



July 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Firstly, I would like to start by thanking all of our parents and carers for your ongoing support this year. This year we have continued to see the year group excel inside and outside of the classroom, which is demonstrated by the school reports which came out last week.

As we move into Year 10, we are now over half way through their time here before sitting their GCSE qualifications. In September, students will begin their GCSE pathways and, as such, the focus will be on maintaining the high standards of attendance, effort/attitude to learning, uniform and behaviour we have seen so far. Students will be rewarded for their efforts both in terms of excellent attendance and uniform along with exceptional attitudes to learning.

This year we have seen students confirm the first of their GCSE choices during the pathways process. This will be important in shaping the pathway to their future careers and it is important that we can work together as a team to help them to raise their aspirations and set up good learning habits that will allow them to succeed.

Before breaking up for the summer holidays, I wanted to cover some of the important points ready for September:

Key standards and expectations

Expectations will be the same as they have been previously for students. We ask that our students are ready, respectful and responsible at school.

Ready

- Students need to be fully equipped for the school day (pen, pencil, ruler, scientific calculator, eraser, whiteboard pen and a reading book)
- Students will be provided with a whiteboard at the start of the year
- Students need to ensure that they are in correct school uniform - guidance can be found on the school website
I wish to highlight that school skirts must be to the knee and of a non- stretch material, shirts need to be tucked in and no extreme haircuts/unnatural colours. You will be aware we will now be moving towards students having a pleated skirt for 2024. Please see the uniform link below :
<http://heanorgatespencer.com/uniform/>
- Piercings will now be only one stud in either ear lobe - clear studs will not be allowed.

Respectful

- Students should be kind and courteous to their peers and staff members creating a 'culture of kindness' within the school.
- Students should be respectful of others' learning and take ownership over their own, showing engagement in the classroom.

Responsible

- Students should ensure they complete their work to the best of their ability and conduct themselves appropriately around the school site.
- Students should ensure, wherever possible, that they have good attendance (above 97%). Please help us to achieve this by encouraging and insisting that your child attends every day.
- Students will have more commitments with homework and revision moving forwards.



Tutor time programme

Students have access to their own personal tutor who they will see every morning during tutor time. During this time students will have access to further support and opportunities such as bespoke interventions and sessions on Personal Development which helps students develop socially and emotionally to become responsible citizens as well as receiving careers advice.

We do have some changes to the tutors below for next year. All other tutors will remain the same:

Current Tutor	New Tutor
Ms Marsh	Mr Mitchell
Mr Oakley	Mr Dobson
Mrs Wagg	Mr Davis

Current Tutor	New Tutor
Mr Ennis	Miss Cocking
Mr Sandham	Mr Hughes

Extra-curricular activities

This year students participated in many clubs such as football, netball, art and drama. As we continue to move forward there will be more extra-curricular activities on offer. This will allow us to offer more enrichment opportunities outside of the classroom such as school trips and fixtures in the academic year 2023/24.

What time does our day start and finish?

The school day for the Year 10 students will begin at 8.40am and finish at 2.55pm. The students should enter the school and line up at the front of 'G Block'.

Who should I contact if I have a question?

For general queries regarding student progress across the curriculum, please contact either myself, Mrs McLeod or their tutor. If you have questions regarding particular subjects then please get in touch with the subject teacher

Learning@ Heanor Gate event for Year 10

Given the success of our virtual delivery of these events, the 'Learning @ HGSA' evenings for Y7-10 and Y13 will remain virtual. We will be in touch with further details for this in September.

Finally, can I reiterate my thanks for your continued support in helping us to maintain these high standards. With your support they will continue the excellent progress they have made in the time they have already had with us. As you may be aware we won 'World Class' status this year through the work that students do inside and outside the classroom and they have truly been outstanding this year.

Yours sincerely

Miss L Hulland

Achievement Leader - Year 9