



Achieving individual excellence
in a caring community

16 September, 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

The first two weeks of school have been extremely successful. I have visited a number of lessons and it is wonderful to see the levels of student engagement. The lunch break is proving to be far more effective, although obviously it is a little busier. I have spoken with a number of Year 7 students and it is pleasing to hear how well they are settling in. It was reassuring to meet so many Year 7 parents at last night's Tea to hear from the parents how quickly their children have settled into school and are enjoying the new challenge.

Our plans for the technology upgrades over the summer were ambitious and I am delighted that the upgraded WIFI is now working very effectively. During my learning walks, it has been great seeing our Year 7 and 12 students using Chromebooks to give them more independence in an exciting, active learning environment. There have been some technological teething issues in the early days, but these are being remedied as quickly as possible. The new Satchel One tools are proving a great success with teachers, parents and students. Make sure you download the free Satchel One App. The Satchel One Parent video guides take you through tools such as attendance, punctuality, homework, timetables, behaviour (good or bad), detentions, school reports. The Satchel One App is the single most important tool that allows you to support your child and share their Haydon School journey.

Update on school routines

We have been incredibly impressed with the positive start students have made to the school year. I walk the site each day and it is a joy to see students working hard in their lessons, and engaging well with the teachers. Whilst the news to students that we would run a 20 minute detention each day if they have been late to lessons received a mixed reaction from them, it has improved punctuality to lessons, as we expected. I would like to remind you that students should arrive at school between 8:20 and 8:40, ready to start their lesson at 8:40. It is important that students do not arrive before this time, as teachers who are here are busy preparing their lessons for the day, and not able to supervise the students. Students can of course wear a coat to school, but this should not be in replacement of their blazer, which should be worn once they arrive at school, and in lessons.



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Parking in the local area

Since we have returned to school I have received a number of complaints from our local residents regarding inconsiderate parking of our parents when they are collecting their children from school. As you know the roads around the school are extremely narrow and it would be beneficial if you could encourage your child to walk to school or use public transport. If you do need to use a car please could you arrange to pick up your child at some distance from the school.

Open Evening - Thursday 22nd September

If you, your friends or someone from your family have children currently attending Year 6, this is the perfect opportunity to learn about the exciting opportunities your child would experience at Haydon School.

The Open Evening takes place between next Thursday 22nd September between 6:00 pm and 8:30 pm. I will be giving a short presentation in St Mary's hall. Tickets should be booked in advance through the school website [here](#) .

Co-Curricular Activities Autumn Term 15:10 - 16:10

Please use the [link](#) to see the timetables for co-curricular sports clubs and homework clubs that have started this term. Please keep an eye on this link as we will be adding different clubs from different subject areas as the term gets up and running.

Encouraging productive learning at home.

As the school year progresses your son or daughter will start receiving regular homework. You can keep a track of the homework they are set through the [Satchel App](#). In order to support your child successfully learning at home, research shows they should have a productive learning environment, ideally a quiet, social and media-free space, where they can work at a clear surface with as few distractions as possible. You may also want to help your child create a timetable of study. Work with them to map out the free time they could use to study and the free time that should be 'work-free' so they can do things they enjoy. Plan out the subjects and units they know they need to work on and schedule these into their 'work' slots. If your child is receptive to doing this together, it can help them to see that they aren't expected to use all of their 'free' time to study, and that taking breaks and investing time in their hobbies and friends is important and valuable for them and their wellbeing.



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Genes for Jeans Day

We will be participating in raising funds for the charity Genes for Jeans, who support people living with a genetic condition and their families across the UK. On Friday 23rd September students are able to attend school in non-uniform in exchange for a £1.00 donation. More details will go out to parents and students soon.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Jones
Headteacher

Key Dates

Monday 19th September School Closed see here for details (Queen's Funeral)
Thursday 22 September School Open Evening – Year 6 (Early Closure)
Friday 23 September Genes for Jeans Day - Non Uniform
Thursday 6 October Parents' Evening - Year 13
Thursday 13 October School Open Evening - Year 12
Thursday 20 October Parents' Evening - Year 11 (Early Closure)
Monday 24th October to Friday 4th November (2 weeks) – HALF TERM

When there is an early closure, the school day continues as normal for periods 1 to 4. There is a form time at 1.10 to 1.30 and then lunch is available for students who want it. Students can leave at 1.30 if they wish.

Twitter

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook for regular updates on news and events using our Twitter Handle @HaydonSchool or www.facebook.com/HaydonSchool You can also check information regarding PE fixtures, results and sporting successes using @HaydonPE.

