



**RAINHILL
HIGH SCHOOL**

FRIDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 2026

PARENT & STUDENT NEWSLETTER

WWW.RAINHILLHIGHSCHOOL.ORG.UK



OPEN EVENING

MEET OUR PUPILS, TOUR OUR FACILITIES, SEE OUR STAFF



**WEDNESDAY
16th SEPTEMBER**



5:00pm - 7:00pm



**MEET THE
STUDENTS**



**SEE THE
FACILITIES**



**MEET
THE STAFF**



**CAR PARK
OPENS 4:45pm**

LEARN, THINK, CONTRIBUTE, CARE

IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE



CONTENTS

Year 12 Parent Information Evening	PAGE 5
Year 10 Parent Information Evening	PAGE 5
Year 7 Parent Information Evening	PAGE 5
Open Evening 2026	PAGE 5
Freshers Fest 2026	PAGE 6
Homework - Building Strong Learning Habits	PAGE 7
Breakfast Club Booking	PAGE 8
Macmillan Coffee Morning	PAGE 8
 <u>HELP AND SUPPORT - WHO TO CONTACT</u>	 PAGE 9-10
 <u>CURRENT VACANCIES</u>	 PAGE 10-11

NEXT WEEK FOLLOWS THE WEEK B TIMETABLE

	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>
07/09/26	Y7 and Y11 Photographs	Y12 and Y13 SEND Parent Information Evening Year 12 Welcome Evening	Y7 and Y10 SEND Parent Information Evening Y7 Welcome Evening Y10 Expectations Evening Freshers Fest	Y9 Rainhill Adventure Residential	



A GREAT START TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

It has been wonderful to welcome pupils and staff back to Rainhill High School this week, and there is already a real sense of energy and optimism around the school.

We begin the new academic year with much to celebrate following a significantly improved set of GCSE results and another strong set of outcomes at RH6. At GCSE, our Attainment 8 score increased to 50.30, meaning that the average grade achieved across the qualifications included in this measure was above grade 5. Almost three-quarters of pupils (73.9%) achieved grade 4 or above in both English and mathematics, while 51.4% achieved the stronger benchmark of grade 5 or above in both subjects. We were also delighted to see further improvements across the curriculum.

There was much to celebrate at RH6 too. *97.6% of A-level entries achieved A–E**, with particularly strong outcomes in subjects including Fine Art, Biology, Chemistry, English Literature, Geography, History and Sociology. Our Applied General courses continued to be a real strength, with students achieving an average grade of Distinction- and 100% of students achieving Merit or above in a number of courses.

Of course, results matter because of the opportunities they create for young people. We are immensely proud of the high-calibre destinations secured by our Year 11 pupils and Year 13 students. Our leavers have progressed to sixth forms and colleges, apprenticeships, employment and universities across the country. Among our Year 13 destinations this year is the University of Oxford, alongside a wide range of other universities and ambitious pathways. It is wonderful to see young people leaving Rainhill ready and equipped for their next chapter, and we wish every member of the Classes of 2026 every success.

Behind every one of these results and destinations is a young person who has worked hard, but also a team of people who have supported them along the way. I would particularly like to thank our teachers and support staff, whose commitment to these young people extends over many years – from their arrival in Year 7, through their GCSEs and, for many, into RH6. I would also like to thank our parents and carers for the encouragement and support they have provided throughout that journey.

It has also been a pleasure to welcome our new Year 7 pupils. They have made a warm and very successful start, quickly assimilating into life at Rainhill and embracing the expectations and opportunities of their new school. We are already looking forward to their Freshers Fest on Wednesday 9th September, from 3.00–4.00pm. Pupils will be able to explore and sign up for our wide range of extracurricular activities as part of their Character Curriculum – an opportunity to try something new, develop their interests and make friends with others who share them.



Thank you also to the many parents and carers who attended our Year 11 SEND Information Evening and Year 11 Information Evening this week. Both events have received fantastic feedback from parents, and we hope they provided a useful insight into how we can work together to support pupils through this important year. If you were unable to attend, a copy of the PowerPoint and accompanying notes will be sent to all Year 11 parents via Arbor early next week.



Looking Ahead to Next Week

We have another busy and exciting week ahead. Year 7 and Year 11 photographs take place on Monday 7th

September. On Tuesday 8 September, we will hold our Year 12 and Year 13 SEND Information Evening at 4.00pm, followed by our Year 12 Information Evening at 5.00pm.

We know that getting to grips with new school systems can sometimes take a little time. To support both new and existing parents with Arbor, Reading Plus and Sparx

Maths, we are holding a parent drop-in session on Wednesday 9 September in the Sixth Form Study. Please make your way to the Sixth Form Reception on arrival, where colleagues will be available to help you access and use these systems.

On Thursday 10 September, we are very excited to be taking Year 9 pupils on their Adventure Residential. This is another important part of our Character Curriculum, encouraging pupils to step outside their comfort zones, try new experiences, develop confidence and resilience, and spend time together in an outdoor adventure setting.

Finally, we are looking forward to one of the highlights of our school calendar – our Showcase Open Evening on Wednesday 16 September, from 5.00–7.00pm. This is a fantastic celebration of Rainhill High School and an opportunity to welcome Year 6 and Year 5 pupils and their families from across the area. Our pupils and staff will showcase the learning, opportunities and experiences available here and give younger pupils a taste of the exciting journey that awaits them at Rainhill.

To enable us to prepare the school for Open Evening, pupils in all year groups will finish at 2.25pm on Wednesday 16th September. Further information will follow ahead of the evening.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It has been an exceptionally positive start to the year, and we look forward to working in partnership with you throughout the months ahead as we continue In Pursuit of Excellence.





YEAR 12 PARENT INFORMATION EVENING - TUESDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER 2026

I am delighted to invite you to our Year 12 Parent Information Evening, and we look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 8th September 2026.

Building on the essential partnership between parent, sixth form and student, we will outline how we are supporting your child to achieve during Year 12, the role that your child has in this and, essentially, how you can best support them at home.

We will also share how our wider pastoral support network will help to equip your child with the resilience, drive and ambition to confidently take their next steps successfully whether that is to further study at university, undertaking an apprenticeship or entering the world of work.

The evening starts at 5pm and we look forward to seeing you in the Sixth Form.

Mr Cunningham, Director of RH6.

YEAR 10 PARENT INFORMATION EVENING - WEDNESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER

On Wednesday 9th September, we will hold our Year 10 Parent Information Evening. This event is designed to support you, as parents/carers, with the transition into Year 10

Building on the essential partnership between parent, school and pupil, we will outline how we are supporting your child to achieve during Year 10, the role that your child has in this and essentially, how you can support at home.

The evening starts at 6pm and we look forward to seeing you there.

Year 10 Team.

YEAR 7 PARENT INFORMATION EVENING - WEDNESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER

We would like to invite you to our Parent Information Evening for parents and carers of Year 7 pupils on Wednesday 9th September.

This is a valuable opportunity to learn a little more about how we will work in partnership with you to support your child over the next year.

The event takes place on Wednesday 9th September at 5pm, we look forward to seeing you there.

Year 7 Team.

OPEN EVENING 2026 - WEDNESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER

Come along to our exciting Year 6 Open Evening on Wednesday 16th September 2026. This is a fantastic opportunity for you and your child to experience life at Rainhill High School.

What to expect:

- Meet our dedicated staff and student ambassadors
- Tour our state-of-the-art facilities
- Join hands-on activities in subjects from Science and Maths to Art and Social Sciences
- Experience live performances in dance, drama, and music
- Hear from our Principal at 5:00pm or 6:00pm
- Just arrive—no booking needed—and dive into the vibrant world of Rainhill High School. Whether you are curious about our curriculum, enrichment programmes, or student life, this evening is your chance to see it all.

We cannot wait to welcome you and your family to Rainhill High on Wednesday 16th September 2026.



FRESHERS FEST 2026

We are excited to welcome all new students and their families to our Freshers' Fest on Wednesday 9th September 2026 from 3pm-4pm.

This event is a fantastic opportunity to explore the wide range of clubs and activities available at Rainhill High School, from sports and performing arts to creative and academic clubs.

Parents and students are both welcome and can discover external community events and sports clubs beyond school as well, helping your child find a way to get involved, make friends, and develop new skills.

Mr Roberts, Assistant Principal.



**RAINHILL
HIGH SCHOOL**

FRESHERS FEST

**DISCOVER.
GET INVOLVED.
BE EXTRAORDINARY.**

Come along and see what
extra curricular activities
the school & local groups
can offer.



 **SPORT**

 **DRAMA**

 **MUSIC**

 **ART**

 **STEM**

 **COMPUTING**

**AND
MANY
MORE...**

 **WEDNESDAY
9 SEPTEMBER**

 **3.00 – 4.00PM**

 **SPORTS HALL**

PARENTS WELCOME



Homework – Building Strong Learning Habits

Homework is an important part of learning at Rainhill. It helps pupils practise and consolidate their learning, strengthen their knowledge and develop the independent study habits they need to succeed.

All homework will be set or scheduled on Arbor, giving pupils and families a clear overview of what has been set and when it is due.

AT A GLANCE – OUR WEEKLY HOMEWORK ROUTINE

KEY STAGE	HOMEWORK	WHEN SET	WEEKLY EXPECTATION	WHERE TO FIND IT
KEY STAGE 3 Years 7–9	Reading Plus	Monday	Up to four reading assignments each week	Reading Plus & Arbor
KEY STAGE 3 Years 7–9	Sparx Maths	Monday	One weekly task	Sparx & Arbor
KEY STAGE 3 Years 7–9	Recall 100	Monday	Weekly recall and retrieval	Arbor & Form Time
KEY STAGE 4 Years 10–11	Subject Homework	Weekly	Homework across all subjects	Arbor & Pupil Planner
KEY STAGE 5 Years 12–13	Subject Homework	Weekly	Homework across all subjects	Arbor



Key dates

KEY STAGE 4 & 5

Homework begins

**WEEK COMMENCING
7TH SEPTEMBER**

KEY STAGE 3

Reading Plus, Sparx Maths and Recall 100 begin

**WEEK COMMENCING
14TH SEPTEMBER**



KEY STAGE 3 – YEARS 7, 8 & 9



KEY STAGE 3 HOMEWORK STARTS FROM WEEK COMMENCING 14TH SEPTEMBER.

Our Key Stage 3 homework cycle has three core elements designed to establish a simple and consistent weekly routine.



Reading Plus

Set each Monday by the pupil's English teacher through Reading Plus and scheduled on Arbor. Pupils are expected to complete **up to four reading assignments** each week. Reading Plus provides immediate online feedback and allows teachers to monitor reading development.



Sparx Maths

Set each Monday by the pupil's Maths teacher through Sparx and scheduled on Arbor. Pupils complete **one** weekly Sparx assignment. Pupils receive immediate online feedback, while teachers can monitor progress and identify areas for further practice.



Recall 100

Set each Monday through Arbor and overseen by the Form Tutor. Recall 100 encourages pupils to regularly revisit and remember the important knowledge they are learning across the curriculum. Pupils complete a **weekly recall activity in Form Time**, checking and correcting their answers.



KEY STAGE 4 & 5 – YEARS 10–13



KEY STAGE 4 & 5 HOMEWORK STARTS FROM WEEK COMMENCING 7TH SEPTEMBER.

Pupils can expect weekly homework across their subjects, with teachers setting homework on Arbor. Teachers will also provide time in lessons for pupils to record homework or revision in their planner so that expectations and deadlines are clear.



Homework deadlines

Where homework requires physical submission, pupils will normally be given **7 days** from the date it is set to complete and submit their work.

Revision homework may work differently. In the lead-up to an assessment, test, controlled assessment, end-of-year assessment or mock examination, revision will be set according to the nature and timing of the assessment.



What might homework be used for?

Homework may be used to prepare for future learning, practise and consolidate knowledge and skills, revise for assessments and exams, undertake wider reading or research, develop independence and effective study habits and help teachers identify areas that need further teaching or practice.



How will pupils receive feedback?

Feedback will be appropriate to the homework task and may include individual or whole-class feedback, written or verbal feedback, scores or grades, peer assessment or teachers adapting subsequent lessons, assessments or tasks in response to pupils' work.



SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD

Parents and carers can play an important role in helping pupils establish successful homework habits. We encourage families to support pupils to:



Check Arbor regularly for homework and deadlines



Use their planner to organise their work



Complete homework on time



Establish a regular weekly homework and revision routine



Find a suitable place and time to complete homework



Ask their teacher for support if they are unsure about a task





BREAKFAST CLUB BOOKINGS

Breakfast Club is available free of charge every school day from **8:00am to 8:30am**. Students can sit quietly before school or purchase breakfast from the catering service using their normal lunch card.

Places must be booked in advance through the **Arbor Parent App**:

1. Open the Arbor Parent App.
2. Select **Menu**.
3. Select **Clubs**.
4. Choose **Breakfast Club**.
5. Select **Register for this club** and book the dates required.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

≡ You're invited to a ≡ 

MACMILLAN

Coffee Morning



Sip coffee. Enjoy treats.
Make a difference.

EVERY DONATION HELPS 

WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT

			
PLACE Sixth Form Study Area	DATE Friday 25th September 2026	TIME 10:35 – 13:25	CONTACT Katie Thomas

 **We are asking for**
baked goods to sell on the day.

Home made or shop bought
is fine! 

Donations to be handed in
to 6th Form Office.





HELP AND SUPPORT

CURRICULUM QUERIES

Heads of Department

English	Ms Dickman	Business Studies	Mr Farrell
Mathematics	Mr Rimmer	Social Sciences	Mrs R Evans
Science	Mr Flynn	Computer Science	Mr Cowley
Biology	Miss Harper	Art Design Technology	Mr Bennett
Chemistry	Mrs Bancroft	Languages	Mr Farrell
Physics	Mr Hurst	Food Studies	Mrs King
History & Politics	Mr Swan	Performing Arts	Mrs McCann
Geography	Mr Iddon	PE	Mr Wood
Philosophy & Ethics		Life Skills	Miss Burgess
		(PSHE/Citizenship)	

PASTORAL QUERIES

Stage 1	Form Tutor	
Stage 2	Year Student Manager/Progress Coach	
Stage 3	Year Progress Leader/Director RH6	
Stage 4	Assistant Principal - Behaviour & Culture	Mr East
Stage 5	Vice Principals	Mrs Munro, Mrs Aylward
Stage 6	Principal	Mrs Thorogood

Pastoral Structure

Y7 Student Manager	Dr Rotheram	Y7 Progress Leader	Mrs Haselden
Y8 Student Manager	Mrs Beardwood	Y8 Progress Leader	Mr Giles
Y9 Student Manager	Miss Hill	Y9 Progress Leader	Mr Barry
Y10 Student Manager	Mr Lambert	Y10 Progress Leader	Mr Brown
Y11 Student Manager	Miss Humphreys	Y11 Progress Leader	Mr Webster
RH6 Progress Coaches	Mrs Thomas/Mrs Garton	Director RH6	Mr Cunningham
Young Carer Champion	Miss Wordsworth		

COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

Please [click here](#) to view our Communications policy.



Young Carers

A young carer is someone who provides regular and ongoing care and support to a family member who has a physical or mental health condition, or misuses drugs or alcohol and they cannot cope without their support. They can often take on responsibilities that would normally be expected of an adult.

Being a young carer can have a big impact on the things that are important to growing up; like your education, your physical/mental health, your social life and your self-confidence.

If you find that you don't have much time to spend with your friends, you feel stressed and worried, it's getting harder to keep on top of schoolwork – there are people in school who are here to support you... and Young Carers Support Services.

A young carers assessment can help to find out if there is any extra support for you or the person you care for. This could help to take away some of the worries or stress you may be feeling, help you keep on top of your schoolwork and be able to spend time doing things you enjoy.



Do you think that you may be a young carer?

Young Carer Champion
Miss Wordsworth

Speak to the YC Champion or another adult you trust.



Young Carer Drop-in

Monday lunchtime
A103

Week A Y7, Y8, Y9

Week B Y10, Y11, RH6

SHARP

Use the SHARP system to ask for help and we will come and speak to you.

Parents and Carers can

contact the YC Champion via School Synergy.

St Helens Catering Service - School
Lunch Special Dietary Request



SCHOOL MENU

Please [click here](#) to view our latest menu.

Please [click here](#) to view our allergens menu.

ACCESSING FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If you have been in receipt of free school meals previously and believe this should still be the case, you will need to apply to St Helens Council. Please [click here](#).



CURRENT VACANCIES

PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

Rainhill High School is seeking applications from parents and carers interested in becoming a Parent Governor and joining our Local Academy Committee.

Parent Governors play an important role in supporting the school to provide the very best education for our young people. Working alongside other governors, you will help monitor educational standards, attendance, behaviour and safeguarding, while ensuring the views of parents and the wider school community are heard.

No previous governance experience is required. Full induction, training and ongoing support will be provided. The role involves attending approximately six meetings each year, undertaking occasional school visits, supporting governor panels where required, and participating in governor development and training. The term of office is four years.

If you would like to nominate yourself, or would like an informal conversation about the role before applying, please contact Kelley Black at Kelley.Black@rainhillhigh.org.uk

Expressions of interest received before the end of term will be acknowledged and followed up when the school reopens in September. Parents are welcome to register their interest at any point during the summer holiday period.

Nominations close at 4:00pm on Friday 11th September 2026.

If the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacancies, a parent ballot will be held, and all parents/carers will be given the opportunity to vote.

The Parent Governor nomination form will be sent out via Arbor.



SUPPORT, INSPIRE, CHANGE MAKE A DIFFERENCE



**RAINHILL
HIGH SCHOOL**

BECOME A **SCHOOL PARENT GOVERNOR**

**AS A MEMBER OF THE LOCAL ACADEMY COMMITTEE
YOU WILL:**

Champion high standards and educational success
Monitor pupil achievement, attendance, curriculum quality and outcomes, while supporting school improvement priorities.

Support and challenge school leaders
Work with senior leaders to provide constructive challenge and oversight across education, behaviour, attendance, safeguarding and inclusion.

Represent the voice of our community
Listen to parents, pupils and staff, helping ensure local views contribute to the school's future development and success.



WHAT IS INVOLVED?

The role includes:

- Attending approximately 6 meetings each year.
- Undertaking occasional school visits.
- Reading papers in advance of meetings.
- Participating in training and development.
- Support with panels.
- Serving a four-year term of office (or less depending on when your child leaves school).

Who can apply?

Any parent, carer or individual with parental responsibility for a child attending Rainhill High School may stand for election, subject to eligibility requirements.

Join us...

**Nominations are open until 4pm on Friday 11th September 2026. Please submit a Parent Governor
Nomination Form to :**

Kelley.Black@rainhillhigh.org.uk
We would love to hear from you!

