

12 July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Re: Summer Remote Learning and Wellbeing**

We have had many emails/calls from parents since we returned to on-site provision, expressing concerns over their child's lost learning time throughout the school year. To support with closing the learning gaps, we are providing a package of learning resources for students to access over the summer holidays in the following subjects: English, maths, science, geography and history. This work is optional, however it will benefit students to complete some or all of the activities as it gives them the opportunity to revisit topics and embed more content into their long-term memory.

Research shows that without any reinforcement or connections to prior knowledge, information is quickly forgotten: roughly 56 percent in one hour, 66 percent after a day, and 75 percent after six days. Spaced learning (implementing a schedule of practice that spreads out activities over time) and interleaved practice (mixing multiple subjects & topics in one study session) are effective strategies in helping students retain information longer term. Our summer remote learning package has been structured around these theories and strategies.

We recognise that having a break from school is very important for the wellbeing of our students, therefore we have provided four weeks' worth of work, giving students two full weeks to have a break and enjoy some well-earned rest! For Year 10 students, we appreciate some might be attending summer school but this remote learning package is available, if they choose to access it, to supplement their learning further.

All resources have been taken from the summer learning support section of The Oak National Academy website. Students will find all links and information on what to complete and when on Microsoft Teams in the files section of their year group team (Year 7/8/9/10 Team - Files - General Class Materials – Summer Learning Package – 'Summer remote learning resources - instructions for students'). For each subject, there is one 'lesson' to complete per week (each one being 20-40 minutes long) and in the final week (week 4) there is also a unit quiz for each subject. Any students who have completed the unit quizzes will be put into a draw with a chance to win a 'Fire 7' tablet (top prize for each year group) or a £10 Love to Shop voucher (there are 5 of these up for grabs per year group).

At Hungerhill, we also recognise the importance of students looking after their mental health as well as focusing on learning. We have identified three key sources of support/resources/activities, all promoting mental health and wellbeing (see below). We would love to hear from you with regards to your child completing any of the suggested wellbeing activities so we can share these as part of our Hungerhill Highlights. If you would like to share any stories, please contact us using our 'Send Us A Message Form' on the school website.

1. The Oak National Academy has a variety of resources, videos and activity ideas to promote mental wellbeing which, as parents, you could direct your child to or explore with them:

<https://www.thenational.academy/enrichment-mental-health-resources>.

2. The DfE have produced a guidance booklet for teachers and students to promote and support mental health and wellbeing in schools. Pages 14-20 are all focused on supporting students. For links and resources on general mental health and wellbeing support, building resilience and staying well, refer to page 16. Here is the link to the full booklet:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/993669/Mental\\_Health\\_Resources\\_for\\_teachers\\_and\\_teaching\\_staff\\_June\\_2021.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/993669/Mental_Health_Resources_for_teachers_and_teaching_staff_June_2021.pdf)

3. The Doncaster LA has produced/signposted further information and resources to promote wellbeing along with links to support for students in Doncaster who need it over the summer. A summary of this can be found in the appendix of this letter and related flyers can be found on the Hungerhill website. We apologise that some of these events clash with our on-site provision but our dates were planned prior to these being released.

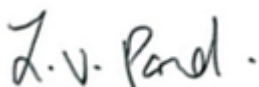
<https://www.hungerhillschool.com/page/?title=Summer+Wellbeing+Support&pid=360>

If you have any questions about the information in this letter, please don't hesitate to fill in the contact form on our website and we will get back to you as soon as we can:

<https://www.hungerhillschool.com/page/?title=Contact+Us&pid=2>

We would like to reiterate that the academic work is completely optional. We hope students will relish the chance to supplement this year's learning and I wish them luck in the prize draw! We would strongly encourage all students to participate in wellbeing activities, whether these be from the providers listed here or informal activities between friends and family. We look forward to sharing your stories across the school community.

Yours sincerely



Mrs L Pond  
Headteacher



Miss R Ward  
Associate Assistant Headteacher



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## **Appendix**

A summary of the mental health and wellbeing support/opportunities offered by Doncaster LA:

### **Wellbeing Related**

#### **1. Counselling support over summer with Open Minds, Years 9-13**

We recognise the pressure the pandemic has placed on our young people, and that for some summer and unlocking will make this more challenging. More information is in the attached flyer (see Hungerhill website). Students can refer at this link [www.counsellingdoncaster.com/cyp](http://www.counsellingdoncaster.com/cyp)

### **Volunteering**

#### **2. Make a positive impact on your community this summer!**

Over the summer 2021, Voluntary Action Doncaster would like young people to volunteer in their local community. This would be great for young people aged 14 and over during the 2021 summer holiday break. There is a wide range of local groups and charities across Doncaster that would welcome their support. Volunteers will receive a £50 voucher to thank them for their efforts. More information is attached (see Hungerhill website).

### **Aspiration**

#### **3. Dragons Den Enterprise Challenge and Lived Stories Project in Hexthorpe**

Two exciting opportunities running in Hexthorpe with RedEverywhere.

The first is a Dragons Den Enterprise Challenge, that will support young people in developing and pitching ideas and in the process develop a range of essential life skills and a greater understanding of the skills it takes to set up your own business. The programme will for 6 afternoons across the school holidays, starting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July.

The second Lived Stories project is an opportunity for young people to tell their story of the pandemic. How have they got through this challenging spell, how has it impacted on them. The programme will run for 8 sessions across the school holidays, the young people's stories will be brought together into a hard backed book they will each receive a copy of.

More information is included in the attached flyer (see Hungerhill website).

#### **4. Gaming Work Experience**

Social mobility charity [Speakers for Schools](#) has partnered with Game Academy, a cutting-edge careers service for players of video games. The partnership is offering 80 places for videogamers to help them understand the power of their in-game skills out of game and apply their talent as gamers to their future careers. From strategy to decision-making, working in a team to thinking creatively, videogames develop skills in players that are valuable in the workplace. Elon Musk, Mark Zuckerberg and many other business people are gamers, and attribute some of their first success to talent grown in games.

16-20<sup>th</sup> August, the partnership between Speakers for Schools and Game Academy will swing into action. Set for the summer holidays, young gamers from Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham, Sheffield can learn about potential careers such as a software developer, graphic designer, data analyst, game designer or a digital marketer. The programme is supported by the Doncaster Opportunity Area, Sheffield City Region Careers Hub and Doncaster Council. See attached flyer (on Hungerhill website). [Students can sign up to the Summer Bootcamp with Game Academy here.](#)



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### 5. Women into Stem - Years 9-13, 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> August

Join Work-Wise in a variety of locations across Doncaster to learn all about the opportunities available for young women wishing to pursue a career in STEM. Doncaster Opportunity Area, in Partnership with Doncaster Council have funded the opportunity so it is available to Doncaster students free of charge. Only 20 spaces on each course. More information available through the attached flyer (see Hungerhill website). Book through this link: <https://forms.gle/Z6s3dMKjNDajdMWu6>

### 6. BAME Young people into STEM – Years 9-13, 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> August

Join Work-Wise in a variety of locations across Doncaster to learn all about the opportunities available for young people from BAME backgrounds wishing to pursue a career in STEM. Doncaster Opportunity Area, in Partnership with Doncaster Council have funded the opportunity so it is available to Doncaster students free of charge. Only 20 spaces on each course. More information available through the attached flyer. Book through this link: <https://forms.gle/jMXUABeW79Bp3p6d6>



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