



HEDINGHAM SCHOOL
AND SIXTH FORM
ACHIEVEMENT & EXCELLENCE

5 February 2021

Official Sensitive

Dear Parent/Guardian

Home Learning Update

As we near the end of week 5 of this half term and period of remote provision, it seems to feel that it has been much, much longer! We have always regarded student engagement as such an important feature of learning and as such, we are grateful for your continued support with encouraging and helping our students with their school work whilst we operate from a distance. Motivation is always a challenge as we near the end of a half term and in current circumstances even more so. Hopefully, students can muster the energy to continue their efforts for the last week before half term.

Successes:

- General levels of student engagement have continued to rise. Our internal data suggests that 73% of students across the school have been identified as having good or better engagement in their learning. Considering the many challenges that families are facing at this time as well as the very different nature of lessons, we are delighted with this.
- We sent out a large volume of subject specific postcards which recognised the hard work of students over first few weeks of the half term. Feedback indicates that these have been well received and I hope that they acted as a motivator for your children.
- We have run Q&A events for parents in Years 7, 8 and 9. Many thanks to those who attended, it was good to have the opportunity to answer some of your questions.

Areas of Development:

- Our priority is to try and maintain student motivation and momentum with learning. We are looking at ways to provide a coordinated and structured break from screens that allow for students to engage in enrichment type activities. We hope that this complements some of the curricular tasks and allows for some variety in a day.
- We are looking more closely at the engagement and progress agenda and have considered ways in which we can open communication channels with this information that we have now collated in school.

Next Steps:

- We have scheduled an Engagement Review Day (Friday 12 December) for Years 7-10, in which parents can discuss their child's engagement level made by teachers in each subject. We hope that this will allow for a deeper two-way discussion rather than just posting a sequence of numerical data.
- We will be running a Year 11 Academic Review Day on Monday 22 February where parents can discuss progress and engagement with subject teachers.
- We have planned a Year 13 Academic Review week in March for student meetings with teachers to discuss progress following topic tests that start the week beginning 22 February.
- We will be publishing a collection of amazing student work that has been produced by students over the last few weeks. We wanted to celebrate some of their incredible achievements during this period of remote learning.
- We are acutely aware of the fact that variety is a vital feature of a successful remote offer. As such, as we enter the last week before the half term holiday, we would like to offer students an extra-curricular option in addition to their home learning programme. Starting the week beginning Monday 8 February, students have the opportunity to take part in daily sports challenges. The sports challenge will be introduced each day by Mr Sergeant, Head of PE, via Microsoft Teams. The information will be recorded and can be accessed via students Well-Being Team at any time. Mr Sergeant will email the access details directly to all students. Students can complete the daily sports challenge, and enter individual results via Teams. Students will receive individual house points, which will contribute to an overall House competition.

Therefore, students can opt to complete the sports challenge activities at any time, entering results before the deadline of Friday 26 February.

It is important to note that this is entirely optional for students. This is being offered as a practical alternative that might motivate and enthuse students.

Support:

- Details of how to make bookings for parental meetings will be circulated shortly. Following this information, if you need further clarification please contact the school.
- Thank you for all the support this half term, as well as the constructive feedback that you have offered.
- If you do have particular concerns, please contact Mrs Cook, Assistant Headteacher, via her email address as follows: hed.cookn@hedingham.essex.sch.uk

Your sincerely



Mr P Finch
Deputy Headteacher

Yours sincerely



Mrs N Cook
Assistant Headteacher

Headteacher • Andrew Harvison BSc (Hons) PGCE NPQH

Yeldham Road • Sible Hedingham • Essex • CO9 3QH • Telephone 01787 460470

e-mail: enquiries@hedingham.essex.sch.uk • Website: www.hedingham.essex.sch.uk • Registered Company No. 8330173



Approved
Centre

