

BHS Update



22nd January 2021

Get Help Here...

Form Tutor/Pastoral Team/Miss Bradbury (KS3)/Miss Temple (KS4):

for any wellbeing concerns: bradburys@bedalehighschool.org.uk / templec@bedalehighschool.org.uk

Subject Teacher: for any subject specific questions around learning tasks

Yr 11 Exams: Mr Gill gillm@bedalehighschool.org.uk

General Queries: Email: admin@bedalehighschool.org.uk or call 01677 422419

Covid Testing in School



This week the Department for Education have announced further changes to the process that they are asking schools to do. Last week I outlined the 3 strands of testing that we were planning, (see below), but on Wednesday this week, the DfE asked schools to hold off from the daily testing of people who are identified as a positive contact while they carry out further research around this aspect:

- Covid Testing for students who are in school (the vulnerable and key worker groups). This will involve 2 lateral flow device tests, taken 3-5 days apart.
- Weekly testing for staff who are in school
- ~~Daily testing of anyone identified as a contact of a positive Covid case~~

Starting next week, we will begin with the testing of staff and then move on to the testing of students who are in school. Please read the letter attached to this newsletter for further details on this and then click on the link to complete the consent form. **You only need to do this if you wish to give consent for your child to be tested.** I am sending the letter to ALL parents, even if your child is not coming into school at the moment. This will save us having to do it again if we need to test all students on their return to school.

Please be assured: ALL of these options are completely consent based.

No student or member of staff will be coerced or pressured into engaging with the testing.

It would also be really helpful if you could watch this video with your child so that you and they know what to expect when they take the test:

[How to take a coronavirus self-test swab - YouTube](#)

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank-you to the parents who have volunteered to help with the staffing of the tests, and to undergo the online training. We are currently fully staffed for this process, but I will let you know if this changes. If you have questions about the test, or wish to be on standby to help out, please email Lynn Riley-Fox who is overseeing this process (and has done a fantastic job in moving things on quickly!): rileyfl@bedalehighschool.org.uk

Remote Learning

UPDATE

We have had a lot of communication again with parents and students this week. Once again, you have sent some lovely messages and feedback to staff - I cannot put into words how big a difference this makes - we always share them with all staff and it gives us a real lift, so thank-you for this. Of course, there are occasional issues and we continue to work with parents, students and teachers to resolve these.

This week we have seen an increase in the number of teachers trying to deliver live lessons. This follows feedback from a small number of parents, but also reflects our belief that if we can continue to grow this aspect - it really will complement our existing offer or remote learning. There are 3 main types of 'live' lesson that we are focusing on:

- A full live lesson delivered by the teacher
- A question/answer session which may be full/part of the lesson
- A check-in from the teacher when they are available on Teams for questions or to go through issues and feedback

Mr Gill, who leads on our remote learning offer, has created an updated teacher remote-learning guide this week and shared this with staff. We now have 2 virtual staff briefings each week to share good practice, and on Wednesday next week we will have another virtual training session after school when staff will lead sessions on different aspects of remote learning.

There are 2 main areas where parents can help us when it comes to any live lessons:

1. If you can take the time to look at your child's Teams calendar, you will be able to see at a glance when they have a live lesson. In some subject areas, the attendance in these live lessons is still very low. Please try to ensure they do prioritise attending any live sessions where they are being offered.
2. Please remind them of the live lesson protocols: cameras off and only use the chat-box feature to communicate with the teacher, not with other students during the lesson.

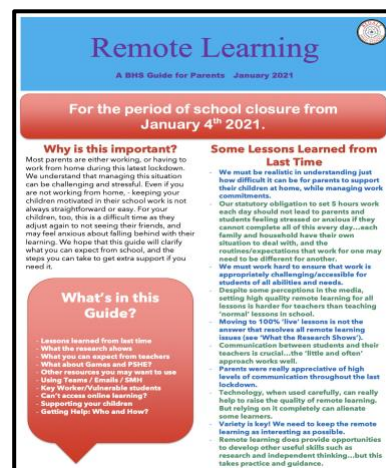
A reminder that we have a Remote Learning Guide for parents - this is now on the website for you to refer to:

<https://bedalehighschool.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Remote-Learning-Guide.docx.pdf>

And if you have any further queries around our remote learning, please contact Mr Gill at gillm@bedalehighschool.org.uk

Feedback on Students' Work

We completely understand that when a student submits a piece of work to their teacher, they like to hear some feedback. In a normal school day, much of this feedback happens in conversation in the lesson when the teacher can see the work in the book, and give instant verbal feedback to students. Unfortunately, this cannot be replicated in our current remote learning situation. Why not? It simply is not possible for teachers to be delivering remote learning for 5 lessons a day, supervising key-worker students in school and returning individual feedback to every student who returns their lesson work during the day. This would mean marking and returning work for between 20-30 students, 5 times a day! Therefore we have to look at different methods of feedback. This may be in the live check-in sessions, it may be a self-marking quiz on Satchel One or another platform, it may be sharing a couple of pieces of work with the whole group as shared feedback to show what went well and what could be improved, or a short video recording of the teacher feeding back on work, or other methods the teacher employs. But please do remind your children that teachers are still seeing their work and using it, even though they will not always get the same level of individual feedback that they would receive in a normal lesson.



Brilliant offer from Nick and Gordon Carver Estate Agents in Northallerton - thank you to Matthew, one of our site team, for pointing this out to me. They are happy for me to share it here...



Nick & Gordon Carver Estate Agents

11 January at 09:03 · 🌐

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Year 7 Parent Evening

Thank you to all the parents who attended this virtual event on Wednesday. It was lovely to have that contact and to hear your feedback. A reminder to any that could not attend - teachers are writing report comments for Year 7 students to replace the parent evening conversation they would have had with you, and these will come out to you at the end of next week.

Year 8 Parent Check-In

Continuing with our weekly parent check-in, we will be holding a virtual session for Year 8 parents on Wednesday 27th January at 6pm. You will hear briefly from the leadership team and Miss Bradbury before we respond to any questions you may want to put to us. The link is here, and we look forward to seeing you there:

Alison Knight is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Year 8 Parent Q&A session with SLT

Time: Jan 27, 2021 06:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88557535778?pwd=OVFzRW41a3pYMVhLUmdoSGhHc2hZUT09>

Meeting ID: 885 5753 5778

Passcode: xp9r34

ASSEMBLIES NEXT WEEK

This week we started our virtual assemblies. One of the highlights for me was on Wednesday morning...

8.45am Mr Gill begins the assembly and starts his presentation.

8.46am The fire alarm goes off in school. I explain to Mr Gill that we will have to postpone the assembly.

8.47am Mr Gill refuses to give it up, takes the laptop with him outside in the rain, and continues to deliver his virtual assembly, in the rain, while I sort the fire drill.

8.55am Having rescued the assembly and got everyone back online - Mr Gill continues with the assembly. When he's planned an assembly, he's delivering that assembly...come what may!

Assemblies next week:

Monday: Year 11

Wednesday: Years 7,8 and 9:

Friday: Years 9 and 10:

Invitations will be sent out to students through Teams...please keep an eye out for these and remind them to 'join' in time for the start of the assembly

WELLBEING PASSPORT

A big thank-you to Mrs Woodward for launching our new Wellbeing Passport this week. It is open to all year groups and students can see and share updates, ideas, projects and feedback on Teams. This is an entirely optional project - and is not intended to be seen as more work or an extra burden. In fact, we hope that it will provide some respite from the challenging routines associated with lockdown, and help to make people feel more positive by either trying something new, or doing an activity that helps themselves or others to feel better.

I have copied Mrs Woodward's introduction here so that parents can see what it is all about:

- **We believe that in these strange and challenging times, you should have an opportunity to try new things, challenge yourself, support your community and your family and...**
- **Develop your courage, commitment and compassion as well as your resilience and self-esteem.**
- **The student passport is a series of daily and weekly challenges that you will tackle, evidence and eventually share when we are all reunited at school.**

The passport is split into 4 main areas: Getting Creative, Learning Something New, Contributing to your Community/Family Life, Wellbeing and Health.

HOW DO YOU DO IT?

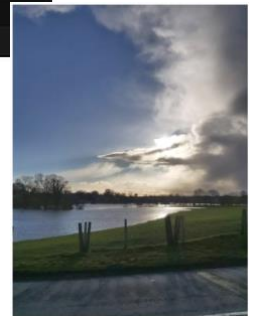
- There will be a series of challenges and tasks for each category
- These tasks will take between 45 mins and 10 hours
- Each Task will have a points system
- Get 100 points and you receive a CERTIFICATE AND A PRIZE!
- Get to 200 points and you will receive a CERTIFICATE AND ADDITIONAL PRIZES!



We have already seen a great start this week from some students, and sometimes the things they are doing link really well with our Be Kind: Pass It On challenge. Please see below for some more examples, and keep an eye on our school Facebook page for updates.

You can contact Mrs Woodward for more information if needed:

Woodl@bedalehighschool.org.uk



- Jacob Howe baked a cake
- Miss Tallentire made some rainbow cupcakes
- Annabel Nicholson wrote some letters to her neighbours and has been taking care of her dog
- Mrs Judd made some inspirational artwork - Stronger Together
- Ryan Hutchinson undertook the challenge of riding his bike around Bedale for 32 mins and 32 secs. Check out his screen shots from his watch app!
- Holly Watkins went for a walk, collected stones, took photos and created positivity stones
- David Hart is learning Russian!
- George Bramley made a batch of butterfly buns
- Annabel Nicholson created some uplifting artwork to remind us all to wear facemasks
- Leah Owens-Monk hand-delivered positive postcards to her neighbours - check out this video! <https://youtu.be/82uFKXUQTMA>