



Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

Welcome back to families whose children were with us at The Heathland School last year and a special, warm welcome to families who are joining us for the first time. We hope you and your families have had a good summer and that you feel prepared for the start of the new school year. It feels a little frustrating that the weather has turned so warm just as we have to get into term-time routines again!

This first item in my letter is principally to offer reassurance, following the stories in the national news in the last week about schools having to close because of RAAC (reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete). We reviewed our school buildings when the Department for Education requested information about RAAC quite a while ago and I can confirm that there is no evidence of RAAC construction at The Heathlands School, so we are pleased to be open for business as usual, as we start the new year

I would also like to refer to the examination results this summer. At GCSE, BTEC and A Level the School's results maintained our tradition of high achievement. We are especially pleased by the fact that so many students from Year 13 have secured university places. The great majority of Year 11 (2022/2023) have decided to continue with courses in Year 12.

More details about our results in 2023 will be posted on the school website once the results have been validated.

I would like to address some other issues.

## **1. CENTRALISED SCHOOL DETENTIONS**

This year we have started a new system for managing any incidents of poor behaviour or lateness. Pupils will be issued a detention on the day that the incident or lateness takes place. This is called a Centralised Behaviour System (CBS). If your child is issued a detention for longer than 20 minutes you will receive a text message to inform you. Detentions will be held daily in our Dining Hall and the latest any pupil will be kept behind is 5.00pm. The pupils will be taken to the detention by their period 6 teacher. Any pupil who deliberately refuses or runs away from the teacher will be suspended from school and parents will have to attend a reintegration meeting.

We have spent time during tutorials this term teaching pupils our expectations and ensuring that they understand how behaviour and reward points are issued. So far the large majority of detention have been for lateness to school. Please could all parents encourage their child to leave home in plenty of time to arrive at school by 8.30am at the latest.



**Artsmark**  
**Silver Award**  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



## 2. DINING HALL PROVISION

I would remind parents to ensure their son/daughter's account has sufficient funds through ParentPay for buying breakfast and/or lunch. Our caterers provide a breakfast service from 8.00am – 8.20am. Please note we have set a daily limit on spending at the tills of £5.00. Pupils can, of course, continue to bring in a packed lunch if they wish.

## 3. PROSPECTIVE PARENT EVENINGS FOR YEAR 7 ADMISSION IN 2024

If you have a child in Year 6 and wish to visit the school on an 'Open' Evening, please note the dates/times:

**THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 6.30PM – 7.30PM**  
**WEDNESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 6.30PM – 7.30PM**

After a tour of the school there will be presentations in the Main Hall which should finish by 8.30pm.

**Please note, that on these two dates pupils will leave school earlier than usual at 2.30pm in order for teachers to prepare for the Open Evening.**

## 4. LIST OF STAFF

<b>Headteacher:</b>	Mr J.M. Rose
<b>Senior Deputy Headteacher:</b>	Mr. S.S. Gill
<b>Deputy Headteacher:</b>	Mrs M. Sandhu
<b>Deputy Headteacher:</b>	Mrs E. Turner
 <b>Assistant Headteachers:</b>	 Mr P. Birch, Ms F. Constandi, Mrs N. Benedict
 <b>Head of Year 13:</b>	 Mr E. Spragg
<b>Head of Year 12:</b>	Miss E. Legg
<b>Acting Head of Year 11:</b>	Miss. A. Sharma
<b>Head of Year 10:</b>	Miss S. Redman
<b>Head of Year 9:</b>	Miss O. Bates
<b>Head of Year 8:</b>	Miss C. Taylor
<b>Head of Year 7:</b>	Mrs R. Lounds
 <b>Head of Art/Photography:</b>	 Miss F. Harris
<b>Head of Computing/ICT:</b>	Mrs S. Aujla
<b>Head of Economics/Business:</b>	Miss S. Kaur
<b>Head of English:</b>	Dr S. Purchase
<b>Head of Geography:</b>	Miss J. Gidman
<b>Head of History:</b>	Mr P. Diaz
<b>Head of Languages:</b>	Mrs L. Bowers
<b>Head of Mathematics:</b>	Ms A. Matthews
<b>Head of Performing Arts:</b>	Miss E. Evans

<b>Head of PSHE:</b>	Mr C. Walsgrove
<b>Head of P.E.:</b>	Mrs J. Dark
<b>Head of R.E.:</b>	Mrs B. Kaur
<b>Head of Science:</b>	Mr. D. Simon
<b>Head of Social Sciences:</b>	Miss H. Lally
<b>Head of Learning Support:</b>	Ms C. Muiyah
<b>Head of Technology:</b>	Mrs L. Cutts

## 5. STAFF INSET DAY: FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023

Please note pupils should not attend school on this staff training day.

## 6. WEAR YELLOW DAY - TUESDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2023

We are writing to let you know that The Heathland School is taking part in raising awareness for positive mental health and wellbeing. This is part of #HelloYellow on Monday 10th October 2023 this World Mental Health Day.

The number of young people in need of mental health support is growing. As a School, we put emphasis on children knowing when and where to seek support. Asking for help is not always easy but we are here to help and provide the right support. Children can speak with their Tutor, Head of Year and any member of staff who will provide them with appropriate advice and the best next steps. We use external agencies and other partners to support us with counselling, therapy and mentoring. That is why this year #HelloYellow continues to be important. We need to make sure young people know that how they feel matters and they deserve to feel supported.

The School will be joining thousands of other schools by wearing an item of yellow to show young people that how they feel matters, as well as raising money for YoungMinds. The pupils should arrive in their normal school uniform and wear an item of yellow such as a yellow hair band, a yellow bracelet, yellow socks or tie etc. We wish to remind parents and carers that children are not expected to spend money buying something new but can use their initiative and creativity to participate. Where possible, we ask parents and carers to consider donating to YoungMinds. There will be buckets on the Yellow door in the morning and we will send a JustGiving link nearer the time.

Yours faithfully,



J.M Rose  
Headteacher