiential learning, talk to, and network with current health professionals and gain a first aid at work qualification.

For an application form, please contact Elaine Robinson: elrobinson@highdown.reading.sch.uk

Once completed, please send your application form to:

Alison Hall, HealthReach Manager **by 28 April 2023**
Email: a.e.hall@reading.ac.uk

HealthReach Experience Week 2

Week 2 - 5 -7 July 2023 is for students in Years 10 and 11

This is an opportunity for students to learn about careers in health and life sciences, do some hands-on experiential learning, talk to, and network with current health professionals and gain a first aid at work qualification.

8.30am - 3.30pm, University of Reading, London Road Campus, RG1 5AQ

There is no cost to attend and there are 22 places available each week. If we receive more applications than places, we will use the information provided on the application form to make decisions about places.

For an application form, please contact Elaine Robinson: elrobinson@highdown.reading.sch.uk

Once completed, please send your application form to:

Alison Hall, HealthReach Manager **by 5 May 2023**
Email: a.e.hall@reading.ac.uk

Please see the next pages for further information on both weeks.

Placement Information

A five-day experience based at the University of Reading – This is an opportunity for students to learn about careers in the health service and life sciences, do some hands-on experiential learning, talk to, and network with current health professionals and gain a First Aid at Work qualification.

Programme for the week.

Day 1 – Welcome / First Aid at Work

Day 2 – First Aid at Work

Day 3 – First Aid at Work

Day 4 – Patient journey / Practical clinical skills / Campus Tour and Q&A with Student Ambassadors.

Day 5 – Health Care Professionals Q & A Panel/ Values and Behaviours for Healthcare/ Reflection & Evaluation

Dates	26 th June – 30 th June 2023
Name of supervisor	Alison Hall
Location	University of Reading, London Road Campus, Building L22, Room 108, Reading RG1 5AQ
Contact numbers	07731150470
Placement hours	08.30 – 15.30

Activities to be carried out.

This list is an example of the types of activities you will be involved in on this placement:

1. Learning how to do basic health checks, understanding the role of health professionals involved in a patient’s journey through the NHS from admission to release.
2. Learning first aid and lifesaving skills to gain a qualification
3. Developing teamwork, networking, and communication skills
4. Experience a tour of the university and interaction with health care professionals

However, it is not possible to list every activity you might be asked to undertake, and you should be prepared to complete other tasks if asked.

Placement Information

A three-day experience based at the University of Reading – This is an opportunity for students to learn about careers in the health service and life sciences, do some hands-on experiential learning, talk to, and network with health professionals and gain a First Aid at Work qualification.

Programme

Day 1 – Welcome / Emergency First Aid at Work / A Patient Journey

Day 2 – Emergency First Aid at Work / Practical Clinical Skills / University Campus Tour with Student Ambassadors

Day 3 – Q & A with Health Professionals / Values and Behaviours for Healthcare / Reflection & Evaluation

Dates	5 th – 7 th July 2023
Name of supervisor	Alison Hall
Location	University of Reading, London Road Campus, Building L22, Room 108, RG1 5AQ
Contact numbers	07731150470
Placement hours	08:30 – 15:30

Activities to be carried out

This list is an example of the types of activities you will be involved in on this placement:

1. Learning how to do basic health checks, understanding the role of health professionals involved in a patient's journey through the NHS from admission to release.
2. Learning first aid and lifesaving skills to gain a qualification
3. Developing teamwork, networking, and communication skills
4. Experience a tour of a university campus and network with health professionals.

However, it is not possible to list every activity you might be asked to undertake, and you should be prepared to complete other tasks if asked.

BERKSHIRE
Maestros



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2023

Please click on the following link to the Highdown School website to read the latest edition of Berkshire Maestros' Newsletter

highdown.reading.sch.uk/article/Berkshire-maestros-



447 (Henley on Thames) Squadron

AIR TRAINING CORPS



For young people aged
12-17
Open Evening
Tuesday 16th May
7.30 PM



447 (Henley on Thames) Sqn
Drill Hall
Friday Street
Henley on Thames
RG9 1AH
447@rafac.mod.gov.uk



WHERE WILL IT TAKE YOU?



£4 per person

50 Minutes of FAMILY FUN



WATER INFLATABLE FUN AT LAGOONA PARK, READING
27th MAY 2-2.50pm or 3-3.50pm
AGES 6s and overs

Bookings in advance to admin@spotlightuk.org
www.spotlightuk.org Reg Charity 1129258

Community

Reading Women v Everton Women

Final Schools and Grassroots fixture of the season for our Women's Team

When?

Reading Women v Everton Women

Sunday, 23 April 2023 at 2pm

Where?

Select Car Leasing Stadium

Prices:

12 and under: £1

17 and under: £2

18 to 24: £3

65 and Over: £3

Adult: £5

Important! This offer applies to tickets in the blocks Y19/Y20 of the Sir John Madejski Stand only. Coupon codes are valid up until 4 hours before kick off.

There is no limit on the number of tickets you can buy using your unique code and for every ticket which is purchased you will receive one entry in a prize draw for a chance to win a signed home and away shirt, plus ticket bundles for Reading vs Chelsea.

To redeem, please visit <https://ticketing.readingfc.co.uk> and enter the following unique coupon code:

#HighdownSchool in the basket once you have logged in and selected your tickets.

Reading vs Wigan Athletic

We need your support for one final time this season!

The final home game of our men's championship season will take place on Saturday, 29 April 2023 at 3pm when we host Wigan Athletic. As a thank you for participating in our schools and Grassroots games we will be offering the following discounted prices:

12 and under: £1

17 and under: £3

18 to 24: £5

65 and Over: £5

Adult: £10

Important! This offer applies to tickets in the Eamonn Dolan Stand blocks and Y19/Y20 of the Sir John Madejski Stand only. Coupon codes are valid up until 4 hours before kick off.

To redeem, please visit <https://ticketing.readingfc.co.uk> and enter the following unique coupon code:

#HighdownSchool in the basket once you have logged in and selected your tickets.



British Cycling Female Endurance Talent Identification Application 2023

GBR British Cycling is looking for the next crop of talented Female Track Cyclists to take to the boards and continue our proud track record of international success at the Olympic Games, following in the footsteps of Dame Laura Kenny, Katie Archibald and Elinor Barker. If you enjoy sports that are fast, exciting, and tactical, British Cycling wants you!

This Talent ID Programme will be looking to identify young people with endurance potential born in 2008/2009 from across England with those successful going on to join British Cycling's Talent Development and Performance Pathways.

We currently have an [article on the British Cycling website](#) that has all the details regarding this opportunity. If they are interested, they will need to complete the online application by Friday, 28 April 2023. Following this, if they are successful, they will be invited to attend one of our testing days later this year. Each testing day will typically be broken down into 3 parts:

- A workshop delivered by coaches from the Great Britain Cycling Team explaining the cycling pathway and the exciting journey riders could go on
- A number of physical tests using Wattbikes
- Off the bike tests for a chance to show us what you can do!

Testing days are taking place on the following dates:

- Manchester-Sunday, 14 May 2023
- Derby - Monday, 29 May 2023
- London - Sunday, 11 June 2023

Link to application:

<https://forms.office.com/e/8w62xVb23Z>

To apply you must be born in the years 2008 and 2009 and be eligible for a British passport, but no prior racing experience is required—just the ability to ride a bike!

Save the date!

Somewhere Over the Rainbow: A Concert for Charlie

Saturday 24 June, 7pm in Highdown School Hall

A concert in memory of Charlie Ilsley by Reading Phoenix Choir, The Hill Primary School and Highdown School to raise money for Team Charlie, a charity providing gifts and wishes to children with brain tumours across Berkshire and Oxfordshire.

More details to follow!

