Dear Students,

I hope that you have been keeping safe and well and you have been able to enjoy the good weather over the Easter break, as safely as possible. I know that we are all adjusting to our 'new normal', as best we can, and of course this presents us with some uncertainties but should lead us to think more deeply about our options.

I have been contacted by several young people in Year 11 from Lewisham Schools who have been unsure about submitting what they are worried, is a ‘late’ application, to our Sixth Form. Whilst it is true that we formally request that students make their applications much earlier in the year than this, due to the uncertainty forced upon us, we are still happy to receive applications from any Lewisham students who want to join Haberdashers’ Aske’s Hatcham College Sixth Form. Any applications submitted now will be equally considered on their merits, as with all other applicants, and will be considered for a place at our Sixth Form, as long as entry requirements are met.

The recent announcements by Ofqual have obviously changed how grades will be awarded, and will have a knock-on effect for how we enroll our new Year 12s. We want this process to be as fair for all as possible. You will doubtless be attracted to Hatcham College Sixth Form due to our longstanding reputation for excellent academic results, a leading Oxbridge programme and campus style academic study environment. We equally want to know that you are a committed and mature candidate who wants to excel in their studies and contribute to our thriving learning environment. We will not be able to reflect on grades earned in exams in the time-honoured fashion that we are traditionally used to, so we will seek assurances from you, beyond the grades that you present on the day.

Mrs C Shenbanjo, Academic Counsellor, supporting students in the Reading Room, Hatcham Sixth Form’s silent study area
To prepare for enrolment and to be ‘Sixth Form-ready’, our advice to you is the same as to Year 11 students currently enrolled at Hatcham College; it is important that you stay academically active during this current period. Keep all of your books, folders and notes in good order, and complete all work as set by your teachers and support teachers. For students to be Sixth Form-ready, good habits in reading widely, taking notes independently, writing for long periods, completing extended writing, revising prior knowledge and carrying out research will be valuable. When we meet on sign-up day in August 2020, we will want to be assured that you are Sixth Form-ready, and you will be able to demonstrate this by informing and sharing with us about how you have stayed academically active, during this current period.

Once again, I hope that you are following government guidelines and keeping yourself safe and well. We look forward to hopefully meeting with you and registering you as one of our Year 12 students for 2020/21!

Best wishes,

D Crowley
Head of Sixth Form
Haberdashers' Aske’s Hatcham College