Welcome

Our school ethos of ‘Aspire, Learn, Achieve’ will permeate throughout everything we do and is a shared vision that every member of the school community can be part of. We will insist on the very highest standards for all of the students in our care.

I am very proud to be the Principal of Heanor Gate School and feel privileged to work with students, staff, parents and governors who all expect the very best from our school. We firmly believe in our vision and aims and are confident we will deliver the best possible outcomes to every child on their educational journey.

Recent success in both our exam results and Ofsted GOOD grading should provide all parents and carers with great confidence in our school.

A key component of our everyday work is ensuring that high quality learning is experienced every day within the school; by every student, in every subject and in every lesson. Alongside this we recognise that all students have a range of social, emotional and personal needs that may require support. Heanor Gate School also gives great weight to the importance of an effective induction programme and ongoing guidance for each student through their Achievement Team and Personal Tutor.

Stephen Huntington, Principal

AIMS:
• Develop all learners to achieve their full potential
• Create a culture of aspiration
THE CURRICULUM

We are proud to offer a broad and balanced curriculum, with a wide range of subjects. Our aspirational curriculum is designed to ensure all of our students are well prepared for their next stage of life, whether this is in education or future employment.

We recognise and understand the importance of ensuring a strong transition programme. We work closely with all our feeder primary schools; every learner receives a visit from the transition team, ensuring gains made during primary education are embedded and built upon during the early years of secondary school. There is an emphasis on the core subjects; English, mathematics and science, which form the basis for success for your child’s future. In addition, humanities, modern foreign languages, business, computing, art and technology feature in our curriculum alongside dance, drama, music and physical education.

As students progress through the school, the curriculum becomes increasingly personalised to suit their needs. We encourage our students to study the English Baccalaureate where appropriate. Our sixth form curriculum has similar aims, building on students’ compulsory education and developing knowledge and skills for future study or career.

Our main priority is ensuring that the quality of learning remains exceptionally high. We expect our students to benefit from a range of experiences and ways of learning in order to maximise their progress, allowing every learner to flourish and release their potential.

“It’s so lovely as a parent to know that the school cares. Obviously results and attainment are important too but as a parent I just want my child to be happy and do her best.” Y9 Parent

Heanor Gate Science College
OUR APPROACH AND ENVIRONMENT

We expect high standards in everything we do at the school including attendance, uniform and behaviour for learning. This means every student arrives before the school day starts, ready to learn with the correct equipment. We want our students to demonstrate a positive attitude and appropriate learning behaviours which will allow everyone to make exceptional progress. High standards are essential; in the quality of work, in the way in which students dress and behave themselves in and around the school.

We want students at Heanor Gate School to be proud of the uniform and the organisation they represent.

The school had a £1.2m refurbishment on our science block, as well as significant investment in ICT; dedicated ICT classrooms in each curriculum area and a digital projector in every classroom. We have also recently invested in interactive televisions in classrooms. Technology is well equipped which includes CAD/CAM machines and we run industry standard software for subjects such as media, photography and graphics. We have a refurbished sixth form block including a common room with its own catering facilities, along with an ICT suite and private study room. Vocational students have specialist facilities for beauty therapy in our on-site Tranquility Salon.

The school has ramps at main entrances and various sites around the school to facilitate access for disabled students, and there are several disabled toilets. Lessons are also timetabled in rooms on the ground floor for students and staff who may have specific access needs. For students who are visually impaired there are colour contrast strips on steps and handrails around the school.
A broad range of activities take place at Heanor Gate School which supplement the taught curriculum and allow your child to flourish. With clubs in the arts, music & sports, alongside games, culture and the super curriculum, there are many opportunities for your child to develop and thrive.

There are also a wealth of opportunities for young people to hone their leadership skills, whether through the school prefect scheme or through nationally recognised programmes such as Duke of Edinburgh, CCF or the Sports Leaders Award.

BEYOND THE SCHOOL GATE...

We offer a range of amazing trips across all of the year groups. These include educational day visits to places of significance, through to rewards trips to theme parks and other exciting locations for students who consistently meet our expectations. On a grander scale we offer some once in a lifetime opportunities to places such as visiting The White House in Washington DC, seeing the Northern Lights in Iceland and embarking on safari and mountain trekking in Africa. No school would be the same without some amazing sporting opportunities and here at Heanor Gate School we pride ourselves on the range of trips we offer. We have long standing links with a water sports centre in the south of France, our sports teams annually visit the likes of Paris or Barcelona and our most popular trip of all is our successful ski trip, which has seen over 130 students take to the slopes in Austria over the past two years.

“Travelling on trips abroad to places like Africa, Europe and the USA allowed me to deepen my understanding of different cultures, represent the school, and make lasting friendships with students from across the year groups.” Year 13 Student
Heanor Gate Post 16 is truly distinctive in that it is a successful 16-18 academic provider set within the grounds of the school. As a sixth form we pride ourselves on striking the balance between academic excellence and the development of aspirational and responsible young people, ready to achieve their potential.

Heanor Gate Post 16 is growing in popularity and is the choice of both our own students and those from other 11-16 schools in the local area. Our class sizes are small and allow for the very best learning environments, coupled with the rigour and support which will see the centre grow from strength to strength.

We provide an extensive range of courses, developed in line with the demands of our students, ensuring that everyone has the opportunity for a truly personalised study programme. Our achievement and pastoral system ensures all students are supported emotionally and are given opportunities to access a wide range of pathways.

A high proportion of our students move onto Higher Education and the Post 16 leadership team has a wealth of experience supporting students in applications to a range of competitive courses and institutions.

“We teachers encourage you to push your limits and make sure you use your time effectively to achieve the best possible grades to prepare you for university or apprenticeships. This sixth form utilises smaller classes to give all students the support they require. I like our common room which serves as a relaxing environment that allows students to study or spend time with their friends.” Year 13 student
We are... GOOD

OUTCOMES FOR PUPILS
“Pupils currently in the school are making good progress as a result of good teaching.”

QUALITY OF TEACHING
“Relationships are strong. Teachers know their pupils and, in turn, pupils trust their teachers. Pupils support each other in lessons and they are keen and eager to do well.”

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT
“The school’s ethos provides a clear moral framework and underpins the school’s approach to developing pupils’ personal skills and an understanding of the wider society.”

16-19 STUDY PROGRAMMES
“Achievement in the sixth form is good. A broad range of academic and vocational options is offered in the sixth form. Students are proud of their school.”

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT BEHAVIOUR AND WELFARE
“Pupils are very well mannered and overwhelmingly keen to do well. They are smartly dressed and proud of their school.”

Ofsted 2017
As part of the Spencer Academies Trust we work alongside other schools in ensuring we deliver the very best education possible. Our students will achieve the very best of which they are capable; students who work hard; students who behave well; students who are happy, known and valued; and students who get involved with wider school life—whether in sports, the arts, the outdoors, the community or the world of work.

A high performing regional multi-academy trust with a national reputation for excellence, Spencer Academies Trust schools include primary, secondary and sixth form provision. Our academies work across highly diverse city and rural communities, including a strong presence in Derby and Nottingham. Standards and expectations in trust schools are high—and the Trust focus on rapid improvement on the journey to outstanding education delivery.

“We have been proud to oversee the journey of improvement that Heanor Gate has been on in the last four years since joining the Spencer Academies Trust. Under the guidance of Principal Stephen Huntington and his staff, the school’s progress has accelerated; enjoying its best ever GCSE and A-level results as well as a ‘good’ Ofsted judgement. We make a great team.

Being part of the Trust means even greater access to the best opportunities, the best people and the best resources for the students, the staff and the community at Heanor Gate and for all of our growing family of schools. Heanor Gate truly lives out our Trust values of aspiration, partnership and responsibility and we hope you want to be part of the success that we have created together.”

Fraser Mitchell, Director of Secondary Education and Paul West, Chief Executive Officer – The Spencer Academies Trust
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