



Dear all,

A warm welcome to Greenhead College to our new first-year (A1) students and welcome back to our returning second year (A2) students.

By choosing Greenhead College, all our students can be assured that we will support them to achieve the A Level results they need to reach their first-choice destination, whether that is higher education, employment or apprenticeship.

The aim of this weekly message is to keep all students and parents/carers informed of key events happening in College. If you have an item of news or a success story you would like me to mention in a future message, please email Leah Linden (llinden@greenhead.ac.uk).

Wellbeing

Student wellbeing is at the core of everything we do at Greenhead. Students are allocated a Personal Tutor, all of whom are pastorally experienced, mental health first-aid trained, and have extensive knowledge of support available. Our tutorial lessons include many aspects of wellbeing and cover strategies to develop resilience and good emotional health.

All students can make an appointment to see one of our dedicated College counsellors and we have a wellbeing tab on the Moodle homepage through which students can access an array of external support agencies.

The enrichment programme offers many wellbeing activities, from animal therapy and walking, to music and sports. Additionally, our upcoming Mental and Physical Wellbeing weeks will present an opportunity to reflect and develop new skills in looking after ourselves.

Our safeguarding team is on hand for any student with safety or wellbeing concerns and can be contacted initially via email at safeguarding@greenhead.ac.uk. Alternatively, a duty safeguarder can be called by talking to the Front Office staff.

We understand that many students have been through an unsettling, and for some, very distressing time since the pandemic. It may take some time to settle in, but we are here to listen and support students as we work together as a College community.

Student Mental Health Working Party

As we start a new academic year, we are looking to recruit students who would like to be a part of our Student Mental Health Working Party.

This group was established because we would like to hear from a diverse mix of students about how best to support mental health and wellbeing in College. What its members have to say matters and has influence, and being part of this group offers a chance to:

- Reflect on mental health challenges and how they are being addressed in College
- Talk about anything students think we're missing or how we can make improvements
- Give students the chance to feedback on new ideas we are considering to support the mental health and wellbeing of the College community
- Share any other ideas students feel would be helpful.

If students are interested in joining this group, they should email our Mental Health Lead, Sarah Holbrook (mhlead@greenhead.ac.uk). The proposed date of the first group session is on Wednesday, 28 September at 12.45 pm (room tbc). The intention is to run these sessions on a Wednesday lunchtime and the group tends to meet every half-term.

Cost of living support

With the continued increase in the cost of living, we understand that many students and their families are being significantly impacted. Kirklees Council is looking at ways to support families and their brand-new 'Cost of Living Support' resource provides information on how to access council support to help manage increased living costs. A [dedicated webpage](#) has been created that breaks down the support available into the three categories of, food, energy, and money.

If you are aware of a family or families that need immediate help with food, the information/links below may be of help:

- This link contains information concerning [support with the cost of food](#). There are several food banks in Kirklees that offer support with the essentials like food and basic toiletries. Contact the Local Welfare Provision team, Citizens Advice, a social worker or a GP to check if you are able to receive support. They will make a referral to your nearest food bank or wider support services.
- [Local welfare provision](#) includes contact details if immediate support is needed. If food is required, it usually arrives the same day or the next working day.
- [Kirklees Citizens Advice and Law Centre](#) can refer you to a local food bank and help check that you're getting all you're entitled to. They also give budgeting and debt advice.

Other links from the Council which you may find useful:

- ['Kirklees Together'](#)
- [Cost of living](#).

The government has also launched the ['Help for Households'](#) resource, which may be helpful.

This link provides further information about [bus fares](#) and concessions available.

Finally, further information on cost of living support can be found on the College's [wellbeing page](#) on Moodle.

COVID-19 absence

We approach the new academic year with excitement and optimism that the year ahead will see minimum disruption to students' education. We will continue to do all we can to mitigate against the spread of COVID-19 and ask that students continue to follow good hand hygiene.

If a student tests positive for COVID-19, they should not attend College for three full days *following* the day of the positive test. Parents/carers should report the absence by emailing absences@greenhead.ac.uk, stating the student's full name and their student number. Students should contact their subject teachers regarding any work they will miss. After three days, if the student is well enough and providing they do not have a temperature, they may return to College.

All other absence

Please can *all* absences from College be reported to the Student Services Absence Team before 11.00 am on the day, by emailing absences@greenhead.ac.uk. A parent/carer email is required for the absence to be authorised.

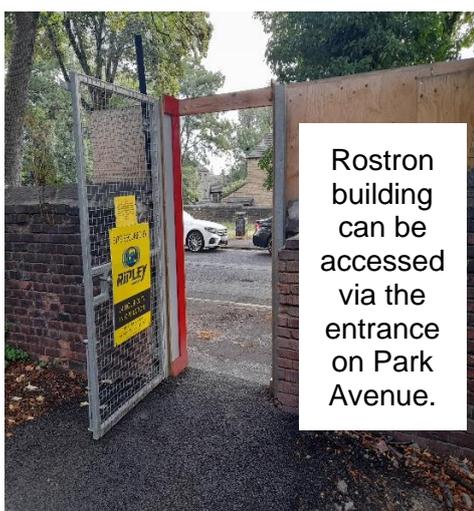
Building work



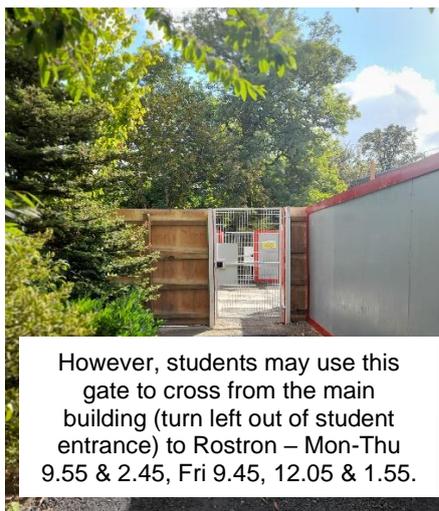
Work on the College's new four-storey building for Biology, Chemistry, Psychology and Politics has been continuing over the Summer.

Very good progress is being made and we are looking forward to seeing the building in operation in the Autumn of next year.

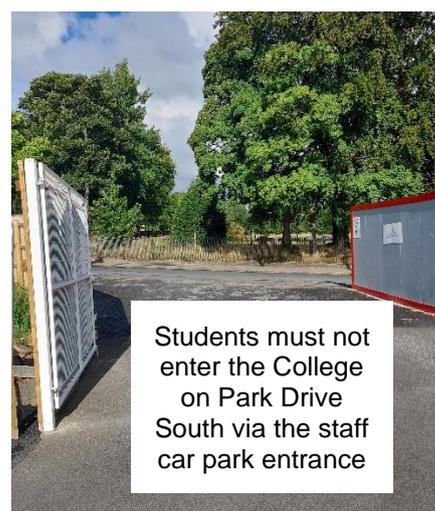
The building work does mean, unfortunately, that there will continue to be some longer than usual journey times to access particular parts of the campus.



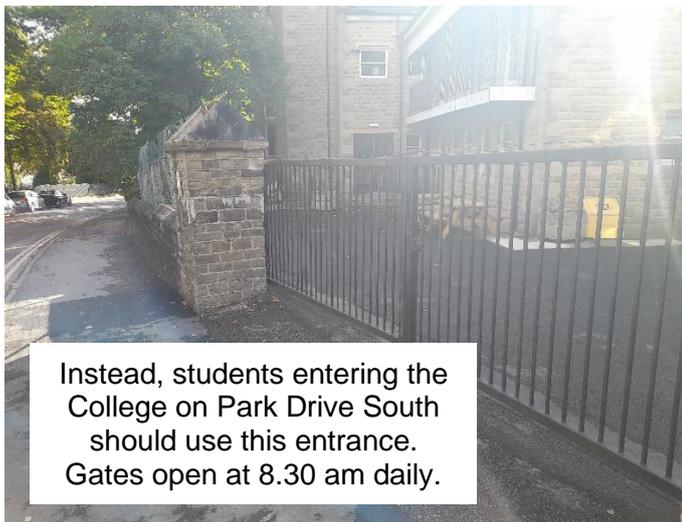
Rostron building can be accessed via the entrance on Park Avenue.



However, students may use this gate to cross from the main building (turn left out of student entrance) to Rostron – Mon-Thu 9.55 & 2.45, Fri 9.45, 12.05 & 1.55.



Students must not enter the College on Park Drive South via the staff car park entrance



Instead, students entering the College on Park Drive South should use this entrance. Gates open at 8.30 am daily.



If entering on Greenhead Road, please use our main entrance

Can I remind students that Greenhead Road, Park Avenue and Park Drive South are very busy roads. Students should take care when crossing the road, especially if they are in a group. Additionally, please remember that the College is located in a residential area and that students should be respectful to members of the public and nearby properties, as well as Greenhead Park.

Additionally, all students, staff and visitors at Greenhead College must wear their lanyard and ID card *at all times* when on the campus.

Smoking/vaping

Can I take this opportunity to inform students that smoking (including vaping e-cigarettes) on the College site is prohibited in all College buildings occupied by staff, students and visitors, and in all other areas of the College campus, including the College's external grounds.

Students who contravene this directive will initially be spoken to by College staff. Repeat instances will be dealt with via the College's Student Re-engagement Policy.

Further details can be found in the College's [smoking policy](#).

Prayer room



I am pleased to announce that the College will be opening its own dedicated prayer room from the start of this term. This is located in the main building, in M5 (turn right at the front office). The times for when this will be open during the day will be published shortly.

Can I please stress to students that our Prayer Room is not a social or study space and must be used only for its intended purpose.

Progression guides

Parents/carers may be interested in these [guides to HE, apprenticeships and gap years](#), which will be available digitally from Monday. They have been designed by 'Success at School' to help parents/carers support their children in making informed decisions about their future and developing skills to help them succeed.

Latest exam results

I should like to congratulate our former A2 students on their outstanding examination results this Summer:

	A*-E % Greenhead	A*-E % National	A*-B % Greenhead	A*-E % National
2022	99.3	98.4	71.9	62.2
2021 (Teacher Assessed Grades)	99.8	99.5	71.8	69.8
2020 (Centre Assessed Grades)	99.8	99.7	70.8	65.4
2019	98.9	97.5	62.6	51.1

These results are a real testament to students' hard work and dedication, especially as they had not previously taken GCSE examinations. These students have now progressed to outstanding destinations in higher education, apprenticeships and employment.

We look forward to welcoming them to our reunion and awards evening on Thursday, 5 January 2023 at John Smith's Stadium.

Upcoming events this month

All students

- **Students can enrol for enrichment via Moodle** – Monday, 12 September to Friday, 16 September
- **Drama auditions and backstage tasters** – Wednesday, 14 September, Drama studio, 12.45-4.00 pm
- **TSL (Third Sector Leaders) Kirklees volunteering meeting** – Thursday, 15 September, G17, lunchtime
- **'The Big Gig'** – Friday, 16 September, main hall, 1.05 – 1.55 pm
- **Enrichment begins** – Monday, 19 September
- **University stands in the main hall** – Tuesday, 20 September, Friday, 23 September, Tuesday, 27 September & Friday, 30 September
- **AoC sport regional tournament** – Wednesday, 28 September, University of Hull, all day
- **Bursary applications deadline** – Friday, 30 September, 12.00 am (midnight).

A1 students

- **Assemblies for all A1 students** - Monday, 19 September to Friday, 23 September, R20 (see posters for times available)
- **Tutor representative election start date** – Monday, 19 September
- **A1 parents' information evening** – Tuesday, 27 September, 7.00 pm (parents/carers only please).

A2 students

- **Admissions tests registration deadline** – Tuesday, 20 September, 4.00 pm
- **UCAT registration deadline** – Thursday, 22 September, 12.00 pm (noon)
- **Internal deadline for submission of Oxbridge, medical, dental & veterinary applications to Personal Tutors** – Friday, 30 September, 4.00 pm
- **Cambridge Assessment registration deadline** – Friday, 30 September, 6.00 pm
- **Meeting for A2 medics/dentists/vet applicants** – Friday, 30 September, G17, 1.05 – 1.55 pm.

To conclude, I should like to wish students all the very best for the coming year and hope they enjoy their time as part of the Greenhead community.

Best wishes,

Simon Lett,
Principal