



School App for Parents

School App for Parents is a free mobile app. It gives our Family Community a convenient, 'one-stop shop' for accessing Hamilton College calendar dates, messages, news and other commonly used school information.

- **Dates**
The school calendar is available in the Dates area of the app. You can customise this area to only display dates relevant to you and your family. You can easily select any combination of e.g. Nursery, Junior School, Senior School or specific year group(s). Everyone should select Whole School dates as these will include e.g. school holidays.
- **Messages**
We will gradually move towards replacing certain email communications to parents with in-app messages. Again, you are able to customise which messages you receive to suit your family with the suggestion that everyone selects Whole School messages. Further information will be sent out prior to the introduction of School App for Parents messages.
- **News**
The latest Hamilton College news is available here, with news items fed directly from our main HC_Scotland Twitter account. The news area is a convenient way to stay updated while you are in the app for another purpose, between issues of the school magazine In Touch. It is also especially useful for those who do not use social media.
- **Information**
This area of the app functions like a mini directory. As well as providing links to quickly contact the school by telephone or email, there are direct links to the most commonly used school information and systems e.g. SQA information, ParentPay, online Parents' Evening System and the Parent Portal.

How do I download the app?

1. Download School App for Parents. If you already use the app for another school, you do not need to download the app again, you simply need to add Hamilton College as another school. You can use the app for up to 5 schools.
 - [Download from Apple Store](#)
 - [Download from Google Play Store](#)
2. Open the app and choose Hamilton College from the list of schools within the app.
3. When prompted for the Hamilton College username and PIN, please enter the details below. You will only be required to enter the PIN the first time you open the app and once at the start of each academic year, when the PIN will be changed.

Username: HamCol
PIN: 1308

Please [view this online overview](#) of the app, showing each of the main areas and how to customise Dates and Messages for your family.

ParentPay

As we work towards completely cashless payments, and move away from cash and cheques, we are launching ParentPay this term. This web-based, online payment system will allow you to make secure online payments using your credit or debit card 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, when it suits you.

Our roll-out of the ParentPay system will be staged. Initially, parents will be asked to use ParentPay to pay for and book Aftercare and pay for smaller sundry items e.g. goggles for use in Senior School Science classes.

The system roll-out will then continue to encompass payments for school trips, when it is possible to resume visits and residential stays. Then for payment of sundry costs associated with the 1:1 devices J6 – S6 pupils have been issued with this term.

ParentPay account activation letters and instructions will be sent to groups of parents as and when we are asking them to start using ParentPay. As soon as your account is activated, you will be able to make online payments straight away.

School fees and any school transport costs will continue to be paid via direct debit with access to view invoices, direct debit schedules and statements of items paid via the Parent Portal. If you already use ParentPay for other schools, you can create a single account login for all of your children.

I do hope that with this introduction, you can begin to appreciate how School App for Parents and ParentPay will benefit your family. The app is now live, so I encourage you to download, explore and customise it to make best use of the available functionality ongoing.

If you have any questions or feedback on School App for Parents or ParentPay, please email marketing@hamiltoncollege.co.uk or call 01698 282700.