



# Heathcote School & Science College

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Headteacher: Emma Hillman NPQH, MSc, MA



Wednesday, 09 September 2020



Dear Year 11 pupils, parents and carers,

It was great to see you on Monday and I look forward to welcoming you back on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:50am.



As we all know, this is an unprecedented situation and we are all navigating our way around a new system. I would like to take this opportunity to reassure all pupils and parents that at the heart of our practice, your son/daughter's wellbeing will be our main priority this year. We have an experienced team of staff in place to ensure a supported transition into Year 11 in order to enable our pupils to make the progress they deserve.



Year 11 is an extremely important time in a child's academic career and as a result, our expectations are high at Heathcote. It is paramount that pupils are invested in their learning time and proactive in terms of revision and preparation for their forthcoming GCSEs. At present, we are not able to facilitate after school intervention, however, this is under review and we hope to offer this very soon and we may need to explore other options such as remote intervention that can be accessed out of school.



## Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September

We want to ensure that Thursday and subsequent days run smoothly and feels as safe and stress free as possible. Therefore, please ensure that pupils arrive on time. With the current Covid restrictions in place; we would ask that pupils aim to arrive no earlier than 8.45 am and do not linger at the school gates. They should make their way through the main school entrance and go to Period 1 for an 8.50am start.



supporting individual excellence

## Tutor Time

I am very pleased to introduce you to our team this year:



SLT Lead	Mr Abbott	
11.1	Dr Kazanidis	<a href="mailto:pkazanidis@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk">pkazanidis@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk</a>
11.2	Ms Ahmed Mr Leipper	<a href="mailto:fahmed@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk">fahmed@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk</a> <a href="mailto:pleipper@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk">pleipper@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk</a>
11.3	Ms Nawaz Ms Altaf	<a href="mailto:snawazkhan@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk">snawazkhan@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk</a> <a href="mailto:maltaf@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk">maltaf@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk</a>
11.4	Ms Hyde Ms Ulgur	<a href="mailto:hhyde@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk">hhyde@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk</a> <a href="mailto:hulgar@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk">hulgar@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk</a>
11.5	Mr Waterman-Wiggins	<a href="mailto:jwiggins@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk">jwiggins@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk</a>



11.6	Ms Jacobs Ms Manyumbu	ljacobs@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk emanyumbu@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk
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If you have any concerns or questions, please contact your child's tutor in the first instance.

### **Breaks and Lunch**

As you know earlier this week, pupils met their form tutor and had a tour of the school site as well as being delivered presentations to aid understanding of how lunch and breaks will be facilitated. If your child has chosen to have a school lunch, their order was taken on Monday and you will be charged for meals for 3 weeks and 2 days in advance unless your child is entitled to free school meals. This must be paid promptly via Parent Mail. Pupils can bring in healthy snacks for break time and should ensure packed lunches are healthy too and, of course, no nuts should be brought into school.

### **Risk Assessment**

The measures the school has put in place to ensure the school environment is 'Covid-secure' have been carefully explained to pupils and all pupils and parents need to complete the Covid safety contract via Parent Mail before they return to school on Thursday. A detailed risk assessment will be published on the school website.

In order to reduce crowded corridors and communal spaces and minimise contact between year groups we have:

- Staggered starts and finish times for each year group.
- Identified specific stairwells and entrance/exits for each year group.
- Identified clear routes to specialist areas such as languages, IT, DT, Music and PE.
- Allocated specific outdoor areas for pupils to take their break & lunch times.
- Allocated separate lunch times per year group with socially distanced allocated seating.

There will also be increased opportunities to hand sanitise. In order to make our classrooms safe, each room has been allocated a sanitising station, bins and appropriate cleaning equipment.

### **Recovery Curriculum**

From Thursday 10th September the Year 11 school day will start at 8.50am and end at 2.50pm. The bespoke recovery timetable has been developed with our key strategic aims in mind and will be reviewed every three weeks. In unprecedented times the focus has been on maximising the closing of gaps and catch up following the lockdown and whilst health and wellbeing is still paramount, we must ensure that GCSE pupils are back on track and this is our overriding priority. We will ensure pupils continue receiving a broad and balanced curriculum, that practical subjects are still available, specialist staff are utilised as much as possible and that pupils learn and progress to the very best of their ability. In order to do this, pupils will currently not have PE or PIE (previously PSHRE) on their timetables (pupils studying PE GCSE or BTEC will still have their lessons). However, we are offering PE lessons

after school for Year 11 to ensure the curriculum offer stays as broad and as balanced as possible.

## **PE**

We have organised PE lessons after school on a Thursday for Y11 pupils from 3pm-4:15pm. The first additional PE lesson for Year 11 will commence on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>. To sign-up for this opportunity, there is a link set up on your child's SMH to a google document. Please ensure they complete this before Friday 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm. The sign-up process will need to be repeated each week to ensure we can plan and staff this session effectively. Please be mindful that we do not currently have use of changing facilities therefore, if pupils are taking part on a Thursday, **they will need to attend school in their Heathcote PE kit and blazer.**

**The timetable will be reviewed every 3 weeks as we receive further local and national guidance. We are also developing plans to ensure the highest quality continuation of remote learning if there is another lockdown or school closure.**

## **Equipment**

In order to fulfil our duty of care to our pupils, we would remind pupils of the following before returning on Thursday:

- You should bring everything you need for your school day, including pens, pencils, rubber, ruler and calculator as per the guidance.
- You **will not** be allowed to share equipment in lessons.
- You should also have a reading book, small umbrella, hand sanitiser, mask (advisory) and large bottle of water but no other unnecessary items.
- Water fountains will be switched off.
- You will be given new exercise books and will need to bring these to school as necessary for your lessons that day.
- Home tasks will be signposted via SMH and you may have to submit work through Google classroom. – further details will follow about homework.
- Please ensure eye lashes, extra piercings and acrylic nails have been removed prior to returning on Thursday.

We hope that the above reassures you that we have put in place stringent practices and procedures to ensure the wellbeing and safety of all pupils during this period. Please direct any queries or concerns to me via my email [dkee@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk](mailto:dkee@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk).

Best wishes,

Ms Kee Rose and the Year 11 tutor team