



Heworth Grange School

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

24th September 2021

Dear parents and carers

Welcome back to the new school year. I hope that you enjoyed some of the sunny days we experienced over the summer holidays and that everyone is feeling more positive now that we are beginning to get back to normality. The students have come back to school very positive and they are working hard in lessons. As the other leaders and I walk around school there is a purposeful feel to the classrooms and corridors. It is a pleasure to welcome students into the building every morning and to see them looking so smart in their uniforms. The new Year 7 have settled extremely well into their new routine and have learnt where their new classrooms are and of course their way around the new lunch menu!

We have also welcomed a number of new staff and I am delighted that they have settled in so quickly and are already enjoying being part of the Heworth Grange family. Our Pitstop is welcoming students new and old at various times of the day, where they are supported by the SEND team just for a check in or for longer periods of time where needed. We have been delighted with the progress made by our students in the Innovation Centre which opened at the start of September. The students who learn in the Innovation Centre took part in the making of a Trust film this week where they talked about their aspirations and how school is supporting them to realise these ambitious next steps. Everyone involved in the filming was so proud of the way the students represented themselves and the rest of Team HG. Students in KS3 have also taken their baseline assessments in English, maths and science as well as their reading tests which means we have a clear baseline for our students and know what we need to do support students as we progress through the academic year.

Interventions KS4

Our KS4 interventions on Wednesday and Thursday afternoon begin next week and our morning advisory intervention for some Year 11 students will begin the following week. During intervention time students will work in very small groups with specialist teachers to help them with areas they may find tricky or may have missed due to the pandemic. This strategy is key to ensuring that all our students reach their aspirational targets at the end of Year 11 to enable them to move onto their next steps post 16. Further details will be sent to parents and carers shortly.

KS3 Co-curriculum

Our younger students are now also selecting their co-curriculum clubs which will begin shortly and will feed into our Passport to Success Graduation programme. The sports teams are already up and running and I am very proud of the effort shown by all the players who have represented the school already during fixtures after school.

Uniform and Punctuality Reminder

May I take this opportunity to remind parents and carers that students need to be on school site by 8.35am so that they can get to line up for learning at 8.40am. This means we can then have a very sharp start to the day. From Monday 27th September any students arriving late, unless there are exceptional circumstances will have an after school detention. Students should be in full uniform, which includes a tie and jumper or cardigan. If you require any support with uniform, please contact school reception or your child's head of year. Students should also leave jewellery at home and avoid wearing make-up, nail and eyelash extensions. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

Headteacher: Mrs A Denholm • High Lanes, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear, NE10 0PT • Tel: 0191 421 2244 • www.heworthgrange.org



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Attendance

As a school we are aiming for at least 96% attendance overall. This is the national expectation and whilst we know sometimes absences are unavoidable, it is essential that students are in school so that they can engage with their curriculum and take part in the other aspects of school life which are important for social and emotional development. Please encourage your child to attend every day and contact school straight away if you are worried about any aspects of your child's attendance. It is well-documented that if children miss school their GCSE grades suffer and we want to avoid this at all costs.

Finally, some dates for the diary;

5th October 2021 4.00-6.00pm Meet the Advisor for all new Year 7 parents and carers

12th October 2021 6.00-8.00pm Open Evening for all prospective Year 5 and 6 parents and carers

19th October 2021 4.00-6.30pm Consultation Evening for Year 11 parents and carers

Details about these events will be sent to parents and carers shortly. We look forward to seeing you on these evenings.

As always, thank you for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact school if you have any worries or concerns.

Yours sincerely

Ms A Denholm
Headteacher

