





“Pupils are thriving at this school. They benefit from an excellent all-round education. Pupils achieve highly in the subjects they study and grow into confident and responsible individuals.” Ofsted 2020



Welcome to Heathfield Community College

I am delighted to welcome you to Heathfield Community College, a high performing Secondary School and Sixth Form, which I feel privileged to lead.

We believe that every child deserves to go to an excellent school. At Heathfield we enable students to flourish and be happy, helping them to make the best possible academic progress whatever their ability or circumstances.

Our success is based on a strong sense of community, high expectations and mutual respect. Students are well known and well supported. They develop a firm identity with College values and a sense of responsibility for one another.

Committed and experienced staff provide inspiring teaching and create the very best learning environment for all our students, who apply a purposeful focus to their innovative curriculum. An impressive variety of rich and motivating enrichment opportunities encourage students to think widely and deeply about their learning and the world.



This combination of factors has a proven track record of success for student outcomes and subsequent destinations. Heathfield is an exceptional learning environment, a vibrant community where young people can flourish, developing the self-esteem and resilience needed for their success.

Students are happy here; they succeed, often achieving far more than they ever thought possible.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which reads 'Caroline Barlow'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Headteacher

Ms Caroline Barlow B.A. (Hons)



“Pupils feel safe at school. They are exceptionally well cared for. Parents and pupils praise the very high quality of pastoral care at the school.” Ofsted 2020



Pride

Our College is going from strength to strength. In 2020 Ofsted confirmed the tangible sense of pride, ambition and community within the College. The report concluded that there was sufficient evidence the school could be judged outstanding in the next full inspection.

We have every reason to be proud of our learning environment, set within a 26-acre site on the edge of Heathfield with a beautiful setting and spacious layout. An independent study space for the Sixth Form is matched by airy open learning spaces for all across the College and extensive sporting facilities.

Technology is an important tool in any learning environment. As an Apple Distinguished School we are proud of the breadth available across the College. Technology-rich classrooms make flexible approaches to learning an everyday experience.

The College has an excellent reputation for its high standard of music, art and drama. There are regular public performances locally, nationally and internationally, including our student-led Radio Heathfield and Heathfield TV.

Extensive sporting facilities along with excellent coaching lead to a strong sporting reputation. However, a range of opportunities, means all students are able to enjoy an active healthy lifestyle whilst at College.

Extra-curricular activities, clubs and enrichment opportunities embrace a wide spectrum of interests, developing character, confidence and the capacity to succeed.

*“This School is amazing in every area.
I feel blessed to have it on my doorstep.
My first two children have thrived here and
the next two ones are desperately waiting
to get here!” Parent*

There really is something for everyone and often it is led by students for students. Leadership is a real strength of the College and we are proud that our students develop the skills to find their place in the world with confidence.



“Pupils enjoy coming to school and they are proud of it. Pupils conduct themselves very well and live up to leaders’ high expectations.” Ofsted 2020



Ambition

At Heathfield we are unashamedly ambitious for our students. We want to give them the very best launchpad for their future. The outstanding outcomes that our students achieve open as many doors as possible to them as young adults.

Our innovative and ambitious curriculum prepares students fully to excel, wherever their next steps may take them. A clear ethos of high expectations means students are expected to apply themselves fully to their studies and reap the rewards of hard work as a result.

A core academic curriculum for students aged 11 - 16 is broad and balanced and prepares them for progression into further education/training. Our digital curriculum further enhances learning and complements the development of more traditional yet vital skills such as extended writing, confident oracy and the development of core knowledge.

At GCSE and A Level students have pathways through the curriculum that closely match their needs, stretching and challenging them to ensure they achieve the best qualifications, exam results and destinations that they can.

Key Stage 4 is taken over three years. This enables pace and challenge relevant to the subject as well as enrichment opportunities which broaden the experience and enjoyment of learning. Vital skills such as creativity, collaboration, communication, problem solving and resilience are developed through subject specific contexts.

“The school supports us to become academically successful but also builds our confidence and responsibility. It feels our school excels in every aspect.” Student

The wider curriculum is impressively broad, often leading to regional, national and international experiences. Educational visits are many and varied, designed to broaden horizons and raise aspirations. A “Super Curriculum” stretches academic learning across all year groups, regular Collapsed Curriculum Days and Enrichment Weeks ensure our students receive a broad and balanced education throughout their time at College, irrespective of examination choices. Students at Heathfield recognise and value the benefits of such a wide range of opportunities.



“Many pupils take advantage of the extensive range of clubs and activities provided outside of their regular lessons. Pupils have numerous opportunities to develop leadership and have their say in how the school is run.” Ofsted 2020



Community

Heathfield is a warm and welcoming community. This is no accident - we take great pride in our culture and ethos.

“Pupils feel that staff care for them and understand their needs..... they feel safe and happy at the school.”

Every student is well-known and supported by their Tutor. Heads of Year monitor the progress and wellbeing of their year group. Non-teaching Pastoral Managers ensure support and care is available whenever needed.

We promote a strong sense of self-worth combined with a respect for others. Peer support is a strength of the College; from transition into Year 7 and throughout their time at the College there are multiple opportunities for students to support each other and work together within a genuine community.

The Learning Support Department ensures that both the formal and informal curriculum is accessible to all students. A department of specialists with a dedicated suite of rooms provides training and advice so that teaching and support staff are confident in meeting a range of needs.

We believe strongly in the power of the partnership we share with parents. Good communication, both informal and formal, is an important part in the support enjoyed by each student, providing valuable information and feedback. Parents are also warmly invited to take a more proactive role, where possible, working collaboratively to ensure the development of the College.

“This is a fantastic school with high academic standards and excellent pastoral care.”

Ofsted Parent View Survey 2020

We take our sense of community seriously and the potential it creates. Heathfield students develop the mindset, skills and confidence to become leaders. We are very proud of them.



“The Sixth Form is very successful. Students participate enthusiastically in lessons. Students achieve well in a wide range of A Levels. They are fully involved in the life of the school.” Ofsted 2020



Sixth Form

Heathfield Sixth Form has an established reputation for excellent results which have consistently placed us in the top 20% of colleges nationally. This is a product of high quality A Level teaching and excellent support.

Our high expectations ensure Heathfield students are ambitious and aspire to join our post-16 provision from a young age alongside students from other local secondary schools.

Our Sixth Form enjoys great facilities, including the Learning Resource Centre, a Sixth Form quiet study area, a well stocked library with over 50 computers available for Sixth Form use, Café 6 and a common room where students can meet, enjoy a coffee or work in a more informal setting.

Sixth Form students also play an active part in wider school life. A successful mentoring programme partners Year 7 students with sixth formers on a weekly basis, allowing for active discussions about lessons, homework and social lives.

Through the dedicated enrichment programme students are able to develop their skills by involving themselves in a wider range of different activities including sport, debating, creative writing and the College leadership strands.

Our students enjoy the independence and more adult approaches of the Sixth Form. They are aspirational and ambitious to succeed in their life beyond Heathfield. All of those who want to, the vast majority, go on to study at University, often Russell Group universities or Oxbridge while others secure high quality apprenticeships or employment.

“After Sixth Form, a high proportion of students successfully enter further education, employment or training.”
Ofsted 2020

Post 16 study at Heathfield is a fantastic launch pad for a successful future, as testified by the many Alumni who come back to support and pass on the baton to their younger peers. Ours is a community that endures beyond school years.



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