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**AUTUMN 2020** 

#### Dear parent/carer,

It is difficult to put into words how incredibly proud I am of our academy community. During such an unsettled period of time in this nation's history, our students have demonstrated what they are all about. They have shown that they aspire to always do better, whether that be in their learning or outside the classroom; they have shown that they are respectful of one another and deeply care for our community and, of course, they have shown that they are more than ready for some good, old fashioned, hard work!

We have now completed our first half term back at the academy and it is great to see lessons running smoothly. The students and staff have responded fantastically well to their new routines and ways of working, coping brilliantly with being taught in the same rooms for many of their lessons; their conduct has been exemplary. Although this has been a challenging situation for all of us, I have witnessed our students behaving sensibly and maturely in the way that they approach their learning and move around their designated bubbles.

City College, our Sixth Form provision, has also been "up and running" with a full allocation of hours of direct tuition for every student since the start of term, something of a rarity in these strange times. Our unique size and robust sanitization and social distance protocols confirm that, once again, we can pride ourselves on being different... and that helps us make all the difference to our students' futures, as many larger FE institutions have struggled provide anything like "service as usual".

At City College this year, we have launched the new and exciting Enterprise pathway, alongside our A level and BTEC offers, and the ELS programme is already equipping its cohort with a diverse range of skills. Please look out for our virtual open events later this term for more information.

This academic year has also seen the launch of our Chromebook project, designed to place laptop devices in the hands of all our students. Our world is increasingly reliant on digital media; we are working hard to prepare our students for this very real world they will be entering when they leave us at 16 or 18. The Haywood Chromebook Scheme has been introduced this year, alongside our digital curriculum offer, to enhance our students' digital literacy and skills, essential to any successful future career.

Many students in years 7 and 8 have already collected their device and we are hoping to get the remaining orders for years 7 and 8 out before the half term break commences. The company providing the Chromebooks has seen a significant drop in availability due to massive increase in global demand, but I am happy to report that devices have been secured for our students.





After the half term break, students in years 7 and 8 will be expected to bring their devices in to school; these will be used in lessons for a range of learning activities to further improve the student experience at Haywood.

One of the questions that I have been asked many times of late is 'what happens if someone tests positive for Coronavirus at the academy?'.

If this became a reality for us, then the academy would immediately contact Public Health England, via the Department for Education helpline, in accordance with government instructions to schools. They would then decide on the next course of action and I would advise parents and staff accordingly, in line with the actions dictated by PHE. This may include isolating a class or year group. If a class or year group bubble is isolated and those students are not attending the academy daily, then our curriculum provision would be through our remote platform.

Students affected would access their timetabled lessons through Google Classroom, codes for which can be found on the academy website. As I am sure you are already aware, every single lesson delivered at Haywood Academy can be found online through Google Classroom. This ensures that, if your child is directed to work from home, they do not miss out on crucial curriculum content. Form Tutors will check progress with this work on their return back to the academy.



#### **Uniform updates**

As you will know, at Haywood Academy, uniform is important because it helps to develop a sense of personal pride and form good habits for a student's journey into adult life. It reinforces who we are as a community and helps to ensure students are not put under any pressure because of the type of clothes they wear and all are treated equally; our inexpensive and sensible uniform identifies our students as part of the Haywood Academy community. Our rules on uniform are simple and straightforward and we urge all of you to work with and support us in ensuring a high standard of appearance at all times.

Before any of you embark on shopping trips over the half term holiday to update uniform items, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of some key elements of our uniform policy. The intention of this is to avoid unnecessary issues at the start of the new half term.

- School shoes: Plain black sensible leather shoes (no logo), maximum 3cm inner edge of heel, no boots, no canvas shoes, no trainer-style shoes. Please see photos on our website to help you in your purchase.
- Jewellery: Only a wristwatch and one small, plain gold or silver stud in each ear are allowed jewellery items. All jewellery must be removed for PE activities and is brought into school entirely at the student's own risk. Nose studs and any other types of piercing are not allowed. Rings and bracelets are NOT permitted. Students will be required to remove any items of jewellery which contravenes this code; they will be confiscated and given to the Main Office until parents collect them from the academy.
- Make Up: Only subtle make-up is acceptable this is natural foundation and includes clear nail varnish and a subtle coat of mascara. Nail varnish is not allowed. False nails are not allowed.
- **Hoodies:** Please note these are NOT permitted at all during the school day. If your child travels to school wearing a hooded top then they must remove these and place in their school bag for the remainder of the working day before entering the academy building.

Please follow the below links to our Uniform Rules and Dress Code for further clarification on what your son/daughter is required to wear as a member of the Haywood community:

- https://www.haywoodacademy.coop/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/New-uniform.pdf
- https://www.haywoodacademy.coop/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Student-Dress-Code-PDF-new-1.pdf

When we return after the half term break, the staff at Haywood will monitor student uniform very carefully and will be performing a number of official 'uniform checks' in order to gauge how impressive uniform standards are across the academy and where we need to intervene. We are very proud of our academy and know that high standards of uniform, behaviour, being properly equipped and attending regularly give each and every one of our students the very best chance of learning well and achieving their potential.

Thank you all very much in advance of your continued support and understanding.

# Dates for your diary

#### 12th - 22nd October:

Game On! for Year 9 students.

#### 15th October:

Making the most of Year 7 event.

#### 15th October:

Year 10 and Year 11 Exam Success Evening.

#### 23rd October:

**INSET** 

#### 26th - 30th:

October Half Term

#### 2nd November:

Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 Mock Examinations begin

#### 12th November:

City College Open Event

This half term has certainly been a challenging one for all members of our community and I have no doubt more difficult times lie ahead, but I do believe that together we are resilient enough to overcome anything and that our academy will bounce back from this time in history, stronger than ever.

The Senior Leadership Team and I do hope that you enjoy Haywood Academy's very first newsletter of this academic year.

Mike Dawes

Principal

**Haywood Academy and City College** 

# **OUR TOP TEAM!**



The last few weeks have been exciting times for our Year 11 students as they have applied for some top roles within the academy. Students applied for and were interviewed for a chance to be a part of our Student Leadership Team. Over fifty students applied and we are pleased to say that the standard of the applications was extremely high.

We have appointed Lacey Dutton and Jeroen Robinson as our Head Girl and Boy and Theresa Matola and James Horton as their deputies. They have already been working hard as ambassadors for the academy in recording a video to show to our prospective Year 7 students who are considering joining us in September.

In addition, we have appointed a team of Senior Prefects who will run committees such as student wellbeing, social events and student

# **#HELLOYELLOW!**

On Friday 9th October, Haywood Academy joined in the Young Minds #HelloYellow campaign, to raise awareness about young people's mental health ahead of World Mental Health Day on Saturday 10th.

As part of this, we ran a competition for the 'Best dressed form' for each year group, and there were a number of winners from across the school, but we are building the tension by saving the announcement of our winners!

Well done to everyone who took part.

If you would like more information about Young Minds, or support for a child who you are concerned about, then please check out their website:

• https://youngminds.org.uk/







# **GOING VIRTUAL!**

On Thursday 15th October two virtual events were held at the academy. Firstly. Year 7 parents were invited to an evening based on 'Making the Most of Year 7', where they received advice on how to best support their child during their first year of secondary school.

Year 10 and 11 also took part in a virtual 'Exam Success' evening where they were spoken to about what exams would entail, how to revise efficiently and given the opportunity to explore the varied range of support on offer to help our students reach their full potential.

### **BEING SOCIAL!**



If you use Instagram, check out some of our departmental our students have been up to!

- Art & Photography haywoodartphotography
- Design & Technology haywooddesigntechnology
- PE & Dance haywoodpeanddance



Thomas







#### ART IN LOCKDOWN

During lockdown, our students have been very creative!

For Art, KS3 students completed a series of tasks inspired by natural forms and cakes, working both twoand three-dimensionally, using a range of media and techniques.

Elizabeth

Sophie

# GCSE SUCCESS STORY



While, for obvious reasons, GCSE results day looked a little different than usual at Haywood Academy this year, our students yet again made us extremely proud with many of them achieving fantastic results.

In unprecedented circumstances, our students demonstrated impressive levels of resilience and determination which meant that many of them finished Year 11 in style with six of our students

achieving at least two grade 9 results and to quote exams watchdog Ofqual, 'anyone who is awarded a grade 9 has performed exceptionally'. These results may not have been produced in the usual way, but they are a sign of the hard work and commitment that our students have put in over their five years with us. We congratulate them and all our students on their achievements. Many of our pupils will continue being part of our community at City College.

Whichever future path they have chosen, we wish all our students the best of luck in their bright futures.



# **LEAVING STAFF**

**Mr Mizen** started at the beginning of 2019 in the science faculty at Haywood Academy, and his initial role was as our sole Science Technician.

His extensive experience as a qualified science teacher put him in good stead to understand the needs of the teaching staff.

One of the major initiatives he undertook was to completely overhaul the systems for stocktaking and storage. Mr Mizen also trained to take a lead role as Haywood's specialist on radioactive materials, as he is particularly keen to ensure all health and safety standards are met and exceeded.

Mr Mizen gained promotion to Team Leader Science Technician in 2020 and assisted in the recruitment of Mrs Barber, our new science technician. Mr Mizen's sense of humour brightened many days and this, like his professionalism, will be missed, but he is leaving Haywood to work as a Physics technician in Denstone College, Uttoxeter.

### VISIONARY VERSE

To mark National Poetry Day on 1st October, Haywood and the CLT have launched a poetry competition to all year groups, on the theme of 'Vision'.

The winning poems will be announced next half term, with the winners receiving Amazon or Love2Shop vouchers. We look forward to reading the students' submissions! Good luck!

### TIKTOK

We are sure that you are already aware of the popularity of the TikTok app, which allows users to watch musical clips, record 60 second videos (it includes lots of lip synching and dancing), edit them and add special effects.

You must be over 13 years of age to use TikTok, and some of the songs used in this app may contain explicit language and sexual imagery, which may not be suitable for your child to view.

If your child is using TikTok then we recommend setting the account as private, but even with a private account, your child's profile information such as their photo and bio is still visible, so please ensure your child understands the importance of not adding personal information (e.g. address, age and phone numbers) to this area.

Please note that for safeguarding reasons students are not permitted to make TikTok videos within school, when outside the school building during social times such as break and lunch, or on their way to and from school.

Students recording themselves whilst wearing a uniform means that their identity and location could easily be discovered; they then put themselves at a safeguarding risk once these videos are posted to a public domain.

Further information can be found here:

- parentzone.org.uk/article/tiktokeverything-you-need-know-about-videoproduction-app
- net-aware.org.uk/networks/tiktok/
- saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/ social-media-guides/tiktok

#### **ONLINE AWARENESS**

While students are spending more time learning online it is important that both children and parents know how to be protected from cyberbullying and how to deal with it if it happens.

The NSPCC have produced a useful guide for parents which includes the signs of bullying, information on who is at risk as well as advice on support for parents, carers and children. Further information can be found at the following link:

 nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/ types-of-abuse/bullying-andcyberbullying/



# GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK - go online to Parent View

Haywood Academy would like to have your feedback. You can do this by using Parent View. If you would like to comment please follow the instructions below:

#### **CONNECT TO THE INTERNET:**

Put the following link into a browser:

https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=/give-your-views

(this will take you to the website page where you can set up an account).

You need your email address and password for the simple log-in process.

Just follow the on-screen instructions and you will be sent an email to activate your account. Once you have created an account and activated it, you will be able to complete the online questionnaire quite quickly and easily.

#### TO SEARCH FOR A SCHOOL:

Enter the name of the school and part of the address (road, city, town or postcode) in the search boxes when you are asked to.

Select your child's school from the search results

#### THE QUESTIONNAIRE:

There will be 12 statements to consider– for example, "My child is happy at this school"-each with a choice of responses for you to select from:

- Strongly agree Agree Disagree
- Strongly disagree Don't know

Use the "Next" button to move to the next question or the "Previous" button to go back. Once you have completed all 12 questions, click on "Finish the survey" and the questionnaire is complete.

Thank you for your contributions.



### **MYED APP**

We are changing the way that we communicate with parents, and relaunching the My Ed app.

We would like all parents to download this so that they can keep up to date with what is going on in school. The app is free to download, notifications are free to receive, and parents can send messages to the school free of charge.

# What sort of information can parents see?

The app needs to be downloaded on the phone that has the same number that we have on record. If we do not have the mobile number stored you can download the app but it will not show your child's details.

It is very important that we are kept up-to-date with any change of mobile number so that you can continue to use the app.

You can only see information about your own children, and so there is no risk of anyone being able to see information about other students.

# The app includes information about:

- Attendance (absence can also be reported through the app)
- Forms to complete can be downloaded (change of address etc.)
- Key dates- important things going on in school
- Contact numbers
- News items
- Links to social media

#### How to download the app:

- 1. Go to your app store
- 2. Search for My Ed
- 3. Download the app
- 4. Search for the school name

As long as the mobile number is the same as the one on SIMS then the app will automatically bring up details for students linked to that number. If there is more than one child in the family then it will bring up details for all students.

Students can download the app too but they will not be able to see information about them. They will be able to see general information about the school such as news, key dates etc.

### **ART ONLINE**

The Three Counties Open Art exhibition usually takes place in Burslem School of Art throughout July and August, and offers a platform for artists based in Staffordshire, Cheshire and Shropshire.

This year, due to COVID-19, rather than cancelling the summer show the decision was made to create its first virtual exhibition to keep the momentum and the opportunity in the diary for artists who wish to participate in this annual show.

As with previous years, we've had a number of submissions from Haywood and City College students, and Carly Broomfield, Year 10, won the Young Person's Award with her piece (bottom right). Well done!













# **CLUBBING TOGETHER FOR A GREENER FUTURE**

This year, Year 7 are being offered a fantastic opportunity to get involved in a school Eco Club, where they will be looking at a sustainable future, our earth, and ecosystems.

They will get to decide on the running of the Eco Club and projects such as recycling, building bug hotels and eco art work!

Watch this space to see some of the results of their hard work!

# EXCELLENCE ACADEMY UPDATE

Due to the restrictions around the site, the Excellence Academy and all other after school activities have been suspended until further notice. We will look at recruiting new Year 7 members to the Excellence Academy in due course.

For those who are new to Haywood, the Excellence Academy supports high-achieving students and those who wish to push themselves beyond the usual school curriculum, and encourages students to aspire to university from an early age.

As part of the Excellence Academy 'super-curriculum', students study once a week after school a range of topics that are supported by experts in each of the fields. Each term, students study a different subject such as Archaeology, Astronomy and Forensics, and carry out hands-on activities for all of these, as well as (hopefully) visiting university campuses and seeing these subjects in action.

# **GETTING TO KNOW YOU!**

On 17th and 18th August our new Year 7 students were invited to attend a special summer school event at the academy. Students got the chance to meet their new Form Tutor, see the classrooms that they would be using in September and most importantly they were able to forge friendships with their new classmates.

Students enjoyed a variety of lessons such as ICT, Drama and Art as well as English, Maths and Humanities. We were thrilled that so many of our prospective students accepted our invitation with over 140 students attending.

Since the event Year 7 have made a fantastic start to life at Haywood Academy and we look forward to watching them go on to achieve great things in the future.

## SPORT STARS

A pat on the back is due to our Year 13 BTEC Sport students, who have made a great start to the new term.

Students have been learning about methods of training in a very practical way, enjoying themselves in a boxercise circuit session.

Mr Adlington says that they have been a pleasure to teach, and need



to keep up the hard work!

He predicts they will achieve some excellent grades in the summer, which is what we love to hear!

f @citycollegestoke

@CityCollege\_Burslem

@CCollegeBurslem



This summer's GCSE and A level results have been a little different to normal, but have been the best yet for City College! With their good grades, our students are now heading off across the country, to begin their next chapter at a diverse range of institutions.

Georgia Brownsword - who received her results on her 18th birthday – is off to study Applied Theatre and Community Drama at Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts, whilst Shannon Jones is off to the University of Manchester with her impressive AAD\* to study Sociology and Criminology.

Kai Stopford is moving to the University of Middlesex to complete a degree in Product Design, while Beth Henley is studying Medicine at Keele, and El Ball is off to the University of St. Andrews to study Chemical Sciences!

The University of St. Andrews is the oldest university in Scotland, is currently ranked number 1 in the UK for student academic experience in the National Student Survey 2020, and is second only to Oxford according to the Guardian University Guide 2021!



# CAKES FOR CAUSES



On 25th September, City College students and staff hosted a coffee and cake morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

We are pleased to announce that we managed to raise £69.30!

Thank you to everyone who bought cakes, drinks, and helped to make our event really special!

# CLASS OF £2020

In previous years, students leaving us to begin their university journey have been daunted by the costs associated with this step, and so City College is offering the 'Class of £2020' the opportunity to earn as they learn.

Students will be able to amass a cash amount payable on completion of their courses, up to £2,020. Criteria used in building up this pot of cash will include:

- Attendance, calculated from the percentage of sessions attended, with the national average being the benchmark.
- Attitude to Learning, where an average grade would be calculated across all sessions and performance-rated against our benchmark.

Students can bank payments every few weeks to accumulate a total amount. A student achieving their target grades in all subjects would be entitled to the full amount banked, with a sliding scale for others.

# **BUSY-NESS = ENTER PRIZES!**

City College's new Level 2/Level 3 Enterprise course launched this term. Students are studying for qualifications to equip them with business and finance skills. As well as their college-based studies though, they are developing their own market stalls and making plans to add value to their community.

What's more, the Class of £2020 fund is building steadily – and is ready to fund their long-term business plans through the enterprises they establish.

Former Haywood student Dylan Clews explained: "Enterprise is all about research, creativity and commitment – just like education generally... but we get the chance to make some money!"