



# Parent Bulletin

October  
2025

## Key Dates

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October– Battlefields Trip

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October – House Music Competition

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October– House Music Highlights  
Concert

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October– Year 7 Halloween Disco

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October– INSET DAY

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October– INSET DAY

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October– Half Term  
Holiday



# Headteacher's Blurb

## September reflections

This has been a really positive start to the school year for many reasons. September saw our Open Events welcome hundreds of prospective students and families to explore life at Chosen Hill. From the Open Mornings to our Open Evening on Thursday 18th September, it was a pleasure to see our students proudly guiding tours and sharing their experiences. The warmth, ambition and sense of community that define our school were on full display.

We also held our Parents' Information Evenings for Year 7, 8 10 and 11, which focused on supporting students through their school journey. Feedback from our parents about these evening was very encouraging.

Attendance has started positively this year, with figures above the national average and reflects the strong commitment from students and families to making every day count. This is a promising foundation for the year ahead.

Beyond the classroom, students have already begun representing Chosen Hill in sports, arts and leadership roles. Whether performing, competing or volunteering, it's been inspiring to see so many embracing opportunities and showing pride in their school.

As always, I am proud of the kindness, teamwork and ambition that shine through in our community. Thank you to all staff, students and families for making September such a successful start to the year.

## October Forecast

As we move into October, the rhythm of the school year is well underway and the energy across Chosen Hill continues to build. With the foundations laid in September, we now look forward to a month filled with opportunity, creativity and connection.

October brings a number of exciting events and initiatives. Our Year 7 Halloween Disco on Wednesday 22nd October promises to be a fun and memorable evening, with prizes for the best costumes and a chance for students to celebrate together in a safe and inclusive environment. We're also proud to be launching our Borneo Expedition for summer 2025, with an information evening held on Tuesday 10th October. This opportunity will see students from Years 9 to 12 take part in jungle trekking, conservation work and cultural exchange—an experience that will build confidence, resilience and global awareness.

Our extra-curricular clubs are now in full swing, offering everything from chess and dance to STEM and trampolining. It's been fantastic to see students engaging with these opportunities and developing skills beyond the classroom.

Our big House Event for October is "House Music" and I would like to commend our students and staff for their hard work and best of luck in the competition. I look forward to meeting parents at the highlights show on Tuesday 21st October.

October also marks the final stretch of Term 1, with INSET days on Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th October, followed by a well-earned half-term break. As we approach this milestone, attendance remains strong and behaviour continues to reflect the school values.

**Mr Bardgett and Mr Witham – Acting Headteachers**

# Important Information

## **School drop off and pick ups.**

If you drop your child at school, please do not drop them in the entrance areas with the gates. These are no dropping or turning areas to ensure the safety of pupils and staff. There have been a number of near misses this term with people pulling in to drop their children off and other people turning to come into the school.

If you are reminded by a member of staff that the areas are not for dropping off or turning, please can you be respectful in your communication with them. Staff are doing their best to keep these areas clear so that it is safer for your children to arrive and leave school.

Please can we remind you that school is open for students from 8am and that students should not be arriving before that time as there is no staff supervision until then.

## **School Term Dates for 2025/26**

Please note the term dates and the INSET days when students will not be in school. It is really important that students are in school every day – absence due to holiday taken during term time is not authorised and may lead to penalty fines being issued.

Please click the link to see the term dates for 2025/2026.

<https://www.chosenhillsschool.co.uk/home/parents-and-students/term-dates/>

## **VE Day Celebrations**

Please be aware that due to circumstances beyond our control we have decided to postpone the VE Day celebrations until the main remembrance week in November. Any competition entries will be valid in November.

Thank you



# Duke of Edinburgh Dates

Please make a note of the following dates if your child is taking part in DofE at Chosen Hill this year

## **Bronze**

Session 1- Saturday 27th September 10-12

Session 2- Saturday 29th November 10-12

Session 3- Saturday 31st January 10-12 (First Aid)

Session 4- Saturday 28th February 10-12

Session 5- Saturday 21st March 10-12

Bronze Training Weekend Friday 8th May 6pm-Saturday 9th May

Session 6- Saturday 13th June 10-12

Bronze Assessed Expedition Friday 26th June 8am- Saturday 27th June

Any questions please contact Mr Bird [ib@](mailto:ib@)

## **Silver**

Saturday 17th January 9-3.30pm (First Aid training)

Wednesday 11th March 1-5pm Navigation Afternoon

Silver Practise expedition Thursday 16th April 10am- Saturday 18th April

Silver Assessed Expedition Thursday 14th May 8am- Saturday 16th May

Any questions please contact Miss Wheeler [ewh@](mailto:ewh@)

## **Gold**

Saturday 17th January 9-3.30pm (First Aid training)

Sunday 1st March Initial Training Walk 8am-6pm

Wednesday 11th March 1-5pm Navigation Afternoon (provisional)

Introduction to wild Country Friday 28th March 8am- Saturday 29th March

Gold Practise Expedition Wednesday 22nd April 8am- Saturday 25th April

Gold Assessed Expedition 6th- 10th July (enrichment week)

Any questions please contact Mr Bird [ib@](mailto:ib@)

# Important Information

## **Dress Code for September 2025**

Maintaining high standards in a shared school dress code is a key part of fostering a respectful and focused learning environment. When students arrive at school dressed smartly, it sets the tone for positive behaviour, strong work habits, and pride in their school community.

We are grateful to parents and carers for your continued support in upholding our dress code expectations. Our dress code reflects our shared values and prepares students for the expectations of the wider world. By consistently promoting high standards of appearance, we aim to instil confidence, responsibility, and a sense of belonging in every student.

Many of you will be thinking about making the annual trip to the shops and online to purchase school uniform and shoes. This is particularly pertinent for parents/carers of students joining Year 7 in September 2025. Our school uniform supplier, Monkhouse Schoolwear Specialists, are reminding parents/carers that it is helpful to visit their website before the end of term, or early in the summer holiday, in order that uniform purchases are in place for the new academic year. [www.monkhouse.com](http://www.monkhouse.com)

We would like to refer you to the Uniform Acceptability Check in our Dress Code Policy: [Dress Code Policy From September 2025](#) This will help parents avoid purchasing costly uniform items that are not acceptable under the school dress code.

# Important Information

To avoid any student having to replace items of clothing in September, can I remind you of a few key details:

- Standard green blazer with Chosen Hill School badge in white on pocket.
- Black formal school trousers

Trouser hems should rest on the top of the shoes and always below the top of the sock.

Reminder: any other trousers are NOT school uniform. This means not jeans, leggings or jeggings, skinny or slim fit i.e. not tight around the ankles.

- Plain white, formal, collared, work-style, long or short sleeved shirt. The shirt must be tucked in.

There should not be a gap between the bottom of the shirt and the trousers.

- Clip-on school tie, with green and silver bands.

From September 2025 – Year 7 students should wear clip-on ties which are available from our uniform supplier Monkhouse Schoolwear.

All other year groups can continue to wear the traditional school tie (Standard tie knot, covering the top shirt button and with 10 or more stripes visible below the knot) but please could we ask that when you are ready to replace this item, you do so with the clip-on version.

- Socks must be plain black.
- All black, formal and professional, flat-heeled, plain shoe with an instep. These should be of a material that can be polished.

No trainers, plimsolls, suede/canvas shoes or boots to be worn.

Heels may not be higher than 5cm (2in) for safety reasons on stairs in school.

See Uniform Acceptability Check below.

We do not accept trainers as alternative footwear on medical grounds as other wide, supportive shoes are available.

# Notices

In addition, in September please can parents and carers ensure that the general rules around piercings, make-up, false nails and eyelashes are adhered to.

The school will be checking uniform regularly during roll call and through the standards card and by students supporting the dress code, this will avoid an unhappy start to the new academic year.

Many thanks for your continued support of the school and its policies.

## **Donations of School Uniform and Equipment**

We are looking for donations of school uniform that your child has outgrown and no longer needs. In particular those students who have finished Year 11 and looking to move onto the next phase of their education. All school uniform in good condition would be greatly appreciated, including blazers, tie's, trousers and skirts. Any equipment that your child will no longer need, such as calculators will also be welcome.

## **Personal Information and Data**

With a new school year having started, it is timely to remind you to make sure that we have accurate contact and medical details on record. Please visit the School Gateway and advise us if you have changed contact information, including emails, to ensure that we are able to always reach you.

From September the canteen will not serve students any food item that does not meet their dietary restrictions that we currently have logged on our system. These are things like vegetarian, no pork, no dairy etc. as we have to abide by the regulations set for us to ensure we are compliant.

Therefore we'd be grateful if you could please check your child's details on SchoolComms/ParentPay and let us know if the information needs to be updated.

Dear Parent/Guardian

IFG proudly serves over 400,000 students nutritious meals each day. Our award-winning teams are dedicated to serving vibrant, appetising food, freshly prepared on site using quality ingredients. To enable us to continue to do this, our **meal tariff will be increasing by 2.3% and Free School Meal Allowance to £2.95** from September 2025. The great news is we have frozen all our fruit, yoghurt and salad dish prices for another year. Below we have outlined some of the cost pressures which have driven this increase.

**Food Inflation due to NI increases:** We buy British and support our local economy where possible and because of Employers National Insurance increasing, this has meant we have received increases of 5%+ from our suppliers. The increase is not only the cost of delivering to our sites but also the products we purchase. We have robustly negotiated and mitigated with our suppliers, ensuring we maintain quality, however the NI increases have meant an underlying increase across all products and ingredients we buy.

**Employee Funding & Retention:** In April, the Government increased the minimum wage by 6.7%, a positive move which will ease cost pressures for many of our colleagues. Alongside this, to retain and attract a high standard of leadership, we have increased wages for supervisory and managerial roles. Despite positive advancements, the combination of these factors means significant ongoing cost demands across our industry, many of which we have absorbed.

We continue to seek ways of mitigating the costs associated with these challenges, however, we refuse to compromise on ingredients or service standards. We remain proud to serve a home cooked main meal and dessert, as well as other options. We truly believe we offer students innovative dishes which rival the high street whilst providing families with great value for money.

Through partnering with schools, we continue to see more students enjoying our services. Whilst this is great news and tells us our menus are popular with students, we are always looking to encourage more young people to dine with us. If you have any feedback we would love to hear from you.

We hope you understand our position and your family can continue to enjoy our services. We remain open and honest about our challenges and will continue to seek your input. Should you wish to discuss this letter, or anything else relating to your catering service, please get in touch.

Kindest regards



**Bryan Lygate**  
**Chief Operating Officer**

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Registered in England and Wales

Company Reg No 11096050



## Tariff September 2025

DRINKS	PRICE	BREAKFAST	PRIC
Water 500ml Fruit	£1.15	BreakfastRoll Mini	
Slush Capri Sun	£1.45	Breakfast Baguette 3	£1.55
Dalston Cans Radnor	£1.30	Piece Breakfast Pot 4	£1.55
200ml Carton Milk /	£1.45	Piece Breakfast Pot	£2.20
Flavoured Carton	£1.15	Toast with Butter or Jam	£2.40
	£1.15	Waffle with Topping	£0.35
Muffins Small Cakes		Pastries & Croissants	£1.70
Cookies Brownie	£1.35	Cereals + Milk (8oz)	£1.70
	£1.05	Porridge for Staff	£1.05
Bagel Panini -	£1.35	Porridge for Students	£1.00
Half/Whole Toastie -	£1.35	Porridge Toppings	Free
Whole Korean Crispy			£0.50
Chicken		COLD GRAB & GO	
	£2.60	Chill Deal Roll	£1.15
	£1.55/£2.75	Deli Sub Roll/Sandwich	£2.30
	£2.30	Wrap	£2.75
	£2.65	Naturally -Premium Salad	£3.00
Tandoori Chicken Naan	£3.00	Basic Baguette/Premium Baguette	£2.45/£2.75
Wrap/Twister	£2.75	Half Baguette	£1.55
Chicken Wings	£2.35	Cold Pasta Pot 16oz	£2.50
Shawarma	£2.75	Vegetable Bag	£0.75
Pizza Slice (Break Time)	£1.60	Protein Pots	£1.05
Falafel Kebab	£2.75	Salad Pots	£2.00
Hot Bowls	£2.65	Yoghurt/Jelly/Fruit Pots	£1.00
Hot Pasta Pot -Med/Lrg	£2.25/£2.50	Whole Fruit	£0.55
Jacket Potato -1 Topping	£2.15		
ALL Power Bites			
Range of 8oz Nutritious Rice & Noodle Dishes	£1.35		

VAT on hot food and beverages will be charged at the current rate for all staff members

## Tariff September 2025

BREAKFAST		PRICE	homebakes		PRICE
BreakfastRoll	Mini	£1.55	Muffins	Small Cakes	£1.35
Breakfast	Baguette 3	£1.55	Cookies Brownie		£1.05
Piece	Breakfast Pot 4	£2.20			£1.35
Piece	Breakfast Pot	£2.40	Bagel	Panini –	£1.35
Toast with Butter or Jam		£0.35	Half/Whole		
Waffle	with Topping	£1.70	Toastie -Whole		£2.60
Pastries & Croissants		£1.70	Korean Crispy Chicken		£1.55/£2.75
Cereals + Milk (8oz)		£1.05	Tandoori Chicken Naan		£2.30
Porridge for Staff		£1.00	Wrap/Twister		£2.65
Porridge for Students		Free	Chicken Wings		£3.00
Porridge Toppings		£0.50	Shawarma		£2.75
COLD GRAB & GO			Pizza Slice (Break Time)		£2.35
Chill Deal Roll		£1.15	Falafel Kebab		£2.75
Deli Sub Roll/Sandwich		£2.30	Hot Bowls		£1.60
Wrap		£2.75			£2.75
Naturally –Premium Salad		£3.00			£2.65
Basic Baguette/Premium Baguette		£2.45/£2.75	Hot Pasta Pot –Med/Lrg		£2.25/£2.50
Half Baguette		£1.55	Jacket Potato –1 Topping		£2.15
Cold Pasta Pot 16oz		£2.50	ALL Power Bites		
Vegetable Bag		£0.75	Range of 8oz Nutritious Rice & Noodle Dishes		£1.35
Protein Pots		£1.05	Soup		
Salad Pots		£2.00	FreshSoup Available Daily		£1.85
Yoghurt/Jelly/Fruit Pots		£1.00			
Whole Fruit		£0.55			

VAT on hot food and beverages will be charged at the current rate for all staff members



# STEM CLUB

Day: Wednesday week 1

Time: 3:15 to 4:00

Place: Ss23

Who: All year groups

Come along to enjoy exciting activities that include competition, team work, problem solving and explosions!

Crash an egg, build a rollercoaster, explode a stick bomb, catapults, slime and much, much more!

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE BEYOND 16

Saturday October 25th  
SGS Stroud Campus  
Stratford Road, Stroud, GL5 4AH  
10am to 1pm

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**An opportunity for families of young people with SEND in Year 7 and above to meet with the county's providers and support services to start planning for next steps after Year 11**

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Free parking on site and refreshments available



**HARTPURY**



Register your interest now:

