



# HOME LEARNING



By Mrs Gemma Williamson  
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## Returning in September

Since my last newsletter, the Department for Education has published guidance for schools for opening in September. We are shaping these plans and will communicate them fully with you as soon as possible. I can confirm the current plans are:

- The school will welcome back **all** students in September.
- Year groups will be kept apart in large social bubbles.
- The school building will be zoned to support the social bubbles.
- Hand washing and hygiene is a focus.



You can read the guidance from the [DfE Here](#).

We are putting safety first; prioritising the wellbeing of our students and families, ensuring that we have empathy for everyone's specific journey throughout this crisis. **Together we will return stronger.**

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## Welcome Back Year 10 and Year 12

We have been thoroughly impressed by the enthusiasm and conduct of our Year 10 and 12 students as they have returned to school for some face to face lessons. They followed all the guidelines and safety measures with maturity and engaged excellently with their teachers. In some parts of the country the attendance figures for Year 10 and 12 are as low as 15%, however, we are pleased to report that our attendance figures are consistently above **85%**. Also, the students who were not able to attend due to public transport and pre-existing conditions continue to work fantastically at home. Thank you All!



## What Our Teachers Thought

Mr Robins, Teacher of Maths: It was great to see the students and to be back in a classroom with some sense of normality. The students were happy to be in and were keen for September to feel as normal as possible (despite the lack of a lie-in this would bring!). They were appreciative of the support and very agreed that it was a useful way to support their online learning.

Mr Chandler, Teacher of Science: I found bubble school really heart-warming. The students were engaged but more importantly appreciative of the time and consideration for their welfare as well as their education. It was great to interact with pupils that would not normally be in my class, building new and stronger relationships with them. The students are a credit to themselves and their families.

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## Examination for Students Currently in Year 10 and 12

The Department for Education have opened a consultation about the way some GCSEs A levels should be examined in summer 2021 and to the arrangements for coursework undertaken by students who will be taking exams next summer.

The consultation document is [here](#) and the survey is [here](#), please do make your voice heard. We want the students taking exams next summer to have the best possible chance of success.



Department  
for Education

## Book of Hazeley Hopes

By Miss Clarke and Mrs Goodger – Teachers of English

Our 'Book of Hazeley Hopes' competition has drawn to a close, with 97 thoughtful, moving and highly creative entries from students across years 7 to 9. The judges were absolutely blown away by the variety, skill and imagination that our students displayed, and shortlisting and judging proved very difficult!

We are thrilled to announce our fantastic top three and will soon be receiving news as to whether one of these students has won the 5 Dimensions Trust overall winner spot!

- In third place, we had Luca Di Mauro from 7EA2, with this beautiful painting: [Third Place](#)
- In second place, was Isaac Ruston from 8CA1, with this wonderful collage: [Second place](#)
- In first place, our very deserving winner was Francesca Charalambous from 7CS1 with this wonderful piece of creative writing: [First Place - More than Stars](#)



Congratulations to our wonderful winners and to every student that surpassed our expectations with your magnificent entries, we cannot wait to show some of them off in the coming months, and we're keeping our fingers crossed for a Hazeley winner of the overall competition! Thank you for all of your contributions!



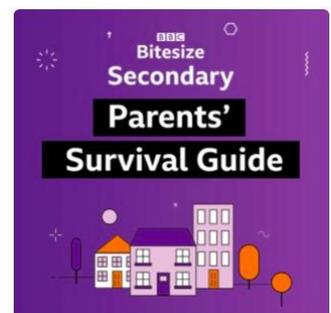
## 100 Great Black Britons Competition

In light of the COVID-19 crisis and with many schools closed, 100 Great Black Britons are launching a home school competition open to all age groups. This competition, sponsored by The National Education Union (NEU), is a fantastic way for children and young people to learn more about the legacy and achievements of Black people in Britain and how they helped shape our country.

Students can work on their own or as "virtual" teams with friends and family. More information and resources can be found [here!](#)

## Surviving Home Learning Podcast

The BBC have created a brilliant new podcast that answers questions about home learning and deals with themes that affect the lives of our young people. Listen [here](#) or wherever you normally get your podcasts.



## **Focus on.... History!**

**By Mr Malloy, Teacher of History**

### **Read**

Have a look at the history of different cultures – read about the travels of Ibn Battuta as he crosses North Africa and the Islamic world in the 14<sup>th</sup> century! Ibn Battuta was a Muslim Berber Moroccan scholar, and explorer who widely travelled the medieval world. Read his diaries [here!](#)

### **Explore**

Milton Keynes has a rich history! Perhaps go on a walk to Monkston and try and find some Bronze Age remains or to Wolverton's Medieval Village (you can even see the remains of the old strip farms), or to the 19<sup>th</sup> century windmill at Bradwell. Why not cycle Watling Street, the old Roman road and admire how straight it is? Maybe even cycle along the Grand Union Canal and imagine what it used to be like in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Bletchley Park is another great place to visit and learn about how codebreakers cracked German codes in the Second World War!

### **Create**

Why not make a Roman shield? How about using an old wooden spoon and turning it into a Victorian doll? Alternatively – you are living in a period of History now. Why not become a Primary Source about the experience of living in Covid-19? Even make a time capsule!



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## **Is Home Learning Taking its Toll?**

A study carried out by Stranmillis University College of over 2000 parents and carers suggests some parents have felt "overwhelmed, very stressed, exhausted and burnt out" by the experience of home learning. Here's is some advice for your child to help them keep motivated:

**Stick to your existing schedule.** Try to keep to your timetable as much as you can. It will really help you to vary what you study at home and your teachers are more likely to be online at those points in the day to help you.

**Make the most of Free Resources.** Search the web for free resources for each subject. There are numerous websites now offering premium content for free. Lots of Youtubers have created videos of how they successfully study too.

**Stay Positive.** Each day note down three things you are grateful for, how you plan to make today great, a good deed you will do that day. At the end of the day, write down some great things you experienced that day- no matter how small!

**Look after yourself.** Try not to worry about the situation. Trust that your teachers and school leaders are making plans to support you to ensure you make great progress when we return. Take a break from social media – and don't forget to wash your hands!

**Reach out.** Tell your tutor how you are feeling, and they will be able to give you some good advice. Also, don't forget you can always email

[worried@thehazeleyacademy.com](mailto:worried@thehazeleyacademy.com)



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## **... And Finally**

As we look ahead to the Summer holidays, it's essential that our young people take some time to relax and unwind. We are creating a programme of Summer Learning to help your child prepare for September. Although, more home learning may not seem an attractive prospect, your child may appreciate the opportunity to get their braincells working after 2 or 3 weeks! More info to follow!

Take care and stay safe,

Gemma Williamson

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