



Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

27th April 2020

Important Dates for your Diary

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Friday 1st May• Thursday 7th May
• Friday 8th May• Sunday 14 June 2020 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• National Share a Story Month• Make a Mug Make a Difference competition closes• VE Day• Inspire Art competition closes |
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CHECK SCHOOL GATEWAY AND SCHOOL WEBSITE FOR REGULAR UPDATES.

❖ **Parents/Carers should not be coming onto the school site.**

FSM update:

Edenred have been issuing vouchers in a scheme coordinated by the government. You should be receiving an email which includes a 16-digit eCode each week; details are included in this information guide:

https://www.edenred.co.uk/Documents/DfE/DfE_FreeSchoolMeals_ParentCarerFAQs.pdf

School staff have worked to ensure that we have the correct email details for the family contact who will be able to redeem the eCode; if your daughter is eligible for Free School Meals and you do not receive an email from Edenred, please contact enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk. Please check your inbox, clutter, and junk for the emails from Edenred. We expect these to be sent to parents each Monday during the period of school closure.

Please note that there is a huge national demand to access the Free School Meals information as per the information guide; the government is working to upgrade systems to increase capacity and you may have to wait in an online queue. If you are unable to access the relevant information, please contact school on enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk.

If your circumstances have changed and you think that your daughter may now be eligible for Free School Meals, please follow the link on the school website to check. If you are eligible, the school is automatically informed, and we will then place orders for Free School Meal vouchers; you may be contacted by our staff to check that we have an up-to-date email address.



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Edenred have recently issued this further information for parents following some difficulties earlier this week:

For Edenred distributed eCodes:

- You may have entered the incorrect eCode. Please try to enter your eCode again. If your code is still not accepted please delete the browsing history on your device – as your device may be storing the incorrect code in its memory.

If you are still experiencing problems, please use the contact details below for further support.

For parents/carers: freeschoolmealparentscarers@edenred.com

The school office is now closed – You can contact us by enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk email.

Please include information in the subject box so that the most appropriate person responds to your query. Some of our staff may be unable to respond due to illness and while we will be trying our best, we will not be able to respond in the usual manner.

Due to the low update of in school provision, we will only be opening the school when supervision has been booked in advance. If you wish to send your child into school, you must qualify for this provision by meeting one of the following criteria:

- Families where **all** adults in the household are Key workers, they are required in work during school hours and the children are **not** old enough to take care of themselves. In line with new guidance we will be asking parents to provide evidence that they are key workers providing their services at the time that childcare provision is being requested.
- EHCP students
- Children who would be considered vulnerable due to Social services involvement.

As you can imagine, we need to keep these numbers as low as possible to protect the children attending and the staff required on site to oversee this provision. Please can you therefore think carefully before requesting provision.

If you require provision **between Monday 4th May – Friday 29th May** please contact enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk leaving a contact telephone number and the specific supervision requirements (days, times, reasons support is required). It is essential that the



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provision is requested at least **48 hours** in advance so that we can ensure the correct level of staffing.

A reminder to all parents/carers who have not yet logged on to School Gateway: please note all school related communication, particularly regarding the current school closure, will be accessible via School Gateway. If you cannot use School Gateway for any reason, please contact the school on enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk

You can download the School Gateway App via your app store for free. Please visit <https://schoolgateway.co.uk> for further details.

PACT: noun (with somebody) (to do something) a formal agreement between two or more people, groups or countries, especially one in which they agree to help each other.
(ref: Oxford English Dictionary)

The Hodge Hill Girls' School Community is proposing to have a **PACT** to share good news with each other while we are working away from school. If you have any photos of work, things that you are doing and that you are prepared to share, please send them to the following address: enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk with PACT in the subject box.

These should cover any of the following areas:

P	Physical - e.g. ways that you are keeping fit.
A	Academic - a recent piece of work that you are proud of.
C	Creative - something where you have shown creativity.
T	Teamwork - something where you have worked as part of a team e.g. doing chores around the house, supporting someone in the community.

- **Value of the month – ‘Optimism’** Please discuss this value with your daughter. To support please use the following links. [Poster 1](#), [Poster 2](#), [Poster 3](#) and a [Game](#).
- **Thought for the week: ‘Belonging’** see [PowerPoint](#) presentation and [video](#).
- **Say ‘Thank you’ to a teacher today:** Click on the following link showing you how to say thank you to a teacher <https://thankateacher.co.uk/>



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Additional Resources:

We will look to share with you some additional sites that may be useful each week. There are so many wonderful websites to assist learning at home.

Solihull 6th Form College: wanted to alert you to some resources their teachers have put together for Year 11 students. They have a page on their website dedicated to bridging the gap between GCSE and A level/BTEC and you can view it at <https://www.solihullsfsc.ac.uk/bridging-the-gap/>. If you scroll down this page you will see that there are links for all A level and BTEC courses. Students are being encouraged to click on the links relevant to them (i.e. the courses they are planning on studying in Year 12). For each of these subjects they will find suggested reading, activities and links to useful podcasts, videos and other online resources. None of this work is compulsory, but hope it will help keep students academically stimulated, whilst preparing them for the challenge of advanced level study.

Maths Report:

It has been nice to see that many of our pupils have been working hard on Math's tasks during lockdown. Year 7 have completed 155 hours of work on Math's Whizz whilst other year groups have done 1447 hours of work on Hegarty Math's.

Well done to 8g/Ma1 who are currently spending the most time on Hegarty, closely followed by 7h/Ma1, 9g/Ma1 and 9h/Ma1. All these groups have achieved over 100 hours of learning at home.

Keep up the good work.

Get creative:

VE Day 8th May: Please click on the link showing a 'READ, WATCH and DO' list for pupils and families with ideas of activities to do from home to mark the 75th anniversary of VE day. [Click here.](#)



Change for Life: Is a government initiative that looks at supporting families trying to stay active at home, Mental Wellbeing tips for parents and dinners made easy. You can access this on the Change for Life website or download the app onto your phone.

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life>

- **Play Bingo:** Have some fun and click on the following link and see how many activities you can complete. [Wellbeing Bingo](#)



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- **'Make a mug, make a difference' competition:** Use your creative skills to celebrate the NHS and design a new mug in this fabulous competition.
www.royalcrownderby.co.uk/makeadifference
- **Inspire Art Competition now open:** This year the competition is called **What I Can See**, designed to help us all think about things in our homes, gardens, skies, views, and even in our imaginations and thoughts. Click on this link for further details:
<https://www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/blog/posts/inspire-20-now-open> Entries must be received by **5pm on Sunday 14 June 2020**.



- The key stage 2, 3 and 4 competition is being offered as a free activity for UK students during the coronavirus lockdown. It has been launched by TG Escapes – providers of bespoke eco-buildings for education and experts in the field of building design – in partnership with SecEd. A competition to imagine and design the Outdoor Learning Centre of the Future has been launched for students – with the winning entries to be turned into fully rendered architectural designs. [Click here for further details.](#)



Blue Peter Badge:

While you are away from school take the opportunity to work towards one or more of the Blue Peter badges. Whatever your skills or talents you will find a badge to suit you. These badges will allow you free entry into numerous attractions locally and around the UK in the future. Click on the badge to see how you can earn yours.

- **TCDT:** The Creative Dimension Trust has been busy organising an exciting range of online workshops, including Puppet Making, Mask Making and Architectural Paper Folding, that will start from Friday 3rd April 2020. [Get Creative BBC Bitesize:](#) are providing daily lessons online for Primary, Secondary and Post 16. Plan your home schooling with Bitesize Daily: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>
- **The Week Junior Magazine:** Please see the link below to the current edition of The Week Junior, including the inspiring story of Captain Tom Moore and his fundraising efforts for the NHS: [Click here.](#)
- **Several new resources have been released that you might find useful:**
Oak National Academy: <https://www.thenational.academy/>
BBC Bitesize: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>
Audible: <https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>
- **Gov.Uk:** Do you want to enhance your skills? The government has produced this toolkit that you may want to use to develop your skills for the workplace. [New free online learning platform to boost workplace skills](#)
- **Flash Academy Language:** Flash Academy are offering all existing schools a free upgrade of the learning platform to allow every student at Hodge Hill Girls' School access



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during this period of closure. There is excellent content on the app for Modern Foreign Languages, EAL and English/Literacy so there is enough content beneficial to all our learners. Instructions on how to download the app [Click](#) here.

- **Pearson free e-books:** For parents and children free e-book access to textbooks, no password or login required. [Click online for further details.](#)

Safeguarding and Wellbeing

We are aware that this may be a worrying time for adults and children. We have therefore extended the resources on our website around Safeguarding and Wellbeing.

[Kooth.com](#) the award winning and innovative online counselling and support service is now available to all young people aged 11-25 across Birmingham. It is a safe, confidential and anonymous way for young people to access emotional wellbeing and early intervention mental health support. Kooth is widely used across the country and is well rated by young people.

We have updated the school website to include support for pupils and families around Safeguarding and Wellbeing <https://www.hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk/safeguarding>. This includes a link to local food banks. [Food Bank link.](#)

[Mental health support offer - Birmingham and Solihull CCG](#)

A range of new, easily accessible mental health support is now available for patients in Birmingham and Solihull, based around four groups: 0-18-year olds in Birmingham www.birminghamandsolihullccg.nhs.uk

Across the past few weeks our family and working lives have changed. Much is now different for us all, but hopefully only for a while. Adjustment takes time, so be mindful of how your feeling. Please read the attached document from Barnardo's offering advice: [Read me](#)

- **How to manage anxiety:** Please read the following attachment to give you tips and guidance with coping with anxiety while going through COVID-19. [Document](#)

Parents/Carers tips for helping your child manage their emotions and behaviour at home: [open me](#)

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

As you will be aware through news coverage the Government is frequently updating their response to the global issue of Coronavirus. Keep up to date and follow the latest guidance during this period at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>



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➤ **Advice for keeping healthy and well:**

These links give practical help and advice if self-isolating or you need further support at this time. [Helpful link](#).

➤ **Maintaining Good Health:** [Advice link](#)

➤ **Handwashing advice:** Watch this short NHS film for guidance [video](#)

BE AWARE OF SCAMS: [Be-vigilant-against-coronavirus-scams](#) Not everyone is out to help. Please be alert to fraudulent activity and scams.

Birmingham Educational Psychology Service is providing a telephone helpline for any parent or carers of children, who feel they would benefit from a consultation with a psychologist to support them with any concerns arising at this time, for them or their families. [Helpline information](#)

Staying Safe Online:

While your daughter is away from school take particular care to monitor her online and social media usage. Do you know who she is contacting? Are the platforms she is using appropriate for her age? Are you aware of the content/images that she is posting? Further guidance can be found on our website at this link <https://www.hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk/parents/online-safety>

Government Guidance Staying Safe Online:

More people are working from home, looking after children and spending time online. Further guidance can be found by clicking on the following link <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-staying-safe-online>

A Farewell message:

As the Summer Term begins, we say goodbye to Miss O'Hagan. Join us in thanking Miss O'Hagan for all her hard work and support with Year 7 at Hodge Hill Girls' School and wish her all the very best for the future. We would also like to welcome back Mrs Khatun, who was on maternity leave, as Pastoral Manager for Year 7. We look forward to working with her again and wish her all the very best in her role.