Haywood Academy **City Learning Trust** February 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers,

With remote learning well underway for the vast majority of our learners and most of our teachers delivering the curriculum from their home offices and kitchen tables, we are all eager to see our learning bubbles and classrooms fill up with the life and soul of the Haywood community - our students.

Of course, we will only do so when the public health data tells us that is safe to reintegrate your children. Once we have the guidance from government on this matter, then I will update all parents, carers and students as to how we will welcome our students back to the academy safely.

This half term has seen a real increase in our student engagement with remote learning; the vast majority of our families now have appropriate access to the IT facilities and broadband necessary to make this happen. If you do have any difficulty accessing Google Classrooms for any reason, then please contact the academy directly.

Our teachers have worked incredibly hard this term to ensure that the curriculum continues to be delivered in an interactive and engaging way, whilst making the time to communicate with families, checking that they are safe and well. Our support staff have also continued to work tirelessly from the academy site, supervising and supporting children of key workers and those identified by the Department for Education.

Exciting opportunities and developments are planned for both Haywood Academy and City College for the rest of the academic year and beyond, whether it be virtual or in person. We are, for example, really excited to be part of two, two-hour events for students, teachers and parents to get inspired, motivated and de-stressed, hosted by inspirational and motivational speaker David Hyner on March 3rd and 17th. Please follow this link for more information: https://youtu.be/bn_UCp2aavY. Virtual tours of particular sites for History and Geography, demonstration work out videos for PE and remote competitions and challenges across the curriculum are now part of the remote 'norm'. I would encourage all students to be as involved in these events as much as possible.

All such events on the Haywood Academy and City College calendars will continue to be reviewed and delivered safely where possible, allowing our students to build their subject based and extra-curricular learning experiences.

Students in Year 9 will now be preparing their thoughts regarding pathways into Key Stage 4 and which of the subject pathways they will choose to study into Year 10. A letter explaining our upcoming virtual Preference Evening on 17th March and the entire preference process will be sent to parents of Year 9 students after the half term break.

Year 11 will, no doubt, also be seriously considering their next pathway in education as they prepare for their end of Year 11 assessments, however they may be shaped. The nature of that assessment, of course, is still uncertain, but I will update you as soon as the results of the OFQUAL consultation provide a clearer picture.

City College, our bespoke sixth form centre, is at an exciting point in its journey, with an amazing offer for students who join our 2021 cohort. Students at City College will be able to benefit from the offer of their own high-end college laptop, opportunities and international links with well-known organisations in Europe and the Middle East, and a significant lump sum cash bursary on completion of their studies. Most importantly, however, we know your children. With such a turbulent year, it is vital that any decision you make is one that will support your child's development into College life. We believe that with our knowledge of your child's progress prior to the pandemic and throughout, we can map their learning through Key Stage 5 better than any other establishment in order to ensure that they do not lose out.

Quite simply, City College is the place to be! If you haven't applied yet, please complete the form on the City College website by following this link: www.citycollege.coop/level-3-pathways/apply-for-a-place/.

Send completed applications to infocitycollege@citylearningtrust.org, or call the academy to speak with somebody directly.

Before you go on to enjoy this half term's edition of our newsletter, I would like to thank all of you for your endless support. We have been overwhelmed by the feedback that we have received from a large number of you regarding the remote provision, contact work to keep in touch with families and our increased safeguarding support through such challenging times. This feedback not only recognises the efforts of Haywood teachers and support staff, but helps us to continually shape our practice. Thank vou.

If you haven't already done so, please spare a couple of minutes to let us know what you think: tinyurl.com/y4auc2uc.

Please also remember that our next staff INSET will take place on 22nd February. As this is a full training day for all staff, there will be no facility for on-site provision, but if you are a key worker and need this provision, then please contact us at the academy and we will support where we can. Consolidation and revision work will be set by teachers on all Google Classrooms for all students for that day; this will be the case for all future INSET davs.

I do hope that you enjoy this edition of the Haywood News. Take care and stay safe.



Principal Haywood Academy and City College

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Dates for your diary*

* all dates are subject to change.

Monday 22nd February 2021: INSET Day

Monday 15th March 2021: Year 12 Mocks begin

Tuesday 16th March 2021: Year 11 Mocks begin -English, Maths & Science

Wednesday 17th March 2021: Year 9 Reports go out to parents

Thursday 18th March 2021: Year 9 Preference Evening and Parents' Evening

Friday 19th March 2021: Year 7 and Year 8 Reports go out to parents

Thursday 25th March 2021: Year 11 Parents' Evening

Tuesday 30th March 2021: Year 10 - Year 13 Reports go out to parents

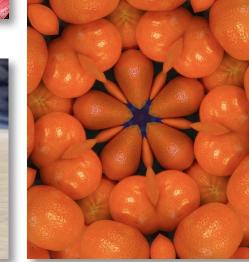
Wednesday 31st March 2021: INSET Day

Creativity UNLOCKED

During lockdown staff have been enjoying all of the creativity that has been going on! Here is just a selection of pieces produced by some of our Photography students!







Making Memories

Last term, our Year 7 students wrote letters to the residents of our local care homes, and they have received a number of replies from The Limes Residential Home in Fenton.

The cards and letters from our students helped the residents remember their own school lives and hobbies, and they shared some of their memories in their correspondence for our students to learn from.

Many of the residents had lived through wartime and rationing, and the positive attitude in the letters helped them to remember that it was the same hope for the future that got them through the challenges they faced.



2 THE HAYWOOD NEWS



Coming soon: Online payments to school with ParentPay!

Starting within the next few weeks we will be introducing a more convenient way to pay for school meals, and other school items online, using a secure service called ParentPay.

You will have a secure online account, activated using a unique username and password; you will be prompted to change these, and to keep them safe and secure.

Parents will receive an activation email from platform@parentpay.com.

ParentPay offers you the freedom to make payments whenever and wherever you like, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - safe in the knowledge that the technology used is of the highest internet security available.

Excellence Academy Update

The Excellence Academy has not been running this academic year, but we are pleased to say that for Year 8 and 9, there are now a host of materials on the respective Google Classrooms, with more to come!

Students are welcome to browse and work through these, and are encouraged to carry out their own further research on these topics. We will also be posting a range of activities and further materials for all these topics, so keep a look out for these!



CHRISTMAS **SPIRIT**

A big thank you and well done to all of our students, their families and staff that donated so generously in the Reverse Advent Calendar project at the end of last term.

We managed to raise a fantastic 384.3 kg of food for Stoke-on-Trent Foodbank!



ParentPayADAPTING TO OUR
NEW NORMAL

We are extremely pleased with the amount of engagement from all students across the Academy. Students are coming to lessons, actively engaging in their learning and not letting the fact they aren't physically in school stop, or slow down, their learning.

Also, thank you to all the parents and carers for your kind words and feedback. Please use the feedback form found at tinyurl.com/y4auc2uc to let us know your thoughts.

We know that some students may prefer to write notes on paper and that some families in the community may not have these physical resources readily available.

We would like to offer all students the opportunity to request a 'Lockdown Learning Pack' which includes; 2 exercise books, a pen, a pencil, and a rubber

Students can apply for this by following this link: tinyurl.com/y6gs9p79.

To access the remote learning offered, students will need a device such as a PC, laptop, Chromebook, tablet, PlayStation or Xbox, as well as a fixed internet connection.

If your child does not have a device or a fixed internet connection, please let us know using the form found here: tinyurl.com/y24nkyuk.

You will find all of the additional information, including all individual Google Classroom codes, at tinyurl.com/y6fe5xtv.

COUNTY LINES

Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) or County Lines occurs when an individual or group takes advantage into taking part in criminal activity.

County lines is a type of CCE where gangs and organised crime networks groom and exploit children specifically to sell drugs.

These children are often made to travel across counties, and specific mobile phone 'lines' are dedicated to this criminal activity.

The exploitation may sometimes appear consensual, especially where the child has received something in exchange such as money, clothes or technology.

Key indicators include:

- Poor school attendance
- A change in friendships or relationships, particularly new relationships with perhaps older individuals or groups
- Decline in academic performance
- Signs of self-harm
- Changes in behaviour and wellbeing
- · Signs of assault or unexplained injury
- Unexplained gifts or new possessions
- Children returning home late, staying out all night or not returning home.

County lines is a widespread concern. Gangs from large cities such as London, Manchester, Birmingham and Liverpool are operating throughout England, Scotland and Wales.

The Children's Commissioner estimates that there are approximately 46,000 children in England who are involved in gang activity, and it is estimated that approximately 4000 children in London alone are being exploited through County Lines.

Staffordshire Police are currently trying to raise awareness of this and the warning signs to look out for - please contact them if you have any concerns.



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.

LIGHT The Darkness

The 27th January was Holocaust Memorial Day, and in their virtual tutorial students learnt more about the importance of honouring this day to remember victims of not just the Holocaust, but other subsequent genocides too.

In the evening, staff and students lit candles in remembrance, as their way of 'lighting the darkness'.

For more information on Holocaust Memorial Day and how you can get involved please visit https://www.hmd.org.uk/



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.

ECO CLUB NEWS



Well done to **Faatimah Ulhaque** on your amazing logo design for the Eco Club!

You have created the winning design and it will be used for our future posters and events to represent Haywood Academy!



The Eco club have been discussing ideas for how to enjoy eco activities during lockdown and have come up with the 7 day Eco club half term challenges - we hope you enjoy!

Making a SCREEN BREAK



As part of Children's Mental Health Week at the beginning of February, all lessons were cancelled for Period 5 on Wednesday so that students had an opportunity to take a break from screens and to get involved in a wide range of activities.

It seems like everyone enjoyed this time!













HAYWOOD EXTRA-CURRICULAR DURING COVID

We are all adapting to the current change in circumstances and sport is too.

Although not all sports will be able to go ahead when we go back to school, there is nothing stopping you from staying active and even trying something new after school or in the holidays.

Sporting activities to get you active:

- Take up tennis with family and friends.
- Perfect your badminton shots in your garden.
 www.thebadmintonguide.com/badminton-drills/ has step by step guides and videos of drills you can easily implement at home.
- Fanatical about football? Now is a great time to practice footwork, technique and agility all essential to the game of football.
 Visit www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/watch/kickabout-home-skillsfootball-to-do-in-home-and-garden for some simple yet effective drills and exercises easy to do at home.
- Cricket-practice your bowling technique or improve your batting and there are plenty of online videos to guide you through the sequences of movement.
- Learn how to shoot in netball, practice your ball skills throwing off a wall or fast sidestep figure of eights round two cones to develop your agility. Follow netballers Laura Malcom, Jo Harten, Sasha Corbin and England Netball on Instagram to get up to date tips, fitness ideas and drills.
- Develop your skills and tricks in hockey. Visit www.sportplan.net for technique videos, drills and coaching tips or give England Hockey a follow on Instagram and learn some cool tricks.
- Have a go at golf (great socially distanced sport and in the fresh air!) Find an open field- you don't have to be a member!
- Revisit running-build up week on week your distance or try and slash those seconds off your time. Always strive to beat your PB! For any beginner runners looking to get into running why not have a look at the NHS Couch to 5K, with step by step guides and broken down stages to get you up and running.

www.nhs.uk/live-well/exercise/couch-to-5k-week-by-week/ Also, try and complete our Haywood Jogging & Walking challenge set by the PE team.

 Simply GO on walks and explore the countryside that we are surrounded by. You are never far away from a canal or a green field, so get out there and enjoy it. Get some air into those lungs as it's the free and makes you feel a million dollars!

Fitness and exercises to keep fit:

So as part of our fitness regime, we would love you to challenge yourselves! We have put together some exercises here to really push yourselves but please do so in a safe manner and environment with someone else around/at home whilst you exercise.

Don't forget the importance of warming up before activity (with an emphasis on heart rate raising) and cooling down afterwards (with an emphasis on stretching). Remember it is also important to work at your own pace, work hard but do not over exert yourself. We don't want any injuries from over training or trying to do too much too soon. Take your time and gradually build up the reps to suit you. For fitness exercises there are different variations that make these easier or harder depending on your ability and current fitness. Ensure you get your form right as this is essential to preventing muscle strain and injury, there are plenty of guides and videos online so please do have a look.



Pushups

Start with as many as you can, full reps, make sure to get low and keep that back straight! Each day try and add another 1-5 more reps onto the amount you did previously.

Abs

Bicycle crunches- I aim to do around 5 minutes of this a day (2 sets of 2.5 minutes) but you will need to build up to this and suggest you start with shorter intervals. A combination of this combined with 3 minutes of full body crunches a day is perfect for core work. It'll strengthen your abs, as well as your back. For all you people doing contact sports this is essential.

Plank- remember to engage your core, keep your bum down and back straight (important to stop pressure on your back and it aching). Your whole body should be in line from your shoulders, hips to your feet. https://greatist.com/fitness/perfect-plank#plank-variations. This website has some excellent step by step guides with photos of how to perfect your plank.

For further ab workouts have a look online as there are many videos and guides for all abilities. Let us know of any core exercises you guys do as there are many out there!

Strength

Check out Joe Wicks, personal trainer, who has a YouTube channel 'The Body Coach' where he offers great workout videos, some with weights and others with alternative strength exercises. Only do as much as you are comfortable with.

Training can take place in the form of pull ups, tricep dips and push-ups - but do this with variation - i.e. different types of push-ups to target different muscle groups. You can of course do any other exercises you like that give you the best pump! Obviously for different people different programs work best; what you aim to achieve with your body will affect the workout you will do.

Self-isolating fitness

any of the above can easily be done at home, but if you want to burn off some energy, running round your garden or even up and down the stairs are further ways of keeping fit without leaving your house.

Of course these are only a few suggestions, if you guys have any other workouts you would like to suggest, we'd love to hear about them!

Make sure you get in contact with us via email or social media, and we'd love to give them a go.

ARCH VALUES CERTIFICATES

Over the time you are at home keep a log of the distance you have run or walked and the total time you have spent doing whatever form of exercise.

(Remember, as a school we <u>value</u> the ARCH values, so please don't give false or exaggerated information about the activity you get up to).

Then send it to a member of the PE team, along with the year group you are in, and you will receive a certificate for your efforts. This can then go into your Record of Achievement folder which you will get in year 11. It's a big deal to build up your certificates, as this is what separates you from an 'average' student.

Why not send in a photo of you trying a new sport or of your sporting achievements over the holidays and we can celebrate this with you!

We hope you can get involved with the above over the holidays or after school, whatever your level of sporting ability and it's up to you how much you do. Don't forget that sport is meant to be enjoyable, so keep smiling and keep active.

Most of the activities suggested are absolutely free and exercise is something tough, but when you stick at it.....it gives you such a good feeling!

Best wishes and stay safe,

Team PE



@citycollegestoke

@CityCollege_Burslem

@CCollegeBurslem

UCAS

This term has seen the conclusion to another successful UCAS cycle, with 75% of our Year 13 cohort sending in applications for university courses, ranging from Architecture to Psychology, Textiles to History.

Some students have already had offers, while others are still nervously waiting to hear back.

For everyone, it means the hard work to hit those predicted grades is just beginning!

Good luck!

The New Normal

Despite the challenges that this first half term of 2021 has provided, we are very impressed with the way that our students have engaged with our online learning provision, and the level of constant engagement.

Parents have been consistently supportive too, and we want to say a big thank you to everyone!

Stretching Our Students

city college

At A level, students are expected to not be entirely reliant upon their teacher, and should be carrying out wider learning and research around the curriculum.

This could be to aid revision, as other sources may explain an idea or concept better, or provide extra detail. It could also be to expand knowledge of a subject beyond the specification - maybe to provide extra case studies for a subject such as Sociology, or to allow a student to see the subject they are learning about in a wider context.

All of these will help with A level learning, as well as setting a student up for university, and with this in mind we've created a list of 'Suggested resources for wider independent study', which are accessible to our students through the City College Information Forum Google Classroom.

We will be updating this list regularly, so there will always be something for everyone!

GEOGRAPHY ROCKS!

At City College, we are always looking at ways we can improve the experience that students get and the offer open to them, and so we are delighted to say that students can not apply for A level Geography, for September 2021!

Geography is a forward-looking subject that provides opportunities to question the world around you. It is often seen as a bridge between the sciences and humanities, enabling you to gain the necessary understanding and skills for a wide range of future careers, and is essential for understanding our modern world.