



The Hayfield School

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Dear Parent, Carer and Students

Firstly we would like to thank you for your support this year. It has been a tricky few days with the hot weather but we have managed it. The students have been absolutely amazing in the way they have met the challenge.

Please read carefully the information below.

Thursday 25 August 2022

GCSE results day for Year 11. The school is open 8.30 - 11.00 am for students and their families to attend. The event will take place in the Main Hall. Please note that only the students themselves can collect results and that parents/carers are unable to unless by prior arrangement. We are also unable to give results over the telephone. If students are unable to attend due to being on holiday then they can be sent via email to the students school email address. Please contact the school office to arrange this. Results not collected by 11.00 am will be sent out via first class post. Year 10 results for modular examinations will be issued in September.

Monday 5 September 2022

Years 7 and 11 students return to school, they are expected on site at 8.35 am ready for 8.40 am registration. All students will need full school uniform, a school bag, PE kit and pencil case with equipment.

Tuesday 6 September 2022

Years 8, 9 and 10 return to school and join years 7 and 11 at 8.35 am, ready for 8.40 am registration. All students will need full school uniform, a school bag, PE kit and pencil case with equipment.

School Holidays - term dates for 2022-23

Please [click here](#) to view the holiday dates for 2022-23.

Training Days

Tuesday 4 October 2022

Wednesday 16 November 2022

Thursday 26 January 2023

Monday 24 July 2023

Tuesday 25 July 2023

Wednesday 26 July 2023

• Kindness • Decency • Strong Work Ethic •

Note that the Trustees have awarded an additional training day specifically for Mental Health and Wellbeing training.

Mixed Ability Teaching

Research suggests that mixed ability teaching can be beneficial to student confidence and progress in many subject areas. Students are also accustomed to this in primary school already, plus it means that good relationships can be built with teachers throughout the whole year without the possible disruption of set changes or anxiety about the prospect of change. We already successfully teach mixed ability within Key Stage 4 GCSE/Vocational options subjects. It is for these reasons that from the next academic year most Year 7-10 students will be taught in mixed ability groups for the majority of their subjects. The exception to this is within mathematics and science, where setting will continue. This is because of the existence of foundation and higher pathways in these subjects at Key Stage 4. IT lessons will also be setted because of the strong correlation with mathematics and science.

Attendance

We ask for your support in ensuring that attendance is as good as possible. Students should exceed 97% attendance and be aware that even 95% attendance means that they are missing one in every twenty school days. This equates to missing almost two whole weeks of school across an academic year (i.e. 50 lessons). The link between attendance and academic progress is very strong. If a student is absent they miss key parts of the 'jigsaw' that make up the big picture so essential to understanding a subject and its concepts. Missing even one school day has a negative impact on the chances of achieving good grades. Department for Education research shows that students with 100% attendance are 10.1 times more likely to achieve good grades in English, maths, sciences, languages and humanities combined than those with 80-85% attendance. Research also shows that even if attendance drops below 92% there is an average one grade drop in each GCSE grade achieved. Students that are absent and well enough to complete work should therefore be using Google classrooms to proactively keep up or catch up with work missed. Holidays during term time will not be authorised and parents/carers will be issued a fixed penalty notice by DMBC.

Healthy Mind, Healthy Body

We are proud of our work in recent years to promote mental health and wellbeing. Indeed, in a recent survey of students across Years 7-10, the overwhelming majority (92%) agreed with the statement *'I learn about mental health and wellbeing in school'*. Furthermore, the overwhelming majority (91%) agreed *'this year in school, we have learned that looking after our mental health is important'*.

We are acutely aware, however, that we can never rest on our laurels, which is why we are applying for the **Wellbeing Award for Schools (WAS)**. Achieving the award will involve the school going through an intense external verification process against an evidence based framework aimed at ensuring mental health and wellbeing sit at the heart of school life. As an essential part of the process, all stakeholders including students, parents/carers and staff complete an online survey. The survey will be issued during the Autumn Term and you will be notified of the timeframes involved.

A further innovation across 2022-23 is the launch of our new **Community Engagement Calendar**. We are really keen to invite you into school to participate in a variety of fun activities and pursuits beginning in the Autumn Term. With more information to follow, follow the link to wet your appetite. [Community Engagement Calendar](#).

With the summer holiday yet to begin, we are already thinking ahead to our return in September! As part of our work to promote 'Healthy Mind, Healthy Body', Mrs Spotswood is keen to get us thinking about our food choices and to rethink some ingrained habits and foster healthier ones.

A 2021 study of UK secondary school aged children revealed that:

- Only 8% achieve the recommended 5 portions a day of fruit and vegetables
- They were the highest consumers of sugar, often having more than 3 times the recommended amount.

With this in mind, Mrs Spotswood is asking us each to focus on three aspects of 'Healthy Mind, Healthy Body':

1. **Breakfast** is often described as the 'most important meal of the day'. As the name suggests, breakfast breaks the overnight fasting period. It replenishes your supply of glucose to boost your energy levels and alertness, while also providing other essential nutrients required for good health. We are really passionate about the importance of breakfast so we do offer *free porridge* at **Breakfast Club** every morning before the start of school. Students are also able to purchase other breakfast items. Please reinforce the importance of having breakfast to your child.
2. **Hydration** is crucial for many reasons: to regulate body temperature, keep joints lubricated, prevent infections, deliver nutrients to cells, and keep organs functioning properly. Being well-hydrated also improves sleep quality, cognition, and mood. Please ensure your child has a water bottle and that they bring it to school everyday. They can refill this bottle during break and lunch time without the need to purchase drinks from the canteen.
3. **Healthy snacking** has a number of benefits which includes **a boost of energy between meals, along with** helping to curb your appetite so as to avoid overeating at the next meal. What we are seeing, however, are many students spending their money before the start of the school day on snacks that are incredibly high in sugar and fats, such as large bags of sweets, chocolates and crisps. Whilst teenagers do require a large amount of energy they should be encouraged to choose healthy snacks and food rather than less healthy treats.

Extracurricular

We would like all students to be thinking about taking part in extracurricular clubs and activities this coming year. The PE staff are working hard to secure fixtures and also mini house leagues within school. It is a vital part of the curriculum. There will also be a new look lunch time offer, led by the PE staff. Over the course of 2021-22, we were delighted that a large majority of our young people took advantage of the extracurricular programme, with 74% of all our students attending at least one club. This is brilliant and on behalf of all those students, a huge 'thank you' goes out to staff involved. Next year, let's raise the bar by increasing the participation rates even further!

Year 6 Transition

Last week we hosted 220 Year 6 students from 19 different Primary schools across Doncaster for transition into Year 7 as our September cohort. Students took part in a packed three-day programme which saw them have taster lessons across science, English, creative subjects (including Food and IT) and a full carousel of 7 sports. One

particular highlight saw Dr Caldwell and the science team turn the school into CSI:Hayfield to investigate a shocking theft of Mrs Fox's school mascot!

It was lovely to meet so many future stars of The Hayfield School and we look forward to seeing you as fully fledged students on Monday 5 September. Welcome to our wonderful school community.

Standards and Expectations

We appreciate your continued support in maintaining our high standards and expectations.

Please familiarise yourself with the updated policies below.

All students have had an assembly this last week to explain and clarify any misconceptions such as expectations around hair, make-up, skirts, nails, jewellery and shoe type.

- Mobile Phones and Electronics Devices Policy please [click here](#).
- Uniform Policy please [click here](#). Please pay particular attention to common errors relating to:
 - Hair
 - Nails
 - Jewellery
 - Shoe types

Identification request when collecting children from reception

As a school, we take safeguarding extremely seriously; as parents/carers, you would expect nothing less of us. It is for this reason we have introduced an additional check to be carried out when children are being collected from school during working hours. It is more often the case that our colleagues on Reception recognise a parent/carer when collecting their child. In future when this is not the case, staff will ask some follow-up questions to check out your identity. Please do not misinterpret this; you will not be asked for formal identification, such as a driving licence. Instead, you may be asked for your name and contact details so that these can be verified on our Student Information Management System. We know that your child's safety is of the utmost importance and therefore ask that you support us in this additional safeguarding measure.

School Dinners

Our break and lunchtime offer is now better than ever with a majority of students across Years 8-10 agreeing that the food has improved compared to previous years. To further improve the student experience, we have made the decision to continue to run a split lunchtime from September. This will shorten queues and ensure that all students have enough time to eat in a calm and enjoyable manner. If you would like to use the catering service and need to credit an account, please [click here](#).

Through these challenging times and with the cost of living crisis impacting so many of us, you may well be eligible to apply for free school meals. To check out if this is you and your family, please visit [Apply for free school meals - GOV.UK](#). If your children are eligible, they will also qualify for the Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF). To find out more, click on [Holiday activities and food programme 2022 - GOV.UK](#)

Uniform

We have amended the uniform policy to include mid-grey shorts. These can be worn in the Summer Term and the first half term of the Autumn Term. They must be a traditional, tailored style and knee length. Cargo-style pockets are not permitted. For further information please see our [Uniform Policy](#).

Our supplier is Uniform Direct in Gainsborough, please [click here](#) to order online. Free delivery is available for orders over £29.

Pre-owned Uniform

We have recently launched our pre-owned uniform 'shop'. Students have access to a selection of pre-owned uniforms in used, good quality condition. This includes blazers, PE kit, skirts and trousers. We would like to decrease the amount of school uniforms wasted each year while providing a cheaper alternative to parents. For more information please contact reception or email preowneduniform@thehayfieldschool.co.uk to check sizes/availability. We would also welcome any donations of 'outgrown' uniforms.

50 things to do before you are 11¾

If you are struggling for ideas this summer, why not revisit the National Trust's list of activities to do before you leave primary school. Not many people ever manage the full 50. [Link for 50 things to do before you are 11¾ activity list](#)

Staff Farewells

We would like to wish the following members of staff all our very best wishes. We know the students would have liked to have passed on their good wishes too.

Mrs Burrell - retiring after an amazing 33 years as a maths teacher

Mrs Hubbard - retiring after an amazing 27 years as a learning support assistant

Mrs Lugg - 9 years as an English teacher taking up a position in Hong Kong

Ms Tomkins - 7 years as a geography teacher and Transition Leader Year 7, returning to her hometown.

Ms Fothergill - 6 years as a design teacher, promotion

Mr Westmoreland - 5 years service as an English teacher, promotion

Mr Sanderson - 1 years service as a cover supervisor and learning support assistant, permanent position in a bank

Miss Goodall - 1 years service as a learning support assistant, Graphic Designer

Miss Taylor - 6 months service as a learning support assistant, continuing with degree studies after a gap year

Mrs Monk - 4 months service as the receptionist.

New arrivals for September

Mr Woodstones - Director of Assisted Provision

Mrs Cutler - Director of Performing Arts

Mrs Normansell - Receptionist

Have a lovely holiday, stay safe.. Sending you our very best wishes



Lisa Fox
Headteacher