



Wishing you all a Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year!  
From the staff and Governors at  
Spring Hill High School.



## Head Teacher Message

Welcome Parents/Carers to our Christmas Newsletter,

This term has been a very pleasing one for the school. As you will all know we were inspected by OFSTED this term during October. The Good grading was the result of some exceptionally hard work by the staff and our wonderful students. We all believe so strongly in the school and to have outside validation means so much.

Of course this result also reflects the amazing support we get you, the parents and carers who support the school so well. All of you were so positive about the school and it was a fantastic contribution to the success of the inspection.

The journey of the school is not over and we will strive to grow so we can support as many young people as we can. In 2023 we hope all students will be able to share the values of **Trust, Commitment, Respect and Safety** in the life of the school.

Thank you as always for the support you give us.

Have a wonderful holiday and here is to a safe and happy New Year.

Gary Edmunds, Head Teacher



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Not everything we do is published in our Newsletter. @SHHSUK



## Attendance 'Attend today, achieve tomorrow'.

**As a school we aim to:** Maintain an attendance rate of 96% - this is the national average.

**Punctuality** School starts at 9:10am. Please arrive at school on time.

**Illness** Please call us on the first day of absence and let us know the reason your child is unwell.

# Compass for Life

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.

An innovation this term has been a Head Teacher's Assembly which celebrates pupils who have achieved during the week and represented the school's values.

The student who has achieved the most Head Teacher's awards will be announced during our end of term assembly.

Well done to everyone who achieved a Head Teacher's award this term.

## 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



 **SPRINGHILL  
HIGH SCHOOL**

**'Leaders have high expectations for all pupils and have designed a rich, broad and balanced curriculum to enable them to realise these expectations.'** - OFSTED 2022

# Teaching & Learning



The school was inspected from 4th-6th October. They gave the school an overall grade of 'Good'.

The report said:

*'Staff help pupils to successfully re-engage in education. Pupils benefit from an education that enables them to achieve meaningful qualifications. They are taught well and are supported by staff who know and understand their needs. Staff have high expectations for all pupils. This is reflected throughout the whole school community.'*

*'Staff know the pupils well. This means that they are quick to recognise when something is not quite right. They act on concerns swiftly and take the necessary actions to make sure pupils are safe. All staff know how to recognise signs of abuse and neglect. Systems for reporting concerns are robust and leaders follow up the concerns with tenacity and rigour.'*

*'Parents speak positively about the school. Several parents say it has turned their children's lives around and they now come to school happily and want to come every day.'*

We could not have achieved this without your support as parents and carers and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you, your fantastic children and our dedicated staff for their hard work and commitment, which has helped to make Spring Hill such an amazing place to learn, work and achieve.

## Acceptable mobile phone use

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

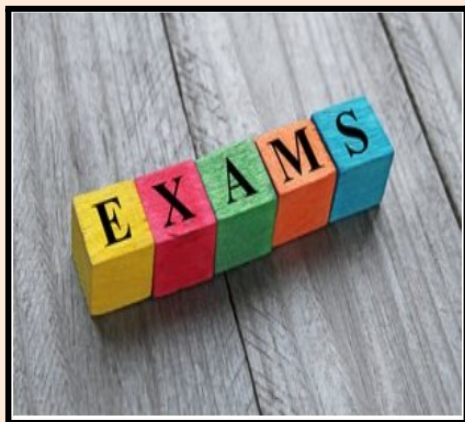
Our aim is to ensure that students at Spring Hill High School use devices effectively, safely and responsibly without negatively affecting their learning, or the learning of others.

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.

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# Exams News



## Summer 2022 examinations

Spring Hill High School can report another excellent set of examination results for the last academic year, the best results in the school's history. These results are set in a context where many of our students struggle to sit exams because of a fear of failure, and their lack of confidence, due to vast gaps in their knowledge from Key Stage 2 and 3. A full list of our 2021-2022 examination results can be found on our school website.

From all the staff team at SHHS, we congratulate every student who achieved exam results last year.

## 2022-2023 Qualification Certificates

Exam certificates from qualifications taken in 2022-2023 series have been received by the school and would have been handed to individual pupils directly if available. The school is allowed to keep certificates not collected for a maximum of 12 months only, and we are not able to keep copies of certificates. Certificates are important documents that pupils may be required to have when applying for further education or future jobs. Therefore, I must stress the importance of keeping certificates safe and in a good condition, as exam bodies charge for replacement or lost certificates.

## November 2023

In November some of our students took AQA Functional Skills examinations in Maths and English. All the team at SHHS congratulate these students for taking their exams, and we wish them all the best in their results. Results for November 2022 exams will be available to students on **Thursday 12th January 2023**,

## January 2023 & March 2023 examinations

Some of our students have also been entered for AQA Functional Skills examinations in January and March 2023. The AQA timetables for each exam series will be available on our school website to view. All students entered will receive their examination timetables a month before examinations take place. Results day dates for each exam series are below:

- January 2023 results day - **Thursday 2nd March 2023**
- March 2023 results day - **Thursday 13th April 2023**

## Access arrangements

If you wish to discuss a pupils access arrangements for examinations this year, please feel free to contact our Interim SENCo, Rebecca Clinton, [rebeccaclinton@springhillhighschool.co.uk](mailto:rebeccaclinton@springhillhighschool.co.uk)

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](mailto:smcgowran@springhillhighschool.co.uk)

# Maths Focus

## Maths Focus of the Week

Students have a maths focus each week, which links to the fundamental skills that underpin learning throughout students' school journeys and life skills beyond. To support this they have the opportunity to complete a weekly riddle or puzzle, which, if correct, they are nominated for a Head Teachers Award. Staff are also able to get involved which helps encourage students and gives staff the opportunity to feel accomplished too.

## Key Stage 3 Maths

Key stage 3 Maths is currently undergoing a face lift. This new approach is designed to give students more opportunities to learn skills such as problem solving from a younger age, alongside building their confidence in a subject that so many can find tricky. This will make KS4 & 5 a much simpler transition for our students. They will also be using a more tactile way of learning which will support students' education & SMSC goals even more so than our previous model.

An added bonus is that this will give students access to Sumdog: a platform that is assessing knowledge through games & is already proving a big hit. Students can also log on to Sumdog at home to complete skills practice and have some fun in designing their own virtual "house". Login details will be sent home with students.

## Achievements

Students this year have already shown great progress in Maths throughout all Key Stages. There are often Head Teachers Awards in Maths & some students have been moved onto a higher level of work due to them showing accelerated success. Others have shown brilliant attitudes & progress in their engagement & perseverance which we celebrate highly here at SHHS. Well done to all.

## Christmas Card Competition

Thank you to those students who took part in the competition, they were all fantastic! We decided to have a photographic and a mixed media winner. The winners are Ajani and Sophie, you will each get a £10 shopping voucher.





We all hope you have a fantastic Christmas break!

Monday 19th December to Monday 2nd January	Christmas Holidays (2 Weeks)
<b>Spring Term</b>	
Tuesday 3rd January	<b>Inset Day 3 - School CLOSED to Students</b>
Wednesday 4th January	School open to Students
Friday 17th February	End of Term
Monday 20th February to Friday 24th February	Half Term (1 Week)
Monday 27th February	Students Return to school
Friday 31st March	End of Term Onsite Celebrations
Monday 3rd April to Friday 14th April	Easter Holiday (2 weeks)
<b>Summer Term</b>	
Monday 17th April	School open to Students
Tuesday 18th April	
1st May	May Day Bank Holiday
8th May	Coronation Bank Holiday
Friday 26th May	End of Term
Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June	Half Term (1 Week)
Monday 5th June	Students return to school
Thursday 13th July	Parents Evening
Friday 21st July	July End of Term Celebrations
Monday 24th July	Inset Day 4
Tuesday 25th July	Inset Day 5
- Results Day	Wood End Lane Open from tbc

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