

23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We're already at the end of the longest half term of the year and I'm sure all our pupils and staff are looking forward to the break so that they can recharge their batteries before getting straight back into learning in November. September was, in many ways, a leap of faith with our staggered starts and finishes, 'bubbles', separate breaks and lunches, one way systems and gallons of hand sanitiser and I just want to say how absolutely amazing our pupils have been in adapting and in taking responsibility for their own safety and that of those around them. Their excellent conduct around school ensures that we can continue to offer a full curriculum to every year group and, now that routines are fully embedded, we will carefully begin to reintroduce enrichment and extra-curricular activities in a gradual, safe and sensible manner.

### **COVID notifications during the half term break**

In order for us to fully support the Test and Trace system during the holiday, it is vital that families inform us in a timely manner if any of our pupils develop COVID symptoms and test positive during the half term break. Please follow the guidance shown here:

If your child develops symptoms during half term, your entire household must self-isolate and you must book a COVID test for your child.

If he/she subsequently tests positive, please inform me immediately via [a.radcliffe@hydehighschool.uk](mailto:a.radcliffe@hydehighschool.uk) giving the following information:

- Full name and year group
- Type of symptoms and date they started
- Date of test
- Screenshot of positive result

Any non-COVID queries can be sent to our usual email address: [admin@hydehighschool.uk](mailto:admin@hydehighschool.uk)

### **Please help us to keep our pupils IN school...**

When we return to school in November it is really important that all families follow the guidance that **if any member of your household has one or more COVID symptoms, your child must NOT come to school** until the person with symptoms gets their test result. If the result is negative, your child can return to school (we will need a screenshot of the negative test result), if the result is positive he/she must continue to self-isolate.

We have had relatively few cases within our school compared to many others and it's really unfortunate that the same bubble in Year 9 has been affected twice. If your child does have to self-isolate for an extended period (10 - 14 days) it is really important that they keep up with the work set by staff so that they don't fall behind; your support with this is very much appreciated.

## Accessing Google classroom at home

realsmart<sup>®</sup>



The presentation shown here is on our website at <https://www.hydehighschool.uk/students/digital-home-learning/> and is a reminder for pupils about accessing learning online

### Year 11 catch up and mock exams

There has been much discussion in the media about how assessment will take place next summer for our current Year 11 pupils. We have been informed that exams will be moved later by three weeks, but as yet any other changes to exam content or structure will be minimal. To support Year 11 we will be scheduling some additional after-school sessions beginning next half term and there is an expectation that all pupils will attend these. Full details will be issued in November. It is clear that Year 11 realise just how important every lesson is this year and so the overwhelming majority are working really hard - in the event of any further significant lockdown measures being imposed we may, once again, have to submit Centre Assessed Grades and so the work being completed now would be the evidence upon which these would be based.

We will run a full suite of mock exams for Year 11 in November and, having missed out on their first opportunity for formal exam practice at the end of Year 10, this will be a crucial experience for this cohort; good attendance is vital.

Other than that, it just remains for me to wish our pupils and families an enjoyable half term break. School reopens at the normal time(s) on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Keep safe,

*ARadcliffe*

Andrea Radcliffe

Headteacher