



# Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

## Important Dates

- |                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021</li><li>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021</li><li>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Staff Training Day – school closed to pupils</li><li>Year 11 Pupils return to school at 8:20am</li><li>All year groups to return to school</li></ul> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Due to changes to the planned return to school in January 2021 it is important that you are checking School Gateway/emails and the school website for updates from the Headteacher.**

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

If your daughter develops symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19 within 48 hours of being in school, before Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December, you must inform the school with your daughter's full name, form group and date of birth by using the following email

- [covid-alert@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk](mailto:covid-alert@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk)

After Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December you do not need to inform school until Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021. This email will be monitored during the school holiday. This information can also be found in the end of term school letter. <https://www.hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk/latest-news/parent-letters>

For all the latest information go to <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

## School Information

### Return to school timings

Please arrive on time to go straight into school. Pupils should have the correct school uniform and equipment for **Week B**.

Year 7	8.00am
Year 8	8.10am
Year 9	8.40am
Year 10	8.30am
Year 11	8.20am





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## External Examinations:

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	Creative Imedia
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2021	The Principles of Training Nutrition
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> February 2021	Health and Wellbeing

**Year 11 Parents/Carers:** Can you please complete the following survey for the virtual Parents Evening that was held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Click [Survey](#)

## Face Masks

Upon your daughter's return to school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January your daughter **MUST** still bring a face mask into school every day which must be worn as she moves around the school building and in communal areas. If you have informed the school that your daughter is exempt due to medical reasons, she will be issued a pass which she must collect from her Pastoral Manager.

## Free School Meals:

A £30 voucher is in place of Free School Meals and has been emailed to all parents of pupils in receipt of Free School Meals; the email will come from Edenred who the government has used during Lockdown and the summer holidays to provide FSM vouchers. Please check your email inbox – if necessary, check junk and clutter too – and make sure you use the voucher before the expiry date **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021**. We have also emailed to parents the 'Frequently Asked Questions', and the user guide for redeeming the vouchers is with the email from Edenred.

Please continue to check to see if your daughter has become Free School Meals' eligible, particularly if your circumstances have changed. Please note that FSM vouchers for the Christmas holidays cannot be provided retrospectively.

There are still a small number of FSM vouchers which were sent by email from school retrospectively to cover October half-term which have still not been redeemed. We have contacted parents directly to remind them to redeem the vouchers; please make sure that the voucher is redeemed before it expires.

## School Gateway:

All school related **communications** go through School Gateway. It is the central hub of information for our parents. To stay up to date with what is going on at school you must download the 'School Gateway' app for free from your app store. You will be alerted by School Gateway to check your emails for updates.





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## Art Department

Covid-19 restrictions have meant very few community-based arts activities have taken place this year and hardly any schools have been able to invite arts professionals into the classroom either.

Handsworth Creative's 'LET'S CREATE PROJECT' is a series of four video workshops featuring local artists that show how to:

- 1) Make Jewellery
- 2) Draw Cartoons
- 3) Make a Hapa Zome (Japanese Printing)
- 4) Make a Paper Mosaic

So why not give them a go. <https://www.handsworthcreative.com/lets-create>

**GCSE Pod:** Pupils have been very busy this week with a huge 2008 pods accessed, with History, English Literature and Maths the most watched subjects. Pupils watched over 100 pods in each of History, English Literature, Maths, Biology, English Language, Geography, RS and Spanish this week. As a school, we are 4<sup>th</sup> place out of 116 schools with an average of 20.23 pods watched per KS4 pupil since 1<sup>st</sup> November.

Individual year group figures are as follows:

<b>Year 7</b>	<b>85%</b>	Pupils with active accounts; 1089 pods watched; History, English Language, English Literature are the most accessed subjects
<b>Year 8</b>	<b>87%</b>	141 pods; Maths, English Literature, Combined Science
<b>Year 9</b>	<b>95%</b>	269 pods; English Literature, Biology, Chemistry
<b>Year 10</b>	<b>99%</b>	306 pods; History, Biology, Maths
<b>Year 11</b>	<b>99%</b>	203 pods; History, RS, Geography

The 5 pupils in each year group who watch the most pods for all of December will receive a GCSEPod pin badge as well as positive points which are awarded as follows:

- 1 point to each of the top 10 users in the whole school
- 1 point to each of the top 5 users in each year group
- 1 point to each pupil who watches 5 or more pods a week

**SEND Department:** Year 7 pupils have been set a reading competition. The pupils included in this competition are those who have Reading Record booklets. The idea is to read as much as possible to gain hearts which the students' colour in as follows.

- the first 3 hearts are red
- the next 3 are amber
- the last 3 green hearts are gold





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The student with the most books recorded in the record book, which is judged by Mrs Evans will win a prize. The students have till 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021, I will be checking on their record booklets during the 10 minute read sessions I have with each student.

- **Value of the month** – December '**GRATITUDE**' Please discuss this value with your daughter. To support please use the following link. [Poster](#) and [30-day of Gratitude](#).
- **Thought for the week: 'Gratitude'** see [PowerPoint](#) presentation and [video](#).
- **Job of the Week: 'Anaesthetist'**. Click on the [link](#) for more information.

## **(CEIAG) Post-16 virtual Open Events**

You may need to register to take part. Click on the following links to see the next virtual open day. Start planning your future for January 2021.

Institute	Link
Click on the link for all Post 16 colleges and Sixth Forms open days <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="https://www.birminghamcareersservice.co.uk/open-days/">https://www.birminghamcareersservice.co.uk/open-days/</a></li></ul>	
Access Creative College	<a href="https://www.accesscreative.ac.uk/open-events">https://www.accesscreative.ac.uk/open-events</a> December virtual open events
Aston University Sixth Form <a href="http://www.auea.co.uk">www.auea.co.uk</a>	<a href="https://auea.co.uk/sixth-form/courses">https://auea.co.uk/sixth-form/courses</a>
BMet <a href="http://www.bmet.ac.uk">www.bmet.ac.uk</a>	<a href="https://www.bmet.ac.uk/open-events-enrolment/virtual-open-events/">https://www.bmet.ac.uk/open-events-enrolment/virtual-open-events/</a>
Bordesley Green Girls' School & Sixth Form	<a href="http://www.bordgrng.bham.sch.uk/applying/">http://www.bordgrng.bham.sch.uk/applying/</a>
Bournville	<a href="https://www.opendays.com/institutions/bournville-college">https://www.opendays.com/institutions/bournville-college</a>
Cadbury Sixth Form College	<a href="https://www.cadcol.ac.uk/">https://www.cadcol.ac.uk/</a>
Joseph Chamberlain Sixth Form College <a href="http://www.jcc.ac.uk">www.jcc.ac.uk</a>	<a href="https://www.jcc.ac.uk/#!/type/:type/qualification/as-a-level">https://www.jcc.ac.uk/#!/type/:type/qualification/as-a-level</a>
Sandwell College	<a href="https://www.sandwell.ac.uk/">https://www.sandwell.ac.uk/</a>





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Solihull college <a href="http://www.solihull.ac.uk">www.solihull.ac.uk</a>	<a href="https://www.solihull.ac.uk/news-events/virtual-open-event/">https://www.solihull.ac.uk/news-events/virtual-open-event/</a>
Solihull Sixth Form College <a href="http://www.solihullsf.ac.uk">www.solihullsf.ac.uk</a>	<a href="https://www.solihullsf.ac.uk/">https://www.solihullsf.ac.uk/</a>
South and City College <a href="http://www.sccb.ac.uk">www.sccb.ac.uk</a>	<a href="https://www.sccb.ac.uk/about-us/open-days">https://www.sccb.ac.uk/about-us/open-days</a>
UCB <a href="http://www.ucb.ac.uk">www.ucb.ac.uk</a>	<a href="https://www.ucb.ac.uk/open-days/college-open-days/">https://www.ucb.ac.uk/open-days/college-open-days/</a>

## Safeguarding and Wellbeing

### HELP AND SUPPORT DURING THE HOLIDAYS

School will be closed during the Christmas holidays for two weeks – your daughter or family can find support through the organisations below:

#### For Parents/Carers

1. Urgent mental health help line: ring 0121 262 3555 for advice and support. This line is available 24 hours, 7 days a week and can be used whether you are known to the service or not.
2. Foodbanks: [https://www.findfoodbanksbrum.org.uk/project\\_category/food-banks/](https://www.findfoodbanksbrum.org.uk/project_category/food-banks/)
3. Domestic Violence: Birmingham & Solihull Women's Aid [www.bswaid.org](http://www.bswaid.org)  
Helpline: 0808 800 0028. Open 7 days a week 9.15am – 5.15pm (closed bank holidays)
4. Finally, a reminder that there is a lot of other early help in the city for all young people and families. Click here for see a whole range of offers: [Birmingham Children's Partnership - Resources | Birmingham Children's Partnership - Resources | Birmingham City Council](#)

#### For Children and Young People

1. Kooth: [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com) (Online chat, resources and direct help for 10-25yr olds)
2. Pause (Mental health and emotional wellbeing support): to register and request support online via <https://www.forwardthinkingbirmingham.org.uk/services/13-pause> or call the registration line 0207 841 4470.





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Family Action has launched FOOD (Food on Our Doorstep) Clubs in Birmingham to provide families with good-quality food at a low cost, while also reducing food waste. It costs just £1 a year for your family to become a member. [Read me](#) for further information.

## The Sparkhill Foodbank Team - A Trussell Trust Network Foodbank

- <https://www.trusselltrust.org/get-help/find-a-foodbank/erdington/>

## Birmingham Centre for Art Therapies – SOOTHING PACK

Supporting Positive Mental Health. Inside the pack you will find a number of useful and informative activities and articles that will assist you in achieving positive mental health in your own space and time. Click on the link for further details [Soothing Pack](#)



- Understanding Your Teenager
- Understanding Your Brain for Teenagers

These are free courses with the access code COMMUNITY. Click on the following link.

- <https://inourplace.heiapply.com/online-learning/>

## Keeping your daughter safe online:

All parents/carers need to be aware of what their daughter are accessing when online. Young people often access sites that are not appropriate for their age. Click on the school website for further guidance on staying safe online.

- <https://www.hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk/parents/online-safety>

Check your security and privacy settings

- Adjust privacy and safety settings to increase security and control the personal data you share. Look for the 'privacy and security' or 'settings' on the app or website.
- [Review the security settings](#) on your 'smart' devices. If your device is using a default or easily guessable password, change it.
- [Set up two-factor authentication](#). This is a free security feature to stop unwanted people getting into your accounts. You will receive a text or code when you log in to check you are who you say you are.
- [Update your devices](#). Using the latest version of software and apps can immediately improve your security.

**Follow the Coronavirus guidelines and have a good festive holiday.**





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If your child develops symptoms associated with Covid-19 whilst at **home**, please keep them at home and follow the process outlined below. If your child develops symptoms associated with Covid-19 whilst **at school**, we will isolate them immediately, providing the support and reassurance they will require. 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.**

