



SCHOOL NEWS 7 SEPTEMBER 2023

Dear parents and carers,

What a week to come back! Many of you will have seen the media reports of the issue of RAAC in schools, and the challenges in managing that will no doubt continue for many schools. It does not impact our schools at Worthing High School or Clapham and Patching C of E Primary School, and is something we are continually monitoring and reviewing, to ensure all of our staff and students are safe.

The return back is always challenging and that coupled with a mini heat wave doesn't help, but our school has done incredibly well. Fortunately, the temperature returns to more 'normal' ranges next week and we thank you for your patience and understanding during this time.

Our GCSE results from our outgoing class of 2023 were very positive and we are very proud of how well all our students achieved at every level. We wish them all the very best in their next endeavours and look forward to celebrating their success in the future.

One thing is clear, students whose attendance is strong 95% + do well and the data nationally reinforces that. Attendance continues to be a focus and our expectation is that every child is in school, learning every day. We appreciate there will always be medical appointments etc., but we strongly encourage optional appointments to be made at the end of school day where possible to help the continuation of learning in the classroom.

Many parents have also noted the new school calming traffic signs on South Farm Road. This is a great addition and one that we have, especially Mrs Gannaway, been pursuing for many years. Our focus is still to try and have some form of safe crossing in St Lawrence Road and hope that you will continue to support our efforts in achieving this.

With safety in mind, it is also excellent to see so many of our students coming to school on bike/scooters etc. Our policy is still the same and when they cycle to school, they must also cycle wearing a cycle helmet. If they are challenged by staff on duty if they do not have a helmet then we will inform you as parents and carers, and if they cannot produce a cycle helmet they will not be allowed to cycle to school. The roads around Worthing High School are exceptionally busy in mornings and afternoons, and we are trying to keep your child safe.

Our Welcome Evenings for your specific year groups have begun and are on our school website, with our first evening for year 7 taking place yesterday. We look forward to meeting you all and providing key information relevant to your child's year group.

Finally, we are holding our Open Day event on Saturday 23 September at 9-1pm, for years 6 students and their families, with Open Morning tours taking place on Monday 25- Friday 29 September. This information has been sent out to all local schools and will be on our website.



I look forward to meeting you all throughout the year and hope you and your child have a great start to this academic year.

Thank you for your continued support.

Pan Panayiotou
Executive Headteacher

Welcome back to a new academic year, we hope you have enjoyed a restful summer. As we approach the end of our first full week, all students have had their welcome assembly where they have been reminded of our core values: *community, resilience, integrity, excellence, respect and wellbeing*. It has been pleasing to see in the classroom and around the school site that students continue to embrace these. They really do underpin the behaviour and conduct we want to see across the school and their consequence cards continue to reflect this.

An important event at the start of the year are our parent welcome evenings, this is an opportunity for parents to receive key messages from the Executive Head and Head of School and to meet your child's tutor. The relationship between families and tutor is key and is an excellent way to keep in touch should you have any worries or concerns. We urge you to attend the welcome events, they will take place on the following dates:

Thursday 7 Sept –Welcome Evening for year 11 parents/carers
Monday 11 September – Welcome Evening for year 9 parents/carers
Tuesday 12 September – Welcome Evening for year 10 parents/carers
Thursday 14 September – Welcome evening for year 8 parents/carers

Booking information will be shared in advance of each evening.

This year we are delighted to continue working with Action Your Potential, who support students and their families to develop positive study habits, healthy lifestyles and good mental health. In the coming weeks, we will be sharing more information about resources, groups and sessions that may be beneficial to support you and your child on their educational journey.

Year 11 mocks

In order to ensure the Year 11s make the best possible progress in this final year, they will be sitting two sets of mock examinations; the first will be fortnight beginning 30 October. We appreciate these are early in the year, but we are confident this is the best time to conduct them. Previous Year 11 groups have shown that doing them early gives plenty of time to work on any gaps in knowledge and skills and for teachers to ensure their support for the students is tailored and impactful. To support students in their preparation, please do encourage your child to start revising at home and prepare as well as they can. All of our subjects have a Google Site, which has revision material and teachers will be sharing websites and resources to help. There will be additional support in school with intervention/revision sessions running before and after school – a timetable of these



sessions will be shared shortly. Again, we recommend you encourage your child to attend these, should they need support in particular subjects.

Adrian Cook
Head of School

Uniform

Many thanks for supporting our students in returning to school wearing their uniform so positively. Please may I ask all parent/carers to ensure that they have read the uniform policy (attached) and ensure that students wear plain socks with no logo please.

Thank you again for all of your on-going support.

Student Photographs

Individual student photographs are due to be taken on Tuesday 12 September by Van Cols Ltd. Your child will be issued with a photo proof card to take home with them on the day with instructions for parents/carers on how to register. Once registered you will get an auto notification to inform you when the images are ready for viewing.

All students to attend school wearing full school uniform.

Catering Till System

Unfortunately, there has been an issue with the till system where the remaining balances from the end of term have been removed. We are working hard to rectify this, in the meantime, if your child is having difficulties please could you add a small amount of money to their accounts. Once this has been rectified the balance will be added back on to your child's account.

Apologies for this inconvenience

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Clubs Autumn Term 1

Clubs will be back up and running from **Wednesday 13 September**. Most clubs will run **3:15-4:15pm**; some clubs run at slightly different times, please check the New Autumn Term 1 club timetable **carefully** [click here](#). All students are welcome to attend clubs. Registers will be taken weekly therefore there is no need to sign up to a club prior to it starting. If students are attending clubs please can we remind you that they must be in their full WHS PE kit. The weekly newsflash can be found at [here](#) and will be updated every Friday by 1pm. *Please note any changes to clubs and/or fixtures will be announced on our twitter feed: @WorthingHighPE*

Marie Field
Leader of PE

Dance Live! - Student initial interest (Previously known as Rock Challenge)



'We live in a digital age. Much of what we see, hear or do is defined by the latest technology. Dance Live! challenges schools to embrace today's digital culture by creating a performance piece which is largely dance based.'

We are looking for pupils in year 7 - 10 to be involved in this exciting dance competition. If your child is interested in being part of this project either as a performer or backstage, a meeting will be held on **Thursday 14 September** in the dance studio, 3.15 - 3.45pm for further information and questions. Further details can be found at this link: <https://dancelive.co.uk/dance-live-2024/>

Miss Strudwick

Governor Vacancy

Have you thought about becoming a school governor? Governors are a core part of the school's Board, with the opportunity to make a positive impact on the education and school life of the students. Worthing High School currently has a vacancy for a non-parent governor to contribute to the range of skills that makes up an effective Board.

The role requires commitment, an ability to question and analyse, and a willingness to learn. You would be expected to attend six governing body meetings per academic year (one in each half term), for a term of four years. The role is voluntary but reasonable expenses are reimbursed.

If you as a parent know someone who you feel will add value and be a critical friend, or if this sounds like something you would like to be involved in, we would like to hear from you. Please contact me at clerktogovernors@worthinghigh.net by 8 September 2023

VACANCIES

We advertise staff vacancies on our website under [Join Us/Vacancies](#). We are currently advertising for Learning Support Assistants and an Administration Assistant. Please take the time to have a look and share the information with anybody you know who might be interested in applying.

TWITTER

For up to date information don't forget to follow us on the links below:

Whole School: @WorthingHigh

Headteacher: @WorthingHigh_ht

South Downs Education Trust: @sdetrust

Trips: @worthinghighout

Worthing High Careers and Employability Service: @WorthingHighCar

Lettings: @HighLettings



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 7 Sept – Welcome Evening for year 11 parents/carers

Monday 11 September – Welcome Evening for year 9 parents/carers

Tuesday 12 September – Welcome Evening for year 10 parents/carers

Thursday 14 September – Welcome evening for year 8 parents/carers

Friday 22 September – Early closure, students finish at 1.30pm

Friday 20 October – INSET Day

October half term Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October