

HENDON SCHOOL

Headteachers: Rhona Povey

Craig McGuire

Golders Rise, London NW4 2HP



Telephone: 020 8202 9004

Email: info@hendonschool.co.uk

Website: www.hendonschool.co.uk

'Learning Together Across the World'

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 7 Swimming Assessment and Introduction to the Year 8 Extension and Enrichment Curriculum

At Hendon School, we are committed to providing students with opportunities to develop new skills, broaden their experiences and build confidence both inside and outside the classroom. As part of this commitment, we have introduced our **Extension and Enrichment Curriculum**, a programme designed to give students the opportunity to explore new interests, develop existing talents and experience learning beyond the traditional classroom environment.

What is the Extension and Enrichment Curriculum?

The Extension and Enrichment Curriculum is an exciting programme that provides students with opportunities to learn new skills, develop existing interests and experience activities beyond the traditional classroom environment.

Throughout the year, students can take part in a wide variety of activities, including sports, creative arts, chess, leadership opportunities and a range of other enrichment experiences. Students may also have the opportunity to participate in off-site activities such as kayaking and rock climbing, which may incur an additional charge.

Next year swimming has been introduced as part of this programme because we believe it is an essential life skill. By embedding swimming within the Extension and Enrichment Curriculum, we can provide targeted support to students who need it whilst continuing to offer a broad range of opportunities for all students.

Swimming information

One of the most important life skills a young person can learn is how to swim safely and confidently. Nationally, many young people leave school unable to swim competently, and we are determined that Hendon students will have the opportunity to develop this vital life skill. We are therefore pleased to be introducing swimming lessons as part of the Year 8 Extension and Enrichment Curriculum from September 2026, with the aim of increasing the number of students who leave Hendon School as proficient swimmers.

To identify which students would benefit from this support, all Year 7 students will take part in a **25-metre swimming assessment on Thursday 9 July** at Nuffield Health Hendon. Students will be accompanied by staff throughout the day as they walk to and from the facility to complete the assessment.

Students who successfully swim 25 metres will not be required to participate in swimming lessons next year. Students who are not yet able to swim 25 metres

confidently will be allocated to a swimming group within the Year 8 Extension and Enrichment Curriculum, which takes place every Thursday 11.30am-12.30pm.

On **Thursday 9th July**, all students will need to bring their swimming kit to school for their swimming assessment. **Please ensure your child brings:**

- **Compulsory:** Swimwear, towel and goggles
- **Swim hat:** Required for all students with long hair and recommended for those with short hair.

Please note: If a student does not have goggles, they will be able to borrow a pair from a friend for the assessment. However, if they are selected for the school swimming lessons next year, they will be expected to have their own goggles.

Can You Support Our Extension and Enrichment Curriculum?

One of the strengths of our school community is the wealth of knowledge, experience and talent that exists amongst our families and friends of the school. We are always looking for new and exciting opportunities that can inspire our students and broaden their horizons.

If you, a family member or a friend have a skill, hobby, area of expertise or profession that you would be willing to share with our students, we would be delighted to hear from you. We are seeking volunteers who may be interested in leading an activity for a six-week block on Thursdays from **11:30am to 12:30pm** as part of our Extension and Enrichment Curriculum.

Activities could include areas such knitting or crochet, a musical instrument, personal training, gardening, business and entrepreneurship, languages, practical skills or any other area that would provide students with a valuable and engaging learning experience.

If you would be interested in supporting the programme, please contact the school with details of the activity you would be able to offer.

Further information regarding the swimming programme and the Year 8 Extension and Enrichment Curriculum will be shared at the start of the new academic year.

Thank you for your continued support as we strive to provide the very best opportunities for all our students.

Yours faithfully,

Kirsty Downing

Assistant Headteacher & Head of PE
Hendon School