

Haileybury Turnford

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8th July 2020

Dear Families

Plans for all children and young people to return to full-time education at the start of the autumn term

Following the publication of last week's government guidance for schools, we have been planning in detail how we will safely re-open to all students in September. The safety of all students and staff remains our highest priority and we will be in a position to share full details in the coming days before the end of term. We are working through a very wide range of measures to protect children and staff, and minimise contact and mixing.

We are fully committed to all students returning to school full-time from the start of term in September. However, the 'new normal' will be very different to how school operated previously, and will involve the staggering of break and lunchtimes for different year groups for example, to help to minimise contact and mixing.

The guidance for the full opening of schools from the start of the autumn term can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

Please note that we are not proposing to change term dates for the autumn term. They can be seen on our website here: <https://haileyburyturnford.com/term-dates/>. This means that Year 7 and Year 12 students will return to school on Friday 4th September and students in all other year groups will return to school on Monday 7th September.

GCSE and A Level exams next summer and plans for vocational qualifications

There is currently an Ofqual consultation taking place nationally on proposed changes to the assessment of GCSE and A Level exams for 2021 and a position paper on plans for vocational qualifications, which will directly affect current Year 10 and Year 12 students. Further details can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ofqual-launches-consultation-on-2021-exams-and-assessments>. Once this consultation has concluded and final proposals adopted, I will share further details and implications for us. This consultation closes on 16th July.

Senior staff changes: September 2020

Mr Macaulay and Miss Newman have both been appointed as Assistant Principals from September 2020. Mr Macaulay will be leading our work with Year 10 and Year 11 students and ensure we place the highest possible priority on supporting students in these year groups next year. We will be doing all we can to support their mental health and wellbeing as we return to school, in addition to the focus on supporting them with their studies. He will directly lead our work with Year 11, and work very closely with Ms Johnson as Year Achievement Coordinator for Year 10. Miss Newman will be leading our curriculum work, and teaching and learning in classrooms, to ensure this provision is well planned and delivered to all students across the school.

Student provision in school and at home

It has been excellent to see Year 10 and Year 12 students continuing to work so positively in lessons in school. We have also increased our live lessons on Microsoft Teams, and it has been very good to see student engagement with these lessons in a wide range of subjects. This provision for Year 10 and Year 12 will continue until the end of term on Friday 17th July. It was also excellent to see a big turnout from students on Microsoft Teams for our virtual Year 12 induction last week. Students should ensure they complete transition work to help them prepare for Year 12. We very much look forward to working with our new sixth formers in September. This week we also welcome our new Year 7 students to our virtual transition day – we have prepared lots of interesting virtual learning materials to give students a great taste of their new school. We very much look forward to our new students joining us in September and welcoming new families to our HT community.

In the final week of the school year, next week, we have our Challenge Week for students in Years 7, 8 and 9. More details will be sent to families in these year groups with information about how to be fully involved, which will include our virtual Sports Day too. There are lots of Challenge Points on offer, and we will announce the winners of this year's House Competition at the end of term.



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Principal: Robin Newman MSc MBA

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Registered office: Haileybury Academy Trust, London Road, Hertford Heath, Hertford, Hertfordshire, SG13 7NU

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IT devices for disadvantaged students

I have been thrilled by the response to the launch of our IT device donation scheme. Following on from a substantial donation from a former student, we have received further donations from families and friends of the school in previous days, taking the total donated so far to nearly £5,000. This has been a quite amazing response to improve our IT device provision. In addition, we have received some laptop donations which we will loan out to students to support with their learning from home. Our DfE laptops and 4G routers have also arrived and we are in the process of delivering these to students. All donations of any amount make a direct impact on our students – thank you for all contributions received. Should any family wish to donate, please contact me directly via email at newmanr@haileyburyturnford.com.

Continued positive feedback from families

Very kind sentiments have continued to be passed on by families, praising the school's support and communication since we closed back in March. Thank you for taking the time to do this. During what has been a very difficult and challenging few months for families, students and staff, this feedback provides a real boost for us as we continue to do all we can to support our students.

"Communication has been excellent: texts, notifications about achievement points, phone calls and newsletters ... It is clear from the calls and info sent out that HT are supporting our students holistically and at an individual level academically and beyond. It's not just about the work, but also about the student themselves ... and this gives great confidence in HT."

Please also look out for an article on our lockdown learning in this week's Mercury.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



Robin Newman
Principal



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