



October 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope this letter finds you well.

First of all, I would like to say a huge well done to all our Year 7 students who have, on the whole, made an excellent start to their first term at secondary school. We know that the transition from primary to secondary can bring a range of emotions - from nerves to excitement and everything in between - and we are incredibly proud of how well our students have settled in. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you, our parents and carers, for your continued support throughout this important stage of your child's education.

If you have any questions or concerns, please remember that your child's tutor should be your first point of contact:-

AHY	Mr Young	ayoung@heanorgatespencer.org.uk
AJB	Miss Baines	abains@heanorgatespencer.org.uk
AJF	Miss Flint	aflint@heanorgatespencer.org.uk
CD	Mrs Dukes	cdukes@heanorgatespencer.org.uk
HLP	Mrs Le Provost	hleprovost@heanorgatespencer.org.uk
JHY	Mr Young	jyoung@heanorgatespencer.org.uk
MLH	Miss Hopewell	mhopewell@heanorgatespencer.org.uk
RJE	Miss Emmerson	remmerson@heanorgatespencer.org.uk
RPW	Miss Willis	rwillis@heanorgatespencer.org.uk
WJM	Mr Mitchell	wmitchell@heanorgatespencer.org.uk

Attendance

Good attendance is key to success. We expect all students to maintain an attendance figure of **96% or above**, as research shows that strong attendance directly supports academic progress and GCSE outcomes. Regular attendance ensures students are not missing out on valuable learning opportunities and routines.

Please remember that, unlike in primary school, students do **not** need to take a fixed period of time off for minor illnesses such as a stomach bug - they can return to school as soon as they are well enough.

Students are permitted to carry **up to four paracetamol tablets** for personal use if required. For any other medication, a **medical form** must be completed at reception.

Next term, we will be introducing an **attendance incentive**, where students with excellent attendance will be entered into a **cash prize draw** as part of our ongoing focus on attendance.

Uniform and Equipment

Thank you for your continued support in maintaining high standards of uniform and presentation. As we approach the next half term, please take a moment to check that your child has all the required equipment and that any items that have run out, such as whiteboard pens or stationery are replaced. Many essential items can also be purchased from **reception** if needed.

We always remind students that when they return they should not have false nails/nail polish, no extreme hair cuts or colours and no piercings other than one in either earlobe. Please find school more detail around this on the school website.

Black History Month and Respect

This month, we have been celebrating Black History Month, focusing on the theme of unity and respect - both within our school and in the wider community. We believe that every student has the right to feel safe, valued, and respected.

Our core value of respect has been a key focus this term, and it has been wonderful to see so many students demonstrating this in their day-to-day behaviour. Last week, the students with the most A-points for Respect were invited to a celebratory breakfast to recognise their achievements. Moving forward into next term, we will continue to reward positive behaviour through postcards home, prize draws, curriculum awards, and tutor awards.

Homework

This term we have had a whole-school focus on consolidation (homework), and it has been fantastic to see how well Year 7 students have engaged with these tasks. To support the transition to secondary school, we have reduced homework down to having weekly homework in only the core subjects (English, maths, and science) for the time being.

The homework calendar for next half term can be found below.

[Homework Calendar - Staff 2025_26 - Google Sheets](#)

Students who need a quiet space to complete their work are welcome to attend Homework Club - details are shown in the table below.

Upcoming Event: Fireworks Night

We are excited to announce our annual Fireworks Night! Tickets are now on sale via ParentPay, and we encourage you to purchase early to secure your place. It promises to be a fantastic evening for the whole school community.

Thank you once again for your continued support. We look forward to another successful and positive term ahead.

Yours sincerely



Mrs L Hulland

Achievement Leader - Year 7