



# Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## Important Dates

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                         |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> October</li><li>• Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October</li><li>• Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October</li><li>• Monday 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> October</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Big Draw</li><li>• World Food Day</li><li>• Governors meeting</li><li>• Half term</li></ul> |
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## School Notice

CONTINUE TO CHECK SCHOOL GATEWAY AND SCHOOL WEBSITE FOR REGULAR UPDATES

## CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) – WORKING TOGETHER TO KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

Letter for parents about COVID-19 symptoms [NHS](#)

### Face Masks

Your daughter should bring a face mask to school every day, plus a spare mask if using a single use mask. These will need to be stored in a sealable plastic bag. Masks must be worn as pupils move around the school building and in communal areas. Please inform us if your daughter is exempt from the existing face covering obligations, due to an underlying health condition, if so she will continue to be exempt from these new obligations.

Please remember to:

- **HANDS** - Wash your hands regularly and for at least 20 seconds with running water, soap and sanitiser.
- **FACE** - Cover your face in enclosed spaces, especially where social distancing may be difficult and where you will come into contact with people you do not normally meet.
- **SPACE** - Stay 2 metres apart where possible, or 1 metre with extra precautions in place.

If your child develops symptoms associated with COVID-19 whilst at home, please keep them at home and follow the process outlined below.



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If your child develops symptoms associated with COVID-19 whilst at school, we will isolate them immediately. We will contact you and require that you collect them immediately from school. Please take them straight home and follow the same process outlined below.

## Step One: CONTACT

the NHS and request a COVID-19 Test from them online or by calling 119. Do not visit your GP, pharmacy, hospital or other healthcare provider. Call 999 if emergency care is needed.

## Step Two: ISOLATE

Your child should isolate for 10 days after symptoms appear and other people in your household should isolate for 14-days.

## Step Three: TEST

Get a test. Keep your child at home until she gets her results.

## Step Four: RESULTS

You should receive your results within 72 hours. If the test is negative, your daughter and household may stop isolating although they must not return to school until they are well.

**Please inform us of a negative test result immediately.**

## Step Five: A POSITIVE TEST RESULT

If your child tests positive for Coronavirus, contact tracers will contact you to inform you of the isolation regulations you will need to follow. **Please inform us of a positive test result immediately.**



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## Local Lockdown – HELPING TO KEEP BIRMINGHAM SAFE

Please familiarise yourself with the local lockdown requirements for Birmingham.

**Information on local restrictions** <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/birmingham-sandwell-and-solihull-local-restrictions>

### Affected local areas:

- Birmingham (city council area)
- Sandwell (metropolitan borough council area)
- Solihull (metropolitan borough council area)
- Wolverhampton (city council area), from Tuesday 22 September



**If your child has:**  
a high temperature  
a new, continuous cough, or  
a loss of, or change in, sense of  
smell or taste

This could be a sign of  
coronavirus

[Book a test](#)

**If your child has:**  
a runny nose, is sneezing or  
feeling unwell  
But they don't have:  
a high temperature  
a new, continuous cough, or  
a loss of, or change in,  
sense of smell or taste

These are  
**not normally symptoms of  
coronavirus**

Seek advice from a pharmacy, dial  
111 or see your GP

**Government guidance updates:** <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

**NHS Test and Trace** has launched the [NHS COVID-19 app](#). The app has been launched to help control the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). It will do this by alerting people who may have been exposed to infection so that they can take action.

The app is available to download on smartphones for anyone aged 16 or over. This means that some students in year 11, students in years 12, 13 and in further education colleges will be eligible to use the app and benefit from its features.



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## School Information

### **Free School Meals:**

If your daughter is in receipt of Free School Meals, she is credited with £2 to spend on food at lunchtime. Pupils should take care to make sure they are not overspending; if they do overspend, parents/carers will need to add additional funds to their ParentPay account to cover costs above £2. If pupils are not sure about the cost of items, they should check the displays carefully where food is served or ask a member of staff.

### **School Office:**

In the interests of adhering to social distancing you should only visit the school office if it is absolutely necessary. We are trying to limit the number of visitors by asking our parents/carers to ensure that their daughter is fully equipped for the school day (lunch, school equipment, face mask etc.) Please be aware that only one person of the family will be allowed in at any time. We ask that all queries are emailed to [enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk) or you can call on 0121 464 3094.

**Reminder for Parents/Carers:** Pupils should arrive promptly at their allocated time. Supervision of pupils only starts when pupils are on school site at their bubble start time. School staff are unable to intervene off the school site and, therefore, request that parents and pupils adhere to social distancing on the journey to school.

**Parent Pay:** Parent Pay accounts will need to be topped up online as we are unable to accept money in school at this time. Please remember to activate your Parent Pay account.

## Subject Information

### **GCSE Pod:**

342 pods were watched in the last week, with History, English Literature and French the most accessed subjects. 9 pupils – all in Years 10 and 11 - watched 10 or more pods in the last week. Every pupil who watches over 10 pods a week is rewarded with a positive point on ClassCharts.

Parents/carers may wish to encourage their daughters to sign up for a special GCSE Pod webinar on motivation and mindset; details can be found on <https://www.gcsepod.com/free-resources/cameron-parker-webinar>

### **Year 10 and 11 Mock Exams:**

Year 11 will be taking a full set of mock exams in November as they continue their GCSE preparation; please ensure that your daughter has begun her preparation and is revising in readiness for these. A mock exam timetable will be provided in due course. All Year 11 pupils have been provided with, where relevant, a range of revision guides to support their preparation.



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Pupils should also be making regular use of GCSE Pod, Tassomai and Hegarty Maths to help their revision.

Year 10 will take a mock exam in November in English Literature only.

**School Leavers:** For ex-pupils who have not collected their certificates could you please arrange a time with the Examination Officer to collect your certificates via email. If you currently have siblings at Hodge Hill Girls' School can you give consent via email. [n.queshi@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk](mailto:n.queshi@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk)

**JCQ Information** has been updated on the school website for students doing their GCSE's. This information will help them plan well for their mock exams and for some students sitting external exams in November. If they have any exam-related queries to contact Ms Qureshi via email on [n.queshi@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk](mailto:n.queshi@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk).

- **Value of the month – 'Respect'** Please discuss this value with your daughter. To support please use the following link. [Poster link](#)
- **Thought for the week: 'Auspicious'** see [PowerPoint](#) presentation and [video](#).

## Message to all Pupils: Art Department



**The Big Draw** campaigns to shine a light on the need for drawing and its role as a tool for expression, creativity, learning and sharing ideas. Drawing, in all its forms, helps us make sense of a rapidly changing world around us. It is a global language which cuts across all barriers of culture, race and identity.

This year the theme is A Climate of Change focuses on the relationship between people and our living environments and ecosystems; highlighting how we live today and the ways in which we do and do not harmonise with nature. Click on the link for further details.

[The BIG Draw website](#)



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**Citizenship:** School has acquired funding to be able to use the eportal section of the 'Shout Out UK' programme. Shout Out encourages students to study about political literacy and lots of other things such as media and the government.

It is a great resource and results in students getting a certificate every time they complete a course. If students are interested in looking at the information and gaining some extra certificates then please speak to or email [s.barron@hodgehqs.bham.sch.uk](mailto:s.barron@hodgehqs.bham.sch.uk), to gain a log in and password for the website. For more information check out the website below.  
<https://www.shoutoutuk.org/>



**Food Technology:** BNF be healthy 28th September- 4th October. The 7 health challenges. Click on the link for more information. [BNF Health Challenge](#)

**World Food Day 16<sup>th</sup> October:** Create a piece of art to highlight the amount of food that is wasted and ways to reduce it. Work creatively to any size, from an art history period and use materials of your choice. Your competition entry must have your full name & form on it. Competition deadline is **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November**. See link for more ideas

- <https://friendsoftheearth.uk/food-waste>
- <https://www.widewalls.ch/magazine/food-in-art-history>

**Teen BookTalk:** The Library of Birmingham has launched a virtual book group and podcast for teenagers. Teen BookTalk is a reading group with two strands. The first discusses an eBook sample whilst the 2nd discusses the whole book. Teenagers are encouraged to join one or both strands. It is hoped that reluctant readers, who would be put off by having to read a whole book will be encouraged to get involved. You can find the [first episodes here](#).

If your daughter is interested in reading 'The Hate U Give By Angie Thomas', 'The Bunker Diary by Kevin Brooks', 'Internment by Samira Ahmed', or 'A Skinful of Shadows by Frances Hardinge', are aged 13 to 17, and would like to take part in future episodes, email the library at [enquiries@libraryofbirmingham.com](mailto:enquiries@libraryofbirmingham.com) and put Teen BookTalk in the subject line. <https://soundcloud.com/library-of-birmingham/sets> - Children's Library at the Library of Birmingham.