



# HEANOR GATE SCIENCE COLLEGE

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

Principal: **Mr S Huntington**



26 May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

We are fast approaching the end of another half term and I would like to take this opportunity to share with you the exciting plans for our students as we ‘Step-Up’ into Year 10.

## Year 10 Vision

You will all have now received communication from Mr Huntington informing you that your child will be starting Year 10 on Monday 7 June. After what has been a turbulent year, I am sure you will agree this is an amazing opportunity for our students to begin their GCSE courses a term early. Whilst we were extremely proud of how they rose to the challenges of remote learning during each lockdown we are now back to learning in the classroom and hope that the ‘Step-Up’ initiative will give them a renewed focus.

Year 10 denotes the beginning of some of your child’s GCSE courses chosen during the Pathways process, together with the continuation of those which began in Year 9. It is, therefore, imperative that your child continues to strive to meet the high standards we set for our students and challenge themselves to reach their targets, to ensure they have the best possible choices available to them Post 16. With this in mind we will continue, as an Achievement Team, to provide students with both academic and pastoral support, working closely with you to ensure the best possible outcomes for every child.

Throughout the year we will continually track your child’s academic progress in all subjects and provide any necessary intervention to ensure all students have the opportunity to achieve their full potential by the end of Year 11. Should you have any questions regarding this at any time throughout the next academic year please do not hesitate to contact me.

Alongside your child’s lesson timetable, we will provide a broad and balanced tutor time programme which will enhance their education in the following areas:

- English/Maths/Science study skills
- Personal Development/RSE/Citizenship
- Careers
- Key themes delivered through weekly assemblies

With this in mind, it is of paramount importance that your child is punctual, has good attendance and is ready to learn every day.

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Whilst not wishing to rush away the forthcoming academic year, towards the end of Year 10 our students will have the opportunity to apply for the prestigious positions of Head Boy and Head Girl. This will involve a written application process, alongside an interview with the Executive Principal. An exciting opportunity I know many are already looking forward to. This, together with applications for becoming a Prefect, will allow aspirational students to gain valuable experience of responsibility which will help them develop towards being valued members of the school and wider community.

### Key Changes for Year 10

- Start and finish times – 8:40am to 2:55pm
- Break and lunch times – 10:10am and 12:25pm
- A programme of after school activities will be available and, as part of their personal development, we encourage all students to get involved
- We hope to see the return of school trips which will contribute further to our students' personal development and reward programme

### Key Standards and Expectations

As we move into Year 10 we will continue to strive for the highest standards we have come to expect from your child in terms of attendance, as well as uniform/behaviour and we thank you for your continued support with this. Students will continue to be rewarded for their positive attitude to learning, correct uniform and excellent attendance.

We expect all students:

- To arrive on time and be ready to learn
- To have the correct equipment every day (blue/black pen, pencil, pencil sharpener, ruler, rubber, calculator and red pen (optional but recommended))
- To always work to the best of their ability and be proud of their work
- To follow our uniform/jewellery policy

Please find the link below to our uniform expectations. Can I draw your attention to the school skirt: From Monday 7 June 'stretchy skirts' will not be accepted as a school skirt, the link shows acceptable skirts.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1u-tJg93H74zLzsOKHqr\\_r\\_V5tTm-OYZo/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1u-tJg93H74zLzsOKHqr_r_V5tTm-OYZo/view?usp=sharing)

### Covid Update

I am sure you will agree, the precautions that have been put into place over the last 12 months have enabled us to help keep the school and wider community safe. As restrictions begin to ease nationally, and our students begin moving more frequently around the school site once again, it is important that they continue to follow our COVID precautions:

- Sanitise/wash hands regularly
- Wearing of masks in indoor areas where social distancing is not possible
- Keeping their social distance inside and outside where possible
- Continue to test and report results twice weekly

Finally, I would like to thank you, as parents/carers, for your support in what has been a very challenging 12 months for us all and for your continued support as we move into the next chapter of your child's education. We look forward to seeing you at parents' evening on Thursday 24 June.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Louise Boyles". The signature is written in a cursive style with some overlapping letters.

Louise Boyles  
Year 9 Achievement Leader