



Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you have all had a lovely week and are enjoying the warm weather. Please see below an update from this week and some key messages:

Remembering Absi

This afternoon, we took time together as a school community to remember former Hodgson student Absi. It was deeply moving to see so many students, staff, and members of Absi's own family come together in his memory. The atmosphere was one of reflection, care, and togetherness, and it was touching to witness so many people pause in their busy lives to honour and remember him. Moments like this remind us of the strength of our school community and the importance of supporting one another. Absi's family and friends remain very much in our thoughts.

PE updates from this week

Hodgson Academy Mini London Marathon

We are delighted to be hosting the Hodgson Academy Mini London Marathon on Monday 27th April for all students in Years 7 to 9. Taking place, the day after the London Marathon, this exciting whole-school event aims to promote physical activity, wellbeing, and a strong sense of community.

During the day, every student will take part in a two-mile run, jog, or walk around the school field within their allocated lesson time. The event has been designed to be fully inclusive, allowing all students to participate at a level that suits them—whether striving for a personal best, jogging with friends, or simply enjoying being active outdoors.

To support the smooth running of the event, each year group will take part during a designated period (Year 8 – Period 1, Year 9 – Period 2, Year 7 – Period 4). Students will either attend PE as normal or be brought to the field by their class teacher at the appropriate time. The event will be fully supervised by PE staff and colleagues throughout.

All students who take part will receive a certificate in recognition of their effort and achievement. In the spirit of the London Marathon, we are also encouraging a £2 voluntary contribution via ParentPay, with funds supporting our World Challenge expedition to Cambodia.

Students should arrive to school in full PE kit and be prepared for outdoor activity. This includes appropriate footwear and bringing a water bottle. In line with school expectations, students may wear either their school blazer or the Hodgson PE mid-layer as an additional layer if needed; no other outerwear will be permitted.

The event will take place within the normal school day, with any adjustments communicated if weather conditions require. We are looking forward to a fantastic day and thank all staff, students, and families for their continued support in making this a memorable and successful event.



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



Lancashire County Pentathlon Final – Sports Leaders

We are incredibly proud of our 16 Sports Leader students, who were outstanding representatives of Hodgson Academy at the County Pentathlon Finals in Blackpool this week.

Working in partnership with the Blackpool School Games, our students helped to host a fantastic event, welcoming eight SEN primary and secondary schools from across Lancashire. They played a key role in leading, officiating, and supporting a range of adapted sports and activities within a competitive round-robin format.

Our Sports Leaders demonstrated professionalism, enthusiasm, and genuine kindness throughout the day. Their positive attitude and support for all participants were widely praised by event organisers and visiting staff. It was also particularly pleasing to see our younger Year 7 Sports Leaders contributing so confidently, showing maturity and compassion when working with pupils, many of whom were older than themselves.

The impact of this group was so strong that they have been invited to support the North West Finals later this year—an excellent recognition of their efforts and conduct.

This experience provided a valuable opportunity for our students to develop important life skills, and they embraced it brilliantly. We are extremely proud of them and look forward to seeing their continued success.

Raising Children Together

Thank you to all the parents who attended our *Raising Children Together* workshops. We were really encouraged by the openness and engagement during these sessions, and grateful for the time parents took to be part of these important conversations. As one parent so thoughtfully said, *we have started the conversation and now need to keep it going*. These workshops are designed to work in partnership with parents, sharing ideas and strategies to help support our young people as they navigate the challenges they face. We look forward to welcoming even more parents to the next workshop and continuing to work together for the benefit of our children.

Language Choice for Year 8 Students

An email was sent to Year 8 parents this morning explaining that students will now choose which of their two studied languages - **French** or **German** - they wish to continue into Year 9. Students have already been informed during Reg and Read, and they are encouraged to select the language they feel most confident in, with MFL teachers available for support. Parents are asked to submit the choice by **Thursday 14th May at 9am** via the Microsoft Form on the email. Families of students in **X4 or Y4** will not have received the email, as those students study only German and will automatically continue with it next year. Any questions can be directed to the student's MFL teacher.

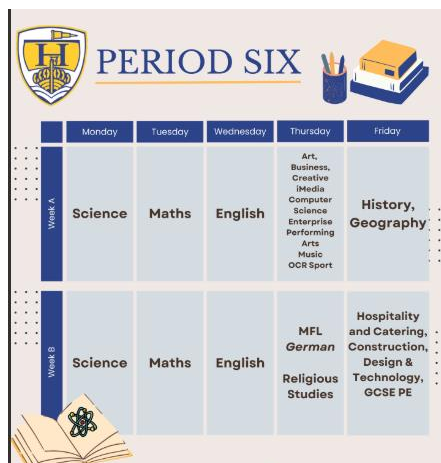
Year 11 GCSE exams have started

All students have now completed their GCSE Speaking Exams and their Art exams. Students have approached the preparation and the exams with the right mindset and come prepared on the day, to do the best that they can, and we are very proud of them all.

Please encourage your child to attend their period 6 sessions that are on every day after school. The timetable is shared on the next page. I appreciate that for some students, this time can be overwhelming,

and we want to strike a balance between overwhelming them and not encouraging them. We will provide students with details about what is on offer and when and we ask that you do the same.

Support is always available for any students who need it, especially at this time, so do not hesitate to contact their form tutors if you feel this is needed. As we say to them all the time in school, Year 11 **We Believe in You** and I hope that they do believe in themselves.



The image shows a curriculum grid for 'PERIOD SIX' with a school crest and icons of a pencil and books. The grid is organized by week and day of the week.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week A	Science	Maths	English	Art, Business, Creative Media, Computer Science, Enterprise, Performing Arts, Music, OCR Sport	History, Geography
Week B	Science	Maths	English	MFL, German, Religious Studies	Hospitality and Catering, Construction, Design & Technology, GCSE PE

Standards and Punctuality to School

Following the letter sent to parents on 25th March regarding updates to punctuality and standards, we have now moved into implementation. The changes focus on reinforcing expectations around punctuality to school and maintaining high standards, with time lost to lateness now addressed through a weekly Wednesday Standards Detention.

From this week, sanctions for standards can total up to **2 hours on a Wednesday**, depending on the number of logs accumulated. All detentions are now recorded on Arbor, with the specific detention time clearly outlined in the details for parents and students. These adjustments are designed to further strengthen routines, maximise learning time, and support students in meeting expectations consistently.

EduLink

We will shortly be launching a new app designed to improve communication with parents and students. The app, called EduLink, is free to download, and login details will be sent out over the coming weeks. Please keep an eye on your inbox for further information and next steps as we prepare to launch this exciting new platform.

Y7 and Y8 Parent's Evening

I would like to remind all parents and carers of students in Years 7 and 8 of the dates for Parents' Evening:

Year 8 – Thursday 4th June

Year 7 – Thursday 11th June (We apologise for the error in previous updates.)

These important events provide a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress, celebrate their achievements, and explore any areas where further support may be needed. We strongly encourage you to attend and engage with our teaching staff to ensure we continue working together in supporting your child's

learning journey. Mrs Shaw will be in touch nearer the time to let you know when appointments are available to book. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Assessments during the Summer term

Please be aware of the upcoming assessments listed below. If you require any support or further information, please contact your child's form tutor.

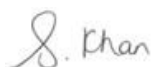
Dates	Assessment
21/04/2026 to 01/05/2026	Y10 Mock Exams
05/05/2026 to 15/06/2026	GCSE Exams
Week beginning 8 th June	Y9 Test week: Core subjects in the hall
Week beginning 29 th June	Y7, Y8 and Y9 reading assessments
Week beginning 6 th July	Y10 reading assessments

Year 10 Work Experience

Our Year 10 cohort will all be going out on Work Experience from **Monday 11th May to Friday 15th May** to experience the real world of work and gain valuable Skills for Life. Please encourage students to get in touch with their employers via phone, in person or by email before the placement to touch base and receive any final details they may need. Great communication ahead of placement fosters the best work experience week and smooth running of this amazing opportunity. During placement, they will be completing a short diary to summarise and capture their experiences for reflection. The booklet will be given in PSHE on Tuesday 5th May and then it will be reviewed on Wednesday 20th May during their PSHE lesson. If you have any questions or queries, please get in touch with Miss Scott as soon as possible:

l.scott@hodgson.lancs.sch.uk

Best wishes,



Mrs S. Khan
Headteacher