



14<sup>th</sup> July 2025

## Headteacher's Summer Term Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

This academic year at Hornchurch High School has been positive from start to finish. In Term 1 the Department for Education Published performance tables and Hornchurch High School is above the national average (P8 +0.32). Our accelerated progress makes us the fastest improving school in East London. In Term 2, we had our Ofsted inspection which was positive. And this term we have continued with that positivity and enthusiasm inside and outside of the classroom, despite the hot weather, from UEL Physiology Conferences where we won first place for the third year in a row, to celebratory events such as culture day.

Our school was also recently recognised by the Mayor's office and as a school we received a certificate and medal, in recognition of our fantastic achievement and publication of our Ofsted report.



A huge thank you to our teachers, support staff, parents, and carers for their collective hard work and dedication in helping our students achieve their very best. Additionally, thank you to our young people who have shown resilience, commitment, and a positive attitude throughout the year.

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Academy converter

**Hornchurch High School**

Ages 11 to 16 • Mixed sex

Secondary

**Progress 8 score**

The academic progress that pupils make from the end of key stage 2 to the end of key stage 4. This is based on 8 qualifications.

The banding for this school or college is 'above average' because the score is greater than 0 but lower than 0.5, and the entire confidence interval is above 0.

<b>Banding</b>	<b>ABOVE AVERAGE</b>
<b>Score</b>	0.32

School report



### Inspection of a school judged good for overall effectiveness before September 2024: Hornchurch High School

Broadstone Road, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 4AJ

Inspection dates:

5 and 6 February 2025

#### What is it like to attend this school?

Pupils at Hornchurch High School have high aspirations. They are motivated to do well and supported to make careful choices about their future. A large proportion of pupils study the English Baccalaureate subjects at GCSE. Pupils achieve well in a wide range of subjects and, as a result, are well prepared for the next stage of their education, employment or training.

Leaders have embedded an effective behaviour policy that is well understood and consistently implemented by all. Pupils behave well in lessons and listen attentively to their teachers and each other. The school has created an inclusive culture, where pupils are taught to respect and celebrate difference.

The school supports pupils to develop confidence and resilience. There is a wide range of opportunities for pupils to develop their talents and interests, including sports, debating and visits to universities.

As part of our end of year review process, I would greatly appreciate it if you could sit down with your child and answer the following two-minute survey together:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HHSParentandChildSurvey2025>

**Yr 11 GCSE Results Day | Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August**





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Year 11 can collect their results on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August between 9am and 11am. Due to our recent successes, Cllr Oscar Ford, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People and Trevor Cook, Assistant Director for Education Services will be in attendance to congratulate our young people.

We are also delighted to announce another year of our Aim High Scholarship and Bursary. We want all of our students to aim high at Hornchurch High. The 5 highest performing students will be guaranteed a place at the oversubscribed sixth form within our Trust, Riverside Sixth Form. Upon confirming their place at Riverside Sixth Form, they will also receive a £300 bursary to help support their studies.

### **UEL Phenomenal Physiology 2025**

The Science Department once again took part in the fantastic six-week Phenomenal Physiology project—a brilliant mix of science and sports physiology. Year 10 students worked in teams to carry out investigations into muscle strength, heart rate, and respiratory function, before preparing digital presentations to deliver at the University of East London (UEL). The students demonstrated dedication and teamwork, rising to the challenge of presenting to a panel of three academics. During their visit to UEL's Stratford Campus, they also explored the physiology labs, tested lung function, had ECGs taken, visited the simulated medical ward, and spoke with staff about future career options. Every team presented with confidence and passion, and we're proud to say their efforts paid off—we continued our winning streak, taking both 1st and 2nd place on the podium. At this point, we've won so many times we might need to take a break—just to give the other schools a chance!



### **Art**

To celebrate a year of creativity, the art department took a group of KS3 students to the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. Students were selected for this opportunity based on their outstanding contributions to art competitions and their consistent attendance at art club. The Cast Courts were a particular highlight, with students amazed by the towering sculptures and intricate replicas. Students were curious and produced impressive observational drawings and sketches that will no doubt inspire their work back in the art classrooms in September.



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## Jack Petchey | Speak Up



*Speak Up* is a fantastic programme run by the National Theatre in partnership with the Queen's Theatre, Hornchurch. Over the past year, our students have worked closely with industry professionals to devise an original piece of theatre, which they will perform live at the Queen's Theatre. As part of the experience, they've had the chance to rehearse on stage and take a backstage tour of the venue—giving them a real insight into professional theatre and helping them prepare for their performance. On Friday, Kevin, Mateo, Joseph, and Xuxa had the incredible opportunity to perform live on stage at the Queen's Theatre – a huge congratulations, you captivated the audience and it was very moving - we are exceptionally proud.

Building on the success of this creative work, we're also excited to launch Hornchurch High's *Glee Club* next academic year—a new music and dance education programme in partnership with the Jack Petchey Foundation. This exciting initiative will offer students the opportunity to develop their confidence and performance skills through singing, dancing, and working as an ensemble.

## Duke of Edinburgh

Our Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh students have been embracing new challenges through volunteering, physical activities, and skill-building. This term they took part in their practice expedition at Essex Outdoor Centre, where they learned how to pack properly, navigate with maps, pitch tents, and cook outdoors. Covering over 10km on foot and tackling some tough navigation, the students demonstrated resilience and collaboration throughout. We look forward to their qualifying expedition this week, bringing them one step closer to earning their Bronze Award!

Earlier this term, a group of Year 8 students also took part in a DofE taster day. The experience gave them a great introduction to the programme and sparked enthusiasm for taking on the full award in the future.



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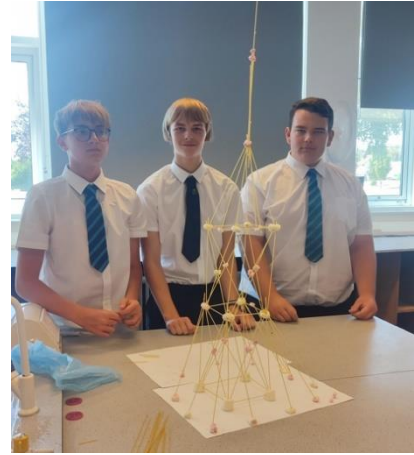
## Geography



Our Year 10 GCSE Geography students recently visited Stratford, East London, to carry out their urban fieldwork study. As part of the trip, they investigated the area's regeneration, gathering data on land use, environmental quality, and public perception, whilst seeing first-hand the impact of changes since the 2012 Olympics. It was a valuable chance to transfer the skills they've developed in the classroom into practical fieldwork, strengthening their understanding and preparation for their GCSEs.

## Careers Fair

On Thursday, the school hosted a Careers Day, full of a range of opportunities for students to explore their future pathways. Throughout the day, students engaged in dedicated careers lessons, building their understanding of qualifications, including apprenticeships, career options, and the skills needed for the world of work. The highlight of the day was our Careers Fair, where students had the chance to meet a range of employers,



training providers, and colleges. They asked thoughtful questions, explored different career routes, and left with a clearer sense of the possibilities ahead. A huge thank you to all the visitors and organisations who gave up their time to make the day a success!

## Work Experience

Year 10 students recently completed their work experience placements, giving them a valuable first-hand look at a range of industries and career paths. The response from students has been extremely positive, with many highlighting how the experience helped them grow in confidence, develop independence, and gain useful workplace skills.

We scheduled work experience after their mock exams to help students make the link between their learning and future goals—and it clearly had the desired impact. Many returned with a renewed sense of direction and motivation as they look ahead to Year 11 and beyond. Well done for representing the school, displaying maturity and interacting with professionals from a range of sectors.





## UKMT Mathematical Challenge

We're proud to congratulate Robert (Year 8) on his outstanding achievement in the Junior UKMT Mathematical Challenge. Robert earned a gold certificate, placing him in the top 10% of students nationally—an impressive achievement that also secured him a place in the prestigious Junior Pink Kangaroo, the follow-on round for top scorers. He continued to excel in this second stage, earning a bronze certificate in recognition of his strong problem-solving abilities and mathematical talent. Well done, Robert!

## Ju-Jitsu Championships

We're thrilled to celebrate Ryan's incredible achievement in winning a gold medal at the International Jujitsu Championships. His dedication, skill, discipline and hard work has truly paid off. We are very proud as a school, well done, Ryan!



We are pleased to offer students the opportunity to join self-defence sessions in the autumn term, led by ju-jitsu professionals, with a six-week block of self-defence sessions after school as part of our enrichment programme. Dates are to be confirmed, but this will be a great chance for students to develop new skills, build confidence, and engage in physical activity in a safe and supportive setting. We encourage students to consider taking part and benefiting from this valuable experience.

## H.E.R.O Competition

This term, we relaunched our attendance H.E.R.O competition to encourage students to be *Here, Every day, Ready, and On time*. Running from 19th June to 16th July, the challenge rewards those who demonstrate consistent dedication. To celebrate their commitment, we will hold our first-ever *H.E.R.O Fest* this Thursday—a special event filled with fun, music, and celebration. Congratulations in advance to all our H.E.R.O students for setting such a high standard that will continue into next year!





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## Reading for Pleasure and Word of the Week

At Hornchurch High School, we understand the profound impact that fostering a love of reading can have on our students' academic success and personal development. We kindly ask parents to support their child's reading journey over the summer holidays by ensuring they read for a minimum of 20 minutes each day and complete a summary of their reading. We have a summer reading list on our school website.

Our whole school Word of the Week programme aims to enrich the vocabulary of our students, not only enhancing their writing skills but also strengthening their verbal ability. A huge well done to the winners from this term who received a classic clothbound book:

Year 10 - Anastasiia  
Year 9 - Ilias  
Year 8 - Azad  
Year 7 – Christian



## Sports Achievements

This term has been a hugely successful one for athletics, with students achieving a string of personal bests and podium finishes at the Havering District Competition. Yabets earned bronze in the 800m, Kamron won his hurdles event with outstanding technique, and Jeremiah stepped up in hurdles to claim a medal in an unfamiliar event. Moyo (high jump) and Olivia (long jump) both hit impressive new personal bests, reflecting their dedication and technical growth, while our shot put competitor delivered a 6.20m throw despite injury. Aydin also secured a strong 3rd place in hurdles, showing consistency and determination. These achievements are a testament to the students' commitment, perseverance, and the support of our fantastic PE staff—our athletics future in Havering is looking very bright.

## Culture Day



Students recently took part in Culture Day, a vibrant celebration of heritage, identity, and diversity across our school community. Many wore traditional dress with pride, shared food, music, and stories from their backgrounds, and engaged in exciting lessons that explored the influence of culture across subjects. From examining multi-cultural societies in geography and distribution of ethnicities across London, to learning how to make paneer from scratch in science -it was lovely to see how proud our students are of their culture.

## House System and Sports Day

This term has seen great momentum within our House system, with a wide variety of competitions highlighting students' teamwork, creativity, and commitment. From academic quizzes and design tasks to sporting events, students have actively engaged in earning House points for their respective Houses





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— including our Spelling Bee, where Linson and Rahul were crowned joint champions after several challenging and competitive rounds.

The term culminated in our annual Sports Day, where students took part in a range of events including track races, throwing competitions, tennis, and the always-popular staff and student relays. After a fantastic display of effort and enthusiasm throughout the year, we were delighted to crown Matterhorn as our overall House winner with 48,670 House Points - congratulations to all involved!



### **Progress Reports Years 7-9 | Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

Throughout the academic year, students engage in three tracking assessments: autumn, spring, and summer. Following each assessment, teachers generate a predicted grade, a triangulation of their performance in assessments, classwork, and contributions to lessons. In their reports, you'll find a target grade - a grade derived from their KS2 scaled scores - and a predicted grade. The predicted grade reflects what they could achieve at the end of year 11 if they maintain their current level of dedication and effort over the next few years. This holistic approach ensures a comprehensive understanding of each student's academic progress and potential.

Please contact your child's Head of Year should you wish to discuss their progress in more detail.

<http://www.hornchurchhighschool.com/home/contact-us/>

### **Yr10 Mock GCSE Results Day | Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

Year 10s will receive their reports from the summer mock examinations on this day. Students have been feeding back to their mocks but have not seen their grades yet, the focus has been on select skills and knowledge that need to be refined. On this day they will receive a *predicted grade* - what the teacher thinks they can achieve over the next academic year. We encourage all Year 10 students to make the most of the summer break by reviewing key content and revising over the summer to get ahead - all year 10s have revision guides.

### **Uniform Reminder**

A reminder regarding uniform expectations for the new academic year:

- Black school shoes
- Black ankle socks or black tights – no white socks
- Modest navy skirt length, we are in a professional learning environment – if you are replacing skirts, there is a new skirt style in Havering Schoolwear which we are phasing in starting with all new Year 7 students - navy buttoned pleated skirt, length 24 inch, or 26 inch
- Tailored black school trousers
- No make-up (students will be asked to remove it with make-up wipes)



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- No false nails (please arrange removal prior to the start of term)
- No nail varnish
- No false eyelashes or eyelash/eyebrow laminations
- No jewellery (it is not advised to have a new piercing towards the end of the summer holidays – students will be asked to remove it, irrespective of the healing process).

## Uniform Swap Shop

Facing the current cost of living crisis, we invite you to support our school community. If you have any school uniforms in good condition, please drop them off in the boxes located in the school reception area. Your generosity will help ensure all students have the uniform they need. Thank you for supporting Hornchurch High students and families, and a special thanks to Year 11 and their generous donations on their last day.

Additionally, the council has launched a new 'Cost of Living Online Hub' to support Havering residents. Find resources and assistance at: <https://www.havering.gov.uk/costofliving>

## Havering Holiday Activity and Food Summer Programme

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme supports children and families during school holidays, especially those eligible for benefit-related Free School Meals or considered vulnerable. It aims to reduce holiday pressures by offering access to enriching activities, physical exercise, and nutritious meals, helping to combat social isolation and unhealthy routines. The programme runs during Easter, Summer, and Winter breaks and encourages healthier lifestyles, wellbeing, and engagement with education. Havering can also extend the offer to other families in need under specific criteria.

For more information, please visit:

<https://familyserviceshub.havering.gov.uk/kb5/havering/directory/advice.page?id=q86bRhQY2iE>

## New School Year 2025-26 | Autumn Term

We have a staggered start to autumn term to allow year 7's induction on the first day.

- Year 7 ONLY: Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025
- ALL Students: Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025

The first day of autumn term will start with students arriving at 8:15am. The student gates will be open from 8:00am for breakfast club. The student gate can be found on the corner of Hartland and Broadstone Road, please do not enter via the car park/reception. The school day starts promptly at 8:30am.

The final day of this summer term is Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July, when students will be dismissed after break 1 for staff to attend an end of term review meeting. To celebrate students concerted efforts to meet our high standards students may wear non-uniform and donate £1 however, all other expectations still





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apply. Ms. Davies, Deputy Headteacher Pastoral will write to you separately regarding non-uniform day.

Term dates for 2025/2026 are published on our website and are attached to this letter, should you wish to plan future holidays.

From all of us here at Hornchurch High may I wish you and your family an enjoyable summer break and thank you once again for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Ms S Madhvani  
Headteacher



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**Term Dates 2025\_2026**

**Hornchurch High School**  
School Term and Holiday Dates 2025 - 2026



September 2025						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 2025						
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27	28	29	30	31		

November 2025						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2025						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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29	30	31				

January 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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February 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2026						
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30	31					

April 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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May 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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29	30					

July 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30	31		

August 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

	School Holidays
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	Bank Holidays
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	Staff PD Days non-pupil days
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Autumn Term	
Tuesday 2nd September	Start of Term (Y7)
Wednesday 3rd September	Start of Term (ALL)
Friday 24th October to Friday 31st October	Half Term
Friday 19th December	Last Day of Term

Spring Term	
Monday 5th January	Start of Term
Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February	Half Term
Friday 27th March	Last Day of Term

Summer Term	
Monday 13th April	Start of Term
Tuesday 26th May to Friday 29th May	Half Term
Thursday 16th July	Last Day of Term