



Heathcote School & Science College

Normanton Park, Chingford, London E4 6ES. Tel: 020 8498 5110 Fax: 020 8529 3935

E-Mail: heathcote.school@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk Web: www.heathcoteschool.com

Headteacher: Emma Hillman NPQH, MSc, MA



Wednesday, 09 September 2020



Dear Year 8 pupils, parents and carers,

Work Hard, Be Kind

It was great to see you yesterday in school and your uniform looked very smart. A few pupils need to address some issues in this area and they were spoken to today. Well done for coming back ready to learn and so positive despite the many changes. It was wonderful to finally see pupils in person after what feels like an eternity of virtual assemblies and online learning!



Tutor Team

I am very pleased to introduce you to our team this year. As Head of Year, I have supporting me:



SLT lead	Hibo Elmi	helmi@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk
8.1	Shazia Mahmood	smahmood@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk ;
8.2	Agnieszka Tsui Afshan Ahmed	akarpinska@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk afahmed@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk
8.3	Joshua French Oliver Monksfield	jfrench@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk omonksfield@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk
8.4	Sandra Faria Yen Vi Le	sfaria@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk yenvile@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk
8.5	Susoma Zaman Sarah Hodges	szaman@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk shodges@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk
8.6	Benjamin Eva	beva@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk
8.7	Seema Barard Pearl-Ann Krakue	sbarard@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk pkrakue@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk



If you have any concerns or questions, please contact your child's tutor in the first instance.

Covid Safety Contract

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. The full risk assessment will be on the website as well as links to Government Guidance.

Lunch Reminder

Pupils have met their new form tutor and had a tour of their area as well as understanding the new school expectations. As you know, you will be charged for meals if your child has chosen to have a school lunch and this must be paid promptly via Parent Mail.

Recovery Timetable

Pupils will be following a 'recovery timetable' upon their return. This will be reviewed after 3 weeks and during this first three weeks there will be no after school activities. Within the recovery timetable, pupils will be taught in tutor groups for core subjects; for additional subjects there are 8 groups. These tutor groups remain the same as last year. Pupils will have a tutor session every 2 weeks. We have tried to ensure pupils have a broad and balanced curriculum and so pupils do not miss out on subjects but there are some changes to subject share than the 'normal' timetable. When we have a better idea how long we need to operate this timetable, we will have to review this regularly to ensure that subjects have balanced amounts of time across the year ensuring pupils do not miss out from the normal timetable. At present for example, pupils in Year 8 begin with more Maths and DT than normal and less IT and PE.

Risk Assessment and Safety

I would like to reiterate some of the measures we have put in place to ensure the safety of your child and the school community.

In order to minimise transitions we will:

- Keep pupils in base rooms as much as possible. Year 8 are based upstairs in the Humanities building. As you know, year groups are contained to their bubble in an area of the school except for when they move to specialist subjects such as DT, Music, PE, Drama, Food.
- Pupils have allocated seats in classrooms and at lunchtime to ensure we can track and trace as necessary if anyone becomes unwell with Covid 19.

In order to reduce crowded corridors/ communal spaces we have:

- Staggered starts and finishes for each year group.

- Year groups use different stairwells and entrance/ exits. In the Humanities building, Year 8 enter by the dragon mural and exit via the far stairwell.
- On days when pupils have PE, they should come to school in full PE kit and blazer as changing rooms are not in use.

There will also be increased opportunities to hand sanitise and hand-wash at least once a day and in order to make classroom safe every classroom has:

- Sanitising stations
- Bins
- Cleaning 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.
- Access to water will be limited during the school day but we are hoping to allocate a water fountain per year group.
- 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.

*Heathcote places a lot of value on reading and developing pupils' literacy. Reading for pleasure is part of our daily routine. Pupils in Year 7 and 8 take part in Accelerated Reader sessions where reading is encouraged and discussed, and pupils take quizzes on books they have read.

We hope the above reassures you that we have put in place stringent practices and procedures to ensure the safety of all pupils during this period. Please do direct any queries or concerns to us. My email is ngasper@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming Year 8.

Best wishes,
Ms Gasper and the Year 8 tutor team

