Newsletter

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Create, Aspire and Excel to 'Live life in all its fullness' (John 10:10)

Message from the Acting Principal

A very Happy New year to you all and I hope you had a wonderful Holiday with family and friends. It was so good to welcome all the students back to Chiltern Hills on Monday and to see them all looking so positive ready for the term ahead. As the weather gets colder it is very important that students come to school in a warm winter coat to help keep them warm when they are in the outside spaces and on their journeys to and from school.

We are looking forward to a very busy term at Chiltern Hills Academy. The students all have their second progress check of the year this term and Year 11 and 13 have their second round of mock examinations which will begin on Monday 29 January 2024. It is so important that students prepare well for these examinations and work hard at home as well as in school. It is also an important time for our year 8s they have a parents' evening this Thursday and then on Thursday 25 January 2024 they have their KS4 options evening when they will begin to make their GCSE and BTEC choices for the next 3 years of their education. We will be giving lots of information to the students and parents/carers in the coming weeks so that we can support you and our students in making informed choices about what they would like to study for their options.

We are also embarking on a full IT network review and have been working over the holidays on assessing a number of IT network proposals that have come into us last term. As a result of this we will be moving forward with selecting 2 companies to come in to the school and present their proposals to us so that we can select the right plans to move the IT provision at Chiltern Hills forward and deliver the best service for our students and community.

During form time and in assemblies we have begun the term discussing the importance of community with all out students. Chiltern Hills is a thriving, exciting place to be and we are committed to ensuring that we are all kind and respectful to each other and that we work together to create a positive environment for us all to flourish. I have also spent some time over the holidays collating the results of the behaviour survey which many of you so kindly completed during the latter part of last term. I will provide a more detailed summary of the results in next week's newsletter.

I would also like to inform you that on Wednesday 24 January 2024 we have a Parent Forum and you are most welcome to come to the school at 6.00pm to take part in a discussion relating to issues and questions that you wish to raise with us. I

would also like you to know that in the evening of Thursday 1 February we have our first ever 'CHA Talent Show' when students will be showing off their various performing abilities in a show that you are all welcome to attend.

I am really looking forward to the term ahead and hope that as a school and community we continue to make progress so that our students continue to thrive in a happy environment. Thank you in advance for all your support. Please do feel free to contact me about any concerns or issues that you have. I can be contacted using the email address: office@chacademy.co.uk

Mr T Dobbs

Dates for the Diary

Date	Event
11 January	Y8 Parents' Evening, 4.00 to 7.00pm
23 January	Post 16 Choices, 9.00 to 10.00am
24 January	Parent Forum, 6.30 to 7.30pm
25 January	Y8 GCSE Options Evening, 6.30 to 8.00pm
23 and 26 January	Y12 Interviews, 9.00 to 11.00am
29 January to 9 February	Y11 and Y13 Mock Examinations
30 January	Barcelona Sports Tour – Parents meeting, 6.00 to 7.00pm
31 January	UCAS deadline for all courses
1 February	CHA Talent show. 7.00 to 8.00pm
6 February	Drama students – Splendid Theatre Co, 2.00 to 4.00pm
6 February	CHA-PTA meeting, 7.00 to 8.00pm
9 February	Last day of Spring term 1, school closes at 3.10pm

PTA News

Happy New Year to you all from CHA PTA. We hope that you all had a fun, calm and restful break.

Rotary Club Collection

Thank you to the parents and their families who were able to help us on a very cold Thursday evening just before Christmas. We had a fun, albeit slightly rushed evening as we were on a very tight time schedule. Santa was definitely on form and a good evening was had by all. We will not know how much money we have raised for our school funds for a few weeks yet, but a huge to thank you everyone involved.

Spring Fayre

Our Spring Fayre is on Sunday 3 March. Put this date in your diary as a definite opportunity to buy a Mother's Day or Easter gift and enjoy a bacon sandwich and cake as well! If you are a crafter please contact the PTA in order to book your stall for the day.

We look forward to seeing you during this term's event.

Mrs S Webb Chair chapta@chacademy.co.uk

Safeguarding

Online Safety

Over the holiday period many students have received new devices such as phones, tablets and gaming consoles. New purchases can be exciting as young people explore, learn and play, however, it can also bring risks that have the potential to be harmful. The following link from Internet Matters is a supportive guide for parents who may need help with how to ensure new and existing devices are used safely.

First connected device guide for parents - Internet Matters

Trying to keep up with the latest trends and apps can be challenging as often our children are far more astute and capable in their ability to interact online. There are lots of tools available online that provide knowledge and understanding to equip parents with the right information to help keep their children safe.

The following link from UK Safer Internet has lots of resources to help guide parents including clear and factual information on various online risks such as cyberflashing, livestreaming and parental controls and many more. Each section has a really helpful Best Practice for Parent and Carers with practical top tips on reporting concerns and how to talk to your child about your concerns.

Parents' Guide to Technology - UK Safer Internet Centre

If you are concerned about your child's online behaviour or if they have received unwanted messages or images please let us know so we can provide support and guidance. safeguarding@chacademy.co.uk

Mrs J Conway Vice Principal Executive Designated Safeguarding Lead

Snow Day Closures

If the weather forecast indicates possible disruption, please check the Academy website. We will also endeavour to text parents to inform you if we are unable to open, so please ensure the Academy office has an up-to-date mobile contact number for you (office@chacademy.co.uk). Information about school closures across the county may be found on https://closures.buckscc.gov.uk/



Y8 Options Evening

An important date for your diary is the Y8 Options Evening, on Thursday 25 January, 6.00 to 7.30pm.

During week commencing 15 January subject teachers will promote their subject area in lessons, they will discuss the specification/content of the subject, if it is examined or part BTEC - They will discuss with them the successes of the subject area, particular careers they could go into.

Next week we will be delivering an assembly to Y8 to give them more information regarding the option process, shortly after the options booklet will be given to the students and available on our website.

Mr A Griffiths Vice Principal

Consultation to Admission Arrangements

STATUTORY CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

Statutory Consultation on proposed changes to the Admissions Arrangements for Chiltern Hills Academy to take effect from the beginning of the academic year 2025-26

Each year the admission authority for all schools and academies are required to review their admission arrangements. The admission authority must consult on proposed changes to the admission arrangements and conduct a consultation on the policy every 7 years.

The admission authority for Chiltern Hills Academy is its Governing Body. The Governing Body has decided to consult on proposed changes to the school's admission arrangements which would take effect from the beginning of the academic year 2025-26.

The main change proposed are:

4 'Children of members of staff'

This has been moved above the rule for 'Children living in the catchment area of the school'. This means that the over-subscription criteria in the event that there are more applicants than places available would be applied in the following order:

- 1 Looked-after children and children who were previously looked after, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside England, but ceased to be so as a result of being adopted.
- 2 Families who have exceptional medical or social needs that make it essential that their child attends Chiltern Hills Academy rather than any other. These needs must be fully supported by written evidence from the appropriate professional person involved with the family.
- 3 Children with a normal home address in the catchment area and with a sibling on roll at the school at the time of application or whose parent has accepted an offer of a place at the school and who is expected still to be in attendance at the time of entry to the school.
- 4 Children of members of staff
- 5 Children with a normal home address in the catchment area
- 6 Children with a normal home address outside the catchment area and with a sibling on roll at the school at the time of application or whose parent has accepted an offer of a place at the school and who is expected still to be in attendance at the time of entry to the school.
- 7 Other children.

The full admissions criteria including changes to catchment are available in the document on our website www.chilternacademy.co.uk/admissions.

The consultation period for this policy will run from Friday 1 December 2023 for 6 weeks until Friday 26 January 2024.

The Governing Body welcomes any comments on the proposed change. Please email your comments to office@chacademy.co.uk or send via post to the school clearly marked 'Admissions Policy 2025 Consultation'.

Please note below other schools who have also published consultations on their admissions policy. Please do look out for other schools' admission policies consultancies in the area on their websites.

Aylesbury UTC

Consultation on a proposal to admit Year 9 to Aylesbury UTC for the first time in September 2025 as well as amendments to Admission Policy

We want to hear your views on this proposal. The views of parents, pupils and the wider community will be considered by our Governing Board and Buckinghamshire County Council – when determining whether to publish a Statutory Notice to admit year 9 pupils to the UTC.

Please submit your feedback by completing the questions below or at the following link by Friday 26 January 2024 at 4.00pm. https://forms.office.com/e/CNxa66wQhD

Wycombe High School Admission Policy 2025

In accordance with the School Admission Code, Wycombe High School Admissions Policy for 2025 is now available for public consultation. The policy is available on the school website here: 2025-Admissions-Policy-

Wycombe-High-School.pdf (whs.bucks.sch.uk)

The consultation period is from Wednesday 6 December 2023 to Wednesday 17 January 2024. The Trust Board welcomes any comments on the updated policy. Please email your comments to the Admissions Team at admissions@whs.bucks.sch.uk any comments must be returned by Wednesday 17 January 2024.

Please find below information relating to the consultation for our Admissions Policy for entry in September 2025.

Brushwood Junior School Admission Policy 2025-26

In accordance with the School Admission Code, Brushwood Junior School Admissions Policy for 2025-26 is now available for public consultation. The policy is available on the school website

here: https://www.brushwoodjunior.education/admissions/

The consultation period is from Friday 5 January to Friday 16 February 2023. The Governors welcome any comments on the updated policy. Please email your comments to office@brushwood.education . Any comments must be returned by Friday 16 February 2023.

Acting Principal: Tim Dobbs BA (Hons), NPQH Chiltern Hills Academy Chartridge Lane, Chesham Buckinghamshire HP5 2RG

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