



HBK Update, Friday 1 April 2022



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to this week's HBK update.

Glastonbrooke Unplugged – message from Mrs Nichols, Music Department

Thursday night was an incredible night for students to perform songs of their choice - to simply enjoy making and sharing music with others! It was in the magical setting of the House, complete with beautiful lights and leather sofas. It was so wonderful to share live music for 2 hrs with parents and friends after such a long time of not being able to do so. The talent displayed was outstanding, and at times it moved us to tears.

The students involved ranged from Year 7 - 13. Congratulations to all students who took part! Thank you too, to the members of staff that made the evening the success it was. I am sure the students are busy preparing for and looking forward to the full Glastonbrooke Festival that will take place in July!



Updated Guidance on Living with Covid-19 - message from Mr Cooke, Vice-Principal

Here are the key points from the latest guidance on the approach to Covid-19, which has been released this week:

- From 1 April, anyone with a positive COVID-19 test result from a Lateral Flow test will be advised to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for five days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be three days
- From 1 April, people with symptoms of a respiratory infection, including COVID-19, and a high temperature or who feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people, until they feel well enough to return to school (ie resume normal activities) and they no longer have a high temperature
- Testing has ended for all pupils in schools. There will be no public access to testing aside from private sector testing
- The DfE has announced that the in-school Covid-19 vaccination programme will end on Friday 1 April. 12 to 15 year-olds will still be able to access the vaccine outside of school, at a vaccination centre, pharmacy or walk-in centre.

Schools have been requested to continue to ensure that occupied spaces are well-ventilated and to reinforce good hygiene practices such as hand washing and cleaning.

We expect there to be more guidance released for schools over the Easter break, which we will share with you on our return for the summer term. If you require more details on the new guidance, it can be found in these documents:

1. [Living with Covid: the end of routine testing in schools, colleges and childcare settings](#)
2. [Next steps for living with Covid-19](#)

Teaching and Learning – update from Ms Solvar-Isida, Assistant Principal – Teaching & Learning

Well done to our students for another positive term where we have been humbled by their great resilience, despite the challenges caused by the pandemic! On our SLT 'learning walks' this term, we have been very pleased to observe students' positive engagement with their learning. We also conducted a student voice to get students' perspectives on their HAT targets and once again, were very impressed by the positive feedback, with students sharing how they feel the targets are useful in helping them remain focused on their learning. Next term, they will review the progress they have made so far against each of their targets and set new ones (if necessary).

Finally, our latest Self-Quizzing Book Scrutiny (carried out last week) showed great productivity across all year groups and a significant improvement in standards. Thank you so much for supporting us in our push for the self-quizzing Repeat and the Checks with green pens. We wish all students a well-deserved Easter break before the final term of the year!

Student Focus Group notes - message from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal

Following on from the Parent / Carer Focus Group discussion notes on behaviour which I shared last week, I thought you might be interested to see the feedback from the recent student REP (Responsible, Empathetic, Proud) meetings, which can be found [here](#). The notes are colour-coded so that you can see which year group said what. The areas where students demonstrated the highest level of agreement were appreciating rewards for their efforts (and wanting more!), looking forward to more trips post-lockdown and, for the younger students, enjoying face-to-face assemblies in the PAC. Students' understanding of our One School Rule of Respect was also particularly impressive.

Moving forward, the students have highlighted a few areas for improvement, some of which are already 'in the pipeline', such as improving the toilets across the site and signposting where and how students can access support if they need it. The pastoral team will be reviewing all of the feedback provided by our students and discussing other changes that can be put in place and fed back to them, so students can see that their voice has been heard and has led to positive change in our HBK community.

National Tutoring Programme – Message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal

The tutoring programme for Year 11 will pause for the Easter break, restarting on the first day of the summer term (Tuesday 19th April). This means there will be no tutoring sessions until Tuesday 19th. We are currently analysing the Year 10 data for Maths and English and will be talking to the students we feel are in most need of a Maths or English tutor after the Easter break, with the tutoring being set up shortly after that.

Easter School – Message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal

Just a reminder for the Year 11 students and Year 10 RPE students, that Easter School runs from Monday 4 to Friday 8 April for those who have booked a session. The sessions start at 9am and finish at 1pm. Students need to bring a calculator (where relevant), pens and pads with them, along with a snack and plenty to drink. The location of their session is on the letter they received last week, but if in any doubt, head to Miss Nightingale's office in Middle School. They will get a great deal of work done, which they can build on in the second week of the holidays!

The number of COVID cases have been on the rise and these are also affecting teachers. If any member of staff is unable to run the advertised session and we are unable to get a replacement, we will contact your child through their school email address. **As such, please ensure that your child checks their school email BEFORE coming into school for their session.** If your child is affected by COVID and is unable to attend their session (or for any other reason) please let us know by emailing anightingale@hbk.acesmat.uk

Free School Meals Voucher – Message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal

If your child receives free school meals during term time, vouchers will be sent out on Friday 1st April, which you will be able to use over Easter. For more information please see: [Parent and Carer Letter / Frequently Asked Question Document for Parents / Carers](#).

If you have any queries over the holidays, please email: winter.support@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Cambridgeshire Constabulary – Safer Schools Newsletter

The Cambridgeshire Constabulary's most recent **Safer Schools Newsletter** can be found [here](#).

Staff Vacancies



Art Technician Hinchingsbrooke School is looking to recruit a Technician for the Art Department. This varied role involves some heavy physical work along with some administration. A job share would be considered.

Please visit [ACES Academies Trust - Art Technician](#) Closing date: **Tuesday 19 April 2022**



Reprographics Technician Hinchingsbrooke School is looking to recruit a Reprographics Technician. Experience of working in a school would be desirable but not essential.

Please visit [ACES Academies Trust - Reprographics Technician](#) Closing date: **Tuesday 19 April 2022**



ACES Academies Trust

Please visit the ACES website for current vacancies at schools within the Trust.

www.acesacademies.co.uk/vacancies

Please feel free to share any of our vacancies with friends or family who may be interested.

This week's blog

This week's blog is my take on the big question, *What is school for?* If you would like to read it, it's here: <https://learningisthething.com/?p=626>

Wishing you all a great Easter!

Mark Patterson
Principal