



HARROGATE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

5 September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers of all students in Year 7

Year 7 Welcome and Key Information

It is a pleasure to welcome our new Year 7 cohort.

At the end of this letter are key dates for this academic year, you can also access the school calendar on our website by clicking [here](#).

Routines and Expectations

We have high expectations of all of our students. Full details of the routines and expectations can be found in the [parent handbook](#). We expect high levels of attendance throughout the year and will contact you if there is an unexplained absence. We monitor attendance trends closely and will put supportive measures in place if necessary. Routine medical and dental appointments should be made outside school time where possible. The NHS have given [guidance](#) if you are unsure whether to send your child to school, please [click here](#) for instructions how to report any absence.

Students must wear their uniform correctly and with pride; shirts need to be tucked in and shoes, not trainers or trainer styles, need to be worn. We do not allow makeup, and this includes fake eyelashes, false or painted nails or body/facial piercings. If students have these for an event or special occasion, please ensure that they have been removed in readiness for school. Your support in this is very much appreciated.

We continue to focus on [Learner Habits](#). These are habits that learners need to exhibit to ensure they build a strong work ethic and achieve the very best outcomes for themselves. Students will be awarded positive behaviour points on Class Charts if these habits are displayed and there are rewards for reaching milestones in the number of positive points. If students are not meeting expectations in the classroom or the wider school, students will receive a negative behaviour point. We will be monitoring these closely and making contact with you. Parent log on details for Class Charts has been shared with you this week, please contact mail@hgs.rklt.co.uk if you have not received these instructions.

As part of our HGS values, we have high expectations of students being respectful to themselves, to others and to the environment. All students have signed a [Respect Pledge](#) at the start of the year, agreeing to follow respectful behaviours. There will also be assemblies and Big Picture lessons supporting students on how best to achieve this throughout the year.

Work Ethic and Home Learning

All home learning tasks assigned to students will be available via Arbor on their iPads. Parents will also have access to this information via the [Parent Arbor app](#).

Additional information regarding home learning can be found in the [parent handbook](#) on page 12.

Frequency and Duration of Home Learning

Year 7	Frequency	Duration
English	2 per week	20 minutes per task
Maths	2 per week	
Science	3 per fortnight (between 2 teachers)	
MFL	1 per week (per subject)	
Geography and History	1 per week (per subject)	
RS	1 per fortnight	
Art and Design	1 per fortnight (per subject)	
Music	1 per fortnight	

Throughout the year we will talk with students about the importance of work ethic. We are encouraging students to set themselves clear goals and to take pride in their work. We want students at HGS to work hard, and to push themselves out of their comfort zone. Home learning is a perfect opportunity for this to ensure they are being the best version of themselves to get the best outcomes for their future.

Reading

We are once again very fortunate to be supported by our PTA who have funded the purchase of books for our new year 7 cohort. This means that by the end of the summer all students will have read the same book as part of their transition to HGS. Reading is of great importance, and we ask that you support us by helping and encouraging your child to read for 30 minutes each day at home. All the research shows that this will not only support your child's education and development, but also their mental health and well-being.

Voluntary Contributions

To help support school finances and allow us to provide that little bit extra at HGS, we do ask for a number of voluntary contributions. We politely ask for a voluntary contribution of £20 for every year 7 student. We do ask for further contributions throughout the year for extras such as PE extra-curricular clubs and fixtures, to provide additional materials in Art and Design and for curriculum-based school trips. This support is very much appreciated, and we do respect that this support is voluntary. Any help that you can give does make a difference.

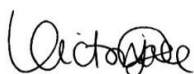
The voluntary contribution can be made via the Parent Arbor app, within the School Shop section.

Support and Help through KS3

We welcome feedback and want to form an effective partnership between home and school. It is crucial, therefore, that we have open and honest communication. Each year group has an allocated year manager who should always be your first point of contact. For Year 7, this is Mrs Oliver, who can be contacted by email OliverM@hgs.rklt.co.uk or by phone on 01423 531127 ext 7050.

We look forward to working with you and your child in a way that best serves their interests and effectively shapes their future. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you require any information throughout the year via 01423 531127 or mail@hgs.rklt.co.uk

Yours sincerely



Miss V Gee

Assistant Headteacher, Director of Lower School

Key Dates for the 2024/25 Academic Year

Date	Event
Thursday 5 September	Year 7 School Photos
Thursday 12 September	Year 7 Parent Social Evening 7-9pm Please click here to book a place
Tuesday 24 September	First PTA meeting 6.30pm
Wednesday 16 October	Year 7 Tutor Consultation Evening 2pm in school
Wednesday 22 January	Year 7 SEND Consultation evening virtual event
Tuesday 29 April	Year 7 Consultation evening 4-8pm virtual event
w/c 2 and 9 June	Years 7 to 9 Summer CATs
Thursday 3 July	Year 7/8 Sports Day and Year 9 End of Year trip
Tuesday 15 July	Year 9 Sports Day and Year 7/8 End of Year trip
School Term dates can be found here: Term Dates	