

WEEK 38 - Friday 16 July 2021

Hello and welcome to my last Blog of the Year...

What can I say? It has certainly been a rollercoaster.

But, we have made it, the Summer Holidays are within touching distance and with a bit of luck this amazing weather will be here to stay.

I have been incredibly pleased at how well the students of Year 10 have coped and adapted to life in school after such a long period of time away from school. They have done remarkably well and have certainly done themselves proud. To say it has been plain sailing would be a slight stretch of the imagination and the attendance of some students has certainly tested my patience.

As we move into Year 11 and their last year at school the importance of being 'ready' has never been as important. Attendance and punctuality is of the highest importance and I must reiterate the importance of being in school and just how damaging unnecessary and prolonged absence can have on a child's grades.

As you will know, we have made some important clarifications to our school uniform and made it easier for families to obtain and purchase skirts and shoes that are in line with our policy. If you do have any questions or queries regarding these changes please do not hesitate to contact me: hoyear10@hessleacademy.com

The recent 'Sports Festival' was a great success for all Year Groups and once again the level of skill and enthusiasm displayed by the students was fantastic to see. Games of the highest quality were displayed within badminton, football and rounders with each game going towards an overall 'Sports Festival' winner. The final results of the event are shared with the students in their final week.

As you can imagine Year 10 have worked incredibly hard during their lessons and tutor time and most recently had the opportunity to take part in their careers week. I again encourage you to discuss with your child the opportunities within the local area and the post sixteen options available to them. Students have been given their 'Log On Move On' login details which is an unbelievable tool with a huge amount of information and I recommend you spend some time having a look at the opportunities on offer.

And finally, I would like to wish you all the very best for the Summer Holidays. Stay safe and enjoy yourselves and I will see you all in September.

Take care and stay safe.

Mr Julian Head of Year 10

Mrs Lacey Assistant Head of Year 10

WEEK 36 - Friday 2 July 2021

Hello and welcome to this week's Year 10 Blog.

To say these last couple of weeks have been a whirlwind of activities for Year 10 would be a huge understatement!

First came the end of year assessments followed closely by a hugely successful careers week which saw students attending a number of career based lessons.

During this testing period students have completed a number of assessments within each subject area, with the first results to be returned as early as next week. Not only do these assessments allow students to gain a greater understanding of their subject knowledge but also serve as practice for their GCSE's next year.

This week the students of Year 10 have participated in a Careers and Post Sixteen Week which aimed to provide crucial careers based information and raise their awareness of what options are available to them as they move ever closer to their final year. Students also had the opportunity to develop a CV, participate in virtual careers talks, and listen to talks on apprenticeships, colleges and sixth forms.

Students were also reintroduced to Log On move On an online careers information advice and guidance website based within Hull and the East Riding. 'LOMO' is a fantastic tool which has a wealth of information and each student has a unique username and password and I encourage you to discuss the website and the information within the site.

During the assemblies this week I spoke about the importance of 'Acting Early', 'Being Ready', and 'Reducing Pressure'. I am under no illusion that this has been a tough period of time for everyone, particularly students and encouraging students to talk about their future and what they would like to do/study after Year 11 will help alleviate pressure next year, as well as providing a target to aim for.

As I mentioned in my last Blog, I am a big believer in the importance of forward planning and being prepared. If you are concerned about your child or you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me: hoyyear10@hessleacademy.com

Within Tutor Time students across the school have been shown infographics highlighting the subtle improvements to the uniform policy for September. Information and guidance has also been sent home and I ask that you familiarise yourself with the uniform policy before buying any new items of school clothing.

Throughout the remaining weeks of term students will continue to discuss the improvements to the uniform policy with further information being sent home to parents and carers.

Take care and stay safe.

Mr Julian Head of Year 10

Mrs Lacey Assistant Head of Year 10

WEEK 34 - Friday 18 June 2021

Hello and welcome to this week's Year 10 Blog.

Next week sees the Year 10 students start their End of Year Assessments and the opportunity for them to showcase their subject knowledge as well as highlighting any areas which may require some additional attention.

Over the past couple of weeks it has been fantastic to see so many Year 10 students taking advantage of the numerous after school revision sessions and those seeking extra guidance and advice from their teachers.

Information has been shared with the students explaining which revision guides are available and which guides may be beneficial in their future revision. I would certainly recommend encouraging your child to think about 'revision' and how prepared they are. I am a big believer in the benefit of forward planning and being prepared.

If you are concerned about your child or you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me: hoyyear10@hessleacademy.com

With the serious risk of sounding like a stuck record, I must once again mention 'attendance' and I urge you to discuss the importance of having 'good' attendance and how damaging missed days can have on your child's knowledge. 'Lockdown 1, 2 and 3' has inadvertently caused large periods of time away from the classroom and now more so than ever your child needs to be in front of their teachers.

In the final Summer Term Mrs Lacey and I will be meeting groups of students highlighted as potentially having 'lower than hoped for attendance', to discuss ways in which we can support them further.

I look forward to feeding back to you how the End of Term Assessments went in the next Year 10 Blog.

Until then, take care and stay safe.

Take care and stay safe.

Mr Julian Head of Year 10

Mrs Lacey Assistant Head of Year 10

WEEK 32 - Friday 28 May 2021

Hello and welcome to the last Year 10 blog of the term.

This is it! The Year 11's have completed their Assessments and we start to see a shift in preparing the Year 10's for their final year in school! I think you will agree that it seems like only yesterday they were in Year 9....where did that time go?!

Over the past week there has been a real focus on 'Kindness' and what it means to be kind.

The simple act of being kind is (it seems) so easy to forget, and yet it is something so easy to put into place. As a year group we have urged the students of year 10 to consider what it means to be kind and what simple acts of kindness they could implement into their daily lives.

With the students on the verge of 'officially' becoming year 11 we often see a huge growth in maturity of our students throughout the summer holidays and with that the ability to appropriately deal with negative situations, their resilience and kindness towards each other does improve and grow.

We are very proud at how well the vast majority of Year 10's have settled back into 'school life' and this new way of operating. They have done themselves and their families proud, and deserve a huge 'well done!'.

It has been a fast and furious return to school and Mrs Lacey and I are both certainly ready for a holiday! We look forward to seeing the students again on Monday 7 June.

Have a restful Holiday and as always, If you are concerned about your child or you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me: hoyyear10@hessleacademy.com

Take care and stay safe.

Mr Julian Head of Year 10

Mrs Lacey Assistant Head of Year 10

WEEK 30 - Friday 14 May 2021

Hello and welcome to this week's Year 10 Blog.

Over the past week we have been focusing on one of the Hessle values - Resilience.

What is resilience? The Oxford English Dictionary defines resilience as, "The capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness" but I ask, "is it more than that?" I believe so.

Here at Hessle we interpret resilience as "being determined, not giving up when things get tough. To persevere, even when the odds are stacked against you. Having the understanding that learning and life can be hard, but we persevere".

Being resilient is integral for your child to be able to cope with life's ups and downs, and young people who are resilient are much better at coping with difficult situations, having that ability to 'bounce back'.

The resilience shown by so many of the young people within Year 10 over the past fourteen months has been incredible. They (we all) have been through so much and we can not underestimate the importance of continuing to support our young people. We can not always prevent our children from experiencing tough times but we can certainly give them the tools to meet adversity with resilience and stoicism.

As we say goodbye to the Year 11s and the focus shifts onto preparing the Year 10s for their final year in school, being ready and having resilience is going to be paramount.

If you are concerned about your child or you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me: hoyyear10@hessleacademy.com

Take care and stay safe.

Mr Julian Head of Year 10

Mrs Lacey Assistant Head of Year 10

WEEK 28 - Friday 30 April 2021

Hello and welcome to the Year 10 Blog.

Manners, Respect, Communication and Peer Relationships.

These are keywords and topics which I believe are of the utmost importance. Over the next few weeks we will continue to look at these topics in detail and will have, for the first time in a long time, a Year Group Assembly. Unbelievably, it has been over a Year since I have held an assembly and I look forward to being able to stand in front of my Year Group and talk about these topics (albeit staggered and with reduced numbers - but it is a start!).

It is always pleasing to hear a "good morning", or a "how are you, sir?" first thing in the morning and I am always impressed with the manners displayed by my Year Group. It is funny that something as simple as a 'smile' or a cheery "good morning" can brighten someone's day.

With so much negativity and pain displayed within the media it is often hard to see all the good and positive things that are also happening, and how these individual acts of kindness can have such a positive impact on others.

Once again I must ask that you reiterate the importance of wearing a face covering, washing hands regularly and remaining within their year group bubbles. Over the past week, I have noticed for the first time students requesting to have a replacement face mask and even providing face masks for those that have forgotten to bring their own. As you can imagine this is not sustainable and I again ask that you remind your child/children to bring their own face mask.

Take care and stay safe.

Mr Julian Head of Year 10

Mrs Lacey Assistant Head of Year 10

WEEK 26 - Friday 16 April 2021

Hello and welcome to this week's Year 10 Blog.

This week the Nation reached the long awaited milestone and the first steps to the full reopening of our shops and infrastructure, and with the sun shining it felt 'almost' normal.

The Year 10s have continued to impress me with their positive attitude and behaviour and have responded well to the new procedures put into place at the end of the last lock down. It has also been great to see so many Year 10s taking part in the Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing to help keep both themselves and others safe.

Please continue to remind your son or daughter about the importance of following the school uniform policy, having the correct equipment (planner, stationary and face mask) as well as being punctual. Students are expected to be on the school site no later than 08:30.

Over the past two weeks, the Year 10s have continued with their careers interviews which once again provides the young people with the opportunity to focus on their potential post sixteen careers pathway and future employment. Can I ask that you encourage your son or daughter to have a conversation about their career choices and the large number of opportunities available to them within the local area.

With the Year 11s starting their final weeks of schooling it is a timely reminder that in the not so distant future the Year 10s will be moving into Year 11 and the start of their final year in school. If you have any questions or concerns about this 'next step' please do not hesitate to contact me on the email below.

As always, communication is crucial, and as we continue to move towards the end of Year 10, I believe that by maintaining communication we will be able to best help the young people. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me via the school number or the following email: hoyyear10@hessleacademy.com

Take care and stay safe.

Mr Julian Head of Year 10

Mrs Lacey Assistant Head of Year 10

WEEK 24 - Friday 19 March 2021

Hello and welcome to the Year 10 Blog.

After what seems to have been an age, it is great to finally have the school back full of students. I have been very pleased at how the Year 10 students have settled back into the school environment and we have witnessed the young people ready and focussed on their learning. Since their return the students have had the opportunity to focus on their potential post sixteen careers and pathways during tutor time. This will become increasingly more important as the students of Year 10 move towards Year 11 and their final months in the school.

Over the past two weeks we have all experienced a variety of emotions and it is worth remembering that myself and Mrs Lacey, as well as the Year 10 tutors are available every morning on the Year 10 Plaza to help and support those in need. Mrs Lacey and I have been incredibly impressed with the number of students who have reassured and supported each other during this period of reintroduction and seen a real 'togetherness' amongst the students.

With the safety of everyone in the school paramount, can I please ask that you reiterate the importance of wearing a face covering, washing their hands regularly and remaining in their Year Group Bubbles.

Communication is crucial, and as we continue to move towards the end of Year 10, I believe that by maintaining communication we will be able to best help the young people. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me via the school number or the following email: hoyyear10@hessleacademy.com

Our expectations of uniform, behaviour and work ethic remains high and I ask that your child continues to come prepared and equipped for lessons.

Take care and stay safe.

Mr Julian Head of Year 10

Mrs Lacey Assistant Head of Year 10