



24th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Way back in March, as our nation moved into lockdown, virtually every school in the country started to work out how they would “get through this” crisis. We meanwhile focused on how we would “**work with our community to come back even stronger**”.

I hope that you will agree the journey so far has been a successful one - Microsoft teams, live lessons, click and collect, Facebook Parent Portal, online parent workshops, weekly newsletters, key worker provision, Refocus school, superb distance learning points, Hazeley Ed Talks, pastoral check ins, working with our community to promote equality - the list goes on and we have no intention of slowing down!

As with any journey we have had the odd hiccup, but we have worked **together** to overcome these, **turning challenges into opportunities** in what has become a signature of the Hazeley way.

It has been delightful to see the **partial return of Years 10 and 12**, they have been a credit to our community, adapting quickly and safely to this interim way of working.

One of the things that has become even more apparent after speaking with them, is that the partial closure of the school has impacted different people in different ways. This means that we must do all we can to personalise our response to meet the needs of individual students. This is at the heart of our plans for our summer school and beyond.

We have offered **students in Years 7, 8 and 9 a short face to face meeting** with their form tutor or another designated member of the staff in the last week of term. This will allow them to see a friendly face, reconnect with the Academy, plan their summer homework, and prepare to come back stronger (and more importantly, happier) in September. If your child is in year 7, 8 or 9 you should have already received the appointment via email. Unfortunately, due to the strict scheduling that has had to take place to ensure we can safely conduct socially distanced meetings with 750 students during the last week of term, it will not be possible to move the allocated meeting. We thank you in advance for your understanding. If you do not think you have received your child’s appointment slot, please email - administration@thehazeleyacademy.com .

As mentioned in my last correspondence, staff have been busy planning summer school. The headline plans are below, and more details will follow, but we thought that it was important that the overall picture is shared with you in advance so that you can feedback your views before it is finalised. Please email either the member of staff leading, or myself via my PA Miss Cooke - patotheprincipal@thehazeleyacademy.com.

There are two core parts of summer school:

Taking a break – Critically the plans encourage all students and staff to have a clean break of between 1-4 weeks, depending on their own needs, responsibilities, and circumstances. We cannot grow into a vibrant community of

exceptional people without the opportunity to rest, recharge and reconnect with our non-work life.

Summer Homework for Each Subject– Every student will be given personalised, subject specific summer homework by their class teachers. The aim of this is to keep them “ticking over” during the summer, while also not overwhelming them. Y10 and 12 students can expect more work as they are heading into their final exam year. Teachers will be recording completion of this, but not giving extensive feedback. This will allow teachers to prepare the curriculum for the year ahead and enjoy what I hope you will agree is a well-earned break.

In addition to this, students will be encouraged to be part of one, or more, of our enrichment programmes:

Acceleration Programme – For a whole host of reasons some of our students have been hit harder than others by the lock down. Our pastoral team led by Miss Whiteman and Mr Mortimer have been contacting the parents of those involved to work with them so that their children do not just catch up, they actually accelerate onwards and come back even stronger. If you have any questions relating to this then please do not hesitate to drop them an email twhiteman@thehazeleyacademy.com or omortimer@thehazeleyacademy.com

Ambition Programme - Many students have flourished in lock down and have enjoyed finding new ways of learning. There will be a series of opportunities for students across the Academy to explore new areas of learning. This is being led by Mrs Williamson gwilliamson@thehazeleyacademy.com and her team of Subject Leaders. This programme is open to all students, but largely focussed on Years 7, 8 and 9. We hope that it will be a blended version of online and in school activities. The courses will be publicised before 6th July and students will simply need to sign up for the opportunities when they are announced.

Summer STEAM Challenge Work - All students, including those on the acceleration and ambition programmes will be invited to undertake the summer challenge work. This will be in the shape of a range of exciting cross curricular projects focused on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths). This will be led by Miss Kennedy dkennedy@thehazeleyacademy.com and Mrs Lazenby Llazenby@thehazeleyacademy.com . More details will be communicated to you by 6th July.

Year 11 into 12 Transition work – Students aiming to join the 6th form have already been given a range of transition activities that they will need to complete prior to September. Any questions relating to this can be directed to our Assistant Principal for Sixth Form, Mrs Mayles - bmayles@thehazeleyacademy.com

Year 6 into 7 Transition work- The students joining us from our primary schools are also being given a range of activities to help them have the best possible start to Hazeley. This is being led by Mr Whitney - swhitney@thehazeleyacademy.com

This may all look a little complicated, but please be assured we aim to work with individual students and parents to help them navigate the detail where needed, ensuring that everyone gets the most they can from this.

As you would expect from Hazeley we are planning for an array of scenarios for our return in September - from a traditional return, to full home learning model, and everything in between. We will give you more details on all these plans before the end of term. We will also update you on our equality work and Academy improvement plans, including our joint work with Shenley Brook End School.

Please do not underestimate the importance we all need to keep placing on following the government’s advice on social distancing; more than ever the health of our entire community relies on each one of us being vigilant of the virus. We intend to **maintain the 2m social distance expectation** as the norm for any school-based sessions until at least September.

The year 2020 will never be described as a boring year; thank you for working with us to make sure that together we turn the challenges that it has delivered into opportunities, allowing us to come back even stronger.

Mr Nelson
Principal