

Supporting your child through Lower School



1. We learn together
2. We belong to this community
3. We are proud of ourselves and each other
4. We have consistently high expectations

Year 7
2023 intake



Achieving successful outcomes. Progressing to our Upper School and Sixth Form.

Three connected parts of one school



HCCS Lower school - Years 7 and 8

- Transition
- Challenge and support
- Culture of engagement
- Building potential
- Building relationships
- Securing the foundations of learning

HCCS Upper school - Years 9 to 11

- Increased specialisation
- Attainment and progress focus
- Support and intervention
- Maximising potential
- Advice and guidance - next steps

HCCS College - Years 12 and 13

- Level 3 qualifications
- High level of specialisation
- Independent, taught and guided study
- High level of autonomy
- Advice and guidance - next steps



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Lower School

Building relationships and securing the foundations of learning

Lower School Hub - Years 7 & 8

Director	Helena Collison
Pastoral Lead	Heather Hughes
Progress Lead	Brian Gallagher and Michael Forsyth
Welfare Managers	Laura Chaloner Mattin Rachel Cooper and Tara Bowles
Support Officers	Sarah Durant and Lizzy Broxton
Safeguarding and Child Protection Lead	Emily Bagshaw

7AP	Alex Poynter
7LB	Laura Blackburn
7KC	Katie Cheetham
7RE	Rhys Edwards
7KK	Katherine Katoroz-Jones
7LF	Laura Fiddes
7JF	Judith Francis
7SR	Sally Riley / Claire Parry



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The Progress Team

Miss Connolly

Mr Forsyth

Mr Gallagher

Year 9

Year 10

Year 11

Year 7

Year 8



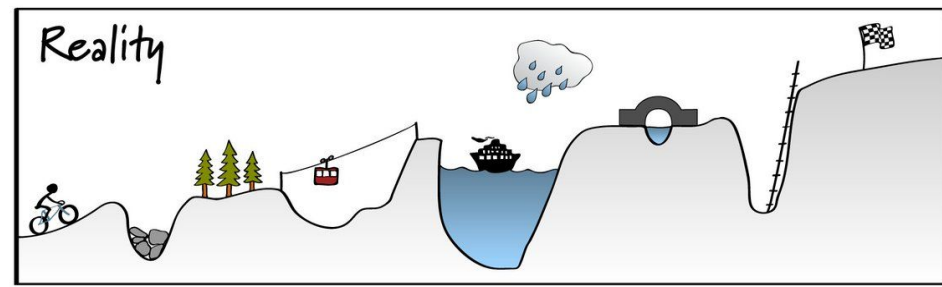
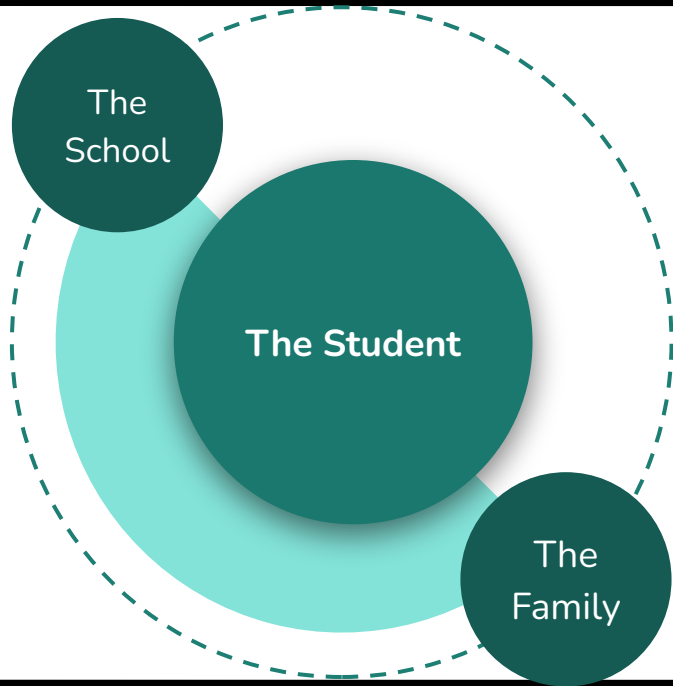
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Challenge & Ambition



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How can ambition be cultivated?

The Student

- Equipment
- Seeks feedback
- Takes control of their own learning
- Discusses answers
- Supports others learning

The School

- Purposeful pace
- Cold calling
- Probing questions
- Focus on oracy and literacy
- Extension challenges
- Reflection on BFL
- Focused start and end to lessons

The Family

- Discuss aspirations
- Set ambitious goals
- Promote critical thinking
- Challenge 3, 4 or 5 BFL
- Encourage resilience, when they fail, try again
- Celebrate any progress



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Lower School

Building relationships and securing the foundations of learning

Literacy Reminders

1. Every pupil should have a book to read at the beginning of each lesson. Any problems with this, please ask your child to speak to their form tutor or Miss Moores, our librarian.
2. Every Lower School student has one lesson a fortnight in the Learning Resource Centre (LRC), this is for independent/group reading and research skills.
3. It is important that your child reads outside of lesson and quizzes on the books they have read using our Accelerated Reading Programme.
4. Throughout the year, your child will take a STAR reading test which assesses their reading ability and determines their reading level. This will be communicated to you through their interims.

What can you do to help?

Encourage them to read as much as possible.

Discuss books!
Book adaptations, books they've read in class, autobiographies about people they know. . .



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BEING "LITERATE"



8 (b)

A biased
The n

Which
Circle

While the **average reading age** of the exam materials was found to be 15 years and seven months – the correct **age** for **GCSE** aged pupils, the students' actual **reading age** was found to be lagging significantly behind at an **average** of just 10 years and seven months

ber 5?

1

Human

ment.

1 (a) (i)

Which

Draw a



Lower School

Building relationships and securing the foundations of learning

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School & Sixth Form College
'Preparing Learners for a Changing World'

Search...

My Child at School Student Portal Bronson House Google Access

Curriculum & Learning

Lower School
Key Stage 3, Years 7 & 8

Upper School
Key Stage 3, Year 9
Key Stage 4, Years 10 & 11

Learning Manager Team

Careers Learning Centre Learning @ Home Curriculum Policy



RENAISSANCE

Student

User Name

Password

Log In >

[Change Your Role](#) | [Forgot Your User Name?](#)

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Google Classroom: accessing classwork and homework



How does my child log onto their Google Workspace?

1. click on the Google 'G' on the <https://www.hccs1978.co.uk/> homepage.
2. enter their school Gmail address 22surname@stu.hccs.info
3. Then enter their password.

- **In their first Computing lesson** the children changed the default Google Workspace password **hccshccs** to the same one as their network password.
- Each tutor group and class has their own Google Classroom.
- Lessons and homework can be accessed on Google Classroom: if your child is ill or they want to revisit what they have been learning.



Bromcom and Sparx Maths



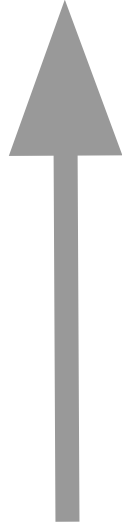
Bromcom: Student App

- Timetable
- Behaviour
- Subject information (class and teacher)
- Students receive an email with their login details (school ID 11529).
- The app can be downloaded onto a Smartphone.

Sparx Maths

- Online resource that allows students to test their maths skills and get feedback on their progress.
- This is set up by the maths department.

Lower School expectations



Helping others to be the best version of themselves.

Modelling this expected behaviour to everyone else and **persevering** with that - even when outside factors might make that challenging.

Being **safe**. Being **kind**. Trying your best. Showing **respect** to yourself, others and your environment..



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We are proud of ourselves and each other...



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But we understand different feelings...



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We demonstrate consistently high expectations



Being **safe**. Being **kind**. Trying your best. Showing **respect** to yourself, others and your environment.



be kind



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Mobile phones

13+



13+



Check your child's profile- how much information are they passing on?

13+



16+



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Supporting Parents and Carers with mobile phone use

- Talk to you child regularly about their mobile phone use
 - Encourage them to be open
 - Reassure them that they won't get in trouble if things go wrong
- Make sure privacy settings are set correctly, updated and checked regularly
- Know your child's pass code; the child doesn't own the phone
- Carry out frequent and random phone checks
- Keep phones downstairs - have a shared charging point downstairs and check that their phone (not just the case) is there
- Encourage hobbies and interests which are not technology based
- Let children be bored; this is when creativity occurs and reveals their talents



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Keeping in touch with each other

Manners
are the
happy way
of doing
things.
-Ralph Waldo Emerson

Conversations matter! Keeping in touch and letting us know how things are going is important in keeping our children safe, cared for and on track.



- **Parental expectations**... getting in touch...phone and email
- **Protocols**... respect, trust, manners, being polite, patience
- **Response time**... 48 hours please!



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PATIENCE IS
THE CALM ACCEPTANCE THAT
THINGS CAN HAPPEN IN A
DIFFERENT ORDER THAN THE
ONE YOU HAVE IN MIND.

Asking questions and keeping in touch



7AP	alex.poynter@hccs.info
7LB	laura.blackburn@hccs.info
7KC	katherine.cheetham@hccs.info
7RE	rhys.edwards@hccs.info
7KK	katharine.katorozjones@hccs.info
7LF	laura.fiddes@hccs.info
7JF	judith.francis@hccs.info
7SR	sally.riley@hccs.info



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Key Dates

September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transition and baseline testing• All About Me tasks completed• Parent Information Evening - 28th September
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Curriculum information shared online• Google classroom guidance for parents• Deposit for the Year 7 residential due
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learning Passport Part 1• School Production: 20th-24th November
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interim report 1 published - 8th December- (information about your child's progress and attitude to learning)• Winter Festival and Christmas Concert: 6th December• Learning Passport Part 2
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 7 Residential- Parent Information Evening- 25th January
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 7 residential - 12th-16th February• Mid year assessments - 5th - 9th February• Year 7 Parent evening - 29th February
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interim report 2 published - 26th April
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• End of year assessments - 3rd-7th June
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interim report 3 published - 5th July



A chance to talk with tutors

7AP	Alex Poynter	Music 2
7LB	Laura Blackburn	Music 1
7KC	Katie Cheetham	Study Area
7RE	Rhys Edwards	
7KK	Katharine Katoroz-Jones	SF3
7LF	Laura Fiddes	SF4
7JF	Judith Francis	Theatre
7SR	Sally Riley / Claire Parry	SF1



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Tutor slides



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Tutor's name:

I am a teacher of

You can contact me via email...



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What have we been doing in tutor time?

- All About Me
- My Curriculum/ Enrichment
- Sharing our thoughts and asking questions
- Meeting staff and making new friends



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Parent's copy of All About Me

If there is anything you would like us to know about your child, please feel free to take a sheet and fill it out.

All about 7..... by parent(s) / carer(s)		
What can my child do well?	What does my child need help with?	How to support, communicate and work well with my child
What does my child like and what makes them happy?	What's important for my child now?	What are my aspirations for my child in the future?



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Year 7 residential

- Monday 12th- Friday 16th February
- Location: The Conway Centre, Anglesey
- £300 per child- inc all accommodation, meals, activities and a trip to Beaumaris.
- A deposit of £100 will be due in October. This can be paid online from tomorrow.

Welcome to the Conway Centre!



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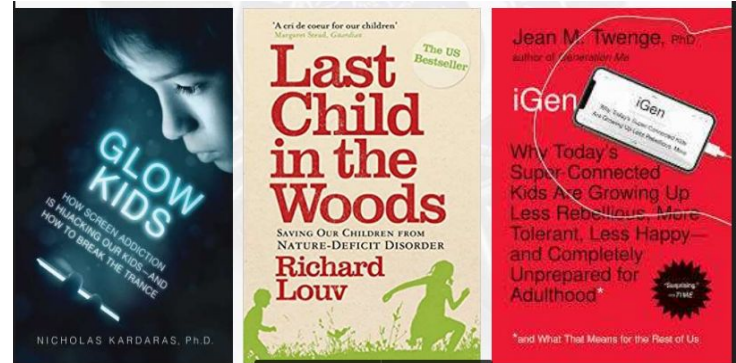
Useful links

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

<https://www.cheshire.police.uk/>



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