

September 2019

**Harwich and Dovercourt High School Open Evening – Tues 24<sup>th</sup> September 6-8pm**  
***Please note: Entry is via Main Reception only. On-site parking is limited.***

Dear Parent/Carer and Student

These are exciting times as you consider the move from Primary School to Secondary School and to help you make an informed decision I would like to invite you to visit Harwich and Dovercourt High School on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September, between 6-8pm. There will be presentations in the Main Hall at 6.15pm and 7pm. During the evening you will have the chance to tour the school and see our students taking part in activities. You can join in many of the activities too! In previous years parents/carers and students have commented upon how much they have enjoyed the evening.

So much has changed over recent years and Harwich and Dovercourt High School continues to be vibrant, successful and academically focussed. Our resources are excellent and the facilities for students are of a high standard. We continue to develop the site for the benefit of our students and staff. Recent examples include:

- A redesigned Sixth Form Common Room
- A refurbished Maths and Business suite
- A new Media Suite including radio room and green room
- A Careers and Aspiration Library

There is so much that could be listed and I hope when you visit you'll be able to see everything we have to offer.

A copy of our school prospectus is attached, together with some useful dates to add to your calendar.

Success and happiness at school is about achieving your potential and taking part. Many changes have taken place in education: GCSEs, for example, are all graded from 1 to 9 now and much of the content has become more difficult. It is now generally accepted that students need more time to cover the revised content and ensure that the learning is embedded and secure. This is the reason we have moved to a three year Key Stage 4. Students now choose their options towards the end of year 8 and begin their GCSE studies in year 9.

Additionally we are expanding our 6<sup>th</sup> Form offer in order to meet the needs and ambitions of local students; we very much hope to accommodate your child for the entire 7 years of their secondary education

At HDHS we believe examination success is key to achieving future goals. We are also committed to providing a wide range of activities to enhance each student's educational experience. HDHS is a reading school. We have an environment where the commitment to reading for pleasure is evident and a whole school focus with many activities arranged accordingly. 'Taking part' means that we require all our students to be active, enquiring learners, both within the classroom and at home. There are a huge array of extra-curricular clubs and activities to take advantage of. Being a part of HDHS means being a proud member of a Community, supporting others and enjoying learning. We look forward to welcoming every one of you as you begin this next exciting phase of your education.

Yours sincerely



**Kate Finch**  
**Headteacher**