



HAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Learning together Achieving together

14 May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Firstly, as always, I would like to thank you all for your patience and collaboration at a time when there is so much uncertainty and associated anxiety.

You will, undoubtedly, be aware of the latest government announcement suggesting some partial reopening of schools from 1 June at the earliest. Whilst we await far more detail on what this means in practice, the ambition is that Years 10 and 12 will get at least some facetime with their teachers before the end of this Summer Term. The position remains unclear for our students in Key Stage 3.

You may know that last month Hampstead School became the first secondary school in Camden, (and I believe North London), to be awarded the Wellbeing Award for Schools by the National Children Bureau. Consequently, rest assured that the safety and well-being of our students is paramount and everything we do endeavours to ensure the best support for them both at home or in school.

Although I know families and students are desperate to get back to school, there will also be those of you that are worried and anxious about returning. This week, (alongside all the other headteachers in Camden), I met with representatives from Camden Local Authority (LA) and Camden and Islington Public Health (CIPH), to begin considering how we might start to reopen our school. Clearly, we would only ever open at the point that it was safe to do so for students and staff, in accordance with the published guidance and in agreement with the LA, CIPH and Professional Associations. There is currently still much discussion to be had around this and the situation may change between now and 1 June, but I am sure we will all want to work together to do our best with the continued challenges of this situation.

In the meantime, our status is as it has been since the beginning of the lockdown. Hampstead School is open only for children with Educational Health Care Plans, vulnerable students, on our invited register, and students whose parents and carers are identified key workers. Whilst I know there is now a wider physical return to places of work, we are not able to provide allocations for students other than the above.



Head: Jacques Szemalikowski MA BSc(Hons) PGCE NPQH CPhys MinstP. FRSA
Hampstead School, Westbere Road, London NW2 3RT

T: 020 7794 8133 E: enquiries@hampsteadschool.org.uk www.hampsteadschool.org.uk



As the relevant guidance develops and we are able to move towards firmer plans, I will write to you again to share the relevant information with you.

Please look after yourself and your loved ones.

Jacques Szemalikowski
Head

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