

8th September, 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been lovely getting all the students back into school this week. We have returned to some delightful weather, and I look forward to this time next year when we will have air-conditioning units in all classrooms! The weather forecast for next week appears to remain very hot on Monday and cool off for the remainder of the week. To allow students to remain comfortable in their lessons, they are welcome to wear a PE Kit to school on Monday. From Tuesday onwards, they should return to [full school uniform](#). Your support in ensuring that students are prepared for this on Tuesday would be appreciated.

When I wrote to you on Monday, I said I would provide further information about our summer examination results.

Year 11 Results

We are delighted with our students' performance in the GCSE examinations, demonstrating substantial improvement compared to the 2019 results, which were the last not impacted by the pandemic. The school community is proud to celebrate these outstanding achievements, which reflect students' and staff's hard work and dedication. The success story of this year's GCSE results lies in the many students who have exceeded their predicted grades at all levels. Their efforts have earned them qualifications that will serve as stepping stones to their bright futures, including enrolment in our Sixth Form.

There is much to celebrate. However, these are some of the key highlights:

- Good Pass Rate in Core Subjects: 78% of students achieved a good pass (grade 4 or above) in English, while 75% secured excellent access in mathematics.
- Science Excellence: Our students have excelled in science subjects, with just over 90% of students entering the examinations passing Physics, Chemistry, and Biology successfully.
- Language results have seen significant improvement, with 81% of students who entered for French achieving a good pass and 70% in Spanish.
- Creative Arts Thrive: Arts and creative subjects have also performed exceptionally well, with 89% of students passing Construction, 89% excelling in Art, and a perfect 100% pass rate in Music Technology.

Year 13 A Level Results

We are incredibly proud of our Year 13 students, and there have been some fantastic results. It was lovely celebrating with so many of our students who are either attending University, apprenticeships or beginning working life. Please find below a selection of success stories

from A Level results day. These are just a few of the fantastic results achieved by our students. Many other students have achieved similar results.

3A* 1B - Oxford - Materials Science
2A* 2A - Bath - Computer Science
3A* - Oxford - Chemistry
1A* 2A - UCL - Mechanical Engineering
1A* 2A - UCL - Geography
2A* 1A - Warwick - Computer Science
3A Leeds - English Literature
3A - Queen Mary's - Chemical Engineering
1A* 2A - Manchester - Law with Criminology
3A - Queen Mary's - Computer Science
3A - Southampton - Mechanical Engineering
A* A B - Exeter - Law

We want to congratulate all our students on their successes and wish them every success with their career journeys from here.

Flying Start Evenings

We want to welcome all parents to a Flying Start evening led by your child's Year Leader. During this evening, they will go over how you can support your child in the coming year, both in terms of academic development and well-being, as well as reviewing key dates and expectations. After the presentation, you can meet your child's form tutor and socialise with other parents. We will provide refreshments.

The dates for the evenings are:

- Monday 11th September - Year 11 - [Click here to book](#)
- Tuesday 12th September - Year 13 - [Click here to book](#)
- Wednesday 13th September - Year 8 - [Click here to book](#)
- Thursday 14th September - Year 9 - [Click here to book](#)
- Monday 25th September - Year 7 - [Click here to book](#)
- Tuesday 26th September - Year 12 - [Click here to book](#)
- Wednesday 27th September - Year 10 - [Click here to book](#)

Behaviour for Learning

While most of our students continue to display excellent behaviour throughout the school and the wider community, a few still need our guidance and support to help them adhere to our expectations. To further support these students, we made some moderate changes to the Behaviour for Learning Policy last academic year, and this has undoubtedly had the impact we were aiming for as we have seen improvements amongst students. This year, we will continue to build on the existing structure as we seek to ensure that all students

conform to the Students' Code of Conduct, thus guaranteeing a learning environment where they can thrive and achieve their goals. We aim to continue building on our relationship charter, encouraging positive relationships between staff and students founded on trust and mutual respect.

Over the next few weeks, students will be reminded of the school's standards and expectations, clearly outlined in the Students' Code of Conduct below. We will also continue to motivate and inspire all students to achieve by celebrating their successes through our rewards system. We invite you to join us in the celebrations where possible, as we anticipate seeing even more of our students achieving excellence across the school community this year.

Student Code of Conduct

Students are expected to model their behaviour in line with the Haydon Values - Excellence, Perseverance, Kindness, Community, Respect.

- 1. Show respect to members of staff and each other**
- 2. Have excellent attendance and punctuality by attending all lessons on time**
- 3. Be excellent learners by having all equipment and books for the day**
- 4. Showing respect to yourself by wearing the correct uniform at all times**
- 5. Walk around the school in a quiet and calm manner and ensure others can do the same**
- 6. Enter classrooms in a calm and polite manner**
- 7. In class, respect each other and make it possible for all pupils to learn**
- 8. Not to use a mobile phone in school**
- 9. Treat the school buildings and school property with respect**
- 10. Refrain from behaving in a way that brings the school into disrepute, including when in the local community**

We encourage you to spend some time looking at the above code of conduct with your child so that they are clear on our expectations.

Site Developments Completed over the Summer Holidays

We completed significant work across the school site during the summer holidays. The school looks much better than it did at the end of July. I want to thank the site staff and Miss Ercan, Director of Finance and Operations, who has overseen many contractors over the summer holiday.

Our solar panels and heating/cooling systems in classrooms project is progressing well. St Nick's and Woods Buildings have been fitted with the heating/cooling systems. All solar panels are now on our roofs, and we expect them to start generating electricity by the end of this half-term. The project is expected to be completed by the end of August 2024. At that point, we will be able to use the heating/cooling systems in our classrooms.

Our Sixth Form also has a new look. The study area has new wall art on the new glass partitioning and a brand-new sign at the entrance. Our external #WeAreHaydon sign is renewed and looks great.

New wall art at the library entrance and the humanities corridor make these areas look great. We will continue enhancing our teaching and learning environment to benefit our students and staff.

Chromebooks

Last academic year, we had a very successful first year of using Chromebooks in years 7 and 12. Students reported, in a recent survey, four key reasons why Chromebooks are so vital to their experience:

- 1. The ability to work anywhere in school, due to the high speed, updated WiFi***
- 2. They can work much more efficiently and independently, generally***
- 3. It increases the quality of their learning***
- 4. It makes learning much more enjoyable***

In year 2 of the initiative this academic year, the new Year 7's and 12's have Chromebooks, along with Year 10 starting their GCSEs. So years 7, 8, 10, 12 and 13 now have Chromebooks.

The only two outstanding Years - 9 and 11 will get Chromebooks later in the academic year.

Thank you for your continued support in making Haydon an excellent and innovative school using technology to support learning and progress.

Contacting the School

As a large school, we deal with a large volume of communications. As such, I want to remind you about our response times and how we will handle such a large volume of communication this year. Also, I want to remind all school community members that our job is to support and help the students at Haydon School. Therefore, all communication should be professional, without personal comments about staff or students.

Contacting the school by email

We have decided to remove teacher email addresses from our website this year. The reason is that having them so prevalently on our website has resulted in many teachers receiving a substantial number of emails in their direct inbox, which is taking their time away from planning engaging lessons for our students.

To contact the school, please use the enquiry form on our website:

<https://www.haydonschool.com/contact-us>

This will then go through our school office, who will contact the most appropriate person. If you wish to contact a particular teacher, please indicate this in your message.

We have asked teachers to respond as promptly as possible to you, and wherever possible, within two working days. Please be mindful that many teachers teach full days, followed by time spent planning and marking to ensure their lessons are as high quality as possible.

Contacting the school by telephone

Our phone number is 020 8429 0005. If a call is urgent, please inform the receptionist, who will attempt to contact a senior staff member to speak with you.

Arranging a meeting with a member of staff

If you wish to meet with a staff member, including senior members, it should always be pre-arranged. If an urgent meeting relating to a safeguarding matter is required, please phone ahead, and the reception team will do their best to ensure that somebody is available. To request a non-urgent meeting, please use the above enquiry form.

The School Curriculum

The curriculum your child will be taught this year is available on the school [website](#). Details for individual subjects can be found [here](#). If you have any questions regarding the curriculum, you can contact Ms. Appleby, Deputy Headteacher.

Keeping You Informed

As a school, we inform you about your child and the events. This is done through our InTouch email system, which automatically sends information to all with parental responsibility. Your contact information must be accurate, and I urge all parents to keep us informed of any changes to postal addresses, telephone numbers (including mobiles) and email addresses.

Satchel One

Last academic year, we successfully used the Satchel One App for more than just homework. This App gives you and your child the following information:

- **Homework details**
- **Your child's timetable**
- **Details of attendance and punctuality**
- **Details of rewards celebrating your child's achievements**
- **Details of any behaviour issues or detentions**

Feedback from parents has shown us that the Satchel One App is very popular and easy to use. It is also essential that your child has access to all the information regarding their progress so they can become reflective learners and set themselves realistic goals.

New Year 7 and 12 parents will receive their login details next week through their child. Everybody else already has login details for Satchel One. If you have forgotten your login details, download the Satchel One App from the Google Play or Apple store. Under the login, you will see a link that says 'Forgotten your password'. You can quickly reset your password.

Please ensure you have the App installed on your and your child's phones by the end of next week. You must receive all the up-to-date information on your child to support them fully. It is also a good idea to allow notifications for the App so you do not miss anything.

Social Media Channels

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

Parent Pay

Please ensure your child's ParentPay account is ready for the new term. The ParentPay website is www.parentpay.com. If you have any queries, please email parentpay@haydonschool.com with your child's details.

Extra-Curricular Activities

The activities and opportunities open to our students will be available to view soon. Staff are busy setting up their clubs, and we will publish a central timetable of clubs through a link in a future Headteachers Update, the school website and our social media channels. Last year, the school offered over 40 after-school clubs; we will look to exceed that number this year!

Parents Visiting the School

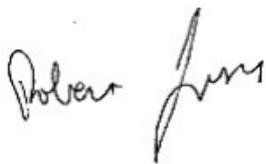
If you need to visit the school, park outside and use the buzzer entry system on the top gate in Wiltshire Lane. All visitors must immediately report to Reception. Please note that teaching staff are only sometimes available during the school day, so a telephone call in advance to make an appointment is preferable.

Please ensure that your child has all the items of PE kit, equipment and their lunch before they leave in the morning. Our reception staff can only take lunches or medication to deliver to students during the day. Other items will not be accepted.

Finally, I would ask all parents to be considerate of our neighbours. Please do not block driveways even if you stay in your car to allow residents access in and out of their properties at all times. I have been at the gate at the end of each day, and the road is narrow and not ideal for that many cars. Please park your car far from the school gate when collecting your child.

I look forward to working with you during the coming academic year to ensure your child continues succeeding.

Yours sincerely,



Robert Jones
Headteacher

Key Dates

Thursday 21 September

School Open Evening – Year 6 (Early Closure). School closes at 1.00 after period 4. A lunch service will be available.

Monday 23rd October to Friday 3rd November (2 weeks) – HALF TERM

Headteacher: Mr R Jones BSc(Econ) MBA NPQH

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