



Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

29th January 2021

Important Dates

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1st – 7th February• Wednesday 3rd February• Sunday 14th February | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children's Mental Health Week• Year 9 Options Deadline for return• Valentine's Day |
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It is important that you are checking your School Gateway/emails and the school website for updates from the Headteacher.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION for Critical workers and vulnerable students

You must communicate your requirements for the following week by clicking on the [Parent Survey](#) the week before. This ensures we have the correct staffing levels.

Due to government announcements changing on a regular basis you can keep up to date on the latest information by click on the following link: www.gov.uk/coronavirus

School Information

Covid Testing

You might be aware that there has been a slight change in government guidance around COVID testing in schools over the last few weeks. Testing in schools will no longer be a substitute for the self-isolation of people identified as close contacts to a confirmed case. The Department for Education have confirmed that plans for the mass testing of all students when they return to school is still in place.

In preparation for this, please can you complete the following consent form if you are happy for your daughter to undertake COVID tests when she returns to school?

- [COVID Testing - Consent Form - Pupils](#)

It is essential that we know how many students are requesting a test so we can ensure adequate staffing is in place.

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CLICK HERE TO APPLY FOR
FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Free School Meals

We are delighted to see that many of our families with FSM-eligible daughters have begun redeeming vouchers from Edenred. We would urge parents to redeem as soon as they can and to let us know if there are any problems. For additional support please contact enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk or to contact Edenred directly at freeschoolmealsparentscarers@edenred.com.

Please note that we are unable to provide vouchers unless your daughter is FSM-eligible; if your circumstances have changed, or you have not checked for a while to see if you are eligible, please check by completing the form on the school website.

- <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/birmingham>

Farm Foods will be being added to the list of supermarkets where vouchers can be redeemed in the near future; please check the options on the Edenred website as Farm Foods will appear as soon as their addition is finalised.

The NHS has put together <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/lunch/cheap-lockdown-lunch-ideas> to support with ideas for using the FSM vouchers; we think that many families may find some useful ideas in here for meal planning.

Laptops and Devices for Remote Learning

Thank you to families for keeping us updated with changing needs with regards to laptops and devices. We would particularly like to thank families who have borrowed devices at school and have very kindly returned them when their circumstances have changed, and they have obtained their own; this is enabling us to support more pupils. Please do keep us updated if you have been loaned a device from school which you no longer need.

GCSE Pod: For the second week running, we have been one of the ten highest using schools on GCSEPod across the whole country; this is out of 1532 schools and representing a fantastic achievement on the part of the many pupils who use GCSEPod to support their learning. During last week 2584 pods were watched and we remain in third place out of 113 similar sized schools in our region. The most accessed subjects across the school were English Literature, History, RS, Maths, DT, Combined Science and Biology. According to GCSEPod we were one of the top ten highest users out of 1532 schools across the whole country.

Individual year group figures are as follows:

Year 7	91%	957 pods watched; English Literature, History and RS are the most accessed subjects
Year 8	91%	304 pods; History, DT, English Literature
Year 9	95%	457 pods; English Literature, DT, Maths

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Year 10	99%	471 pods; English Language, English Literature, Chemistry
Year 11	99%	412 pods; History, RS, Combined Science

Check out the top ten users. Click [here](#) to view.

Art

During the first lockdown people across the country created rainbows and displayed them in their windows. In the middle of lockdown three artists are challenging everyone to get creative and to turn their windows into their own art display to cheer up people passing. Why not join in and send a photo of your fabulous art display to share on the Art Site.

- Email: r.corser@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk

Art Department's Challenge to create a wish for the Wall of Wishes. Click on the [PowerPoint presentation](#) for details.

Design and Technology

See how the famous have been creative or innovative during periods of lockdown. An article published in the Observer showed some interesting ideas that are worth looking at out of interest or to adapt and maybe try out if it is safe for you to do so. Perhaps you can think of a different idea to share with us? Email your photographs to your technology teacher.

DIY fashion: designers' tips on what to make from home click on the link to find out more [DIY Fashion tips](#)



Food Technology: Design a Valentine Menu

when complete please email a.merrigan@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk

Right click on the picture and open the link for further details.

Year 10 and Year 11 GCSE Photography: Adobe Photoshop Download for GCSE Photography Students

GCSE Photography students have received a download link in their emails for a copy of Adobe Photoshop. Please encourage your daughter to download this software to support her in completing GCSE Photography coursework.

The subscription for this software has been paid for to allow students to create, develop and refine their photography work from home. Photography students should now have all they need to continue making progress with their coursework projects. There are instructions with the download link to support students in downloading the software, but please ask your daughter to contact their photography teacher if they encounter any problems and we will work with the ICT support team as best we can to support with this process.

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The following link is available for 11C/Pg1, 11C/Pg2 and 10A/Pg1 classes only.

- <https://hodgehgs.sharepoint.com/sites/adobedownload>

SEND

During school closure, your child can access a wide range of support material from these websites to work independently or complete set tasks that have been issued on 'Class Charts'.

Newly Arrived Pupils/EAL



WOW WORD. This week you would have received an email from n.arshad@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk on a **WOW WONDER** cards. Complete each card as an extension activity. Set yourself a target e.g., complete three activities in a row, complete one activity for three different Wow Words or complete one card a day. Click on the [link](#) for the worksheet, scroll down to page 7.



[Immersive Reader](#) is a great app to use with **English language learners** for several reasons. Text can be read out loud allowing your child to listen to what they are reading. Use the language options to hear and view text in your native language. Turn on the dictionary option to select words and view drawings representing the meanings of words and phrases and much more. Click on the icon above for a short tutorial.



Enjoy a wide range of audiobooks and original podcasts on [Stories.Audible.com](https://www.audible.com). All stories are free to stream on your desktop, laptop, phone, or tablet. Delve into the collection, select a title and start listening. It is

that simple!

Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)

This month we will be celebrating **STEM** careers, please see the following resources below highlighting some fantastic information about careers in **STEM**. Any questions please contact your careers advisor n.nazish@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk

- [A brief history of women in Science](#)
- [Ten ways to find your STEM](#)
- [Why a career in Science is for me video and poster](#)

Success at Schools Teams: Fancy becoming a chartered accountant. Apply now: Chartered accountancy apprenticeship at the National Audit Office. [Click here to apply](#)

Labour Market Information (LMI)

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Aircraft maintenance and related trades

Weekly Pay 940	Annual Pay 48,880
Hours/Week 51h	Hourly Pay 18

Workforce Change (projected)

Contraction -8.6%	Replacement 50.3%
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The workforce is projected to contract by -8.6% over the period to 2027, losing **2,200** jobs. In the same period, 50.3% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating **13,000** job openings.

You might find this job in

- Other transport Equipment
- Repair & Installation
- Public Admin & Defence
- Air Transport

Job of the Week in the Health Sector: [Chiropractor](#). Click on the link for further details.

BMet Virtual Open Events – students can register to attend the event by [clicking here](#)



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Monday 8th February 2021	16:00 – 17:00	Football Academy Open Event
Monday 8th February 2021	17:15 – 18:15	Apprenticeship Open Event
Monday 8th February 2021	18:30 – 19:30	Higher Education Open Event
Tuesday 9th February 2021	16:00 – 17:00	Construction Event
Tuesday 9th February 2021	17:10 – 17:55	Health and Social Care and Early Years Event
Tuesday 9th February 2021	18:00 – 18:40	English & maths, ESOL and Foundation Learning Event
Tuesday 9th February 2021	18:45 – 19:30	Engineering & Rail Academy Event
Tuesday 9th February 2021	19:40 – 20:20	Media and Games Event
Wednesday 10th February 2021	16:00 – 16:50	Art & Design, Digital, Music, Fashion & Photography Event
Wednesday 10th February 2021	17:00 – 17:50	Accounts, Business and Law Event
Wednesday 10th February 2021	18:00 – 19:00	Early Years, Health and Social Care, Horticulture, Pharmacy and Medical and Science Event
Wednesday 10th February 2021	19:15 – 20:00	Foundation Learning, English and maths, ESOL Event
Thursday 11th February 2021	16:00 – 17:00	A Levels and Science Event
Thursday 11th February 2021	17:15 – 18:00	Creative, Digital, Performing Arts, Foundation Learning, Uniformed Public Services, Travel & Tourism Event
Thursday 11th February 2021	18:10 – 19:00	Accounts, Business & Professional, Law, English & maths and ESOL Event
Thursday 11th February 2021	19:10 – 20:00	Sport, Health & Social Care and Early Years Event

BMet is hosting a Parents Evening aimed at parents/guardians of students in years 10 – 13 who want to find out more about BMet, the career pathways, support available and why BMet should be the first choice of post 16/18 education. Parents/guardians need to register for the event by [clicking here](#). On the day of the event, they will send you log in details to the event which is taking place on Zoom.



SPEAKERS
for schools
EXPERIENCE

Speakers for Schools have a fantastic range of talks planned for next week; details are:

WEEK STARTING MONDAY 1st FEBRUARY

DATE	SPEAKER	INFO
Mon 1st February 10-11am LINK TO JOIN	Dorothy Byrne, Editor-at-large, Channel 4, Chair, Ethical Journalism Network & Former Head of News and Current Affairs, Channel 4	Join us to hear Dorothy Byrne, Editor-at-large at Channel Four, previously Head of News and Current Affairs, share her insights into her career as a journalist. During her tenure, the channel's news and current affairs programmes have

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	For KS4-5/ S4-6	won numerous BAFTA, RTA and Emmy awards. Dorothy will reflect on how to be successful in the world of work and will question whether we can trust the media.
Tues 2nd February 10-11am LINK TO JOIN	Branko Bjelobaba, Finance and Engaging in Democracy Speaker For KS4 – 5 / S4 – 6	Join us here to hear Branko Bjelobaba, Finance and Engaging in Democracy Speaker, provide an honest approach as to what makes a difference in terms of presenting yourself and how success can follow failure. Branko has spoken at many schools and delivered one of our first live virtual events and speaks passionately about the UK financial services sector and also how young people can engage with democracy.
Tues 2nd February 2-3pm LINK TO JOIN	Speakers for Schools Experience Nursing Broadcast: Dr Crystal Oldman, CEO, The Queen's Nursing Institute For KS4 – 5 / S4 – 6	Join Speakers for Schools for our first Experience Nursing Broadcast with Dr Crystal Oldman CBE. Dr Crystal Oldman CBE joined the Queen's Nursing Institute in November 2012 as Chief Executive. Crystal worked in the NHS for 18 years, the majority of which was in the field of community nursing, working with some of the most deprived communities in west London. An opportunity not to miss for students who would like to hear more about Crystal's journey and an insight into working in nursing.
Thurs 4th February 2-3pm LINK TO JOIN	Penguin Talks in Partnership with Speakers for Schools: How to motivate yourself, with Adrienne Herbert and Alice Liveing For KS4 – 5 / S4 – 6	Leading wellness professional, podcast host and author of The Power Hour, Adrienne Herbert joins personal trainer, blogger and best-selling author, Alice Liveing to discuss how students can motivate themselves and maintaining their wellbeing during lockdown

HOW TO JOIN THE LIVE BROADCASTS

- Join 10 minutes before the broadcast to be ready
- You can join without needing an account – [Watch how here](#)
- For full speaker descriptions visit the [Broadcast Schedule here](#)

Speakers for Schools have details of a number of virtual Work Experience opportunities. Interested pupils should click on the links





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New Virtual Work Experience Opportunities Recruiting Now:

- [Haworth Tompkins Architecture Insight Evening](#)
- Dates: 2nd March 2021.
- Eligibility: 14 – 19-year-olds keen to find out more about a career in architecture.
- Application Deadline: 15th February 2021

- [International Women`s Day #ChooseToChallenge](#)
- Dates: 8th March 2021.
- Eligibility: 14 – 19-year-olds interested in the construction industry.
- Application Deadline: 26th February 2021

- [East West Railway Company - Building a New Railway](#)
- Dates: 6th – 9th April 2021
- Eligibility: 16 – 19-year-olds interested in Technology, Engineering, and Customer Services.
- Application Deadline: 28th February 2021

- [Green Skills in the Construction and Engineering Industry](#)
- Dates: 6th April 2021.
- Eligibility: 14 – 19-year-olds keen to find out more about a career in architecture.
- Application Deadline: 7th March 2021

Birmingham Hippodrome are running Saturday classes for £5 for young people, from 23rd January to the 20th March. Age ranges from 11 – 25. May be of interest to budding performing arts students and NEETs alike. Click on the following link [Live Digital Workshops](#)



Safeguarding, Wellbeing and Support

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.

Severn Trent Water have launched a scheme to help customers who are in receipt of a low income and struggling to pay their water charges. Information we have received is:

The Big Difference Scheme can help customers who are in receipt of a low income and struggling to pay their water charges. If eligible for the scheme, customers could receive up to 90% off the average Severn Trent Water bill.

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If a customer has a child who is eligible for income based free school meals, it is likely they will qualify for the scheme.

To apply for a reduction customers can complete our online application via www.bigdiff.co.uk

For more information please visit – www.sttf.org.uk/big-difference-scheme/

St Giles SOS+ Programme

St Giles' SOS+ Service delivers early intervention work in educational and community settings, through preventative sessions on violence, vulnerability and exploitation. They deliver training and awareness sessions to parents and other professionals to help tackle the issues of county lines drug smuggling, gangs and knife crimes. Click on the [Parent's webinars](#) for dates.

Thought for the week: 'Ideology' Click on the link [Secondary presentation 'Ideology'](#) also view the [video link](#).

Value of the month: January 'Change' Please discuss this value with your daughter. To support please use the following link. [Poster](#) and [30 days of change](#).



Children's Mental Health Week is taking place on 1-7 February 2021. This year's theme is [Express Yourself](#). Click on the following links for additional support and resources.

- <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/parents-and-carers/>
- <https://hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk/parents/send/senresources>
- <https://hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk/parents/send/badger-learning>



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Your daughter or family can find support through the organisations below:

Support for families

(BCP) Birmingham Children's Partnership

Emergency and ongoing help for Birmingham please click on the letter for more information on help and support [BCP letter](#).

Useful websites:

- **Barnado's:** barnados.co.uk
- **Forward Thinking Birmingham** click on link for further support contacts: [FTB](#)
- **Kooth:** <https://www.kooth.com/>
- **Mind:** <https://www.mind.org.uk/>
- **NSPCC** at www.nspcc.org.uk or call their national helpline 0808 800 5000.
- **Partnership for Children:** www.partnershipforchildren.org.uk
- **Pause: School website -** [Pause | Hodge Hill Girls' School \(hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk\)](http://Pause | Hodge Hill Girls' School (hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk))
- **Women's Aid:** womensaid.org.uk
- **YoungMinds:** [Looking after your mental health](#)

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 following links for further guidance on staying safe online and preventing cyberbullying on social media.

- <https://www.hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk/parents/online-safety>
- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>
- <https://www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk/social-media.html>

Stay Home



Protect the NHS



Save Lives



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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 10 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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