

Haggerston School

Weekly Bulletin

Haggerston School

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that the past two weeks of distance learning have gone smoothly. I know from experience that juggling work and children at home is not without challenges! This is a learning curve for us all and we are looking at ways to make things as easy and clear as possible for students and parents. We have been really impressed by the diligence of students in logging in to the DPR and uploading their work and I'm sure this is a reflection of the support they have received at home from their parents. A big thank you for all you have done over the past few weeks to help ensure your child's education is prioritised at this time.

Teachers have been asked to check in with students who haven't engaged with the DPR which is important for a number of reasons. Firstly, we need to check that there are no issues with their access to the DPR or internet in general. Secondly, we need to make sure they understand and can do the work so that their education and progress doesn't fall behind their peers, and finally, we have a safeguarding duty to every child. If a student didn't turn up to school for days and we didn't know why, we would need to check and make sure that everything was okay. The same is true if a child doesn't engage with the DPR or respond to emails from their teachers. We will check in to ensure all is well.

We have made the decision not to set homework for Year 7, 8 or 9 students over the Easter holidays. We feel that families, including staff, need some time off. It is important that there is a distinction between the routines students need to follow on a school day and those on a weekend or holiday. We don't yet know how long this situation will last for so it is important to give students a break from the current routine for their mental and physical wellbeing. Hopefully this will help to keep their motivation and stamina high over the longer term. We would, however, encourage parents to make sure their children are exercising daily and reading daily over the holidays. If homework has already been set by teachers, this will be optional work which students only need to complete if they want to. They may want to save it to complete after the holidays when the new term starts.

For Key Stage 4 and 5 students, we have asked teachers to set homework only where necessary for students completion of the course or to meet important course deadlines. This should allow older students to have a balance between school work and rest. For all year groups, teachers won't set classwork during this period.

Please do let your child's Head of Year know if your child is struggling to access the work via the DPR and we can support you with this.

I wish you all a safe and healthy Easter holiday.

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/2020/02/12/coronavirus-advice-for-schools-parents-guardians/>

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>

Children's guide to coronavirus

Many children will be anxious or worried about the coronavirus outbreak and that many will have questions about everything that is happening at the moment.

Children's Commissioner for England have put together a [short guide](#) to help explain to children, in a language they can understand, some of the issues surrounding coronavirus. Thousands of people have downloaded the guide already or shared it on social media - so please do share with parents or groups you know if you find it useful.

They have also created a page full of advice, information, suggestions and resources for parents, educators and other professionals who work with children to help during the pandemic. This can be found [here](#).

Easter playscheme

A number of schools have ensured continued provision for pupils during the Easter break which will allow key workers to continue where they are needed and ensure that vulnerable pupils are safeguarded. Hackney is also running a playscheme at Benthall school during the Easter break for pupils aged 4 – 12 years. Parents can [book a place](#) online and more information is also available on our [website](#).

Schools can contact Anthony Greenidge (anthony.greenidge@learningtrust.co.uk) to coordinate places for children with a social worker.

Guidance for parents and carers: keeping children safe online

We have updated our information for parents and carers to include a section on keeping children safe online. It provides links to online resources that will help support parents and carers in keeping their children safe online.

Full details can be found in section 6.3 of the guidance for parents and carers on the closure of educational settings:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

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

Upcoming events: week beginning 6th April 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
EASTER HOLIDAYS				

SPRING TERM

START	HALF TERM	FINISH
Monday 06 January 2020	Monday 17 – Friday 21 February 2020	Friday 03 April 2020
INSET DAY: Monday 23 March 2020		

SUMMER TERM

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

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Attendance to school and GCSE outcomes

If your child attends 4 days per week on average over the year, their attendance will average 80% over the year.

A child who misses half a day per week on average will typically be around 90%.

Your child's attendance should ideally be 100% every week. We know from our own data that our students achieve their best when they are here every day. The less a child attends, the lower their overall GCSE outcomes.

At Haggerston School, the average GCSE grade for a child with 97% attendance is grade 7. Compare this to a child with 90% attendance whose average grade is nearer a 3 and you will see why we worry about those children who do not attend school every day. Other factors of course will impact on a child's overall attainment at the end of Year 11 but the easiest way to ensure that your child has the opportunity to achieve to the best of his/her ability, is for him/her to attend school daily.

Children also lose significant learning time if they are repeatedly late to period 1, as period 1 is lesson one of the day.

Your child should be on site by 8.30am every day.

Medicines and remedies

If your child has a minor cough or cold, please send them to school. We will send them home if needed.

For minor injuries or ailments, paracetamol (and or other medication) can be handed in to reception and taken on site as appropriate

Unauthorised absences

Medical appointments should not be taken in school time. If this is unavoidable, the appointment card should be brought in and shown to the Head of Year **48 hours in advance of the appointment**. Requests to leave for an appointment are unlikely to be authorised if this procedure is not followed.

Medical evidence is needed for any absence which lasts for 5 days or more. In the case of persistently low attendance, absences will not be authorised unless medical evidence is provided. In cases of persistent absence, the Educational Welfare Officer may refer to the local authority and statutory action can result.

If absences are sporadic and persistent, medical evidence will be requested before absences can be authorised.

Holidays are not authorised by the school at any time and should not be taken during the school term. Fines are issued in these circumstances.

Lateness

If a child is late to school, 3 corrections are awarded (this leads to a 1 hr detention). The detention is on the same day for Year 11 and the day after for Years 7 to 10. If your child wishes to discuss the reason for the detention, he/she will need to speak with their Head of Year. For children who are persistently late, statutory action may follow.

Parents/Carers

In the rare case where you need to report an absence for your child, please contact the absence line by 8.30am with a specific reason: **02077397324, Option 2** (Please note we cannot accept "unwell" as a reason for absence.)

Parents and Carers are legally responsible for overseeing that their child attends school every day and arrives on time. Please help us to ensure your child makes the most of every opportunity at school by arriving on time every day and arrives prepared and ready to learn. If you have any questions or information that needs sharing between home and school regarding your child's attendance and punctuality, please contact your child's Head of Year.