



Eltham Hill, Eltham, London SE9 5EE  
Tel: 020 8859 2843 Fax: 020 3247 0201  
E-mail: info@elthamhill.greenwich.sch.uk  
www.elthamhill.com

Headteacher: Ms E Podmore

25<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Parents and carers,

I hope that you have been enjoying the lovely summer weather and have been able to spend some quality time with your families. I have already written to you about the measures we are putting in place to ensure a safe return to school for all students and staff in September. If you missed the email please do look again for it and for the email about changes to our behaviour expectations as it will be necessary for you to confirm you have read and agreed our new Home School Agreement.

I am sure your child will be both excited and nervous about coming back, or joining us for the first time, in September so I wanted to also write to you with some information to help to ensure that your daughter/son is ready for September. I also wanted to share with you some of our exam successes this summer.

### Building and Facilities Improvements

There has been a lot going on here at Eltham Hill during lockdown and in the Summer holidays; our Premises, Administration and IT teams have all been very busy making our school even better.

Our new reception area is now fully operational, with just our lovely new display to go up. The old reception area inside the building has been completely remodelled to provide additional office and meeting spaces and we now have a new pupil reception and First Aid room around by the 'late gate' student entrance. Ms Bowditch and our pupil receptionist Ms Lineen are in charge of this area and will support all students who are feeling unwell, need to leave site for any reason or who have lost equipment.

We have had new flooring put down in our staircases, displays have been refreshed and the whole building has had a lick of paint meaning that students will be returning to a bright, smart and spotlessly clean building.

In addition, the Local Authority are funding a new block of four classrooms to be erected at the back of the school site. These will be ready for use after Christmas and will provide us with much needed additional space.





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## Post 16 Success

We were delighted to celebrate some fantastic A' Level and IBCP results with students last week. Our results were fantastic even before the decision was made to use Centre Assessed Grades as we had very few subjects where grades were changed but I am pleased to report that they are now even better.

- A-Level results are now at a fantastic 79% A\*- B and 45% A\*-A, significantly above national averages.
- In Physics, Art, Photography, Media and Maths all of our students achieved A\*-A or A\*-B grades and in Chemistry, Child Development BTEC, English Language, English Literature, Further Maths, History, Psychology and Sociology all students achieved A\*-C grades.
- For the IB Career Related Programme we achieved a 100% pass rate for the third consecutive year with outstanding outcomes in the BTEC part of the programme where 38% of students achieved D\*D\* – D\*D grades as well as top grades in the IB.
- The vast majority of our students have been accepted onto their chosen University course and are going off to study courses as diverse as medicine, creative writing, zoology, politics, neuroscience, history, psychology and even marine photography.
- Particular success stories include Alice Barrett who achieved 3A\*'s in Biology, History and English Literature and is going off to University to study Zoology. Alice commented "my teachers were always around to support me and they went above and beyond so that I could achieve what I wanted to'. Melek Kiranel also achieved a fantastic A\*, A\*, A\*, Lydia Hackwood achieved A\*, A, A and Diaraye Diallo achieved A\*, A, A.
- In BTEC Health and Social Care Amy Beadle achieved D\*D\* which is the best possible outcome and is only ever achieved by small numbers of students nationwide. Amy stated that 'I had great support and I was consistently pushed to achieve my very best'.

We are really delighted to see our 6<sup>th</sup> Form improving every year and pleased to see we are now getting A Level results as strong or even stronger than those achieved by students at selective grammar schools.

## Success at GCSE and BTEC

After all the anxiety, media headlines and U-turns we were delighted that our year 11 students were able to come in and collect some outstanding results. The outcomes are really pleasing and I wanted to share with you the headlines of our GCSE results. We are still awaiting confirmation of BTEC results but are confident they will be equally strong.



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- Overall results are up again in all measures and attainment at grades 9-7 and grades 9-5 has increased significantly in 25 GCSE subjects. We are particularly pleased with Triple Science 9-7 grades at 67%, Further Maths 9-7 grades at 80%, French 9-7 grades at 43% and Spanish 9-7 grades at 50%, History 9-7 grades at 37%.
- Our English results continue to be significantly above average with 72% of students achieving grades 9-5 and 34% achieving grades 9-7. With our Maths 9-5 results at 61% and 9-7 at 27% we have also seen a 9% rise in the number of students achieving a 5 or above in English and Maths combined.
- We are pleased to note that so many of our students achieved the very top grades. This year 25 students achieved 10 or more 9-7 grades, 24% of our students achieved 5 or more 9-7 grades and 33% achieved 3 or more 9-7 grades.
- We are especially proud of Jagoda Zytek who achieved ten grade 9's and one grade 8. Other girls who performed exceptionally were Phoebe Yan Chun Po who achieved nine grade 9's, one grade 8, one grade 7 and one grade 6; Lauren Rayner who achieved nine grade 9's, two grade 8's and one grade 7, and Abigail Lewington Cole who achieved nine grade 9's and two grade 8's.



We worked very hard to ensure that our Centre Assessed Grades were robust and accurately represented what students would most likely have achieved had they had the chance to sit the exams. We were expecting our best ever set of results before exams were cancelled so we are delighted that students have not been disadvantaged by the pandemic.

### Getting Ready for September

Please take another look at our uniform expectations on the school website and ensure your child is in full school uniform and has her PE uniform ready in September. Also please note that to make our school Covid safe we are asking that all students carry with them a face mask, a small plastic bag to store it in, a bottle of water and a small container of hand sanitiser.

A reminder that we have a policy of 'no jewellery of any type' for students in Years 7 - 11. We recognise that some children do choose to have their ears or nose pierced and that some parents are happy to allow this, but our policy is clear and we will not allow students to wear earrings or nose studs in school, under any circumstances. Nail varnish, fake nails and false eyelashes are similarly not allowed under any circumstances, so please remind your daughter of these rules before she returns to school.



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The rule on phones and other electronic devices remains unchanged and is strictly **NO SEE, NO HEAR**. All devices should be switched off and put away before entering the school gates and never be visible to staff. Headphones or AirPods should also not be worn inside the school gates. If a device is seen or heard inside the school gates it will be confiscated and a parent will need to make an appointment to come in and collect it, this is always upsetting for students so please make sure they are clear on this rule.

Please note that we have two INSET days on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> of September. We have Year 7 and 12 in school on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> (see below for times) and then all year groups at different times on Monday 7<sup>th</sup>. Please make a careful note of the times your child needs to be in school on Monday and note that no lunches will be available on that day.

The normal school day will then begin for all students at 8.30am on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September.

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September

Year 7 9:00am to 2:50pm (student gate)  
Year 12 9.00am to 3:00pm (visitor gate)

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September

Year 7 8:30am to 12:00pm  
Year 8 11:00am to 1:00pm  
Year 9 12:30pm to 2:30pm  
Year 10 1:30pm to 3:30pm  
Year 11 2:00pm to 4:00pm  
Year 12 8:30am to 11:30am  
Year 13 9:00am to 11:00am

Wishing you all an enjoyable final part of the summer break.

Best wishes

Erika Podmore  
Headteacher