



HEDINGHAM SCHOOL
AND SIXTH FORM
ACHIEVEMENT & EXCELLENCE

15 January 2021

Official Sensitive

Dear Parent/Guardian

I hope you are all well and the students have been coping with the demands of lockdown and Home Learning. In this letter I will focus on the following areas:

- Remote Learning
- Attendance
- Engagement
- Live Q&A events
- Careers

Remote Learning:

We have generally been very pleased with the commitment and engagement by our upper school students. We also understand that to maintain motivation and commitment during this unsettled period is challenging, particularly for our Year 11 and Year 13 students. Teachers are providing students with a balanced programme, offering a variety of learning experiences. Therefore, their programme will consist of live lesson opportunities integrated with independent, assignment based tasks. There are also drop-in sessions with English, Maths and Science in which students can seek extra support and guidance. Other subject areas also offer additional sessions to focus on specific areas of the curriculum or address individual needs. Assessment of progress will be integrated in the programme, which will reflect the particular year group. Please ensure your son/daughter continues to engage with their school programme. Attendance and engagement to all sessions is vitally important for student progress.

Attendance:

From Monday 18 January, student attendance to lessons will be monitored. Any absence will be communicated to you through text or email. Obviously, if there are technical issues, illness or any other reasons why students are unable to access the work then please inform the school through the normal routes.

Engagement:

We are currently collating data related to engagement within lessons, which includes the quality of tasks completed. Phone calls are being made to parents of students who have demonstrated limited engagement levels. We all need to work together on this and please encourage your son/daughter to establish regular routines and complete work to the best of their ability. Overall, engagement in the upper school has been positive but there are some concerns with pockets of students. Once again, if there are genuine reasons related to issues with laptops and devices or internet difficulties, please let us know and we will support.

Live Parent Q&A Sessions:

Thank you for all those parents who attended the live Q&A on Wednesday evening. The purpose of the evening was to reassure yourselves about our approach at Hedingham. More importantly, the feedback and questions from yourselves is vitally important for us as we progress forward. Understandably, there is natural anxiety around assessments and grades. Mr Finch and his team will ensure that there is a clarity and transparency with you and ensure that students will always be well prepared for any future assessments. We will also ensure that any further developments from Ofqual and the DfE will be communicated as soon as possible. We will be running Year 10 and Year 12 live Q&A events on Wednesday 20 January.

Year 10 Live Q&A:	5.00 pm
Year 12 Live Q&A:	6.00 pm

Please attend through the link under the Coronavirus section of the school website.

Careers:

Mr Batch, Leader of Vocational Education, will be working with his team to provide you with a 'Careers Newsletter' every two weeks. This will keep you informed about any events taking place over the next few months. It also provides support and guidance through relevant websites. Mr Hyde and Mr Batch are key school contacts if you would like to discuss Sixth Form applications or advice on next steps.

Finally, I would like to thank you for the positive emails, letters and phone calls received over the last week. They have provided a real 'boost' for all our staff. As always, we all need to take a well-deserved rest over the weekend and regroup again on Monday for another busy week!

Take care everyone.

Yours sincerely



Mr A Harvison
Headteacher

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