



Heathcote School & Science College

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Headteacher: Sonia Close NPQH, B.ed, MA



Friday 2nd September 2022



Dear Parent / Carer

We are looking forward to welcoming back all our wonderful pupils on **Monday 5th September**. We hope all our pupils have had an enjoyable break and time to rest and recuperate ready for the start of term.



The start of term induction will consist of tutor time, team building activities, reading age tests, well-being interviews and assemblies. On this day the pupils will return in staggered fashion, so that we can give our new Year 7 and 12 pupils time to orient themselves in the building.

The start of term timings will be as follows:

YEAR GROUP	START TIME	ENTRANCE
Year 7	8.35am	Whitehall gate
Year 12	8:35am	Sixth Form gate
Year 8	9:35am	Main / Front gate
Year 9	9:35am	Whitehall gate
Year 10	10:35am	Front gate
Year 11	11:35am	Sixth Form gate
Year 13	11:35am	Sixth Form gate



Please ensure that your child is wearing full school uniform as per the policy on our website. IF you have had any issues with purchasing uniform, please send your child in with a note so we can either support or authorise the missing uniform for a fixed period of time.



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On **Tuesday 6th September** Years **7** and **12** will be having their school photographs taken, so please prepare them for this. The other year groups will have their new photos taken on **Friday 11th November**.

There will be food available on the first day so please ensure that your child's **ParentMail account is topped up**. For all new pupils we will be giving them their pin numbers as part of the induction process, so that they can purchase food.



We are starting the year in a really positive way with the best results the school has ever seen! The GCSE results meant that 72% of our pupils achieved English and Maths at a grade 4 or higher (*C grade in old system*) and an incredible 51% achieved English and Maths at grade 5 or higher (*B grade in the old system*). Our A-Level results were equally as impressive - we saw a massive improvement in terms of attainment with 57% of our pupils achieving an A*-B, this is up by 26% on previous years. This meant that all of our pupils were able to secure their preferred onward pathway. We are so proud of them all.



We are also very pleased to be able to say that we are fully staffed after a very difficult period of recruitment and I will share the new staff names in the next communication.



Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to share with you my priorities for this academic year:

- Developing literacy skills, with a particular focus on reading
- Further improving pupil progress and outcomes
- Reviewing and developing our curriculums to ensure they are ambitious and are supported with enrichment activities
- Supporting pupil mental health and wellbeing
- Improving pupil attendance

All of these will be discussed in more detail at the upcoming coffee afternoon on **Thursday 15th September at 4:00pm**, where you can meet with myself and the Senior Leadership Team.

Kind regards

Sonia Close

Sonia Close
Headteacher