

Welcome to a New School Year at Monkseaton High!

It was lovely to see students back in school last week, the new Year 9 students brought enthusiasm and character. The Year 10 students began their GCSE journey and the Year 11 embark on a very important year which will culminate in their GCSE exams. As always at the start of an academic year we need to pass a large amount of information to parents and carers. This newsletter will share some key information with you. We thank you in advance for taking the time read this and look forward to working together as we strive for the best for your children.



Jo Suddes - Headteacher



Student Medical Information & EVF4 Parental Consent for All Academic Visits 2023-24(EVF4). Medical information and consent for school visits must be updated each year. The form will ask for emergency contacts and any medical details so that we can access that information if there is an incident at school or on any potential school trips. Please complete [this form](#) as soon as possible. Parents of students in every year need to complete the form, regardless of whether you have done it in previous years.



Enquiries and Communicating with School

As you will appreciate, in a school of more than 500 students, it is not possible for one person to deal with all enquiries or concerns, so it is important for us to direct you to the most appropriate person. **Please also remember that staff are teaching most of the day so may not be able to respond until the following day.** We aim to respond within 48 hours at the latest. There is a lot of information on our website www.monkseaton.org.uk including recent letters, newsletters, curriculum information and policies and this may help you in the first instance.

Otherwise, for general enquiries, for example information about training days or events you can contact our main office staff on 0191 2979700. There will inevitably be occasions when you need to contact school for a more specific enquiry; we welcome calls about your child's progress or well-being and will do our best to deal with your query as quickly as we can. For more specific queries, please use the following guide to help you:

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| Nature of Enquiry | Contact | Phone or Email |
|--|---|---|
| Attendance If your child is not at school because they are ill | Attendance Assistant - Julie Atwell | 0191 2979700 |
| A question or concern about your child's general welfare or pastoral care | Your child's tutor in the first instance. For more serious concerns, the Year Leader or Pastoral Leader | Telephone 0191 2979700 or direct email of tutor. For the direct email address of Year Leader and Pastoral Leader, see table below |
| A question about your child's work or progress in a subject | Your child's subject teacher | Phone Monkseaton Office for subject teachers 0191 2979700 |
| A concern about your child's progress in a subject which can't be addressed by the subject teacher | Faculty Leader for the subject | Telephone 0191 2979700 or use the direct email address listed below |
| For questions relating to our SEND provision | SENCO -Dave Walton | Dave.walton@monkseaton.org.uk |

Concerns about the safety or welfare of a child should be directed to our Designated Safeguarding Lead – Kim Hay kim.hay@monkseaton.org.uk

| Year Group | Year Leader | Email Address | Faculty | Faculty Lead | Email Address |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|-----------------|--|
| 9 | Joe Lazell | Joe.Lazell@monkseaton.org.uk | Maths, Business and ICT | Paul Thompson | Paul.Thompson@monkseaton.org.uk |
| 10 | Roisin Wood / Aimee Turner | Roisin.Wood@monkseaton.org.uk Aimee.Turner@monkseaton.org.uk | English, Media and Languages | Paula Claydon | Paula.Claydon@monkseaton.org.uk |
| 11 | Carl Angell- Moir | Carl.Angell-Moir@monkseaton.org.uk | Sciences | Louise Purdy | Louise.Purdy@monkseaton.org.uk |
| 12/13 | Rachel Orr | Rachel.Orr@monkseaton.org.uk | Humanities | Leanne Sidney | Leanne.Sidney@monkseaton.org.uk |
| Pastoral Leader | Kim Hay | Kim.Hay@monkseaton.org.uk | Art and Technologies (Art, music, hospitality, technology) | Caroline Weites | Caroline.weites@monkseaton.org.uk |
| | | | Sport and Health | Paul Johnson | Paul.Johnson@monkseaton.org.uk |

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Class Charts is an online system that we use throughout school. We use Class Charts to record both positive and negative behaviour, within this any detentions will also be logged. Class Charts will also be used to record the homework that your child receives. Please see information about homework below. Your child will already have received their log in so please encourage them to use this regularly. Parents/Carers should also have received their log in – please email office@monkseaton.org.uk if you have not had the email containing your details.

For more information, please read our [Guide to Class Charts and Rewards and Sanctions at MHS](#).

Mobile Phones – see [here](#) for our quick guide to our policy for use of mobile phones on school site.






Students can trade their points for rewards at any point during the school year in our RESPECT Points Shop.

Breakfast Club:



Breakfast is available every morning in the atrium from 08:00. Students can access hot drinks and breakfast goods for no charge. All students are welcome.

RESPECT Points Shop

| | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
|  20 Black pen |  50 4-colour Bic pen |  75 Cartridge pen |  75 Pastel highlighters |
|  150 Filled pencil case |  200 Mathematical Instruments |  250 Maths FOUNDATION revision guide | |
|  250 Maths HIGHER revision guide |  250 Shin Protector |  300 Pizza period 5 |  275 £10 The Bound voucher |
|  350 Casio calculator |  350 £10 Amazon voucher |  350 £10 Costa voucher |  350 £10 Greggs voucher |
|  350 £10 Eidon Square voucher |  350 £10 One4All voucher |  400 Film and popcorn afternoon | |



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Homework

The Purpose of Homework

Homework enables students to develop high-quality independent learning skills, which are vital to success at GCSE level and beyond. We want our young people to have a strong and disciplined work ethic and to feel confident in their readiness for life after education. Our homework tasks will be carefully designed so that they support the development of these skills, without causing our students and/or their families' unnecessary stress.

All homework is recorded in **Class Charts**.

Relevant Policies and Publications to Inform our Approach to Homework

Evidence shows:

- the impact of homework on an average secondary student, is five months' additional progress
- homework is most effective when it is short and focused
- homework is most effective when it is an integral part of learning, rather than an add-on (*Homework Toolkit*, Education Endowment Foundation, August 2021, <https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/homework>)

We understand that for students to make strong memories, they need to regularly practise retrieving information. This allows students to strengthen the connections to their long-term memory and to retain more information over time.

(P. Agarwal, <https://www.retrievalpractice.org/>) Students should complete their homework at a high intensity, with no distractions and their phone on airplane setting. They should aim to work in 25-minute bursts, with short breaks (minimum 5-minutes, maximum 25-minutes) in between.

(*The GCSE Mindset: 40 Activities for Transforming Commitment, Motivation and Productivity*, Martin Griffin and Steve Oakes, 2018)

Homework Expectations for each Year Group

Year 9

Weekly homework: English, Maths, Science
Fortnightly homework: Art, Geography, History, Hospitality, ICT, Music, Personal Development, Spanish, Technology

Year 10 and Year 11

Weekly homework: English, Maths, Science

Fortnightly homework: All option subjects

Sixth Form

Weekly homework: At least one formal piece of homework per subject. There is also an expectation that students work independently on additional tasks such as: going over notes, wider reading, research, practising exam questions, etc.

Homework tasks in all year groups will be a mixture of:

- independently practising skills taught in lessons
- introducing content for future lessons
- retrieving knowledge previously taught in lessons
- learning/revising key knowledge
- reading

You can access the homework timetable for your child/children via the homework page of our website:

<https://www.monkseaton.org.uk/homework>

Students will receive one positive Class Chart point for every piece of homework they complete. One negative point will be given for each missed piece of homework.

Extra-curricular programme



| Year Group | | 9 | 10 | 11 | Sixth Form |
|------------|---------------|---|---|--|---|
| Mon | Lunch | Computer Games Design club (120) Culture café (SG in 201) Library | Computer Games Design club (120) Culture café (SG in 201) Library | Computer Games Design club (120) Sports Hall- Multi Sports (JEM) Science Short Circuit – Revision 126 Gym Club (GBT) Library | Culture café (SG in 201) Gym Club (GBT) Library |
| | After School | Basketball PAJ Science homework support ILA 157A Cooking Club (LB) - G67/68 | Basketball PAJ Science homework support ILA 157A Cooking Club (LB) - G67/68 | Basketball PAJ Science homework support ILA 157A Cooking Club (LB) - G67/68 | Science homework support ILA 157A Cooking Club (LB) - G67/68 |
| Tue | Lunch | Crochet Club (KEF, library) Future Artists Club | Crochet Club (KEF, library) Sports Hall- Multi Sports (PAJ) GCSE Art Club | Crochet Club (KEF, library) Geography Revision Club (EC, 209) GCSE Art Club | Crochet Club (KEF, library) A Level Art Club |
| | After School | Staff CPD – No Extra-Curricular Clubs | Staff CPD – No Extra-Curricular Clubs | Staff CPD – No Extra-Curricular Clubs | Staff CPD – No Extra-Curricular Clubs |
| Wed | Before School | Multi Sports (CMS) | Multi Sports (CMS) | Multi Sports (CMS) | Multi Sports (CMS) |
| | Lunch | Sports Hall- Multi Sports (SRH) Future Artists Club Library | Let's Get Down to Business - Enterprise Club (110) GCSE Art Club Library | Let's Get Down to Business - Enterprise Club (110) GCSE Art Club STEM club 126 Library | Let's Get Down to Business - Enterprise Club (110) A Level Art Club Library |
| | After School | Girls Football (JEM/SHL) Boys Football (PAJ) | Girls Football (JEM/SHL) Boys Football (PAJ) | Girls Football (JEM/SHL) | |
| Thu | Lunch | Boys Volleyball (PAJ) Future Artists Club Library | Boys Volleyball (PAJ) GCSE Art Club Library | Spanish tapas – bitesize chunks of revision 201 Boys Volleyball (PAJ) GCSE Art Club Library | Boys Volleyball (PAJ) A Level Art Club Library |
| | After School | Girls Netball (CMS) DofE Club (SRH/JL) | Girls Netball (CMS) DofE Club (SRH/JL) | History Revision with LHS in 207 Girls Netball (CMS) | DofE Club (SRH/JL) – Y12 Only |
| Fri | Lunch | Pride club (Week B only) 105 Girls Volleyball (CMS) Library | Pride club (Week B only) 105 Girls Volleyball (CMS) Library | Pride club (Week B only) 105 Girls Volleyball (CMS) Library | Pride club (Week B only) 105 Girls Volleyball (CMS) Library |
| | After School | Go Green (SG/MP-meet in atrium) Gym Club (SRH) Social Football (PAJ) Performance (CAM) | Go Green (SG/MP-meet in atrium) Gym Club (SRH) Social Football (PAJ) Performance (CAM) | Go Green (SG/MP-meet in atrium) Gym Club (SRH) Social Football (PAJ) Performance (CAM) | Go Green (SG/MP-meet in atrium) Gym Club (SRH) Social Football (PAJ) Performance (CAM) |

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| Activity/Club | Teacher(s) | Overview of activity/club |
|--|---|--|
| Computer Games Design club | Ms Holmes Long (SHL) | Use Develop to design and create your own computer games. |
| Let's Get Down to Business (Enterprise Club) | Mrs Hay (KH) | Put your knowledge to the test and work with others across the school to develop and grow your own business. |
| Spanish Tapas | Mrs Graham (SG) | Bitesize chunks of revision for Y11 Spanish. |
| Culture Café | SG | Open a window onto the world and explore its diverse culture and heritage. |
| Go Green | SG | An eco-club, working together to make a difference to our planet. |
| Pride club | Ms Turner (AT) | A club for anyone interested in anything LGBTQ+ |
| Crochet Club | KEF | An introduction to crochet for beginners and an opportunity for more accomplished crocheters to work on projects in a supportive environment. |
| Geography Revision Club | Mrs Cowgill (EC) | Geography revision – focus on exam technique and geographical skills. All Yr11 Geographers welcome! |
| Future Artist Club | Mrs Tomlinson (CT) | An opportunity for Y9 students who have a keen interest in Art create their own artwork. |
| GCSE Art Club | CT | An opportunity for GCSE Art students to work on their artwork and use the department equipment and facilities. |
| A Level Art Club | CT | An opportunity for A Level Art students to work on their artwork and use the department equipment and facilities. |
| AM + Lunch Multi Sports | Mr Hay (SRH), Mr Johnson (PAJ), Ms McCallum (JEM), Mrs Shorting (CMS) | Recreational sports sessions for students – come along and play sport for fun before school or at lunch time. Sports will include volleyball, badminton, basketball, table tennis.....and many more. Don't be afraid to ask if there is something else you would like to do! |
| Sports Clubs – Football, Basketball, Netball, Volleyball | PAJ, JEM, CMS | All the sports clubs offer an opportunity to develop skills and play competitively – both internally and through external sports competitions in the local area. |
| Social Football | PAJ | Interested in football and just want to play for fun + enjoyment – this is the club for you! |
| Fitness Gym Club | SRH, GBT, PAJ | Want to get fitter? Stronger? Healthier? Come along to fitness club and make use of the school's fitness suite. Feel free to work independently or with friends. ALL welcome – from experienced gym goers to absolute novices! |
| Performance Club | Mr Angell Moir (CAM) | Explore all aspects of performance – drama, acting, singing, dancing. |
| DofE Club | SRH/ Mr Lazell (JL) | This club will be exclusively for those students that sign up to complete the bronze award this year. Sessions will include developing navigation skills, cooking, tent building and much more!!! |
| STEM Club (Science) | Mrs Purdy (LP) | An opportunity to explore Science and achieve the CREST award |
| Cooking Club | Mrs Bennett (LB) | Want to develop your culinary skills – this is the club for you! Come along and have a go at making all sorts of culinary delights! *Please note there will be a cap on numbers (10ish) for this club so if you are interested see Mrs Bennet in the LSC asap! |
| Library | Ms Furness (KEF) | An opportunity for students to visit the school's library and borrow books they can read for pleasure. |

Upcoming Key Dates: Please see our website <https://www.monkseaton.org.uk/key-dates>

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