



## HBK Update, Friday 4 February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to your weekly round-up of key messages from HBK!

### COVID-19 update – message from Mr Cooke, Vice-Principal

Since removing the requirement to wear face coverings in communal areas (on Thursday 27 January) the number of positive Covid-19 cases in school has remained stable, which is very pleasing. However, there continues to be a number of positive cases in each year group (around 3% of the year group, or less) as well as several positive cases among staff members. More boxes of test kits have been distributed to students this week, as our most effective mitigation for reducing the spread within school is for those who test positive to self-isolate. Please help us by ensuring that your child(ren) continues to test twice weekly, as this can pick up asymptomatic cases. Students may also test daily, of course, if they are feeling under the weather.

More test kits can be collected from the Lower/Middle/Upper School Offices whenever needed. As good ventilation is important, classroom doors and windows will continue to be kept open as far as possible, and the students will be expected to be outside at break and lunchtime, as far as possible. Please continue to ensure that your child(ren) comes to school wearing several layers and equipped with a coat. Thank you very much for your support.

### Students cycling to and from school – message from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal

We have had a few concerns raised this week about some Hinchingbrooke students cycling carelessly through Huntingdon town centre before or after school. There have been two near-misses and one collision with members of the public this week in the pedestrianised area in the town centre. The expectation we have is that students either take an alternative route home if they are on their bikes (i.e. avoiding the town centre) or that they dismount and walk their bikes through the pedestrianised areas. This message has been shared with students this week and I would appreciate it if the same conversation could be had at home. Thank you.

### A focus on behaviour – message from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal



In our most recent Ofsted report, it said "Pupils typically behave well in lessons and around school... The few pupils who do not behave as well as they should are supported to improve their behaviour". The report also said "Although pupils generally behave well, a few do not live up to leaders' high expectations of behaviour and respect for others. Leaders should continue the work with the few pupils whose behaviour falls short of the standards expected so that all pupils consistently show the respect for others that is widely promoted across the curriculum." Similarly in the recent parent and carer survey, many parents agreed that the school makes sure its pupils are well behaved and that the school

has high expectations for their child, but there were a few comments about low level disruption and the consistent application of policies. As such **we would like to hold an online parent focus group discussion after half term on improving behaviour at the school**. Behaviour is one of our key focuses and whilst we feel that behaviour is good at Hinchingbrooke, we want it to be even better! We will be inviting all those who said they would be willing to be part of a focus group to attend an online meeting to discuss behaviour at Hinchingbrooke.

If you did not register your interest in the survey but would like to participate in the upcoming meeting, please email [ktandy@hbk.acesmat.uk](mailto:ktandy@hbk.acesmat.uk)

### Progress reports in Year 8 – message from Mr Pendlebury, Assistant Principal

Progress Reports for Year 8 were sent to parents this week. These were sent electronically to the email addresses that were provided to us when your child joined HBK. If you have not received this report, please email [reports@hbk.acesmat.uk](mailto:reports@hbk.acesmat.uk) and we will ensure a copy is sent to you.

### NTP Tutoring – message from Miss Nightingale, Vice Principal

It is fantastic that so many students in Year 11 have put their names forwards to request tutoring by today's deadline! We will now try and set this up for after the half term break. Watch this space!

### Non-uniform day– message from Kim Clements (Sixth Form Charity Captain)

On Friday 11 February 2022, we are excited to be holding a non-school uniform day for Years 7-11 to raise money for a Diversity Day, which will take place in the Summer term. The Diversity Day will be an interactive educational day that will celebrate diversity, equality and inclusion at HBK. Students wearing non-uniform on Friday are asked to bring a £1 voluntary donation, which will be collected on the gate as they arrive. Thank you very much.

### Year 10 Assessments – message from Miss Nightingale, Vice-Principal

Year 10 have had a successful week in terms of being on time to lessons and getting on with their assessments, and here is looking forward to an equally successful second week. Just a reminder that **all students with access arrangements** need to collect any equipment they need either from the Middle School Office or Basecamp. This includes laptops and reader pens. These should be returned to the same location after their last assessment that day, so they can be recharged.

### Year 11 and Year 13 'Mock' Examinations – message from Miss Nightingale, Vice-Principal

As scheduled on the school calendar, students in Year 11 will have the opportunity to sit papers in their English, Maths, Science, Business and Geography exams in the week after half term (21- 25 February). These will take place in the Sport Hall in formal exam conditions. The timetable for this can be found on our website, and students will receive their personal timetables with their seat numbers early next week.

Link to Year 11 timetable: <https://www.hinchingbrookeschool.net/site/data/files/anna-grantham/CF747DD48FA9076AD6B187CA11A42662.pdf>

Year 13 students will have their second round of mocks between 21-23 March. There are 3 days of formal exams, where students will generally have 1 paper for most of their subjects. During these 3 days students are not expected to be in their usual lessons. Lessons will resume on Thursday 24 March. Departments may complete further assessments in lessons to test students' knowledge and application, and further information will be available from teaching staff.

Link to Year 13 timetable: <https://www.hinchingbrookeschool.net/site/data/files/anna-grantham/AD9794770F0CA2FB56748F819C28F55E.pdf>

### Our new HBK logo!

Have you noticed our new logo, which features at the top of this ParentMail? The logo is just one of the contributions made to the school for free by a local company - **Redbrick Print incorporating Nettle of Huntingdon** - to whom we are very grateful. For more information about what Redbrick Print and Nettle offer, please visit their website: <http://www.redbrickprint.co.uk/>



## Year 9 Wood Green Animal Shelter Fundraising Event!



Very well done to a group of our Year 9 students who held a cake sale earlier this week!

They managed to raise a massive £261.62 for Wood Green Animal Shelter!

Thank you to our students for arranging this event in their lunchtime and to all students and staff who came along and supported them.

## This week's blog

**This week's blog** is entitled 'The single most important leadership quality'. With the benefit of hindsight, I probably should have given it the less contentious title, 'The single most *useful* leadership quality *for me*'! See what YOU think! <https://learningisthething.com/?p=485>

Have a lovely weekend.

We are HBK.

**Mark Patterson**  
**Principal**