

Issue: 162

Roundwood Park School, Roundwood Park,  
Harpenden AL5 3AE Tel: 01582 765344  
e-mail us at [admin@roundwoodpark.co.uk](mailto:admin@roundwoodpark.co.uk)

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021



RoundUp is published fortnightly on our website.  
<http://www.roundwoodpark.co.uk>

## Headlines

Dear Parents and Carers

I wanted to begin this week's RoundUp by praising our Year 11 students. They have conducted themselves superbly throughout the mock exams and shown resilience and fortitude under the pressure that this period brings. They have been punctual (when buses allow!), well equipped and smart, leaving them to focus on their performance in the exam rooms. When we get their results, some will be disappointed, others will be joyous and most will be somewhere in between. All of this happens every year. What is important, however, is how they as individuals react to those results and what they resolve to do from January until June. From what I have seen in the last fortnight, they will make themselves proud.

Yesterday, we held our commemorations for Remembrance Day. For those who are unfamiliar with the way in which we commemorate at RPS, the whole school assembles outside and, before the Last Post is sounded, a solemn two-minute silence is held.

Subsequently, the SLG and the house leaders make their way to the area outside drama. The Chamber Choir sing a song of remembrance and hope and then each form representative from across the school plants a decorated cross in the ground on behalf of their form. This year, before I did my reading "Anthem for Doomed Youth" by Wilfred Owen, I paraphrased the inscription on the 9/11 memorial to the fallen firefighters of New York and asked our students to remember those who fell and those who carry on; to ask that we remember not only the fallen but also their comrades, friends, families, loved ones and those left to bring up families alone.

**"At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them".**

Have a good weekend.

**Alan Henshall**

**Headteacher**



## Forthcoming Events & Information

Please visit the [RPS website](#) for information including: [PE News](#)

Please also follow us on:

**Facebook, Instagram & Twitter**

Facebook: [Roundwood Park School](#)

Instagram: [Roundwood Park School](#)

Twitter:; [@Roundwood Park](#); [@RPSPE](#)

[@RPS Pastoral](#); [@RPSCAREERS](#)

You can also download the Roundwood Park mobile app to keep up to date with our news.

When you call in for absence, please use our dedicated 24 hour absence line:

**01582 714049**

or e-mail us at

[absence@roundwoodpark.co.uk](mailto:absence@roundwoodpark.co.uk)

## Chromebook Payments

Chromebooks final payment was due on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2021. If you have not yet made the final instalment, please can you do so via Parentpay ASAP.



## Occasional Day

The school is closed for Occasional Day on Monday 29 November 2021.

## Vacancies

Any current vacancies are published on our website. Please follow the link below:

<https://roundwoodpark.co.uk/vacancies/>

## Mask Wearing

Thank you to everyone for supporting mask wearing in school. We are, however, giving out 50+ disposal masks every day and this is putting considerable strain on the pastoral offices. Please would you ensure that your child has their own mask in school each day.

# Maths Olympiad for Girls Success!

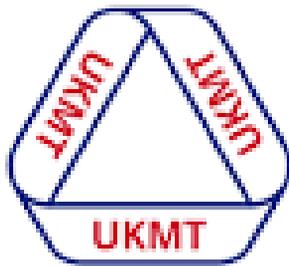
Congratulations to our ten students selected across Years 11, 12 and 13 who participated in the **UKMT Maths Olympiad for Girls**.

**A.Wake, C.Grayson, C.Sivilay, A.Turner, A.Corran, L.Turnbull, L.Arrow-Smith, G.Shelton, M.Webster and J.Hossain.**

Maths Olympiad for Girls is a very challenging paper consisting of 5 problems which require worded solutions.

A particular well done to **L.Arrow-Smith, G.Shelton and J. Hossain** who achieved Merit and **A. Corran and L.Turnbull** who achieved Distinction. **A.Corran** has also been invited to the next round of the British Olympiad Challenge – **Congratulations!**

**Miss Braggins**



**United Kingdom  
Mathematics Trust**



# Anti-Bullying Conference

On Monday 8th November Mrs Mansfield and the SLG led our annual Anti-bullying Conference in advance of National Anti-bullying Week due to take place from 15-19 November. The conference was attended by House Leaders and a number of our Diversity Ambassadors. During the morning we had a chance to reflect on the National Anti-bullying slogan of 'One Kind Word' and on our own RPS slogan of 'One Community, Many Voices'.

During the morning students collaborated on a review of the school's Anti-bullying Policy as well as listening to presentations which included a focus on Gender Action, led by Dr Inglima and the promotion of equality in our school, as well as how to educate our student body more on issues around racism and particularly the use of offensive slurs.

Students finished the morning by working collaboratively on a plan for House activities to raise awareness amongst the student body of Anti-bullying and the promotion of kindness to others.



**As one of Year 10 Diversity Ambassadors observed as the conference came to a close:**

“I would think that if you asked the majority of students they would tell you that bullying is tough. And it is tough. I think one of the toughest things to deal with is having to go up to those people, or that person, who has teased you and hurt you and ask them and say please stop, please leave me alone. That’s what I think is the toughest part. Some students at times may not speak up and may not ask for help. We as a community and as House Leaders and Diversity Ambassadors, need to be that support network for these students who can’t speak for themselves, we need to be the change. In life unkindness aimed at others happens much more often than it should but what if we were the difference? What if we were the ones who could stop it? We have been given a voice, but it can only go so loud. However, as a community as a group of people, our message can always be heard. A famous actress once said, we have been given two hands for a reason, one for helping yourself and one for helping others!”



# Christmas Lunch

Our popular Christmas lunch (uptake is always around 90%) will take place over two days this year:



- Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> December for Sixth Form only
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December for Years 7-11 only



Please note that on both 17<sup>th</sup> December and 20<sup>th</sup> December, the canteen will be closed at break time to all students and the Sixth Form café will also be closed all day on both days.

Our Christmas lunch is served with all the traditional trimmings including cranberry stuffing, cranberry sauce and a selection of seasonal vegetables, including roast potatoes. The lunch costs £3.85 per student and includes a choice of the following:

Traditional turkey main course (suitable for Halal students) with gluten free gravy and gluten free pig in blanket (if desired).

- Quorn fillet served with cocktail sausage (suitable for vegetarians and vegans - does not contain egg)

We have four choices of dessert (which are chosen by students on the day):

Chocolate log slice (suitable for vegetarians and does not contain nuts)

- Vegan chocolate dessert (suitable for egg/lactose allergy sufferers but may contain nuts)
- Gluten free chocolate cake (may contain nuts)
- Fruit salad

If payment is not received by 17<sup>th</sup> November, your son/daughter will require a packed lunch on their allocated Christmas lunch day, as there will NOT be an alternative food option (Sixth Formers will also need to bring in a packed lunch on 20<sup>th</sup> December because the canteen will unfortunately not be able to accommodate them on that day).

As in previous years, payment is required via ParentPay against the payment option entitled 'Christmas Lunch 2021' (please do not hesitate to contact the finance office if you have forgotten your username and password). **The closing date for payments is 11am next Wednesday, 17th November and please note that payments cannot be accepted after this date as the final catering order has to be placed the following day.**

There is a mandatory 'Notes' field on ParentPay in which you must specify either 'Turkey', 'Vegetarian' or 'Vegan'. If a food option is not specified, it will be assumed that your son/daughter would like a turkey meal. **Students eligible for free school meals will automatically be allocated a meal and will be given turkey unless you inform our catering manager, in writing and before 17<sup>th</sup> November, if your son/daughter requires a vegetarian or vegan option (please email [j.jacobs@roundwoodpark.co.uk](mailto:j.jacobs@roundwoodpark.co.uk)).**

Operoo (CareMonkey) profiles must be updated by 17<sup>th</sup> November to reflect any food allergies or intolerance to specific food types, because our catering manager will be accessing this information and it is the responsibility of parents to ensure that the information provided is correct. Please note that it is also the students' responsibility to inform staff, when being served, of any food allergy or intolerance. As the Covid situation stands, those having packed lunches will be able to eat their lunch in the canteen with their year group on their designated Christmas lunch day. However, if government guidance changes and we are forced to restrict numbers in the canteen, this may not be possible and those having packed lunches may be seated elsewhere.

All students will be able to check if their payment has been received by checking the list on the notice board by the canteen entrance (which will be updated from Friday lunchtime). Additionally, a note will be placed on the Bulletin each day reminding students to check the list.

If at any stage you are in doubt as to whether or not you have paid, please check before the deadline by logging onto ParentPay, click 'Transaction history' on the left-hand side of the home screen, then click on 'Payment history', input the relevant dates when payment could have been made and finally click 'Search'. You will then be able to see all payments within the relevant period.

The Christmas meal is ordered in quantities to meet demand and regretfully, therefore, we will be unable to provide a refund if your son/daughter is absent on the day.

Please be aware that while all precautions and processes are in place within our kitchens to accommodate dietary conditions, there is always a risk that traces of allergens may be transferred to food from our providers, which is beyond our control. For this reason, Roundwood Park is unable to guarantee that any food on any of our menus is completely free from trace allergens. Should you have any queries please email our catering manager ([j.jacobs@roundwoodpark.co.uk](mailto:j.jacobs@roundwoodpark.co.uk)).

Please do not hesitate to contact the finance office (before 17<sup>th</sup> November) should you have any queries regarding payment (01582 765344). If you wish to email your query **please do not reply to this email, as it is only used for outgoing messages**, but contact us via [finance@roundwoodpark.co.uk](mailto:finance@roundwoodpark.co.uk).



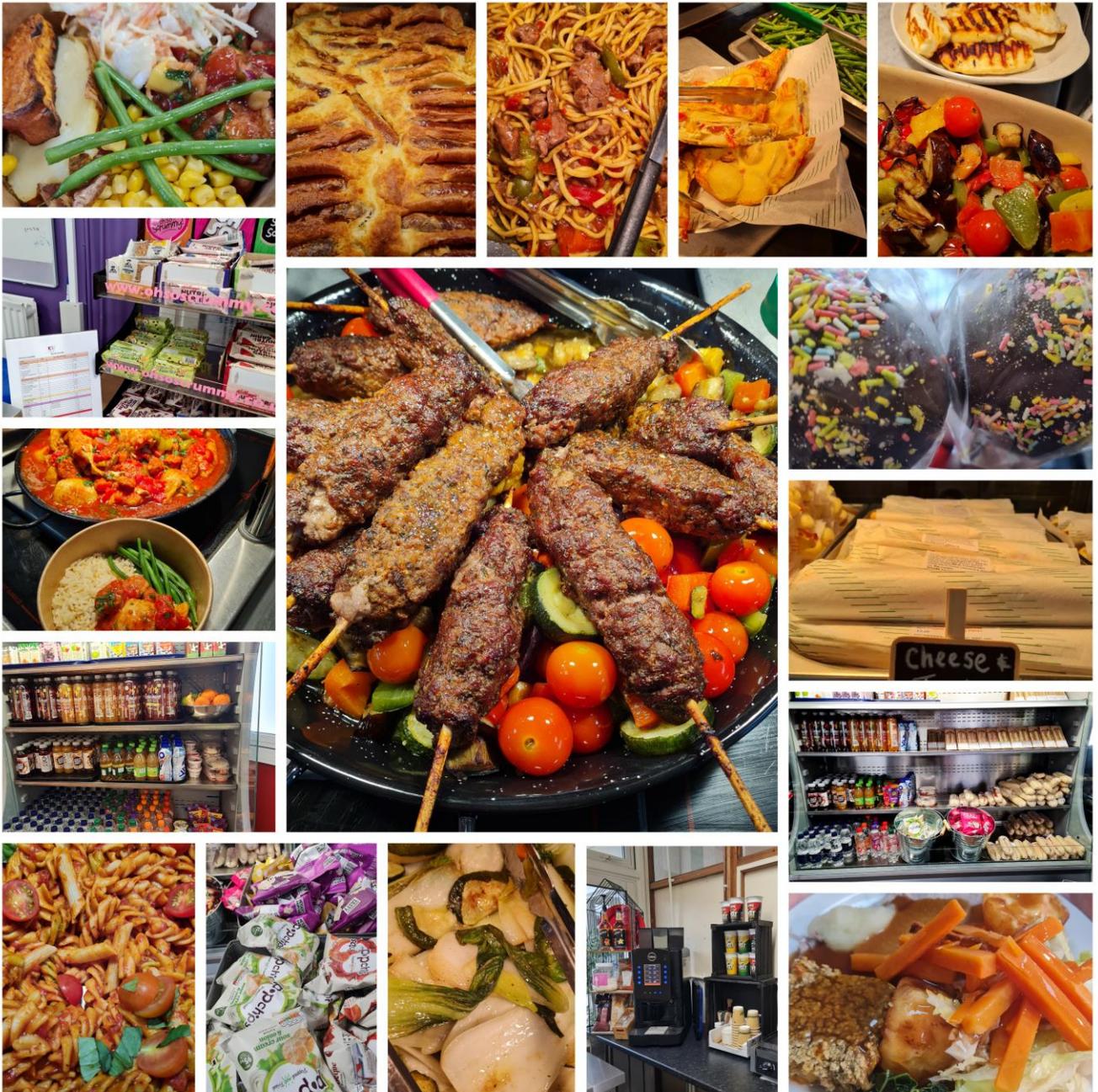
# Roundwood Park Catering

Please look online at our **NEW** menus.

Here are some examples of the meals we've been producing over the last fortnight.

*Jenny Jacobs*

Catering Manager and Team



We also have a new range of pre packed salads, sandwiches and cold wraps and hot cheese & bean panini and vegan pepperoni ciabatta at lunch plus breakfast in-house sausage & egg muffins for breaktime.

**Please remain patient whilst we adjust numbers based on popularity.**



# From Father to Son

## How Fate and Family Made Me a Watford Fan, is the perfect Christmas present for football-mad parents and children alike

*Do you remember when football was fun? When you knew the tea-lady's name and could watch your heroes train at the local park and get close enough to hear their banter. When you could go to a game without having to buy a ticket online three weeks before. No? Well, let Harpenden author Paul Bishop remind you what it was like, in his autobiographical tale 'From Father to Son'*

The book is largely an autobiographical account of Paul's love of football, in particular his local team Watford. It touches on the innocence of childhood and the influence of parents, family, friends, Jimmy Hill, Johnny Haynes and many others. It also features Paul's son Harry, a Roundwood Park Year 8 pupil, Harry Bishop Camba, who is now the third generation of Bishops to be burdened.

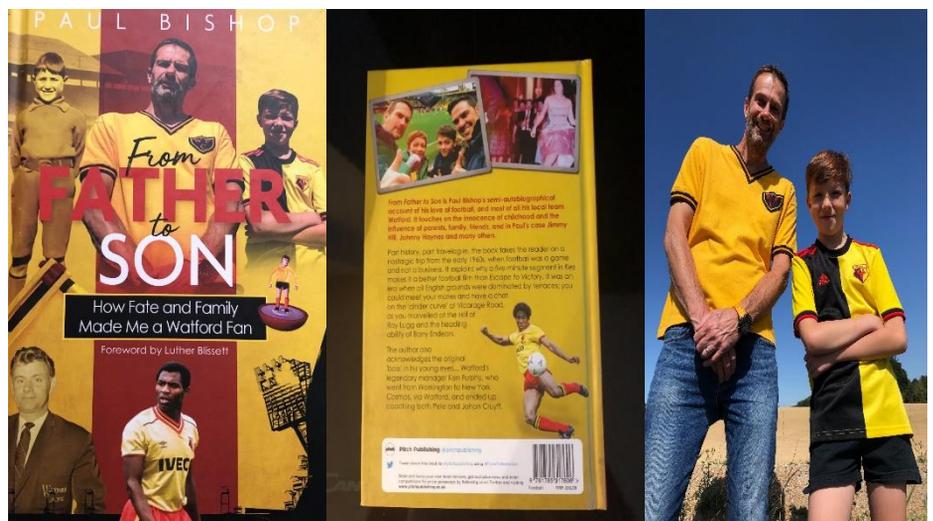
Part history, part travelogue, the book takes the reader on a nostalgic trip that starts in the early 1960s, a time when football was a game and not a business. It explains why a five minute segment in 'Kes' makes it a better football film than 'Escape to Victory' and why any aspiring goalkeeper, however short and puny, would want to stand between the sticks in that back-yard kickabout as long as he was Lev Yashin.

It was a time when all English grounds still had terraces and where you could meet your mates and have a chat standing on the cinder curve at Vicarage Road and marvel at the skill of Ray Lugg and the heading ability of Barry Endean. The author also acknowledges the ability and ambition of Ken Furphy, who went from Workington to New York Cosmos, via Watford and coached Pele and Cruyff.

The book is available online from Waterstones and Amazon as well as local Waterstones shops.

Paul is happy to sign copies of the book. You can contact him on 07973 237162 or via email:

[prestige39@gmail.com](mailto:prestige39@gmail.com)



# GT SPONSORED SLEEP OUT 2021

On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November, GT house are running a sponsored sleep out to help raise money and awareness for our local charity, Herts Young Homeless.



Herts Young Homeless help over 2,000 vulnerable people across the county each year who are homeless or at risk of becoming so. With your support and sponsorship, we can continue to support their vital work.

If you would like to sponsor us, please follow the link to our just giving page. Any donation, big or small, will make a difference.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/gtsleepout2021>



*Photos from 2019 GT Sponsored Sleepout*

# Roundwood Park Christmas Concert

We are excited about our upcoming Christmas concert on **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December at St John's Church.**

Tickets will be available from **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November**

Auditions for solos will take place on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November.**

We are looking for solos and duos.

Pieces need to be suitable for a church setting.



# Learning a Musical Instrument

We still have spaces for lessons on:



**Saxophone**  
**Clarinet**  
**Drums**



**To book lessons at school please contact  
Herts Music Service:**

<https://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/hertfordshire-music-service.aspx>

For further information please contact  
Mrs McPhun:  
**[h.mcphun@roundwoodpark.co.uk](mailto:h.mcphun@roundwoodpark.co.uk)**

# Roundwood Park Rock School

## Rock School Lunchtime Club

Rock School is back up and running every Tuesday Lunchtime this half term. We are looking for guitarists, bassists, drummers, singers and pianists, in fact anyone who wants to rock.

**Club starts at 1:35pm in MU2**

**We hope to see you there!**

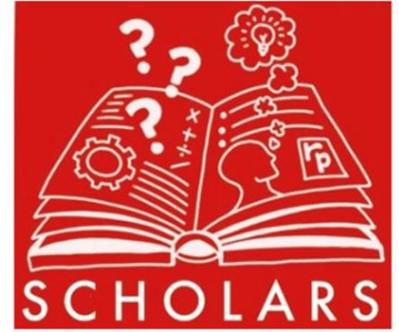


# Super-Curriculum

## What is the Super-Curriculum?

Learning does not just happen in the classroom and those who go on to be masters in their field spend lots of time independently exploring, asking questions and finding answers. So we have developed the

Roundwood Park Super-Curriculum to help your children follow their passions and achieve mastery in the subjects that may shape their future.



## Why complete the Super-Curriculum?

Completing these stretch and challenge tasks will give your child an opportunity to shine. Committing to these learning challenges will help them to develop many Aspire habits too; they will become a more resilient, ambitious and independent learner. These are skills that are sought after by employers and universities alike.

## What is a Roundwood Park Scholar?

Students who complete either ALL of the challenges in ONE subject or FIVE in FIVE subjects will become a Roundwood Park Scholar and be given a scholars badge to wear on their blazer.

Please see the school website for details.

[Roundwood Park Super-Curriculum](#)



**ROUNDWOOD PARK PTA**



We are pleased to announce our Sale will be **Saturday 13th November** in the **School Hall, from 2.30pm to 4pm**

We have a fantastic selection of good quality, donated 2<sup>nd</sup> hand uniform at extremely low prices. This is an excellent opportunity to stock up and also get that spare tie, PE kit or blazer.

Prices include;  
£7 Blazers  
£3 School Jumpers, Summer shirts & PE Tops  
£2 Skirts & trousers  
£1 Tie, PE Socks & Shorts

**We hope to have the next Sale in the Spring term.**

Payment can be made by cash.

**We are now accepting donations** - if you have any good quality, laundered logo uniform that you are able to donate, please bring it to Reception by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November

Thank you for your support.

Regards,  
Roundwood Park PTA

SUNDAY  
28 NOVEMBER 2021

HARPENDEN  
**Christmas**  
CARNIVAL

with



**FARMERS MARKET**

12 NOON - 6.00PM

**CHARITY STALLS**

12 NOON - 6.00PM

**YOUNG  
ENTERPRISE  
STALLS**

12 NOON - 6.00PM

**SANTA'S GROTTTO**

12 NOON - 5.30PM

**MAIN STAGE  
ENTERTAINMENT**

FROM 1.00PM

**MINI STAGE  
ENTERTAINMENT**

12 NOON - 5.00PM

**PROCESSION**

3.00PM

**LIGHTS  
SWITCH ON**

5.00PM

Free car parking at station car parks and  
Rothamsted Research car park from 12 noon.



Organised by

**HARPENDEN  
TOWN COUNCIL**

**CLOSER TO THE COMMUNITY**

[www.harpenden.gov.uk](http://www.harpenden.gov.uk)



£

*Support*  
ROUNDWOOD PARK  
SCHOOL

*Buy a* LOCALLY GROWN  
*Christmas Tree*

*Premium* NORDMANN FIRS  
*Cut in early December*

£10 PER TREE WILL BE DONATED TO OUR SCHOOL

Order online from [www.foha.co.uk](http://www.foha.co.uk)  
Collection or delivery on 3rd & 4th December  
Prices from £43 (5ft tree)

# Can you help?

The Harpenden Trust's single annual fund-raising project - The Christmas Appeal - is just around the corner!

Last year the annual appeal envelopes raised £65,000 to help support those in our town who are struggling to make ends meet for all sorts of reasons.

The Appeal envelopes are delivered and collected back by an army of more than 200 volunteers.

But we need a few more people in some areas to join the team. Please think about whether YOU can help.

If you can, then every house in every road will have the familiar purple envelope drop onto the doormat.

Call us on **01582 460457**

Email [admin@theharpentrust.org.uk](mailto:admin@theharpentrust.org.uk)

Can you collect from one of these roads?

- Moreton End Lane (22-36)
- Moreton Avenue
- Newmans Drive (4)
- Aldwickbury Crescent
- Hilltop Walk

- Dellcroft Way
- High Elms
- Hawsley Rd
- The Chowns
- Cravells Rd



The Harpenden Trust Centre  
90 Southdown Road Harpenden  
Hertfordshire AL5 1PS  
01582 460457  
[admin@theharpentrust.org.uk](mailto:admin@theharpentrust.org.uk)  
[www.theharpentrust.org.uk](http://www.theharpentrust.org.uk)  
The Harpenden Trust is a  
Company limited by guarantee  
and is registered under the  
Charities Act. Company Number  
5951591 Registered Charity  
Number 1118870  
Registered office as above





## **HARPENDEN GIRLS RUGBY**

**Suitable for all girls of all ages, abilities  
and fitness levels**

**No previous experience of rugby needed**

### **WEDNESDAYS**

**19:00 - 20:00**

**UNDER 13S (YRS 7 TO YRS 8)**

**UNDER 15S (YRS 9 TO YRS 10)**

**20:00 - 21:00**

**UNDER 18S (YRS 11 TO YRS 13)**

**CONTACT CHARLIE WHITE AT:  
WOMENANDGIRLS@HRFC.COM**



## **SKILLS PERFORMANCE CENTRE**

# *Wheathampstead*



**Wheathampstead Astro Turf Pitch  
Marford Road  
Wheathampstead  
AL4 8AY  
Wednesdays**

**Time: 17:00 – 18:00**



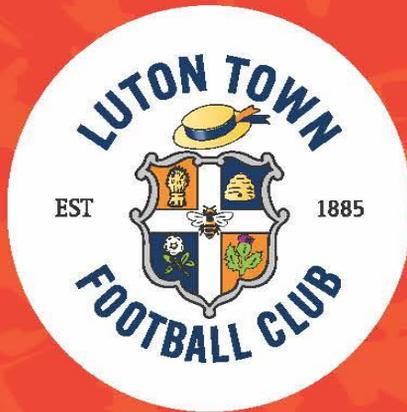
**FOR ANY QUERIES, CONTACT US VIA:**

Phone: **01582 561622** and **07725 172345**  
Email: **TIPS@lutontown.co.uk**

**TO BOOK YOUR PLACE, PLEASE VISIT:**

**[www.lutontowncommunity.co.uk/about-spcs](http://www.lutontowncommunity.co.uk/about-spcs)**





# SKILLS PERFORMANCE CENTRE

## *Harpenden*



Harpenden Rugby Club  
Redbourn Lane  
Harpenden  
AL5 2BA  
Fridays

Time: 17:00 – 18:00

**FOR ANY QUERIES, CONTACT US VIA:**

Phone: **01582 561622** and **07725 172345**  
Email: [TIPS@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:TIPS@lutontown.co.uk)

**TO BOOK YOUR PLACE, PLEASE VISIT:**

[www.lutontowncommunity.co.uk/about-spcs](http://www.lutontowncommunity.co.uk/about-spcs)





1 November 2021

Dear consultee

We are consulting on changes to our admission arrangements from September 2023-August 2024. We are proposing to reduce our Published Admission Number (PAN) from 196 to 189.

We welcome your comments prior to the close of consultation so that our decision fully embraces the wishes of the school community. Should you wish to respond to this consultation, please do so in writing for the attention of the Admissions Committee either by post to the school address or by email to [admin@roundwoodpark.co.uk](mailto:admin@roundwoodpark.co.uk) by midnight on Sunday 12 December 2021. We will not be able to acknowledge or respond individually to your comments, but they will be taken into account.

At the end of the period of consultation, the Governors' Admissions Committee will meet to consider any response and prepare a report and recommendation to the full Governing Board who will determine the admissions criteria for September 2023-August 2024 by 28 February 2022.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'A Henshall'.

Alan Henshall  
Headteacher

Enc.





# Roundwood Park School

## Admission Arrangements for the Academic Year 2023/2024

Roundwood Park School is a co-educational, all-ability school for children aged 11-18.

The published admission number for Year 7 is 189.

Parents/carers of children living in Hertfordshire can make an online application via the Hertfordshire County Council website [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions) or contact the Customer Service Centre on 0300 123 4043 for a paper application form. Parents should return the application form direct to the County Council. Parents/carers of children not living in Hertfordshire must make an application to their local authority. Applications for Roundwood Park School do not need to complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF).

If the school receives more applications than it has places available, the following criteria will be applied in the order they are printed below. If the school has fewer applications than places available all applicants will be offered a place.

The funding agreement, signed by the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State, requires the Academy to admit children with an EHC (Education, Health and Care) Plan that names the school. These children will be admitted within the school's PAN but before any child prioritised under the school's oversubscription criteria.

**Rule 1** Children looked after and children who were previously looked after, including those who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England, and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or a special guardianship order. See notes below for further information.

**Rule 2** Medical or social needs: Children for whom it can be demonstrated that they have a particular medical or social need to go to the school. A panel of HCC officers will determine whether the evidence provided is sufficiently compelling to meet the requirements for this rule. The evidence must relate specifically to the school applied for under Rule 2 and must clearly demonstrate why it is the only school that can meet the child's needs. See notes below for further information.

**Rule 3** Sibling: Children who have a sibling at the school at the time of application, unless the sibling is in the last year of the normal age range of the school (see overleaf for a full explanation of "sibling"). Note: the 'normal age range' is the designated range for which the school provides, i.e. Years 7 to 13 in this school. See notes below for further information.

**Rule 4** Children of staff: The school will admit a child of a member of staff provided that the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made

or where the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage. To be eligible under this rule, the staff member must be the child's natural parent or otherwise have parental responsibility (as defined under the Children Act 1989) for the child.

For the purposes of satisfying these criteria, a member of staff is defined as any permanent member of the staff, working full or part time. This definition does not include contract staff or peripatetic staff employed by Hertfordshire County Council.

- Rule 5** Children who live in the priority area and for whom it is their nearest Hertfordshire maintained school or academy that is non-faith, co-educational and non-partially selective. Note: Non-partially selective means that the school does not offer any places based on academic ability. See notes below for further information.
- Rule 6** Children who live in the priority area who live nearest to the school. See notes below for further information.
- Rule 7** Children living outside the priority area on the basis of distance, with those living nearest to the school given priority. See notes below for further information.

These rules are applied in the order they are printed above. If more children qualify under a particular rule than there are places available, for rules 2-5 the next rule will be applied to further prioritise children.

### **Tiebreak**

Where there is a need for a tiebreak where two different addresses are the same distance from a school, in the case of a block of flats for example, the lower door number will be deemed nearest as logically this will be on the ground floor and therefore closer. If there are two identical addresses of separate applicants, the tie break will be random. Every child entered onto the HCC admissions database has an individual random number assigned, between 1 and 1 million, against each preference school. When there is a need for a final tiebreak the random number is used to allocate the place, with the lowest number given priority.

## **NOTES ON THE ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS**

### **Children looked after and children who were previously looked after**

Places are allocated to children in public care according to Chapter 7, Section 2 of the School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2012.

These children will be prioritised under rule 1.

Highest priority will also be given to children who were previously looked after, including those looked after outside England, but ceased to be so because they were adopted, or became subject to a child arrangements order or a special guardianship order.

A “child looked after” is a child who is:

- a) in the care of the Local Authority or
- b) being provided with accommodation by a Local Authority in the exercise of their social services functions (section 22(1) of The Children Act 1989).

All children adopted from care who are of compulsory school age are eligible for admission under rule 1.

Children in the process of being placed for adoption are classified by law as children looked after providing there is a Placement Order and the application would be prioritised under rule 1.

Children who were not “looked after” immediately before being adopted or made the subject of a child arrangement order or special guardianship order, will not be prioritised under rule 1. Applications made for these children, with suitable supporting professional evidence, can be considered under rule 2.

Child Arrangements Order: under the provisions of the Children and Families Act 2014, which amended section 8 of the Children Act 1989, residence orders have now been replaced by Child Arrangements Orders which settle the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live.

Special Guardianship Order: under 14A of The Children Act 1989, an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child’s special guardian or guardians.

Children previously looked after abroad and subsequently adopted will be prioritised under rule 1 if the child’s previously looked after status and adoption is confirmed by Hertfordshire’s “Virtual School”.

The child’s previously looked after status will be decided in accordance with the definition outlined in The Children & Social Work Act 2017:

- i. to have been in state care in a place outside England and Wales because he or she would not otherwise have been cared for adequately, and
- ii. to have ceased to be in that state care as a result of being adopted.

A child is in “state care” if he or she is in the care of, or accommodated by:

- a) a public authority,
- b) a religious organisation, or
- c) any other organisation the sole or main purpose of which is to benefit society.

## **Medical or Social Need**

Rule 2 applications will only be considered at the time of the initial application, unless there has been a significant and exceptional change of circumstances within the family since the initial application was submitted.

All schools in Hertfordshire have experience in dealing with children with diverse social and medical needs. However, in a few very exceptional cases, there are reasons why a child has to go to one specific school.

Few applications under Rule 2 are agreed.

All applications are considered individually but a successful application should include the following:

- a) Specific recent professional evidence that justifies why only one school can meet a child's individual needs, and/or
- b) Professional evidence that outlines exceptional family circumstances making clear why only one school can meet the child's needs.
- c) If the requested school is not the nearest school to the child's home address clear reasons why the nearest school is not appropriate.
- d) For medical cases – a clear explanation of why the child's severity of illness or disability makes attendance at only a specific school essential.

Evidence should make clear why only one school is appropriate. A Rule 2 application will generally not be upheld in cases where more than one school could meet the child's need.

In exceptional cases relating to a disability, where more than one school in the county can meet the child's specific needs, a clear and compelling case can be made for the "nearest" school with the relevant facilities, environment or location. You must clearly explain why attendance at the "nearest" school with these facilities is essential.

Applications under Rule 2 can only be considered when supported by a recent letter from a professional involved with the child or family, for example a doctor, psychologist or police officer. The supporting evidence needs to demonstrate why only one named school can meet the social/medical needs of the child.

Applications for children who were not "looked after" immediately before being adopted or made the subject of a child arrangement order or special guardianship order may be made under this rule.

Further details on the Rule 2 process can be found in the [Rule 2 protocol](#).

## **Siblings**

A sibling is defined as:

- brother or sister

- half brother or sister
- adopted brother or sister
- child of the parent/carer or partner
- children looked after or previously looked after (this doesn't include children temporarily living in the same house. For example, a looked after child in a short-term foster or bridging placement)

In every case, the sibling must be living permanently in the same family home (at least Monday to Friday) at the time of this application.

To obtain a school place under a “sibling rule” the older sibling must still attend the school at the time the younger child joins the school. This means the older sibling must be in Year 7 to Year 12 at the time of application.

If a place is obtained for a child using fraudulent information, there will be no sibling connection available to subsequent children from that family.

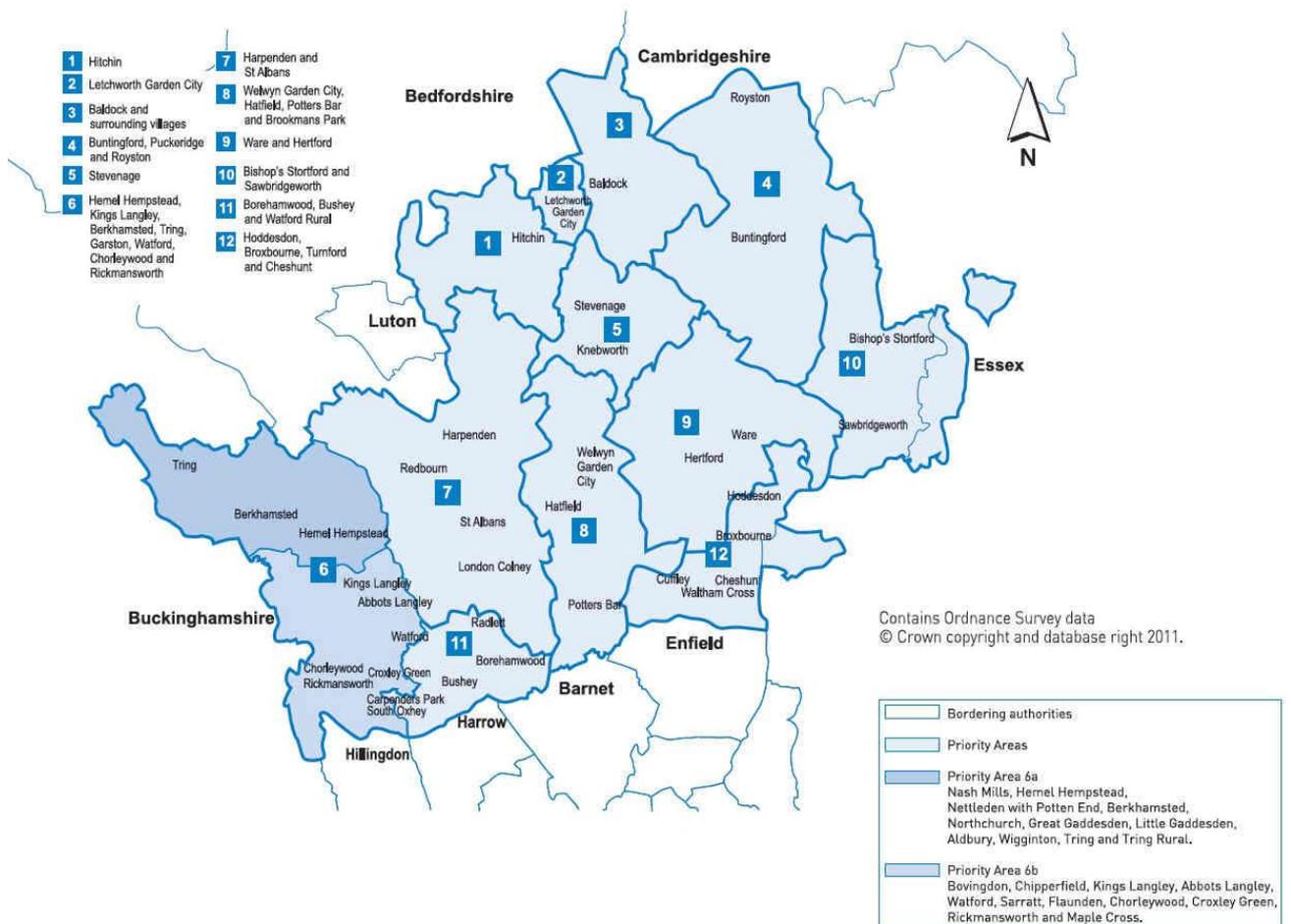
### **Multiple Births**

The admission authority will admit over the school’s published admission number when a single twin/multiple birth child is allocated a place at the school.

### **Priority Areas**

The co-educational priority areas in the admission rules are based on the following towns, parishes/unparished areas. These apply to Rules 5 and 6. ‘Children who live in the priority area’ refers to families living in Priority Area 7 (Harpenden and St Albans).

Priority Area 7 covers the following parishes: Ayot St. Lawrence, Colney Heath, Flamstead, Harpenden, Harpenden Rural, Kimpton, King’s Walden, London Colney, Markyate, Redbourn, Ridge, Sandridge, St. Michael, St. Paul’s Walden, St. Stephen, St. Albans, Shenley, Wheathampstead.



For further details go to the HCC website at: [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions)

## Home to School Distance Measurement for Purposes of Admissions

Hertfordshire County Council's 'straight line' distance measurement system is used for all home to school distance measurements. Distances are measured using a computerised mapping system to two decimal places. The measurement is taken from the AddressBase Premium address point of your child's house to the address point of the school. AddressBase Premium data is a nationally recognised method of identifying the location of schools and individual residences.

### Home Address

The address provided must be the child's current permanent address at the time of application. 'At the time of application' means the closing dates for applications. 'Permanent' means that the child has lived at that address for at least a year. Where a family has not lived at an address for a year, they must be able to demonstrate that they own the property or have a tenancy agreement for a minimum of 12 months and the child must be resident in the property at the time of application. The application can only be processed using one address. If a child lives at more than one address (for example due to a separation) the address used will be the one which the child lives at for the majority of the time. If a child lives at two addresses equally, the address of the parent/carer that claims Child Benefit/Child Tax Credit will be considered as the child's main residence. If a family is not in receipt of Child Benefit/Tax Credit alternative

documentation will be requested. If a child's residence is in dispute, parents/carers should provide court documentation to evidence the address that should be used for admission allocation purposes. If two different applications are received for the same child from the same address, e.g. containing different preferences, the application from the parent in receipt of Child Benefit will be processed if the applications cannot be reconciled.

### **Fraudulent Applications**

The school, in liaison with Hertfordshire County Council, is committed to the detection and prevention of applications based on false information or information provided dishonestly, such as details of the child's home address. If there is a suspicion of fraud in connection with an application, investigations will be undertaken. Proof of address is frequently requested and verified. Where it is shown that false information was provided in support of an application for a place, consideration will be given to the withdrawal of that place.

An investigation is likely under the following circumstances:

- when a child's application address does not match the address of that child at their current school
- when a child lives at a different address to the applicant
- when the applicant does not have parental responsibility
- when a family move shortly after the closing date of applications when one or more of the following applies:
  - the family has moved to a property from which their application was less likely to be successful
  - the family has returned to an existing property
  - the family lived in rented accommodation for a short period of time (anything less than a year) over the application period
  - official/public records show an alternative address at the time of application
- when a child starts at the allocated school and their address is different from the address used at the time of application

Parents/carers will need to show that they have relinquished residency ties with their previous property and they, and their child(ren), are permanently residing at the address given on the application form.

### **Children Seeking Admission outside their Chronological Year Group**

Only in exceptional circumstances will a child younger than 11 years of age or older than 12 years of age on 1 September of the year in which he/she is due to transfer to secondary school be considered for admission. One of these exceptions will be for summer born children who are currently educated out of their chronological year group. Hertfordshire County Council will administer applications in this category on the school's behalf.

## **Continuing Interest List**

After places have been offered, Hertfordshire County Council will maintain a continuing interest (waiting) list for all community and voluntary controlled schools. A child's position on a CI list will be determined by the admission criteria outlined above and a child's place on the list can change as other children join or leave it. The County Council will contact parents/carers if a vacancy becomes available and it can be offered to a child. Continuing interest lists will be maintained for every year group until the summer term (date to be confirmed). To retain a CI application after this time, parents must make an In Year application.

## **Appeals**

Parents wishing to appeal who applied online through Hertfordshire's online system should log in to their online application and click on the link 'register an appeal'. Out of county residents should call the Customer Service Centre on 0300 123 4043 to request their registration details, log into [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/schoolappeals](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/schoolappeals) and click on the link 'log into the appeals system'.

For in-year applications: the County Council will write to you with the outcome of your application and, if you have been unsuccessful, will include registration details to enable you to login and appeal online at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/schoolappeals](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/schoolappeals)

## **In Year Admissions**

Parents can make an online in year application via the Hertfordshire County Council website [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions) or contact the Customer Service Centre on 0300 123 4043 for a paper application form. Parents should return the application form direct to the County Council.

## **Fair Access Protocol**

The school participates in the County Council's Fair Access Protocol and will admit children under this Protocol before children on the continuing interest list and over the Published Admission Number (PAN) if required.

PROPOSED

# Sixth Form Admission Arrangements

The school will admit up to 80 external students to its Sixth Form.

Minimum entry requirements are as set out in our Sixth Form prospectus.

In the event of oversubscription to the Sixth Form places will be offered by applying the following criteria in the order given:

**Rule 1** Children looked after and children who were previously looked after, including those who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England, and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or a special guardianship order. See notes above for further information.

**Rule 2** Medical or social needs: Children for whom it can be demonstrated that they have a particular medical or social need to go to the school. See notes above for further information.

**Rule 3** Sibling: Children who have a sibling at the school at the time of application, unless the sibling is in the last year of the normal age range of the school (see overleaf for a full explanation of "sibling"). Note: the 'normal age range' is the designated range for which the school provides, i.e. Years 7 to 13 in this school.

**Rule 4** Children of staff: The school will admit a child of a member of staff provided that the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made or where the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage. To be eligible under this rule, the staff member must be the child's natural parent or otherwise have parental responsibility (as defined under the Children Act 1989) for the child.

For the purposes of satisfying these criteria, a member of staff is defined as any permanent member of the staff, working full or part time. This definition does not include contract staff or peripatetic staff employed by Hertfordshire County Council.

**Rule 5** Children who live in the priority area and for whom it is their nearest Hertfordshire maintained school or academy that is non-faith, co-educational and non-partially selective. Note: Non-partially selective means that the school does not offer any places based on academic ability.

**Rule 6** Children who live in the priority area who live nearest to the school.

**Rule 7** Children living outside the priority area on the basis of distance, with those living nearest to the school given priority.

## **Tiebreak**

A tiebreak will be used if two applications for Sixth Form have addresses that measure the same distance from the school. For example, if two applications had identical home to school measurements, a random tiebreak would be used to decide which applicant is offered a place. If two applications were received from the same block of flats, the applicant with the lower door number will be deemed nearest as logically this will be on the ground floor and therefore closer to the school.

PROPOSED



# School Admissions Consultation 2023/24

The consultation on Hertfordshire County Council's school admission arrangements for 2023/24 is open until 12 December 2021.

**The county council proposes the following changes are made for 2023/24:**

- To amend the definition and explanation for home address, where two applications are received for the same child
- To amend the oversubscription criteria for Pirton Primary School
- To reduce the published admission number (PAN) at 5 community primary schools

Go to [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions2023](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions2023) for more information about the consultation and to respond online.

***Have  
your  
say***



Consultations are also taking place on the admission arrangements for some schools and academies that are responsible for their own admissions.

You can also view the proposals for these schools at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions2023](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions2023)