

HBK Update, Friday 29 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Remote Learning Survey - from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal

Thank you to all those parents and students who responded to the recent survey on remote learning. The results are attached. The key headlines, in terms of parent and student feedback, are:

*** Parental satisfaction with how Hinchingsbrooke has managed lockdown has significantly increased, compared with the Spring 2020 survey** (Very happy has more than doubled to 52% and positive responses are up by 22% to 93%). Positive feedback on the school's communication has increased from 73% to 93% and parents are 26% happier with the provision of work, with those who give this the top rating more than doubling to 50%.

*** Student feedback** is broadly consistent across all year groups, with only very small numbers giving negative responses to any of the survey questions. Indeed, the highest number of negative responses were to the question about how well students themselves were working.

Please click on the link to view our [Remote Learning Survey](#)

We are delighted with both the positive responses to these surveys and the significant improvement indicated since Spring 2020; thank you for recognising this in your responses. The senior leadership team will be discussing all of the responses in depth to ensure we are able to put in place actions to improve our provision further. These will include continuing to provide laptops and equipment to those students who need this and planning some 'Digital Detox Days' to allow students and staff to have a break from screens. Watch this space!

Sixth Form update – from Mrs Rix, Assistant Principal and Head of Sixth Form

In the Sixth Form, 134 students have applied through UCAS for their post-18 pathways. This is more than we expected given the circumstances we are in, and an indication of the resilience of our students. We will now be working with those students who wish to pursue alternative pathways and look forward to hearing the detail of their plans. A big thanks to the students for working hard on this and to the Year 13 tutors and their Head of Year, Mrs Sam Moore, who has led on this important piece of work.

School is shut over February half-term

The Government announced this week that schools will be shut over the February half-term week (Monday 15 to Friday 19 February). The Local Authority have asked us to send you this message:

We have produced a short Microsoft Teams survey [Microsoft Form](#) for parents who meet the Critical Worker criteria and whose children are currently attending schools and accessing on-site education to complete. Can you please send this to parents so we can register demand.

We are also using this as an opportunity to promote the Peterborough and Cambridgeshire Family Information Services (FISs) which provide advice and guidance to parents on childcare and early years services, and information about registered childcare, non-registered childcare, the free entitlement to early years provision and childcare settings suitable for children with disabilities and special educational needs in their areas. In addition, they support parents who are finding it difficult to access the childcare provision they need. Cambridgeshire parents should be advised to phone: 0345 045 1360.

When will the school reopen?

The Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, announced yesterday the Government's ambition that schools should start reopening more widely from 8 March 2021. He added, however, that there were a lot of variables affecting this date and that a firm decision about wider reopening would be delayed at least until the week beginning 22 February - so we should know more during that week.

Year 11 and Year 13 summer grades/exams (this applies to Year 10 RPE grades, too)

We are still in the Government's consultation period about what may happen with this year's grades and exams, so there is no news to report at the moment, I'm afraid. As soon as we know anything, we will let you know.

Take care.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Mark Patterson

Principal