



Starting in Year 7

We know both parents and students are nervous about the move from primary to secondary. Students may be concerned about making new friends, getting lost around the building, the level of the work or how to behave in lessons.

At Heathcote we make every effort to ensure settling in is as easy as possible and the process starts as soon as a student is offered a place.

The student and parent will be asked to come for an interview. At this interview they will be given a pack of details about the school and the uniform, and be asked to sign a contract with the school.

So that Heathcote can be properly prepared, the primary school will be contacted in June for advice about the student's strengths and weaknesses.

Once everyone is interviewed, the Senior Learning Manager for Year 7 will decide which student goes in which tutor group. There are 6 groups and we ensure each one has a balance of girls and boys, and students of different abilities. In the first week of July all the students are invited to come to Heathcote for a day when they can meet their new teachers and the other students in their tutor group.

In September Year 7 students start before the rest of the school. This gives them time to get to know their way around the building before everyone else arrives. In the first term parents will be invited to come and meet their child's tutor and talk about how they have settled in.

The **tutor** is the key person for every student. They register the tutor group every day. If there is a problem they are the best person to deal with it. Parents should not hesitate to telephone their child's tutor or make an appointment to see them whenever they feel it necessary.

The school office will be happy to pass on any messages or deal with uniform or school dinner matters.

The Senior Learning Manager – Ms Gladwin, is responsible for Year 7 and will also be happy to speak with parents.