

# HYDESVILLE TOWER SCHOOL

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Headmaster: Mr. Warren Honey BSc (Hons), MEd



Dear Parent/Carer,

It is nice to be reaching the end of a week when the school has felt a little more “lived in”! Although we have had Key Worker children in for the preceding three months, this week has seen the return of a significant number of Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children. The joy on so many of their faces at returning and seeing their teachers was a wonder to behold. We will maintain our online provision for those children remaining at home, and keep families updated as the weeks unfold. A huge debt of thanks goes from me to the staff who have made this re-opening so smooth, and the parents for their engagement and support. Please remember that two working days’ notice and an acknowledgement from me are required before a child can re-join, so we keep the safety considerations throughout.

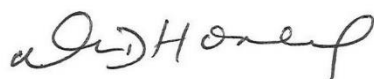
Parents of Year 10 children will be aware that there has been governmental discussion about this cohort returning to schools from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June. I am aware of a number of schools reporting “no work done” by scores of their GCSE pupils, and hence we can understand the need for getting these children into school. Fortunately, our Year 10 pupils have been working very effectively with the excellent online provision by the staff so we are still considering whether such an action is to the benefit of the year group, or adding unnecessary strain on school systems and families. I will keep you informed next week according to the guidance and our deliberations.

As a Cognita school, we have continued to benefit from the support provided in a range of areas. Recently an interview was conducted by Cognita leaders with Professor Tanya Byron - the renowned author, commentator and clinical psychologist specialising in children. They explored with Tanya how parents can help their children and themselves to manage anxiety as we all face continuing changes to how we live and work. The calming effect of “family mantras” and your own “language as a family” are among the strategies that Tanya shares. You can view their recording as a video [here](#). If you prefer, you can listen to the podcast [here](#) as part of our ‘Challenging Education’ series available via all podcast platforms.

On Monday, I will be writing to you to introduce Cognita Connect – our new parent portal. This is in response to requests from a number of you in the last twelve months for ways to increase ease of access to communications, payment options, calendar events and giving permissions. We are really excited by how this will support your ability to interact with school and will be yet another example of how we aim to build the strongest possible experience for you as parents.

It is really good to be “back”...let’s keep our fingers crossed that this will be the start of a full re-opening soon.

Kind regards



Warren Honey