



Ewood Lane
Todmorden
West Yorkshire
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www.todhigh.co.uk

Headteacher: Miss G Shirt

Up & coming dates

Ski trip departs – 31st March

Easter holidays – 31st March

Students return to school – 17th April

Year 7 Progress Evening – 20th April 4.30-7pm

Y10 and Y11 Duke of Edinburgh – 29th April and 30th May

Y9 DTP/Men Vaccinations – 4th May

Year 10 Raising Aspiration Evening – 4th May

Dear Parents and Carers,

A note around attendance. Our school day begins at 8.35am, with lessons commencing at 8.40am. Please can you support us with a prompt and smooth start to the day by ensuring that your child attends school on time. The gates from Burnley Road will be locked from 8.45am.

Having a good education is important to ensure that your child has the best opportunities in their adult life. They only get one chance at school, and your child's future may be affected by not attending school regularly. If a child does not attend school regularly, they may:

- Struggle to keep up with school work.
- See a negative impact on their achievements, progress and grades.
- Miss out on the social side of school life and gaining important social skills.

Being on time is also vital. Arriving late at school can be very disruptive for your child, their teacher and the other children in the class. Some parents may be finding it difficult to ensure that their child attends school regularly. If this is the case please speak to Miss Dearden (c.dearden@todhigh.co.uk) as soon as possible so that the situation can be addressed. We want to support all of our students to have the best possible attendance during their time with us and access as much learning as possible.

Remember - the world is run by those who turn up.

- Attending school every day = 100% attendance.
- Attending 4½ days a week = 90% attendance = 4 weeks missed per year.
- Attending 4 days a week = 80% attendance = more than half a term missed per year.
- Attending 3½ days each week = 70% attendance = more than a quarter of the school year missed.
- An average attendance of 80% or less across a child's school career adds up to missing a whole 2 years from school.
- Being late for school reduces learning time.
- If your child is 5 minutes late every day they will miss three days of learning each year.
- If your child is 15 minutes late every day they will miss 2 weeks of learning each year.



Enabling individuals to unlock their unique potential

THS has recently switched to using buff paper for printing services. Our paper is 100% recycled.

We are privileged in that many of our students are often smart in their appearance and wear their uniform with pride. Parents can support us in ensuring our students attend school in their full uniform, worn correctly and upholding our ARCH values each day by familiarising themselves with our uniform guidelines. We do have a second-hand uniform shop in school for those families who need to access it, if you would like to purchase some uniform, please contact us on admin@todhigh.co.uk. Where students attend school without a piece of uniform or wearing their uniform incorrectly, they will be lent something from our uniform store. Where students are lent uniform, their phone will be taken from them to encourage the return of that piece of uniform, if you have uniform at home that has been borrowed, please do return this to school to replenish our uniform store. Please see below a list of guidance regarding how our students should wear their uniform.

A white tailored shirt, with a proper shirt collar, which can be tucked into your waistband and has a top button you can fasten (long or short sleeved).	Required (generic acceptable)
School Tie (Royal blue striped tie) worn so that it reaches the waistband.	Required (branded) <i>only available in uniform retailers or our school uniform shop</i>
Black school blazer with the school logo on it.	Required (branded) <i>only available in uniform retailers or our school uniform shop</i>
Black V-neck jumper to wear under your blazer.	Optional (generic acceptable)
Plain tailored trousers, full length (at least to the ankle). <i>No leggings, jeans, tracksuit bottoms or jersey fabrics.</i>	Required (generic acceptable)
Plain, knee length, black tailored shorts. <i>No jeans, tracksuit bottoms or jersey fabrics.</i>	Seasonal - when indicated by the school in the case of warm weather (generic acceptable)
Plain tailored knee length pleated or A-line style skirt. Knee length means the skirt should be touching the crease of the back of the knee and the knee cap at the front. The skirt should not be tight fitting or made from stretchy fabrics. If wearing a skirt, socks or tights must be worn (not both together).	Required (generic acceptable)
Socks must be plain, not patterned, and either black, white or grey. They must also be either knee or ankle length.	Required (if wearing a skirt either socks or tights should be worn - not both together) (generic acceptable)
Tights must be plain, black and opaque.	If wearing a skirt either socks or tights should be worn - not both together (generic acceptable)

Plain black, leather or leather look (not canvas) flat shoes or ankle boots with black laces. <i>No sandals, trainers, logos or branding.</i>	Required (generic acceptable)
A black kameez can be worn in addition to the rest of the uniform, where required. A hijab can also be worn.	Optional
Sturdy bag.	Required (generic acceptable)
Outdoor coat for cold/wet weather. <i>No cardigans, body warmers or non-uniform jumpers including sweatshirts or hoodies.</i>	Optional (dependent upon season)
Lanyard.	Required (branded) <i>only available from school</i>

While on the topic of uniform please be reminded that (in terms of appearance and presentation):

- Single, plain ear studs are permitted but must be removed for PE. No other piercings allowed.
- No excessive make-up.
- No nail varnish, gel nails or false eyelashes.
- No rings, necklaces, bracelets or other jewellery except for one single, plain ear stud in each ear as specified above.
- Students who use henna in their cultural celebrations should avoid applying it to their nails as it looks like nail varnish and cannot be removed. Henna patterns on hands, which fade quite quickly, are acceptable.
- No hoodies or other non-uniform jumpers.

We are aware that Ramadan commenced yesterday this week and we have put plans in place to support our students who may be fasting during this period. Arrangements have been made for students to utilise our ICT rooms and/or gym every day during their lunch time so that they can engage in contemplation and prayer, activities run by staff members and be in a quiet space away from our eating spaces. Thank you to all our staff who have offered to give up their lunch times and support with this provision for our students. If you have any questions regarding our arrangements, please get in touch with the school on the details at the top of this letterhead.

We are running several Year 11 revision sessions over the Easter holiday, the timetable for revision sessions is below for your attention. This is an excellent opportunity for your child to catch up on coursework, engage in revision and spend extra time with their specialist teachers to prepare themselves for their upcoming exams. Please encourage your child to attend as many sessions as possible. If you need to speak to someone regarding revision sessions please contact Miss James in the first instance j.james@todhigh.co.uk.

Monday 3 rd April	Thursday 6 th April	Wednesday 12 th April	Thursday 13 th April	Friday 14 th April
9.30-11am Biology	9.30-11.30am Performing Arts	9-11am EPR	9am – 3pm Spanish	9am – 3pm Spanish
11.30am-1pm Biology		9am-3pm Health & Social Care		9-10.30am Foundation tier maths

1.30-3pm Biology		9am – 3pm Spanish		11am-12.30pm Higher tier Maths
All sessions are drop-in sessions and are suitable for Combined and Triple Science students		9am – 3pm Sports Studies		
		9.30-11am Physics & Chemistry		
		11.30am-1pm Physics & Chemistry		
		1.30-3pm Physics & Chemistry		
		All sessions are drop-in sessions and are suitable for Combined and Triple Science students		

Remember that **Year 11** students must order their leavers hoodies by close of play next Friday. After this time you will not be able to purchase these. A text message has gone out today.

I will be resuming my virtual headteacher's forum following the Easter break, where parents can log on and speak to me on a one-to-one basis about any concerns, queries or compliments they may have. My first will be from 3.15pm on Wednesday 19th and you will be able to access the meeting via the following link

<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3aacecf7915e0a547409eb1c21d7bc24f8f%40thread.tacv2/1679480663825?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2e04fa957-592e-450e-98c1-6d3d3a481a58%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22ef25ef08-bf19-4062-8904-69d1b035001b%22%7d>. Instructions will also be circulated in the first few days back via Class Charts. Hope to see some of you there.

We have been working hard to develop our in-school catering provision for students to ensure that students enjoy a healthy, nutritional range of meals and engage in healthy eating habits. Our catering manager has planned a new range of menus that sees the end of grab and go options and the introduction of a streamlined menu which follows healthy eating guidelines. Options for students following the Easter break will be a hot meal (with a halal and vegetarian option available daily) in line with the healthy plate guidance for protein, grains, fibre and other essential nutrients. Sandwiches will still be available for students, served with soup. Days will be themed, and the menu will be simplified to allow students to make an easy choice when they arrive at the serving spaces.

The canteen and other eating areas are receiving a facelift over the Easter break with new signage detailing healthy eating habits, guidelines for nutrition as well as up to date menus on display for students' ease. Meals will be served on crockery with cutlery provided, with disposable trays disappearing from our service to promote environmentally friendly practices among our student body. Students and staff who use the catering provision are asked to eat in our catering areas, seated before leaving to enjoy their social time outside. Students who bring a packed lunch are also asked to eat in our catering areas.

Since introducing seated dining, we have seen a reduction in the amount of litter on site, a more appropriate eating routine for the students and a healthier attitude towards mealtimes. We have increased the number of serving staff in key areas to reduce the queuing time for students. Please ensure that your child has money on their student account when they come to purchase food from the catering team, students who do not have money on their

account are asked to obtain a slip from the student office at the point of purchase in order to ensure we do not have excessive debt on student accounts. It is vital that students bring their lanyards with them to school as those who do not have them will be asked to wait until all other students have been served before they are served a dinner, this is to promote responsibility for equipment amongst our school community. If your child has any specific dietary requirements that you have not previously made the school aware of please get in touch with our catering manager, Sian Broadbent, so that we are able to provide meals suitable for your child (s.broadbent@todhigh.co.uk). We are open to student and parent voice regarding our catering provision therefore if you do have any feedback, please get in touch with Sian so we can continue to make mealtimes a positive experience for our students.

Thank you to all parents who came to our meeting about making our toilets a safer and more pleasant space for all our students. We were grateful for your ideas and comments.

We break up from school for the Easter holidays next Friday at the usual time of 2.50pm. School will reopen for students after the Easter break on Monday 17th April for an 8.35am start.

As always, if you have a query or concern, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

Yours sincerely,



Gill Shirt
Headteacher

Please find below an advert for a paid play leader opportunity for Saturday ParkPlay sessions on Portsmouth

Active Calderdale is working with ParkPlay to initiate a play session open to everyone, every Saturday at Portsmouth Rec starting in Spring. They are looking to recruit people from the local community who will be offered training and support to become Play Leaders. *Deadline for applications is Tuesday 11th April at noon.*

What is ParkPlay? ParkPlay is a national charity providing communities with the opportunity to experience the life-changing power of play. We set up individual ParkPlays in parks up and down the country. Each ParkPlay is a free weekly play session in local parks, full of fun and active games.

And most importantly, we are there for everyone (big or small, young or old) to play together. We are on a mission to launch 450 different ParkPlays by 2026 that will be in parks forever, so that thousands of people can get back to playing, be more active and gain a sense of belonging.

At ParkPlay we believe that playing together can build stronger communities and help us become a more active nation. We also believe that it is amazing people who care deeply about their communities, that will make that happen... and that's where you come in.

Each individual ParkPlay is run by a PlayLeader who delivers sessions every Saturday morning, and drives the growth of that ParkPlay and that community forward. Be part of the team, join the movement, Be a PlayLeader!



So what exactly is a PlayLeader? A PlayLeader is the person who takes responsibility for making a ParkPlay happen in their local park, week in, week out. That doesn't mean being in the park 52 weeks a year, but it does mean stepping up and making sure everything is in place for ParkPlay to happen on a Saturday morning.

A PlayLeader is the person that represents ParkPlay in a local park. They wear the ParkPlay jacket, give ParkPlayers a warm welcome, keep everyone safe, brief the team and bring the buzz to a Saturday morning of play. They are the person that takes the lead, inspires people to play their way and facilitates the space for them to do just that!

They are also the one that checks in with regular ParkPlayers, spotting the child that needs a special mission to capture their playful imagination, doing a quick litter pick of the park and serving hot chocolates to ParkPlayers on a chilly January morning after some great play

How much will I be paid? Exactly how much you will be paid depends on how much of the role you can commit to. However, the minimum is £3640 annually for delivering a session every Saturday.

How do I apply? Further questions can be emailed to Laura@park-play.com and applications can be made via the website [PlayLeaders – ParkPlay \(park-play.com\)](http://PlayLeaders-ParkPlay.park-play.com)

If you would like to be sent the full job description, please contact laura@park-play.com and copy in Anthony.whittaker@calderdale.gov.uk and catherine.bann@calderdale.gov.uk