

HOCKERILL NEWS



The roadmap out of lockdown has reached the first milestone and we are looking forward to welcoming students back to campus next week. The campus and LFD testing centre are ready and will over the next two weeks complete approximately 3000 tests. The tests are being completed largely by our volunteer staff and parents and we owe them a huge debt of gratitude for their dedication and support for the testing they will be doing and the testing they have been doing every day since January 5th. We really could not have done it without them. The testing is key to reopening College as by completing it we keep everyone at College - and at home - safe and so keep your children in school. Thank you to everyone who has given their consent for testing (90+% of parents) and for supporting us in ensuring that students wear masks at all times (other than when in outdoor recreation spaces).

The Hub this week contains lots of information about the return to College and we ask that you read it through as a family before next week so that everyone is clear on their responsibilities. Thank you for your support through the lockdown period and we look forward to a successful completion of the Lent Term.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Wednesday 10th March
Normal lessons 1, 2 & 3 (NOT Saturday B lessons as appears in student planners)
- Thursday 11th March
Hockerill Parents and Friends AGM (further details below)
- Saturday 20th March
Year 9 Options morning (1100hrs)
- Tuesday 23rd March
Year 9 Parent Teacher Consultations

REMINDERS

If your child at Hockerill is struggling to access lessons while in lockdown due to lack of a suitable device because of financial difficulties, please contact Christian Appleford via admin@hockerill.com as the school may be able to loan a device for the short term.

CONTACT US:
General communications to: admin@hockerill.com
Absence communications to: absence@hockerill.com

Return to College Guidance Booklet

Please find a link below to the guidance booklet. Please be aware that this guidance is for students, parents and staff and does include links to documents that can only be opened by staff where relevant.

https://www.hockerill.com/uploads/asset_file/3_1401_return-to-college-guidance-for-staff-students-and-parents-from-8th-march-2021.pdf

Rapid lateral flow testing for households and bubbles of school pupils and staff

Around 1 in 3 people with coronavirus (COVID-19) do not have symptoms but can still pass it on to others. Regular testing of people without symptoms (asymptomatic testing) is important to help stop the virus spreading. As lockdown restrictions gradually ease, we all need to play our part to help protect each other.

On Sunday 28 February, the [Department of Health and Social Care](#) announced that from Monday 1 March, households with primary school, secondary school and college age children, including childcare and support bubbles, can test themselves twice every week at home as schools return from Monday 8 March. Households, childcare and support bubbles of primary, secondary and college staff can also be tested. Twice-weekly testing will also be offered to adults working in the wider school community, including bus drivers and after school club leaders. The twice-weekly test kits can be accessed:

- via employers if they offer testing to employees
- at a local test site
- by collecting a home test kit from a test site
- by ordering a home test kit online

Schools should not give test kits to parents, carers or household members and should not order more test kits for this purpose. Letters containing advice on where to access testing will be made available for schools to share with parents and staff shortly.

This [guidance](#) provides information on who can be tested and how you can get a test.

Travelling to school safely

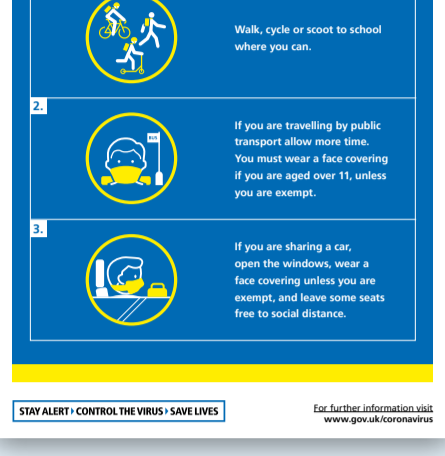
Please find messages below from the Department of Transport and local bus services.

Further information can be found in our [guidance on transport to school and other places of education](#).

Please follow the links below for further information about Hertfordshire bus services:

https://www.hockerill.com/uploads/asset_file/3_1397_arriava-head-teacher-letter.pdf

https://www.hockerill.com/uploads/asset_file/3_1398_hertfordshire-schools-return-8-march-2021.pdf



BOARDING

Students travelling from 'Red List' Countries

Yesterday (Thursday 4th March), the Department for Education confirmed boarders at schools in England from 'red list' countries can quarantine in boarding houses rather than government hotels. The arrangements are relatively complicated so I would ask parents who are impacted to contact your child's Head of House in the first instance.

Census

Any UK based residential (Full and Weekly) boarders will complete their census under supervision of boarding staff at College on the evening of Sunday 21st March or Monday 22nd March.

If your child is a UK based residential boarder then you will not need to include them in the census completed for their home.

Any residential boarder that currently resides in the UK and is arriving at College after 31st March the census will have to be completed by parents using their UK home address.

International boarders do not need to complete the census if they are not in the UK prior to the 31st March.

Consent for Lateral Flow Device Test

A reminder that all parents should [consent](#) for the Lateral Flow Device Tests, even if your child has to quarantine when they arrive at College or if they are returning after Easter.

National Tutoring Programme

The National Tutoring Programme sessions, which some students have been offered, will continue when we return to face to face teaching from Monday 8th March. Students have been sent an email reminding them of the timings and the rooms to report to for these sessions. Thank you for your support with this programme. Once the 15 sessions are completed they will return to their normal timetabled lessons.

YEAR 9

The Year 9 Parent Teacher consultations will take place on Tuesday 23rd March. Please remember to book your online appointments. Follow the link for further information: https://www.hockerill.com/uploads/asset_file/3_1387_year-9-parents-online-consultation-evening-tuesday-23rd-march-2021.pdf

YEAR 11

Arrangements for the award of GCSEs in summer 2021

You will be aware that in January, the government decided that this year's GCSEs, A levels and vocational examinations could not go ahead as planned and, instead, students should receive grades based on teacher assessment.

The DfE and Ofqual have now confirmed the alternative arrangements schools need to implement for the award of these qualifications in 2021. Their overarching aims are that students can get their grades and move onto their next stage of education, employment of training and that these grades are widely understood and respected.

The details below outline the key elements of the assessment process to determine and award grades fairly and consistently both within and across schools. The infographic at the end of this statement also provides a useful 'at a glance' summary. Students might also wish to read this article written by Ofqual especially for them.

Timelines:

- Schools will need to submit grades to the exam boards by 18th June
- GCSE results will be published on 12th August

How grades will be determined:

- Teachers will assess the standard at which students are performing, based only on what has been taught (providing there has been sufficient coverage of the course content).
- Teacher judgements will be based on a range of evidence. This evidence may include any of the work listed below, but the school will need to be confident that it is the student's own unaided work and they have not been given inappropriate levels of support either at home or from tutors.
- The evidence can be taken from any point in the course, but it is expected that more recent evidence is likely to be more representative of a student's achievement.

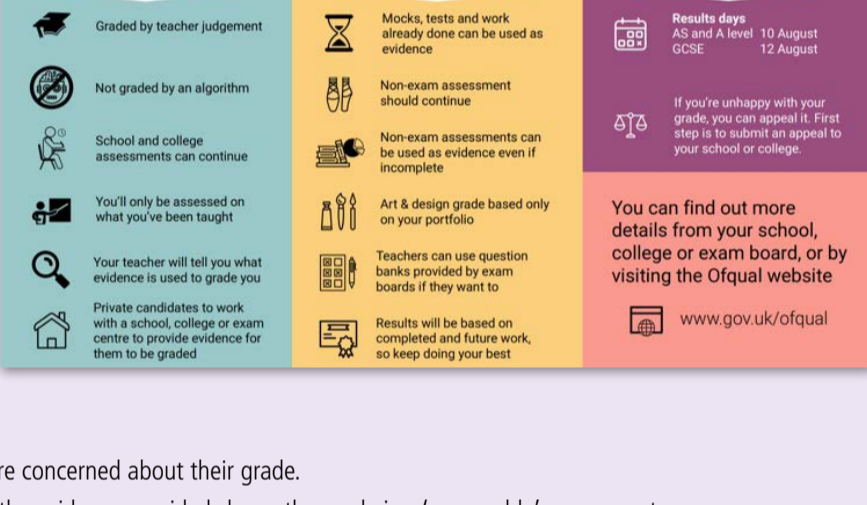
The evidence base could include:

- work produced in class or at home (including remote learning, where schools are confident it is the students' own, unaided work). This would be expected to be similar in format as exam board material and marked using exam board mark schemes
- tests and mock exams taken over the course of study
- work produced in response to the additional assessment materials (mini tests) to be provided by the exam board
- non-exam assessment (NEA) work even if this has not been fully completed
- records of a student's capability and performance over the course of study in performance-based subjects such as music, drama and PE

Students will be informed of which evidence is being used to assess them but they will not be told the grade in advance of results day.

How schools and the exam boards will ensure the grades are fair:

- Schools will be expected to have internal quality assurance systems (including moderation) and checking of grades before they are submitted.
- This internal quality assurance will also include consideration of our school's profile of results in previous years as a guide to help check that judgements aren't unduly harsh or lenient.
- Exam boards will review all schools' quality assurance processes before grades are submitted.
- Once grades are submitted, the exam board will conduct various checks to make sure grades submitted are fair and consistent across centres. This will include sampling of evidence.
- If there are concerns with the grades submitted, the exam board will work with the school to address this before results day. (Exam boards will not 'remark' the work).



Appeals:

- Students will have the right to appeal if they are concerned about their grade.
- Grades will not be changed by exam boards if the evidence provided shows the grade is a 'reasonable' assessment.

Next steps:

We appreciate you may have many questions about how this process will work in practice, including: the nature of the evidence base; whether different subjects might consider using the exam released papers and about the content covered or missed. We would ask for your patience while we work through the practicalities and also while we wait for additional information from exam boards (due at the end of March.)

Whatever further guidance is forthcoming, we will not be able to enter into conversation with parents or carers about the grades we will submit. Therefore, we would be grateful if you would avoid contacting subject teachers with specific queries about grades, because they will be unable to answer these.

For now, it is essential students focus on returning to school safely and enjoy returning to face-to-face lessons. We are very much looking forward to welcoming them back.

Once we have further information, we will write out once again to confirm the arrangements, after the Easter Holidays.

MUSIC LESSONS

Instrumental, Vocal and Theory Lesson Notice Deadlines

We hope that your children enjoy and look forward to their music lessons. If for any reason they are not enjoying their lessons, please let us know so that we can address the situation.

Please be aware that if you would like to stop lessons at any point, you must let us know in writing. The table below gives the notice deadlines for the rest of this year:

Want to Stop Lessons at:	Deadline to let us know by:
Summer - end of first half of term 2021 (May)	Friday 12 March 2021
End of Academic Year 2021 (July)	Friday 21 May 2021

It is important for us to have these deadlines, giving our peripatetic staff sufficient notice to find a replacement student. It also minimises disruption for timetabling and the Finance Department.

Please contact us at musicadmin@hockerill.com if you have any queries.

Mr Bond

Director of Music

WELLBEING

Please find below a parents' resource from Young Minds on supporting children with Covid-related anxiety as we transition back to school. https://youngminds.org.uk/media/3702/how-to-support-your-child_corona.pdf

Aspects

Please see the latest Aspects subsidised workshop flyers below. These are online workshops for parents entitled "Understanding Your Teen" and "Unplugged". The Unplugged programme is a parent awareness workshop designed for the parents of 11-15 year olds.

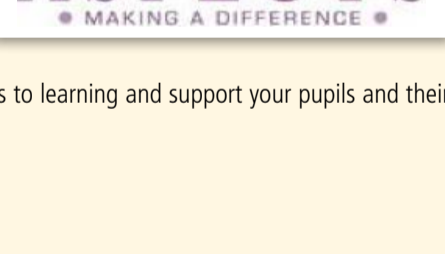
[Understanding your teen](#)

[Unplugged](#)

As you know, Aspects has continued to work with schools and families throughout the Covid crisis. We are keen to continue to support our partnership schools to help you remove barriers to learning and support your pupils and their families.

We can provide:

- Home-school Liaison
- Family Support Work
- Parenting Advice and Support
- 1:1 pupil sessions for individual work aimed at early intervention and delivery of the Protective Behaviours model of support (These can be remote or telephone sessions re social distancing).
- Parent workshops
- Consultation and early help to school staff re a wide range of useful information, resources and signposting.



LIBRARY NEWS

World Book Day Vouchers Update

The World Book Day vouchers have arrived in College and I will prepare them for distribution during form time next week, as the students return. Details of how these can be used were in last week's Hub, but here is a link to a virtual WBD voucher for any students who are living in the UK but are not yet back in College. https://www.worldbookday.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/booktoken_SecondaryUK.pdf

The digital voucher can be printed off, or some retailers will accept it on a device, but not all. Please find a link to a message from many of the wonderful authors promoting this year's World Book Day. <https://tinyurl.com/WBD-Authors>

Mrs Bruce

Acting College Librarian

SPEAKERS FOR SCHOOLS

Here is next week's full Live Broadcasts Schedule. Please feel free to share the schedule with your students!

WEEK STARTING MONDAY 8th MARCH

DATE	SPEAKER	INFO
Mon 8th March 5-6pm LINK TO JOIN 1	Carol Cooper , Head of Equality, Diversity & Human Rights, Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust & BME Expert Mental Health Forum	We are delighted to be hosting a broadcast with Carol Cooper, Head of Equality, Diversity & Human Rights, Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust & BME Expert Mental Health Forum. Carol has been actively engaged in the implementation of the Workforce Race Equality Standard and creating a systemic approach to addressing racism in the workplace which is driven by data, expertise and equitable leadership to achieve cultural change. Carol will be sharing her insights into nursing and is looking forward to answering your questions.
Tues 9th March 5-6pm LINK TO JOIN 2	Martin Prendergast , Founder, Martin Prendergast Communications & Public Affairs Consultant & Interim Director of Development, RADA for KS3-4 /S1-4	We are looking forward to welcoming Martin Prendergast, Founder of Martin Prendergast Communications & Public Affairs Consultant & Interim Director of Development, RADA. Martin has worked at the National Theatre since October 2007. He has been Director of Communications since April 2015, and before that he was Deputy Director of Development and Head of Corporate Affairs. He studied English and Theatre at Warwick University and is a committed campaigner for LGBT equality.
Wed 10th March 5-6pm LINK TO JOIN 3	Elaine Tyler , Founder, Venatrix in conversation with Nadine Myers , Senior Sales Development Representative at Citizen & Elliott Parris, Manager of Europe (Data-as-a-Service) & Co-Founder of Embrace at Elsevier for KS4-5/S4-6	We are looking forward to hosting a broadcast with Elaine Tyler, Founder of Venatrix, London's No1 SaaS sales talent partner, supporting some of the fastest-growing companies in the world. In 2015 she received investment from James Caan, former Dragon's Den Investor and his recruitment venture firm, Recruitment Entrepreneur. Venatrix have been one of the top-performing businesses in his portfolio and expect to double headcount and turnover in the next 18 months. Elaine will be talking to Nadine Myers, Senior Sales Development Representative at Citizen & Elliott Parris, Manager of Europe (Data-as-a-Service) & Co-Founder of Embrace at Elsevier about their experiences in education and how it led them to their current role.
Thurs 11th March 5-6pm LINK TO JOIN 4	David Purdue , Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Professionals at Doncaster & Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust for KS4-5/S4-6	We are looking forward to welcoming David Purdue, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Professionals at Doncaster & Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. With almost 30 years of experience within the NHS, David qualified from the Nottingham School of Nursing as a Registered Nurse in 1990, working initially within cardiology at Queen's Medical Centre and before specialising in coronary care at City Hospital. Following a second spell at Queen's, the local resident set up a number of cardiac nurse-led services before going on to work at the NHS Modernisation Agency. After returning to a patient-facing position in 2004, leading the specialities of Cardiothoracics and Emergency Medicine, David joined what was then Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust in October 2008 as Divisional Nurse Manager for Medicine, before rising to the position of Chief Operating Officer in July 2013. David became chief nurse in 2019. David will be sharing his insights into nursing and will be answering your questions.

HOW TO JOIN THE LIVE BROADCASTS

- Join 10 minutes before the broadcast to be ready
- You can join without needing an account – [Watch how here](#)
- For full speaker descriptions visit the [Broadcast Schedule here](#)

HOCKERILL PARENTS AND FRIENDS

DON'T FORGET ...

Hockerill Parents and Friends (HPF) would like to invite you to join us at our Annual General meeting (AGM) on Thursday 11th March 2021 at 8pm.

The AGM will be held via Zoom and to join the meeting please go to:

<https://zoom.us/j/8160626282?pwd=en9rHVRVHVYekhKam93QzVlenRHdz09>

- Meeting ID: 816 062 6282
- Passcode: HPFAGM

Agenda

- Minutes from Last Meeting
- 2020 Overview
- 250 club
- Annual Accounts
- Election of Trustees
- Proposed Amendments to HPF constitution
- Future Plans
- AOB

Any questions please email HPF@hockerill.com

We look forward to seeing you.

Richard Johnson

Chair of HPF