June 2020



WISDOM HOPE COMMUNITY DIGNITY EQUALITY

Dear parent and carer

PARENT UPDATE

I hope that you have had a chance for a break. The weather has been fantastic, which does help in a lockdown! I wanted to update you as we move into our last half term of this academic year. There is a lot of information out there, so I hope this clarifies our St Hilda's position for you. As always, I will contact you when I think you need an update. That is so that I don't overload you when you are juggling so many things! However, if you have any questions please contact me. I hope a brief summary of what is going to happen per year group may be of use too. In the current climate, I was worried that certain year groups may feel neglected or forgotten. That is not the case at all.

YEARS 11 & 13

We have been working hard to produce centre assessed grades for students. We have used the data I have outlined to you in previous messages. This then goes to the exam board who look at it. There has been a little bit of concern from you regarding Ofqual's decision to put more weighting on historical results. We are keeping a close eye on this and will update you when we have further information. We have had many levels of quality assuring the grades we are submitting.

YEARS 10 & 12

There are some plans for Years 10 and 12 to have some face-to-face meetings. We are planning for these and will be inviting students in over the next few weeks. Please look out for the letter. We will be offering the option of coming into school or doing via Zoom. Parents and carers are also most welcome. The initial meeting is a well-being one and the students will complete a simple survey.

YEAR 8

Year 8 will be having some contact from us about option choices. We are really looking forward to seeing their choices and reviewing these with them. This is a great opportunity for them to personalise their timetable in Year 9. We have offered this for the past 2 years and have really seen the benefit of it.

Headteacher **Mrs J Code** BA (Hons), NPQH, FCCT

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YEARS 7 AND 9

Years 7 and 9 will also be contacted either by phone or email to talk about how things are and if they need any further support. We will send you information about this. We want to make sure they realise how important they are to the St Hilda's Family.

YEAR 6

For those with younger children getting ready to come to us in September we will not be able to hold our usual in-school transition days. However, we are preparing lots of transition activities for both you and your son or daughter including 'meet your form tutor' and a virtual tour. We will be in touch with the final programme very soon!

PARENTS & CARERS

THANK YOU! Your efforts and support have not gone unnoticed. You have juggled your own work, children in different year groups, fear and anxieties and home learning so well. The amount of teachers I have heard saying how hard home learning is with our own children! I totally agree. It has not been easy in the Code household and I have had to amend my expectations of my son, especially his school start time! So we applaud you and are so grateful for your support. We have all learnt so much over the past few months. And we will adapt to whatever happens next. One thing remains unchanged; we miss your sons and daughters and want them back in our building. Until then, I continue to risk assess, make changes and get ready to welcome them back.

As always, we will remember you in our prayers and hope that you all stay safe. Please let us know if you need any help.

Mrs J Code Headteacher

MAY BE OF INTEREST?

Updated Edge Hill University virtual activities timetable

Edge Hill University have updated their live virtual activities timetable with brand new content for both young people and their supporters to access. We thought you might find this useful.

The updated timetable will be running from **Monday 1st June** with bookings already live via webpages [ehu.ac.uk/virtualoutreach].

We would encourage students to visit these <u>webpages</u> to find out more about the new and returning scheduled sessions, as they will also be able to see the wider offer and book on to other topics they may find of interest. Examples of new sessions include:

Our *Wellbeing and Moving Forward* session (for Years 7 to 13): Focusing on how we can support our own wellbeing and looks at ways in which we can identify the positives in our everyday lives to help us move forward and succeed, particularly in the current environment.

The *EHU Escape Room* session (for Years 7 to 11): This session is a live escape room style activity in which attendees will work together to escape being virtually 'locked in' a location on the Edge Hill University campus. After the escape room activity, attendees will also be provided with advice and guidance about different types of universities, and what this looks like from a 'physical' perspective.

Student Life Q&A Live Chat (for all year groups): This session, led by a member of the Education Liaison team and some of our current Edge Hill students, will focus on what life is like as a university student. Our student ambassadors will also discuss their path to university, and what factors they considered along the way. Attendees will also have the opportunity to put questions to our current students.

Spotlight on... sessions (for Years 7 to 11): These sessions are an opportunity for students to find out more about a specific subject area at HE level (with a different subject area each week) and is delivered by a subject specialist. Attendees will take part in a subject specific interactive activity and will be encouraged to take part in our subject-themed weekly competitions which link to this session. These sessions will also provide attendees with information about typical entry requirements (GCSEs, A Levels/BTECs, etc) at HE level for the different subject areas, and what students should be thinking about as they progress to university. Subject sessions will be: Performing Arts and Media, English and Creative Writing, Business, Biosciences, History, Law and Criminology, Geosciences.

Parents and Guardians sessions: These sessions will provide parents and supporters of students (from Years 7 to 13) with an overview of Higher Education, information on student support at HE level and guidance as to how parents and guardians can support their children in regard to their progression to university in the future.

Please note that all session participants are now required to book onto sessions using our online booking form, with pre-16 students requiring a parent or guardian to provide their consent as part of the process in order to comply with data protection regulations.

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