



HEATHCOAT PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Interim Headteacher: Carly Wilkins

HPS: Helping People Succeed

7th September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back September 2026

I hope you and your family have had a restful and enjoyable summer break.

It is with great excitement and pride that I write to you as your new Interim Headteacher of Heathcoat Primary School. I am delighted to be joining such a vibrant school community and would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our families, both new and returning, as we begin the 2026-2027 academic year together.

At Heathcoat, we believe that every child deserves to feel safe, happy, valued and challenged to achieve their very best. As we begin this new school year, our focus will remain firmly on providing high-quality learning opportunities and ensuring that every child can flourish.

School Communication

This year, we will be introducing **ClassDojo** as a platform for communication between home and school. We know that strong partnerships with parents and carers are key to every child's success and ClassDojo will provide a simple and effective way for us to maintain open lines of communication.

As we move to ClassDojo, **year group email addresses will no longer be in use**. If you need to contact the school, please continue to do so via the school office email at attendance@heathcoat.devon.sch.uk and your enquiry will be directed to the appropriate member of staff.

How to sign up

It is important to us that every child's account is connected; you are welcome to sign up as many key adults as you need to.

To get started, simply download the free ClassDojo app or visit the ClassDojo website and create an account using a valid email address. You can then connect to your child's class by either:

- Scanning the QR code sent home by your child's class teacher; or
- Entering the unique 9-digit code provided.

If you would like some support with setting up your account, the following guides may be helpful:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ggtifqVFHw&t=1s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= pt6mVa4jPM>

Teachers and staff will monitor ClassDojo regularly throughout the school day and will aim to respond to messages within 48 working hours. We kindly ask that all communication remains respectful, constructive and in keeping with the positive relationships we value across our school community.

Please note that ClassDojo should not be used to report absences, urgent messages, or safeguarding concerns. These should continue to be communicated directly through the school office using attendance@heathcoat.devon.sch.uk

Please do not hesitate to contact school in the usual ways if you have any queries about Class Dojo.

Reminder of our new Positive Behaviour and High Expectations

At Heathcoat, we have high expectations for behaviour because we want every child to feel safe, respected and ready to learn. We believe that positive behaviour supports successful learning and helps create a calm and purposeful environment where all children can thrive.

This academic year, we are launching our new approach to supporting positive behaviour across our school. The emphasis is on helping children make good choices, reflect on their actions and successfully return to learning when difficulties arise. Staff have received training on the successful implementation of our new approach, ready for the year ahead during our INSET days. Our approach recognises that mistakes are a normal part of growing and learning and we are committed to supporting children to understand expectations, develop self-regulation skills and make positive choices. Most importantly, we want all children to know that they can always "turn things around" and that every day is an opportunity for a fresh start.

Heathcoat Primary: steps to positive behaviour in the classroom		
Remember: You Can ALWAYS Turn Things Around!		
1	Gentle Reminder / Check-in	 - Calm check-in - Non-verbal cue or gesture - Proximity support - Brief reminder of expectations - Support regulation if needed
2	Let's refocus	 - Acknowledge difficulty - Restate expectations - Offer support - Provide opportunity to make a positive choice
3	Reset	 - Brief pause for regulation - Quiet reflection - Opportunity to re-join learning successfully - Restorative discussion when regulated
4	Reflection: time in	 - Alternative workspace in class to complete learning - Supported reflection with a trusted adult - Pastoral support - Recording if appropriate by class teacher - Parental communication if required
5	Partner Classroom Support	 - Complete learning in a partner classroom - Allow time for reflection and regulation - Senior Leader involvement or Pastoral Team if required - Follow up with the class teacher - getting back on track - before returning fully to learning - Recording on CPOMS by class teacher - Parent/carer communication by class teacher
6	SLT or Pastoral Support	 - Senior Leader or Pastoral Team involvement - Restorative discussion when regulated - Recording on CPOMS by class teacher with SLT actions where required - Parent/carer communication by class teacher
7	Parent Partnership and Support Planning	 - Parent/carer communication - Meeting with parents/carers where appropriate - Discussion with Senior Leaders - Consider behaviour support plans, reasonable adjustments or additional interventions - Agree next steps and review arrangements

Today, your child's class teacher has spent time helping children settle into their new class by introducing classroom routines, expectations for learning and behaviour and discussing our **Heathcoat Primary Steps to Positive Behaviour in the Classroom**. This approach is designed to help all children feel safe, supported and ready to learn while promoting positive choices and respectful relationships.

We will use ClassDojo to recognise and celebrate positive behaviours. Children can earn points for working hard, showing kindness, demonstrating our Heathcoat values, being a positive role model, helping others, persevering when learning is challenging and contributing positively to school life.

With best wishes,

Carly Wilkins
Interim Headteacher