



Ashfield Boys' High School
Information Booklet
Sixth Form
2016 - 2017



In Ashfield Boys' High School we are committed to providing a high quality education. We have high standards of teaching and learning. We demand good conduct and behaviour from all of our boys so that every pupil has the opportunity to reach his full potential. All boys are expected to behave responsibly, to work hard, to display good manners and to show consideration and respect for other people at all times.

All pupils are expected to follow our "Expectations of Students" about uniform, behaviour and general conduct. The breaking of these expectations may lead to sanctions being applied by the Form Teacher, the Head of Year or the Vice Principal for Pastoral Care. We are extremely appreciative of the support we receive from all of our parents. We know the important role that you play in helping your son and we look forward to working with you over the coming year. By working together we can help your son fulfil all of his dreams.

THE SCHOOL DAY

Ashfield Boys' High School operates a timetable on a two week cycle with the school day starting at 8.45 am.

Below is a breakdown of our time-table. Please note that our early days are on Tuesday, Friday and Thursday Week-B, with school finishing at 2.25pm for all boys.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Registration	8.45-9.00	8.45-9.00	8.45-9.00	8.45-9.00	8.45-9.00
1	9.00-9.55	9.00-9.55	9.00-9.55	9.00-9.55	9.00-9.55
2	9.55-10.50	9.55-10.50	9.55-10.50	9.55-10.50	9.55-10.50
Break	10.50-11.05	10.50-11.05	10.50-11.05	10.50-11.05	10.50-11.05
3	11.05-12.00	11.05-12.00	11.05-12.00	11.05-12.00	11.05-12.00
4	12.00-12.55	12.00-12.55	12.00-12.55	12.00-12.55	12.00-12.55
Lunch	12.50-1.30	12.50-1.30	12.50-1.30	12.50-1.30	12.50-1.30
5	1.30-2.25	1.30-2.25	1.30-2.25	1.30-2.25	1.30-2.25
6	2.25-3.20	Early finish	2.25-3.20	*2.25-3.20	Early finish

***Please note that in 2016/17 there will also be an early finish every other Thursday - Week B**



Compulsory School Uniform

(Please note that our own black branded 'v' neck jumper is optional for Sixth Form students)

ALL SIXTH FORM PUPILS MUST WEAR FULL SCHOOL UNIFORM

Pupils are expected to be in full school uniform at all times, including travelling to and from school. Pupils who are not in uniform will be asked to remedy the issue; if they refuse they will be sent to their Head of Year and parents will be contacted.

Blazers:–

- All Sixth Form pupils must wear the school Sixth Form Black Woollen Blazer, with Sixth Form badge

Trousers: –

- Black School Trousers

School Shoes: -

- Plain black **leather formal school shoes** are to be worn by all boys. TRAINERS, CANVAS OR SHOES WITH LOGOS / SPORTS MOTIFS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED

Coats/ Jackets: –the following coats are acceptable

- ABHS 'Kukri' branded coat (**available from Podium 4 Sport**)
- A Black or Navy Coat (Football Teams Bench coats etc. Are Not Acceptable)

(All other coats, including hoodies, will be confiscated and returned to a parent/ guardian only.)

Ashfield Boys' own 'V' neck Jumper optional for Sixth Form students:

- ABHS own Black 'V' Neck Jumper:

***Please Note: Ashfield's bespoke woollen black blazer with Sixth Form badge: Sixth Form tie and Ashfield's 'V' neck jumpers can only be purchased from the following suppliers:**

- Lyttle's: Woodstock Road
- School Days: Holywood Arches
- David Crawford's School Wear: see David Crawford's website for further details
- Gowdy's: Woodstock Road

School Tie: -

- All Sixth Form pupils must wear the school's bespoke Sixth Form tie. Tie on, Knot up to top button of shirt collar; tie to reach the top of school trousers / belly button



Shirts: –

- White shirt; tucked in, top button done up.

Jewellery: -

- No earrings or facial piercings. No plasters to be given out.

Hair: -

- Shaved hair is to be blended and cut no shorter than a number 1. Design work in short haircuts is not acceptable. Excessive use of colour/ bleaching or design work using colour/ bleaching is not acceptable. Shoulder length hair must be tied back for health and safety reasons whilst in school.

It is a matter for the school to determine what is deemed acceptable in relation to school uniform. Please note that any pupil with unacceptable haircuts / styles will be sent home until the issue has been addressed to the school's satisfaction.

Compulsory PE Uniform / Kit

Compulsory School PE Kit for all Sports Studies students and those boys who participate in games: -

(Only Available from Podium 4 Sport, 40 Montgomery Rd, Belfast)

- ABHS 'Kukri' Branded Shorts
- ABHS 'Kukri' Branded Polo Shirt
- ABHS 'Kukri' Branded Socks
- Trainers / gym shoes
- Towel
- Swimming Trunks
- Football boots and shin guards

Optional PE Kit: (Available from Podium 4 Sport, 40 Montgomery Rd, Belfast)

- ABHS 'Kukri' Branded Coat: **(may also be worn as a school coat)**
- Navy 'Kukri' Tracksuit Bottoms

It is essential that PE kit / clothing has the name of the pupil clearly marked on it.



Form Teachers

The school door opens at 8.30 am for all boys with breakfast available to be purchased in the canteen. Each morning at 8.45 am, when the school bell rings, boys report to their Form Room. The Form Teacher will call the class roll, collect any absence or lateness notes and will arrange for dinner tickets to be issued.

Heads of Year

The Head of Year (**HOY**) has overall responsibility for their year group and regularly monitors behaviour, attendance, punctuality, uniform, class reports and progress. The **HOY** is happy to discuss with parents their son's progress or any concerns that you might have. If you wish to speak with your son's **HOY** then please contact the school office and make an appointment at a time that is mutually suitable.

All Enquiries, Issues or Concerns should be made, in the first instance, to the Head of Year (HOY).

Head of Year for Sixth Form is Mr S Markwell.

Form Teachers and Assistant Heads of Year (AHOY) for Sixth Form are as follows:

- 13a1 Mr L White
- 13a2 Mrs L Wilson
- 13a3 Mrs R Millar (**AHOY**) & Mrs R Deakin
- 13a4 Mr J Reaney
- 14a1 Mr C Duff
- 14a2 Mrs C Welch
- 14a3 Mr C Lowe (**AHOY**)
- 14A4 Miss A McMullan

It is important that parents do not approach teachers directly in school without a prior appointment. As a school we will help all parents and boys with any issues or concerns they have. However, it is important that we do so via the correct channels. If you wish to meet with a subject teacher, please discuss your concern, initially, with your son's **HOY**. The **HOY** will be able to liaise with other relevant staff and assist you with reaching a resolution.

If you would prefer not to meet with the **HOY** then a suitable time can be made for you to meet with the school's **Vice Principal and or Assistant Vice Principal** (appointments to be made via the school office):-

- Vice Principal: - Mr. A Duffield, (Pastoral Care, Pupil Welfare & Wellbeing)
- Assistant Vice Principal: - Mr. C McKnight, (Academic & Progress Issues)



Alternatively the Principal, Mr J McColgan, is available to discuss any concern you might have. If you would like to meet with the principal please contact Mrs. L. Foreman, principal's secretary, in the school's office to arrange a mutually suitable time.

Emotional Health and Wellbeing

Boys sometimes have concerns which they need to discuss with someone. In Ashfield Boys' High School we have a full-time designated Emotional Health and Wellbeing teacher / counsellor, (Mr T Finn). Any pupil, or parent, can make an appointment to see Mr Finn. If you would like to arrange a confidential consultation with Mr Finn then please contact the school office who will arrange a suitable time for you to meet.

We want all boys and parents to know that we are here to help. If at any time you want to discuss a concern, worry or issue then please do not hesitate to contact us. If you are faced with an emergency and believe that it would be best to meet with someone in school then please contact us immediately. Alternatively come up to the school office and someone will meet with you as soon as is humanly possible. We will do all we can to help you.

We also have access to the Department of Education's counselling service and a number of useful outside agencies who work very closely with us and are equally willing to help.

Promoting Positive Behaviour

Effective behaviour management is essential for the smooth running of the school. The school recognises the importance of teaching behaviour and does this explicitly through the curriculum and implicitly through example.

All members of the school are expected to help maintain an atmosphere conducive to learning with respect, courtesy and consideration for others basic requirements.

Our basic core values are stated as HEART

Honesty

Excellence

Attitude

Respect

Teamwork

Our overarching aims are: -

- To enable effective teaching and learning
- To promote good behaviour and encourage achievement



- To support pupils in learning self-discipline and respect
- To create a safe and secure environment for pupils and staff
- To teach pupils to understand, accept and tolerate differences in individuals

Both rewards and sanctions are used by staff to promote a positive ethos in the school. Every lesson incorporates, as a basic teaching strategy, praise and encouragement of our boys.

Expectations of our Students

- To be prepared for all classes
- To listen and to learn
- To control and be responsible for their own behaviour
- To let others work and make progress
- To discuss any concerns with staff and not resort to physical or verbally aggressive behaviour
- To respect property. Not to damage, take or misuse the property of other people or the schools
- To make their best effort to understand and accept differences and the individuality of everyone and to be particularly supportive to minorities in terms of race, religion, abilities, sexual orientation and background
- To work to the best of their ability
- To wear full school uniform
- To follow school rules
- To adhere to the **4 R's**
 - **R**espect for yourself
 - **R**espect for all others; treat others with dignity and tolerance
 - **R**espect for the environment we work and live in
 - **R**esponsible for all of your actions

Expectations of our Parents

- To ensure their son's regular attendance and punctuality
- To encourage their son to bring the right equipment and wear full school uniform
- To fully co-operate with the school and to ensure that their son follows the school's Positive Behaviour Policy



- To keep the Head of Year/ Form Teacher aware of any circumstances which may affect their son's learning and behaviour
- To maintain regular contact with the school through attendance at parents' evenings, and, as appropriate, through diaries, letters, reports and telephone calls
- To encourage and support their son in completion of homework

Attendance at School

Excellent attendance at school is essential if we are to help your son fulfil his full potential. Did you know that young people who regularly miss school are much more likely to become isolated from their friends, less likely to develop good social skills and more likely to underachieve in their examinations?

Attendance percentages can be misleading and for some parents 90% may seem like an acceptable level of attendance, but the reality is that 90% means that your son will have missed 19 days of school during the school year – that's almost 4 weeks.

The following table provides a clearer picture of what percentage attendance means in real terms:

100 % Attendance	0 Days Missed	Excellent
95 % Attendance	9 Days of Absence 1 week and 4 Days of Learning Missed	Satisfactory
90 % Attendance	19 Days of Absence 3 Weeks and 4 Days of Learning Missed	Poor
85 % Attendance	28 Days of Absence 5 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Very Poor
80 % Attendance	38 Days of Absence 7 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Unacceptable
75 % Attendance	46 Days of Absence 9 Weeks and 1 Day of Learning Missed	Unacceptable



Tracking Pupil Progress

Throughout the school year we will formally monitor your son's academic progress. This will happen at Hallowe'en, February and June. We will contact you, on each of these key dates, and let you know how your son is progressing. If your son is not working to his full potential then we will meet with you directly and discuss strategies to ensure that we help your son get back on task.

On these key dates we will:-

- **Hallowe'en** contact parents directly informing them of how their son is progressing. If needs be a meeting will be arranged with the Assistant Head of Year
- **February** contact parents outlining progress to date; also an invitation and appointment to attend your son's parents' information evening
- **Year 14 parents** will receive a written mid-year report in February / March
- **Year 13 parents** will receive an end of year report in June / July

There are a number of occasions throughout the school year when you will be invited to attend meetings or parent information evenings. We will do all that we can to arrange a suitable time for you to meet with us. I am sure that you agree with us in recognising the importance of attending such meetings.

Mobile Phones & Valuables

Mobile phones are not allowed in school. Pupils who are seen using a mobile phone during school hours will have it confiscated and deposited in the school office where it can be collected by a parent/guardian only.

As the school is not insured for lost or stolen personal belongings, it is our recommendation to parents to ensure that boys leave all valuables at home.

Cars, Motorbikes & Scooters

If any boy is driving to school then the following must be adhered to:-

- Written permission must be sought from the school
- The vehicle must meet the normal legal , be taxed and insured
- The normal road safety regulations must be adhered to on the way to and from school and whilst driving on the school grounds

Please note that failure to comply with any of the above will result in you being asked to remove your vehicle from school premises.



CHILD PROTECTION

In this regard we are informed by the regional Child Protection Policy and Procedures.

The area of child protection often causes anxiety. It is the aim of Ashfield Boys' High School to address this issue in a clear and direct manner.

It is our statutory responsibility to ensure that procedures are in place that will offer our pupils as much protection as possible. Section 3.96 of the Regional Policy and Procedures highlights the ways schools can help to protect pupils.

Child protection in schools has three main elements:

- Through the curriculum pupils are encouraged to develop strategies to keep safe.
- Through vetting to ensure that only suitable persons work with pupils.
- Through responding appropriately when child abuse concerns are raised about an individual

The school has in place a **Safeguarding Team** which is responsible for the safety and protection of pupils. This group includes: the Designated Teacher for Child Protection, the Principal, nominated member from the Board of Governors, Vice- Principal / Head of Pastoral care and Deputy Designated Teacher.

The Designated Teacher for Child Protection is **Mr T Finn**. In his absence, **Mr A Duffield** will assume responsibility for child protection matters.

If a child makes a disclosure to a teacher or other member of staff which gives rise to concerns about possible abuse, or if a member of staff has concerns about a child, **the member of staff must act promptly**.

He/she should not investigate - this is a matter for Social Services / PSNI - but should report these concerns immediately to the designated teacher, discuss the matter with him, and make full notes.

The designated teacher will discuss the matter with the Principal as a matter of urgency to plan a course of action, and ensure that a written record is made.

The Principal, in consultation with the designated teacher, will decide whether, in the best interests of the child, the matter needs to be referred to Social Services / PSNI. **If there are concerns that the child may be at risk, the school is legally obliged to make a referral.** Unless there are concerns that the parent may be the abuser, the parents will be informed immediately.

The Principal may seek clarification or advice and consult with the Education Authority's Designated Officer or the Senior Social Worker before a referral is made. No decision to refer a case to Social Services / PSNI will be made without the fullest consideration and on appropriate advice.

The safety of the child is our first priority and our 'Duty of Care'.



Bullying

Bullying is a highly distressing and damaging form of abuse and is not tolerated in our school. All staff are vigilant at all times to the possibility of bullying occurring, and will take immediate steps to stop it happening, to protect and reassure the victim and to discipline the bully. Parents of both victim and bully will be personally contacted immediately bullying behaviour is identified.

Any complaint regarding bullying will be fully investigated by the Pastoral Care Team and supports will be offered to help and protect the victim. The perpetrator will be dealt with in line with the School's Positive Behaviour Policy and their future behaviour monitored very closely.

Information for Students

- If you have something important to talk to staff about
- If you are worried about something that is happening to you, or to someone you know
- If you need help, or if you need to know how to get help
- The staff are here to listen and to help you – they will support you and try to do what they can to help you.
- If you are still unsure about talking to a member of staff, you can telephone

ChildLine ☎ 0800 1111

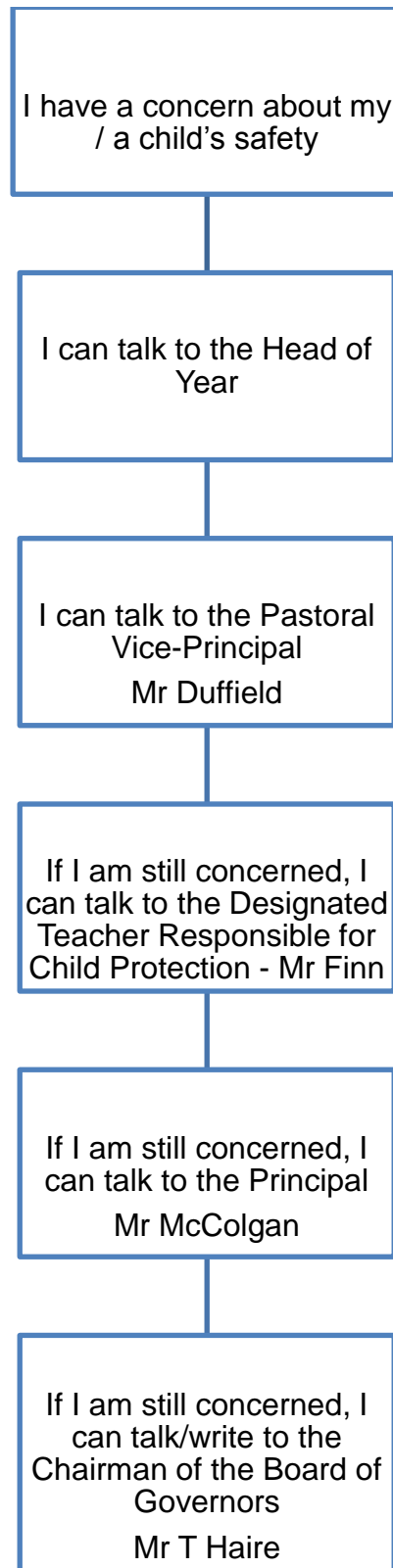
NSPCC ☎ 0808 800 5000

These calls are free, and they will not show up on your phone bill. They will help you work out what to do next.

The safety of the child is our first priority and our 'Duty of Care'.



If a Parent has a concern about any student



The safety of the child is our first priority and our 'Duty of Care'.



BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Chairman Mr T Haire - Education Authority Representative

Vice Chair Rev D Rankin – Transfer Representative

Members Mr C Buckland – Education Authority Representative
Mr P Dickson – Education Authority Representative
Mrs M Andrews – Education Authority Representative
Mr G Robinson – Transfer Representative
Mrs P Cooper – Transfer Representative
Mr C Woods – Transfer Representative
Mr J McQuillan – Transfer Representative
Rev A Dorian – Transfer Representative
Mrs L McAllister – Parent Representative
Mr G Patterson – Parent Representative
Mr D Wray – Parent Representative
Mr W Neill – Parent Representative
Mr A Duffield – Teacher Representative
Mr T Finn – Teacher Representative

In line with Department of Education guidance and recommendations; all of our Board of Governors are vetted and 'Access NI' checked.



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2016/2017

The school will be closed on the following dates:-

HALLOWE'EN	MONDAY 31 October 2016 -FRIDAY 4 November 2016 -5 days
CHRISTMAS	WEDNESDAY 21 December 2016 –WEDNESDAY 4 January 2017-11 days
MID TERM	MONDAY 13 February 2017 – FRIDAY 17 February 2017-5 days
EASTER	MONDAY 10 April 2017 - FRIDAY 21 April 2017-10 days
MAY DAY	MONDAY 1 May 2017(1 day)
SPRING HOLIDAY	MONDAY 29 May 2017 – Tuesday 30 May 2017-2 days

School closes for boys Thursday 29th June 2017

Please note the summer examination week for Years 8-11 will start the week commencing Monday 22nd May 2017.

BAKER DAYS

17th August 2016
18th August 2016
24th August 2016
25th August 2016
29th May 2016

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

3rd January 2017
4th January 2017
10th April 2017
30th May 2017
30th June 2017

Useful Contact Information

ASHFIELD BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL
Holywood Road
Belfast BT4 2LY

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Web site: ashfieldboys.org.uk

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