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Bohunt Horsham Headteacher: Ms G Ayling BA (Hons)

Thursday 25 June 2020

Re: School Closure Updates

Dear Families

Returning to School:

We are busy planning end of term refresher events for our current year 7 students. In line with government guidance, we are now able to invite our current students into school for a refresher event before the end of term. We are planning groupings now, which will prioritise friendship groups over tutor groups and expect to have students in for part of a day to participate in wellbeing activities, end of year celebrations and English and maths check in sessions. Next week we will finalise the groups and dates and will send out booking forms to you online. We are planning to run these events in the last week of term (**week commencing Monday 13 July**) and they will most likely run from Monday to Thursday of that week. Online learning will continue as usual for the rest of the term. The advice from the government is now that all year groups will return to school in September and so we are thrilled that our current year 7 students will be able to step up as the role models they have been preparing to become for the new cohort. I will keep you informed of health and safety measures that are likely to be in place for September nearer the time.

Uniform for September 2020:

All Bohunt Education Trust schools have now made the decision that our students will be in full school uniform when they return in September. Our uniform supplier, TaylorMade Uniforms <https://www.taylormadeuniforms.co.uk/> is currently closed but is operating a click and collect service on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays from 9am-1pm. You must place your order online beforehand and you will then be updated when your order is ready for collection.

Financial Changes:

Many of our families will have undergone difficult changes to their financial situation throughout the course of the COVID-19 crisis, if you have been impacted financially, I would urge you to take a look at the criteria for free school meals eligibility on the link below. If eligible, your child would receive a free school meals allowance and additional funding would also be allocated to the school to support your child further. <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/>

Keyworker/Vulnerable Support:

Please note that Friday 3 July is an INSET day, there will be no lessons on this day so please only send your child in if you require childcare on this day. All staff will be attending training with schools across the trust on this day so our capacity is reduced. The survey for next week's keyworker childcare /additional support is here: <https://forms.gle/SeiL5kkFBMKM32Kr5> if your child is attending school for any reason, please complete the survey as soon as you are able. It is vital that we know who is planned to attend school on each day so that we can inform you if your child does not arrive.

Important dates:

3 July - there will be no lessons on these days but we will be able to offer keyworker childcare if needed.
17 July – last day of term, lessons will finish at 13.00 on the last day of term but we will be able to offer keyworker childcare if needed.

A Few of My Favourite Things:

Yesterday was the first of our three Gamechanger Days and I already have some brilliant highlights to share with you all. The first day was focused on the world around us and it was great to see so many of our students heading out on nature walks yesterday morning, I loved Milo's cow photographs – they looked like

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they had found a perfect place to find shelter from the heat. Leila's leaf collection looked like a work of art. Louis P's collection of photographs showed just how carefully he had followed the assignment and what a beautiful place he chose to do so too. Today, students were looking at the world within them and focusing on mindful and creative activities. Subby's enthusiasm for the day's tasks was infectious on the google classroom, even at one point 'unsubmitting' a piece of work because he just had to go back and improve upon it. As always, Lewis R threw himself into the tasks with gusto; despite having joined our school during lockdown Lewis has impressed us all with his focus and resilience. Sam H's guitar submission for our Virtual Summer Showcase is brilliant, Sam – when we return to school you will have to perform in an assembly, such great guitar work and a lovely voice. Our INSET day on Tuesday was awash with excitement as the new teachers joined us (some from very far-flung places) to begin to plan for next year, I continue to be thrilled with the appointments we have made, you can meet the new staff on our website, here:

<https://www.bohunthorsham.com/staff/new-staff-member-introductions/>

My favourite thing of all this week is Emilia's positivity, Emilia has impressed me since she joined school with her enthusiasm and natural optimism but she is never without a kind and encouraging word for her fellow students and for Bohunt Horsham's staff too.

Finally, in addition to our **Refresher Sessions**, now planned for the week commencing July 13, we also have some potential plans for **Summer Workshops** in the pipeline. If we can staff and resource these safely we will write to you all towards the end of term with more information and the opportunity to book one or more workshops.

Please do continue to look after each other and stay safe,



Georgette Ayling