

Friday 8/10/2021

Up & coming dates

Year 11 Mocks- 18/10/21
Year 10 Parents' Evening- 21/10/21
October Half Term- 22/10/21 2.50pm
Return to school- 1/11/21 8.40am
Year 11 Mocks continue- 1/11/21
Parent Governor Forum- 11/11/21 6-7pm

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, apologies caused by the unexpected last minute closures. These are the last thing we want but are unavoidable. Thanks for your support with this.

It was my pleasure to meet with some of our young people this Tuesday morning at the first of my weekly Headteacher's Breakfasts for 2021-2022. Each week I meet with a small group of students from all year groups across the school and we discuss school wide issues together over a pastry and a drink. The intention of these meetings is to gather valuable student voice on the operational aspects of the school, their education and their wider school experience. I take this feedback forward and act upon it, to continue to improve our students experience at school. Student voice is very important to us. I look forward to speaking to my next group of students next Tuesday.

This Wednesday we hosted our Todmorden Together meeting on Microsoft TEAMS. THS formed the Todmorden Together group in 2019, as a forum for interested stakeholders (including police officers, parents, members of our community and staff along with many others). We are working together to ensure that our students have a safe and happy school and community to live in. If you are interested in becoming involved in this fantastic scheme, please don't hesitate to contact us, we meet three times a year to discuss community issues. Get in touch with e.womack@todhigh.co.uk to be added to our mailing list.

Due to the high COVID-19 case rate in Todmorden, particularly affecting children, the mobile testing unit at Todmorden Sports Centre will now operate from **09:00-17:00** on Tuesday and Fridays for a period of 3 weeks to allow children to access testing outside school time. After three weeks, operating hours will revert to **09:00-15:00** on Tuesday and Fridays for the foreseeable future. Staff and children in your school who have been in close contact with a confirmed case (e.g. a case in their class) are encouraged to obtain a PCR. You do not need to isolate whilst awaiting test results unless you have any of the three main COVID-19 symptoms.

On Thursday 21/10/2021 there will be a Parents' Evening for year 10. This will be a virtual event run through SchoolCloud. All details will be shared with the parents and carers of students in this year group next week.

Choosing a future career is an exciting time for our students. To help, Craig Whittaker (MP) has organised a virtual 'A-Z Careers Fair' for all students on the 13th October 2021. At this event, students can meet a variety of professionals and find out more about their jobs. There will be a professional attending from a job for each letter of the alphabet. Students will be able to meet architects, lawyers, bankers and many more. There are also professionals attending from active graduate recruiters such as Lloyds, Amazon and Google. This could be an opportunity to forge some contacts and links in the working world. This is a great opportunity for our students, and we encourage you to take advantage of the event. To attend the event and access the careers fair brochure, please ensure you register with your school email address on the following link: <https://hopin.com/events/craig-s-a-z-careers-fair-2021>



Enabling individuals to unlock their unique potential

THS has recently switched to using buff paper for printing services. Our paper is 100% recycled.

On the subject of future planning for our year 11 cohort, there is an open day scheduled for Rochdale Sixth Form on Saturday 9th October 2021, 9:30 – 14:00. Students and parents can book your place via the following link <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/rochdale-sixth-form-college-open-day-2021-tickets-175278912947>.

To continue their preparation for post-16 education year 11 will be sitting a series of autumn mocks beginning on Monday 18th October 2021 and running for the weeks before and after half-term. We are confident that students in year 11 will be showing ambition by working hard and preparing thoroughly for these internal exams. Information, including timetables will be sent to year 11 parents next week.

My first Virtual Parent Drop-in session of the academic year has been scheduled for Wednesday 3rd November 3-4pm. A link will be available on our website www.todhigh.co.uk to enable you to attend the event if you have any issues, concerns or feedback for me about the school. This event is run on Microsoft TEAMS, and meetings take place one to one with me in an online format. You will wait in a lobby and be admitted as the previous visitor leaves, so please do be patient as I do my best to speak with every parent who visits the drop in but some conversations are longer than others. I hope to speak to some of you then.

Have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing our students on Monday morning.

Yours Sincerely,



Gill Shirt
Headteacher