

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: Hackney Schools' Challenge 2023

Firstly, may we just say thank you for your patience as we know a lot of you have been asking for more details about the Hackney Run. The official briefing took place for all schools on the evening of Tuesday 16th May, so we are happy to be able to share all the details with you now. There are 25 schools taking part, and over 1000 children running, so it is important you read the details below.

Before we get into the FAQs, Hackney Moves have informed us there have been a few technical mishaps. Some of you may have received an email confirming your child's entry to the half marathon on Sunday - you can disregard that email as it was sent in error. Additionally, there are some people reporting that they have not received a confirmation email at all. If you are receiving this race pack, your child's place is confirmed.

Where do I need to be and when?

You and your child/ren need to be at the main gates of Daubeney by 8:45am on Saturday 20th May as **we will be leaving at 9am sharp** to head towards Hackney Marshes. We need to check in to the race pen at 9:30am and we have been advised any late arrivals will not be permitted into the race pen.

Do I need to be there to collect my child at the end of the race?

Yes. No children will be permitted to walk home alone after the race. This is very important. You must collect your child once the race has concluded, which should be between 11:30am and 12:00pm. Please, if you know you are unable to collect your child on the day, speak with Mr Swarbrick as a matter of urgency so an alternative arrangement can be made.

What does my child need to wear?

All children taking part must wear their official Hackney Moves t-shirt and their bib number. The bib must be attached to their chest with safety pins. Please also ensure all the details are filled out on the back of the bib before attaching it to your child's t-shirt. These details are important as the children will not be allowed access to the starting pen without their t-shirt and bib number, and if the bib is not located on their chest, any pictures of them will not be usable as the number will not be detectable. Further to this, please ensure your child/ren has appropriate clothes depending on the weather.

What do I do when the children enter the race pen?

Only people wearing the official race t-shirt are permitted to enter the race pen, therefore, once the children have entered the pen, it is recommended that the parents/carers find a place to form a cheer squad to cheer the children on as they race.

When will the race start/finish?

The race is scheduled to start at 10:30am and fully conclude by 12:00pm. We anticipate we will be out of the race pen earlier than 12:00pm, however, we cannot leave the race pen until all children from our school are accounted for and have finished the race, so if you're making plans for the weekend, please account for a latest finish of 12:00pm.

What if I am late and miss the meeting at Daubeney's main gates?

Please make your way as quickly and as safely as you can to the race village in Hackney Marshes and look for the race pen. We will do everything we can, but they were quite adamant in the briefing that late arrivals will not be admitted to the pen.

Will the roads be closed on the day?

There are no planned road closures as the children will not be running over any roads.

Will water be available on the day?

There are stations to re-fill water bottles so if your child has a refillable water bottle it would be wise to bring that along as they'll likely be thirsty immediately following the race.

Are there toilets in the race village?

We would strongly recommend your child goes to the toilet before making their way to Daubeney. However, we have been informed there will be portaloos available to use on the day.

Don't forget, the Hackney Moves festival is also taking place over the whole weekend and starts at 9am on Saturday. There will be live music, activities, food, drink, and much more to do in case you're looking for something fun to do after the race.

We can't wait to see you on the day – also, if you're looking for a fun activity to do as a family on Friday night, why not make a cardboard sign to really show your support for our Daubeney children!

Yours sincerely,

Matthew Swarbrick