

HAMMERSMITH

Academy



# PARENT INDUCTION BOOKLET 2021

# WELCOME TO HAMMERSMITH ACADEMY

Welcome to Hammersmith Academy, we are very happy to bring you into our learning community.

This starter induction booklet is designed to give an important snapshot of expectations and the language of learning we use here at the Academy. It includes key information we provide to all students.

An important part of helping your child to succeed will be the work that happens outside the classroom as well as within – this introduction gives some **Parent Top Tips** as to how you can support your child during their time here, and help to contribute to the HA expectations and ethos.

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**SUMMER HOMEWORK PROJECT** – All students have been given a student induction and summer work pack; the packs includes summer transition work that will help prepare students for their first English, Maths and Science sessions.

**This booklet includes parent resources to help you; to help your child with these projects.**

***Please ensure students bring their booklets back to the academy on their first day in September.***

# HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME



We are delighted that your child will be joining Hammersmith Academy in September and embarking on their secondary school journey with us.

This is a very important milestone in their young lives, marking the start of their development into young adults who are prepared for university and the professional world that awaits them.

Transition from primary to secondary school is an exciting time for students, but also a nervous one as they await to discover new friendships, new teachers, and a whole new school experience. It is therefore important that you go through this booklet with your child as it provides key information about the Academy, our ethos and the

expectations of our students. Knowing what awaits them will give them some reassurance and something to look forward to.

Our transition team is on hand to help both you and your child navigate through the first year and any uncertainties that you may encounter. We know it is important that your child makes the best start here at the Academy as this sets the foundation for the GCSE and A Level years to come.

We pride ourselves on our relationship with parents. By working together with a common goal of providing the best learning environment in which students make the most progress, students will leave the Academy as the best versions of themselves, hungry for success, ready to contribute and make a difference in society. We can only achieve this with your support.

I look forward to seeing you at the Academy and starting your child's secondary experience together.



Gary Kynaston  
**Headteacher**

# THE HA WAY- BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS FOR ALL STUDENTS

Ready

Responsible

Respectful

## Home learning and deadlines

I will complete my home learning when required, I will read at night for enjoyment and to help my reading develop. I will not make any excuses. I will get help if I need to, so that I can complete my home learning to a good standard. I will hand my home learning in on time, on the right day and use the correct platform.

## On-Task behaviour

I will remain on task in class, join in the learning and not interrupt the learning of others. I know that every student has the right to success and not just me. If I make a poor choice, I will tell the truth and accept the responsibility (and fair consequence) for my actions. I know that my phone should remain switched off at all times and I should go to reception if I need to call my parents/careers.

## No answering back

I understand that my teachers and others adults in the academy are there because they care for me and because they are experts in their field. I will not be rude or answer them back disrespectfully. I will follow their instructions first time, every time.

## Perfect uniform

I will take pride in how I look at the Academy and on the way to and from the Academy. I will wear perfect uniform at all these times. This includes wearing my Academy jacket to and from school. I know that to maintain a professional environment, chewing gum or food purchased from outside the Academy is not permitted.

## Equipment

I understand that it is my job to come to the Academy properly equipped for all my lessons, I will not expect anyone else to get me ready. I will bring the Academy bag, my reading book, my clear pencil case (with all the correct equipment including a green pen for reflection).



**Parent Top Tip:** Having high expectations works best when the message from home and school is the same. It is important for all parents to engage with the day to day expectations, so that students are fully aware of their responsibilities during the academic year.

# BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

## A HA Learner is:

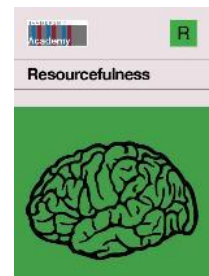
### Resilient

- I can manage distractions and focus on my learning
- I can be fully immersed in my learning
- I can persevere even when the learning is complex and deep
- I can channel the energy of frustration and use it to my advantage



### Resourceful

- I can capitalise on the resources available to me
- I can ask questions that help me achieve understanding
- I can problem solve using creative, rational and logical thought
- I can construct good arguments and identify the flaws in others



### Reflective

- I can plan to make the most progress in my learning
- I can revise what has been learnt and prepare to apply it
- I can understand how I learn best and articulate it
- I can review my learning across different timescales and work to improve it



### Reciprocal

- I can add to and draw from the strength of teams
- I can listen to others and understand what they are really saying
- I can see things from other people's perspectives
- I can adopt useful behaviour and ideas from other people



**Parent Top Tip:** As students will hear this language in school, you can also use the language at home to help students make the connection between how these life skills apply in the world, and to everyday challenges.



## **HA PRIDE**

Within our Hammersmith Academy Values it is important that we are preparing ourselves for a global society.

We are all active citizens, and in order to do this here at the Academy we follow a moral code that we call PRIDE.

PRIDE outlines the social values that are important to us in our learning, and wider, community.



### **PERSONAL TOLERANCE**

We are proud of our academy and community where everyone is respected. We respect one another's varying views and opinions and through our curriculum, we learn 'from' and 'about' British and other cultures.



### **RULE OF LAW**

We know that rules are important in order to keep us safe, healthy, and happy. We learn how we are responsible for our actions and about consequences. We know that rules and laws help us support, and be part of, our local community and global society.



### **INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY**

We are encouraged to be independent active citizens. We are encouraged to take the responsibility in our academy and within our community by standing up for what we know is right. 'Do the right thing because it is the right thing to do.'

We are encouraged to make choices and do this by showing respect and understanding of others. We learn how to exercise our rights and act responsibly, in a safe and healthy way.



### **DEMOCRACY**

Our voice is important and are aware that our opinions and those of our peers are valued and considered. We learn how to be heard in a polite and respectful way. We have a say through our Junior Leadership Team (JLT) and are involved in important decisions and actions in our school.



### **EQUALITY AND MUTUAL RESPECT**

We build a safe and happy culture of respect for everyone and everything and value equality and diversity. We respect and protect others' cultures, beliefs and differences and know that these make each person different and special.



**Parent Top Tip:** It is important that we are raising young people to be citizens of the world; use the PRIDE structure to engage your child in conversations about wider social issues; this will help them to make connections between being a good moral and active citizen both inside and outside the Academy.

# SILENT READING

If there is one skill that you should master, it is reading. Reading is so important for you because you need to use reading to learn all your subjects. Without strong reading skills, you may struggle in Maths, Science, Humanities and the Arts. As adults, you will read every day no matter what type of job you have.

To maintain your reading age you should be acquiring 40 pieces of new vocab. In order for students to access the new GCSE specifications they are required to read at the minimum age of a 15 year old.

## WHY?

- To improve your reading skills – for all subjects
- To allow you to read a variety of books
- To allow you to share your reading with others



**Parent Top Tip:** The best way to support students in engaging with reading is to model reading at home – can you introduce a 20 minute reading time in the week at home, in which members of the family all read together? Reading recreationally can help students to develop their vocabulary, and improve their extended writing – crucial skills for all students.

# UNIFORM

Uniform/Dress	
Girls	Boys
Grey Academy Jacket Grey Academy trousers or grey Academy knee length skirt Burgundy Academy tank top Academy tie* Plain white collared shirt (long or short sleeved) Plain black socks or plain black tights (without any pattern) may be worn Plain black shoes	Grey Academy Jacket Grey Academy trousers Burgundy Academy tank top Academy tie* Plain white collared shirt (long or short sleeved) Plain black socks Plain black shoes
<p><b>No extreme haircuts or dyed hair</b> (no Mohawks, patterned shapes, skin fades, shaved on one side, undercuts or cuts less than 2 blade)</p> <p><b>No jewellery</b> (just one pair of small stud earrings and a watch)</p> <p><b>No acrylic nails, nail varnish, or make-up – no slits in eyebrows</b></p>	



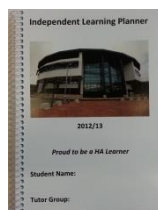
*"I will always arrive to school wearing my full uniform. I know whilst wearing my uniform outside of the Academy, I am expected to demonstrate the HA way and expectations at all times."*



# EQUIPMENT

## The Power of 3

1. Independent Learning Planner (provided by the
  2. Reading Book
  3. Clear, transparent pencil case (provided by the
- containing:



2 black pens  
1 green pen  
2 Pencils  
Ruler  
Highlighter pen  
Protractor  
Compass  
Scientific Calculator  
Sharpener  
Rubber

4. Face mask



**Parent Top Tip:** Please check equipment regularly, get students into the routine of packing their bags and hanging uniforms up the night before. The Academy expectations are important, and we rely on parent support and understanding to ensure all students are ready for learning and in line with the wider Academy.

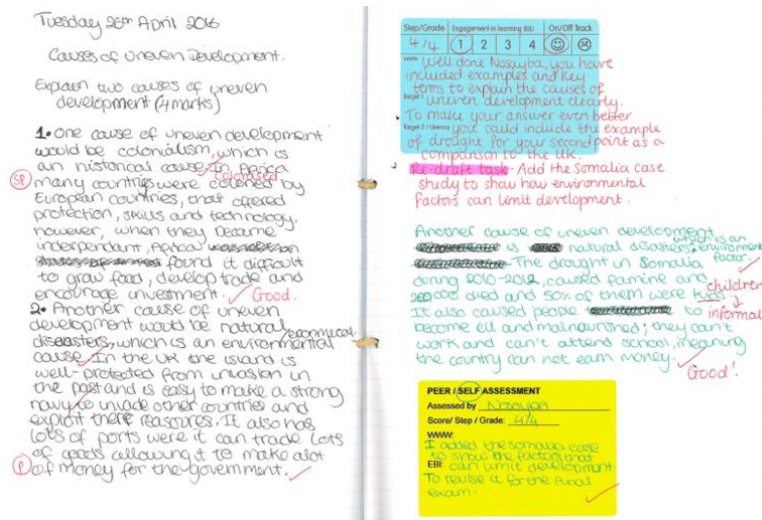
# HOME LEARNING & PRESENTATION OF WORK

## Presentation of work:

Student workbooks are a child's best learning and revision resource. That is why we place such an importance of the presentation of work at the academy.

Students are expected to take pride in their work and ensure they are presenting it in an appropriate way – clear titles and dates underlined

Students will be given time in lessons to redraft their work in green pen in order to move their work forward, and respond to teacher feedback – this is an important part of making progress



**Parent Top Tip:** Take time to look at your child's workbooks with them – are they taking pride in their work and presenting it appropriately? Are there any targets you can set together to improve on the quality of work; or praise you can give to celebrate high quality presentation? Students respond well to having input from multiple adults on the quality of their learning.

## Home Learning:

One of the biggest changes students and parents will experience in Year 7 is online learning.

Home learning will be an important part of developing independent learning skills – an important skill for developing good exam and revision practices.

All home learning is set on the **Satchel One** app – parents and students are able to see the work set as well as teacher deadlines and submissions.

In the Autumn term, all year 7 students will receive a chromebook provided by the Academy. This is to support your child and their learning and we want to make sure that all students, no-matter their backgrounds, have equal access to the resources they need.

Suggested level of donation is £20 per term over a three year period.

A good homework routine is crucial from the get go!



## Parent Top Tips:

- Use the **Satchel One** app regularly to check on your child's progress with home learning; make sure you check the time the teacher has allocated to the task
- Allocate a suitable space for students to complete their home learning in the home – is it free from distractions? Is their space for students to lay out the equipment and resources they need? Is it away from noise?
- Consider removing distractions from your child when it is home learning time – such as mobile phones
- Check the quality of work with your child – have they taken the same time, care and effort with presentation as you would expect with their workbooks?

# SUMMER HOMEWORK PROJECT

## PARENT RESOURCES

### English Department – Summer Task

Parents,

As part of our transition process we would like your child to complete the following task in order to support in their progress and development between primary and secondary school.

Pupils have the materials necessary to support them in this task but please find an overview of the task we, as an English department, would like your child to complete during the summer break:

### Creative Writing

- The protagonist of 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' is Bruno: an inquisitive, curious and adventurous young man.
- Pupils have been tasked with writing a short descriptive story about someone who is about to embark on a challenging or exciting experience.

They have been provided the following options but may create their own perspective if they so wish:

1. A scientist on the brink of a cure for cancer.
2. An explorer who is close to finding an uncharted city.
3. A pupil beginning a new school.
4. A sportsperson on the night before the final of a championship.

The success criteria has been included in the pupils' resources but is repeated here for your information:

- 200-300 words
- Descriptive and engaging
- Involved some of the five senses
- Is spelled and punctuated accurately with a variety of vocabulary and sentence structures

Many thanks in advance for your support and guidance in these tasks.

Yours faithfully,

Mr McLaughlin (Second in Charge, English Department)

## Maths Department- Summer Task

**Task 1:** Four questions for us to see how students carry out calculations. Please make sure full working out is shown.

**Task 2:** This is an opportunity for students to tell their teacher how they feel about different aspects of maths- it can be as vague as “numbers” and “shapes”; or specific, such as “adding improper fractions” and “long multiplication”.

**Task 3:** A slightly longer task to get students thinking- they do not need to complete all of the boxes (we will be very impressed if anyone comes to school with them all filled in!). Students should be familiar with the first few operations listed (multiplication, division, addition, subtraction and brackets) and can focus on only using them.

If they want to use the last two operations, more information about them can be found here:

Indices- <https://www.mathsisfun.com/definitions/index-power-.html>

Factorial- <https://www.mathsisfun.com/numbers/factorial.html>

**Task 4:** Research project

The Maths Department recommends students practise their maths skills where possible before they start at Hammersmith Academy in September. Numerise is a website designed specifically for this- sign up for by going to the following website: <https://learning.sparx.co.uk/secondary-ready>

Thank you,

Ms Suganthakumaran (Key Stage 3 Maths Coordinator)

## Science Department- Summer Task

The students can use the internet and be creative to complete both tasks.

**Task 1** Students draw their idea of what a scientist is. They can label it with words or descriptions, what do they picture when they think of a scientist.

**Task 2** Students create a poster on a scientist of their choice using research from the internet. Their poster should include the following:

- Their name and where they are from
- Their discovery/ research
- Why you think their work was important

They can be as creative as they like!

Thank you,

Mr Bridle (Head of Science department)



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on at HA every day!



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