



## HBK Update, Friday 9 February 2024



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to this week's HBK update!

### Communicating with Parents and Carers Policy – message from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal

Last year we introduced a new Policy around communication which can be found on the school website [here](#). The Policy details how parents and carers can contact the school and in turn, how we as a school communicate with parents and carers. In the recent parent and carer survey the responses to the question 'When I have raised concerns with the school, the school have listened and responded well' were similar to last year. As we want to continue making improvements in this area we are resharing the Communication Policy as a reminder of the expectations we have as a school around communication. If, having read the policy, you have any suggestions, we would be pleased to have them.

### Upcoming Year 11 Mocks! – message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal

After half term Year 11 students will have a week of mocks to further refine their skills, knowledge and give them more practice of the exam experience. These mocks will only feature exams in Maths, English Literature and Science. As with all mock exams, students need to give them their best effort so we then know what additional support and interventions we may need to put in place to help get them over the line this summer.

Students should use their Personalised Learning Checklists to identify the topics/areas they feel less secure in, and then focus their attention on these using GCSEPod and other platforms such as Seneca Learning and Sparx (Maths). Revision should be active - never just reading notes or watching a pod. Students should make a revision resource, such as a 'flash card', and also practise by doing past exam paper questions.

During this period there will also be live (real) Functional Skills exams in Maths and English for selected Year 10 and 11 students.

All information has been shared already with the students and they will get further information reminding them of the rules and regulations of exams in the week before half term. Thank you for supporting them through this period and on towards their GCSE exams this summer.

### Year 11 Easter School – message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal

A reminder that information about the Easter School offer will be released after half term. In the meantime, please save the dates: **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024**. We are currently busy putting the offer together. Students will be able to pick a subject for the day and receive 4 hours of focused revision with a specialist teacher (9am-1pm). More information to follow, so please watch out for HBK Friday updates, and other emails on this.

### Messages from the Sixth Form – from Mrs Rix, Head of Sixth Form

#### For parents of year 11 who are holding an offer for the HBK Sixth Form

We are at the point now where all of our after-school meetings and internal interviews have taken place for Sixth Form 2024. Many thanks to the year 11 students who were involved - they were well prepared, and they presented well! If your child has made changes to their original option choices, they will receive a revised conditional offer. In all cases, please make sure, with your child, that the subjects on their offer letter are what you expect. If you think there are any problems, please get in touch with [sixthform@hbk.acesmat.uk](mailto:sixthform@hbk.acesmat.uk). Changes to subjects can still be made until 8.00am on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> at the same email link (after this date, making changes becomes more difficult).



## GCSEPod Update February 9th, 2024 – from Mrs Gratton, Head of Maths and Associate Principal

I am delighted to share the most recent winners in each year group and recognise their hard work. Our Y7-9 winners are sustaining their excellence and lead, which is fantastic. I'm also very pleased to share some new names of students in Years 10 and 11.

Special mention and congratulations to: Y7: A Singh

Y8: A Vardhi

Y9: T Hemingway-Storey & R McElhone

Y10: R Huggins & E Lemmon

Y11: A J Gopinath & K Pool



Another fortnight has passed and **thousands** more pods watched, and questions answered by our student body. The House competition is getting tense with **PEPYS** now in the lead, having overtaken Cromwell for the first time. Well done to all those in Pepys House!

If your child hasn't logged on, please do encourage them to follow the instructions found in the toolkit on the school's front website page. It's a hugely beneficial platform and facility at all stages of their learning journey.

<https://www.hinchingbrookeschool.net/page/?title=GCSEPod&pid=1005>

## Fundraising event at HBK - from Mrs Shepherd, Head of Foundation Learning and Teacher of Computer Science

Some of Mrs Shepherd's Year 9 students hosted a fundraising event on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February to raise money for Wood Green Animal Shelter. They completed this task as part of their Personal Development Programme and put in a huge amount of effort to make this happen. In the weeks leading up to the event, they worked hard to advertise and organise it.

On the day, they sold hot chocolates, cakes and biscuits and managed to raise a huge £247.44 for the Charity! They were all amazing and the sale proved very popular with both staff and students!



Best wishes

**Mark Patterson**  
Principal