



28th April 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We hope this letter finds you and your families well.

As we approach the final weeks of the school year, we would like to take the opportunity to update you on some important developments. We would also like to sincerely thank you for your ongoing support, which continues to make such a positive difference to the life of our school.

Permanent Accommodation – Exciting Progress

We are delighted to share some fantastic news from the Department of Education. Phase 1 of our permanent accommodation (the main school building) is several months ahead of schedule, with handover now expected in late March of 2025–2026. We anticipate receiving final logistics details and specific dates in September.

This is a major milestone for our entire school community. From September 2026, we expect to have full access to our new building, sports hall, outdoor play and social areas, and school garden. It is an exciting step forward for our students, our staff, and the wider community.

School Lotto – Help Us Build an All-Weather Sports Facility

At HCETSS, we firmly believe that access to outdoor activity and team sports is vital for the health and wellbeing of our students. We are currently embarking on a major fundraising drive to install an all-weather multi-sports surface on our campus.

Unfortunately, facilities like this fall outside the Department of Education's direct funding, which is a challenge faced by many schools nationwide. However, with the strong community spirit that defines HCETSS, we are confident we can meet this challenge through our school fundraiser lotto.

All proceeds raised will go directly towards the installation of this valuable facility, which will be a tremendous asset to both our school and local community—providing year-round sports and fitness opportunities for all our students.

You can support us here:

[HCETSS School Lotto](#)

Summer Assessments

First, Second, and Fifth Year summer assessments will take place from Monday 12th May to Friday 16th May. Please note:

- During this week, school will finish at 12:39pm for First, Second, and Fifth Year students only.
 - Third Year students will follow their normal timetable.
 - There will be no extra-curricular clubs running during this week.
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School Expectations – Thank You for Your Support

We ask for your continued support in reinforcing the following expectations at home:

- Punctuality and Attendance: Good habits lead to strong outcomes.
 - Dress Code: Students should be dressed appropriately for a safe, respectful, and positive learning environment (details below).
 - Water Breaks: Students should use the water fountains only during break and lunchtime.
 - Journals: Students should be recording homework daily; your encouragement with this is greatly appreciated.
 - Classroom Tidiness: Helping to maintain a clean and respectful environment benefits all.
 - Toilets: We respectfully ask that toilet use during class time be kept to a minimum, except where a medical need has been notified to the school.
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Dress Code – Key Reminders

Our school environment should reflect a culture of respect and readiness for learning. Please remind your child of the following:

- Hats, caps, hoods, and sunglasses must not be worn indoors.
- Jewellery must be appropriate for daily school life and safe for practical classes.
- Torn/ripped jeans are permitted only if rips are at or below the knee.
- Flip flops, vest tops/sleeveless tops, and midriff-exposing tops are not permitted.

- Clothing should fully cover underwear and not be see-through.
 - Shorts, skirts, and dresses should be of mid-thigh length or longer.
 - Outdoor coats must be removed during class time.
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Mobile Phones

We aim to foster an environment where students focus on learning and building real-world connections.

We recommend that students do not bring mobile phones to school. If you need to contact your child during the day, you can do so through the school office.

However, if students do bring a phone:

- It must be switched off and locked in their locker before 8.20am.
- Phones may only be accessed after the final lesson each day.
- If a phone is used without permission, it will be confiscated until the end of the school day. A repeat infringement will require a parent or guardian to collect the phone by appointment.

Thank you for your support in helping us maintain a focused and safe school environment.

New School Administrator

We are delighted to welcome Sarah Hatcher to the HCETSS team.

Sarah will be supporting the school office alongside Alex on a part-time basis, working from 8:30am to 12:30pm each day.

We look forward to you getting to know her in the months ahead.

Summer Programme 2025

Due to ongoing building works on site this summer, we will not be able to offer the Summer Programme (formerly known as July Provision) on-site this year.

However, parents of eligible students—including those enrolled in our autism classes or those requiring the highest level of support—can apply for the Home-Based Summer Programme, which will offer 10 hours of support per week for four weeks.

Full details, once finalised by the Department of Education, will be available here:

[Summer Programme 2025 Home-Based Programme Information](#)

If you have any questions or require assistance with the application process, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Once again, we wish to sincerely thank you for your ongoing support. It is truly appreciated and plays such an important role in the life of our school.

We look forward to a busy and successful final term together.

Kind regards,



Pádraig Conaty

Principal



Mick Heffernan

Deputy Principal