

22nd June 2020

Dear parents, carers and students

Re – **Weekly Update 11**

I hope that you and your families remain safe and well.

Year 10 and 12

It was lovely to welcome back many of our Year 10 and 12 students last week for their Wellbeing and Engagement session with their tutor or Head of Year. Those students who were unable to attend will have been contacted by phone. This week, we have a number of Year 10 and 12 students in school across the week, for supervised study sessions or taught sessions.

We look forward to seeing many Year 10 and 12 students back in school for sessions over the next few weeks before the end of term. The government guidance allows us to have a quarter of the cohort in at any one time, so we have made the following arrangements:

Year 12 students: All Year 12 students will be invited into school between the 29th June and the 10th July for one, two hour lesson for each of their subjects, where subject teachers are able to be in school.

Year 10 students: All Year 10 students will be invited into school between 6th July and the 17th July for one, four hour taught session. This session will include teaching of English, maths, science and either history or geography.

Some Year 10 and 12 students, those who subject teachers have identified as struggling to engage and/or make progress with their home learning, will continue to be offered additional sessions in school.

We will not go ahead with our previous arrangements for a second Wellbeing and Engagement review week for Year 10 and 12 in the last week of term.

More details will follow in due course, outlining the in school provision for your child. Remote provision will, of course, continue.

Year 9

On the 15th June, the government announced that schools could potentially bring back students in other year groups for a 'face to face' session, if they had the capacity to do so. However, we are severely limited by the guidance, as we are capped to the number of students that makes up a quarter of students in Year 10 and 12. We therefore are looking to offer a one to one Wellbeing and Engagement review, with the tutor or Head of Year, to students in Year 9 only at this time, prior to the end of term. If you have a child in Year 9, please complete the following survey by **Wednesday 24th June at 10am**, to indicate whether you will be sending your child to school for this session. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Y9surveyJune20>

Teaching and Learning

As part of our move to Google Classroom, students in Year 10 and Year 12 have already been trialing live online lessons, which have been positively received. As our trial now expands to cover

all teaching staff, we are delighted to be able to publish a timetable of live online lessons for every year group, as follows:

	MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
	0900 - 1200	1200 - 1500	0900 - 1200	1200 - 1500	0900 - 1200	1200 - 1500	0900 - 1200	1200 - 1500	0900 - 1200	1200 - 1500
KS3	ENGLISH		SCIENCE		MATHS		HISTORY		GEOGRAPHY	
Year 10	ENGLISH	GEOGRAPHY	SCIENCE	ADT	MATHS	BUSINESS STUDIES	MEDIA STUDIES	COMPUTING /IT MEDIA	DRAMA	RS
		HISTORY					SOCIOLOGY	PE / SPORT	MFL	MUSIC
Year 12	English Literature Maths PE Photography Sociology		Art Biology English Language History RS		French Physics Politics Psychology		H&SC Drama Further Maths Geography Graphics		Business Studies Chemistry Computing Music Textiles	

Teaching staff will try their best to teach within their allocated slots if they are able to. With increasing commitments to be on-site with the wider reopening of the school, this may not always be possible. We aim to teach one lesson per week in every subject in Year 10 and Year 12, with 1-2 lessons in Year 7, 8 and 9 by the end of term. This will be in addition to all students having narrated PowerPoints to assist with their remote learning, resources which we hope are a useful aid in completing the work. The live lessons will then complement the work which is set and give students the opportunity to discuss and ask questions of their teachers. Please find at the end of this letter some guidance for you and your child to help support the use of live online lessons. All lessons will be recorded and available after the lesson to be watched as many times as required. All live lessons will be confirmed with date and time on SMHW so please encourage your child to check this regularly.

If you have any issues or concerns about teaching and learning, please contact Miss Waseem, Assistant Headteacher, on admin@highfield.herts.sch.uk

The Summer Holiday and 'Catch up'

The government are currently putting together their national strategy and funding for the summer holidays and 'catch up' in September. The headline figure of £1 billion has been promised to support schools, but we have not yet received any information. I will update you in due course with any further information I receive.

Wellbeing

YCT offers FREE, confidential counselling to young people aged 11-19. YCT can help to support young people with many issues including; anxiety, depression, stress, low confidence, low self-esteem, self-harm, family issues, bullying, relationship issues, and bereavement. YCT is currently offering telephone and/or Zoom based counselling but normally operate face to face sessions in Stevenage, Ware, Hoddesdon, Turnford and Bishops Stortford. If you would like to receive counselling, please call us on 01279 414090 (option 1). Please see the attached leaflet for more information.

Other support

The Fit, Fed and Read programme is likely to go ahead this summer in accordance with government advice. This summer's project will look different to previous years but still aims to offer a high quality physical activity programme including support with literacy and a nutritious meal every day free of charge.



2020 Summer registration is now open. Please use the link below to register your child for this summer's programme.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ur7mk6rEMUevXdc1sJfq2_xLH2eLMdtArRoGKIpQD-xUMDINQ04wWFZPNTFQSVBKTUpBVDVaU05UWi4u

As always, if you would like to get in touch about anything, please contact admin@highfield.herts.sch.uk and we will do our best to help.

Wishing you all the best of health.

Kind regards

Caitlin Macrae
Acting Headteacher

Live lessons

Guidance for students

Your teachers may wish to live stream lessons with you. Here are a few points and some 'rules' we need you to follow.

Staff

- The teacher will teach the lesson during normal school hours.
- The teacher may or may not have their camera switched on.
- The teacher will tell you to make sure your camera is turned off.
- The teacher will use professional language.
- The teacher will record the lesson.

Students

- Tell your family what you are doing so they know not to interrupt accidentally.
- Use appropriate language at all times – whether you are speaking through the microphone or typing in the chat box.
- You must be on mute when the teacher is presenting, but can come off mute if you need to ask or answer a question or make a comment in a discussion.
- If you are off mute, make sure your language is appropriate – if you wouldn't say it in a real classroom do not say it in a virtual classroom!
- Just like at school, we expect you to be respectful and kind!
- If you have any concerns about anyone's behaviour, please communicate with the teacher via email.
- Remember that the school's 'Acceptable Use Policy' that you signed for computer usage applies when you are participating in an online lesson.

