

17<sup>th</sup> November 2023

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**Principal: Lorraine Taylor**

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you for your support and patience as we move to the new building. As always, our pupils have shown great heart and tenacity whilst negotiating the challenges of remote learning and for the older pupils working in school on a much reduced site. We are very ready for the move to the new £30 million building and the wonderful facilities that will provide us to accelerate their learning and progress. Yesterday we received the news that the water system is clear and today we will have the final sign-off from the Department for Education and accept the keys to the new building from the building partners, Wates.

### **New Build Return Dates**

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November – Year 11 pupils only  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November – Years 10 and 11 only  
Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – Years 7, 10 and 11 only  
Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November – Years 7, 8, 10 and 11 only  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November – All pupils

The main gate will open at 8.00am. All pupils should be on site for 8:40am. Any pupils who arrive after this time must report to the library, where a late detention will be issued for lunch-time on the same day. Pupils who arrive after 9:05am must sign in at Reception, and wait for a member of staff to collect them; a detention will be issued in the same way.

### **Breakfast**

All pupils can access a free breakfast of cereal or a bagel every day from 8.00am-8.40am in the Atrium. There are other items available for sale at this time too.

### **First Day**

On their first day in the new build, pupils must arrive for 8.40am. All pupils can access the school site from 8.00am via the main entrance. Pupils will have access to the Atrium where they can eat breakfast and there are toilet facilities available in this area too.

When the bell rings at 8.40am, all pupils will be asked to leave the Atrium and line-up at the back of the building in their HART groups. From line-up, we will move to our HART group rooms to collect new timetables. During Period 1, there will be a year group assembly where pupils will be introduced to the new building.

On their first day, we will ensure all pupils receive a new timetable with their new classrooms. Pupils will also be shown where the toilets are, where to go at break and lunch and where to go for a fire drill.

### **Remote Learning**

Remote Learning will continue in English, Maths and Science for pupils until their first day back at school. We are adjusting the times of these lessons to fit with the time of the lessons in school. Remote lessons will be 50 minutes with a 10-minute break between each lesson. There will be 3 remote lessons each day with further work set on the remote learning page on the website for the afternoon lessons. In addition to this, all pupils have work on Sparx Maths and Educake to complete too.

### **Term Dates 2023-2024**

The final version of the 2023-2024 term dates and inset days is available on our website.

<https://www.hartshill.midlandat.co.uk/news-and-events/term-dates>

### **Uniform**

Full details of the Hartshill Academy uniform are available on our website.

<https://www.hartshill.midlandat.co.uk/parents/uniform>

There is an optional choice to wear a plain black v-neck jumper as part of the uniform. This is the only style of jumper that is allowed.

### **Equipment**

All pupils are expected to have the following equipment with them every day so they are ready and prepared for their lessons. Pupils must bring their Hartshill backpack with them every day.

The calculator we recommend is the Casio fx-83GTX or Casio fx-85GTX.



All subjects will have new exercise books for the start of the new half term in the new build. Any books pupils have from last half term should be kept at home for revision. The assessments in January will require pupils to have revised the work they have done since September, so it is important these books are kept and used for revision.

Pupils in Years 7-9 will receive their new Knowledge Organiser from their HART coach on their first day. Pupils in Years 10 and 11 have revision guides for every subject instead of knowledge organisers. If your child does not have all of their revision guides please contact Vice Principal Suzi Shepherd [suzi.shepherd@midlandat.co.uk](mailto:suzi.shepherd@midlandat.co.uk). It is important that pupils use their Knowledge Organisers or revision guides regularly to test themselves on the key knowledge needed in each of their subjects. Our lessons are planned to build on knowledge over time and pupils are expected to revisit previous learning to support their new learning.

### **Rewards Store**

We are introducing a Rewards Store this term on the Class Charts App. This will be introduced to pupils in their first assembly. Pupils will be able to use the points they have earned in Class Charts to purchase items from the reward store. Some items have already been added and more will be added over time. Positive points are added and negative points are deducted from the total to give each pupil their *spendable points*. We have carried over all points earned last year since we introduced Class Charts. Around 35,000 points were awarded each week last half term, which means pupils who are doing the right thing every day will have lots of opportunities each week to increase their spendable points. Items can be purchased through the Class Charts app and collected in school.

### **Access to Hartshill Academy**

During the demolition of the old building, our car park will be moving. We are swapping to the car park that the builders have been using; they will be moving to our old car park to access the old build site. If you need to visit Hartshill Academy please park in the new car park and there will be signs directing you to our new reception.

Pupils will continue to use the gates at the front of the building but they will now be on the other side of the drive way to where they were previously. We will have staff on the gates every morning to ensure pupils know where to go on their first day.

The builders have created a pathway for pupils to be able to access the side gate at the end of the day directly onto the recreational ground if needed.

Thank you again for your patience and support over the last few weeks. We look forward to welcoming all of our wonderful pupils to the new build in the next week. If you have any questions, please contact the school by email [infoHHA@midlandat.co.uk](mailto:infoHHA@midlandat.co.uk) or via the Weduc app.

Yours Sincerely,



Lorraine Taylor

Principal