

Dear Parents/Guardians,

During this time of uncertainty, we would like you to know that your child's education and wellbeing is extremely important to us. We recognise the importance of building students to become well-rounded individuals with enough experience to support them through this new journey towards their future careers. With this in mind, we have considered the best course of action for our year 11 and 13 students to ensure they are able to use this time productively. We are in the process of developing a bespoke programme for students to follow to ensure they remain ahead of the game when it comes to developing their skills and continuing to build their knowledge in key areas.



Hilbre's new 'Upskill Me' programme has two main aims. Firstly, we are very aware of the importance of continuing to develop subject knowledge in those areas students wish to pursue in their future studies and careers. We are therefore working closely with subject teachers to ensure students are provided with subject-based tasks, which are designed to keep their subject knowledge up to date and ensure they do not lose the breadth of knowledge they have built up throughout their education to date (through SMHW). This will form the academic part of the programme.

Secondly, we recognise the importance in providing students with the opportunity to develop their skill set and remain ahead of the game with regard to applying for future study or employment. We believe many higher education providers and potential employers will be interested to know how students have used this time to learn new skills and gain new experiences, which will broaden their repertoire and give them a competitive advantage on CVs and future applications. This will form the enrichment part of the programme.

The key details of the programme are laid out below:

Academic

- From now until May half term, students will be expected to complete transition tasks in subject areas they are interested in (at least 3). These may be activities set by subject teachers or online courses. For Y12 & 13 students, subject interests are those subjects they are currently studying. For Y11 students, subject interests are all subjects they are interested in continuing with next year.
- Transition tasks will be available to access through SMHW.
- Completed transition tasks should be sent to subject teachers who will be able to log completion so we can award certificates for engaging with the programme.
- After May half-term, students will be required to complete induction tasks for subjects they are interested in studying next year.

Enrichment

- Students will be given ideas of enrichment activities in line with DWH Hilbre Pledges. There will be an enrichment log for students to keep track of any activities they have tried which can then be used for UCAS/ Job applications.
- Information will be put on the school website with links to useful websites and other ideas for enrichment activities.
- Activities will include: Online courses, Book club, cooking from recipes, learning a language, BSL course, home improvements, learning an instrument, teaching younger siblings, sewing/knitting, gardening, film reviews etc.
- The first PHSE sessions when we return will be designed to review students' engagement with the programme.

We are working to get the content uploaded to the school VLE as quickly as possible and you will be notified as soon as the programme is live. If you would like any more information in the meantime, please contact either Mrs Garrett garrettj@hilbre.wirral.sch.uk or Miss Lucass lucassd@hilbre.wirral.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Garrett & Miss D Lucass