



# Hutton

## Church of England Grammar School and Sixth Form

Head Teacher: Mr M L Bradshaw BA (Hons) NPQH

*Accomplishment... Humility... Service...*

8<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Distance Learning Information and Support**

Please find below further information for yourselves and your children as we continue to engage in school supported distance learning. In addition to this communication all students will also receive a 'Guide to Distance Learning'.

#### **Rationale**

Much has been discussed regarding student mental health and wellbeing, linked both to their use of 'screen time' and the issues related to lockdown. As a school we are very conscious of this and when further developing our distance learning programme we have tried to strike a balance between 'live' interaction with teachers and peers and activities which allow students to work more independently, on some occasions away from their screens. As with all other aspects of school policy and practice this will remain under review.

#### **'Live' Lessons**

Students can expect to be 'invited' to a number of 'live' lessons in each subject (circumstances permitting). This is to support both independent study and help ensure understanding and provide the opportunity for discussion, clarification, etc. It is also necessary to support and supervise those students who are in school and, as such, teachers are not always available to teach 'live'.

The teacher is there to support, guide, explain and direct learning. During these lessons it is also essential that the student engages and asks questions if unsure, joins in discussion and takes part in any activities. Any student who is unable to attend the 'live' lesson for a particular reason will be able to access resources related to it.

Clearly students are also encouraged, if necessary, to email their teachers with enquiries and questions outside of the 'live lesson' environment should this be necessary/appropriate.

#### **Tutor Contact**

In order to further support student pastoral interaction all students should expect a weekly 'tutor catch-up' session with their Form Tutor and fellow tutor group members. This will take place on a day indicated by the Form Tutor (and communicated to all members of the Tutor Group) at 12:50, once per week.

#### **Messages**

A weekly 'message', linked to the school's Theme of the Week, will be recorded and made available each Monday. This will include a brief opportunity for reflection and also provide any updates regarding developments, both in relation to Government policy and any other pressing matters. In addition, broadcast communications will continue to be sent out as appropriate. We will also endeavour to send out regular communication regarding tips, points of contact and activities designed to support student mental health and wellbeing.

#### **School Synergy**

This will continue to be used as the singular point of contact from which students will be directed to resources, 'live' and recorded lessons and other content. Synergy will also be used to indicate to parents/carers student involvement and engagement, both positive and negative.



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It would also be very helpful and supportive of students if parents/carers let Learning Co-ordinators or Mr Hill/Miss Wright for Sixth Form know if their son/daughter is applying themselves particularly well or displaying qualities which indicate the school values of Accomplishment, Humility and Service. This would then enable this to be recognised via School Synergy and, once they are able to take place, in 'Accomplishment Assemblies' when we return to school.

As is repeated often, we live in unprecedented times and continue to do all we can to support all students, and their families, to progress and develop as best they are able. Thank you for all you continue to do.

## **Additional Support**

### **Curriculum**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

<https://www.gcsepod.com>

<https://www.thenational.academy>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-55552962>

### **Wellbeing**

[www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

[www.youngminds.org.uk](http://www.youngminds.org.uk)

[www.mind.org.uk](http://www.mind.org.uk)

[www.nopanic.org.uk](http://www.nopanic.org.uk)

Joe Wicks: 'The Body Coach' (YouTube)

### **IT/Tech Support**

School Synergy Access (see guides on school website)

Synergy Password access: please phone school

Schools, academy trusts and local authorities can now request help to [increase mobile data allowances](#) for children and young people who:

do not have fixed broadband at home

cannot afford additional data for their devices

are experiencing disruption to their face-to-face education.

Please click on the link above should you wish to take advantage of this; subsequently please contact the school with the required information via the email address: [extradata@huttongrammar.org](mailto:extradata@huttongrammar.org)

Kind regards

**Mark. L. Bradshaw**

**Head Teacher**



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