



HARROGATE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

5 September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers of all students in Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11)

Key Stage 4 Welcome and Key Information

It is a pleasure to welcome Year 10 and 11 students back to school after the summer break. The start of the new academic year presents an opportunity for students to set themselves personal goals and to establish effective habits.

Through this letter we hope to provide you with essential information about the arrangements for Year 10 and 11, and to address any queries that you may have.

Key Dates

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 and 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 our [Learner Habits](#), which are habits that learners need to exhibit to ensure they build a strong work ethic and are able to 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.

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.



Harrogate Grammar School, Arthurs Avenue, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 0DZ

Tel: 01423 531127 | mail@hgs.rklt.co.uk | www.harrogategrammar.co.uk

Headteacher: Mr N Renton | Associate Headteacher: Mrs K Moat

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Our Privacy Notice can be found on: <https://www.harrogategrammar.co.uk/our-school/our-policies/statutory-documentation/>



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Work Ethic and Home Learning

At KS4, there is a greater emphasis on self-guided learning in preparation for publicly assessed exams at the end of year 11. Students are encouraged throughout to be independent and reflective learners in order to secure the best possible outcomes. All our students are supported by our subject specialist teaching staff and all the teaching resources can be found in Showbie. Similarly, all home learning tasks assigned to students will be available via their Arbor app on their iPads. Parents will also have access to this information via the [Parent Arbor app](#).

Frequency and duration	KS4 – Frequency	KS4 - Duration
English	2 per week	40 minutes per task
Maths	2 per week	
Science	1 per week per subject	
RS	1 per fortnight	
All GCSE options	1 per week	45 minutes per task
In addition, students should continually review and revisit prior learning.		

We will also be focusing on work ethic this year. We want to support and encourage students to develop resilience and a sound work ethic, enabling them to achieve in all areas of school life. This is particularly pertinent in KS4 and will help students take their next steps after Year 11.

Support and help through KS4

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.

Year 10 is Mr Thurley ThurleyA@hgs.rklt.co.uk Tel: 01423 531127 ext: 7054

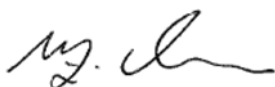
Year 11 is Mrs Wilkinson WilkinsonK@hgs.rklt.co.uk Tel: 01423 531127 ext: 7049

Year 10 and 11 students also have access to the JustB emotional support service. They should see their year manager in the first instance if they feel they may need this support.

We are also holding some information evenings for parents and carers to provide further information about how you can support your child over this academic year. Please see the key dates below for timings and how to book.

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



Mr N Mason

Assistant Headteacher, Director of Upper School

Key Dates for this Year

Date	Event	Y10	Y11
Monday 16 September, 6pm	GCSE option subjects information evening For specific coursework subjects only – you will receive an invitation email	✓	X
Tuesday 17 September, 6.30pm	Year 11 Supporting success evening Please click here to book your place	X	✓
Tuesday 24 September 6.30pm	Year 10 Supporting success evening Please click here to book your place	✓	X
Thursday 10 October	Year 11 SEND consultation evening	X	✓
Wednesday 23 October	Sixth Form Open Evening	X	✓
Wednesday 6 November	Year 10 SEND consultation evening	✓	X
Exact dates TBC	Mock speaking exams	X	✓
w/c 11 and 18 November	Mock exams	X	✓
w/c 25 November	Year 11 Mocks (Art, Design and PE)	X	✓
Tuesday 10 December	Year 11 Parent Consultation evening	X	✓
Monday 13 January	Taster Day in Sixth Form	X	✓
Saturday 27 January	Sixth Form Open Day	X	✓
Tuesday 4 February	Year 10 Parent Consultation evening	✓	X
Wednesday 5 February	Year 11 SEND consultation evening	X	✓
w/c 10 February	GCSE Food and Nutrition Assessments	X	✓
w/c 24 February and 3 March	Mocks exams – English/Maths/Science	X	✓
w/c 10 March	GCSE Geography fieldwork trips	✓	X
w/c 7 April	Easter revision sessions	X	✓
w/c 21 April	GCSE Art/Photography exams	X	✓
w/c 28 April	GCSE MFL speaking exams	X	✓

Wednesday 7 May	GCSE study leave begins	X	✓
Wednesday 21 May	Year 10 SEND Consultation evening	✓	X
w/c 9, 16 and 23 June	Year 10 End of Year CATs	✓	X
Thursday 19 June	Sixth Form Induction	X	✓
Friday 20 June	Year 11 Prom	X	✓
Thursday 3 July	Year 10 End of Year trip	✓	X
Tuesday 15 July	Year 10 Sports Day	✓	X
School Term dates can be found here: Term Dates			

	Virtual Event
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