



**Heathfield**

Community College and Sixth Form



**Welcome to  
Year 7 students  
September 2026**





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# Year 6 Welcome Evening

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- To ensure that you and your son or daughter knows what to expect in September
- To answer questions and allay concerns
- To ensure your son or daughter has the best possible start at Heathfield
- To hear from Year 7 students (current), Mike Pooley (Assistant Headteacher) & Jodie Adams (Head of Year)
- To meet your tutor

# Heathfield Community College 2025-26

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- Ofsted May 2023: providing a “*Great Education*”
- “*vibrant and nurturing school...where pupils flourish*”
- Outstanding in most categories.
- Ofsted 2025 new framework: *Strong in all areas, exceptional for inclusion.*
- Consistently strong outcomes in attainment and achievement at GCSE and A Level.
- A successful and popular school. Oversubscribed since 2016.
- An inclusive culture of excellence and consistency of expectations.
- Confident students with skills to succeed and lead: excellent Personal Development



## **Vision and Values**

Heathfield Community College is a positive and inclusive environment ensuring exceptional educational experiences with ambition and breadth for all. Students develop the knowledge, skills and characteristics to become the best version of themselves; Heathfield students succeed and thrive at the highest levels.

**Pride**

**Ambition**

**Community**

# Heathfield Habits

## Confidence

- I have pride in myself and what I have achieved.
- I have set myself the highest expectations and have ambition for my future.
- I have self-belief in my strengths and abilities and communicate these through my words and actions.

## Engagement

- I am on time to school and lessons; I do as I am asked the first time of asking.
- I engage positively in lessons and am enthusiastic to learn.
- I make sure I have the right equipment, uniform and attitude to learning.

## Compassion

- I value others and show kindness and consideration to all in our community.
- I listen respectfully and respond carefully.
- I show good manners and courtesy.

## Determination

- I am resilient and determined in the face of challenge.
- I am reflective about my success and how this can apply to other aspects of College life.
- I am willing to make and learn from mistakes.

## Integrity

- I play my full part in making the College a positive environment.
- I am honest about my actions and responsibilities.
- I do the right thing, regardless of where I am or who I am with.

**Pride  
Ambition  
Community**

# Heathfield Community College - Year 7

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So what was Year 7 like for a new student at Heathfield?

Oskar & Zoe

# Life at Secondary School

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Structures

Policies and procedures

Relationships

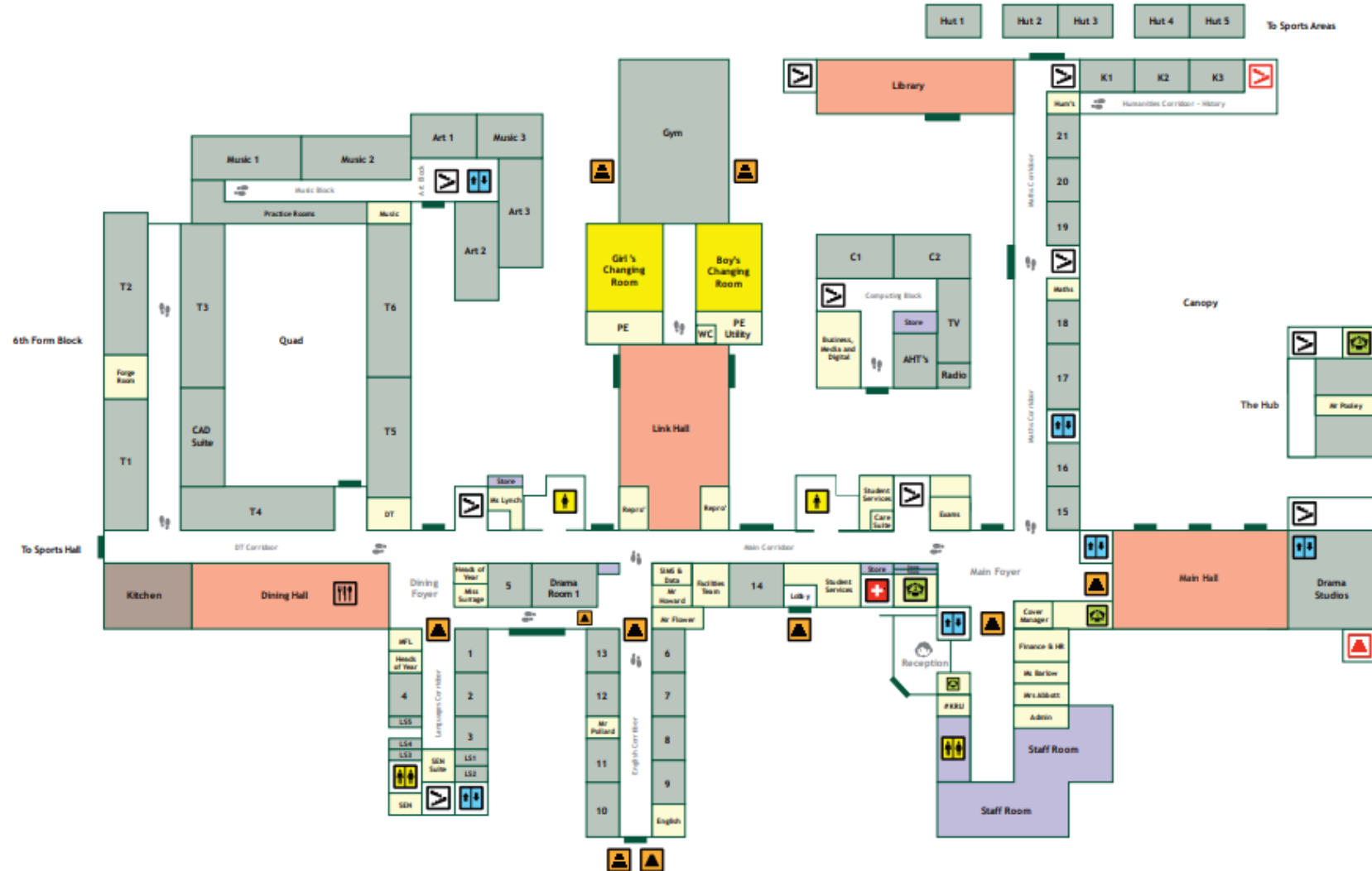
Learning

Communication



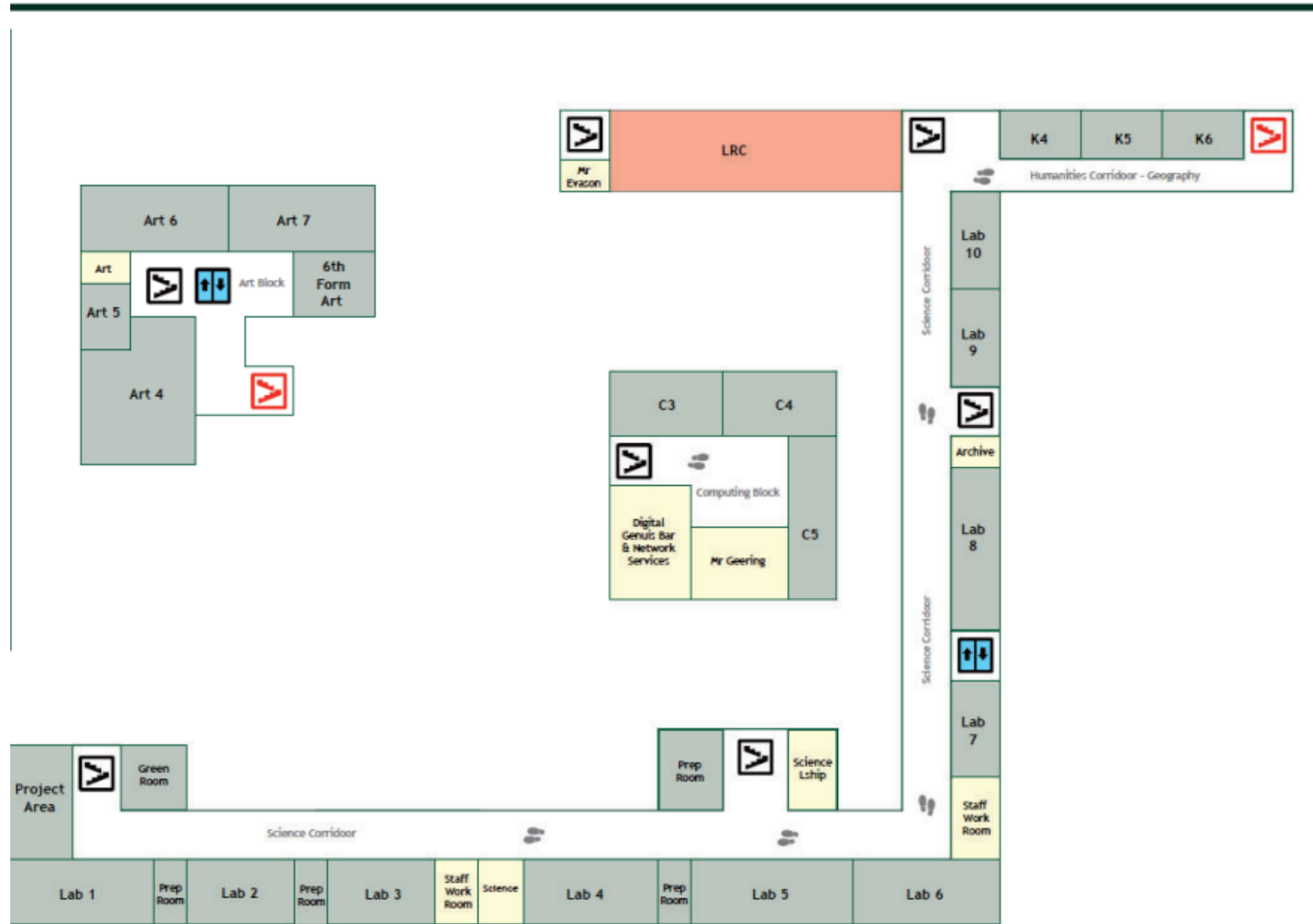
# College Map

## Ground Floor & Sports Hall



# College Map

## First Floor & Sixth Form Block



# Attendance

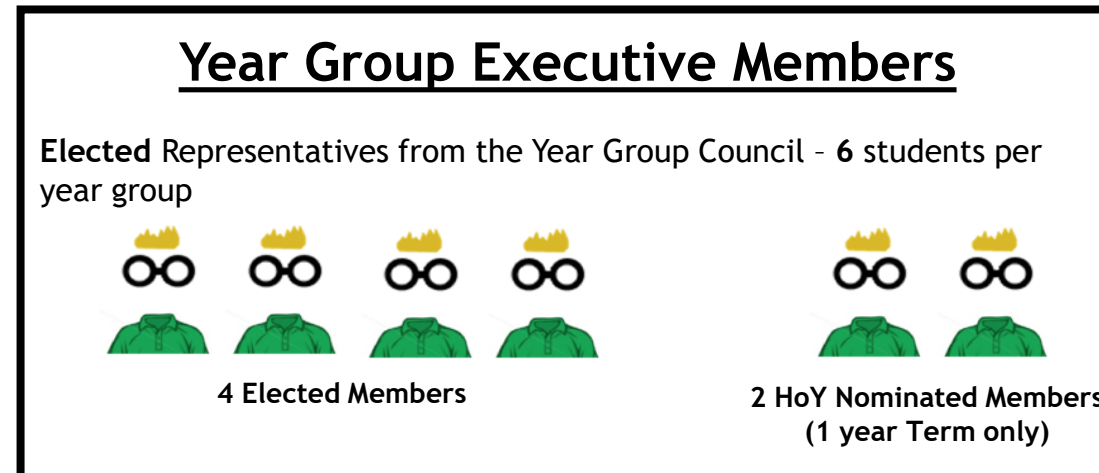
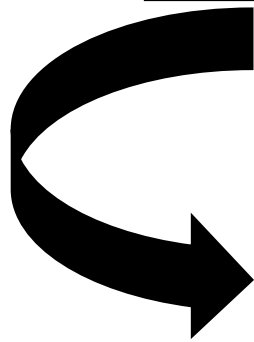
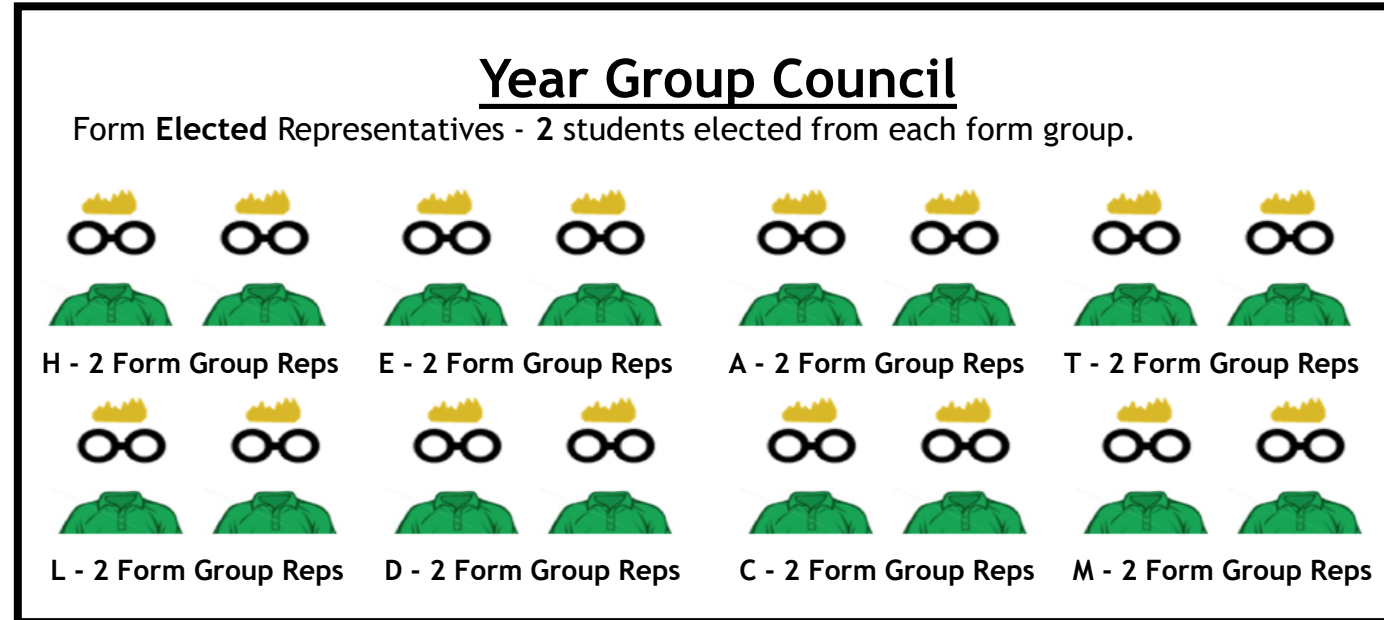
Last year students with an average attendance of 95% or more achieved, on average, over double the number of strong pass grades at GCSE, compared to those with attendance less than 90%

Research shows days lost are also days lost for building friendships, doing clubs, building bonds and confidence.

| Attendance Over a Year |                         |                                 |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Attendance             | Approximate days missed | Approximate lost learning hours |
| 100%                   | 0                       | 0                               |
| 95%                    | 10                      | 50                              |
| 90%                    | 20                      | 100                             |
| 85%                    | 30                      | 150                             |
| 80%                    | 40                      | 200                             |

# Student Council

Each year group (Year 7-11) will consist of a Year Group Council formed by 2 elected members from each form group. This Year Group Council will, in turn, nominate 4 members to represent their year group on the Executive Council. Elected members hold their post for 2 years.



# Inclusion

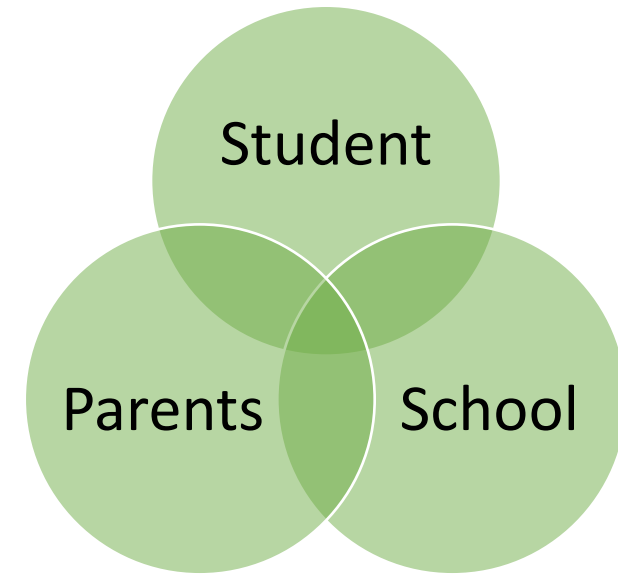
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- A focus on high quality teaching and reasonable adjustments to the curriculum and environment aimed at meeting the needs of all students in the classroom.
- Student centered Inclusion of all students, those with special educational needs, disadvantage and mental health concerns.
- Consistency of approach across leadership, pastoral, specialist staff and teaching staff.
- High quality, regular training to ensure staff are knowledgeable and confident in delivering the whole school offer.

This is known as our Universal Offer

# Communication

- Secondary School is a larger scale than Primary, it feels different for everyone.
- Our staff are all education professionals who work hard for the benefit of our students, your children.
- You are your child's parent – their greatest advocate.
- We are experts in helping young people get the best out of their secondary education.
- We are a powerful force when we work together.



## We will

- Listen and hear any concerns openly.
- Be fair and listen to your perspective.
- Communicate any restraints or barriers fairly and openly.
- Respond, communicate and act as soon as we possibly can.
- Review and reflect in the light of any concerns.

## College and Governors request that you

- Communicate as soon as you have a small concern, don't wait for it to grow.
- Keep the communication and dialogue professional and constructive. Heightened emotion by email can get in the way of mutual understanding.
- Do not engage in social media for any concerns or worries. We always address things swiftly in person.

# Practical aspects of transition: Becoming more independent

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## Key Tasks:

- Timekeeping
- Morning and bedtime routines
- Planning ahead, packing your bag the night before, having the right equipment
- Completing homework on time
- Problem solving
- Becoming an independent learner

Top tip for parents...

*Never do anything regularly for your child that they are capable of doing themselves*

# What we do

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- Clear expectations and reminders about the basics: punctuality, attendance, uniform, equipment
- Peer mentors & Values Leaders
- Problem solving – using the language of independence: “where could you find out? What could you try? Who else might know?”
- Arbor our online platform to share homework tasks
- Ensure we are a phone free environment

# Emotional aspect of transition: Resilience and coping with change

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- Having a positive mental attitude – focus on positives
- Develop positive habits e.g. exercise and good sleep patterns (*no phones or devices in your room after a particular time*)
- Understand that experiencing negative emotions e.g. worry, fear, frustration is normal, but they can learn ways to cope
- Know where to get help if they need it

# What we do

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- Tutor time programme to help develop resilience and positive mental health
- Assemblies in a range of emotional wellbeing and mental health strategies
- PSHEE programme
- Website: Health and Wellbeing pages
- Targeted group work, 1:1 mentoring, enrichment week

# Key People

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## **Academic Progress:**

Subject Teacher

Curriculum Leader

## **Pastoral Support:**

Form Tutor

Pastoral Manager – Mrs Collinge

Head of Year – Ms Adams

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**Latest News - Heathfield profiled for inspiring Enrichment entitlement**

**Individual Staff E-mail  
addresses available here.**

**Transition information  
available here**



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# Parent and Carer Handbook 2026/2027



# The rest of this evening

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- 5:30 – 6:00 Tutor Groups – an opportunity to ask questions to your.
- 6:00: Pastoral Manager, Head of Year and Senior Staff available for individual conversations in the Link Hall
- Also: Uniform, Supporters of Heathfield, 'Worry Busting' in the Link Hall