

Headteacher Message



Dear Parents/Carers,

Another busy term at Spring Hill High School! There have been many SMSC events such as International Women's Day and Mental Health Week. All these events contribute to the students' knowledge of the wider world and prepare them for life in Modern Britain.

The Summer term is the exam season. This means good attendance is even more important. This is a highly pressured time of the year and I know working together we can support the students to do their best.

For this reason I would like to draw your attention to a change in term dates. To support mental health after exams we have moved the occasional day the school can use following the extra Bank Holiday due to the Queen's Jubilee. Monday July 4th will be a day off for everyone to relax after the stress of the exams. Please check the list at the end of this newsletter for the full details.

Kind regards,
Gary Edmunds
Head Teacher



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@SHHSUK



Attendance



As a school we aim to:

Maintain an attendance rate of a minimum of 96% - this is the national average.

Promote awareness of the importance of regular attendance to our parents and students.

Punctuality

School starts at 9:30.

This is the time your child must arrive at school.

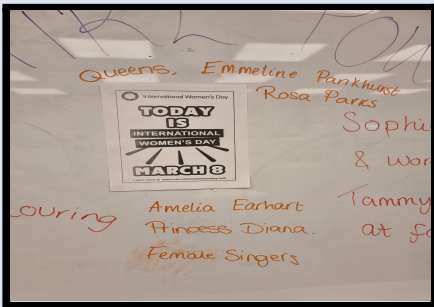
If your child misses the start of their learning then their work for the whole day may be affected.

Illness

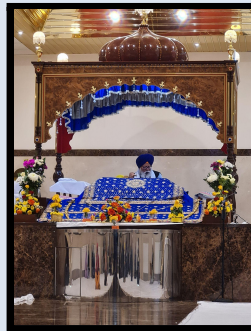
If you do keep your child at home, it's important to call us on the first day of absence and let us know the reason they are unwell.

SMSC at Spring Hill High School

Spring Hill High School is committed to celebrating diversity. This year we have had a number of special days and events highlighting important causes and events.



On March 8th the students carried out activities to learn more about International Women's Day.



On the 10th November 2021 we visited a Gurdwara and learned more about Diwali.



There was a highly successful visit to the Black Country Museum to celebrate Science Week.

SMSC stands for **spiritual, moral, social and cultural** development.

At Spring Hill we want our pupils to develop in these areas.

Compass for Life

This term, Spring Hill High School has launched our new **Compass For Life**, which encompasses the ethos and values we share as an invested learning community, guiding us towards a climate of trust. The views of a wide range of stakeholders including our students, parents, staff and visitors were considered in framing what makes us, us! The prevalent themes present in everybody's responses were the personalisation of learning and a nurturing environment for all.

We believe that learning is a social activity and has the greatest potential to flourish when developed with others' participation, engagement and common ownership of problems. We also believe that learning is not a linear sequence of triumphs, but rather a jumble of useful learning mistakes, which collectively, help us grow "skin in the game".

Students have engaged with the core values through PSHE, and have produced displays across sites demonstrating how we can show our values in school and the wider world, and mapping their own personal 'roads to success'.

Compass For Life

Our Ethos and Values

At Spring Hill High School we strive to provide our students with a 'Compass for Life'. The points on this compass are our four core values, that, once integrated and balanced, equip our students with the means to navigate their way, whilst in school and subsequently, the wider world.

The Four Values

TRUST Trust in your ability, despite difficulties, and earn the trust of others through empathy and compassion

COMMITMENT Commit to doing the right thing. Life is not always easy. Never give up. Learn from our mistakes and become stronger through our experiences.

RESPECT Have respect for yourself and earn the respect of others through positive interaction

SAFETY Keep yourself and others safe at all times



Teaching & Learning



The school has two **'Quality of Education Days'** this term as we prepare for our next OFSTED Inspection.

We were visited by a School Improvement Adviser Tony Quinn. He saw lessons and interacted with students asking them what they thought of the school.

In his report he wrote:

'All teachers were positive, patient, respectful and forged strong relationships with students. There was clearly a mutual bond which should not be dismissed considering the needs of all the students.'

'Teachers used photographic evidence of progress in some subjects, especially in Art.'

'Progress trackers are effectively used in Math KS5 and Computer Science.'

'An imaginative use of a Chess project provided a useful stimulus to a Math assessment and was illustrated well; should be a case study.'

'All students felt safe in the school.'



Acceptable mobile phone use

Mobile phones are a privilege not a right. We encourage the students to learn how to manage a mobile safely.

Our aim is to ensure that students at Spring Hill High School use devices effectively, safely and responsibly without negatively affecting their learning, or the learning of others.

Student access to their mobile devices during the school day is a **privilege, not a right**.

Our acceptable use of a mobile policy is available to download on our school website.

Keeping Us Safe

Knife Crime



Spring Hill High School promotes the safety of all. In January we had a visit from 'Precious Lives', a police organisation which uses ex offenders to talk about their experiences and warn others of the consequences of involvement in knife crime. The students at Slade Road really enjoyed the experience and expressed an interest in a return visit.

Internet Safety Week

At Spring Hill we celebrate Safer Internet Day every year. It helps to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology by young people and inspires a national conversation about using technology; responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively.

This year the students celebrated the theme 'All fun and games' by exploring respect and relationships online. Safer Internet Day is celebrated in over a hundred countries coordinated by the joint Insafe/INHOPE network, with the support of the European Commission and national Safer Internet Centers across Europe.



Internet Safer Day - advice shared every Wednesday on our school Twitter page!

Exams News

January 2022 & March 2022 Examination news

In January, the school experienced the following:

- A year 10 student achieved their Functional Skills Level 1 qualification (equivalent to a GCSE 2-3).
- A year 11 student gained certification in Entry Level Mathematics and English, ahead of expected progress.

The school congratulates both students on their successes.

Results day for students who took Functional Skills examinations in March is on Thursday 14th April 2022. School will not be open on this day, but all results will be communicated with parents and students via email.

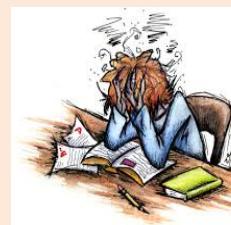
Summer 2022 examinations

With the easing of covid-19 restrictions, the Department of Education continues to expect that all examinations will take place this Summer as normal. For many students, this will be their first experience of taking examinations.

The examination period can bring with it many stresses for young people. As a school, we have been working hard to prepare students as best as possible for forthcoming exams, and will continue to do so in the coming months. However, we offer a few tips that we hope will help you support your child at home as they prepare for upcoming exams:

Practical ideas to help your child cope with upcoming EXAM STRESS:

- Stick to a routine of going to bed at a reasonable time, eating regularly and making time to have fun and exercise.
- Cut back on coffee or any other stimulants they may be using, as these can increase agitation. Encourage them to drink lots of water instead.
- Encourage them to take time out when they feel overwhelmed.
- Encourage them to eat fresh fruits, veggies, cereals, grains, nuts and protein - they are all good for the brain and blood sugar levels. Avoid junk food if possible!
- Try not to nag as they may be feeling a lot of pressure already. It helps to stay calm and offer support.



Relaxation ideas to help your child cope with exam stress:

- Always encourage your child to relax before they go to bed after concentrating for long periods of time.
- Encourage them to go out for a walk, run or to do some other exercise that they enjoy.
- Relaxation techniques can be very effective if you see your child's anxiety rising, e.g. play some gentle music, get them to lie down, close their eyes and breathe deeply while visualising a calming scene such as a deserted beach.
- Encourage your child to visualise success - this can really help with self-confidence.

If you wish to discuss any queries relating to examinations at SHHS, please feel free to contact our Exams Officer:

Sean McGowran, smcgowran@springhillhighschool.co.uk

PE Focus

On the 16th March the PE Department took pupils to the Badminton All England Open Championships.

It was a Brilliant event showcasing world class athletes from all over the world. Pupils had the opportunity to watch mens and womens games in both singles and doubles.

The event at the Utilita Arena also had interactive games for pupils to work on to test their serving accuracy and footwork speed. Pupils and staff enjoyed the trip and the values of compass for life were strongly embedded throughout the entirety of the trip. Pupils will be participating in an Intra-school Badminton tournament on the 1st of April. Good luck to all involved!



Michael Dinneny
Head of Physical Education

Careers updates and information from Julie

CAREERS WEEK

March is a very busy month for national and international celebration days. The week commencing 7th March was Careers Week. All students were given a presentation on how we deliver our Careers programme at Spring Hill High School. Below is the latest framework that underpins Careers education at our school.

Students will learn how to reflect on themselves and their strengths, find out about the opportunities that are available to them, learn how to manage their career and create opportunities, balance work and life, and be aware of issues in the world of politics and economics that may affect their career and choices.

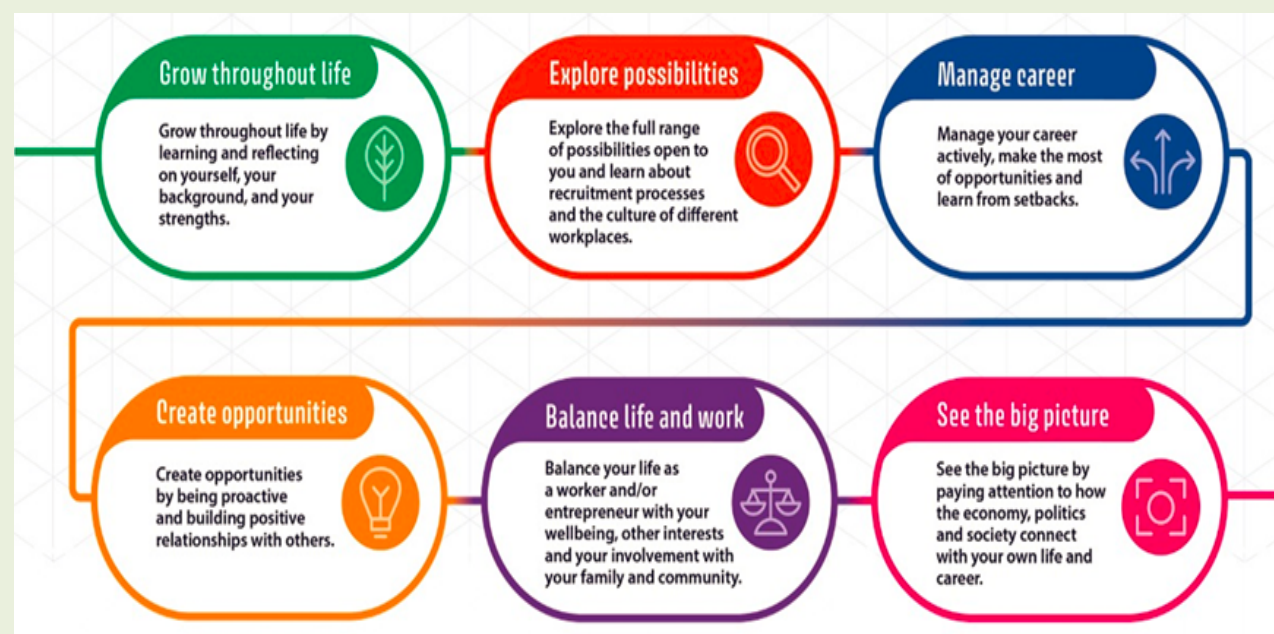
I see all students at least once a year, and much more towards their transition to work, college or training, helping them to transition smoothly.

From Years 7 to 11, students follow the STEPS careers programme, where they will put the framework below into practice.

Students now have a red careers folder which moves up through school with them, and this will be a good source of information about careers and finding jobs when they leave the school.

If you want to talk to me about your child's career aspirations, please do not hesitate to call!

My number is **07795 955882** or email me on **jwashington@springhillhighschool.co.uk**



Term Dates

Summer Term 2022

Monday 25th April	Inset Day 4 - School CLOSED to Students
Tuesday 26th April	School open to Students
Monday 2nd May	May Day Bank Holiday
Friday 27th May	End of Term
Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June	Half Term (1 Week)
Monday 6th June	Students return to school
Monday 4th July	Occasional Day due to Queen's Jubilee
Thursday 21st July	End of Term - Whole School Celebrations
Friday 22nd July	Inset Day 5- School Closed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results Day Wood End Lane Open - Thursday 25th August 2022 9:30am - 12:30pm 	

****Autumn 2022 Term Starts: September 5th**

Monday 5th September	Inset Day 1 - School CLOSED to Students
Tuesday 6th September	Inset Day 2 - School CLOSED to Students
Wednesday 7th September	School open to Students



School re-opens for students on 26th April 2022

COVID-19

As of 24th February, the Government has removed the legal requirement to self-isolate if you have symptoms of Covid-19, but their advice is to still do so. Although we can not enforce this self-isolation we would expect all parents to do the right thing and keep their child away from school for at least 5 days if they have Covid-19 and then take a Lateral Flow Test from day 6 onwards, as shown below:

