

## HCCAT Year 6 Summer School Report 2021

### Introduction

During the 2021 summer holiday, HCC ran two weeks of Summer School to support the Year 6 transition process. The Summer School was funded by the DfE to the sum of **£58,551.63**. Conditions of the funding meant that all money could only be spent on the delivery of the summer school and any surplus funding returned. A full breakdown of the costings for the Summer School can be found in Appendix B at the end of this report.

### Attendance

Of the 20 local primary schools who took part, overall attendance was 95.1%.

Week 1 (w/c 26 <sup>th</sup> July)	147 students	
Week 2 (w/c 9 <sup>th</sup> August)	88 students	
Non-attendance	12 students	<b>4.9%</b>
<b>Overall Total Attendance</b>	235/247	<b>95.1%</b>

The college's Transition Lead, Mr Jackson, followed up with the 12 students who did not attend either week of the Summer School to ensure that they were given additional support for transition in September.

### Staffing

Across the two weeks the Summer School was staffed using current employees.

	Teaching & Support Staff	SLT
Week 1	<b>20</b>	<b>2</b>
Week 2	<b>12</b>	<b>2</b>

Further support was provided by ten Year 7 Transition Ambassadors and six Sixth Form Helpers who were excellent throughout.

### Impact of the Summer School

#### **Parental Feedback**

Parents completed an online survey on Day 1 and at the end of Day 5. There were 123 responses (Day 1) and 93 responses (Day 5).

The day one survey highlighted that 37 parent/carers (34%) identified concerns/worries about their child starting and/or attending HCC:

Concern	Day 1	Day 5
Anxiety of change/Entering a new site/Bigger site	12	7
Bullying	8	2
Making new friends	7	0
Will struggle academically	7	0

SEN Need: - Unidentified SEN need (3) - Sensory issues noise/change (1) - Dyslexia (1) - ASD (1)	6	0
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- ❖ 88% of parents said their child felt more confident than before the Summer School
- ❖ 95% of parents agreed or strongly agreed that their child enjoyed attending the Summer School
- ❖ 85% of parents felt their child was more ready to start HCC than before the Summer School
- ❖ 82% of parents said they felt confident with making contact with HCC following the Summer School
- ❖ 65% of parents said they were less worried/concerned about their child starting HCC following the Summer School.

### **A positive impact on literacy levels**

During the two Summer School weeks, all students that attended had the chance to log on and use our Literacy Programme - Bedrock Vocabulary. This gave them the opportunity to try the programme with the support of teachers, ensuring a better understanding of what the programme was and how it helped to improve their literacy/reading skills.

Having this time gave the students an additional two hours that week to use the programme before the start of term. Some students did this everyday as they loved it so much. We had a mini competition as well over the summer holidays, so for the top three students in each week who logged on and gained the most Bedrock points, we issued them with £20/£10 or £5 Amazon Vouchers, as well as a reading book for them to keep. This really had an impact as out of the 205 students who had access to Bedrock, 40 students used it during the holidays. Without this opportunity this would not have happened, and students would not have had the chance to get used to using Bedrock before they started in September. Looking at those students' data, on average they have made a 10% improvement in their literacy by using this programme at home and during Summer School.

### **A positive impact on attendance in Term 1**

Year 7 attendance was **95.2%** compared to **96.2%** for Year 7 in the previous year.

Term 1 2020-21

Group	Present		% Attend	
	AM	PM	AM	PM
Year 7	6966	6947	96.3	96.1
Totals	6966	6947	96.3	96.1

Term 1 2021-22

Group	Present		% Attend	
	AM	PM	AM	PM
Year 7	7794	7748	95.5	94.9
Totals	7794	7748	95.5	94.9

Although this year's overall attendance was 1% lower for Year 7 in the college, it was still well above National average for attendance in all state-funded schools which was **88.2%** on 21 Oct 2021.

The Summer School has increased the students' confidence that the college is a safe place to be despite the Covid-19 pandemic, lessening the impact on this year's absence rates.

The Summer School contributed to a more cohesive year group in September 2021. The college was able to gain valuable information about key students that would not normally be provided by feeder primary schools or the normal transition programme. As a college, this information was shared with key staff members supporting students during the settling period in September. House Leaders, PSAs and Mentors were provided with important background information to support with pastoral needs.

Further, SEND observations and examples of student work completed during the Summer Schools were fed back to Teachers and Support Staff (SEND) to support with planning accessible lessons for all learners.

### **A positive improvement in student wellbeing/self-esteem and a reduction in anxiety in students**

Lower levels of anxiety are linked to good attendance and improved wellbeing in young people. The Summer School allowed students to build rapport and form positive relations with peers and key staff prior to September. The '*Stirling Children's Wellbeing Scale*' was used as the measure of student anxiety and overall well-being. Students were assessed at the start of the Summer School (Day 1 - Registration) and at the end of the Summer School (Day 5 - Celebration Assembly). The average 'Wellbeing score' increased by 2 points from 42/60 to 44/60 which is in line with the average expected score.

	<b>Overall Wellbeing score</b>	<b>No. of students that scored the mean score = 44</b>	<b>50% of all score 39-48</b>
<b>Day 1</b>	42/60	19 students	103 students = 44%
<b>Day 5</b>	44/60	13 Students	<b>112 Students = 45% (increase of 9 students)</b>

### **A greater understanding of the College's systems and processes**

The Summer School was designed to have a clear structure for each day of the programme with built in breaks and organised activities. Each day started with assembly to bring everyone together and build a shared purpose and identity. A shared vision of being a community, the importance of looking after the environment and exploring were central themes of these assemblies (as outlined in the John Muir Programme).

Students gained experience of how break times and the canteen work, as well as learning the location of toilets and how lessons are structured. The HCC recognition system was promoted throughout the week, with every student receiving at least one recognition badge as well as a personalised postcard to celebrate opportunities where they had demonstrated a key value of the college.

## **Student Feedback**

Students were provided with a wide range of academic opportunities including wellbeing, OAA and sporting activities and other experiences across the week. 15 separate activities were identified as enjoyable by the 237 students. Furthermore, the focus on the outdoors and well-being were a key motivator for students. All 237 students achieved their John Muir Award.

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Tally (% of students)</b>
<b>1</b>	Forest School	137 (58%)
<b>2</b>	Sports	96 (41%)
<b>3</b>	Kinball	90 (38%)
<b>4</b>	Cooking	56 (24%)
<b>5</b>	Bedrock	33
<b>6</b>	Dance	30
<b>7</b>	Walk/Expedition	23
<b>8</b>	ICT	22
<b>9</b>	Art	22

## Appendix A - Parental Feedback

- *“My daughter suffers with anxiety and fluctuates between looking forward to starting HCC and being really worried about it. Summer School has been fantastic at helping her to feel more comfortable and familiar with the school. I’m grateful for all the effort the school has put in this week. She has really enjoyed it.”*
- *“Our daughter has had the most positive experience and is now feeling much more excited and much less anxious about starting school in September. She has enjoyed meeting new friends, members of staff and learning more about the school environment. She has come home each afternoon filled with enthusiasm about her experiences during the day.”*
- *“She was initially feeling very sad about leaving (Primary School) and very anxious about starting at HCC. She is a bright, confident child and this was very worrying for us as parents.”*
- *“During the course of the week at Summer School the majority of her worries have completely disappeared and instead she is actually looking forward to starting in September. This is down to yourself and the other staff members who have provided the children with the most fantastic opportunities over the last week.”*
- *“My son enjoyed every day, and all of the staff were warm and welcoming”*
- *“He enjoyed all aspects and came home grinning each day.”*
- *“It was fantastic, and I can’t thank everyone involved enough for the commitment and time they put in.”*
- *“Getting to know the new environment and meeting new people, the cooking and walk went well the girls never stopped talking about it. The creative activities both enjoyed as well.”*
- *“My daughter enjoyed everything about it she enjoyed making new friends”*
- *“Shelter building, campfire building with his peers and he enjoyed all the activities to be honest”*
- *“All of the activities, she is normally very shy, but she joined in every single activity!!”*
- *“Meeting new friends mostly. She thoroughly enjoyed all the activities.”*
- *“My child loved every day his favourite was den building”*
- *“Dance, PE and most activities she absolutely loved!”*

## Appendix B – Spending Breakdown

<b>Description</b>	<b>Total (£)</b>
Staffing costs	£47,278.16
Catering costs	£2,299.50
Transport for Expedition	£975.00
Student/Parent celebration afternoon (inc. Catering)	£2,720.00
Sports equipment	£1,246.75
Science Equipment	£217.02
Cooking lessons	£197.84
Forest School Equipment	£724.72
Student equipment	£2,164.64
Prizes	£200.00
John Muir Award Certificate	£528.00
<b>Total Spend</b>	<b>£58,551.63</b>