

The

NEWSLETTER



10 May 2021 • ISSUE 6 • SUMMER TERM

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Although this was a shortened week with the bank holiday on Monday we have still managed to cram in a whole host of learning and extra-curricular activities.

Throughout the week, it has been great to see our students getting back to normal and enjoying their time in school. I'm delighted that an extensive range of extra-curricular and sporting activities are available again and the levels of engagement with these has been fantastic.

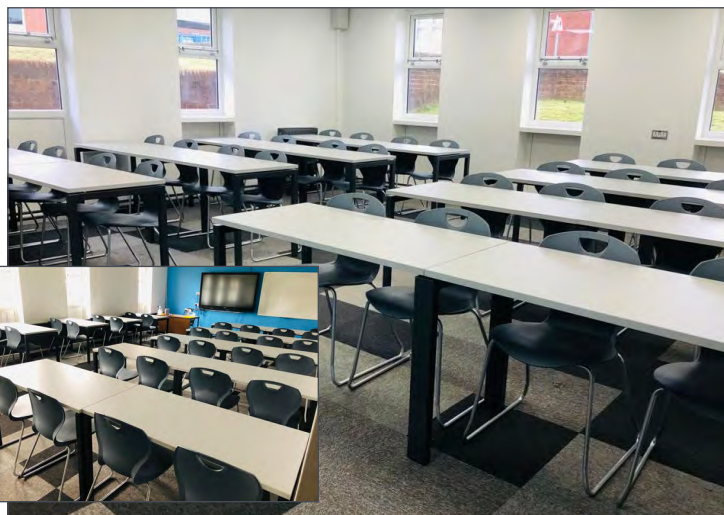
Once again, we want to express just how delighted we have been with the manner in which our students have returned to school. Their positivity, engagement and behaviour have all been simply fantastic. They have coped incredibly well with the move to LFT testing and the wearing of face masks in classrooms, once again demonstrating their remarkable resilience. We have also been delighted with the maturity shown of our students in Years 11 and 13 who have quickly adapted to a new series of assessments for their GCSE and A Level grades this summer.



School improvements

During the lockdown we were able to take the opportunity to make some significant improvements to the school by refurbishing 15 existing classrooms. This includes new LED lighting, flooring, full redecoration and new furniture. The feedback from the students has been really positive.

I have to say, they look fantastic and it doesn't stop there... we have exciting plans scheduled for over the Summer holidays that include a: full refurbishment of four science laboratories, a new auditorium seating in the hall that seats up to 250 people, additional changing room facilities and two additional classrooms at 81sqm each, equipped with the highest quality Information Technology.



ELEVATE PARENT WEBINARS

We are delighted to share with parents an opportunity to access Elevate Education's Parent Webinar Series this year. Elevate has previously worked with our students, delivering high impact workshops on study skills, motivation, wellbeing, and

exam preparation.

By tuning into their webinar series you will learn how to better support your children at home through reinforcing the skills they learn at school.

The schedule for the rest of the term is below:

- 11 May | Memory Skills
- 25 May | Time Management
- 15 June | Motivation
- 6 July | Technology

The next webinar is on Tuesday 11th May at 6pm and you can register for free

at: <https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/register>

When registering you will need to select other for school.

The webinar is run live online from 6pm – 7pm where the presenter will share Elevate's key research and skills, and will conduct a live Q&A so you can ask them questions directly.

WE CAN • WE WILL • WE DO

ATTENDANCE

Excellent attendance at school is important to allow your child to fulfil their potential.

It is even more crucial to highlight this given the disruption we have had this academic year due to the pandemic.

In addition to gaining the best start in life through getting good grades at school, children learn: work routines, adaptability and how to socialise with a range of different people.

Young people who regularly miss school without good reason are more likely to become isolated from their friends, to underachieve in examinations and/or become involved in antisocial behaviour.

How you can help

1. Establish a good routine in the mornings and evenings so your child is prepared for the school day ahead.
2. Make sure your child goes to school regularly and follows the school rules.
3. Ensure your child arrives at school on time – not late.
4. Arrange dental and medical appointments outside school hours when possible.
5. Always inform the school if your child is absent due to illness – this should be followed up with a written note when your child returns to school.
6. Take truancy seriously – if your child is not attending school as you expect, they may be putting themselves at risk – Who are they with? What are they doing?
7. Take family holidays outside term time.
8. Always support school staff in their efforts to control difficult or challenging behaviour.
9. Discuss any problems or difficulties with the school – staff are there to help and will be supportive.



THE POWER OF READING

“To learn to read is to light a fire; every syllable that is spelled out is a spark.” A very apt quotation from Victor Hugo which demonstrates how powerful and magical reading is.

At The Hart School we are passionate and enthusiastic about encouraging our students to read and to become confident, assured readers. We want to ignite a “spark” in our students and encourage them to read regularly to improve their cultural capital knowledge; their literacy skills and to improve their outcomes in all examinations.

During tutor time your child has been listening to audio books which has been a wonderfully relaxing start to each week. Students have engaged with this and enjoyed

the opportunity. We would like to move forward from this, and we would like all students in Years 7-10 to bring in a reading book which they can read independently during tutor time every Monday.

Students are welcome to bring in a fiction or a non-fiction book. If you have any concerns about this, please do contact your child’s tutor and we will be happy to offer support.



REQUEST FROM LOCAL RESIDENTS

As is the case with most town-based schools, it is difficult to balance parents’ and students’ needs around drop off and pick-up times with those of local residents.

We have received a spate of requests from local residents, particularly those on Chase Side Drive:

- Please switch engines off whilst waiting to reduce pollution for local homes and younger children using the pavements.
- Please do not block driveways or pavements.
- Please do not obstruct the road or attempt to turn in the road which causes a hazard to other road users, residents and pedestrians.

PEER ON PEER ABUSE

In light of recent news headlines about the safety of women there is a real push to raise awareness about the experience of people at the hands of others.

This is not just relevant to women or girls; it is about everyone’s right to feel safe from physical and sexual harm. As a school we have a responsibility to take action and educate our young people about ‘right and wrong’ and be upstanding against language we hear that is used between young people in our care and challenge behaviours which are offensive and threatening to others.

We aim to create a whole school protective ethos in

which peer on peer abuse is not tolerated and victims are appropriately supported. We are providing training for staff about recognising and responding to peer on peer abuse, ensuring that staff do not dismiss instances of peer on peer abuse as an inevitable part of growing up.

In addition, we will be setting time aside this term to discuss and educate students around these issues, through assemblies and Life Skills lessons. Families and parents

also have a major role to play in educating young people and you may find the document in the link below helpful in supporting your child to stay safe.

Social_Media_Guidance_UKCCIS_Final_18122015.pdf
pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)

If you have any concerns or need any advice, please contact your child’s Head of Year or Student Support Officer in the first instance.

UNIFORM

To ensure that all students have the necessary tools to be successful, they need to have the right equipment and uniform.

Uniform is a vital part of the school's identity. It reinforces who we are as a community and allows students to take pride in their school. It also ensures students are not put under any pressure because of the type of clothes they wear, and all are treated equally. In addition, it helps prepare students for life after school where many will have to dress smartly for work.

I would like to take this opportunity to make it really

clear about what type of uniform is acceptable. Our uniform expectations can be found on the following link and has been in place all academic year:

<https://www.hartschool.org.uk/main/parents/uniform>

I would particularly like to draw your attention to the female section of the policy. If female students choose not to wear the Hart School skirt, they can still wear plain black, tailored trousers (tight fitting

trousers/leggings/jeggings and/or denim effect material or trousers that sit above the ankle (are not acceptable).



Stretchy tight fitting trousers are not acceptable.

Neither are tracksuit bottoms or Jeans.

SIXTH FORM CULTURE

Lockdowns and distancing hasn't stopped the enrichment of our Sixth Form students.

We currently have two clubs running that are drawing more and more students into extra-curricular activities.

The Film Club is a student-led club that has students analysing and criticising a range of challenging films and documentaries. The 7-strong committee takes

on all organisation duties and welcomes around twenty students to their bi weekly meetings. The groups regularly brings their choices of film to the table where they are narrowed down to a shortlist of films that will promote debate discussion.

Our Book Group has had to be

split in two due to increasing demand. The groups read and discuss a new book every month which helps to support their vital reading skills, as well as encourage lively discourse around the themes and topics raised by the selected texts.

PE KIT

Due to the progress made with the opening of schools, we will be returning to our standard PE uniform policy for Y7 to Y10 students.

From Monday 7th June, all students will be expected to attend school in their standard school uniform on PE days.

Students will return to using school changing rooms to change into and back out of their PE kit during their PE lessons. This is a gradual

return to our normal routines in school and therefore we are delighted to be able to see a sense of normality returning. Students are not permitted to wear their own sports clothing and should ensure they wear the correct uniform as outlined in our uniform policy that can be found on our website. Students will not mix

bubbles and changing rooms will be cleaned down before and after use.



YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

Please be aware that due to the changing nature of circumstances within school, as well as the current difficulties in working with outside providers, it is now necessary to cancel any term time work experience opportunities for Year 10 students for this academic year.

For any students who had already looked into the possibility of work experience placements and had managed to find a provider, these placements will now need to take place out of school hours or during May half term/summer holidays. In order to provide Year 10 students with careers advice and guidance, the school will now be focusing on careers activities during activities week, the details of which will be provided in the coming weeks.

Apologies for any inconvenience



VISITORS ON SITE

At present, to keep our school community safe, visitors on site are still restricted and, as such, parents/carers must only attend if an appointment has been made.

If you would like to contact a specific member of staff to make an appointment, then please call the school on 01889 802440 or email enquiries@hartschool.org.uk. Thank you for your continued support.

KS4 IN-CLASS ASSESSMENTS

Students in Year 11 and 13 are currently completing in class assessments, with Year 10 assessments coming to a close.

Years 11 and 13 students (4 May - 14 May)

Years 11 and 13 are half way through window 2 of assessments to support the Teacher Assessed Grade (TAG) process. These assessments will form part of the evidence portfolio that teachers will use to assign grades. Government guidance is clear that the evidence should be made up of a number of pieces of work at differing levels of control.

To explain this, this formal assessment window would be considered to be a “high control” piece of evidence whereas a piece of work completed at home in the students’ own time would

be considered to be a “low control” piece of evidence.

At The Hart School, we will be making use of a range of evidence ensuring that our students are not disadvantaged in comparison to their peers in other schools.

Year 10 students (4 May - 7 May)

Year 10 will be completing assessments to inform decisions regarding the next steps in their education.

These assessments will help inform intervention invites for session that will be offered during May half term. Further details and invites are to be released in the coming weeks.

We will also use the assessments to allow teachers to gain a thorough understanding of each student’s strengths and their areas of development, enabling them to shape and adapt the curriculum over the coming weeks to meet the needs of students preparing Year 10s for the transition into Year 11 for September 2021.



BREAKFAST CLUB



‘Breakfast is often called ‘the most important meal of the day’, and for good reason.

As the name suggests, breakfast breaks the overnight fasting period. It replenishes a person’s supply of glucose to boost energy levels and alertness, while also providing other essential nutrients required for good health.

Eating a healthy breakfast before starting the school day is linked to improved concentration, better test scores, increased energy, a higher intake of vitamins and minerals, and even a healthier body weight in children.

Because of this we will be starting a Breakfast Club in the near future. There will be a range of breakfast items on offer with a fantastic meal deal allowing students to purchase both a hot food item and drink for £1.70, making sure they are set up for the day ahead. More details to follow soon.



HOME TESTING

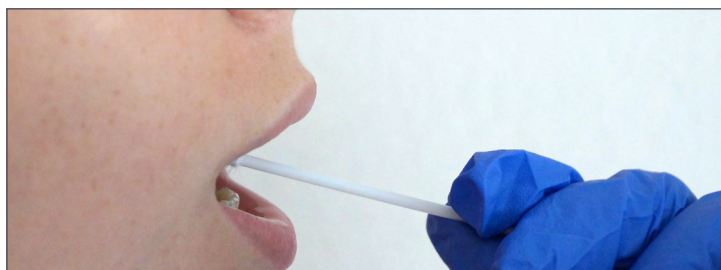
We would like to offer our thanks to students and parents who are supporting the home testing programme which is playing its part in the overall portfolio of measures nationally to bring infection levels down.

It is also helping to ensure we can minimise the impact of asymptomatic cases on the continued education of all our students. I would like to remind students to keep up the good work and continue to test every Sunday and Wednesday evening, making sure they report their results - positive, negative or void. both to the NHS and The Hart School each time.

All our students were provided with a set of 7 home testing kits on Friday 30 April. With twice-weekly testing, this allocation should support our

students’ home testing until approximately 26 May

In these first three weeks of term we have had no new cases of Covid, thanks to us all working together to keep each other safe. Thank you for your continued support with this.



The NHS Test & Trace reporting page can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>.

To report results to The Hart School, please [click this link](#)

**JOIN
THE HART
SCHOOL**
TO
WALK THE GLOBE
WE NEED
**80,052,472
STEPS!**

**TOGETHER, LET'S WALK
THE WORLD FOR WELLNESS!**

JOIN THE HART SCHOOL DURING THE MONTH OF
MAY TO SEE IF WE CAN WALK THE GLOBE TOGETHER.



WALK THE WORLD FOR WELLNESS

During the month of May, The Hart School is raising awareness for Mental Health and supporting Mental Health Awareness week.

We would like to encourage all students, staff and members of the community to come together and walk the world for wellness, whilst enjoying the wonderful nature around us.

We have started well and are currently in Germany, as we hit each of the 12 milestones on our virtual journey we will also be able to learn fascinating facts about different countries as well as seeing the street view of where we are.

We have also set up a just giving page where you can donate to support YESS, Your Emotional Support Service, which is our local Mental Health and Well-being charity who provide telephone emotional wellbeing support sessions for young people and parents.



Download the world walking app on your android or iOS device



Join The Hart School group **Walk the World for Wellness**
(or click above text)



Record your steps and transfer them to our walk
(You will need to log on via the internet to join our walk before you can spend your steps).



Donate to YESS
<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/thehartschool>

For more information: <https://www.hartschool.org.uk/walk-the-world>

THE BIG ASK

The new Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched The Big Ask – the largest ever consultation with children aged 4 to 17 in England.



It aims to find out children's concerns and aspirations about the future, so that the Government can put children at the heart of our country's recovery from the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. I would strongly encourage all students to complete this survey to support this important development and we will be sharing information about The Big Ask with students during tutor sessions.

The Government is also inviting parents, care givers and those working with children to complete the adult survey to share their views about the future for children and young people today and what they think is holding young people back. The results from this survey will help the Children's Commissioner identify the barriers preventing children from reaching their potential, put forward solutions and set ambitious goals for the country to achieve.

To complete student survey
[CLICK HERE](#)

To complete adult survey
[CLICK HERE](#)

ENRICHMENT TIMETABLE

Over the past few weeks, we have been able to provide further opportunities for our pupils to take part in extra-curricular clubs.

We are doing this in a planned and cautious COVID-19 safe way, aware of our ongoing responsibilities to do all we can to halt the spread of coronavirus within our school and wider community.

It is great to see the re-introduction of after school and lunchtime clubs. We all know the importance of the holistic experience of school we are able to provide.



The Medical School students dissecting an eye. Thanks to the PTFA for supporting this.



“I have never had so much fun in Science. It’s incredible.”

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LUNCH TIME		Y11 Enterprise/ IT Intervention (SWO/F18)	Y11 Enterprise and IT Intervention (SWO/F18)	Y10 Enterprise Intervention (SWO/B13)	Y10 Enterprise Intervention (SWO/B13)
AFTER SCHOOL	Staff Development Meetings	Y11 History Intervention Y9 Table Tennis 3.20pm - 4.20pm (ISM) Y9 Football 3.20pm - 4.20pm (TBR/SBA) Y8 Scholar Programme 3.10pm - 4.00pm (NMO/C32) Y8 Debate Club 3.10pm - 4.00pm (RBU) Y7 From Field to Fork 3.20pm - 4.30pm (DBE & SRA) Y7 Hart School Dance Project 3.10pm - 4.30pm (hall) KS3* Film Club 3.10pm - 4.00pm (AJO) Virtual* Performing Arts Club	Y7-10 Science Intervention Y11 Maths Intervention Y8 Table Tennis 3.20pm - 4.20pm (TBR/SBA) Y8 Football 3.20pm - 4.20pm (ISM) Y8 Medical Science Club 3.10pm - 4.00pm (JCR/C24) KS3* Lego Challenge Club (DRY) Virtual Student Leadership meeting 4.00pm - 4.30pm Teams (RBR) Y9 Hart School Dance Project 3.10pm - 4.30pm (hall) Virtual* School Newspaper 4.00pm Teams	Y11 Science Intervention Maths Intervention Y8 STEAM Club 3.10pm - 4.00pm (DKI/ C32) Y8 Hart School Dance Project 3.10pm - 4.30pm (hall)	Y11 Photography Intervention 3.10pm - 4.00pm (SDA/F18) 3.10pm - 4.30pm (ECO/F02) Y11 Art Intervention 3.10pm - 4.00pm (SEV/F12) Y7 Tennis 3.20pm - 4.20pm (RBR) Y7 Rounders 3.20pm - 4.20pm (ISM) Y7 Football 3.20pm - 4.20pm (TBR) Virtual* 'Kodu' Programming Club 4.00pm - 5.00pm Teams (RBR)

*KS3 Clubs will run on a year group rotation whilst we are operating in bubbles (eg week 1, Y7, week 2, Y8, week 3, Y9). Details will be shared in tutor and on the school website.

*Virtual clubs will run on Teams and allow students from all year groups to participate. Details will be shared in tutor and on the school website.

WE CAN • WE WILL • WE DO