

# Principal's Post

Thursday 11 September 2025



A very warm welcome back to the start of our new academic year. It has been wonderful to see our students return to school looking so smart in their uniforms, ready for the term ahead. Their pride in appearance reflects the high standards we set and the commitment we share as a community.

As we begin the year, I want to take a moment to reflect on our school values:

**Kindness, Curiosity and Resilience.** These qualities underpin everything we do – from the way we treat one another, to the way we approach learning, and the determination we show when faced with challenges. Already, it has been a pleasure to see students living out these values in their daily school life.

You may also have noticed some exciting changes around the site. Our new school signage is now in place, and our buildings are proudly named after our school houses: **Hembury, Blackbury, Roundball and Hartridge**. These names strengthen our sense of identity and celebrate the heritage that makes our community unique.

I am also looking forward to welcoming all families into school next **Thursday 18th September** for our brand-new **Meet the Tutor** event. This will provide a valuable opportunity to strengthen the partnership between home and school, and to ensure every child is supported, encouraged and celebrated in their learning journey.

In addition, I would like to highlight our **annual Open Evening on Thursday 25th September**. This is always a special event in our calendar, where we open our doors to prospective Year 5 and 6 families, showcasing our facilities, our learning and, most importantly, the enthusiasm of our staff and students. Please do spread the word to friends and neighbours who may be considering secondary school choices.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Together, I am confident we will make this year one filled with achievement, growth and joy.

*Mrs. C Brothwood, Principal*



At Honiton Community College we are firmly committed to creating a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for every student. We believe that every young person has the right to learn and grow free from bullying, intimidation, or discrimination of any kind. Our aim is to ensure all students feel secure, respected, and able to express themselves without fear.

Pastoral care is at the heart of all we do. We take all reports of bullying seriously and aim to respond appropriately. Our anti-bullying policy is clear, robust, and consistently applied and can be found here [LINK Anti-Bullying Policy](#)

#### Support for families

If you are concerned that your child may be being bullied, you should report this to school via the "Report a Concern Button" [LINK Report a Concern](#)

#### Or via their Head of Year

Year 7: [Bec.Dupre@honiton.college](mailto:Bec.Dupre@honiton.college)  
Year 8: [Charlotte.Kendall@honiton.college](mailto:Charlotte.Kendall@honiton.college)  
Year 9: [Emily.Meek@honiton.college](mailto:Emily.Meek@honiton.college)  
Year 10: [Lucy.Roberts@honiton.college](mailto:Lucy.Roberts@honiton.college)  
Year 11: [Eleanor.Lindsay@honiton.college](mailto:Eleanor.Lindsay@honiton.college)

If you would like to discuss our Anti-Bullying processes or policy, please contact our Anti-Bullying Lead Mrs. Natalie Hunt - [Natalie.Hunt@honiton.college](mailto:Natalie.Hunt@honiton.college)



### A Warm Welcome to Year 7 - Our Newest Members of the HCC Family

It has been an absolute pleasure to welcome our new Year 7 students to HCC this term. From the very first day, we have been so proud of how smart you all look in your uniforms and how brilliantly you have conducted yourselves. You have quickly become a valued part of our school community.

What has stood out most in these first few days is the kindness you have shown - to your new teachers, to other members of staff, and, most importantly, to one another. Kindness is one of the most important values we hold at HCC, and it is wonderful to see you already living this out. I would encourage you to continue to show this kindness in every aspect of your lives - not just in school, but at home, in the community, and online.

We know that social media and mobile phones can sometimes bring challenges. By handing your phones in each morning, we hope that you feel more free to focus on learning and friendships during the school day, without the distractions or worries that can come with being online.

As Mrs Hunt reminded us in her welcome assembly, we must always stand against unkindness in any form. If you ever experience or witness unkind behaviour, please remember that you are not alone - speak to us so that we can help.

Year 7, you have made a fantastic start, and we are so excited to see all that you will achieve as part of the HCC family this year.

*Mrs. B Dupré, Head of Year 7*

**GOOD  
Morning**

**Breakfast is available  
for purchase in the  
Dining Room  
from 8:00 AM.**

Choose from bacon, sausages, hash browns, baked beans, and toast.

\*Or come along and enjoy a free bowl of porridge - **it's for everyone!**



### Welcome back Year 8!

I hope you had a lovely summer with time to relax and spend time doing the things you love the most. I am excited to officially be your Head of Year, and I look forward to continue getting to know you throughout the school year!

You've had a year of settling into life at HCC so now Year 8 is a time to grow, explore new ideas, and build on everything you've learned so far. Whether you're feeling excited, nervous, or somewhere in between - you're not alone, and we're here to support you every step of the way.

This year, you'll dive deeper into your subjects, take on new challenges, and discover more about yourself and the world around you. Remember: every question you ask, every effort you make, and every mistake you learn from helps you grow.

Let's make this year one to remember - full of curiosity, kindness, and resilience.

*Mrs. C Kendall Head of Year 8*



It is wonderful to see everyone back in school and ready for Year 9. We have a fantastic year ahead with plenty of opportunities to try something new and investigate the GCSE options available for the next couple of years.

We have talked about the importance of remaining curious and asking questions, this doesn't just need to apply in school, be curious about what is going on in our wider community and world as well. This is a good time to start thinking about engaging in some of the extracurricular activities available in school.

Some of you might be interested in signing up to the new Music Centre that will be based at HCC after school on a Wednesday, if you are interested, please go and speak to Mr. Turner. Ten Tors Season is almost upon us and after a really successful Jurassic Coast Challenge in the summer term we are launching the new Ten Tors season. If you are interested in Ten Tors, please get in touch with Mrs. Roberts. A letter has gone out to families today.

*Mrs. E Meek, Head of Year 8*



This is an exciting year ahead full of opportunities and fresh challenges for Year 10. You've already come a long way, and now is your chance to build even stronger foundations for the future.

Many of you will be starting your GCSE courses, or continuing with GCSE English Literature, and we're confident you're ready. You've already prepared yourselves well, and now it's time to build on that momentum.

There's also a lot to look forward to outside the classroom. This year brings more career-related opportunities, including **work experience** later on. If you already have an idea of what you want to do in the future, that's fantastic, it won't be long before we start applying for placements. Keep an eye out for updates in upcoming assemblies.

*Mrs. L Roberts, Head of year 10*



I am delighted to welcome our Year 11 students back for this important final year of GCSE study. With the right focus, resilience, and support, they can achieve excellent outcomes and prepare confidently for their next steps.

We ask for your partnership in encouraging good routines around attendance, punctuality, and study habits, so that together we can help Year 11 make the most of the opportunities ahead. As I enter my fourth year as their Head of Year, I am really proud to see how far they've come and am excited to see them through to their GCSEs.

*Miss E Lindsay, Head of year 11*



A reminder that 'My Child at School (MCAS)' and 'Class Charts' are our two key parent communication platforms.

Our new families should all have received emails with guidance on how to sign up and login. Dinner money balances can be topped up via MCAS, and student absences must be reported via MCAS via this please [studentabsence@honiton.college](mailto:studentabsence@honiton.college)

If you are not signed up to these platforms, or need to update any of your contact details, please email [admin@honiton.college](mailto:admin@honiton.college)

## Meet the Tutors Open Evening Thursday, 18th September

In response to family feedback, we are pleased to announce that this event will now be open to all parents and carers. We look forward to welcoming you and providing the opportunity to meet your child's tutors and learn more about their school experience.

## Shoe Expectations



As has been the expectation at the College for some time, we would like to take this opportunity to remind you of our guidelines regarding student footwear, as outlined on the College Website.

*"Sensible, plain black all over, leather or leather-look school shoes only. The shoe should cover the whole foot. No patterns or logos should be visible, and they must be low-heeled. Canvas shoes are not acceptable."*

*"Sandals, flip-flops, dolly shoes, high-heeled shoes, knee and ankle boots are not acceptable"*

These expectations are in place to ensure consistency, safety, and presentation standards across the College. We appreciate your ongoing support in helping students meet uniform requirements.

From September, students that arrive in incorrect footwear will be required to put on correct footwear, change into loan shoes available at the College or be educated



## Honiton Music Centre

HCC are delighted to be launching Honiton Music Centre on Wednesday the 24<sup>th</sup> of September. This is a fantastic opportunity open to any youngsters of Primary and Secondary school age in the Honiton Community to learn an orchestral instrument for just £4 a week. Mr. Turner has now formed the teaching team and is encouraged that 16 youngsters have already signed up.

A huge thank you to the Devon Music Education Hub, Department of Education and Arts Council England who have provided valuable funding to make this happen. The Devon Music Education Hub is also providing the loan of four Violins, Cellos, Flutes, Clarinets, Alto Saxophones, Cornets, and Trombones to the College for this academic year to support the project.

All details are below so simply scan the QR code and fill in the application form to take advantage of this fantastic opportunity!

• Which instruments can you learn:



**Sign up ASAP through scanning the QR code below as there are only 7 places per instrument!**



Devon Music Education Hub  
Department for Education  
Supported using public funding by  
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

An exciting new project supported by the Devon Music Hub, Art Council England and Department of Education to encourage young people to take up a musical instrument, keeping it as affordable and accessible to learn as possible!

- **When:** Every Wednesday evening during term time from 4:00pm through to 6:30pm
- **Where:** Honiton Community College Music Department
- **Activities** - 30-minute group instrument lesson, 30-minute musicianship skills lesson and 30 minutes Ensemble session
- **Who:** Any youngster in the Honiton area, either Primary or Secondary school age
- **Cost:** Only £4 a week!

## Peripatetic Instrument lessons (fees apply)

You can sign up for in-school individual lessons and find out further information through the following link or by scanning the QR code.

Apply for Instrumental lessons—

<https://forms.office.com/e/n8AJsdJSyb>



## HCC Communal Piano!

HCC now has a communal piano in the entrance to the Hembury Building.

This is already proving a big hit with students who are enjoying playing various music during break and lunchtimes!



## Join in and don't miss out!



## Music Events - 2025 to 26

- \*Autumn Term Concert
- \*Carol Service
- \*Spring Exhibition Concert
- \*Devon Battle of the Band
- \*All musicians visit the Devon County Show in May 26

(More information will follow)

## Next Fortnightly Events

### Week A

Thursday 18 September  
Meet the Tutors Evening for all Year groups.  
(17:00-18:30)

### Week B

Thursday 25 September  
Open Evening for Year 5&6  
(17:00-19:00)

## AUTUMN TERM DATES 2025

Monday 27 October to Friday 7 November  
Two-week Half Term

Monday 10 November  
Start of Autumn Half Term 2

Monday 8 December  
Non-Student Day

Friday 19 December  
Last day of Term

## SPRING TERM DATES 2026

Monday 5 January  
Start of Spring Half Term 1

Monday 16 to Friday 20 February  
Half Term

Monday 23 February  
Start of Spring Half Term 2

Monday 23 March  
Non-Student Day

Thursday 2 April  
Last day of Term



**Optional PE kit items**  
(PE hoodie, skort, leggings)  
are available from Proserve:

<https://www.proservegroup.com/honiton-community-colleg>



**PARENTAL MINDS C.I.C.**

Mental Healthcare ; Exploring Pathways

### Our Community Hub is now up and running!!

We're delighted to share that our hub space at **Kings Court, Honiton** is open.

As well as running our own support groups we have three counselling rooms and a group room available to hire. The space is calm private and thoughtfully set up with tea and coffee making facilities available

### Monthly Peer Support Hub:

Thursday 18 September 7.00 - 9.00pm at Kings Court, Honiton

A safe welcoming space to connect with others share experiences and gain support.

### Worry Workshop:

(Online, Zoom): Monday 22 September 7.15 - 8.45pm  
An interactive session exploring ways to navigate our own anxiety while supporting our loved ones. Sign up here: [bit.ly/PMSWWorry25](https://bit.ly/PMSWWorry25)

### Teenie Tiddlers:

Has started on Wednesdays 12.30 - 2.30pm at Parental Minds Community Hub, Kings Court, Honiton  
A friendly drop-in group for parents and pre-school children run by Home Start and hosted at our hub. A chance to connect with other parents while supporting your child's early learning and development.

### Face to Face Support Hubs:

**Exeter Library** - Tuesday 9 and Tuesday 23 September 10.00-12.00

**Sidmouth All Saints Church** - Wednesday 10 and Wednesday 24 September 10.30-12.30