

# Highfield Middle School

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6<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are already at the end of our first week of term and things have started very positively here at Highfield. Our newest pupils in Year 5, along with several new starters in other year groups, have settled into school really well and are already displaying many of the positive 'Highfielder' traits we promote and encourage.

As you will probably know, we operate a rewards system where pupils are awarded Highfield points for: Achievement; Effort; Respect; Contribution and Readiness to learn. Pupils across all year groups have been very well behaved and we have handed out lots of Highfield points already. Our prize shop will open soon, where pupils can cash in their points at key milestones for a range of exciting prizes, ranging from stationery to experiences such as marshmallow roasts around a campfire.

New for this year, we have updated our **behaviour management** systems – Red and Yellow cards will no longer be issued but will be replaced by negative points, which will run in exactly the same way as the positive points described above. Negative points will be linked to opportunities to reflect and improve behaviour, at lunchtimes or after school on Fridays. Don't worry, we give out far more positives than negatives. In fact, as I write this letter we have given out 2410 positives so far and only 3 negatives! Well done everyone! You can read our new Behaviour, Relationships and Rewards Policy on our school website [here](#).

Parents can see when points are given to their child via the MCAS app and will be notified of after-school reflection sessions by email. Please get in touch with the school office if you need help setting up the app.

We have been really impressed to see our pupils dressed very smartly on their return to school. Just a gentle reminder that socks should be plain black, shoes should be leather (or leather look) and legging are not permitted (except for PE). Further **uniform** guidance can be found on our school website [here](#). If you have any problems providing your child with correct uniform, please do not hesitate to get in touch and we will be happy to help. We have a great stock of pre-loved items, available from school reception for a voluntary donation of £1.50.

We have been informed today that no replacement has been found for our **school crossing patrol**. We will monitor the crossing wherever possible after school, but this will not be possible in the mornings. We will speak to our pupils about crossing the road safety and appreciate you doing the same. If you are interested in taking on the role yourself or know someone who might be, please get in touch with us or contact the council directly at [parkingservices@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:parkingservices@northumberland.gov.uk). We'd love you to become our next 'Lollipop person', it's a really rewarding role and an opportunity to make a very positive contribution to our community.

Finally, **our school photographer will be visiting us on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September**. See the separate letter issued today for further information.

Have a great weekend!  
Richard Oades  
Headteacher

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