

4th September 2025



**HARTLAND  
HIGH SCHOOL**

Dear Hartland High School Families,

I am writing to inform you of some changes to the curriculum and structuring of our school that may impact your child in Year 7-11.

### **New staff**

We are thrilled to share the appointment of twelve brilliant new members of staff:

Mr Morgan - Assistant Headteacher and Teacher of Humanities

Mr Creffield - Associate Assistant Headteacher and Teacher of Drama

Ms Talebian - Teaching Assistant

Ms Frier-Toms - Teaching Assistant

Mr Sinclair - Teaching Assistant

Mr Harmer - Teacher of History

Ms Collard - Teacher of French

Ms Garcia - Teacher of Spanish

Ms Potheary - Head of English

Mr Murray - Teacher of History

Ms Matthews - Teacher of Geography

Mr Mistry - Teacher of Maths

Ms Tilley - Teacher of Science

Ms Cooling - Teacher of English

### **Languages lessons**

Last year due to teacher shortages, we were forced to reduce languages hours in Years 8 and 9, and stop language lessons for Year 7. This year we are delighted to be returning languages to the curriculum in full, as per the below:

- Year 7 students will study Spanish. They will continue with Spanish through years 8 and 9, with the opportunity to continue at Spanish GCSE.
- Year 8 students will study French. They will continue French through year 9, with the opportunity to continue at French GCSE.
- Year 9 will continue to study Spanish, as they did in years 7 and 8, with the opportunity to continue Spanish at GCSE.
- In Year 10 we are offering French and Spanish
- In Year 11 we are continuing French and Spanish

Hartland High School, 125 Hartland Rd, Reading RG2 8AF.

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## **Music lessons**

Over the summer, Mr Bull, Assistant Headteacher and Teacher of Music, made the decision to leave our school to pursue new opportunities. We are grateful for Mr Bull's contributions to the school during its journey of improvement and transition to Greenshaw Learning Trust and to the community which we serve. We wish him every success for the future.

Mr Bull's departure means we are without a music teacher. While we are in the process of finding a new music teacher, we have made the decision to remove music from the timetable, with the exception of Year 11. This will allow students to have a consistent, timetabled lesson, where they would have had music, rather than cover lessons.

- Year 7 will have an additional fortnightly period of Food and Nutrition.
- Year 8 will have an additional period of French.
- Year 9 will have an additional period of drama.

We will write to parents and carers of Year 11 music students separately to outline how we will be supporting those students this year.

## **Groupings and tutor groups**

We have adjusted students' teaching groups. Students have been put into groups based on their performance in mock exams or their reading age, following NGRT (reading tests) completed at the end of last year. Students will have assessments three times a year, after which students' groups may change, depending on their performance. All our groups access the same curriculum, so changing groups mid-year will not disadvantage a student. The first set of assessments will be shortly before the Christmas holidays.

All students in Years 7-10 have been put into new tutor groups. Students will now be in mixed ability tutor groups, instead of having tutor time in their academic teaching groups. This will mean that if students move teaching group following an assessment, their tutor group will not change. It has also enabled us to ensure that all tutor groups are approximately the same size, making tutor group competitions fairer, for example.

We look forward to welcoming students back to school on Friday 5th (Year 7, 11 and 12) and Monday 8th (all students).

Yours sincerely,



Emily Davey  
Headteacher

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