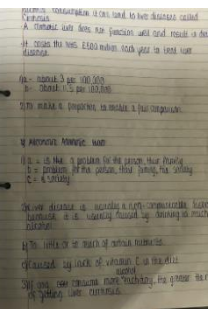
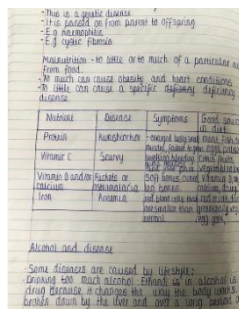
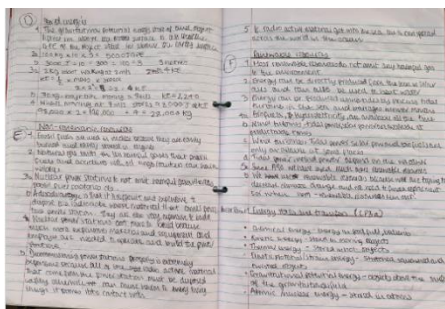




15 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,



At the start of this week we asked students to send in examples of their hard work at home and we have been blown away by the response. They have been approaching the work set in thoughtful and creative ways, something made possible by the support you are giving them in their home learning. Thank you for all of your efforts.

At the same time, we are also aware that some of our families have been directly affected by the ongoing pandemic and we would like to reiterate the message that physical and mental health must always come ahead of schoolwork. If your son or daughter is struggling and we can help, please do get in touch.

Remote learning expectations

For students who are fit and well, and with access to a suitable device, the expectation is that they continue to complete four to five hours of school work per day. Students should:

- Attend lessons in Microsoft Teams as per their normal timetable
- Use the [remote learning pages](#) on our website for trouble-shooting videos
- Access the live support provided by teaching staff if they have questions about the work
- Contact studenthelpdesk@hampsteadschool.org.uk if they face technical difficulties

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Access to laptops

We gave out 160 laptops in the first week of term and have now secured some more devices for distribution.

If your son or daughter is currently completing work on a mobile phone or having to share a laptop with siblings they would be eligible to loan a laptop for the duration of the school closure.

If you would like to loan a laptop please complete this form by Tuesday 19th January.

>>> [Laptop loan form](#) <<<

Tutor check in – every Monday at 0840

Although students are completing a wellbeing check-in every morning, we would like to add to this with a tutor check-in every Monday. Please ask your son or daughter to access their tutor room/PSHCRE room on Teams at 0840 every Monday morning.

Examination update and predicted grades

Students in examination year groups are understandably concerned about how grades will be determined this year. A consultation paper is due to be released by Ofqual but at the time of writing we have no further information. We will update you as soon as we are able.

Some students and parents have contacted teachers directly to ask them about the grade they might achieve in the summer. We have directed teaching staff not to respond to any questions on this topic as this might undermine any in-school processes that may contribute to final grades. If you do have questions, please direct them to me or your child's head of year.

Year 9 Pathways

Our normal Year 9 pathways process has been slightly delayed by the events of the past few weeks. Students will soon be able to access a range of resources through Teams and will be exploring questions around next steps in PSHCRE lessons. We will be sending out details of the Year 9 pathways programme in the week beginning 25th January.

After the policy U-turns and lockdown announcements of last week it has been a bit calmer over the past few days. Although we are physically separated, our students continue to demonstrate their resilience, humour and spirit within the school's online community. Thank you for all of your support in helping them to continue their education in these unstable times.

All best wishes, take care and stay safe,



Matthew Sadler
Head