



Important Information for Parents and Carers

September 2026

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Welcome

Dear Parents & Carers,

We have created this booklet to provide you with key information and to set out the expectations for our school community.

We welcome your young person into Hope Valley College. We are a small friendly school, passionate about supporting our students to achieve their full potential.

We have high standards and high expectations of our young people as we want everyone to make the most of every opportunity in school to be the best that they can be.

Achieving this involves a strong partnership between home and school and this is the beginning of that positive journey.

Time in secondary school is precious, and we look forward to being on this journey with you and your young people.

With very best wishes,

Mrs D Petts

Headteacher, Hope Valley College



Home-School Agreement

A home school agreement is a statement that explains our aims, values, policies and procedures and the responsibilities and expectations of our students and their parents and carers. All parents and carers that wish to send their young person to Hope Valley College acknowledge they will sign up to this home school agreement.

School Responsibilities:

We will:

- Support your young person's wellbeing and safety by providing a safe, supportive and inclusive environment.
- Help and encourage your young person to be the best that they can be.
- Demonstrate our values and key messages in everything we do (**refer to page 15**)
- Monitor and update parents and carers on progress at subject evenings, parent meetings and in data reports.
- Communicate promptly any concerns about attendance/behaviour/wellbeing with you as their parent or carer and respond to any concerns from your young person or parents/carers.
- Provide a broad and balanced curriculum that caters for all students.
- Promote high standards of behaviour, and outline clear expectations in our Behaviour for Learning Procedure so we can maintain a safe environment for all students.
- Set homework that supports the delivery of the curriculum and provide feedback where appropriate.
- Offer opportunities for parents and carers to get involved in school life.
- Communicate between home and school through notices, newsletters, text, email and the school website.
- Respond to communications from parents and carers in a timely manner, following the school-home communication guide. (**refer to page 12**)

Parent/ Carer Responsibilities:

- Read and accept the school's aims, key messages, policies and procedures—further key information is provided in this booklet.
- Make sure my young person attends school every day and on time unless there is a good reason for absence (e.g. illness). I will notify the school of any absences before 8.30am.
- Support the school to make sure my young person maintains a consistently high standard of behaviour in line with the Behaviour for Learning Procedure.
- Support my young person to try their best so they can reach their full potential and achieve the best grades they can.
- Make sure that my young person completes their homework on time, every time, and raise any issues with their teachers.
- Send my young person to school in clean, correct uniform every day.

- Communicate to the school any concerns that I have about my young person that may affect their behaviour in school or ability to learn.
- Make sure communication with the school is respectful, and that I use the appropriate contact details (listed on page 13).
- Understand that I should communicate with school during core school hours, and although they may at times respond outside of those hours, I can't always expect that.
- Treat all members of the school community with care and respect.
- Engage in parent meetings and work together with the school in order to achieve the best outcomes for my young person.
- Read any communications sent home by the school and respond where necessary.

Student Responsibilities:

- Uphold the school's values and key messages at all times.
- Arrive at school and my lessons every day that I can, on time and be ready to learn.
- Follow our behaviour expectations and endeavor to meet those standards every day.
- Take part in every lesson, and complete my work to a high standard.
- Do my homework on time and raise any issues with my teachers.
- Speak to an adult about any issues I'm experiencing that may affect my work or behaviour.
- Speak to an adult about any concerns I have about my safety or the safety of others.
- Wear the correct, clean school uniform every day.
- Bring to school all the equipment I need each day.
- Treat all members of the school community with care and respect
- Understand and follow the school rules



Who's who?

Leadership Team



Mr James
Chief Executive
Officer,
Chorus Education
Trust



Ms Hayes
Deputy Headteacher



Mr Beedon
Deputy
Headteacher



Mrs Petts
Headteacher,
Hope Valley
College



Miss Millington
Business Manager

Find out more at www.hopevalley.chorustrust.org/ourteam



Support for Students

Tutors

Tutors are one of the most important staff members in school.

They will start most mornings with their tutor group in tutor time. This is a chance for tutors to talk to their students about any important news, and to check how they are doing.

Other help

There are lots of people here to support students, including our Pastoral Team who, together with our Safeguarding Manager, look after their safety and wellbeing.



Some of them are pictured below:



Ms Cooper-Hughes

Pastoral Manager
Key Stage 3

Ms Daniel

Pastoral Manager
Key Stage 4



Mrs Starbuck-Ahmed

Head of Key Stage 3
(Years 7, 8, and 9)



Mrs Cottle

Attendance Officer

Mr Jenkinson

Head of Key Stage
4 (Years 10 and 11)



Mr Robinson

Safeguarding and Family Support
Manager

Mr Griffin

Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENDCo)

The Hope Valley College Way

We have some key messages that are the foundation of everything we do. These are:



Be the best that you can be

- Be kind
- Be respectful
- Be ambitious
- Be hardworking
- Be polite
- Be responsible



Turn up, take part

- Come to school every day, on time
- Be ready to learn
- Be resourceful
- Go to every lesson on time, all of the time
- Take part in every lesson
- Take part in clubs, teams, and visits



High standards, high expectations

- Follow our rules, even when no one is watching
- Work hard in every lesson
- Achieve the best grades you can
- Be a good role model wherever you are
- Be resilient
- Be reflective

Attitude to learning (ATL)

We want to make sure that students develop the skills and abilities necessary to be successful. We focus on **'attitude to learning'** to help them achieve this.

Students receive an ATL grade from their teachers each term. These are shared with parents, and tutors will help students to use this information to develop an exceptional attitude to learning.

We will help students to be:

R EADY TO LEARN

R ESILIENT

R ESOURCEFUL

R eflective

R *espectful*

Find out more at www.hopevalley.chorustrust.org/atl

Attendance at School

Parents/carers have a legal responsibility to ensure that students attend school as often as possible. Hope Valley College has a responsibility to support good attendance through high expectations and excellent teaching and learning.

The school day starts at 8.55am, and students are welcome to arrive in school from 8.45am. It is expected that all students arrive and attend all lessons promptly.

Attendance - Why it is important to attend

- To get the most out of school, students must attend school as often as they can.
- Absence means that they will miss out on learning AND making friends and sharing experiences with others.
- If students are having problems, we can help them when they are in school.
- Poor attendance has a high correlation with lower attainment.

How to report an absence

If your young person is unable to attend school, parents and carers should:

Call 01433 620555 before 8:30am and select option 1. You should leave clear details outlining the absence and confirmation of when they are returning.

Or

Email attendance@hopevalley.chorustrust.org before 8:30am. You should leave clear details outlining the absence and confirmation of when they are returning.

We will contact parents and carers from 9:30am if we have not received any notifications regarding absence. If attendance is a cause for concern, our attendance officer will make contact and may require additional medical information before we are able to authorise an absence.

Attendance rewards

3-week streaks

Students who attend for 3 weeks in a row within a term will have a reward. Students can achieve 2 'streaks' in a term. We will give students a postcard and notify parent/carers when they receive an attendance reward.

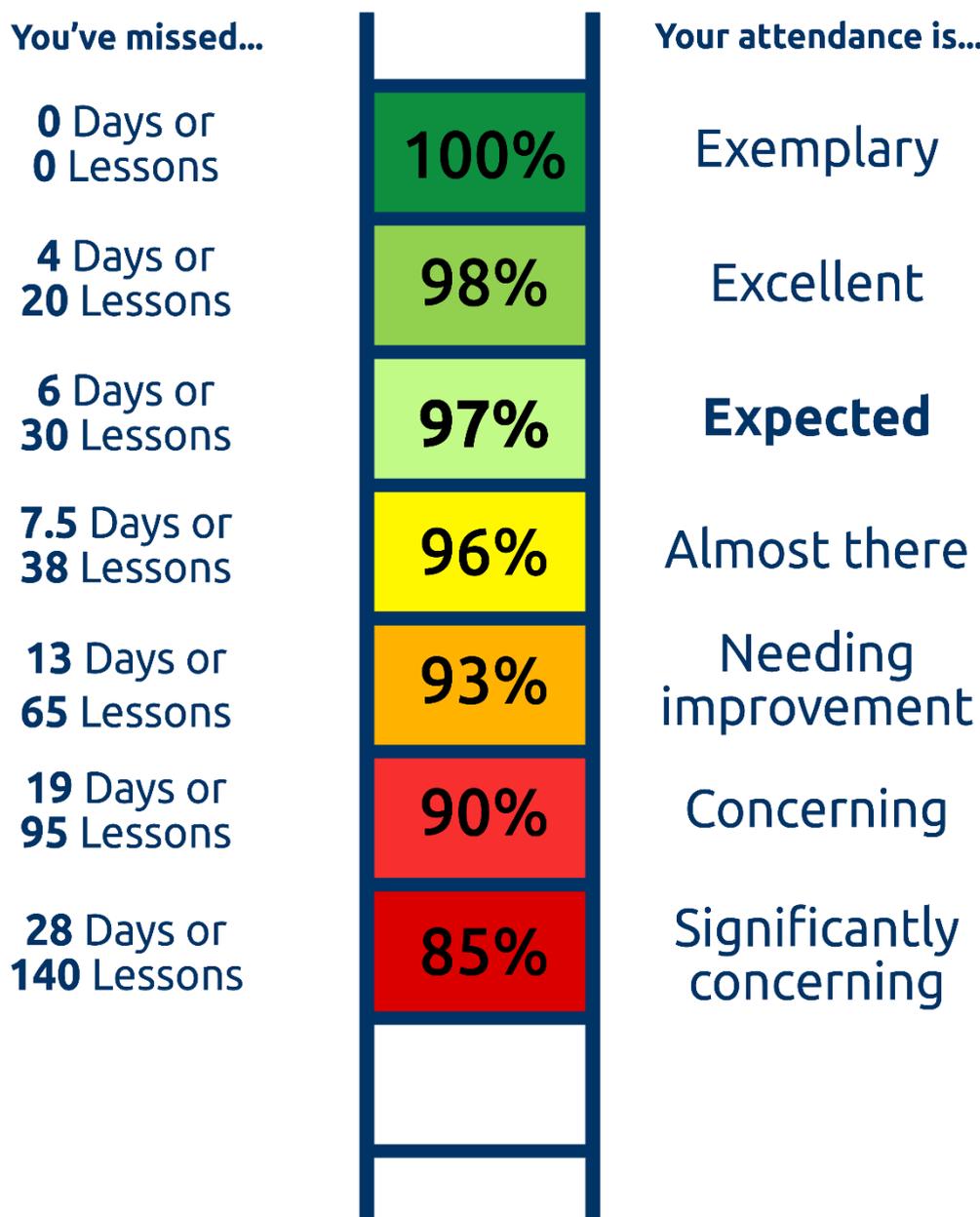
Weekly attendance emails

We will email parents weekly regarding 100% attendance.

School attendance procedures

We monitor attendance daily. Every 4 weeks we review attendance with students and will write to parents if attendance has fallen below 96%, 93% and 90%. We may put in place attendance mentoring or an attendance contract to support an improvement in attendance. Once attendance has fallen below 90% we may not be able to authorise absence without medical evidence. Failure to improve attendance may lead to fines.

The table below illustrates the impact on learning and progress of poor attendance.



Behaviour for Learning Procedure

By choosing to send your young person to Hope Valley College, you agree to support the school in making sure they adhere to our behaviour for learning procedure and follow our expectations.

We have consistently high expectations of what each student can achieve and how they should behave. We will model behaviour and expectations and will support students in learning how to accept the perspective of others and restore relationships.

Culture is based around building good habits, breaking poor habits, and establishing positive working relationships with students. We have simple, consistent systems based on kindness and respect to ensure that all students are safe, happy, and confident.

The Hope Valley College expectations are:

- Arrive on time, fully equipped and ready to learn.
- Develop positive attitudes to learning through showing respect, resilience, resourcefulness, and by being reflective.
- Move quietly around the school.
- Treat the school buildings and school property with respect.
- Follow all instructions, first time, every time.
- Accept sanctions when given.
- Do not behave in a way that brings the school into disrepute, including when off-site.

Our behaviour system

Every school has rules that they ask their students to follow, and they are all very similar. This is so that all students can access their learning without disruption or interruption. No student has the right to disrupt the learning of others. We believe the behaviour of our students is very good and this helps to create an environment where everyone can learn.

Stage	Teacher Action
Chance	A reminder of our expectations – a chance to modify behaviour
Choice	An opportunity to choose the correct way to behave – if behaviour does not change it may lead to a consequence
Consequence	A clear consequence for a student's choice of behaviour, recorded in Arbor

Rewards

At Hope Valley College we want to reward positive behaviours. We will use Arbor to award positive points and as these points accumulate you will earn a range of rewards, including badges.

We also notify parents each week about positive behaviour, attendance and punctuality.

Our badges

We have badges for whole school achievements:

- Points awards (Bronze/Silver/Gold/Platinum)
- Student Ambassadors
- Student Council
- Sports Leaders
- Key Stage Leader Awards
- Headteachers Award



Sanctions

We have a range of clear, fair sanctions for behaviour that does not meet our expectations.

Negative points	Consequence
5 negative points in one day	Consequence the next day to be decided by the Key Stage Leader
5 negative points in one week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole-school lunchtime detention – SLT MONDAY LUNCHTIME • Email to parents • Tutor and key stage leader notified • Report card at Key Stage Leader’s discretion
5 late marks in one week or failure to attend a teacher detention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole-school lunchtime detention – SLT FRIDAY LUNCHTIME • Email to parents • Tutor and key stage leader notified
5 Phone misuse negatives in one term	Phone handed in to reception for 5 days
5 SLT detentions	1 day seclusion

Report Cards

We may decide to put a student on a report card to help them to improve their behaviour. These are graduated from green reports, which are managed by Tutors, yellow reports (Key Stage Leader) and red reports that are managed by a member of our senior leadership team.

Support plans

A support plan may be put in place to ensure that a student has everything in place to succeed and make progress. We will arrange a meeting with parent/carers to discuss this if we feel it necessary.

Home-School Communications Guide

Clear and relevant communication between school and home is key in helping students to achieve their best. We work hard to ensure that communications are:

- **Clear:** easily understood and provided in a form that is accessible.
- **Relevant:** we try only to send information that is useful, timely and applicable to the student or family receiving it.
- **Respectful:** we use, and expect only acceptable language, tone and behaviour in our communications.

This guide summarises the systems in place to enable effective communication from school to home, and from home to school, the full document can be found on our website here: www.hopevalley.chorustrust.org/policies

Methods we use to communicate from school to home

Communications Type	Methods
Urgent communications (individual students)	<p>If a student is taken ill we prefer to make contact by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Telephone <p>If the student is absent from school and no reason has been provided, we prefer to make contact by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Email ▪ Telephone
Urgent communications (Whole school)	<p>If there is a need to contact you regarding a situation affecting a large group of students or the whole school (such as school closure due to extreme weather) we will make contact by one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Email: an email to the primary parent/carer (where we have an email address). Note that the delivery of emails can sometimes be delayed. ▪ SMS: text messages will be sent. ▪ Website: a message on the home screen. ▪ Social media: notices will be added to the school's social media platforms (Facebook and Instagram)
Routine communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Email: an email to the primary parent/carer (where we have an email address). This includes a regular update from the headteacher. ▪ Phone: we will phone you if there is an issue to discuss regarding your child. ▪ Meetings: occasionally, there are times when it is helpful to meet staff to discuss an issue. If so, a mutually convenient date and time will be agreed. ▪ Homework: individual student homework information is available on the Arbor Parent App/Portal

Communications Type	Methods
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Student reports: reports that contain information about your child's Attitude to Learning (which drives their academic performance) are sent to parents/carers three times a year via the Arbor Parent App/Portal. ▪ Subject evenings: parents and carers are invited to an annual subject evening for an opportunity to discuss academic progress with teachers.
Public sources of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Website: is updated with information relating to the school calendar, term dates, contact details etc. ▪ Social media: the school social media channels are used to share general news about student achievements and life at school. Social media is not used for sending or receiving routine messages to/from parents/carers.

Communications from home to school

In order to keep communications with school as efficient as possible, please use the following methods to communicate with school.

Reason for communication	Method
Report absence	<p>Call 01433 620555 and choose the option to report a student absence, or</p> <p>Email attendance@hopevalley.chorustrust.org, including the student's name, year and class, bus and the names of any siblings at school.</p>
General enquiries	<p>Email enquiries@hopevalley.chorustrust.org, or</p> <p>Call 01433 620555 to speak to our reception staff.</p>
Complaints	Refer to the Chorus Trust Complaints Policy which can be found at www.chorustrust.org/policies
Student pastoral queries	Email pastoral@hopevalley.chorustrust.org , including the student's name, year and class.
Subject-related queries and contact with teachers	Email enquiries@hopevalley.chorustrust.org including the student's name, year, class and subject to which the query relates.
Exam-related queries	Email exams@hopevalley.chorustrust.org , including the student's name, year and class
Payment-related queries	Email finance@hopevalley.chorustrust.org
Pathways Post-16 provision	Email pathways@hopevalley.chorustrust.org
Update parent/carer contact details	<p>Use the Arbor Parent App/Portal, or</p> <p>Call 01433 620555, or</p> <p>Email attendance@hopevalley.chorustrust.org</p>

Day to Day Life at School

School Day

The school day starts at 8.55am. Students are welcome to come in to school from 8.45am are ready for the start of the day.

School ends at 3.30pm.

www.hopevalley.chorustrust.org/schoolday



Timetable

Tutor time: 8.55 - 9.20

Period 1: 9.20 - 10.20

Break: 10.20 - 10.40

Period 2: 10.40 - 11.40

Period 3: 11.40 - 12.40

Lunch time: 12.40 - 1.25

Period 4: 1.30 - 2.30

Period 5: 2.30 - 3.30

Mobile Phones

Students don't need to have a mobile phone at Hope Valley College, but we know that they might bring one with them. The rule about your mobile phone, mobile devices and earphones/pods is simple:

When in school buildings, phones and other devices should be switched off and in your school bag. You will be required to hand them in if this is not the case.

Jewellery and Nail Extensions

Students are allowed up to two piercings in each ear and may wear simple stud earrings. A single nose stud is permitted.

No other piercings are allowed, and students will be asked to remove any before taking part in lessons. Necklaces are only permitted if worn beneath clothing: they must be removed before taking part in practical lessons such as PE.

We recommend that students leave items of value, including jewellery, at home to avoid any loss of or damage to any personal possessions whilst at school.

If removed, school cannot be liable for the loss of any items.

For health and safety reasons, long nail extensions are not allowed.

School Uniform and Equipment

Uniform

Our school uniform is straightforward and comfortable. We expect students to follow the simple rules that are detailed on the website, which also contains full details of the uniform:

www.hopevalley.chorustrust.org/uniform

- Navy blue polo shirt with HVC logo
- Navy blue sweatshirt or hoodie with HVC logo
- Plain blue or black trousers (which can be jeans), knee-length skirt or tailored shorts
- Flat shoes or trainers



PE Kit

Students must change into PE kit when they have a PE lesson and return to school uniform when the lesson is over. The kit that they need to have is given opposite. There is lots more information on the website, and also a handy checklist for parents/carers to use.

- PE shirt with HVC logo
- Black shorts or tracksuit bottoms
- Plain black warm layer
- Trainers for indoor use, or on the multi-use games area (MUGA)

If you play football/rugby:

- White or black knee-high football/rugby socks
- Football boots/Astro turf trainers (deep grip)
- Shin pads
- Gum guard/shield



Equipment

Students should bring this with them every day:

- 2 x black pens.
- 1 x green pen.
- 2 x pencils.
- Ruler.
- Rubber.
- Pencil sharpener.
- Coloured pencils.
- Scientific calculator.
- Compass.
- Angle measure.
- Set square.
- Protractor.
- Student planner (school will give you this).
- Tissues.
- Apron for food tech lessons.
- Dictionary.
- Refillable water bottle.



Key Dates

INSET Days 2026 - 2027

- Friday 4 September 2026
- Friday 23 October 2026
- Friday 4 December 2026
- Monday 22 February 2027
- Monday 26 July 2027



Term Dates 2026 –2027

Term 1— Monday 7 September to Thursday 22 October 2026 (there is no staggered start to the new school year, all students should be in school on Monday 7 September)

Term 2— Monday 2 November to Friday 18 December 2026

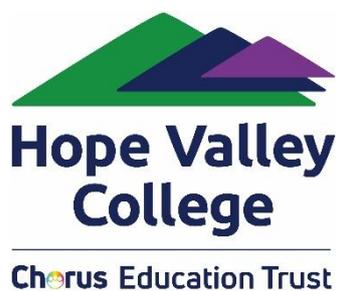
Term 3— Monday 4 January to Friday 12 February 2027

Term 4— Monday 22 February to Thursday 25 March 2027

Term 5— Monday 12 April to Friday 28 May 2027

Term 6— Monday 7 June to Friday 23 July 2027

Thank you for reading this information booklet
If you have any queries, our contact details are below



Hope Valley College

Castleton Road, Hope, Derbyshire, S33 6SD

Tel: +44 (0) 1433 620555

Email: enquiries@hopevalley.chorustrust.org

Website: www.hopevalley.chorustrust.org