



## Hillhead High School Weekly Newsletter - 30th April 2020



Dear Parent/ Carer,

I hope you and your family are well. This is the third weekly newsletter, written in partnership with Catriona Futter, the chair of our Parent Council and we plan to continue to send them each week for the rest of the term. We want to support you as best we can and we will continue to communicate regularly through our Twitter account @HillheadHS and our school website. At the end of this newsletter you will find the email addresses for our Pupil Support Team and Senior Leadership Team and do please get in touch if you have any queries or concerns about any issues.

We have decided to send this newsletter out towards the end of each week rather than the start of a week so we can highlight key information shared during the week via the website or through our Twitter account and we can also take account of national and local advice as well as the various staff meetings that take place during the week. As we are now in the fourth school week of learning at home, it is important to gauge how things are working for our school community in terms of communication and home learning and we will be doing so in a couple of ways. Firstly, we will be sending out a survey to pupils and parents next week to get your feedback. Secondly, over the course of the next few weeks we will be contacting all families to check how things are going and if there is anything we can do to support. Our Pupil Support Team have already been in touch with many parents and families via phone calls over the past few weeks and the feedback we have had is that this has been very welcomed. Please be assured the purpose of the call is not to check up on people – we understand that across our whole school community everyone will be facing different pressures – but is to keep in touch with you. The call may come up as “unknown number” or “number withheld” and if you are not available when the teacher calls they will leave a message where they can so you know it was the school calling. If you are not comfortable answering a call from an unknown number and/or you would prefer to arrange for a particular day or you would prefer an email, please contact Ms Higgins [gw10higginsnicola@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10higginsnicola@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

### **Health and Wellbeing**

As always, the health, wellbeing and happiness of our school community remains our priority at this challenging time. There are a range of resources to support children and adults with mental health and we are continuing to post resources on Twitter such as @YoungScot and Glasgow Psychological Services @GlasgowEPS. We are also updating our

school website too and our school counsellors continue to work with their pupil caseload via phone. At school and local authority level there is a lot of work being done to not only support families now and in the coming weeks (see some examples below) but also to begin to look ahead and consider what support will be needed as things change in relation to lockdown. Right now, none of us know what this will look like or when it might happen and it will be determined by decisions at a national level but we will continue to share information as and when we know more.

In terms of physical health, we appreciate that not all families will have a garden or easy access to parks or outdoor spaces. Many of our school community are beginning the day taking part in Joe Wicks's PE lessons on his YouTube channel. Also, after a successful pilot with S1 all pupils now have the option to take part in an exercise challenge using a free app called Strava. Mr Gillespie sent out information to pupils last week via Glow and asked them to share this information with their parents so you know how it works. If you have any questions at all you can contact him at [gw14gillespiedouglas@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw14gillespiedouglas@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Again, these are offered as suggestions only – you will know your child/ren best.

### **SQA Update**

As outlined in previous bulletins, schools are now working through SQA guidance to produce estimates for those pupils who would be sitting SQA exams this year. In our school this is S5 and S6 pupils. You can find more information on the process in this guide here:

[https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files\\_ccc/020420-SQA-NQ2020-Parent-Carer-covid-19-FAQ.pdf](https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/020420-SQA-NQ2020-Parent-Carer-covid-19-FAQ.pdf)

There is a detailed process in place for schools in order to produce the information for the SQA and teachers and departments look at far more than prelim results to inform this estimate and to ensure that the process is robust, fair and that pupils are not disadvantaged. Please be assured that school staff will continue to work hard over the next few weeks to ensure that all information required by the SQA is completed. If you have any queries in relation to SQA, please contact Mr Neil (email address at the end of this bulletin).

### **University and College application**

A reminder that if your child has not yet applied for college courses or needs help completing application forms then we are happy to help. Please contact Mr Richardson or Miss Campbell – you will find their email addresses on the key contact list at the end of this bulletin. Miss Campbell has also updated our school website with information on UCAS which can be found here: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/hillheadhigh/https-blogs-glowscotland-org-uk-gc-pathways/ucas-information/>

### **Community Support and Advice**

FARE Scotland is a Glasgow-based charity who are working in partnership with Glasgow City Council and a various local charities and suppliers to provide food and provisions to

thousands of families and senior citizens in need. Their phone number is: 0141 771

9151 You can find out more about their work on their Facebook page:

[https://www.facebook.com/FAREGLASGOW/?eid=ARAzgg2fUNQ3\\_6zuF\\_VZJUvHWqZIUorDyKDHbFLHBMPCc6hVJNTprp7WdEFBQokq0VK4MRlc4STgjXn2](https://www.facebook.com/FAREGLASGOW/?eid=ARAzgg2fUNQ3_6zuF_VZJUvHWqZIUorDyKDHbFLHBMPCc6hVJNTprp7WdEFBQokq0VK4MRlc4STgjXn2)

Partnership Action for Continuing Employment (PACE) is supporting people facing redundancy or who have been recently made redundant. You can phone them for free, confidential advice on 0800 917 8000 or find out more here: <https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/redundancy-help-scotland>

One Parent Family Scotland have set up a Coronavirus Emergency Energy Fund:

<https://opfs.org.uk/coronavirus-emergency-energy-fund/>

Citizens Advice Scotland can support with a range of issues, including accessing benefits.

They can be contacted on their free confidential helpline 0800 085 7145 or via their website: <https://www.cas.org.uk/>

The Scottish Refugee Council can be contacted on 0141 223 7979 and have a dedicated COVID-19 section on their website which is available in a number of languages

<https://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/covid-19/>

### **Some suggestions for structuring home learning:**

Teachers continue to add resources through Glow and to communicate with pupils via Glow emails or Teams (which is also accessed via Glow) and our Working from Home document has been updated on our website. From responses from pupils and families we know some are feeling there are too many resources and tasks and staff are sensitive to encouraging pupils to engage with work without adding undue pressure to families. Learning at home during a global pandemic is not the same as school in normal circumstances and we know not everyone has equal access to ICT or resources. It is perhaps best to focus on keeping pupils engaged in a routine of learning over the coming weeks. To support, departments are, where possible, arranging for work to be put up at the start of a week so as to allow pupils and families to plan learning and any subject-specific queries can be sent to Principal Teachers and Faculty Heads who all have an overview of the learning being set across their departments and faculties. Streamlined information on how to access Glow has been shared on twitter and added to our website. Learning in a wider sense is also incredibly valuable (e.g. reading, playing, cooking, exercising, getting outdoors) and can encourage pupils to spend time away from screens.

BBC Bitesize also provides a range of excellent resources for children and families on their website <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize> You'll find six different 20 minute shows per weekday on **BBC iPlayer**, each targeting children of different ages (5-7, 7-9, 9-11 years, that is primary aged children, and 11-12, 12-13, 13-14 years, for those at secondary school) – see below for secondary school. There is also a parent toolkit and resources to support with

early years. Here is an overview of daily support for pupils in secondary schools. You can also see and/or download the schedule of lessons available for upcoming weeks to help you and your child/ren make a plan that works best for you.

Bitesize Daily across the BBC - Secondary					
BBC RED BUTTON	iPlayer	Bitesize Daily lessons	BBC FOUR	BBC SOUNDS	BBC Scotland
<p><b>TV for 11-14 year-olds</b>, with two core subjects and a humanities subject every week day and a daily reading strand for each age group.</p> <p><b>10:00 - 11:00-</b> Bitesize Daily - Secondary</p> <p><b>15:00 - 19:00 -</b> Programmes for 13+</p>	<p>20 minute programmes each age group: <b>11-12</b> years, <b>12-13</b> years and <b>13-14</b> years.</p> <p>Each programme features teachers providing curriculum support for Maths, English or Science, plus a humanities subject</p> <p>Teacher Talks - a brand new series of lessons in core concepts in Maths and English</p> <p>Extra content from BBC Teach including their Live Lessons series.</p> <p>Search 'Bitesize' in iPlayer to find all this educational support.</p>	<p>Three UK curriculum-related online lessons a day for 11-15 year olds, five days a week: English and Maths and one other core subject.</p> <p>Lessons are created in collaboration with teachers and full of premium BBC Bitesize content: video, activities and quizzes.</p> <p><a href="#">BBC Bitesize Daily lessons</a></p>	<p>Early evening programming to support students aged 15-18 with curriculum linked documentaries and plays.</p>	<p>The Bitesize Secondary Planner is a daily ten minute guide bringing you the best content from Bitesize to help plan your day</p> <p>Go to the BBC Sounds app and search Bitesize.</p>	<p><b>11:00 – 12:00:</b> Daily TV broadcast for learners at primary school in Scotland, featuring short films, quizzes and activities that cover English, Maths, Science and Social Subjects.</p> <p><a href="#">BBC Scotland</a></p>

Pupils will be asked to complete a survey to help us find out what is working for them in terms of learning at home and what could be improved and we will share key findings with you in a later newsletter.

Finally, we would like to thank all of our parents and families for all you are doing in these difficult times to look after yourself and your family and for the feedback you are giving us so we can keep working together. We understand some of you will be facing acute pressures and we will do our very best to support you. Please do get in touch if there is anything you are unsure about, if you have any question or if you need some guidance with any of the learning at home resources. Thanks also to our staff are working hard on setting work and providing feedback, SQA estimates, contacting families and working with school partners, timetabling, attending online meetings, completing school development tasks, making plans for pupil transitions, volunteering, etc. Many are combining this with home-schooling their own children and/or supporting loved ones. Heartfelt thank you to everyone in our school community for everything you are doing.

### Upcoming Event – Careers Week

Hillhead High is running its first ever online Careers Week during the week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> May. We have lots of different activities lined up to help pupils find out more about career

options and to prepare them for the world of work. In preparation for this week, pupils will be asked (where possible) to register for MyWorldofWork here- <https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/account/register#/> and Barclays LifeSkills <https://barclayslifeskills.com/sign-in/>

Mr Richardson is arranging for a number of livestreams that pupils can watch, listen or interact with. These include masterclasses with Nick Kuenssberg OBE who is chair of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and has significant experience in a range of businesses. Information will be sent to pupils next week via Glow email with the option to sign up for opportunities that interest them.

### **Communications and Contact Information**

Official information will be provided and shared through our school website and twitter feed.

School Twitter account: @HillheadHS

School website: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/hillheadhigh/>

### **Support with Glow Logins and re-setting passwords / Microsoft Teams**

Miss Cuthbertson: [gw10cuthbertsonelain@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10cuthbertsonelain@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Mr Tait: [gw16taitdavid1@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw16taitdavid1@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

### **Pupil Support Team – Pastoral Care Teachers**

Miss Hewitt – [gw09hewittjenny@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw09hewittjenny@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Miss Robinson – [gw16robinsonlynsey1@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw16robinsonlynsey1@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Mr Greechan – [gw07greechanjohn@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw07greechanjohn@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Mr Griffin – [gw10griffinbrian@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10griffinbrian@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Miss Campbell – [gw19campbellkirstin@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw19campbellkirstin@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

### **Pupil Support Team – Support for Learning, EAL and Nurture**

Miss McGuire - [gw17mcguiresiobhan@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw17mcguiresiobhan@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

### **UCAS and College queries**

Mr Richardson - [gw12richardsonjack@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw12richardsonjack@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Miss Campbell - [gw19campbellkirstin@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw19campbellkirstin@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

### **Senior Leadership Team**

**S1 and S2 pupils:** Mrs Campbell [gw10campbellharriet@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10campbellharriet@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

**S3 Pupils:** Mr Brown [gw17brownstuart@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw17brownstuart@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

**S4 pupils:** Miss Higgins [gw10higginsnicola@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10higginsnicola@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

**S5 and S6 pupils:** Mr Neil [gw10neilsteven@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10neilsteven@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

**Nurture:** Miss Black [gw15blackleanne@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw15blackleanne@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

**Head Teacher:** Mrs McAlaney - [gw10mcalaneykaren@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10mcalaneykaren@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Please do not contact the [Headteacher@hillheadhigh.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:Headteacher@hillheadhigh.glasgow.sch.uk) account as we have no access to it at present.

Our Parent Council Twitter account is: @HillheadParents and the Facebook page can be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/HillheadHighSchoolParentCouncil/> If you have any ideas to share on what is working for you, and/or suggestions for improvements, please email Catriona at [hillheadhighparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:hillheadhighparentcouncil@gmail.com) who can share ideas via social media and this newsletter.

Best wishes,

Karen McAlaney and Catriona Futter