



**HARTLAND  
HIGH SCHOOL**

27th March 2026

Dear Hartland High School families,

**Exciting successes for Hartland High School**

On the final day of term, I am writing to share with you three very exciting updates.

**Georgia Gould (Minister for Schools), Yuan Yang (MP) and Matt Rodda (MP) visit Hartland High School**

On Thursday 26th March, we were honoured to host a visit from the serving Minister for Schools, Georgia Gould, alongside our local MP Yuan Yang, and Reading MP Matt Rodda. The purpose of the visit was for the government to gather views from students, staff, parents and carers and other community members on the upcoming reforms to the SEND system.

The visit entailed a thirty minute student panel discussion, in which some of our students with SEND questions shared their experience of SEND provision at Hartland High School. I am pleased to say that all students involved in the panel provided thoughtful feedback on the support that they receive, both the strengths of our offer and how it can be improved.

I am also proud to report that several of the suggested reforms to the SEND system involve formalising practice that is already in place at Hartland High School, including individual support plans (pupil passports) for students with SEND, and evidence-based teaching to enable all students to learn in a classroom environment.

I am also grateful to those members of the local community who joined us for a thoughtful roundtable discussion, in which Georgia outlined the changes in the White Paper and sought our responses and feedback. If you are interested in giving your thoughts on the White Paper, the consultation is open and can be submitted [here](#).



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### **U19s men's team rise to momentous victory in National Basketball League**

I am also absolutely delighted to announce, as many of you will already know, that our U19 men's team achieved a historic victory in the National Basketball League on Wednesday. It was a nail-biting third quarter, with just two points in it at one stage, but the team pulled together with exceptional prowess to secure a 13 point lead at full-time to take the win.

This result is the product of individual self-discipline, with hours of training put in over the past weeks, months, and years, as well as a great collective effort. A huge shout-out to all students involved: Ethan S, Harvey L, Daniel I, Josh J, Zach D, Dexter E, Cruz C, Woody B, Luca B and Finn A. Special mention to Ethan, an exceptional team captain, and Josh, who won MVP. The team is made up of students from Years 9-13 and we are proud of each and every one of them.

We were also delighted that members of the Basketball Youth Academy were able to support at the game in Essex, alongside members of the PE team and Rockets team. All students demonstrated impeccable conduct and brilliant support of our students and we are grateful to all the staff that made this possible. All in all, a prime example of the strength of character in our community and a victory which we were able to share with Georgia Gould when she visited the school to shake hands with Dan, in Y13, representing the team.



### **Funding secured for changing room renovation**

Finally, I am also pleased to report that we have secured £40,000 of funding to be spent on refurbishment of the changing rooms.

This money has been generously donated from Wellington College, through a grant fund that is directed to support schools in Whitley. I am delighted that our application for the highest level of funding was accepted and we are extremely grateful to the team at Wellington and to Aspire2, who have made this possible.

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We know that our changing rooms are in desperate need of repair and improvement, but we are working on a tight budget, with over £1 million of costs incurred this year repairing the roof to ensure it is watertight.

In general, we are aware of other areas of the site that need improvement. The site team work tirelessly to improve and maintain it day-to-day and over the years ahead we have a plan to address other cosmetic and structural changes to benefit our students.

However this funding will enable us to address a glaring area of the school site that is not up to standard. It will allow us to provide a dignified, clean and comfortable space in which our students can change for PE, which we know will in turn benefit their ability to participate confidently in sport.

In general, it has been a fabulously joyful final week of term, with celebration assemblies, reward events, successes in other fixtures and report cards handed out today.

A final reminder of return dates:

- Optional Holiday School for year 11 and 13 - Monday 30th March to Thursday 2nd April
- Year 11, 12 and 13 students return to school - Tuesday 14th April
- All students in school - Wednesday 15th April

Wishing you a fantastic Easter period and all the best to you and your families,



Ms Davey  
Headteacher

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