

Haggerston School

Weekly Bulletin

Haggerston School

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been so wonderful to have students back in school this week and to see classrooms and playgrounds full of children for the first time in many months. Students have impressed us with their excellent behaviour around the school site and adherence to the new rules but also in their enthusiasm and maturity during the induction week presentations. They have had to listen to and assimilate a lot of information in a short space of time but we felt it was important to make sure every child knew what to expect and had the key information before starting their normal timetable next week.

We have had to ask parents to add glue sticks to the equipment list for the start of term. This is because of the limitations of being able to share equipment between groups. In addition, please ensure your child has a suitable waterproof jacket for school. We have been lucky to have great weather this week but it is likely we will have more wet and cold weather as the term progresses. There are more restrictions on space because of the health and safety measures we have had to implement so there may be times when students will have to be outside in poor weather. Therefore, it is more important this year than ever that students have warm and weatherproof coats.

Obviously the situation with COVID is changing all the time. I would remind all members of the school community of the amendments to the guidance for social gatherings that were announced last night. This guidance does not apply when students are in school but it is still important that children follow the rules outside of school in order to protect themselves, their families and members of the school community. The government has been clear in their communication with schools that they will put in place a range of restrictions in society to curb the rise in cases before considering further widespread school closures in order to protect children's education. However, we are aware of schools who have had to send classes or year groups home for isolation periods following positive cases of Covid 19. Whilst this is perhaps an inevitability of the current situation, it is crucial that we minimise the risk of this happening and we can take positive steps to do so, such as following the rules outside of school. Alongside all the measures we are taking in school, this is another important aspect of minimising risk and we ask all parents to be proactive in their approach to this. On a more positive note, should we have to move to remote learning for any groups, we are working hard to ensure that we are able to provide the highest quality remote learning.

During lockdown, I began writing these messages weekly as a way to keep connected with families and ensure there was a regular communication from school to home to keep parents informed. With all students back in school from next week, we will revert to our usual communication arrangements with half termly Head's Newsletters. The chart below outlines our standard communication system. With school running again as normal, it is important for me to focus my attention primarily on the day to day quality of education students receive. However, many of you have told me how much you have valued this frequent contact so we are going to include regular messages and blogs from different leaders and key staff within the school so that the bulletin continues to have more of a personal connection alongside the regular notices.

I hope your children have enjoyed being back this week and hope you have a lovely, sunny weekend.

Ms Emmerson
Headteacher

Haggerston School

Aspiration, Creativity, Character

Parent Communication Chart

How we will communicate with you:

What?	How?	When?
Achievement Reports	Student data reports sent home	Termly (3x per year)
Parents' Evening	Face to Face appointments with subject teachers	Annually
Parents' Information Evening	Presentation from key staff. Year 7 parents will meet their child's tutor	Annually in Sept
Headteacher's Newsletter	Published on website . Text message reminder	Half termly (6x per year)
Haggerston Recorder	Magazine celebrating events and student achievements	Termly (3x per year)
Social media pages - Twitter and Facebook	News, events, reminders and useful links published regularly	Regular weekly updates
Website	Regular updates and letters, including weekly parent bulletin of upcoming events.	Updated weekly
Letters about specific events/information related to your child	Emailed or posted home, often with a text message reminder	As required
Reminders/notices/detentions	Text message home	As required

How you can communicate with us:

What?	How?	When?
Messages to teachers/tutors	Notes in student planner or direct email	As required. You should expect to receive a response within 48 hours.
Queries or Concerns	Contact the Head of Department (email addresses available on the website) or class teacher for curriculum related issues. For all other issues, email your child's tutor in the first instance or a member of their pastoral team. School office staff will be able to advise on who best to contact about any other issues.	As required. You should expect to receive a response within 48 hours. We do try to respond to urgent issues within 24 hours.
Views, comments and suggestions	Parent survey will be sent out via email Head-teacher's Drop-in mornings	Annually in Spring Term Termly - dates published on the website
Complaints	See Complaints Policy on the website for details.	As required

Highlight of the Week



We are delighted to welcome the new Year 7 students to Haggerston School. We look forward to providing them with an outstanding education. Welcome back to all of our students. It has been a real pleasure to see you all. Get ready for some serious learning!

For our latest news and stories, please follow us on:



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

<https://twitter.com/haggerstonsch>

Key Notices

Head Teachers September Newsletter and Covid Attendance Policy

Please follow this link to our website page to view:

<https://haggerston.hackney.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Head-teachers-Newsletter-4.9.20.pdf>

<https://haggerston.hackney.sch.uk/2020/09/08/covid-19-attendance-policy-letter/>

Need help using the Internet?

Whether you want to stay in touch with family via Zoom, join a fitness class on Google Hangouts, set up Email or try online shopping, a basic understanding of how to use the Internet can make life easier and more fulfilling.

If all this is new then that is okay, and you are not alone! Hackney Council has created a bunch of snappy videos which can be seen [here](#) to show you how, step by step.

Please share with friends, family, colleagues and parents so we can all develop our skills together.

Contact: [Susan McFarland-Lyons](#), Senior Delivery Manager

Upcoming events: week beginning 14th September 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Normal school timetable begins for all students	Photograph Day for new students IDs Parent Information Evening (Virtual)			

Term Dates for Academic Year 2020-2021

AUTUMN TERM

START	HALF TERM	FINISH
See New Schedule For w/c 07.09.20	Monday 26 – Friday 30 October 2020	Friday 18 December 2020 Early Closure 12.45pm
Monday 14 September 2020 (All students)		
INSET DAYS: Thursday 03 September 2020 Friday 04 September 2020 Monday 07 December 2020		

SPRING TERM

START	HALF TERM	FINISH
Tuesday 05 January 2021	Monday 15 – Friday 19 February 2021	Thursday 01 April 2021
INSET DAY: Monday 04 January 2021 Monday 22 March 2021		

SUMMER TERM

START	HALF TERM	FINISH
Monday 19 April 2021	Monday 31 May – Friday 04 June 2021	Friday 23 July 2021 Early Closure 12.45pm

Save the Date Events 2020-2021

INFORMATION EVENING DATES

<p>Parent Information Evening will take place on Tuesday 15th September for all year groups. They will be held remotely.</p> <p>Further information will be provided nearer the time.</p>
--

PARENTS' EVENING DATES

Year 7	Year 8
23 March 2021	27 April 2021
Year 9 + Options Evening	Year 10
23 February 2021	04 May 2021
Year 11	Year 12 & Year 13
12 January 2021	26 January 2021

OTHER USEFUL DIARY DATES

(BANK HOLIDAYS & PUBLIC HOLIDAYS)

26 December 2020	01 January 2021	02 April 2021	04 April 2021
Boxing Day	New Year's Day	Good Friday	Easter Sunday
05 April 2021	03 May 2021	31 May 2021	30 August 2021
Easter Monday Bank Holiday	May Bank Holiday	Spring Bank Holiday	Summer Bank Holiday

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

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 on 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.