

Hele's School

A great place to learn. A great place to grow.



Monday, September 4, 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Start of Term Arrangements, September 2023

I hope this letter finds you refreshed after the summer break and looking forward to the academic year ahead. It has been such a positive start to the year, welcoming Hele's staff back today following some excellent exam results in the summer - there really has been much to celebrate and we are incredibly proud of our examination students who now progress to the next stage of their education.

You may have seen recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its use in educational settings. RAAC is a lightweight form of concrete; because it is weaker than regular concrete, concerns have been raised about its long-term durability. The Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance to education settings on the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach and as a result areas in any affected spaces in schools nationally will be vacated. This has impacted the start of term for more than 100 schools across the country. **However, I wanted to reassure you that Hele's School is NOT affected by this DfE decision as we do not have RAAC in any of our buildings and therefore Hele's will continue to function as normal.**

With that in mind, I write to remind you of the start of term arrangements:

Monday 4 September	Hele's Staff Training Day – School is closed to students.
Tuesday 5 September	WeST Staff Training Day – School is closed to students.
Wednesday 6 September, WEEK A	8.30am – Year 7 only in school for an induction programme, supported by Year 10 Mentors . <i>Note: early lunch for Year 7 all week.</i>
Thursday 7 September	All remaining year groups (Y8, Y9, Y10, Y11, Y12 and Y13) return to school.

Thank you in anticipation of your support in ensuring your child attends punctually on their allocated day, suitably equipped and dressed in the correct uniform – your efforts really are crucial to help get everyone back into a routine quickly and with little fuss, so are very much appreciated.

The beginning of a new academic year is always an exciting time with an opportunity to start afresh and with so many possibilities ahead – I've every confidence this is going to be a great year! We look forward to working with you and your family to ensure the very best experience for all.

Kindest regards,

Justine Mason
Principal

Principal: Justine Mason

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