

No isolation in the Google Classroom
 The school recently made the majority of lessons available on a Google Suite. Pupils in all provisions can now access the platform to exchange work, upload assignments, follow streams and fully participate in live lessons if too unwell to be present in 3 dimensions. All pupils can communicate directly with teachers for extra help, and a wealth of resources can be found in the Shared Drive for each subject. If schools are asked to lockdown again, Chromebooks will be assigned and lessons will take place as normal using this platform to ensure no young person falls behind.



Baseline, Progress and Assessment
 As a hospital special school, we place far more importance on outcomes than examination results. Many of our young people arrive after an interrupted education, without prior data such as Ks2 results, from which progress can be measured. Consequently, we complete questionnaires on previous school experience, literacy and numeracy screens, and CATS test for all pupils on entry. We can now track and monitor progress from an established baseline, so every half term, pupils receive progress and attainment reports to establish whether they are receiving the correct degree of support or challenge.

Jack Petchey Achievement Award
 With such an all-round super start to the year, the results indicate that everyone, at some point, will eventually be a winner. This term, Mason received the most nominations for 100% attendance, 100% positivity and 100% commitment to all subjects. Well done!



Message from the Headteacher
 With the temporary closure of the Children's wards at The Royal Free, Steve Green is now leading on how our ward teachers may be deployed to support at The Whittington Hospital after half term. Lockdown has not been an easy time for some of our young people including those in the RF Eating Disorders Service where Jemma has been working closely with CAMHS colleagues to help plan a path to recovery and return to school. Pupils at both The Hive and The Thomas Group have made a brilliant start despite current challenges. Our new SENDCO Siobhan is doing great work and our Outreach Service is anticipating a very busy period for referrals after half term. A big thank you to The Tavistock Centre who have provided us with additional office space while 6WestB is closed and to Sue and Shaida for keeping systems running through all the disruption.

Alex Yates



Rewards from a love of learning
 Congratulations to all students who received their GCSE results this year. Due to the cancellation of the actual exams announced in March, this year's grades were generated from predicted grades provided by subject teachers based on coursework, classwork and mock examinations. Examination results were awarded for 25 candidates, 3 of whom were private entries. We wish them all the greatest success in the next stage of their education, at college, sixth form or apprenticeships.

New pastures, new responsibilities
 Vicky Hanton's retirement last summer left two very large holes to fill in terms of providing safeguarding and special needs expertise. The school is pleased to announce that Jemma Michelson (left) is now the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and that Siobhan Auberge (right) is the school's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator (SENDCO). We are sure they will make significant contributions in ensuring the best outcomes for all our young people.

The Making of Musical Maestros

A huge congratulations to Shye-in and Patricia for taking their music Grade 6 examinations last summer in what turned out to be a very limited period of time in difficult circumstances, obtaining most of their tuition online from our Music teacher, Matt Smith. Matt will continue to develop our music provision with a number of successful charity applications. This is a remarkable achievement. Well done.



New dimensions of printing at The Hive

We all know how annoying it is when you realise you are missing just one or two chess pieces before starting a game. As part of a local initiative introduced by the American based computer firm, Drumeil, our STEAM HUB lead, John Howley, has secured the use of a 3D printer to bury this problem in the past. Now at the forefront of modern printing technology, those missing chess pieces can now be replicated with complete precision and with the minimum of fuss. Pawn to king four once more!



Black History

Once again, for one day in October, we forget the school's observation of the Healthy Eating policy to celebrate and acknowledge the people from the past who enable us to enjoy the freedoms of the present. A big thank you to Ramone for an inspiring account of his experiences of growing up as a black teenager in London. He captivated the audience by revealing that despite his initial struggles at school, he found consolation and success through developing his creative side, emerging as a talented and much sought after graphic artist. We are lucky to have him.

Linking up after locking down

In order to address the common anxieties associated with returning to school after a period of Covid19 lockdown, the school is launching an online project called LinkEd Up. In the first instance, this project will run for two weeks and will try to help young people in local secondary schools cope with their anxieties about returning to school. The work will centre around Drama Therapy, Philosophy for Children, Art and Music as well as core subjects.



Continued CAMHS Support

The school continues to provide support to the Royal Free's Eating Disorders unit, providing guidance and insight on all matters to do with education, building solid relationships with schools, families and the young people attending the service. Jemma Michelson has played an integral role in keeping the channels between those involved as fluid as possible. The importance of this can not be overestimated and we are all deeply indebted to Jemma's outstanding work in this area.

CAMHS
Child and Adolescent
Mental Health Services

True leaders in our midst

We are pleased to announce that Matt Smith and Szilva Szoke have been nominated for this semester's Jack Petchey Leadership Award. The award comes with a cash prize that can be spent within their specific area of interest to the benefit of the school and all those who attend. Szilvia will be looking to further enhance the school's English as a second language provision, whilst Matt will be using his award to spread his joy of Music throughout the four aspects of the school's provision.



Term dates for Academic Year 2020-21:

Autumn 1	Weds 2 September	Fri 23 October
Autumn 2	Tues 3 November	Fri 18 December
Spring 1	Weds 6 January	Fri 12 February
Spring 2	Mon 22 February	Fri 2 April
Summer 1	Weds 21 April	Fri 28 May
Summer 2	Mon 7 June	Thurs 22 July

INSET Day 1	Tues 1 September
INSET Day 2	Thurs 17 September
INSET Day 3	Tues 5 January
INSET Day 4	Tues 20 April
INSET Day 5	Fri 23 July