



HORNCHURCH

HIGH SCHOOL

EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

2nd April 2025

Ofsted Inspection Report

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am delighted to inform you that the final Ofsted inspection report from our two-day section 8, monitoring visit, previously known as an ungraded inspection, on the 5th and 6th February 2025 accompanies this covering letter. The report will also be accessible via the school website and published on the official Ofsted report website shortly.

The purpose of a monitoring inspection is to gauge whether a school continues to be 'good', as indicated in our previous report in January 2019.

It gives me great pleasure to share that Ofsted found that Hornchurch High School has taken effective action to maintain the standards identified at the previous inspection. This is an excellent report and a great achievement for all in our learning community.

Considering the journey our school community has been on over the past 2 years under new leadership, **we are proud of this inspection.** The Ofsted inspection was thorough, robust, and rigorous. We look forward to welcoming back the inspection team for a section 5 inspection, usually within 4 years, however as you may know Ofsted are introducing a new inspection framework, so we await to see what that officially looks like when it is implemented in November 2025. Ofsted no longer gives single word judgements.

I am delighted that the hard work undertaken by governors and school leaders, at all levels, has been recognised, including the comments regarding our high expectations, ambitious curriculum and inclusive culture where pupils are taught to respect and celebrate difference, provision for pupils' wider personal development, prioritisation of reading and effective safeguarding provision.

The impact of the quality of education is underpinned by an ambitious and effectively structured curriculum that builds pupils' knowledge cumulatively. Teachers plan and select appropriate tasks, which help pupils to build on their knowledge over time. Ofsted recognised that teachers have strong subject knowledge and teachers help pupils develop deeper thinking. They highlighted staff check routinely that pupils know the curriculum they have been taught. Teachers use a systematic approach to questioning, random selection, to support recall of knowledge.

Please take the time to read the inspection report in full, as it evidences that Hornchurch High is not only good, but we are a school that continuously strives to improve and excel through our high expectations. The report itself highlights the many elements of effective provision at Hornchurch High, as well as the next steps needed to take the school forward. What is very satisfying is that the next steps identified were already within our school action plan prior to this



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inspection, and the associated adaptations for consistency are being implemented.

I would like to thank all parents and carers who have supported the school during this time. Once again, may I thank all those involved in the inspection itself, especially the staff, governors, and the students who shone during the inspection process.

Our spring term newsletter follows on from this covering letter.

Yours sincerely,

Ms S Madhvani
Head Teacher



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2nd April 2025

Spring Term Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been another exceptionally rewarding term at Hornchurch High School from our Ofsted inspection, to the daily achievements from each of our students both in their academics and on the sporting field. I would like to extend my thanks to the work of all teachers and support staff and the entire student body who do their best day in, day out. And a thank you to all parents and careers and governors for supporting the school to ensure our students have the best possible secondary education. We are one team, with one vision: *Excellence for All*.

Department for Education Performance Tables

Hornchurch High School achieved an excellent **Progress 8 score of +0.32** and is **above average** in comparison to other schools in England. On average, all students in all subjects have improved by three quarters of a grade. This makes **Hornchurch High the fastest improving school in Havering and the best results the school has ever seen**. We continue to build on this success and we are excited for the next phase.

<https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=3|I&geographic=la&for=secondary>

Ofsted Inspection 5th and 6th February | Student Recognition

It gives me great pleasure to share that Ofsted found that Hornchurch High School has taken effective action to maintain the standards identified at the previous inspection. As a learning community we are exceptionally pleased with this report. It is important that we recognise student effort and successes over the past 2 years and as a reward for their excellent contribution to school life, we have organised a surprise silent disco to take place on Thursday 3rd April – the unveiling of the reward took place this morning in form time. Each year group will be assigned a silent disco period and students will have the opportunity to purchase ice creams/refreshments during this time if they so wish. A memorable way to end this term!



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Student Leadership | Well-being Ambassadors

Our Wellbeing Ambassadors are leading an exciting initiative to teach students vital life-saving skills, including the primary survey, CPR, and the recovery position. After their intensive specialist training, they are preparing to create informative videos for students to watch during form time, where they will demonstrate how to assess an individual's condition through the primary survey, perform CPR in emergencies, and correctly place someone in the recovery position. Additionally, the ambassadors are organising a lunchtime workshop for students to practise these techniques hands-on, overseen by the Assistant Headteacher, building their confidence in responding to medical emergencies. This initiative aims to equip students with the knowledge to act quickly and effectively in critical situations, ensuring a safer responsive community.



House, Sports, Trips and Competitions

The House System has been in full swing this term, with Everest currently leading in 1st place with an outstanding 32,788 points. A huge well done to all students for their hard work and participation in a variety of house competitions this term. From PE events like trampolining, badminton, and football to academic challenges such as the spelling bee and the science week quiz, the competition has been excellent!

Students have also been engaging in exciting activities during House Assemblies, including quick-thinking trivia and friendly team games. This has become a highlight of the term, promoting team spirit and healthy competition. The reward for these efforts is the opportunity to earn valuable house points, and as a special incentive, there's a reward trip to bowling in Romford next term. Let's see which House will take the lead next!



This term has been action-packed for our sports teams, with several fixtures taking place across different sports. The basketball season has concluded, and our team performed admirably. Meanwhile, the football, rugby, and netball seasons are still going strong, with outstanding performances from our teams. Notably, the Havering Girls Netball Rallies saw our Year 8 girls' team finishing 3rd in their group, and the Year 7 football team has had an impressive season with just one loss.

Our rugby teams have also had great success, with Year 7 beating Coopers and Year 10 triumphing over Emerson Park School. The trampoline squad performed well at the Havering Championship, and the introduction of girls' basketball has been a hit. A huge well done to all our students for their dedication and achievements this term and representing the school!





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Our recent ski trip to the French Alps in February half term was an unforgettable experience for all involved! Students had the opportunity to improve their skiing skills in breathtaking mountain surroundings. Beyond skiing, the group also enjoyed free time to explore the local area, and learn a bit of French. The trip was a fantastic chance for students to build confidence and develop resilience whilst creating lasting memories.



Bringing Shakespeare of Life!



Our entire Year 9 cohort, as well as Year 10 history students had the chance to visit the iconic Globe Theatre in London, where they experienced the world of Elizabethan theatre. This trip brought their studies of Shakespeare to life, giving them a deeper understanding of his plays and the history of theatre. Meanwhile, Year 10 students attended the Poetry Live event, where they watched live performances from renowned poets, leaving them feeling inspired with a love for poetry which is a component in their English literature course.

Our Year 11 students had the incredible opportunity to attend a production of *Macbeth* by Quantum Theatre. The performance brought Shakespeare's classic tragedy to life in a dynamic way, providing students with a deeper understanding of the play. The experience inspired students to analyse the text from new perspectives and enhanced their literary knowledge.

Additionally, our Year 9 and Year 11 students participated in a *Macbeth* workshop that deepened their understanding of the key themes, characters, and dramatic techniques used in the play. Led



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by expert facilitators, the workshop gave students valuable insights and enriched their approach to Shakespeare's work.

Intermediate UK Maths Challenge



Year 9 and 10 students participated in the Intermediate UK Maths Challenge, which took place at the end of January. This competition involved solving 25 progressively difficult mathematics problems within a 60-minute timeframe. The challenge aims to test students' problem-solving and reasoning skills in a range of mathematical topics.

Congratulations to all participants, particularly those who earned bronze and silver awards and congratulations to Luyi for achieving the Best in School Award!

Year 9 First Give Programme | Charity Fundraising

Our Year 9 students have been working tirelessly this term to raise awareness and funds for various local charities, all with the hope of winning a £1,000 donation for their chosen cause. Their dedication has been truly inspiring, with students organising food and clothing collections, performing in assemblies, running break-time workshops, distributing leaflets, and hosting cake sales. Thanks to their efforts, they raised over £100 for charities such as SMILE, Aanchal Women's Charity, Havering Mind, and St. Francis Hospice.



The school final, which took place in January, saw SMILE (Supporting Many Individuals Living Existence) as the winning charity. They were extremely grateful to receive the additional funds to support people in the local community. All Year 9 students should be incredibly proud of their achievements in fundraising, raising awareness, and presenting their causes. This experience has helped them develop invaluable skills that they can use both in and outside of the classroom, making a real difference in the lives of others. Well done to the whole of year 9!

Year 10 Jack Petchey's Speak Out Challenge



This term, all Year 10 students participated in the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge, where they were tasked with planning and delivering a speech on a topic they were passionate about. The challenge provided a fantastic opportunity for students to showcase their public speaking skills, and each student rose to the occasion with impressive dedication and enthusiasm. The speeches covered a wide range of topics, and the students did amazingly, they should be very proud of themselves.

The feedback from students was overwhelmingly positive, with many sharing that the experience significantly boosted their confidence, improved their public speaking abilities, and helped them





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build stronger connections with their classmates. Well done Year 10 for your hard work and courage - public speaking is not easy!

Key Stage 3 Motivational Workshop

All of Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8, and 9) recently participated in a highly engaging and motivational workshop led by The Transformative Storyteller, Fusion. Titled "Forward is the Motion; The Path is Negotiable", the workshop took students on an inspiring journey through interactive games, conversation, cultural stories, hip hop, and spoken word. The aim was to help students understand the importance of having a purpose in life and finding the courage to walk their own path to success.



By the end of the session, students gained a deeper understanding of how purpose plays a crucial role in achievement and personal growth. The workshop was incredibly well-received, with all students fully engaged and thoroughly enjoying the experience. It provided a fantastic opportunity for our students to reflect on their individual journeys and the power of determination.

BBC Guest Speaker | Editor of BBC Four

We were delighted to welcome Cassian Harrison, the Head of BBC Four, to the school to speak with our Year 10 students. As the person responsible for shaping the strategy of BBC Four, Cassian ensures the channel delivers fresh and original programming that enriches British television both intellectually and culturally. During his visit, he shared his fascinating journey into the BBC, offering valuable insights into the world of media and broadcasting.



Cassian spoke about the importance of finding a career path that aligns with your passions and strengths. He provided helpful tips and advice on navigating the challenges of career decision-making. Our Year 10 students found his talk inspiring and thought-provoking, leaving with a deeper understanding of the diverse opportunities available to them in the future.

Parent/Carer Feedback

Your feedback as parents/carers is invaluable and as we reach the end of term, your voice is important to us and our live school improvement plan. Please complete the following survey with your child: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SpringTerm2025>





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Progress Reports and Parents' Evenings

Students are assessed three times a year, and teachers provide a predicted grade based on assessments, classwork, and contributions. The Spring Progress Report for years 7-10 were sent out on Monday 31st March 2025, accompanied by a letter explaining the reporting system. If you have any further questions, please contact your child's Head of Year. Year 11s will receive their data report on Friday 4th during their mock-results day.

Please find below the remaining Parents' Evening dates for your son/daughter. These dates have been scheduled following a data drop, providing you with an opportune time to engage in meaningful discussions about your child's progress:

Parents' Evenings 4-6.30pm	
Year 10 – Parents' Evening	Tuesday 22 nd April 2025
Year 8 – Parents' Evening	Tuesday 29 th April 2025

End of Term Arrangement and Summer Term Start 2025

The final day of this spring term is **Friday 4th April, when students will be dismissed by 12.00 noon** for staff to attend an end of term review meeting. The final day is business as usual in terms of lessons periods 1 and 2. Students may wear non-uniform and donate £1 however, all dress must be appropriate for a professional learning environment.

The term dates for 2024/25 and 2025/26 are published on our website should you wish to plan future holidays. In addition, they are both attached to this letter.

The first day of the summer term will start on Tuesday 22nd April 2025 with students arriving at 8:15 for a prompt 8:30 start, our breakfast club starts at 8am.

From all of us at Hornchurch High, I wish you and your family a lovely Easter break.

Yours sincerely,


Ms S Madhvani
Headteacher





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Term Dates 2024-2025 | This Academic Year

Hornchurch High School

School Term and Holiday Dates 2024 - 2025



September 2024						
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October 2024						
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November 2024						
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December 2024						
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January 2025						
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February 2025						
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March 2025						
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April 2025						
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May 2025						
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June 2025						
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July 2025						
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August 2025						
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	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 3rd September	Start of Term (Y7)
Wednesday 4th September	Start of Term (ALL)
Friday 25th October to Friday 1st November	Half Term
Thursday 19th December	Last Day of Term

Spring Term	
Monday 6th January	Start of Term
Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February	Half Term
Friday 4th April	Last Day of Term

Summer Term	
Tuesday 22nd April	Start of Term
Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May	Half Term
Friday 18th July	Last Day of Term



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Term Dates 2025-2026 | Next Academic Year

Hornchurch High School

School Term and Holiday Dates 2025 - 2026



September 2025						
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October 2025						
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November 2025						
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December 2025						
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January 2026						
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February 2026						
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March 2026						
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April 2026						
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May 2026						
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June 2026						
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July 2026						
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August 2026						
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	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



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