



15 September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to the new academic year. We would very much like to thank all parents and carers for a very impressive start to term. Your support in ensuring students are ready and equipped to return to school is not underestimated and it has shown in all students, including Year 7:

- Attendance is strong. Thank you we know this makes a huge difference to a sense of belonging and to outcomes.
- Uniform is smart. Students look great, representing themselves and the college really well.
- Equipment is good, they have what they need to learn without delay.
- Focus and attention is impressive: Staff have noticed students have come back understanding the importance of attention and focused learning, it is great to see. We are particularly enjoying the Year 11 catch-phrase of being “locked in”!

Assemblies at the start of term shared the success of exam groups this summer. Our outcomes again place the College in the top 20% nationally and one of the highest performing in East Sussex. Students are able to progress to their destination of choice, we are really proud of them.

We also spoke of the importance of continual improvement and shared responsibility for positive and supportive mindsets on that journey, particularly at a time of increased national and global tension. Students play their part by following the Heathfield Habits and doing what their expert teachers instruct; as teachers and leaders we will ensure that our commitment to equality and inclusion ensures all students are able to succeed and achieve well, that all are treated fairly and all are supported to become their best selves. The well-established basic expectations (as listed above) that students have started so well with and that we will continue to hold firm, mean we are able to ensure everyone has what they need to achieve and thrive. Thank you as always, your positive support and communication mean a great to us.

There are a variety of events and opportunities, both for parents and students, coming up fast this term and we will attempt to keep you informed as soon as possible:

- Welcome to Year 13 Information Evening: Wednesday 17 September 5:00-5:45pm
- Welcome to Year 12 Information Evening: Wednesday 17 September 5:45-6:30pm



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

- Year 9 Introduction to Key Stage 4 Information Evening: Thursday 18 September 5:30-6:30pm
- Open Evening for current Year 6 (Year 7 Sept 2026): Thursday 25 September 5:30-8:00pm
- Year 10 Revision Information Evening: Wednesday 1 October 5:30-6:30pm
- Year 11 Future Choices - Post 16 progression Information Evening: Thursday 2 October 5:30-6:30pm

Clubs and Extra-Curricular

Term 1 choices can be viewed on our website.

<https://www.heathfieldcc.co.uk/students/extracurricularactivities>.

The full offer will be available soon.

Caterlink

We are grateful for our strong relationship with Caterlink which means not only is the provision of food available to students varied and of a high quality, they also work hard with us to ensure it remains as affordable as possible.

Like many organisations Caterlink have had to revise their prices for the new year, however, further to some discussion and negotiation with College they have agreed to keep all increases as low as possible and meals are still 15p less than other school catering companies. The updated prices and sample menus can be found [here](#).

A 'meal deal', which includes a hot main meal and dessert costs £2.90. This offer has now been extended to include a wrap/sandwich plus a dessert.

Should you wish to amend the daily limit on your child's account please let us know by completing the following form no later than Friday 10 October:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSebleWxR6nitBRfVXbV38jGrFst9MJBtaS6JYOsqpu7bd30KQ/viewform?usp=header>. Please allow 2 working days for this to be updated. Any amendments that you want to make after this date, or if you have any questions, please contact our Finance Office at financeoffice@heathfieldcc.co.uk.

Fire Evacuation Drill

I am also happy to report that during lesson 2 today we held our first Fire Evacuation practice. Like any other drill it is vital for Health and Safety that students know what to do and where to go. It is also a good indicator of culture and understanding that c.1500 students exited the building in silence and waited patiently in silence as registers were checked before returning to class in time for break. We are very grateful to them for their safe and exemplary conduct, we are also grateful that we managed to conduct the practice in a windy but sunny spell and everyone was safely in lessons again before the rain showers re-appeared this morning!

Thank you again for your support and a successful start to term. I look forward to sharing more of our students' successes and achievements as the term progresses.

Yours sincerely



MS C BARLOW
Headteacher