



HAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Learning together Achieving together

23 July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

This is the final update of my first year as Head at Hampstead School. Thank you for the support, understanding, resilience and flexibility that you have demonstrated over the past eleven months; it has made a huge difference. Students and staff have mirrored these qualities and, in combination, this has made it possible to continue offering a broad and balanced curriculum despite the limitations and instability created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

These qualities were displayed clearly in our recent Sports Days, rearranged following the spike in cases at a local and national level. Students enjoyed a series of sports mornings, engaging brilliantly in high-participation team games. It was a good example of the circumstances forcing creative innovation; this modified event was such a hit that we hope to repeat it on a termly basis next year.

We have held celebration and end-of-term assemblies with all year groups over the past two weeks. In these assemblies we have reflected on the past eighteen months; it has been a struggle for all of us but I know that it has affected some more than others. We took time to think about those who have suffered financial hardship, struggled with the physical effects of the virus or lost loved ones. At the same time, we looked forward to a new year with a sense of possibility and opportunity.

Seize the Summer

There are a wide range of high quality activities that students can access over the summer break, but we thought we would pick out two particularly exciting options here.

The Fuzion Academy is taking place at Hampstead School for four of the five weeks that make up the holiday period. Aimed at 11-16 year olds, it offers a wide range of fun-filled activities including sport, cooking workshops, music workshops, arts and crafts, numeracy and literacy support and design technology.

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It is free of charge and includes a free lunchtime meal. Please note that Fuzion Academy is independent of the school; we are not responsible for the quality of provision on this programme.

More information can be found here: [The Fuzion Academy @ Hampstead School](#)

In addition, Hampstead School students aged 13-18 are eligible for the free events that make up the Camden Summer University. Courses are being offered across the full five weeks and range from documentary film making to Congolese cooking, journalism to construction, and football to yoga.

More information can be found here: [The Camden Summer University](#)

Assessment and reporting

All students in Years 7-10 will receive a report based on recent teacher assessment in the first few weeks of the summer break. We apologise that these were not with you sooner; the high levels of staff absence created by the rise in case numbers has undermined our normal reporting process. The reports will come with detailed guidance and a Frequently Asked Questions resource; if you have further queries we would be very happy to field them, but please contact the school after August 31.

Start of term arrangements

Although more detail will feature in the Reopening Guide that we will circulate prior to the start of term, these are the key dates for your diary:

Date	Staggered COVID testing	Face to face teaching @ 0830
Thursday 2 Sept.	Year 7	
Friday 3 Sept.	Years 11 and 12	Year 7
Monday 6 Sept.	Years 10 and 13	Years 7, 11, 12
Tuesday 7 Sept.	Years 8 and 9	Years 7, 10, 11, 12, 13
Wednesday 8 Sept.	Second test cycle begins	All year groups

Uniform and equipment – Autumn term 2021-22

As referenced in last week's update, please consult our [Uniform Policy and Addendum](#) when purchasing uniform for September and beyond.

In addition, please note that we will be increasing our emphasis on being equipped for learning in the New Year. Please make sure your child has a properly stocked pencil case ready for their return to school.

Test and Trace from 23 July 2021

From today the school will no longer play a direct role in the Test and Trace process, although we are ready to support our NHS colleagues where necessary. If your son or daughter tests positive for COVID-19 please liaise directly with NHS Test and Trace.

We are still logging confirmed cases to understand the impact of the virus on the school community, so please do send details to covid-19@hampsteadschool.org.uk. We may not respond to your email immediately but we will record the information on our return in September.

This has been a tough year but I feel lucky to have worked with such an energising and inspiring group of young people. I am sure that you are proud of their curiosity, creativity and courage. I hope that you are able to recharge your batteries over the summer and that you and your loved ones remain safe and well in these challenging times.

I will be in touch in mid-August with a Reopening Guide for the new school year. Until then, take care.

All best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Sadler', enclosed in a light grey rectangular box.

Matthew Sadler
Head