



# Herne Bay High School

## Specialist Sports College

Bullockstone Road, Herne Bay, Kent CT6 7NS  
☎ 01227 361221 ✉ [principal@hernebayhigh.org](mailto:principal@hernebayhigh.org)



### End of term 4 update

2<sup>nd</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We are rapidly approaching the end of the strangest term that I have ever spent in education. I am writing to you from my home office with some updates and information to guide you through the next couple of weeks before we start the summer term on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April.

Firstly, I hope that you all understand that we are in uncharted education territory, and just like the government, many of the processes and procedures are new and occasionally need tweaking. Your feedback on the support you are getting, the work being set and the positive or negative is highly valued. Please use the existing channels through the college teams to share your views or contact at [principal@hernebayhigh.org](mailto:principal@hernebayhigh.org)

### Learning from Home

From Friday we are into the normal Easter holiday, and as such, staff will not be setting work for a couple of weeks. However, many subjects have set some holiday tasks; more practical, hands on fun work to help you keep your children entertained. The break is a good opportunity for everyone to take a breath and to engage in other forms of activity as best you can under these trying times.

As previously mentioned, when work resumes after the Easter holidays, staff have been reminded not to set anything that requires printing. It should also be in PDF format so it is readable from any device. We recognise that some families are facing lots of challenges in providing the ideal learning environment; one computer for lots of children; children and parents sharing computers as parents struggle to work from home; parents feeling they do not have the skillset to support students or struggling to motivate students to complete the tasks. We are very mindful of this increased pressure on families and will continue to be very flexible in our approach and support to help reduce the anxiety at home. Our default position will be to encourage students to do their best and contact staff via Show My Homework if they need help. This will be re-iterated again to staff just before we return on the 20<sup>th</sup>

Over the Easter break we are going to be undertaking some improvements with our network infrastructure that will make your remote learning experience much better when you start up again on the 20<sup>th</sup> April. You will have received a letter from Mr Hickmott, our technical lead, setting out all the changes. But just a reminder that to access any online system including email, Show My homework and our new cloud based storage the login will now **CHANGE FROM** : **username@klz.org.uk** **TO** **username@hernebayhigh.org**.

Another new initiative that we are getting up and running is the star learner. This will be an opportunity to reward and praise those that are making a fantastic job of their remote learning. We shall be creating galleries of work and publicly celebrating those students. More details on this just before we return on the 20<sup>th</sup> April.



# Herne Bay High School

## Specialist Sports College

Bullockstone Road, Herne Bay, Kent CT6 7NS  
☎ 01227 361221 ✉ [principal@hernebayhigh.org](mailto:principal@hernebayhigh.org)



### **Online safety**

With the immediate change to online learning, remote communications, the development of many new software and App packages that allow greater connectivity, it is important to continue to be mindful of online safety. The following link takes you to a good resource provided by the government to help parents navigate this maze.

<https://parentinfo.org/>

### **HBHS Supporting the Community**

I thought you would like to know that Herne Bay High School is continuing to support the effort to battle the COVID-19 situation and as such I am pleased to report the following:

We have offered the use of all minibuses to the NHS to help them transport patients – we have full assurance they will be scrupulously sanitised before being back in action at school.

We have a number of our staff who have volunteered to drive these and support the cause

We have donated all the spare safety goggles that we hold in stock to the NHS to help them protect themselves.

We have given away the food and snacks that we held in stock for the last few weeks to the local ambulance service

We have donated all our spare catering packs of food to the local nursing home.

We have donated the fantastic sum of £2345 to the local food bank, this was donated by our staff.

### **Year 9 Options**

Thank you to all parents / carers of year 9 students for completing the online Options form. ALL options selections are completed and we are now in the process of analysing the choices. If there are any concerns or changes that need to be made before we return, we will make contact with you. Please also be reassured that there will be an opportunity for you to reflect on your choices and we will work with you to ensure you study what your child wants to do in year 10

### **Year 11 / Year 13 update**

By now I was anticipating to be able to share greater clarity on what is happening with regard to Year 11 and Year 13 examinations, however unfortunately Ofqual and the Exam boards are yet to publish guidance. At the moment, the information in the letter to Year 11 parents on the 24<sup>th</sup> March still stands, as does the guidance that the 6th form team have placed on the website at:

<https://www.hernebayhigh.org/sixthform/how-to-apply/>

As soon as we hear anything, we will be in contact with you immediately.

### **Utilising the school provision**

The school remains open over the Easter holidays, although it will be CLOSED on Good Friday to Bank Holiday Monday. We retain our current provision available for the students identified through



# Herne Bay High School

## Specialist Sports College

Bullockstone Road, Herne Bay, Kent CT6 7NS  
☎ 01227 361221 ✉ [principal@hernebayhigh.org](mailto:principal@hernebayhigh.org)



the Key worker and vulnerable categories as defined by the DfE. If your shift patterns have changed or the situation has changed, please contact us through the [principal@hernebayhigh.org](mailto:principal@hernebayhigh.org) email and we will contact you to ensure we have completed the required checks. We are aware that the vast majority of families have now made arrangements for their children and very few, if any students, are accessing any local schools (including primary/infant schools) over the period of the lockdown. Please also refer to my statement in the letter of the 19<sup>th</sup>:

*“The vast majority of Key Worker’s secondary school aged children will **NOT** require this childcare provision as it will be more appropriate for their safety and wellbeing to remain at home and away from other students and adults, thereby following government social distancing guidance and significantly reducing the chance of contracting the virus and infecting your family.”*

I fully appreciate these are challenging times but please try and find time to do something different over the Easter break. Have a look at issue 1 of the parent magazine the Heron, <https://www.hernebayhigh.org/information/theheron> this has been published on our website and on social media. It is packed with ideas to pass the time and give support beyond academic lessons.

The one thing that we must all do though is follow the Government guidelines on social distancing and staying at home. We know only too well from the media, that COVID-19 is well within the East Kent community and that it is incumbent on us all to do our bit to save lives.

### **Keeping in contact**

Without the school physically being there, parents can often feel isolated. Please use the contact details below for informing the school of any changes to your circumstances, health issues, concerns or updates to your family situation whilst we are closed.

<b>College</b>	<b>College Manager</b>	<b>Telephone Number</b>
Delta	Mrs L Bailey	01227 289458
Epsilon	Mrs D Treacher	01227 289421
Omega	Mrs L Sparks	01227 289420
Sigma	Mrs G Verge	01227 289446
Theta	Mrs T Shaw	01227 289457
SEND /Inclusion Team	Mrs B Tate	01227 289426.

Post 16 updates please email : [6form@hernebayhigh.org](mailto:6form@hernebayhigh.org)

I will write again before we return on the 20<sup>th</sup> April with any further updates and to welcome all our students and parents/carers back to “Vtual term 5”.

Please look after yourselves and have a safe couple of weeks

With kind regards,

**Jon Boyes**  
**Principal**