



Dear Parent/Carers

I do hope you and your families are well during these testing times.

Despite the restrictions put upon all of us, our students, your children, are a constant source of hope for better times to come. Aristotle once said, "It is during our darkest moments that we must focus on the light", and this is undoubtedly the case in the current climate.

I have always been amazed by the sense of community that Hylands radiates and I was eager to carry a number of charity projects and functions to emphasise this during the school year. Due to current restrictions, these projects and functions have been postponed. We will however, continue with our charity work and giving back to our local community. With that in mind, it gives me immense pleasure to announce that Hylands will now be working closely with 'Cool to be Kind', a local Chelmsford based charity.

'Cool to be Kind' is a charity that are doing fantastic things to help the rough sleepers of Chelmsford and the South East. They are a non-profit organisation ran solely by volunteers. We believe that the people who will benefit most from the work this charity does are as much a member of our community as you and I and as such, Hylands students will be taking part in their Rucksack Project to help make a difference to those who need it the most in the city we call home.

The Rucksack Project consists of creating a rucksack full of items that will make a rough sleeper in Chelmsford a little more comfortable and safer over the winter months. As a school, we are not asking every student to create a rucksack, as during this current time that would be extremely insensitive. We are asking that where possible, every student contribute. There is a large list of items that can be accepted and most of these items can be second hand, and you may already have them in your home, which you no longer need.

This project will be run primarily by Year 10, but is open to the entire school to contribute. More information will follow over the coming weeks prior to breaking up for Christmas. Please do not bring any items to school until we release further information and the full list of accepted items.

Our students would like to thank you in advance for your support in making their city a better place.

Kind regards

Mr W Bayston  
Head of Year 9 & 10

**Hylands School**

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