

# Welcome to Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School

We are delighted to welcome you to our fantastic school. We are really looking forward to meeting you. To ensure that you have the best start at Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School we wanted to share some advice and information to help you. In our welcome guide we have included information on:

1. House Point Challenges.
2. Advice to help you if you are feeling nervous about starting secondary school.
3. Answers to the questions Year 6 students often ask.
4. Advice from students already at Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School.
5. Guidance on how to achieve House Points.
6. An example timetable.



Before you start at Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School we will ask you to complete an “all about me booklet” so that you can provide some information about yourself that will be shared with your new group tutor. This will help us to get to know you better and support you at school.



Head of Arley:  
**Ms Bagshaw**



Head of Capethorne:  
**Mrs Bentley**



Head of Moreton:  
**Ms Moyes**



Head of Tatton:  
**Mrs Chaloner-Mattin & Mrs Morgan**



Learning Intervention Manager  
& Transition Lead:  
**Miss Hughes**



SEND Support:  
**Ms Gallimore, Mrs Bailey & Mrs Guy**



# House Point Challenges

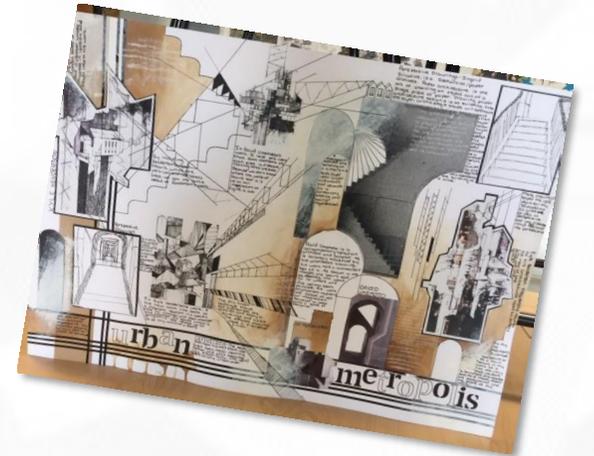


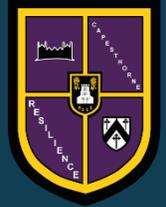
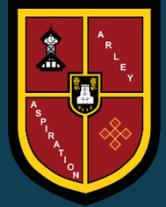
Try to complete at least one of the following challenges over the summer holidays. Ask someone at home to take pictures whilst you are taking part in completing these challenges. Ask your parents/carer to share the photos taken with your new form tutor or tweet them to the HCCS twitter page @hccs1978 #housepointchallenge. Your form tutor will reward your effort with achievement points.

1. Learn to count to ten in another language.
2. Create a travel notebook that collects information on past or future travel plans. Include your favourite memories, pictures, recipes, books or travel documentaries.
3. Send a thank you card to someone who has helped or supported you.
4. Take part in a sporting event.
5. Design and create a new board game.
6. Complete the extreme reading challenge:  
Think about different, exciting, fun and SAFE places you can enjoy a book.

What to do:

- Choose a book.
  - Find an unusual place to read it.
7. Draw a picture that makes someone smile.
  8. Take part in author and illustrator masterclasses: <https://www.worldbookday.com/online-masterclasses/>
  9. Access art and culture in museums from around the world. Experience museum tours through google street view: <https://artsandculture.google.com/project>





# What to do if you are nervous about starting secondary school

1. Talk to your parents or carer as they will be able to listen and give helpful advice.
2. Pack your bag the night before. This will make you feel more confident and organised for the day ahead.
3. Tell someone at school. Your tutor will be a key source of support and help you each day at school.
4. Remember it's normal to feel nervous or worried and everyone feels like this to some extent. Talk to your friends to offer them support too. Helping other people can often make you feel better.
5. If you are struggling to say how you are feeling then try writing it down instead. Some people find it easier to share their ideas in this way.
6. Never be afraid to ask for help if you're not sure where to go. Ask anyone in our school community they will be prepared to help and support you as much as you need.
7. If you can, find a friend to walk with on your first day. Things won't seem so daunting if you can go with someone.
8. Get involved in extracurricular activities that match your interests and talents. This allows you to make friends with others that you will have something in common with.
9. Relax and try to enjoy it – in no time at all, it'll seem like you've been at HCCS forever. And this time next year, you'll be showing the new intake around the school.





# Answers to key questions

Where do I need to go on my first day at school?	You need to go to our restaurant. There will be staff and students available to show you where you need to go. If needed, they will take you to the restaurant. Ask for help if it is needed.
What will happen on my first day at school?	On your first day you will be with your new tutor. You will meet your new friends in your tutor group. Your tutor will spend the time getting to know you and making you feel welcome within our school community.
What do I need to wear on my first day at school?	You will need to wear your HCCS school uniform.
Do I need to bring anything with me on my first day at HCCS?	Bring in your equipment for school. This includes a black, red and purple pen (an ordinary biro will be fine) pencil, protractor, calculator, compass, rubber, ruler, glue stick, dry-wipe white board markers, earphones (essential for ICT and other computer based lessons) and a reading book. This is the basic equipment that you will need every day for school.
How will I know which bus to get on at the end of the school day?	The front of each school bus displays a route list. Check the route list on the front window of the bus before you get on. The buses usually park in the same spot each day so it will become easier to find your bus after a few days. Your tutors and teachers will be available after school to help you get on the right bus. Ask for help if you need it.
Am I allowed to bring my mobile phone to school?	Only bring your mobile phone to school if you need it to organise your transport to and from school. Your mobile phone must be switched off as soon as you arrive on our school site and kept switched off all day. If you need to contact your parents during the school day you will be allowed to use the phone in the main school office. If your parents needed to get in touch with you they would send a message via the school office.
What are the three things I need to remember for my first day at school?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Enjoy the day. Meet new people and make new friends.</li><li>2. Talk to your tutor and ask any questions you might have about our school community.</li><li>3. Ask for help if you need it.</li></ol>



# Student Voice

We asked our students to share their experiences of what it is like to be a student at HCCS and their experiences of joining the school in Year 7. Here are some of the views our students wanted to share with you:

“Two years ago I joined the school and i was in your exact situation: I know how scary joining a new school may be but it is so exciting too! You're probably feeling nervous, it's totally normal, however you don't need to be!”

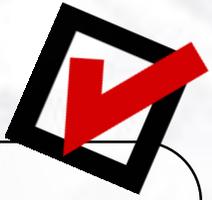
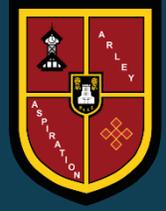
“I love it here. I have made lots of new friends”.

“It's great being at Holmes Chapel, there are so many clubs to do and you can make new friends and fit right in.”

“HCCS are one big community and I'm so happy that I attend the school. I've made some lifelong friends here and the staff members are so supportive.”

“My best advice for a Year 7 student would be to throw themselves into any opportunity they are given. Whether it be joining a sports team or something musical it's a great way to make new friends with similar interests. When I was in Year 7 I joined lower school orchestra and one of the girls from that club was still my best friend at the end of Year 11.”

“The experience of Year 7 was exciting but scary. It was a fresh start and I liked the fact I had a chance to make so many new friends. The clubs we have in school really helped me. They helped a lot of students with their confidence and students could have something nice to do during lunchtimes. At first, finding my way around was hard but once you get used to your surroundings you feel much more comfortable in a high school environment. The teachers and students were all very welcoming”.



# How do I gain achievement points?

**Attendance:** All students who have 100% attendance gain 10 achievement points each half term and at the end of each term. You can gain 60 achievement points each year just by coming into school!

**Act of Kindness:** We all know that being kind is something we should all do, but at HCCS we reward acts of kindness. Holding a door open, helping a teacher to carry some equipment or helping a friend.

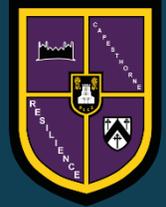
**Learning Attitude:** At HCCS we expect ALL students to work hard and do their best, but we also reward students who go that little bit further. e.g. handing homework in early or helping another student in a lesson.

**Reading Challenge:** Reading is really important and at HCCS we expect all students to have a reading book and read for the first 5 minutes of each lesson.

**Representing the school:** Are you a keen footballer, scientist, mathematician or musician? If you play for the football team, netball team or join Young Voices you will be given 5 achievement points every time to represent the school. At HCCS we have many opportunities to represent the school, your class teachers will explain all the different ways for each subject!

**Extra Curricular Cards:** If you join one of our many clubs at lunchtimes or after school you will be able to gain points for doing your hobby. Every time you attend you gain 2 points which are recorded on a card. Once your card is full you will be rewarded with 20 house points.

**Why do we collect house points?** We collect house points to reward your achievement in school. All the points are added together at the end of each term and certificates are given out. Your points are counted up to add to the overall house point total. The house with the most points is awarded the school trophy.



# What will my timetable look like?

At HCCS the students follow a two week timetable: week 1 and week 2. Have a look at the example timetable below and see if you can work out which lessons you would have:

**Week 1- Monday- period 3**  
**Week 1- Wednesday- period 2**  
**Week 2-Tuesday- period 1**  
**Week 2- Friday- period 3**



**Timetable - Joe Bloggs 9KB**  
as at 19/09/2016

	1Mo	1Tu	1We	1Th	1Fr
1	Phys. Educ Miss K Grogan GYM	German Miss A Lloyd L3	Science Miss H Ralston S2	Phys. Educ Miss K Grogan GYM	Phys. Educ Miss K Grogan GYM
2	English Miss A E Burns E2	Maths Mrs K E Griffin M2	Science Mrs J Edge S6	Technology Mr A Rumer TE3	Inform Tec Mr M Lewis CR1
Tut	Tutor Period Miss K Brealey E4	Tutor Period Miss K Brealey E4	Tutor Period Miss K Brealey E4	Tutor Period Miss K Brealey E4	
3	Maths Mrs S Jackson M5	English Miss A E Burns E2	Art Mrs K I Edmonstone A1	History Mr E Fu H5	Music Mr R Lawson MU1
4	Science Miss H Ralston S2	Drama Mrs H Goulding Theatre 2 (sma)	Technology Mr A Rumer CR5	Geography Mrs V J L Moore H1	Science Mrs J Edge S6
5	Technology Mr A Rumer TE3	English Miss A E Burns E2	History Mr E Fu H5	Science Miss H Ralston S2	Spanish Mrs F V M O'Garr L2

	2Mo	2Tu	2We	2Th	2Fr
1	English Miss A E Burns E2	Phys. Educ Miss K Grogan GYM	English Miss A E Burns E2	Art Mrs K I Edmonstone A1	Maths Mrs K E Griffin M2
2	Spanish Mrs F V M O'Garr L2	Maths Mrs K E Griffin M2	Inform Tec Mr B Gallagher CR1	Technology Mr A Rumer TE3	Drama Mrs H Goulding Theatre 2 (sma)
Tut	Tutor Period Miss K Brealey E4				
3	Music Mr R Lawson MU1	German Miss A Lloyd L3	Science Mrs J Edge S6	Maths Mrs K E Griffin M2	Rel. Stud. Mrs J E Camm H6
	Science	Maths	Maths	Geography	English