

Welcome to Horizon

School ready; Work ready; Life ready



Welcome

Dear Parent/Carer

We are delighted to be able to welcome you to Horizon Community College. We are looking forward to working closely with all our new students and their families over the next few months to ensure the transition from primary to secondary education is smooth, positive and exciting.

The move to secondary school is one of the most significant events in a young person's life, one that stirs excitement and anticipation. Now that you've chosen Horizon Community College it is our aim to ensure that this transition is as smooth as possible. This means that upon starting with us, your son/daughter is ready to 'hit the ground running' and embrace the many opportunities that our college offers.

This month our transition staff will be busy meeting primary school teachers discussing the needs of each student, to ensure they have the best start possible to Year 7. More importantly, staff will be meeting Year 6 students between now and July; this is so children can ask questions to help ensure they feel prepared for the change they are about to face.

We are looking forward to meeting you and your child and working with you and them in the future.



Mrs C Huddart
Principal



Mrs C Malson
Assistant Principal
Head of School Year 7

The Horizon Headstart

By choosing Horizon, your child will benefit from:

- **Nationally recognised remote learning offer;**
- **Specialist teaching across all subjects, with facilities dedicated to the teaching of those subjects;**
- **Expertise in curriculum, teaching and learning, behaviour and standards, personal development and student well-being;**
- **Learning a broad range of subjects, including Art, Citizenship, Computing, Design Technology, Performing Arts (Dance, Drama, Music), as well as the core subjects of English, Maths, Science, Geography, History, MFL, PE, Religious Education & Citizenship;**
- **Targeted support for specific needs from our SEND and Sensory Resource Provision**
- **Their own School Team and Student Well-being Officer, there to ensure that every student feels supported to do their best in College every day;**
- **Having a part of the College (the 'Year 7 School') bus service and lunch time just for them, to support their adjustment to secondary school;**
- **A personal development passport that supports students to enhance their understanding of themselves and the world around them;**
- **A Year 7-11 Careers Curriculum that ensures that all students are able to make informed choices about their future lives beyond Horizon;**
- **A broad range of extra-curricular opportunities, including Sport, Music, Performance, Duke of Edinburgh and many more.**



The School Day

08:30–09:00	Breakfast available in the canteen
09:00–09:30	Form time in Year 7 School
09:30–10:30	Lesson 1
10:30–11:30	Lesson 2
11:30–11:45	Break time
11:45–12:45	Lesson 3
12:45–13:15	Lesson 4
13:15–13:45	Lunch time
13:45–14:15	Lesson 4 continued
14:15–15:15	Lesson 5
15:15	End of School Day

Term Dates

Please note that the dates below are provisional, and are subject to change. We will contact you in advance of the start of the school year to confirm these dates.

Autumn Half Term 1	Wednesday 1st Sept 2021 – Friday 22nd Oct 2021
October Half Term Holiday	Monday 25th Oct 2021 – Friday 29th Oct 2021
Autumn Half Term 2	Monday 1st Nov 2021 – Friday 17th Dec 2021
Christmas Holiday	Monday 20th Dec 2021 – Mon 3rd Jan 2022
Spring Half Term 1	Tuesday 4th Jan 2022 – Friday 18th Feb 2022
February Half Term Holiday	Monday 21st Feb 2022 – Friday 25th Feb 2022
Spring Half Term 2	Monday 28th Feb 2022 – Friday 8th April 2022
Easter Holiday	Monday 11th April 2022 – Friday 22nd April 2022
Summer Half Term 1	Monday 25th April 2022 – Friday 27th May 2022
May Bank Holiday	Monday 2nd May 2022
May Half Term Holiday	Monday 30th May 2022 – Friday 3rd June 2022
Summer Half Term 2	Monday 6th June 2022 – Thursday 21st July 2022
Summer Holiday Commences	Friday 22nd July 2022

Getting to College

By bus:

AM

478	Smithies to Horizon	479	Kendray to Horizon
08:20	Wakefield Road/Smithies Lane	08:15	Doncaster Road/Portland Street
08:22	Rotherham Road/Ledbury Road	08:19	Birk Avenue/Neville Avenue
08:28	Burton Road	08:25	High Street/Oakdale
08:30	Eldon Street (Town Centre)	08:27	Park Road/Charles Street
08:34	Huddersfield Road/Barnsley College	08:28	Vernon Road/Tenters Green
08:39	Wilthorpe Tesco Express	08:29	Vernon Road/High Ridge
08:42	Barnsley Hospital	08:36	Warren Quarry Lane
08:50	Horizon Community College	08:37	Park Road/Highstone Avenue
		08:45	Horizon Community College

PM

478	Horizon to Smithies	479	Horizon to Kendray
15:25	Horizon Community College	15:30	Horizon Community College
15:28	Shambles Street	15:36	Park Road/Day Street
15:32	Barnsley Hospital	15:39	Warren Quarry Lane/Highstone Lane
15:35	Wilthorpe Tesco Express	15:42	Vernon Road/High Ridge
15:44	Burton Road	15:47	Park Road, Bank End Road
15:50	Rotherham Road/Ledbury Road	15:48	High street/Clarkson Street
15:55	Wakefield Road/Smithies Lane	15:53	Birk Avenue/Birk Terrace
		16:00	Doncaster Road/Portland Street

Please note that bus services are not operated by Horizon Community College, and that times are subject to change at the discretion of the service operators:

478 is operated by Globe Holidays 01226 299900

479 is operated by Hodgsons 01226 288581

At Horizon Community College we encourage all of our students to travel to and from College actively, be it through cycling or walking. The college has facilities for cycles to be stored safely throughout the college day, safe footpaths around the site, and we work in partnership with Barnsley Council and local organisations to support students in choosing Active Travel to get to college.

In the Classroom

At Horizon Community College, we are proud to offer all students a broad and exciting curriculum. All students have the opportunity to experience a wide range of subjects, ensuring that from Year 7 to Year 11, they gather a range of skills and qualifications that will provide solid foundations for success in future study and whichever career they choose to follow.

In Year 7, all students study a core curriculum of English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Modern Foreign Languages, Religious Education, Citizenship and Physical Education, as well as a wider curriculum of Art, Performing Arts, Design and Technology and Computing.

As well as developing students' understanding of the subjects they study, our 'Character in the Classroom' initiative helps students develop as learners, promoting the behaviours that high performing students demonstrate across their lessons so that everyone can realise fully their potential through their journey through secondary school and beyond. This, as well as the extensive range of subjects we offer means that students have the opportunity to learn a fantastic variety of knowledge and skills that will help obtain a sense of the world around them, and begin to make decisions about what courses they might choose to study in Years 10 and 11.



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Outstanding character in the classroom involves...

Having high expectations for yourself

Taking pride in your work and ensuring your books are well looked after and organised

Finishing work and where you don't, taking it home to finish it

Pushing yourself onto challenging work and not staying in your comfort zone

Speaking loudly and clearly using a 'stage voice' when addressing the class



Taking responsibility for your learning

Being fully equipped to learn for every lesson

Arriving on time for all lessons

Tracking the speaker

Asking questions to clarify learning

Bringing your book

Being aware of your strengths and areas for development

Having a growth mindset

Wanting feedback so you can use it to improve

Working hard consistently

Listening to others to learn from them

Supporting your peers and valuing their effort

Answering questions and not being afraid of being wrong



Taking ownership of your learning

Taking your books home so that you can finish work and use them for revision

Responding to feedback

Completing home learning on time and bringing it in

Revising for assessments

Getting on with the 'Do Now' work, in silence as soon as you arrive at your lesson



Pride

Organisation

Engagement

Questioning

Respect

Kindness

Teamwork

Tolerance

Independence

Resilience

Teaching & Learning

We're really proud of our Teaching and Learning offer at Horizon. Students are taught by specialists across our wide subject range. Lessons take place in specialist facilities, including dedicated STEM rooms for Science and Design Technology, studios for Art and Photography, our state-of-the-art Performing Arts studios and Theatre, and our extensive PE spaces and ICT facilities. All classrooms are equipped with the latest audio-visual facilities, to support engaging and instructive teaching in every lesson.

Our Teaching and Learning strategy draws on best practice from a wide range of evidence and research bases, focusing on:

- **High expectations and positive relationships**
- **Questioning and discussion**
- **Explanation and modelling**
- **Scaffolding and differentiation**
- **Deliberate practice and retrieval**
- **Responsive teaching and metacognition**

These 6 elements have been shown to have the biggest impact on student progress in the classroom, and all staff have regular CPD to support their development in these areas, so that your child can be challenged in every lesson, every day.

Personal Development

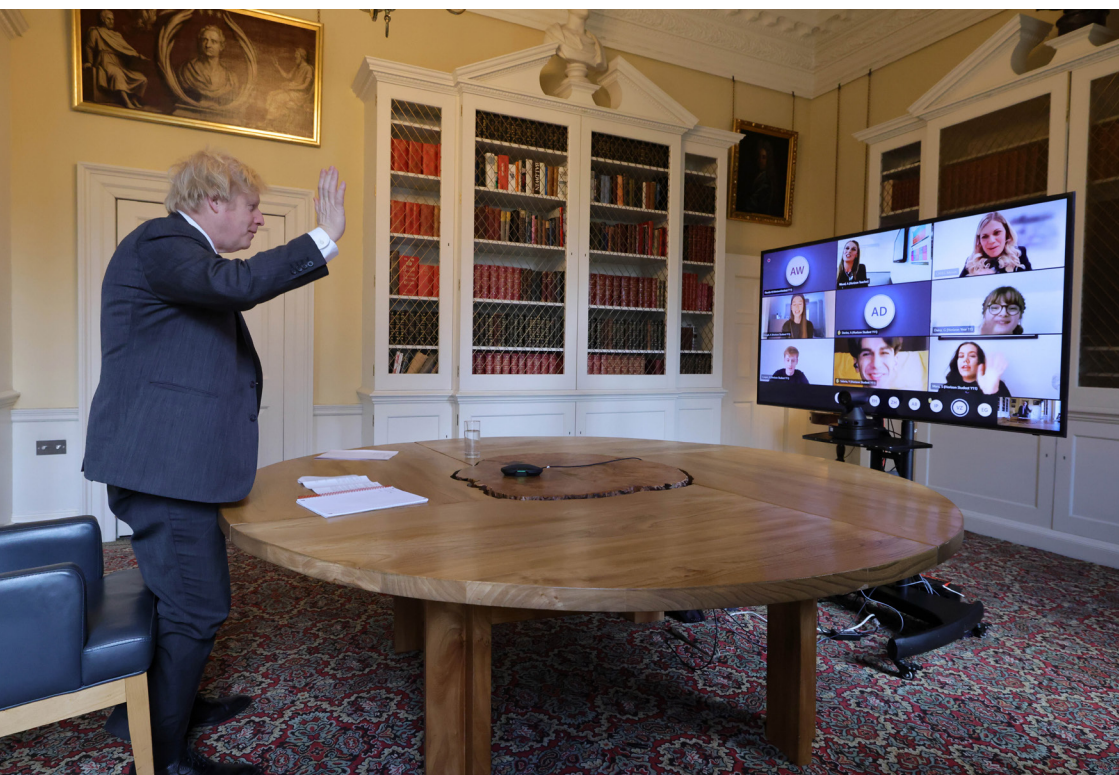
Personal development at Horizon Community College extends the curriculum beyond the expected academic, technical and vocational and provides our students with opportunities to develop passion, talent and interests. We believe in providing rich experiences of exceptional quality, in the curriculum and through a full range of extra-curricular activities, that considerably strengthen the character and education of our students. We support learners in developing their character including their resilience, confidence and independence, ensuring they know how to stay physically and mentally healthy throughout. At every stage of our students' journey, we provide an outstanding programme of careers and enterprise, preparing students for further education and next steps, ensuring students are work ready. In turn, students are prepared for life in modern Britain within all subject areas but additionally through an in-depth programme of citizenship and tutor period debate.

Remote Learning Offer

To ensure that every student is challenged in every lesson, every day, at Horizon we have put together a nationally-recognised remote learning offer. Through our remote learning platform, 'Microsoft Teams', students can follow their normal timetable by logging in to live lessons taught by their class teacher, so that they don't miss out on learning, should they be absent for whatever reason.

Lesson materials are also uploaded to each students' Class Team, so that they can recap, catch up or extend their learning at home where necessary. Where students are digitally disadvantaged, we can support with device loans or technical advice, so that all students can take advantage of this offer should they need to.

Further information about how to access remote learning will be provided over the coming months ahead.



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Beyond the Classroom

What extra-curricular opportunities do Year 7 students have?

Students at Horizon Community College have the chance to experience a wide range of extra-curricular activities to further enhance their studies beyond the classroom. Be it sport, fitness, music, STEM, dance or drama, students can take part in a choice of clubs and pursuits to suit their interests. As students progress through College, we also offer opportunities such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award, where participants learn and develop new skills, volunteer to support the wider community and take part in expeditions in the Peak District.



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Careers & Enterprise

The Careers landscape is changing faster than at any point in our history and will provide so many opportunities for young people. It is important, therefore, to give our students the skills and confidence to navigate this changing landscape successfully. At Horizon Community College we regard the preparation for life after GCSE's and those options as important as academic learning achievements. The Careers and Enterprise Team's core mission is to help every student develop those skills and to give them the best information, backed up by great experiences to make the most informed decision that they can about their future choices and career options.

There is a wide reaching and inclusive careers programme that provides the widest range of opportunities and experiences for ALL students. The complementary Careers curriculum spans a student's journey that begins in Year 7 and includes:

- **Organised events and experiences that give students the opportunity to explore different job sectors and develop key work readiness skills**
- **Personal guidance – professional, impartial guidance and support at key learning and decision points to assist with making those decisions**
- **Careers advice and information – CV writing, interview advice and mock interviews, as well as other tips and tricks**
- **Support – encourage the thirst for learning to provide the best start to the careers journey as possible**



Uniform & Equipment

As part of our high expectations and aspirations at Horizon Community College we take great pride in our uniform and expect students to wear it correctly at all times and with a sense of pride and belonging. The Horizon Community College uniform ensures that our students are recognised as young people who are part of our community.

Full details of our uniform can be found on the College website, with guidance to ensure the correct items are purchased. The Year 7 tie for September 2021 will have a dark green emblem and stripe. Our school uniform is supplied by Vortex.



EQUIPMENT NEEDED:

- Pens
- Pencils
- Ruler
- Eraser
- Scientific Calculator
- Apron
- PE Kit
- School Bag

MOBILE DEVICES

Mobile phones/devices are not permissible in the college building. If a mobile device is seen it will be confiscated and handed to student reception, where it can be collected at the end of the day by the student.

If students need to bring a mobile device for safety purposes it is at **their own risk.**

Attendance & Punctuality

Excellent attendance + effort = successful learning

We are committed to ensuring that all students are School ready; Work ready; Life ready. It is, therefore, pivotal that students have excellent attendance. We aim that all students should have attendance of 100% and will take steps to support families when attendance falls below this. Excellent and improving attendance will be rewarded every half term through our attendance assemblies.

Good punctuality is vital. Students are welcomed every morning at the student entrance by the Year 7 leadership team to ensure they are ready for the day ahead. Students can then make use of the college ICT facilities or head to the dining hall to enjoy breakfast (including the free magic breakfast) with their peers. The day commences at 9am with a 30 minute form period where students will engage in activities around attendance, literacy and numeracy. They will also be involved in the Votes For Schools weekly activity giving them the opportunity to discuss topical issues that address multiple curriculum areas such as citizenship, PSHE and British Values.



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Part of our College Vision is to support all students to become positive role models. To realise this vision, all staff support students to follow the College Core Values during and outside of their College day.

Pride Wear full College uniform at all times. Take pride in all you do and actively look to improve your work.	Engagement Be focussed and attentive in lessons act on advice and feedback. Seek to discover new things & be prepared to take risks.	Questioning Contribute in every lesson. Ask questions to deepen your knowledge and understanding.	Respect Follow staff instructions the first time & every time. Be honest and polite to others.
Kindness Be considerate and supportive of others. Treat others as you would expect to be treated.	Teamwork Engage with cooperative learning. Take on an active role within the team, readily sharing ideas and information.	Independence Demonstrate dedication & commitment. Be self-disciplined and evidence self-direction.	Resilience Persevere and recognise it is alright to make a mistake. Respond well to constructive criticism.
Organisation Bring correct equipment to every lesson. Organise your time and complete homework to the best of your ability.	Tolerance Value others regardless of sexuality, race, faith gender or disability. Accept the quirks of others.		

Communication

The college uses two systems to communicate with parents and carers

ParentMail is our system for sending letters, topping up dinner money accounts and making payments for school trips.

SIMS InTouch is our system for sending reports and for behaviour and attendance updates for your child.

There are apps available for both systems, and we will provide you with further details of how you can access these apps on your phone or online, closer to your child's start date at Horizon Community College.



Mrs C Malson
Assistant Principal
Head of School Year 7
cmalson@horizoncc.co.uk

If you have any questions at all about the Transition process, and how you can support your child to make the best start in Year 7, contact the Transition Team at transition@horizoncc.co.uk

There is also a dedicated section of the College website where you can find even more about transition guidance, key documents, events, and other information.

www.horizoncc.co.uk

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Work ready;
Life ready**

