

Haggerston School

Weekly Bulletin

Haggerston School

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

I am pleased to include a letter from the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Hackney for students this week recognising their work in sustaining their own education through these difficult times.

[Letter of encouragement from the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Hackney](#)

The uncertainty continues regarding when school will resume and I know this will be creating a lot of anxiety for students and families, as it does for us. At some point, it will become clear what the next steps are and we will be ready to plan and facilitate a return, as soon as we are given the go ahead. In the meantime, we continue to set work through the DPR and encourage students to engage with their teachers directly through the feedback tool to let them know if the work is too challenging or not enough, too much or too little. It is difficult to gauge and differentiate for every child from a distance so this dialogue is particularly important at this time. In a normal classroom, teachers are able to circulate, check work and ask questions to judge what students need next. Without this responsiveness, we are more reliant on students telling us what they need and how they are finding the set work.

We have had a few queries about whether the school is looking into online lessons using an online platform, such as Zoom. Although this may seem like a simple solution, it is fraught with complexities, including safeguarding issues and the fact that some students would be further excluded from the learning available if they don't have the ability to participate. The advice and guidance we have had on this from multiple sources is that there are still too many security and data protection issues to be able to safely roll this out. However, we have taken a step in this direction this week by trialing some audio lessons in English and Spanish with specific year groups and will look to expand this if they are well received. Similarly, Heads of Year have been exploring options for year group assemblies in a similar vein.

I am also pleased to include a letter from Ms Cooke, who leads on WAMHS (Wellbeing and Mental Health) which is aimed at students suggesting ways they can access support for their mental health.

[Mental Health and Covid-19 information for Parents/Carers and Students](#)

There are also some other links included below for support with bereavement and other areas of need.

Finally, there is a link below to our Spring Haggerston Recorder. Under the current circumstances, we have decided to send this as an electronic copy only but please do take a look. It showcases some of the great opportunities and achievements of our fantastic students over the past term.

Have a lovely weekend.

Ciara Emmerson
Headteacher

Coronavirus – Advice for Schools and Parents/Guardians

Please follow this link to our website page to view advice and updates:

<https://haggerston.hackney.sch.uk/parentscarers/coronavirus-advice-and-guidance/>

Haggerston Recorder

Easter 2020 newsletter

[Click here to view the new Spring Haggerston Recorder](#)

For more of our latest news and stories please follow us on:



<https://www.facebook.com/HaggerstonSchoolHackney/>



<https://twitter.com/haggerstonsch>

[Letter of encouragement to all school students from the Mayor and Cllr Bramble](#)



The Hackney Safer Schools App - Parents / Carers

For more information please click [here](#)

Support for young people and bereaved families

We are now living in very uncertain times and the Educational Psychology Service wanted to take the opportunity to remind you of the guidance sent just before schools closed on the 20 March regarding talking to children and young people about the virus. This includes a social story about the virus and includes [downloadable](#) information for children about coronavirus in different languages.

We are also aware that some families may have experienced a bereavement, perhaps due to the virus or perhaps not, or will do in the future. The virus has meant that even at these times, we are having to change our usual behaviours, and managing limited attendance at funerals amongst other things.

Please see the below guidance that has been previously circulated regarding managing critical and traumatic incidents to remind you of the resources and sources of help that are available to you.

- [Dr Joanne's 10 top tips for parents and carers for supporting their children in conversations about coronavirus.](#)
- [What is coronavirus?](#)
- [HLT critical incidents framework.](#)
- [Looking after your feelings and your body.](#)

If you would like further support, please contact your link EP in the first instance.

Advice for those working in schools – The British Psychological Society

The British Psychological Society have a useful blog and news page on their [website](#). You can find guidance and advice for teachers and other professionals during these difficult times.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) advice and support for parents and carers (NSPCC)

The NSPCC has created a number of resources to support parents and carers during this difficult time. Topics include:

- Talking to a child worried about coronavirus
- Parents working from home
- Children staying home alone
- Lockdown and separated parents
- How to cope with tantrums and other difficult behaviour

The advice can be found on the NSPCC website [here](#).

What children are saying to Childline about coronavirus (NPSCC)

Gaining an insight into the worries that children have shared with Childline during this pandemic can help adults think about what support needs to be put in place for young people at this time.

A summary of young people's key concerns can be found [here](#).

Young Hackney coronavirus update: Online hub and useful resources for parents and children

Young Hackney's online hub is live Monday - Friday, 3pm-5pm. You will find a packed programme of virtual activities to get stuck into. There are junior sessions for ages 6-12 and senior sessions ages for 13-19, as well sessions and support available over the phone for young people with SEND and for targeted groups including young carers and their parents.

You can visit the [online hub](#) to see what activities they have planned.

Supporting the mental health and wellbeing of pupils and students

Anna Freud Centre has put together a free [Supporting Schools and Colleges booklet](#) which provides advice and guidance for school staff about how to help children and young people manage their mental health and wellbeing during times of disruption to their learning. The CAMHS Alliance in City & Hackney have also developed a resource for children and young people on how to access mental health and wellbeing support in this times: [CAMHS COVID Getting Help](#).

Contact: Charlotte Lucas, CAMHS Alliance Project Support Officer, 07454844458

Key Notices

Message from the Local Authority: increased fraud risk during coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic

Periods of instability, such as during the coronavirus pandemic, bring an increased risk of fraud. Fraudsters will actively exploit these difficult times and will target vulnerable areas for financial gain.

We have been informed some learners and parents have received a letter from ESFA asking for personal learner bank details in relation to the 16 to 19 Bursary Fund. We never ask for personal bank account details. This is a fraudulent letter – please do not respond.

Regular communication with parents/carers is important to us at Haggerston School. It is vital that the school office holds **updated and current contact information** in order that you can receive important messages from school or in case of a medical and/or emergency situation.

Please contact the school office to update or confirm that your contact information is correct.

P: 020 7739 7324

E: haggerstonschool@haggerston.hackney.sch.uk

SUMMER TERM

START	HALF TERM	FINISH
Monday 20 April 2020	Monday 25 – Friday 29 May 2020	Friday 17 July 2020 Early Closure 12.45pm