



Dear Parents/Carers

### **News update (Friday 15 January 2021)**

In order to reduce screen time and provide regular break away from screens, from Monday 18 January lessons will start at the usual time, but finish ten minutes early.

### **Virtual Learning Curriculum**

Please take time to read through the online learning document about the school's Virtual Learning Curriculum with your child/ren. The document outlines the DfE expectations of schools for remote learning and how Ridgeway Academy have fulfilled these expectations. Click [here](#) for document.

After you have read and understood the content of the document, you will be directed to a digital consent form for completion. The digital consent form can be also found [here](#).

### **Year 7 Parents' Evening**

Year 7 Parents' Evening will take place on School Cloud on Thursday 28 January. You will have received an email explaining how to book appointments. As many teachers teach multiple Year 7 classes we advise you to book your appointment early to avoid disappointment.

### **Attendance**

Each day the school must provide the Department for Education with a COVID update. For the information to be accurate it is vital that we are made aware by email of any students who fall into the following categories:

- Self-isolating due to being named as a close contact to a positive COVID case **outside** of school
- Self-isolating due to being named as a close contact to a COVID case **inside** of school
- Symptomatic and are awaiting a COVID test / test results
- Tested positive for COVID

The email address used to inform the school is: [attendance@ridgeway.herts.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@ridgeway.herts.sch.uk)

Please rest assured that no names or personal information is shared; it is simply a case of the school providing numbers of students in each category.

### **Feedback to students' expectations**

Feedback to students remains an important aspect of teaching and learning. Students can expect to receive feedback in the following ways:

- Immediate verbal feedback from teachers via live lessons using google classroom
- Immediate short comment feedback using the chat box during a live lesson using google classroom
- An Effort score (1,2,3) for work submitted to google classroom. Where effort is scored a 1, students will receive a merit logged on Bromcom and shown on the My Child at School app.
- Whole class feedback written in the google classroom streaming tool of google classroom
- Written individual feedback for extended pieces of work submitted via google classroom
- Teachers will continue to follow the established feedback and marking policy and provide written feedback to students every 4-6 lessons.

### **Year 9 options presentation**

Year 9 options presentation, subject videos and options booklet is now available on the school website for students and families, please [click here for link](#). Please take time to watch the videos and contact any of the subject staff, tutors, Directors of Learning or members of the Senior Leadership Team to ask any questions you may have on the process. The options form is available as a [link on the website](#). The deadline for completing the options form is Monday 1 February 2021.

### **Study skills training for Year 10 students**

Ridgeway Academy has joined with Elevate to provide study skills training to our Year 10 students and free webinars for all our parents/carers. The first of these is next **Tuesday 19 January at 6pm**. The details of next Tuesday's webinar are:

#### **Managing Motivation: How to boost and sustain your child's motivation during lockdown**

**Date:** Tuesday 19 January 2021

**Time:** 6:00 – 7:00pm

**Registration link:** <https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/register>

We will be focusing on student motivation, giving parents ways to help keep their children motivated during school closures.

Further webinars can also be booked:

- Tuesday 19 January: Increasing and Sustaining Motivation
- Tuesday 9 February: Stress & Wellbeing
- Tuesday 2 March: Preparing for Assessments
- Tuesday 23 March: Managing Technology and Distractions

If you would like to attend any of these webinars and are unable to do so live, we will share the replay link and resources for each webinar the week after it has taken place. If you register for a webinar and miss it live, the replay link will be sent to your email address.

### **Google Classroom**

We thank all parents who have supported their children with Google Classroom and for those parents who have taken the time to give us feedback and praise the efforts of our staff. Please be aware that whilst we endeavour to teach live lessons wherever possible there are occasions when this will not be possible. Staff are also on a rota in school to support Key Worker children. Therefore, please can we ask that you check the Google Classroom information carefully to ascertain if there is a live link available for your son or daughter, or if work has been uploaded for independent study. We have requested that staff make this clear in the Classroom to limit the time wasted by students and their families.

### **Computers and WIFI**

In order to support your child's remote learning we are continuing to loan students a Chromebook. If your child is having to share a computer at home or does not have one please email [caroline.maddocks@ridgeway.herts.sch.uk](mailto:caroline.maddocks@ridgeway.herts.sch.uk) writing Computer Loan as the Subject and we will arrange the loan of a Chromebook. A parent will need to sign the loan agreement and collect the device from school. If you do not have WIFI at home please email [caroline.maddocks@ridgeway.herts.sch.uk](mailto:caroline.maddocks@ridgeway.herts.sch.uk) writing WIFI as the Subject and we will organise this for you.

### **Twitter**

Please remember to follow maths on Twitter @RidgewayMaths



# Supporting young people in Welwyn Hatfield during lockdown

SPRING TERM 2021 – 1st January

## Mondays

**Autism Online Project**  
Online via Microsoft Teams  
Mondays 5pm-6pm  
For young people aged 13-17

**Serenity LGBT+ Project**  
Call or email for details  
Mondays 6pm-8pm  
For young people aged 13-17

## Tuesdays

**Just Bee**  
**Emotional Wellbeing Project**  
WGC Young People's Centre,  
Oaklands College, AL8 6AH  
Tuesdays 3:15-5:15pm  
For young people aged 13-17

**Positive Alternatives Project**  
WGC Young People's Centre,  
Oaklands College, AL8 6AH  
Tuesdays 6:15pm-8pm  
For young people aged 13-17

**Girls and Young Women's Project**  
Online via Microsoft Teams  
Tuesdays 6pm-7pm  
For young people aged 13-17

**Woodhall Street Project**  
Tuesdays 6pm-8pm  
For young people aged 13-17

## Wednesdays

**Emotional Wellbeing Project**  
Online via Microsoft Teams  
Wednesdays 6pm-7pm  
For young people aged 13-17

## Thursdays

**Hatfield Street Project**  
Thursdays 3:15-5:15pm  
For young people aged 13-17

**LGBT+ Project**  
Online via Microsoft Teams  
Thursdays 6pm-7pm  
For LGBT+ young people aged 13-17

**Supporting You Project**  
Online via Microsoft Teams  
Thursdays 6pm-7pm  
For young people aged 13-17

**LGBT+ Project**  
Online via Microsoft Teams  
Thursdays 8pm-9pm  
For LGBT+ young adults aged 18-24

## Fridays

**Woodhall Street Project**  
Thursdays 4pm-6pm  
For young people aged 13-17

**Hatfield Friday Project**  
Online via Microsoft Teams  
Fridays 6:30-7:30pm  
For young people aged 13-17

## Saturdays

**Hatfield Street Project**  
Saturdays 3-5pm  
For young people aged 13-17

## January lockdown update

To help us to keep everyone safe, most of our projects will be delivered online during this latest lockdown. This means that our current offer may look slightly different to usual, but we will update our social media and website as soon as anything changes. In the meantime, feel free to get in touch if you have any queries about a specific project.



Find out more

Call 01992 588220 | Text 07860 065173 | Email [ychsfp.welwynhatfield@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:ychsfp.welwynhatfield@hertfordshire.gov.uk)



[www.ychservicesforyoungpeople.org](http://www.ychservicesforyoungpeople.org)

YCH Services for Young People (YCH SfYP)



Received from Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council



Free online girls dance project with FK Dance Academy on the following days: Friday 4.30-5.30pm (15, 22 and 29 Jan, 5 and 12 Feb). For bookings and information, email [admin@fkdanceacademy.co.uk](mailto:admin@fkdanceacademy.co.uk).

Best wishes  
Sarah Mitcherson  
Headteacher