



HEANOR GATE SCIENCE COLLEGE

“Develop all learners to achieve their full potential”
“Create a culture of aspiration”

Principal: **Mr S Huntington**



Dear Parent/Carer

This week sees the end of another academic year and the start of our summer break. The last 12 weeks are not quite how we imagined our summer term to be, however, the majority of our students have risen to the challenges of home schooling and continued to work hard, adapting quickly to a new way of learning, showing the resilience we have so often talked about and ultimately producing work of a high quality. The attitude and desire shown will stand the students in good stead as we continue the GCSE journey.

As an Achievement Team we could not be prouder of them. We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge your support during these unprecedented times, not only for us as an Achievement Team and Heanor Gate as a school, but most importantly for your child in helping to continue their education at home. Having two children at home I fully recognise this is no easy task as a parent, often juggling home and work commitments, and I thank you for this.

Please can I request that you contact the office should you be planning on dropping off or collecting more than one child where they start/finish at different times. Your child's Achievement Leader will arrange somewhere for them to wait which ensures that they are not mixing with other year group bubbles. Please email: contact@heanorgate.derbyshire.sch.uk or call if you are unable to do this (contact number below).

Can I also make you aware that the English Department are launching the “Summer Read-A-Long” starting on Monday 20 July. This is our approach to recently published research which shows that when secondary school-aged students have two novels read to them back-to-back for 20 minutes per day, their literacy levels are improved by 9 months. There is more information which can be found about this by clicking this [link](#) and on your child's Google Classroom account.

Before we wish you all a peaceful and safe summer break, we wanted to give you the answers to some common questions that our students may have so that you can share these with them prior to September.

What do the September opening plans mean for our bubble?

- **Who is in our bubble?**
As we move into Year 10 in September our cohort will stay in their year group bubble in order to limit students from different bubbles accessing the same spaces on site.
- **Where is our bubble based and where do we line up (outside of block)?**
Our Year 10 bubble will be based in F block and will be taught in the main in F1-F9.

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- **What time does our day start and finish?**

In order to prevent different bubbles from accessing the same space Year 10 will start their day at 8.40 and will enter the school site from the main gate (ramp). It is vital they arrive on time and head straight to F block where they will line up and be greeted by their tutors, Mrs Coleman and myself. Tutor time will run for an additional ten minutes. They will finish at 2.55 and exit via the same gate they entered through in the morning.

- **What time is our break and lunch time?**

Students in Year 10 will be taught period 1 and then have their break at 10.10-10.25 before going to period 2. Lunch will be at 12.25.

- **Where is our break and lunch time?**

For each year group there will be different venues for break and lunch, but Year 10 will use the Hall at both these times.

- **What can I eat at school?**

As stated in the communication from school the school menu will be reduced. I have attached the new school menu with price lists, but students can bring in their own food if you wish.

- **When and where can I go to the toilet?**

Contrary to previous years students will only be allowed to go to the toilet during lesson time to limit the amount of students accessing these spaces. Toilets are where germs are more easily passed, so essential use of toilets is advised. Year 10 will have exclusive use of the F block toilets as that is where they will be based for the majority of the day.

- **When/where can I go if I need help (tutors at start of the day, AL/AAL at break/lunch/ end of the day)?**

Some students will be anxious about returning to school and how the new school day will feel. Please be rest assured that the school has worked incredibly hard to put measures in places to ensure safety. As an Achievement team we will continue to work to support your child academically and emotionally as we always have. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns.

- **I normally catch the bus; will this service be affected?**

Littles have yet to confirm their capacity and procedures for September. We would suggest that you make alternative arrangements for the first day of school.

- **What equipment does my child need?**

As with last year all students must have a school bag as they will be responsible for their equipment and books. Teachers have been advised that they are not to lend equipment to students in order to minimise the risk of infection. As we begin the GCSE years it is more important than ever that the students arrive equipped and ready to learn. Our minimum expectation is that all students will always have a pen, pencil, ruler, a maths set and calculator. Other recommended items are a glue stick and sharpener.

- Please refer to the Standards and Expectations letter for guidance on other information including school uniform. The standards of uniform were extremely high in the year group last year and will remain the same.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vl_PSTI9zhRnnvzaJHsoVOLnwsD4vWd1eTHpnx2q_OI/edit

Thank you for your continued support in helping us to maintain these high standards.

I look forward to welcoming back the Year 10 students on Thursday 3rd September at 8.40.

Have a safe and relaxing summer.

Yours sincerely

Julien Wright
Achievement Leader for Year 9