



Hagley Catholic High School
Phone: 01562 883193
www.hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk
Principal: Mr J Hodgson

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13

26 February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers and students

I do hope that you all had a good dose of rest and relaxation over half term, especially the students, but also parents and carers too, even if it was just a break from online teaching and learning. Our return to school and learning this week has again brought a whole wealth of information to try and dissect and share with you but as I said to the students in assembly on Tuesday, we return with renewed hope and optimism that a brighter future is not too far away now.

Return to school

The Government confirmed on Monday evening that secondary schools should open their doors again to all students from Monday 8th March. In order to facilitate a smooth return, and one that allows for all students, with consent, to be tested, secondary schools have been given the leeway to stagger the students' return.

Please bear with me while I continue to put together the final plans for this return which I will write to you about in detail next week.

Asymptomatic Testing

When students return, all those with consent will be tested on their first day back at our Asymptomatic Testing Site (ATS) based in the school gym, and then every third day afterwards. Once all consenting students have received three Lateral Flow Device tests in school, they will be provided with Home Testing Kits to use twice a week until Easter, in the first instance. I shall write to you again to outline these procedures.

Students and parents/carers should be reassured about the testing process. We have been running out ATS since 7th January 2021. All staff have had certified training to take on their roles and we have had two successful quality assurance visits to check our procedures.

Students complete the test themselves and staff are only there to facilitate and process the test. All students are encouraged to take the test and we urge families to give consent if they have not already (Sixth Formers can provide their own consent) at this link: [LFD Testing Consent Form](#)

Please also be reassured that no one will be forced to test, even if consent has been provided.

Transport

On our return to school our usual transport arrangements will be back up and running in full, and once we have information on confirmed train times, we shall share them with you. Please do remind your child to ensure that if and when travelling on the school buses they sit in their designated seats and if, and when, on the train they do all they can to maximise distance with one another.

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Our journey with Christ



Clinically Extremely Vulnerable Students

If your child falls in to the category of Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) and as a consequence they will not be returning to school from week beginning Monday 8th March, on advice from a GP or the NHS, then please contact Mrs Brown (School Business Manager) on tbrown@hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk to report this and liaise directly with your child's Head of Year about remote education from home.

Uniform and Equipment

It is so important that when students return next week that in order to help get everyone back into routines and habits for positive behaviour and learning that uniform and equipment is at the high standards that we expect and that students reach.

Therefore please take some time over the next week to ensure that your son/daughter has everything they need to be fully prepared for school and learning on their return. This includes ensuring that their learning packs are in their bags and re-stocked. However, we will have resources available with their tutors where items from their learning packs are missing.

If you do have any concerns about uniform or equipment prior to the return to school, please do contact Mr Barratt on gbarratt@hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk who will be more than happy to help and support. This includes any of our disadvantaged families who can apply for support with uniform.

Exams

Yesterday Gavin Williamson (Secretary of State for Education) released the guidance for awarding grades to students who should have been taking formal exams this summer. I have already written separately to parents/carers and students in Years 11 and 13 about this but you can find the guidance [here](#) if you wish.

Junior Bake Off

I know that the national lockdown has inspired many of our students to really embrace baking at home and Ms Hingston (Teacher of Food) has been overwhelmed with examples of home baking. So perhaps now is the time for some of our students to be inspired to find their inner Paul Hollywood or Prue Leith and enter the Junior Bake off. You can find more information by clicking on the advert where you can also apply.



National Teaching Awards

This month the National Teaching Award 2021 categories were announced. Parents/carers and students can nominate teachers in a range of categories should they wish. If anyone is interested in nominating any of our Hagley teachers you can find more information, and links to the nominations forms, at this link: [National Teaching Awards](#)

RE Department Blog Competition

The RE department are currently promoting the RE: ONLINE competition with all students to write a blog of no more than 500 words on "Why does an education in Religion and Worldviews matter." Entries can be word processed or handwritten and should be submitted to students' RE teachers by Wednesday 17th March 2021. The best blog from each year group will win an Amazon voucher and be entered into the national competition to represent Hagley in their Year group where more prizes are available. You can find more information [here](#) or from the RE department.

Year 9 Options

Sadly we were not able to have our annual Year 9 Pathways Evening last night but in the absence of this event Mr Trickett (Assistant Principal, Curriculum) has written to all Year 9 parents/carers today to launch the online resources that are available to Year 9 students and their parent/carers to support their decision for Key Stage 4 which are available on our website [here](#).

Finally it leaves me to wish you every good health, enjoy this late winter/very early spring sunshine and I shall be in touch again next week with more detailed guidance on the return to school protocols.

With every good wish prayer and blessing.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J Hodgson", with a small flourish at the end.

Mr J Hodgson

Principal

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