



12 May 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you enjoyed the extended bank holiday weekend whether celebrating the coronation or enjoying an extended rest. Thank you for ensuring students came back to College expecting routine and equipped to slot straight back into the normal patterns of the learning week. Notices this week are varied and titled to enable you to prioritise.

Timing of the School Day 2023-24

You may or may not be aware that in March 2022 the DfE published guidance on the length of the school week: [minimum expectation](#). This stated the expectation for all state-funded mainstream schools to deliver a school week of at least 32.5 hours by September 2023 at the latest.

We have been reviewing our school day compared to this expectation and explored different options available to us. Our current day provides 32hrs and 8 minutes - therefore we need to increase by about 25 mins a week by September 2023.

Having confirmed all bus services from September will adapt to facilitate the timings, the start of tutor time and the opening of registration from September 2023 will be at 8:35am (instead of 8:40am). This means all other timings; lunch and the end of the day remain unchanged and causes the least disruption.

Year 10 Feedback from Mocks and Year Group Review

Further to the mock exam results the progress and engagement of Year 10 was analysed as part of our regular review cycle. I wanted to pass on to you the feedback that over 56% of Year 10 are on track to achieve their very challenging targets in exams being sat this year. This is very encouraging and should act as a motivator for the next few weeks. Equally many of Year 10 are showing the maturity, positivity and engagement with College and their learning that will not just ensure success this summer but serve them well going into next year.

In terms of supporting them from home, as well as school, apart from maintaining effective revision in their examination subjects we will be encouraging the following:

- **Focus on the basics:** being present, on time, well equipped and doing what is asked the first time, will remove many distractions and allow focus on the important things.
- **Get engaged:** we know the more successful, healthier and happier students are those with balanced lives, who join clubs or take part in events.



Distinguished
School



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Headteacher: Ms Caroline Barlow B.A. (Hons)

“Your College Needs You”- Exam Invigilator shortage

The GCSE and A-Level exam season begins in earnest on Monday 15 May. As you may be aware, invigilators play a crucial role in applying JCQ regulations and helping implement access arrangements for eligible students.

Unfortunately, due to unprecedented numbers of students with access arrangements and the recent resignation of a number of invigilators (many of whom have taken up full-time roles elsewhere due to the cost of living crisis), we are increasingly having to ask College staff to act as invigilators. This takes them away from their normal roles supporting teachers and students.

We are asking for parents/carers to step forward and help if you are at all able to. It may also suit students returning early from University places. Full training and supervision will be provided and you will be paid an hourly rate equivalent to all other invigilators (*unless you wish to act as a volunteer*). Therefore, if you (or anyone else you know who would be suitable) have any availability between 15/5/23 and 21/6/23 and could spare time to support students in exams, please contact jobs@heathfieldcc.co.uk and let them know your availability.

Appearance on BBC Question Time

Congratulations to Matthew Prus, in Year 11, who applied and was selected to be part of the Question Time audience held in Bexhill-on-Sea on 11 May. Question Time is a flagship BBC topical debate programme in which guests from the worlds of politics and the media answer questions posed by members of the public. Having submitted the question: *“The government uplift for schools is not enough after rises in costs due to inflation and utilities. How are schools meant to continue if teachers see an unfunded pay rise?”* Matthew did not get to pose this particular challenge but did get his voice heard in audience response to the dispersal of raw sewage into our sea. He linked knowledge of Cop 26 to the current lived reality of residents in seaside towns. Matthew will have had a fantastic experience and can be proud of his political knowledge, engagement and overall awareness of current affairs.

Thank you again for your ongoing support. Please continue to view [Latest News](#) on the website for more about recent student achievements or visit our Facebook page for more frequent updates. Recent features include updates on our students public speaking in a variety of situations, our #NoMowMay strategies and their impact as well as recent house competitions.

Yours sincerely



MS C BARLOW
Headteacher

Support Staff Vacancies

if you are interested in joining our team of support staff do take a look at our recruitment page at <http://jobs.heathfieldcc.co.uk/vacancies/>.

DIARY DATES

w/b 15 May	Summer Exam Season	
Tuesday 16 May	Year 12 A Level Art & Photography Exam	
	Year 8 Theatre Production - Time Out	All of Year 8 In school
w/b 22 May	Super-curricular Fortnight Week 1	
Thursday 25 May	Year 12 Subject Feedback Evening	Virtual
Friday 26 May	Year 13 English Lit Trip to Midsummer Night's Dream	The Globe, London
	End of Term 5	
Monday 6 June	Start of Term 6	