



18 September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Heanor Gate Spencer Academy Scholars Programme – Year 9

I am delighted to inform you that your child has been identified as a member of our Heanor Gate Spencer Academy Higher Prior Attaining (HPA) Scholars Programme for Year 9.

This programme has been designed to support and challenge students who have demonstrated high levels of academic potential. Our aim is to help students develop the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to achieve their very best throughout Key Stage 3 and beyond.

As part of the programme, students will have access to a range of opportunities, including:

- Explicit teaching of metacognitive strategies to help them become more effective, independent learners.
- High-quality revision techniques and study skills to prepare them for future assessments and examinations.
- A variety of revision resources and learning materials to support their academic progress.
- Mentoring and guidance to help students set ambitious goals, reflect on their learning and maximise their potential.
- Enrichment opportunities, including an educational visit on November 25 to Oxford University, designed to broaden horizons, inspire ambition and enhance learning beyond the classroom.

We believe that developing strong learning habits at this stage will provide students with an excellent foundation for GCSE success and future educational opportunities.

There is no additional action required at this stage. We simply ask that you encourage your child to engage fully with the opportunities provided and to make the most of this exciting programme.

We are very pleased to welcome your child to the Higher Prior Attaining Scholars Programme and look forward to supporting them throughout the year. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

If you have any questions about the programme please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Barlow

Achievement Leader - Year 9