The Henry Cort Community College
We are proud to welcome you to The Henry Cort Community College.

We are slightly smaller than most secondary schools and we believe this contributes to our ability to know and understand each and every student and to provide them with the individual support they need to develop their confidence and enable them to thrive.

Through our commitment to learning for life, students develop into assured, capable, enterprising young people with the knowledge and skills to achieve their goals and play an active role in modern society.

We create ambition and aspire to be excellent in everything we do, enabling each and every person to achieve their highest possible outcomes, regardless of starting points.

We recognise that students learn best when they are happy. To this end, we provide a supportive, individual approach for each student through a broad and balanced curriculum which other small schools find hard to match.

“I just wanted to write to you to make you aware how wonderful your teachers are. They have been so kind, encouraging and enthusiastic it makes a pleasant change. They have even taken time out of their own time to tutor her on parts of the subject my daughter struggled with. I just wanted to say it is lovely to actually meet teachers, that are in it for the right reasons and encourages their students.”

Year 9 Parent
We have a wonderful team of dedicated staff who are committed to providing students with exciting learning opportunities that equip them for the next stages in their lives. By creating a stimulating and productive environment, we prepare students for life and work in a connected community. Our ‘ASPIRE’ ethos incorporates our six key values: Achievement, Support, Perseverance, Individuality, Respect and Excellence.

Transition from primary to secondary can be an anxious time for children and we strive hard to make it as easy as possible. We have an established programme of events (covid permitting) which include:

- Year 5 Activity Days
- Invitations to parents to see the college at work
- Year 6 Transition Day and Parent Information Evening
- Cluster music concerts and sports events
- Year 5/6 pupils and Year 6 parent Saturday Workshops
- Our staff visit Year 6 pupils in their own schools
- Summer School
- Meet the tutor Information Evening

“The older students have helped me find my way around.” Year 8 student

“Just wanted to say thank you for the first day of Summer School, my daughter really enjoyed it and helped to calm her nerves as she was the only pupil from her primary school.” Year 6 parent

“The transition workshops helped me get to know the college before I started.” Year 8 student
MISSION STATEMENT

ACHIEVEMENT • SUPPORT • PERSEVERANCE • INDIVIDUALITY • RESPECT • EXCELLENCE

ASPIRE
Our vision is to make The Henry Cort Community College an outstanding school at the heart of the community.

We aspire to do this through achievement and support whilst building perseverance, individuality and respect in pursuit of excellence.

In our last inspection, the inspectors particularly praised the achievement of students, quality of teaching, behaviour and safety of students as well as the strong leadership and management. In particular, the report notes that:

“
• The leadership team have an uncompromising attitude towards raising standards.

• Pupils spoke positively about the school and expressed their gratitude for the support offered by their teachers.

• The curriculum remains personalised to the needs of individual pupils especially those who are disadvantaged and those who have SEN and/or disabilities.”

Ofsted 2018
The college strives to provide a broad, balanced and personalised curriculum, which suits all our students’ needs. We view the curriculum as a 5 year learning journey, with the course choice process taking place in Year 8 where a large range of subjects are on offer. We have structured the curriculum so that we offer some 2 year courses which complete in Year 10 and some 3 year courses which complete in Year 11. This enables students to carefully balance their work load throughout and reduce the stress caused by the increase in demand of terminal examinations under the reformed GCSEs.

Key Stage 3
The Lower School (Years 7 and 8)
In Years 7 and 8 all students are taught the full range of National Curriculum subjects, including Creative and Technical Arts, Technology and Physical Education. Students are taught in a range of set and mixed ability groups.

Key Stage 4
The Upper School (Years 9, 10 & 11)
In Years 9, 10 and 11 all students follow 9 or 10 courses leading to GCSEs. They all take the following core subjects:

- English Language and English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science (students will either study Separate Sciences (Triple Science) or Science Trilogy (Double Science)
- Health and Fitness (VCert)
- Religious Studies

The GCSE subjects we currently offer include:

- Humanities: History, Geography and Citizenship Studies
- Business and Enterprise
- Digital Literacy / Computer Science / i-media (new for 2022)
- Creative and Technical Arts: Fine Art, Drama, Music, Design Technology, Textiles Design and Hospitality and Catering
- Dance
- Sport Science
- French, German or Spanish

We are striving to ensure that students never have their lessons disrupted, through the use of ‘Ready to Learn’.

"Ready to learn has had a significant impact on the quality of learning within all my lessons as students are now expected to take full responsibility for themselves."

Student
“You have worked carefully on the curriculum to ensure that this is well matched to the English Baccalaureate. At the same time, you have ensured that it remains personalised to the needs of individual pupils, especially those who are disadvantaged and those who have SEN and/or disabilities”

Ofsted 2018

We are proud that each year the vast majority of our cohorts choose to follow a more traditional curriculum (known as the English Baccalaureate). The Henry Cort Community College consistently achieves above the county and national pass rates and provides students with the academic subjects to get to university if they wish to do so.

“ I would like to congratulate you and your staff on your schools achievement in entering 76% of your pupils into EBacc and 89% of your pupils for a language GCSE in 2018”

“Your school is in the top 8% of all state-funded mainstream secondary schools in the Country”

Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP, Minister of State for School Standards 29 March 2019

We promote a healthy lifestyle throughout the curriculum. At The Henry Cort Community College SMSC, Citizenship and Personal Development Learning (PDL) are delivered by specialist teams as part of the Wednesday programme. Staff are grouped into teams who become specialists in one of six areas and deliver age appropriate lessons for each year group throughout the academic year.

Each curriculum area has dedicated intervention time built into the curriculum to address gaps in learning caused by Covid-19.

“The Wednesday sessions are used well to support pupils’ personal development learning as well as dealing with stress, anxiety and depression.”

Ofsted 2018
We have a varied programme of career development to ensure all students are able to move onto their next phase of education encouraging all students into Further Education and/or apprenticeships.

We are committed to supporting our students in accessing Higher Education. We provide opportunities to visit universities and take part in extended enrichment activities. We encourage our students to explore different options available to them by looking at Oxbridge and the Russell Group courses.

The college has high expectations of students and as such we expect them to be ready to learn. Students are expected to arrive on time, correctly dressed and with the correct equipment, failing to do so will result in a sanction.

We have an expectation that all students have the right to learn free from disruption. Any student who fails to adhere to this will be removed from lessons to the ready to learn room.

Student Destinations
We are proud for the last 3 years that we have had not had any NEETs (Not in Education, Employment or Training) and all our students have gone onto further education, 97.6% go onto college and a further 2.4% have started an apprenticeship.

Notable Achievements
At The Henry Cort Community College we are always pleased to hear about our former students and their achievements.

- Michael Thomas (Class of 2021) achieved straight grade 9s in all subjects.
- Josh Efford (Class of 2020) achieved straight grade 9s in all subjects.
- Rowan Browning (Class of 2019) achieved an average attainment score of a Grade 9 following his 8 grade 9s, 3 grade 8s and a Distinction.
- Sammy Westmuckett (Class of 2019) achieved the highest progress score, smashing her targets by an average of 2 grades.

News from our Alumni

- Toby Steward (Class of 2021), a rising goalkeeper, has just started a two-year scholarship at Portsmouth FC Academy and recently has been called up to an England youth training camp.
- Will Green (Class of 2019) is a golfer and has recently been crowned National Champion in the Gold Intercollegiate Tour National Finals. He has been selected to represent England Schools.
- Kelly Simm (Class of 2011) is the 2018 all-round British gymnast and competed at the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games winning one silver and two bronze medals. Kelly was due to compete in the 2020 Olympics but sadly due to injury was unable to.
- Callum Maunder (Class of 2011) currently works for Acne Studios in Paris and had a collection in the Paris Fashion Week.
- Sebastian White (Class of 2009) is an actor currently working on the new marvel movie due to be released in 2022.
- Georgina Felce (Class of 2010) is listed as ‘one of the most influential women’ in the UK games industry.
- Dan Cobb (Class of 2004) is a scout for Brentford Football Club and a musician.
- Marc Rochon (Class of 2001) is a football video analyst working for the Croatian team and supported their bid at the 2018 Football World Cup. Marc also worked for over three years at UAE club Al Ain following his three and a half year spell at Pompey.
UNIFORM

Students are ambassadors of the college and are expected to dress and behave in a way that reflects the standards we seek to achieve. If students cycle to/from college they must wear a cycle helmet. The college will NOT accept incorrect uniform.

BOYS and GIRLS

• College tie in House colour
• College blazer with logo
• College sweatshirt with logo (Optional) - Hoodies or cardigans are NOT acceptable
• Black tailored trousers must be full length, touching the heel
• Black shoes should be capable of taking polish with a separate heel and sole - NO trainers
• Black, dark grey or white socks

GIRLS

• Black skirts must be knee length - jersey fabric is not permitted

BOYS

• Black tailored shorts in extreme weather conditions ONLY when normal uniform is relaxed

PE Kit

• College PE shirt with logo
• Blue PE shorts
• Optional Navy blue PE leggings or training trousers with Henry Cort logo, can be worn as an alternative to shorts. Other styles are not acceptable
• Sky blue football or white/black sport socks
• Durable trainers with suitable support, plimsolls are not acceptable as they do not support the foot
The Aspire Programme aims to support a limited number of students who find the requirements of mainstream school a significant challenge and as a result of their behaviours are at risk of permanent exclusion. These students follow a specific programme to address issues. They are provided with intensive support to address their needs and equip them with the skills necessary for successful reintegration back into the main school.

The Henry Cort Community College recognises and celebrates the achievements of each and every person, regardless of their starting points, maximising the opportunities for all members of the college community to do their best.

“There is ample evidence of strategic leadership that delivers swift impact and sustainable improvement.”
Leadership and Learning Partner Report 2018

The college creates a learning environment not found elsewhere in a school this size, that allows students, staff and others to thrive and make outstanding progress.

Key achievements noted from our last Ofsted report are:

“Pupils achieve well with an increasing number making outstanding progress.”

“Leaders and governors have a very good awareness of the strengths and weaknesses of the school.”

“Teaching assistants are used effectively in lessons and ask pertinent questions to help pupils remain on task as well as challenging their thinking. Pupils spoke positively about the school and express their gratitude for the support offered by their teachers.”

Ofsted 2018
The Henry Cort Community College provides a safe and happy learning environment where all members of the college community encourage the best in others, as well as themselves.

The college provides help, support and opportunities that enable all members of the college community to develop resilience and perseverance, allowing them to overcome the barriers and setbacks in everyday life.

“The programme of extra-curricular activities is appreciated by pupils and they like the school’s approach to PDL and the promotion of SMSC. They especially enjoy ‘drop-down days’ which support this.”

Leadership and Learning Partner Report 2018

“I cannot recommend Henry Cort highly enough. From the start my son was so well supported by the transition process and the provision of weekend workshops in the school holidays. From the first day he has not skipped a beat and has grown in confidence every day since then.”

Parent

Provision for Children with Special Educational and Disability Needs (SEND)

Most provision for SEND is classroom based and provided by either the class teacher (Wave 1) through quality first teaching or by subject specific Teaching Assistants and Higher Level Teaching Assistants (Wave 2). Specialist Wave 3 interventions are also provided where there is a need. The SEND team supports all students in their learning whether they require in class support, specific targeted teaching or individualised learning programmes. The team provides:

- In class support
- Social skills development programmes
- 1:1 support
- Small group teaching
- Alternative curriculums and learning programmes
- Transition support
- Diagnostic testing
- 1:1 reading schemes
- Links to external agencies such as Educational Psychologists
- A safe haven for vulnerable young people
- Anger management programmes
- Wellbeing support

We believe that a partnership with parents is vital in ensuring students are successful at college. Parents are encouraged to liaise with tutors who will keep them informed of progress at any time and we are happy to give support and advice on organisational and homework issues. We are proud of our excellent multi-agency approach that ensures our students feel safe, secure, looked after and make the expected progress.
We develop confident, self-assured people, who are ready to play an active role in modern society - where all members of the college community are committed to ‘learning for life’.

The college creates an environment and culture where we can all learn from our mistakes, but not be afraid to welcome the prospect of challenge and opportunity, in order to grow and progress as people.

“I feel very grateful for the incredible support that I have been given over the past few years. All the teachers and staff have been fantastic. I cannot thank the school enough and I am proud to have been a student at Henry Cort.”

Ex-Student
Feedback and marking were real strengths that supported students making good progress.

We pride ourselves in developing students as a whole through our extensive careers programme. The college is working towards the Quality in Careers Standard and plays a lead role in careers education supporting other local schools.

The Henry Cort Community College values the skills, talents and ability of each person within the college community, adopting a creative approach, which allows provision to be matched to individual needs and aspirations.

The college creates an environment where each person, with their own roles and responsibilities within the college community, feels enriched and valued in whatever they do but understands that by working together effectively, all contribute to the harmony of college life.

“Feedback and marking were real strengths that supported students making good progress.”
Leadership and Learning Partner Report 2018
We ensure members of the college community understand that mutual respect for self and others is an expectation of all. The college creates an environment where people, who may have different beliefs and lifestyles, are accepted without harm or prejudice.

The Henry Cort Community College develops a culture of kindness where members of the college community look to ensure their actions contribute to making their daily lives, the wider community and beyond a better place.

“Henry Cort has lots of kind students and has an amazing community.”
Year 8 student
The college ensures each member of the college community wants the best outcome for themselves and others in whatever they do and provides a learning environment where performance is key and the highest expectations become a reality.

We ensure through a culture of excellence that all members of the college community share in the benefits and rewards these bring.

“Leadership of teaching and learning came across as another strength of the school.”
Leadership and Learning Partner Report 2018
We are fortunate to have excellent facilities included in our 32 acre site with:

- Artificial turf pitches with floodlights
- Catering room
- Canteen
- Computing suites
- Conference rooms
- Counselling rooms
- Dance studio
- Drama studio
- Gymnasium
- Lecture theatre
- Learning resource centre (LRC)
- Netball courts
- Outdoor pitches
- Recording studio
- Science laboratories
- Specialist music rooms
- Specialist teaching rooms
- Sports hall with semi-sprung floor
- Technology workshops / teaching areas
- Tennis courts
Music Mark believes in the fundamental right to experience a high-quality music education for all children and young people, in and out of their schools.”

Bridget Whyte, Chief Executive, Music Mark

The Henry Cort Community College leads the PE development in other schools in promoting activity and high quality PE and Sport. Ofsted rated this provision as outstanding with respect to the extent to which students adopt healthy lifestyles.

The College has been awarded:

- SPORTSMARK GOLD award for increasing and sustaining participation in sport because of our active links with at least five local community sport activity providers who deliver taster sessions for young people to attend.
- YOUNG CARERS BRONZE award gained for recognition from leading charities for our good practice in meeting the needs of this vulnerable pupil group.
- MUSIC MARK award for providing high quality music education.
- BRONZE EAL QUALITY MARK award in recognition of the work with students, parents/carers and communities learning English as an additional language.
The college is organised into four houses. Students are identified by their ties; Daring - Red, Invincible - Green, Triumph - Yellow, Victorious – Purple

Each House currently has 10 tutor groups arranged vertically, containing four or five students from each year group. This means:

- Tutors see their tutees for 20 minutes daily in tutor time to ensure students are set up for the day.
- Tutors are able to give high quality support, advice and guidance to tutees as they progress through the college.
- Smaller groups help to improve communication and encourage a good working relationship between home and college. The tutor is the point of contact between home and college.
- Parents feel more involved in their child’s education. This has proved to be a very positive development as parents support their child through the secondary phase of their education.

The college has focused on developing a restorative justice approach, older students are trained as Restorative Justice Mentors, Cyber Ambassadors and Diana Anti-Bullying trained students to help support younger students and their peers in resolving any issues they might have.

We believe that students should be active citizens of our community and have an input in decision making at Henry Cort. We have an active Student Voice led by Mr Payne, with students being given the opportunity to work closely with the senior leadership team, staff and their peers.

The key areas for Student Voice are linked to the college improvement plan:

- **Student Well-being and Support** - to improve well-being and support for students.
- **Environment and Culture** - to improve the college site, facilities and culture, creating a happy environment.
- **Teaching and Learning** - to work with staff and students to improve the learning experience for students.
- All students in the above strands work together to manage college events and raise funds for the college and other good causes.