

# HENDON SCHOOL

Headteachers: Rhona Povey  
Craig McGuire  
Golders Rise, London NW4 2HP



Telephone: 020 8202 9004  
Email: [info@hendonschool.co.uk](mailto:info@hendonschool.co.uk)  
Website: [www.hendonschool.co.uk](http://www.hendonschool.co.uk)

*'Learning Together Across the World'*

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Dear parents/carers,

I am writing to promote the volunteering opportunities available to all students at Hendon School. Volunteering plays a crucial role in enhancing the educational experience for both students and the school itself. It not only provides valuable assistance to our school but also creates a sense of belonging in our community and responsibility among our students. Volunteering is a great way to not only give back to the school community but also to learn new skills, improve confidence, enhance leadership skills and boost their CV's and Personal Statements. It is also proven to enhance wellbeing for all those involved.

This year we are working with the organisation VInspired to ensure students can gain accreditation for their volunteering that is recognised by colleges and universities.

Students can log their volunteering hours through the VInspired website and work towards the 10, 30, 50 and 100-hour awards. The hours they log each academic year will carry over to the next academic year allowing them build up to 100 hours.

There are currently a number of ways students can volunteer within the school community:

- Student Voice Team (Applications for new members will be available soon)
- Library Ambassadors (Collect application forms from library reception)
- Canteen Volunteers (Sign up in this week's assemblies)
- Student Well Being Team (Sign up with Miss. Doona)
- Anti-Bullying Ambassadors (Information will be available soon)
- Bell Lane Science Club Volunteering (Speak to Miss Hern)
- Within faculties supporting with the running of clubs and tutoring

Any volunteering completed outside of school will also be included when working towards the awards. If students volunteer and help with a local sports team, work in a charity shop, support with the running of scouts, or any other organisations, they will be able to log these hours alongside the hours they volunteer within school. Later in the year we will be working with external providers to help create further volunteering opportunities for Hendon Students within the local community.

We encourage you to discuss these volunteering opportunities with your child and consider supporting their participation. We believe together we can instil the importance of community engagement and social responsibility.

Student log ins for VInspired will be shared with all students through mentoring and Frog, which will allow them to start logging their volunteering. However, the first steps will involve them committing to a volunteering role. Once students have committed to a volunteering role we encourage them to record all of their hours personally until they have access to the VInspired platform.

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards

*K Downing*

Miss K. Downing  
Senior Leader  
Downingk@hendonschool.co.uk