

27th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Update from Highgate Wood School (No. 10)

As ever, I hope that you are all well, that you have had a good week, and hopefully you have had some opportunity to enjoy the summer weather.

On site year 10 English, maths and science Progress Tutorials – Now weekly rather than fortnightly

Last week and this week, we saw the return on site of our year 10 students to attend progress tutorials in English, maths and science. Over the last fortnight, we have invited the year 10s to come in once. We wanted to start slowly too see how things went. They went very well indeed, with students being fully engaged and staff feeling good about doing what they do best. As a result, from next Monday 29th June we will increase this to once a week. If you are a parent or carer of a year 10 student, you should have received specific information regarding when your child is scheduled to come in for their progress tutorials. If you have not yet heard anything, please let us know. Should you have any queries about this, please e-mail Mr Hewitt - Deputy Head (che@hws.haringey.sch.uk)

Year 11s – Making contact

We are very conscious that our year 11s have been left in limbo at home for quite a while since they were informed they had no exams to prepare for. It has been a strange time for them and we have decided to make contact with our year 11s and their families to

- see how they are doing (checking their well-being)
- making sure they have the details needed for ordering their hoodies, contributing to their yearbook and the virtual celebration event outlined by Mr Hartley in his recent letter.
- ensure they know about the arrangements for collecting exam results in August (especially in these Covid-19 times)
- check that they are clear about what they will be doing post August in regards to their further education choices. If they have applied to the 6th form we will also be clarifying the enrolment process once they have collected their exam results

We have asked our year 11 form tutors to contact families before the end of the academic year to have these conversations.

Assessments in September for current year 10 and year 12 students

In September, when our year 10s become year 11 and our year 12s become year 13, we will be running some assessments early in the term. These assessments are nothing to be anxious about. The main purpose is for us to confirm where students are at so that we can plan our teaching moving forward as those students prepare for their exams next summer. We will also use the outcomes to help inform predicted grades, but they will only be part of what is considered.

Highgate Wood School Student Council supports individual action to address the issues of Climate Change and promotes the United Nations top 10 recommendations.



5-minute showers



Drive less



Lights off



Local produce



Recycle



Meat-free meals



Zero-waste fashion



Unplug



Refill and reuse



Bring your own bag

It is most likely that these assessments will be done in class rather than in the hall as we want to keep them relatively low-key – we do not want to create any unnecessary pressure if we can avoid it. These assessments will not replace the mock exams that we schedule for each of these year groups later in the term (year 11) and early spring term (year 13).

Planning for September return – an update

I shared the table below with you last Friday. You may recall that we are planning for each of the four scenarios below, but that we are particularly focused on scenarios 2 and 3 as we think they are the most likely.

Scenario 1	Covid-19 disappears completely over the summer and the risk of contracting Covid-19 has been eliminated Full school return in September
Scenario 2	The risk level of contracting Covid-19 is lower than now but not eliminated This would probably mean that we could have half the school in at any time
Scenario 3	The risk level of contracting Covid-19 is something like now This is likely to see Year 11/Year 13 in school significantly more than other year groups, whose main provision would be remote learning
Scenario 4	The risk of a severe second spike is high School would be closed to all students

Since then you will probably be aware that the Prime Minister has announced that the Government plan to open all schools fully in September (scenario 1). However, at the moment, this is just a stated intention and from experience, we have seen such statements alter and, in some cases, get retracted. There has been no official guidance.

My view is that this is a highly ambitious objective by the government and although I welcome this, I am also clear that we will proceed with caution. Until such time that we receive official guidance from the Government, we will continue to plan for all four scenarios. The emphasis for us at HWS is safety first. Irrespective of the Government's position, I want to reassure parents that we will make decisions about how we re-open based on our ability to do so safely.

Summary of current provision

Over the coming weeks, we will continue with our current provision shown in the table below.

Provision	Staff Contact
Years 7 and 8 – Continued online learning and one Google Meet online progress tutorial before the end of term	Mr Hewitt (che@hws.haringey.sch.uk)
Year 9 - Continued online learning; one Google Meet online progress tutorial before the end of term; Year 9 transition support (see below)	Ms Burniston (jbu@hws.haringey.sch.uk)
KS3/KS4 Small School – on site provision for children of critical workers and vulnerable students	Ms Burniston (jbu@hws.haringey.sch.uk)
Year 10 English, maths and science progress tutorials – 3 hours per week on site)	Mr Hewitt (che@hws.haringey.sch.uk)
Year 10 other subjects - Continued online learning and one Google Meet online progress tutorial before the end of term	Mr Hewitt (che@hws.haringey.sch.uk)

Year 11 – Transition to A level booklets; Phone call home to support transition to Post 16	Mr Hartley (aha@hws.haringey.sch.uk)
Year 12 - online video lessons and progress tutorials	Ms Pinnick (lpi@hws.haringey.sch.uk)
Year 12 Small School – on site provision for vulnerable year 12 students	Ms Pinnick (lpi@hws.haringey.sch.uk)
Year 13 - Transition to university tasks; Phone call home from form tutor to support transition to university	Ms Pinnick (lpi@hws.haringey.sch.uk)

Please note, the Google Meets referred to above for years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will be scheduled by individual teachers. We would ask that parents/carers and students check Show My Homework and Google Classroom to see the times that we are scheduling. If you have any queries about the Google Meet, sessions please contact the appropriate contact from the list in the table above.

Year 9 transition support and options

We will be running some transition activities for our year 9s preparing them for their GCSEs in September. These will be run over two days (Monday 13th July and Tuesday 14th July). During those two days year 9s will have a Welcome to GCSEs assembly, an introduction session for each of the GCSEs that they have opted for and some advice from current year 10 students on what to expect and lessons learnt. We are excited to run these activities, which we think, will be both informative and engaging for year 9s. If you have any queries about this, please contact Ms Burniston Assistant Headteacher (jbu@hws.haringey.sch.uk).

Linked to this, Ms Chaudhri has asked me to remind parents and carers of year 9 students that you will be receiving confirmation of the subjects your child will be studying next year on July 1st. As always, we have tried as best we can to make sure that your child gets the subjects that they wanted to. If there are any queries about this, please contact Ms Chaudhri Assistant Headteacher (sci@hws.haringey.sch.uk).

Uniform

Parents and carers will soon start thinking about replenishing their uniform stocks for September. There are a couple of things that I wanted to mention in relation to that.

- **Old Uniform Items** – We welcome any old uniform items that your children have grown out of or from year 11 leavers. From Monday 29th June, there will be a box in the school reception where parents and carers can donate uniform (between 8:00 – 17:00). The PSA will be collecting these and arranging a resale on the school site during the summer break. Please ensure that anything that you donate is in a good condition and that it was been appropriately cleaned and washed before donating please. We will alert all parents (including our new families) of the date of the 2nd hand uniform sale later in the term.
- **Ties** – These are changing from September for all year groups (apart from year 10s moving into year 11). New years 7 to 10 will now have ties that are based on year colours rather than house colours so please do not order any new house coloured ties. We will share more details about this in the next couple of weeks, but I wanted to flag that up now.

Parent/Carer Fund (PCF)

I am once more repeating the notice regarding our Parent/Carer Fund. The PCF allows our parents and carers to donate to the school. We have a significant project planned with regards to renovating parts of the dining hall and playground to provide a better and more comfortable dining experience for our students when school returns. This includes having outdoor covered spaces and support for the implementation of split lunches. The plans at a considerable cost, as I am sure you can imagine. We intend to prioritise our PCF to support this work and would very much welcome any donations.

For more information on the Parent Carer Fund please visit <https://bit.ly/hwsfundraising> on the school website, or you can go direct to <http://bit.ly/hwsdonate> to set up a donation.

We are always grateful to receive any donations that families can afford to make. However, I would like to continuously impress upon you that all donations are voluntary and that no one should ever feel pressured into donating money that they cannot afford.

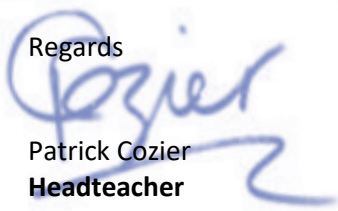
Support information for Parents and Carers

Again, rather than repeat the links and notices regarding support and helplines for parents and carers, we have published these on our COVID blog at <http://bit.ly/hwscovid4>. Here you will find the links that were contained in my last letter and elsewhere, a link for critical workers to register with the school and contact details to apply for Free School Meals.

I would like to again stress that families whose circumstances have changed who may now be eligible for Free School Meals should apply to the Local Authority without delay. We need to complete arrangements for the summer FSM allowance at least a week before the end of term and can only do this for families whose application has been submitted and approved by the Local Authority and we have then been alerted by them.

Take care and stay safe!

Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cozier', with a flourish underneath.

Patrick Cozier
Headteacher