

Hallfield Seniors

PASTORAL AND CO-CURRICULAR INFORMATION BOOKLET



HALLFIELD
SCHOOL



Year 7 – 11

Happy | Inspiring | Purposeful

Welcome to Hallfield Seniors

At Hallfield Seniors, our mission is to nurture every student's potential, empowering them to make a positive impact on the world. We are dedicated to creating an environment where students can thrive as happy, confident, and accomplished individuals, laying the foundation for their future success. Central to this vision is our approach to pastoral care and co-curricular programme, which supports students in becoming well-rounded individuals.

While academic achievement is important, we recognise it is only one part of a fulfilling educational journey. Our personalised learning experiences, led by inspirational and expert teachers, focus on developing independent learners equipped to tackle the complexities of the modern world. Beyond exam results, we prioritise building confidence through a supportive pastoral framework and promoting happiness through a balanced approach to education.

Our commitment to holistic development is evident in our emphasis on wellbeing, the arts, physical activities, and character-building experiences. Through outdoor pursuits, sports, and adventure, pupils gain valuable skills such as resilience, teamwork, and the ability to handle both success and setbacks with grace. At Hallfield, we celebrate individuality within a nurturing and inclusive community that values teamwork and togetherness.

We place great importance on fostering essential life qualities such as responsibility, integrity, and empathy, cultivating a culture where happiness and achievement go hand in hand. Our school community is defined by warmth, pride, and inclusivity, ensuring every student feels valued and encouraged to share their unique talents.

Hallfield Seniors instils in its students a sense of selflessness and a commitment to serving others, preparing them to become compassionate leaders and contributors who actively seek opportunities to make a meaningful difference in the world.

Hallfield Seniors is more than just a school; it is a vibrant community dedicated to nurturing each individual's growth while embedding values that extend well beyond the classroom.



**Our pupils are
well-rounded
individuals who thrive
both at Hallfield
and beyond**

Co-Curricular

The co-curricular side of life at Hallfield Seniors both complements and enhances the development of the inquiring mind. Education takes place anywhere and everywhere, at all times of the day. Art, Drama, Music, Sport and other co-curricular activities are not just add-ons; they are an essential part of the Hallfield Seniors' experience, helping our students to become well-rounded individuals.

Sport and Physical Education are integral to daily life at Hallfield, with an impressive variety of options available to students. Hallfield Seniors prides itself on its inclusive approach, encouraging every student to explore and pursue sports that interest them. Hallfield supports each child in developing their skills and competing at a level that aligns with their individual progress.

The PE curriculum is designed to instil positive attitudes towards emotional, mental, and physical wellbeing – habits that will serve students throughout their lives.

As students progress through Hallfield Seniors, they are given greater choice in the sports they participate in, reflecting a shift from our inclusive 'Sport for All' approach to the broader 'Sport for Life' programme.

Sport for All

The 'Sport for All' ethos ensures that every pupil, regardless of ability, has the opportunity to participate and enjoy sport. Emphasising teamwork, this approach allows students to engage in competitive sports together – whether against their peers or other schools. It also highlights the importance of perseverance, giving space and encouragement for late bloomers or newcomers to join in, build confidence, and "have a go."

Sport for Life

As pupils mature, 'Sport for All' evolves into the 'Sport for Life' programme, which encourages them to consider the sports they might continue playing in the future. For some, this means remaining engaged with core team sports such as football, netball, rugby, or cricket. For others, it may involve exploring more individual or specialised pursuits like badminton, long-distance running, or climbing. Research shows that the more sports young people experience during their teenage years, the more likely they are to develop lifelong exercise habits. By introducing pupils to a wide range of activities, we aim to inspire a lifelong love of physical activity and wellbeing.



All pupils are encouraged to be part of a sports team





Students are taught
by subject specialists,
including Heads of
Departments

Art

The Art Department aims to provide students with a wide range of skills and experiences that nurture their imagination, encourage creative expression, and help them discover and achieve their artistic potential. For those with a particular passion or talent for art, there are additional opportunities such as Art Club where students can experiment with various techniques, styles, and mediums, as well as participate in a variety of art competitions to showcase their work.

Our Art Department is well-equipped with both 2D and 3D materials, including a ceramic and glass kiln, allowing pupils to explore diverse artistic avenues. The department is committed to accommodating individual creativity and aspirations, offering flexibility for students to develop their unique ideas. Projects can be left at different stages in the Art room, and students are welcome to return during their free time to continue working on them.

An interest in art also opens doors to exciting cross-curricular opportunities, such as contributing to theatrical productions by creating props, costumes, make-up, and scenery. At Hallfield, we believe in fostering creativity in all its forms, both inside and outside the Art Studio.

Music

Music is for everyone. At Hallfield Seniors, we provide musical opportunities for students at every stage, fostering a love for creativity, expression, and imagination that music inspires. We encourage many students to pursue Music at GCSE, and participation in music-making is open to all, regardless of a student's experience or skill level.

Senior students have the chance to join a range of musical groups, including choirs (both all-comers and auditioned), Orchestra, Swing Band, and other specialist ensembles. Our music programme is supported by a team of highly skilled peripatetic music teachers. Students can take individual lessons on one or more instruments, such as piano, violin, cello, oboe, flute, recorder, saxophone, clarinet, trumpet, cornet, trombone, drum kit, acoustic guitar, and singing.

We also host Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) examinations on-site, providing students with the opportunity to earn formal qualifications. Performances are an integral part of musical life at Hallfield, with students regularly showcasing their talents in concerts, House Music Competitions, or by forming bands with their peers. Through music, we aim to inspire confidence, creativity, and a lifelong appreciation of the arts.

Drama

Drama provides a wealth of opportunities within the performing arts, catering to those who enjoy it as a hobby as well as offering additional training and qualifications for pupils who wish to pursue the subject further. For senior students, the annual staging of musicals is a highlight of the Drama Department's calendar. These large-scale productions bring together talents in acting, dancing, and singing while encouraging collaboration across disciplines such as lighting, sound, costume design, and make-up.

In addition to musicals, smaller plays and performances offer students the chance to delve deeper into various aspects of drama. These projects allow them to explore diverse roles, experiment with different genres, and develop their craft in more intimate settings.

For those seeking a structured approach to drama education, LAMDA is available as an additional option for senior students. LAMDA not only helps refine acting, communication, and presentation skills but also awards UCAS points, enhancing university applications and supporting pupils' holistic development.

Pastoral Care

Renowned for our exceptional pastoral care and strong partnerships with parents, Hallfield's pastoral care system forms the foundation of everything we do. Alongside outstanding teaching and learning, it ensures that children in our care are happy, confident, and successful, allowing them to thrive both academically and socially. Hallfield Seniors stands out as a place where every student is recognised, valued, and understood – not just by name, but by face and character.

Form Tutor and Personal Tutor Programme

For senior students, a Form Tutor provides both academic and pastoral oversight, serving as the primary point of contact for the student and their parents. In addition, each student is paired with a dedicated Personal Tutor, who plays a key role in supporting their development. Personal Tutor sessions are built into the Hallfield Seniors timetable, offering small group or 1:1 time focused on academic progress, pastoral care, and extra-curricular growth.

These sessions cover topics such as Careers, Enterprise, Current Affairs, and Study Skills, with a strong emphasis on tailored support for each pupil. This personalised approach ensures that every student, regardless of their ability, has regular opportunities to discuss their studies, co-curricular activities, achievements, aspirations, challenges, and concerns throughout their journey in the senior years of the school.

All students are placed in one of four houses on entry to Hallfield: Nowers, Ridgway, Stork or Pughe. Houses are named after the first four Head Masters of the school and offer all students a sense of belonging. House Competitions run throughout the year.



Co-Education

We believe co-education is fundamental to holistic development, social progress, and academic excellence. By embracing a co-educational environment, we prepare senior students with the skills and mind-set needed to thrive in a dynamic and evolving society, making it a cornerstone of our educational philosophy.

Through skilled teaching and inclusive practices, boys and girls are given equal opportunities to actively engage in learning, regardless of class composition. Our senior students serve as inspiring role models for younger pupils, and we take pride in seeing them challenge and break societal stereotypes.


By interacting with peers of the opposite gender, students gain invaluable experience in navigating social dynamics, developing emotional intelligence, and fostering empathy. These skills are crucial for success in all areas of life, from personal relationships to professional settings.

Our co-educational approach also equips pupils to become engaged citizens capable of thriving in a diverse society. Learning alongside peers of both genders enhances communication, collaboration, and leadership skills. Girls learn to lead boys, and boys learn to lead girls, fostering mutual respect and understanding. These leadership experiences help build self-confidence – an essential quality as pupils move on to sixth forms, universities, and the workplace.

Our GCSE programme offers an exceptional pathway for academic and personal growth

HALLFIELD

Pastoral care



**A strong focus on
leadership,
team-building and
growing confidence**

Wellbeing

Leadership Opportunities

We are deeply committed to preparing young people to embrace leadership not as a pursuit of personal ambition but as an act of service to others. At Hallfield Seniors, we prioritise the ‘pupil voice,’ empowering our students to participate in committees that focus on charitable initiatives, environmental sustainability, and school improvement.

Senior students are encouraged to share their expertise and interests by acting as mentors to younger pupils, whether in academics, the arts, sports, or other areas. Additionally, they can apply for positions of responsibility, such as Head Boy, Head Girl, Head of House, or Senior Prefect, where they can play an active role in shaping and supporting the school community.

We also encourage pupils to look beyond Hallfield Seniors, and foster an understanding of their responsibilities to broader communities and society as a whole. Through charity work, community service, and partnerships with other schools as part of the Hallfield Challenge or Duke of Edinburgh, senior students develop a strong sense of social responsibility and civic engagement.

Opportunities for student-led initiatives are highly encouraged, and all year groups are invited to share their ideas, voice their opinions, and take action to bring positive changes to their school and beyond.

Developing Independence

Our pastoral care is designed to foster independence while providing a safety net for students as they navigate the challenges of adolescence. We empower Hallfield Seniors to take ownership of their learning journey, to help cultivate resilience, self-reliance, and critical thinking skills – essential foundations for their future success.

Whether participating in academic lessons, sports teams, the arts, or enrichment programmes, pupils are encouraged to pursue their passions and develop leadership skills in a supportive and nurturing environment. Taking on responsibilities such as organising events, managing teams, initiating projects, or even commuting independently to school helps students learn to navigate challenges, make informed

decisions, and collaborate effectively – skills that are invaluable throughout life.

Senior students have opportunities to put these skills into practice through initiatives like the Hallfield Challenge in Years 7 and 8, progressing to the Duke of Edinburgh Award in later years. This prestigious programme not only offers an excellent qualification for further education but also enables our students to build confidence, teamwork, and perseverance.

By committing to a hobby, sport, volunteering, and an out-of-school expedition, senior students can grow in character and resilience, supported by their school experiences.

Trips are another vital part of this journey, providing opportunities for pupils to step into the wider world, develop independence, and gain a deeper appreciation for different cultures and perspectives.

As pupils progress through their final years at Hallfield, the emphasis shifts towards becoming self-sufficient learners, ensuring they are well-prepared and confident for the next stage of their educational journey.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

In addition to the Form Tutor and Personal Tutor, the Head of Seniors holds pastoral oversight of all Hallfield Senior students. They are an important voice in the Welfare Team and ensure that all students they are responsible for receive the care that they need. All senior students have a weekly PSHE lesson. These are held, wherever possible, in a more relaxed environment, where pupils are more likely to contribute in an active manner to discussions. The content of the lessons delivered to Hallfield Seniors becomes much more focused on real life situations that teenagers may face. The subject’s aim is to reflect the needs of the students and their circumstances, and it encourages them to make mature and considered decisions when dealing with personal, social and health situations both now and in later life. Topics include hygiene, healthy lifestyles, sex and relationships, drug awareness, alcohol abuse, smoking, vaping, eating disorders, self-esteem, bereavement, online-safety and bullying. The school Wellbeing Lead also offers additional support sessions to pupils who need it. These are arranged in consultation with the Head of Seniors.



FOUNDED 1879

HALLFIELD SCHOOL

Happy | Inspiring | Purposeful

48 Church Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 3SJ. Telephone: 0121 454 1496. Email: office@hallfieldschool.co.uk

www.hallfieldschool.co.uk