



Hanham Matters

Weekly bulletin for Hanham Woods Academy

Week Ending 14th May 2021

This week we have implemented a slight change to our policy around students arriving late to lessons. If a student arrives to lesson 3 minutes after the bell, they will receive a warning on our Ready to Learn system. If they are more than 5 minutes late they will be referred to our Inclusion Area. I know both students and parents/carers had concerns about this change, but I can reassure you this was well planned and thought out even to the point of me walking slowly with a student during a busy changeover between the two furthest points of the Academy, which took 2 minutes and 16 seconds! As I write this newsletter our 800+ students have had 7 or 8 lesson transitions per day for 3 days (a total of 16,800 individual transitions) and there have been only 8 students referred for lateness! Students are walking more purposefully to lessons and by being on time are ensuring that time for learning is maximised (if you are even 1 minute late to every lesson you lose 6 minutes learning per day; 30 minutes per week; over 19 hours a year). Thank you for your ongoing support with maintaining high expectations and standards at the Academy.

I know many of you have been ordering uniform online with our new supplier Monkhouse Schoolwear. We have been informed that there is a delivery charge to your house but not to the Academy. If you would like to have your order delivered to the Academy we will facilitate collections when orders arrive.

Next week our amazing Year 10 students will be having a number of Careers and Employability workshops. The majority of these will occur in tutor time each morning but students will also be having meetings with our own Careers Lead, Mrs Burt, as well as external speakers delivering sessions. Obviously, we have been unable to offer work experience so this input is essential in supporting students to make informed career choices moving forward.

Whilst the Library is still not able to be used during social times, it has been used for Accelerated Reader lessons by our fantastic Year 7 students. Last week Mrs Jardine updated the class and individual reading 'Leader boards'; Congratulations to Lydia, Vibisha and Leigh-Anne who are our top readers and to 7X1 who just beat 7Y1 to be the top reading class. Developing reading remains one of our key priorities for improvement. Please do keep encouraging your child to read whenever possible.

You will be aware that from Monday 17th May the country moves to the next stage of 'unlocking' restrictions. For schools there is actually only minimal changes. Secondary students will no longer be required to wear face coverings in classrooms or communal areas. However, if possible, we would like students to continue to bring a face covering to the Academy as before, as there may be areas of the Academy in which they may be asked to wear them, where it is more difficult to stay apart. While the government no longer recommends the wearing of face coverings in the classroom, students may choose to wear them at any time during the day if they feel more comfortable doing so. Staff in secondary schools will also no longer be required to wear face coverings in classrooms. Staff and visitors will continue to wear masks outside the classroom in areas where social distancing is not possible (such as corridors and communal areas). We will, of course, keep all our systems of control under review and communicate any changes to parents/carers. Can I take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support in keeping all our community safe. We have had no further reported positive cases in the Academy since returning from Lockdown on 8th March.

We have rescheduled our Year 7 and Year 8 Parents' Evenings until Term 6 to allow staff to have more information to share with parents/carers. Year 8 Parents Evening will be Thursday 24th June and Year 7 Parents Evening is now scheduled for Thursday 1st July. Both will be virtual using our video-conferencing software and more details will be circulated regarding booking appointments. Thank you to parents/cares for your patience with this – as you can imagine it has been difficult to find the appropriate time to offer feedback on academic progress with so much disruption caused by the pandemic.



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Finally, our brilliant Year 11 students continue to complete a range of assessments which will allow their teachers to award their Teacher Assessed Grades. (TAGs) This will result in them being awarded their GCSE grades and certificates. I will be writing to Year 11 parents/carers next week to provide full details of how these TAGs will be awarded and information about how and when Year 11 will be finishing their time at Hanham Woods Academy. In the meantime, it is important that all Year 11 students attend all lessons to maximise the opportunities to be awarded the highest grades possible.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Kneller | Principal

CALENDAR- Week Beginning 17th May

DATE	EVENT
Monday 17 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Football After School- 3pm-4pm
Tuesday 18 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">KS3 Badminton ClubKS3 Table Tennis ClubKS4 Basketball Club
Wednesday 19 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Netball & Football TournamentsJust Dance/Fitness
Thursday 20 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">GCSE PE & BTEC Sport Practical AssessmentKS3 Basketball Club
Friday 21 st May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">GCSE PE & BTEC Sport Targeted Support

CALENDAR- Week Beginning 24th May

DATE	EVENT
Monday 24 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Football After School- 3pm-4pm
Tuesday 25 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">KS3 Badminton ClubKS3 Table Tennis ClubKS4 Basketball Club
Wednesday 26 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Netball & Football TournamentsJust Dance/Fitness
Thursday 27 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">GCSE PE & BTEC Sport Practical AssessmentKS3 Basketball Club
Friday 28 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">INSET DAY