



25 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 8 Graduation

Last week in assembly, I launched the Year 8 Graduation process with our students. Year 8 Graduation will be a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the successful completion of your child's first two years at Heanor Gate Spencer Academy and it will also mark the transition to GCSE in many subjects. It will also be a key part of our tutor time programme this year. I am now writing to you in order to share some important details about this.

With Year 8 Graduation, our aim is to raise aspirations and for all of our students to dream big and be responsible for creating their own story. In preparation for this, our students will build a portfolio of evidence detailing how they have demonstrated the #TeamHeanor values.

A reminder that these values cover:-

- Respect
- Pride
- Unity
- Resilience
- Organisation
- Integrity

Their evidence will cover academic work, extracurricular activities and also activities outside of school. Students will be assessed for Bronze, Silver or Gold standard and additional commendations will also be awarded to students who excel. We will also take into account other important factors including A points, B points and attendance. To ensure everyone has the best chance to reach their full potential and to graduate, there will be an ongoing programme of support.

The parents/carers of those students who successfully graduate will be invited to the formal graduation ceremony, which will be held on **Thursday 19 June 2025**. For this ceremony, the year group will be split into two halves, with one half graduating in the morning and the other in the afternoon. I will be in touch later in the year to let you know specific details. Please save the date for now.

Following the graduation ceremony, those students who successfully graduate will be invited to a fun-packed party at school. In order to prepare for this, our students have already begun planning some fundraising activities in their tutor groups and they will continue to do this throughout the year.

We are really looking forward to watching your child grow on their journey towards graduation. As always, if there is anything you would like to discuss or have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact either of us.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Shaw
Achievement Leader - Year 8

Mrs H Stewart
Assistant Achievement Leader - Year 8