



1st May 2018

Dear Parent/ Carer,

In September 2014 the government scrapped National Curriculum Levels, leaving the responsibility of grading students with individual schools. Assessment grades are vital as they let everyone know how much progress a student is making in each subject. We have developed an assessment process at HNS which informs you about how well your child is progressing compared to how well we think they can do.

We formally assess students three times a year which we refer to as Assessment Points. Students receive a grade (ranging from A to G) in the subjects they study after each Assessment Point. A grade A indicates that a student has reached a high standard and that we expect that they will, at GCSE, perform in line with the top 15% in the country in that particular subject. We do not have a formal "pass" mark but grades below a D are indicative of serious underperformance in that subject. We advise students to seek advice from their teacher or attend an intervention where their grades are below a D.

We expect students to master the content that is taught during the year. By the Summer term students should be able to answer questions using knowledge or skills taught in September. As such, maintaining a grade A throughout the year is a challenging task. A student who maintains a grade C throughout the year is considered to be making good progress.

Enclosed in the pack are two documents: a **report card** and a **contact details sheet**. The report card details your child's **attendance** data and **attainment grade** (A-G) in each subject. Please review this carefully and note that we expect students to have at least 98% attendance. Similarly, we expect every student to complete homework in all subjects when homework is assigned. Non-completion of homework is one of the key indicators of underachievement and underperformance.

Please take a moment to review your details on the contact details sheet and return to the office with any corrections. Should you have any queries or concerns with your child's performance in a particular subject, in the first instance contact the specific subject teacher or the Head of Department listed below:

Useful contacts

Head of KS3 - Ms Notowitz - hannahnotowitz@hackneynewschool.org

Head of Art - Miss Birchard - amybirchard@hackneynewschool.org

Head of English - Ms Joshi - minujoshi@hackneynewschool.org

Head of Geography - Mr Garside - jamesgarside@hackneynewschool.org

Head of History - Mr McGowan - brianmcgowan@hackneynewschool.org

Subject Leader History - Mr Forward - edwardforward@hackneynewschool.org

Head of Mathematics - Miss Newton - lettynewton@hackneynewschool.org

Head of Modern Foreign Languages - Mr Patterson - ianpatterson@hackneynewschool.org

Director of Music - Ms Barnes - rachelbarnes@hackneynewschool.org

Head of PE - Mr Darragh - stevedarragh@hackneynewschool.org

Head of Religious Education/ Core - Miss Capelo - amycapelo@hackneynewschool.org

Head of Science - Miss McNally - clairemcnally@hackneynewschool.org



Accessing Arbor

Arbor is invaluable for parents as it allows you to track the attainment, attendance, behaviour of your child. If you are struggling to access Arbor then please email **arborsupport@hackneynewschool.org** and we will endeavour to ensure that you can login and use the portal. Note that Arbor is not mobile-friendly at this time.

School Money

School Money is the portal through which you can pay for school dinners as well as purchase revision books and equipment. Below is a list of items in the school "shop". If you are unable to login to School Money then please email **info@hackneynewschool.org**

Item	Price
A Christmas Carol	£2.95
Animal Farm	£5.00
Calculator - Casio FX85GT	£8.50
GCSE Art Packs	£14.00
GCSE Biology Revision Book	£2.50
GCSE Chemistry Revision Book	£2.50
GCSE Physics Revision Book	£2.50
GCSE RE Revision Book	£2.75
Macbeth	£5.00
Maths Higher Guide and Workbook	£5.00
Maths GCSE Higher Textbook - Elmwood	£13.50
Maths KS3 Foundation Guide and Workbook	£5.00
Maths KS3 Higher Guide and Workbook	£5.00
Maths Year 9 Homework Textbook	£18.00
Maths-Mapped Compasses	£1.00
Yr 11 English Grade Booster	£2.00
Yr 11 Music GCSE Revision Guide	£9.95

We very much look forward to helping your daughter/son through Key Stage 3 and to achieve academic success.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Li
Headmistress

Key Dates for your Diary

Summer Term 2018

Friday 11th May, 29th June, 13th July - Headmistress' Coffee Mornings
Thursday 7th June - Year 10 Ensemble Concert
Monday 2nd to Friday 6th July - End of Year Examinations
Friday 13th July - Summer Concert
Wednesday 18th July - Sports Day at Lee Valley Stadium
Friday 20th July - Last day of school (12:20 pm finish)

Term and Holiday Dates for 2018/19

Autumn Term 2018

Wednesday 5th September* – Friday 21st December
October Half Term: Monday 22nd October – Friday 2nd November
Christmas Holiday: Monday 24th December – Friday 4th January

*The return dates are as follows:

Year 7	Wednesday 5th September
Year 11 & 12	Thursday 6th September
All other years	Friday 7th September

Spring Term 2019

Monday 7th January – Friday 5th April
Half term Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd February
Easter Holiday Monday 8th April – Tuesday 23rd April

Summer Term 2019

Wednesday 24th April – Tuesday 23rd July
May Bank Holiday 6th May
May Half Term Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May

Information notice: End of Year Examinations

All students in Year 9 will be completing Assessment Point 3 (AP3) examinations across all subjects in July 2018. The exams will begin on **Monday 2nd July 2018 and run until Friday 6th July, inclusive**. All assessments will take place during timetabled lessons.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Geography (9FN) Core (9JS) Biology (9KA 9RBe) English (Section A) Music 9KA Languages (9JS, 9FN, 9KA, 9RBE)	Religious Studies (9FN 9JS) English (Section B) Biology (9FN 9JS) Music 9KA, 9FN Music 9RBe Art 9RBe, 9KA	Geography (9JS, 9RBe) History (9RBE, 9JS, 9FN) Chemistry (9KA 9FN 9JS) RS (9RBE) Music 9JS Core 9KA Art 9FN	Maths (non-calculator) Geography (9KA) History (9KA) Chemistry (9RBe) Physics (9FN) 9JS Music 9RBe, 9FN Art 9JS Languages (9JS, 9FN, 9KA, 9RBE)	Maths (calculator) Core (9FN and 9RBE) Religious Studies (9KA) Physics (9KA 9RBe) Music 9JS

This process is to help ensure that students are fully prepared for their transition into GCSE courses, which, in some instances, will begin in the latter part of the summer term at Hackney New School. We want the AP3 examinations to be challenging to Year 9 students and the rigour that they entail will hopefully provide a solid foundation for the demands of GCSE study. It is vital that students prepare for these important examinations in order to gain confidence and knowledge as they move into the extremely important and choice-enhancing years of Key Stage 4 study (GCSE) and ultimately provide them with the results and achievements which can enable them to make the right and informed choices about their future. The exams will also give us a detailed picture of each student's current level of attainment in each subject and the subsequent steps that they need to take in order to make further progress.

During AP3 examinations, students will register at the normal time of 8am in their form bases. During lessons each day, students will sit tests in examination conditions and teachers will inform each class when the examination will take place during that week. All students will have opportunities to revise for the tests and ask their subject teachers for advice and guidance in the weeks leading up to and including the AP3 examinations.

We expect students to bring all necessary examination equipment with them in **a clear pencil case**. **Essential equipment includes black pens, pencils, a ruler, a protractor, compasses and an eraser. Students should also ensure that they have a scientific calculator as the use of a calculator is allowed some Mathematics and Science exams.** Furthermore, we see Year AP3 Examinations week as an opportunity to train students in proper examination procedures and etiquette. All AP3 results will be sent by post to parents/carers before the end of the academic year.

We continue to value your strong support for our school and we would ask you to take some time to go over this information with your child to ensure that they are fully prepared for the forthcoming examinations.