



HBK Update, Friday 8 July 2022



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to your HBK Friday update. It has been an exciting week, with lots going on!

Hot Weather – message from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal

The weather is due to be hot next week, so students do not need to wear blazers or ties. The only exception to this is that we would like students in full uniform for their Celebration Assembly - Year 9 on Monday, Year 7 on Tuesday, Year 10 on Thursday and Year 8 on Friday. We also advise that they bring a large water bottle with them to school to help stay hydrated.

End of Term Arrangements 2022 – message from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal

The last day of term is Thursday 21 July 2022 and students will be finishing school at 1.15pm. Students will have lessons 1 to 3 as normal (including break), followed by lunch at 12.20pm. The warning bell will ring at 1pm, after which students will have afternoon registration before being dismissed at 1.15pm.

School buses/taxis have been altered to allow students to travel home at the revised time, however anyone using public transport will need to check the timetables. If any student is unable to get home, please contact your child's Head of Year so that arrangements can be made to supervise them until 3.15pm.

Year 6 Pupils 'Taster' Days – message from Mr Milner, Head of Year 7 and Transition Manager



After a 3 year hiatus, Taster Days were back at Hinchingbrooke this week bigger and better than ever. The Year 6 pupils flocked to the school on Tuesday morning full of excitement, enthusiasm and an understandable sense of trepidation! They gathered on the playground wearing their primary school uniforms, creating a rainbow of colour. There was an audible buzz of anticipation as they began to meet their form tutors and fellow form group members.

Activities they took part in over the 3 days included key time with their tutors and tutor group in order to start forming relationships which will continue in September and beyond. They were able to experience 'real' secondary school lessons delivered by our subject specialist teachers. They negotiated moving around the site with the aid of some excellent 6th form helpers during a guided tour. It was also wonderful to see

the Year 6s embrace the challenges posed by the PE department on Wednesday morning. They all threw themselves

into this and it was great to see their participation. They had assemblies in the Performing Arts Centre (PAC), where they enjoyed meeting a range of key staff and learning some very interesting and in some cases unknown facts about those staff! They were challenged by a treasure hunt requiring them to solve clues in order to locate cards around the school site containing number/letter codes, finally decoding a hidden message. Many of the pupils also attended our Taster Evening on Wednesday alongside their parents during which they were able to tour the site, speak with staff and students in each department and hear from Mr Patterson, Head Students and myself during a talk in the PAC.

The site looked beautiful and the current students represented the school impeccably, speaking to the parents and Year 6 pupils with interest and passion about the various subjects. Staff had done a fantastic job setting up very informative and in some cases interactive displays which showed off the school in a wonderful way. It was so heart-warming to welcome visitors back to the school and begin again to forge real partnerships with the community beyond the school gates. I have been massively impressed by the manners and attitude shown by the Year 6 pupils who visited this week and I am hugely excited about welcoming them back as our new Year 7 cohort in September. Well done to them all!



Year 11 Prom – message from Chris Pape, Assistant Principal

On Thursday 7 July 2022, we welcomed our Year 11 students to their amazing Year 11 Prom.

Our students who have worked so hard for their GCSEs enjoyed an evening of dancing, singing and partying in the ground of Hinchbrook House.



The Year 11 tutors, teachers and pastoral care team celebrated with them as we enjoyed live music, House VIP area, photo booths, disco dancing and karaoke amongst other fun activities. A particular highlight were the entrances, with motorbikes, super cars, London cabs, classic cars, lorries, limousines and even a huge tractor!

The Head of Year Mrs Pugh, Assistant Head of Year Mr Styler and Student Support Officer Mrs Taylor spent a huge amount of time supported by the awesome Prefect team to put on a night to remember, we thank them all warmly for all of their efforts.

We now look forward to welcoming our Year 11s back for their results in the summer as they move onto the next stage of their educational adventures.

Diversity Drop-Down Day, Monday 18 July – message from Ms Harris-Clements and Ms Zander, HBK Diversity Champions



On Monday 18 July, the school's normal timetable is suspended and all students will be involved in activities related to the theme of Diversity. This [letter](#) provides full details.

Progress Reports – message from Mr Pendlebury, Assistant Principal

We have recently sent via email the Progress Reports for students in Years 7 and 10. If you have not received a copy of the report, please email Reports@hbk.acesmat.uk and one will be sent to you. Progress Reports in Years 8, 9 and 12 will follow before the end of term.

Heads-up on behaviour for September 2022 – message from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal

In September we will be moving to a new Management Information System called Arbor (we are currently using a system called Bromcom). This has prompted some changes in the way we approach behaviour at Hinchingsbrooke and our aim is to improve behaviour beyond 'good'. I will give you more information about these changes in September, but for now the key headlines are as follows:

- We will no longer be using House Points and '5's' - from September we will have one single rewards system. Students will earn 'Recognition Points' for their hard work, high standards and kindness
- Department and individual year group detentions will no longer routinely take place. We will have a centralised system of after-school detentions for repeated poor behaviour (30 minutes after school), Catch-Up detentions for repeated lateness and/or lack of homework completion (30 minutes after school) and SLT detentions (an hour after school on a Friday)
- All behaviour, in lessons and outside lessons, will be recorded centrally so that we (and you!) have a much clearer picture of everything that is happening day-to-day
- Longer term, we will be launching a parent/carer app which will allow you to see the recognition points that have been recorded, along with behaviour incidents and other useful information, too

As a result of these changes our **Behaviour and Attendance Policy** has been updated and this can be found on our school website.

Improvements to HBK site - message from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal

We continue to make improvements to the HBK site. Here you can see some fantastic new wall art that has been installed this week!



Sixth Form Ball – Friday 8th July

This evening we are having the Sixth Form Ball! We are looking forward to a really good evening and it looks like the weather is going to be kind to us! Can we please ask that parents have their phones on so we can get in touch if needs be.

Year 12 Work Experience Week

This week is Work Experience week in the Sixth Form. Students had the opportunity to organise a 5 day or 3 day placement of their choice. Those who took part in a 3 day placement were involved in a variety of talks and activities in the House on Monday and Tuesday. Monday was focusing on mental and physical health and included presentations from CPFT and Coppafeel. Above, you can see some of the students after the presentation about testicular cancer from Oddballs. On Tuesday, we had input from a wide range of universities and employers about post-18 options. Well done to those students who participated so well!



Visit to Oxford University – message from Mr Wheeley, Oxbridge Co-ordinator

On Thursday 7th July, Mr Wheeley took our potential Oxbridge applicants from Year 12 to see Oxford University. They were hosted by Brasenose College where they had a session on making applications. Students also toured Magdalene College and Mansfield College. This trip is a regular feature of our Oxbridge Support Programme.





Inclusion Worker – Level 3

We are looking for a highly motivated and committed Inclusion Worker to join our dedicated Alternative Provision Team at our Gateway School. For more information and details of how to apply, please visit [ACES Academies Trust - Inclusion Worker - Level 3](#)
Deadline for applications: **Monday 11 July 2022, 9.am.**



Level 1 & Level 2 Teaching Assistants

We are looking for highly motivated and committed Teaching Assistants to join our thriving SEND department at Hinchbrook School. For more information and details of how to apply, please visit [ACES Academies Trust - Level 1 & Level 2 Teaching Assistants](#) Deadline for applications: **Friday 15 July 2022, 9 a.m.**



Cover Supervisor

We are looking to appoint a Cover Supervisor to join an established and successful Cover team. For more information and details of how to apply, please visit [ACES Academies Trust - Cover Supervisor](#) Deadline for applications: **Monday 11 July, noon**



For all vacancies across the Trust, please visit the ACES Academies website
www.acesacademies.co.uk/vacancies

This week's blog

This week's blog is entitled 'The problem with ... observing teaching'. If you would like to read it, it's here: <https://learningisthething.com/?p=719>

Have a lovely weekend!

Best wishes

Mark Patterson
Principal