

5th January 2022

Dear Parent/ Carer

At the start of the Spring term 2022, I wish to share with you some important information, including details about some improvements to our Show My Homework system, as well as other developments that are in place to help us to work together to provide the best education and learning experiences for your child.

Parents' Evening – Date For Your Diary

In response to feedback, the Year 10 Parents' Evening will now be taking place on Thursday 10th February from 3.30pm-6.30pm. This is an invaluable opportunity for parents and carers to discuss their child's progress with each of their subject teachers and their next steps for improvement.

This year, in light of the on-going pandemic, it is likely that the evening will take the form of a virtual event using the School Cloud system to both book appointments and to hold the virtual appointments. Further details will be confirmed and shared later this half term.

Show My Homework (SMHW)

From January 2022, our use of Satchel One's SMHW platform is developing with the aim to help to centralise information and improve communication with parents, carers and students.

As you will already be aware, SMHW is our main tool for setting and managing homework, enabling students to submit their work via the site. Parents and carers are already able to see what homework has been submitted by their child if they have created an account. It also provides remote learning work for students who are required to self-isolate at home.

If parents and carers have an account linked to their child's account, they will also now be able to see the following:

- Achievement and behaviour points: these will be awarded directly by staff to the platform to give instant access and updates over the course of the day.
- Badges: these are a new feature that can be awarded by Faculty areas, the Pastoral Team, and the House teams. They will be added virtually to the child's SMHW profile. This could include, for instance, achieving the weekly House Hero award, or bronze/silver/gold awards for attendance coupled with achievement points (awarded per term).
- Their child's timetable.

These new features will also be visible on the student's account.

If you have not yet created a parent/guardian account linked to your child, we would highly recommend that you do so and appreciate your support with this. To do so, you will need an individual pin-code that is available by emailing enquiries@hayleacademy.net.

3 Highlanes, Hayle, Cornwall, TR27 4DN
enquiries@hayleacademy.net
www.hayleacademy.net 01736 753009
Executive Headteacher: Mrs Jan Woodhouse
Head of school: Mr Simon Horner

Hayle Academy is part of Truro and Penwith Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee. Registered in England and Wales. Company number: 08880841 Registered Office: Academy House, Truro Business Park, Threemilestone, Truro TR4 9LD



For your information, the achievement and behaviour points for this academic year will be reverted to 'zero' at the start of the Spring term on SMHW and the cumulative overall tally will be held centrally by the school.

GCSEPod

We are delighted to announce that Year 10 students are now able to access GCSEPod, the award-winning digital content and revision provider used by over 1,700 schools worldwide.

Your child now has access to GCSEPod's library of over 6,500 'Pods', 3-5 minute videos designed to deliver knowledge in short bursts. GCSEPod makes learning and revision much more manageable: every Pod is mapped to an exam board, and contains all the right facts, quotes, keywords, dates and annotated diagrams that your child needs for GCSE success – all neatly organised into topics and exam playlists.

GCSEPod is designed to support your child with their independent revision as well as to support their homework. Teachers will be allocating specific 'pods' linked to their planned subject curriculum or in response to their assessment and feedback, to support your child's learning at home. Alongside this, your child can select which 'pod' they wish to access to support those areas of their learning where they are less confident.

GCSEPod is easy to access. You can download any Pod to your child's mobile device, and then they can watch them at any time, in any place, with or without internet. Make sure you download the GCSEPod app from the App Store (Apple and Android are supported) to access this feature.

As well as Pods, GCSEPod also has a host of Student Learning Activities, which are designed to help students commit content to their long-term memory. Alongside this is the Check & Challenge tool, which provides quizzes for your child to test their knowledge and to track their progress throughout the academic year.

We recommend that you talk about GCSEPod with your child – check that they've successfully activated their account and encourage them to make use of this amazing resource throughout their GCSEs. Once they've activated their account, they can browse the GCSEPod library and create their own playlists – just as they would when they're listening to music.

For more ways to support your child using GCSEPod, please visit www.gcsepod.com/parents where you'll find lots more information and a specially created Parent Toolkit.

Your child has already been registered with GCSEPod, so all they need to do is activate their account by following the instructions below.

- 1) Go to www.gcsepod.com and click "Login" in the top right-hand corner
- 2) Click "New to GCSEPod? Get started."
- 3) Select "Student"
- 4) Enter your child's name, date of birth and the school name.
- 5) Create a username, password, and a password hint to help them remember the password.

If you have any questions regarding GCSEPod, please contact me via Melissa.lock@hayleacademy.net.

Hayle Xtra After School Clubs – Spring Programme

Our programme of after-school clubs for the Spring term is now available with some new and also some familiar clubs available. These have been shared as a SMHW announcement with students. Please encourage your child to sign-up for those clubs

that they wish to attend using the following link:
<https://forms.gle/suLTKgSsGaAnseCXA>

Your child will also be able to provide feedback on last term's clubs and request any future clubs through this link.

The clubs will commence from Monday 10th January – please be aware that due to the Year 11 parents' Evening on Thursday 13th January, no clubs will run on this date.

A reminder that the clubs run until 4.15pm each day; the library is also available each day until 4pm. It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to arrange transport home.

Self-Isolating Work

Staff continue to set online remote learning for students to access if they are required to self-isolate due to Covid-19 and if they feel well enough to complete it. This work is set via the Show My Homework platform as a 'flexible task' and will be labelled as self-isolating work. Students are encouraged to submit their remote learning work for feedback from their teacher via their Google Classroom. Google Classroom codes are [available here](#) for all students if they have not yet joined their subject Google Classrooms.

If students are attending school as usual, there is no need for them to complete this work – only if they are not in school. It means that the work is immediately available for students to access. Ideally the work will be set by the subject for across the week but it may be set on the day of the lesson itself by 8.30am.

If students have any further queries, they are able to contact their subject teacher directly through SMHW, their Google Classroom or through their school email account.

Curriculum Development

The curriculum area of the website has been updated and contains a range of information that you may find useful to give more insight into our subject curriculums that your child will be studying. This includes:

- A curriculum overview document for each year group that breaks down what students are studying per half term and how they will be assessed. This one document contains all subjects.
- The five-year learning pathways so that you have an overview of the five-year curriculum per subject.
- Information about our approach to literacy, including our Read to Learn VIPERS CAVES whole school approach to reading in subject areas, use of Borrowbox and suggested titles for reading for pleasure.

Please visit [Curriculum - Hayle Academy](#) for more information.

As part of our on-going review of the school curriculum, the school wishes to establish a **parent/carer Quality of Education focus group** that would act as a forum to share feedback and views on our curriculum: its intent, implementation and impact. For instance, as part of a 'deep dive' into a particular subject, such as Science, or area of interest, such as literacy.

If you would like to express an initial interest in being part of this Quality of Education parent voice group, please contact me directly via Melissa.lock@hayleacademy.net.

For further updates, please do look out for our social media posts that may also contain further curriculum developments and learning experiences. Please do contact the school if you would like to share and celebrate any achievements from outside of school involving your child, such as competitions, on our social media.

Wishing you all a happy, safe and prosperous New Year. I look forward to continuing to work in partnership with you over the coming months. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Melissa Lock

Mrs Melissa Lock

Deputy Headteacher