



Horsforth School

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Our Ref: PCB/TRH

25th June 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones safe and well.

Thank you so much for the messages through the 'Thank a Teacher Day' website. They are massively appreciated and they have really lifted our staff's spirits. I will share the whole school messages with all staff on Monday so thank you again.

Cases

As cases rise in Leeds we have had students with no symptoms who have tested positive using the Lateral Flow tests. This is their purpose and it is a vital part of reducing transmission so please continue to test twice weekly, Sunday evening / Monday morning and Wednesday evening / Thursday morning reporting the results to NHS test and trace (<https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>) and us <https://forms.gle/kngPVeSpMxWZkfP7>

I would like to remind everyone that anyone showing symptoms should not come to school and should try and get a PCR test. Please do not send anyone to school if they have symptoms even if the Lateral Flow test has come back as negative.

Letter from the Secretary of State

Please find the link to a letter from Gavin Williamson regarding regular COVID 19 testing: https://dfemedia.blog.gov.uk/2021/06/18/a-letter-to-secondary-school-and-college-parents-in-england-on-continuing-regular-covid-19-testing-from-gavin-williamson-secretary-of-state-for-education/?utm_source=18%20June%202021%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19

Year 10 - Work Experience

Monday 28th June sees the start of our Virtual Work Experience programme for our Year 10 students. Students will complete a series of activities based on the world of work including hearing from and experiencing live industry talks from professionals across many different sectors.

If your son or daughter is isolating and cannot attend school, they should still participate in this event from home. Students need to simply log on to their school emails and follow the day's itinerary which will be sent to them each day. The event runs until Wednesday 30th June with normal lessons resuming on Thursday 1st July.

'Opportunity and achievement for all'

Character

We are delighted to launch our new Character programme in September 2021. Our Character programme aims to ensure that all of our students develop into healthy, confident and compassionate young adults who are effective and successful learners.

Keep your eyes peeled for a special letter and video which we are sending out later today outlining this great programme – we can't wait for you to see it!

Rewards Week

It has been a challenging year for our students; COVID restrictions have taken away their usual rewards activities and trips. Therefore, I am delighted to announce that this year, students in years 7-10 will have an end of year celebration day on school site in their bubbles in the final week of term.

Whilst this may not be the traditional rewards trip to a theme park, we firmly believe that our students need and deserve a break from routine, to have some fun and to celebrate their achievements together with their peers.

Details about the activities will be coming to you in separate emails. Please do read these, they can contain qualification criteria, itinerary and the finish times for these days, these will be slightly earlier than their usual finish times.

Last Day of Term

We finish this term on July 23rd and as planned School closes for all pupils earlier than normal. Students in years 7 and 10 will finish at 12.10pm and Students in years 8 and 9 will finish at 12.20pm. This is published on our calendar, on our website.

Lost Learning

There is much in the media over the learning lost by students during the pandemic. Whilst it is always better to be in a class with a teacher I can assure you that if your son/daughter has completed all their remote work then they have covered all the content they need to progress and they should not have knowledge gaps.

In every class students can progress at different rates and a skilled teacher can extend and elaborate learning for students who progress quickly whilst at the same time supporting those who need assistance. This is what students who were dedicated over the lockdowns have missed and can only be rectified through being in school or through the live lessons we have provided (though it is much harder remotely). So, whilst there is much in the media over 'catch-up' and 'recovery' I can assure you that our remote learning will mean that all content and knowledge needed was covered.

The learning journeys detailing what your son/daughter has been learning at each half term are on our website and you can click on the links below:

[Year 7](#)

[Year 8](#)

[Year 9](#)

[Year 10](#)

[Year 12](#) (choose the appropriate course and then click the 'what you learn' tile)

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To support revisiting and revision some great resources are available here: Oak National Academy (recorded lessons and activities for all subjects and Years) <https://www.thenational.academy/>

Hegarty Maths (recorded lessons, activities and assessments for maths)
<https://hegartymaths.com/login/learner>

Seneca Learning (great revision resources for most subjects with mini quizzes throughout)
<https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>

We have a support programme for identified students and are putting on a summer school for our incoming Year 6's where some other students may be invited. As a parent you may be worried at what your son/daughter may have missed but please be assured, if they have completed the remote learning they have covered the key building blocks and are on track. All students will be identified, stretched and supported through our in class assessments, the feedback they receive and the expert delivery of our teachers.

Thank you, as always, for your kind messages and your ongoing positivity and resilience.
Take care, stay safe and best wishes.
Yours faithfully

Dr P Bell
Headteacher

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