Holmer Green Senior School Weekly Newsletter

20th November 2026

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE:

After each reporting cycle, it is my privilege to meet with the top 10 students in each year group for best 'Attitude To Learning'. It is their resilience and relentless hard work that ultimately supports them to do very well academically. Congratulations to all. It was great to see such strong Drama performances by our Year 13's this week. Well done to them. The Year 11 written, mock exams are in full swing and we wish all our students well in their revision. We have lots of revision support on our website for all year groups here. We completed our Parent Governor election process and I would like to congratulate Jessica McMurdo and Martin Skitt on their appointments.

Our Sixth Form Open Evening is on Thursday 3rd December from 6-8pm, for current year 11 students. Tickets and further information are here. If you, or anyone you know have particular experience in: estates; law; audit; procurement; marketing/publicity; or education and would like to become a Community Governor please complete the short expression of interest form here.

Mr Hillyard

Attendance Matters - Let's Reach 97%!

Thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support in ensuring students attend school regularly. Good attendance is one of the strongest indicators of academic success, wellbeing, and positive future opportunities.
Our current whole-school attendance is **93.8% in Years 7-11** and **92.1% in Sixth Form**, which means we still have work to do to achieve our school target of **97% attendance**.

Attendance by Year Group
A special well done to **Year 7**, who currently have the highest attendance in the main school at **95.4%**, and **Year 12**, leading the Sixth Form with **95.1%**.
While many students attend regularly, unauthorised absences remain a concern.
Every lesson missed creates gaps in learning that can quickly add up.
For example, attendance of 90% equates to almost **four weeks of missed learning over a school year**.

	Attendance
Year 7	95.4%
Year 8	94.7%
Year 9	93.8%
Year 10	92.9%
Year 11	92.1%
Year 12	95.1%
Year 13	88.2%

How families can help:

- Ensure your child attends every day unless they are genuinely too unwell to do so.
- Arrange medical and dental appointments outside of school hours where possible.
- Encourage punctuality and establish consistent morning routines.
- Contact the school promptly if your child is absent.

Working together, we can continue to improve attendance and move closer to our target of **97%**, ensuring every student has the best possible opportunity to succeed.
Every day counts. Every lesson matters.

Miss E Reed
Assistant Headteacher | Designated Safeguarding Lead

MESSAGE FROM THE PA TEAM:

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our Parent Association team are looking to do a Christmas raffle for the school and would like some help with obtaining prizes! if you or your company can offer any support by offering vouchers for meals out, spa or activity experiences that would be amazing.
We would also appreciate donations or wine, chocolates, bubble bath to make up a hamper.

Please can any of these offering be brought into Reception.

If anyone is free to help serve drinks at the Christmas Showcase on the evening of 15th December please email office@holmer.org.uk.

If you would like to become a member or to find out more, please email PA@holmer.org.uk

Many thanks in advance.

PA Team



Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 3rd December 2026

Come and see everything our sixth form can offer to help you choose your next step in your education.

Please click here to register for your ticket



Sporting News





Transport and Traffic

Thank you to everyone for helping to keep Parish Piece a safe area by dropping students at the top ends of the road and not parking in bus stops or blocking our neighbour's access.

Please can we remind all students to take care on their way to and from school and watch out for road users.

We have been made aware that there are several planned roadworks in the area over the coming weeks.

We have written to the local authority for further information but please be aware that traffic may be more difficult during this period.

We advise that you check your routes and see what may affect your routes.

We will issue updates when we are given any.

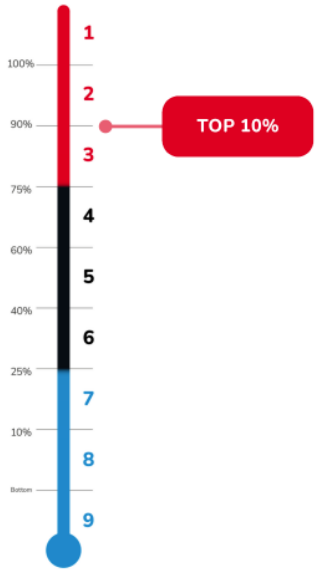
COMMUNICATION UPDATE

In the background we are working to switch from SIMS to Abor for January 2027.
This will allow parents to view timetables, homework, behaviour, lunch money, etc. all in one user friendly app.

Details about this move will come out towards the end of next half term.

Arbor

HGSS Sixth Form





Mary Ahern
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

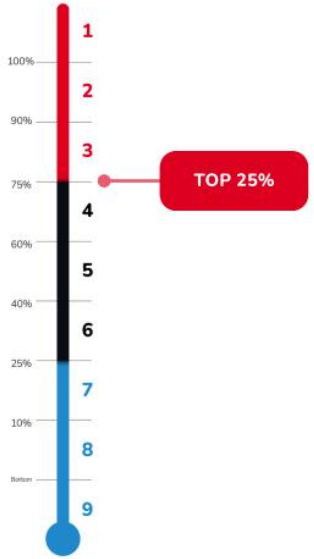
Position compared to the BTEC outcomes from the 2025 DfE National Dataset.

2026 Alps Certificate of Outstanding Progress

Holmer Green Senior School

BTEC 2026

Alps Helping students aim higher





Mary Ahern
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Position compared to the A level outcomes from the 2025 DfE National Dataset.

2026 Alps Certificate of Outstanding Progress

Holmer Green Senior School

A level 2026

Alps Helping students aim higher

We are delighted to let you know that we have received two awards based on our A-Level and BTech Outcomes in Summer 2026.

Our BTech outcomes are in the top 10% of school's nationally and our A-Level outcomes are in the top 25% of schools nationally.

This could not be achieved without the hard work of our students, the sixth form team and all of our subject teaching staff as well as the support from our parents and carers.

Revision at HGSS

We have two Assessment Points at HGSS. For years 7-10 and 12, you will receive a report in February and July. To support with students' preparation and wellbeing, we don't have exam weeks until the end of year 10, therefore assessments happen at different times.

You can find the dates of these assessments in Revision Booklets published on our website here: **https://www.hgss.co.uk/Learning/Revision-Guides/**

Please use the links to resources on these to support with preparation before assessments in each subject.

For Year 11 and 13, Content Guides have been published on this section of the website. We will publish Content Guides for Year 10 and 12 before the mock exams in June.

HGSS Careers

Work Hard · Be Kind · Have Passion

HGSS DAY TO WORK

Know a trusted grown up with an exciting job?

Spend a staff INSET day working alongside them and see a career in action.

WHEN	LAUNCHES	WHERE
Any staff INSET day	Monday 2nd November	Wherever they work!

Who could you shadow?

Parents	Family	Friend	Local Business
Your Primary School	A Charity	A volunteer	Careers contact

Open to every student, Year 7 to Year 13
Pick up a form at the careers clinic.
Miss Christiansen- Careers Lead

Prizes up for grabs!

CAREERS DROP-IN CLINIC

Got a question about your future?

Just turn up. No appointment, no pressure, and no question is too small.

WHEN	TIME	WHERE
Every Thursday	3.30pm to 4pm	Purple Study Room, Careers Office

Ask us about…

GCSE options	A Levels & BTECs	T Levels	Apprenticeships
University & UCAS	Work experience	CVs & applications	Part-time jobs

Open to every student, Year 7 to Year 13
Bring a friend. Bring your questions.
Miss Christiansen- Careers Lead

Drop in, no booking!

HGSS Careers

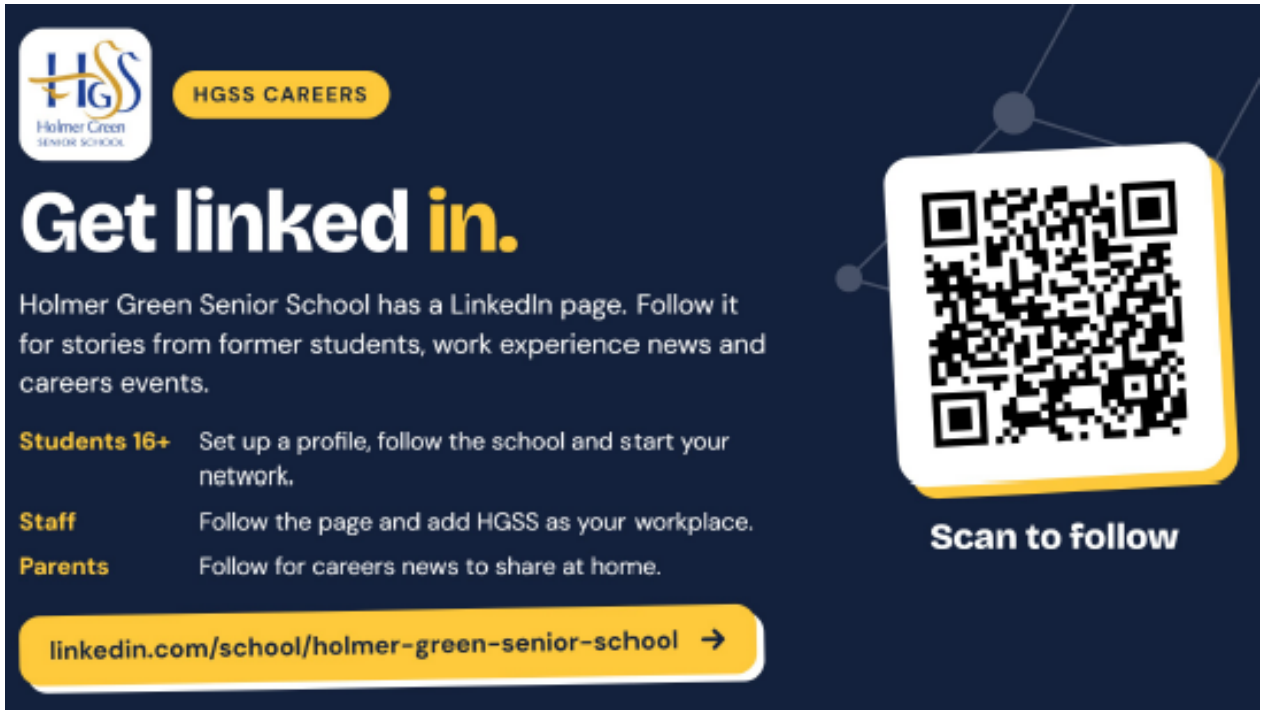
Work Hard · Be Kind · Have Passion

The October 2026 **Higher and Degree Apprenticeship Vacancy Listing** is out, with hundreds of paid jobs starting in September 2027 at employers such as the BBC, Airbus, Amazon, KPMG and the Metropolitan Police, including roles in Milton Keynes, Reading and Oxford.

Degree apprentices earn a salary while studying for a degree, with course fees covered, and starting pay can be high: solicitor apprentices at Freshfields start on £32,000 and Met police constable apprentices on £42,210.

Some deadlines are in October and November, so Year 13 students should look now, and they can apply to university at the same time. Find the listing here: Higher and Degree Vacancy Listing, October 2026. Students can explore their options on Unifrog or get help with applications at our career's clinic, Thursdays 3.30pm to 4pm in the Purple Study Room.







- The Choir will be performing at **Christmas on the Common** on the 29th November outside Holmer Green Village Hall. Time slot to follow, however it will be late afternoon/evening time.

- Tickets for the **Christmas Showcase** will be available on School Cloud.
- This festive event will feature performances from the Choir, Band, Performing Arts groups and an array of individual talents.
- It will be held on the 15th December. If you son/daughter would like to take part, please encourage them to come along to auditions on the 10th November which will be held after school in the drama studio.

Latest Vacancies

Please see our website for full details:

Holmer Green Senior School - Work with us

CAREERS

Follow this link for the latest Classroom to Careers Newsletter

Classroom_to_Careers_Newsletter_September_2026.pdf

REMINDERS:

Student safety – please encourage your children to be attentive when using the roads. The use of mobile phones whilst walking along the pavements or crossing the roads should be discouraged so that children can concentrate on their surroundings and other people.

We strongly encourage our students to be as independent as possible on their journey to and from school. Walking, cycling and taking the bus are all good options. If you do need to drive your children to school, please do not drive along Parish Piece at the start and the end of the school day as this causes congestion and significant danger for students as they make their way home. Please arrange to meet your sons and daughters at a location away from Parish Piece. When parking, please park legally, safely and respectfully of our neighbours.

Please remember to sign up for extra curricular clubs and interventions and include the School Cloud link: SchoolCloud - Holmer Green Senior School https://holmergreensenior.schoolcloud.co.uk/