

# Wanstead High School

Education with Character

- Redbridge Lane West, Wanstead, London E11 2JZ
- Tel: 020 8989 2791 • Email: [whs@wansteadhigh.co.uk](mailto:whs@wansteadhigh.co.uk)
  - Website: [www.wansteadhigh.co.uk](http://www.wansteadhigh.co.uk)



Headteacher: Miss E Hillman

6<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

## Mobile Phones

We are delighted as you know with the drop in incidents related to social media since phones have been taken away from pupils. We are also very grateful to you for your additional support with this initiative; whether that is considering the type of mobile you are purchasing for your child or not sending them to school with a phone.

In light of the recent incidents locally, we will allow pupils to contact you (or other family members) at the end of the school day after their phones have been returned and they are outside the classroom making their way out of school. The aim of this is to reduce the need to get their phones out in public places and I know some of you like to hear from your child at the end of the day. All other aspects of the phone policy remain the same. I am hoping to meet Calvin Bailey, local MP, soon to discuss the community situation and continue to try and work with the police to increase support. Please keep informing us and the police of any incidents to increase the likelihoods of patrols, and not just in Autumn!

Thank you to parents and carers for their support and ideas and we will keep you posted with any updates and continue to talk to your children about safety. We can possibly accommodate a small number of pupils after school, until they can be picked up, if this would support you as parents and carers. Do let us know or anything else you can do to help. Thanks to Lucy Crowe for her proactive approach to working with us.

## Options - Year 9

A letter will be coming out from Ms Murray shortly for Year 9 parents/carers with details of the Options Event on 14th November. This will be a meeting for parents/carers and Year 9 pupils with two sessions, either at 5.15pm or 6.30pm and will explain the process and steps for the year ahead.

## Too Good to Throw!

As mentioned in the previous letter, we will trial leftover lunch food being sold between 3.15 and 3.25pm in the dining hall on a Friday in the first instance. Grab and go food will be reduced in price, although all still in date and we will assess how this goes and keep you updated as to whether we will extend this trial.

## Referral Requests - External Agencies including CAMHS

A reminder that any requests for any assessment forms to be completed by external agencies, such as CAMHS, should be directed through the following email.

[Referralrequests@wansteadhigh.co.uk](mailto:Referralrequests@wansteadhigh.co.uk)

Please do use this email to also inform us of any impending contact with external agencies, including private appointments, so we can ensure that we are planning strategically and supporting our young people. You can also request advice if you are unsure. Ms Iqbal (SEND Administrator) will monitor the box weekly and referrals will be triaged to the appropriate staff member, which may be Ms Cini or the Head of Year mostly for issues with social, emotional and mental health needs and Ms Worham (SEND CO) or Ms Dietze or Ms Harper (Deputy SEND COs). Occasionally, this may be another staff member if the pupil already has a key-worker and we will inform you when we acknowledge your contact. I hope this helps to ensure a smooth system moving forward.

**Parent/Carer Surgery**

We will be running surgeries between now and Christmas where parents/carers can book a 30-minute appointment to meet with me to discuss any issues, feedback or just a chance to have a face-to-face meeting. Any specific issues related to a subject or a pastoral need should be raised via appropriate staff first or via Heads of Department or Heads of Year. Please feel free to book a slot with Ms Rutland ([f.rutland@wansteadhigh.co.uk](mailto:f.rutland@wansteadhigh.co.uk)). The dates for surgeries are Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November (9.00-12.00) and Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December (10.00-12.00). I look forward to meeting those of you who are interested.

All the best

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emma Hillman". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned to the left of the printed name and title.

**Emma Hillman**  
Headteacher