

Principal: Lesley Welsh



2 July 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

### Coronavirus Update

I hope this finds you and your family safe and well. As we approach the final days of the academic year, I wanted to give you an update on our response to the Coronavirus Pandemic.

We continue to be pleased by the numbers of students engaging in online learning and by the Year 10s who have returned to school for face-to-face support or participated in online support sessions. Over the next two weeks all students will be invited to school for a 10-minute face-to-face interview with their form tutor or Head of Year; this will be an opportunity to review progress made during the lockdown and a check-in before the summer holidays. To maintain social distancing students need to attend their meeting alone and must arrive at the time given; you will shortly receive a personalised letter which explains this meeting to your child. We hope that our students will attend this meeting in order to prepare for the year ahead.

Our keyworker provision has been very popular and we are delighted that we have been able to support our community over the last few months. The Secretary of State for Education has now confirmed that the Government is not asking schools to open over the summer holidays, and there is no expectation that schools should open for vulnerable children and children of critical workers over this period. The final day of the keyworker provision will therefore be **Friday 17 July**.

You may have seen recent news reports regarding a decision to provide Free School Meals vouchers over the summer holidays. These vouchers will be delivered on Monday 13 July to last for the whole school holiday period by email or to school. Vouchers must be collected by **Friday 17 July**; if you are unable to collect the vouchers please contact us. Please note that Iceland and Company Shop Group have now been added to the list of providers; if school orders your voucher please email [fsm@gps.hlt.academy](mailto:fsm@gps.hlt.academy) if wish to change your supermarket. Edenred have also informed us that eCodes from 1 July have a one-month expiry date so please redeem all codes before the beginning of August to ensure that these do not go to waste.

The Department for Education has recently issued some new guidance for parents and carers which can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-from-abuse-and-harm>

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support during this difficult period. I will write to you again before the end of term with details of the return to school in September once final guidelines have been confirmed and look forward to seeing your child soon.

Yours sincerely

**Lesley Welsh**  
**Principal**

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