



HEANOR GATE SCIENCE COLLEGE

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

Principal: **Mr S Huntington**



2 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

The Year 8 team are delighted to be welcoming the students back into school on Monday 8 March and seeing how much they have developed during lockdown. We know that some students may be feeling nervous about coming back whilst others will be ready to be learning in the classroom again. As staff we cannot wait to have them back in front of us to allow us to support them with their learning and development and to have conversations with them about their Year 9 options choices.

As a team we thought it would be beneficial to clarify some of the key things that Year 8 students will need to know and do to remain safe in school.

As before Christmas, Year 8 students will be in a bubble and it is important that this bubble isn't compromised, so we ask that students stick to the following timings carefully and ensure that they are socially distanced on their way to and from school. It is particularly important that students are punctual and if they do need to arrive on site early, they wait in the Year 8 area on the turning circle to ensure that they stay within their bubble.

Timings of the day

<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Entrance</u>	<u>Break time</u>	<u>Lunchtime</u>	<u>Break/lunch venue</u>	<u>Exit time</u>	<u>Exit</u>
8.50am	Sixth Form gates	10.10am-10.25am	12.25pm-12.55pm	New gym	2.55pm	Sixth Form gates

COVID safe behaviour

It is expected that all students will follow the COVID regulations that are put in place to ensure that they are able to return to school safely. This includes every student bringing a face covering with them to school as the regulations now state that students and staff will wear face coverings inside buildings at all times. Students need to make it part of their routine to carry their face mask and it would be beneficial for them to also have a spare. Hand sanitising stations will also be available around the school site and classroom doors will also remain open to allow for adequate ventilation.

On their return students must also bring with them all of their own equipment and books to prevent sharing. Please ensure they have some pens, pencils, a ruler, rubber and a calculator with them. They will be given new books by class teachers if they have filled them during the lockdown period.

Testing

To allow for a safe return to school the government has advised that all secondary school pupils are asked to take a test in our testing facility at school. For the majority of Year 8 these tests are being conducted on Sunday 7 March in the afternoon. Please can I ask that you ensure you check the time of your child's appointment and that they arrive on time for their test. Students will need to bring a mask with them. Students will enter via the Sixth Form gates and will then be guided to the testing area.

Telephone: 01773 716396

Website: www.heanorgate.org.uk

Email: mail@heanorgate.derbyshire.sch.uk

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The tests are self-administered and, whilst they may seem daunting to some, this is to allow us to return to school safe in the knowledge that every student has been tested and we will not be spreading the virus.

Attendance, uniform and mobile phones

Attendance at school is now mandatory and all students should return back to us on Monday 8 March. All students should arrive at school wearing their full uniform so please could you check the fitting of this during this week.

- Jewellery – students are allowed to wear one earring in each ear lobe and a watch. Rings or bracelets are not part of the school uniform.
- Trousers should be formal (loose fit, non-stretch) along with skirts (again formal fit, non-stretch).
- Hair should be a natural colour.
- False nails and lashes should be removed before returning to school.

I have attached the link to Morley's and Karlsport uniform websites (should you need new uniform), as they are still operational online. As Monday is fast approaching, I would urge you to place any orders required as soon as possible. Local supermarkets also stock most of the generic items.

- Morley's (<http://www.schoolwearsolutions.com/>)
- Karlsport (<http://www.ksschoolwear.co.uk/>)

Students will also need to ensure that their mobile phones are off and in their bags when in school. Any students found to be on their phone during the school day will have it removed. If you need to contact your child in school time for any emergency, can you please follow the procedure of contacting reception who will then contact your child.

Year 8 option process

This process will continue to go ahead as planned with the students undertaking a taster session for their humanities subject this week. The tutor discussions with students will now be able to take place face to face in tutor time to discuss which options would best suit the students. The link to the options form will be sent out next week.

I do hope that the students are looking forward to coming back into school as much as we are looking forward to having them. Thank you for all of the support that you have provided for the school and your child over the lockdown period - it couldn't have been as successful without you all.

Yours sincerely



Kayleigh Pearse
Achievement Leader



Martin Stoddart
Assistant Achievement Leader