



15 January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Over the last two weeks it has been wonderful to see how our students have adapted to learning online, following their timetable 'virtually' and showing resilience and courage by trying new ways of working. Your support in helping this to be a success has been greatly appreciated. Our teachers continue to work hard to ensure children have high quality learning experiences across the curriculum, by trying new techniques, platforms and strategies to ensure students learn well.

### **Lateral flow testing**

This week we begun COVID-19 lateral flow testing in school, to ensure that school remains as safe as possible for those attending. The testing team have been fully trained and are well prepared to start **testing students in school from Monday 18 January** (provided parent/carer consent has been given).

All risk assessments have been reviewed, with a bespoke risk assessment in place for mass testing. These have been approved by Trustees.

### **Stakeholder feedback**

As always, we greatly appreciate your feedback. We will be sending parents/carers a short survey to provide us with invaluable feedback about your child's experience of online learning to date. We will also be asking the same from our students. As always, please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any assistance with your child's online learning at [admin@harrogatehighschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@harrogatehighschool.co.uk).

### **Timetable reminder**

We would be grateful if you could reinforce that you child should attend all lessons, as per their normal school timetable, **including tutor time**. Tutor time is a compulsory part of the school day and it allows your child to meet with their form tutor, prepare for the day, check-in regarding wellbeing and to provide them with regular updates. We understand that sometimes technical glitches can affect logging on, however please remind your child of the need to arrive promptly and to set their computer up in advance.

The school day timings are:

- Tutor time – 8.30am
- Lesson 1 – 8.45am
- Lesson 2 – 9.45am
- Break – 10.45am
- Lesson 3 – 11.00am
- Lunch – 12.00pm
- Lesson 4 – 12.30pm
- Lesson 5 - 1.30pm





- On the rare occasion that a member of staff cannot teach a live lesson via a Teams video meeting, they will ensure that work is set, via a recorded lesson/similar, in the class team (in Teams). No lessons are cancelled, and your child would be notified of any changes via their school email. This should be checked regularly.
- PE lesson time should ideally be spent being active and away from the computer. The PE department have put ideas/resources on the VLE, and a daily walk/run/cycle is highly recommended.
- Teachers will ask students to submit work to them regularly. It is not necessary for students to send every piece of work/writing they do to each teacher, only when it is requested by the a teacher. Students may be asked to take a photograph of their work and send this to the teacher, or to send a Word file or other Office document if they can. They will be asked to either email this to the teacher or save the work in Teams.
- Please encourage your child to organise/file their work to ensure that it is organised for their return to school.
- We attach the Teams guidelines again for your reference. These are important for successful and productive online learning.
- As you will remember from our previous communications, we are doing our best to lend laptops to those families who do not have one. Thank you to those of you who have already completed an application form for a loan laptop and many of your children will have now received one.

At present, we unfortunately do not have enough for everyone who has applied, and, whilst we appreciate that this is disappointing, we are pleased to see that many students are managing to access lessons using an alternative device (phone, tablet, games console) and we thank you for your patience and understanding. We will contact you if more laptops become available (we are doing our very best to source these). Please fill in a form if you still need a laptop (if you haven't completed it already) as your child cannot access lessons on another device. The application form and loan agreement can be found at:

[Harrogate High School | Northern Star Academies Trust - Coronavirus Update](#)

## **ClassCharts**

Our teachers continue to use ClassCharts to log praise points during this lockdown period, and I would encourage you to check this regularly to be able to celebrate your child's successes. In addition, from Monday, if your child misses a live lesson, you will be able to see this on ClassCharts, and we would greatly appreciate your support with helping your child to attend all their live lessons and tutor time each day. Of course, if your child is having any technical issues or cannot attend a lesson for a specific reason, please do contact us at school and encourage them to send a message to their teachers to make them aware.

## **Year 9 Options**

Our Year 9 options evening was due to take place on the 18<sup>th</sup> January. However, due to the circumstances we find ourselves in we will not be able to conduct the Options Evening in the usual way. As a result, we will conduct options choices via an online process which will be shared with you before February half-term. By way of the school website, you will be able to





access subject information, a short PowerPoint video and a bespoke options choice form. There will be opportunities for students to discuss their options with curriculum staff.

### **Update on Free School Meals**

Following the government announcement, those students entitled to **free school meals will now be issued with a weekly voucher per child**. Whilst awaiting the national scheme to go live, Harrogate High School will issue voucher(s) next week (w/c 18 January). Edenred UK are working with the Department for Education (DfE) to supply supermarket vouchers. As of Monday 25 January, Edenred UK will be issuing the FSM voucher(s) electronically. Parents/carers will receive an e-Code which can be redeemed online for a supermarket voucher.

What is an e-Code?

This is the 16-digit code which will be sent to you. You will need this code to access [www.freeschoolmeals.co.uk](http://www.freeschoolmeals.co.uk) and choose your supermarket e-Gift card (your voucher). **You cannot use the e-Code directly with the retailer; it must be exchanged for a voucher online.** Emails from Edenred may go into your junk/spam folder so please ensure you check this. If you are unable to locate your e-Code, please email [meals@harrogatehighschool.co.uk](mailto:meals@harrogatehighschool.co.uk) and we will arrange for this to be re-sent to you.

Once you have received the voucher, you will be able to redeem this in-store at the selected retailer by either:

- presenting the voucher on a smartphone or tablet
- presenting a paper copy (printout) of the voucher

The vouchers should not be redeemed for any age-restricted items, such as alcohol, cigarettes, or lottery tickets.

Which supermarkets can I use?

- Morrisons
- Iceland
- McColl's
- Tesco
- Sainsbury's
- Asda
- Aldi
- Waitrose
- M&S Food
- Community Shop Group

We have advised Edenred to issue you with e-Codes fortnightly and on a Monday.

Further details of how e-Codes can be redeemed are available in the [parent/carer's user guide](#). It can take up to 4 days from approving an order to receiving the e-Codes. You can download the parent/carer user guide here: [https://www.edenred.co.uk/Documents/DfE/DfE\\_FSM-voucher-scheme\\_Parent-Carer-Userguide.pdf](https://www.edenred.co.uk/Documents/DfE/DfE_FSM-voucher-scheme_Parent-Carer-Userguide.pdf)

### **Wellbeing**





Please be reminded of the support available for parents and students both in and out of school. An overview of places to turn to for support can be seen below, including our school safeguarding mobile numbers and the [tellsomeone@harrogatehighschool](mailto:tellsomeone@harrogatehighschool) email address.

## Where can I go for support if I need it?

**07902 340836 or 07889 725557**

The school safeguarding mobiles



<https://www.kooth.com/>

Free, safe, online wellbeing community

**YOUNG MINDS**

<https://youngminds.org.uk/>

Online mental health support



**The Go-To**  
For healthy minds in North Yorkshire

<https://www.thegoto.org.uk/>

Online mental health and wellbeing guidance



Talk to any trusted adult or a friend  
You can email your SSO or class teachers using your school email address.

You can also email:  
[Tellsomeone@harrogatehighschool](mailto:Tellsomeone@harrogatehighschool)  
if you are worried

Further reminders of support can be found listed on the mental health and wellbeing section of our website:

<https://www.harrogatehighschool.co.uk/parents-carers/mental-health-and-wellbeing/>

All students and form tutors are taking part in wellbeing activities 3 days per week in form time through a wellbeing calendar that they have created as a group – we look forward to sharing some of these calendars with you soon: there are some fantastically creative ideas! Please keep an eye on our social media channels for more wellbeing ideas.

Thank you for all that you are doing to support your child at this time.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs C Clarke  
Academy Head.