

Trust Update



You'll have heard us say it before, and you will hear us say it again! The 5 Dimensions Trust was founded to grow a vibrant community of exceptional people. Over the last year our definition of community has been somewhat challenged, but the partnership between Hazeley and Shenley has only grown and deepened as each opportunity has arisen, and we are delighted to see what a difference this is making for our students, and for the exceptional way in which they have responded.

The phrase 5 Dimensions is intended to convey the five areas of focus that we have as a Trust. These are:

- Collaborating to ensure truly holistic education
- Rising together to the rigour of academic challenge
- Sharing to create a positive, high performing environment for staff
- Creating a supportive partnership with parents, carers and families
- Crafting a meaningful partnership with our wider community

We hope that you can see how these have shaped our work in recent times.

We have calmly responded to the sudden return to lockdown, reverting to the successful remote learning from the end of last term, with enhanced pastoral provision, attendance monitoring, rewards systems and a huge increase in the provision of Live Lessons.

Some examples of parental feedback are:

"Thank You for the phone call earlier and help sheet - I didn't even know Teams was a thing and now my daughter is sat typing away in an English lesson and I can hear her being told to add more detail - what a crazy world we now live in!"

"My son has really struggled with getting up in a morning, but he is finding the new timetable online very helpful, he seems to be showing more interest and able to work independently for longer, thank you".

And of course, our students have their own style of giving feedback...

"Thanks for the online lesson miss, you smashed that!"



We have led the way in targeted provision for online tutoring, successfully setting up our Accelerate Tuition company and recruiting and training 20 tutors to meet individual needs outside of the remote learning provision.

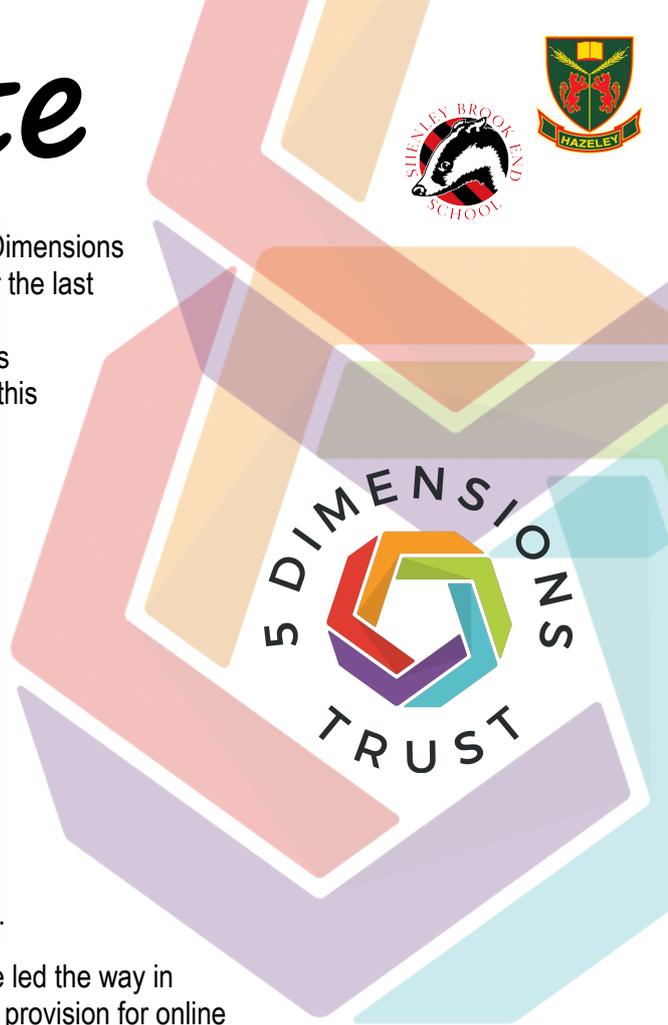
We have made additional provision for our more able students, whether that be through the Connective Learning Projects at Shenley or the Ambition programme at Hazeley and some innovations in combining these areas will only serve to make them stronger. As one parent said,

I wanted to pass on my thanks re your session with my son tonight - He was the most engaged I've seen him in any online class!!

We have appointed Ambassadors at each school for Learning through Technology, and are sharing our growing expertise across the staff and with students and parents. This is improving learning, but also supporting communication in such areas as online parents' evenings.

We are supporting families in difficult circumstances through our bespoke system for supporting those needing Free School Meals, providing places in our small school and assisting in the provision of technology to support remote learning.

We have been able to access a large amount of additional government funding to upgrade the heating at both schools, invested in solar panels at both schools and also combined our efforts to recruit the most successful trainee teachers as early as is possible. Our partnership really enhances these opportunities.





We have quickly moved to create mass testing facilities, with staff and volunteer teams ready the day after delivery to be able to test those staff and students working in the building and to reassure cleaning staff and invigilators that they are safe to be in school.

Feedback from students has been encouraging.

"I think it's cool and it's a good idea to have it in schools to make it safer and the test isn't as bad as you think when you do it yourself"

-Olivia, 13

"The test was good, I was nervous beforehand but when you get walked through how to do it, you feel a bit safer being in school. It's a great thing we're having testing here as it reduces the risk of spreading Covid."

-Lacey, 15

This week we have been able to provide the opportunity for students to safely take their BTEC examinations; liaising sensitively with families where there have been concerns, and supporting those students keen to come into school and have the chance to demonstrate their learning in this highly socially distanced way.

"Staff inside and outside the exam hall ensured that we were maintaining social distancing and the exams were carried out in the best way possible. I felt safe and comfortable!"

Neha – Y13

We will be offering students from 2021 the opportunity to study at either 6th Form while also attending our specialist basketball and netball academies, something we could not do on our own.

We are working in close partnership with the Army Cadets, Truth for Youth, MK2050, Thames Valley Police and The Milton Keynes Youth Council to offer a vast range of opportunities after lockdown that we know will enrich and connect our communities.

We have placed great emphasis on the importance of communications with parents, and thank you for the very encouraging feedback from you in that regard. Comments such as the one below give everyone a boost!

A massive thank you from our family to yours! You have been beyond exceptional under such testing times. Thank you for continually keeping us in the loop, trying to please everyone is an impossible task, but you try your best regardless.

Our work in partnership with you is more important than ever, and we very much believe in working with you to grow through our current situation, seeking out the opportunities that it brings wherever possible. We don't know what the future holds, but we do know that we are much better placed to seize the opportunities and overcome the challenges by working with each other. Thank you for your interest and support!

