



HARROGATE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

9 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Recreational and competitive sport is extremely important to us at HGS. We believe sport is for everyone, whatever their starting point, and has huge benefits for the development of young people. This letter provides you with some information about the sporting extra-curricular activities, school fixtures and explains the PE voluntary contribution.

2023/2024 Review

Last year saw a huge number of students attending the extra-curricular sports clubs and representing the school in over 400 competitive school fixtures. Across the year, students represented HGS in 11 different sporting activities: Rugby, Netball, Hockey, Football, Basketball, Tennis, Cross Country, Cricket, Athletics, Rounders and Equestrian. This provided a great opportunity for many of our students to showcase their sporting talents in a competitive environment against other schools. Our teams and individuals that played/competed in these fixtures showed true HGS spirit, demonstrating the school REACH values at every opportunity.

2024/2025 Extra-Curricular Timetable

Once again, in addition to the normal PE timetable, there will be an extensive range of sports clubs, teams and competitive sporting fixtures on offer to your child throughout the whole academic year. This timetable of activities will change at the end of every term. Timetable changes will be published in the parent and student newsletters.

All extra-curricular clubs and activities will be available via the Arbor Parent app within the [Clubs section](#). This allows you to book a place for your child.

The extra-curricular sports timetable for the Autumn Term can be found [here](#).

Voluntary contribution

We want to give students the opportunity to participate in a wide range of sports. However, there is a financial cost associated with this. We politely ask parents for a **one-off voluntary contribution of £30 (or more if you feel able) per child**. This covers the whole academic year and will help fund:

- transport costs
- referees and officials
- tournament entry fees
- the purchase of new sporting equipment and kit
- external coaches which complement the activities and teams already run by HGS staff.

Without the help of parents, we would not be able to provide the extensive sporting opportunities for your child. This contribution can be paid for using the Parent Arbor app, [School Shop section](#).

Fixture Selection

Selection will be based on the strengths and merits of our players as well as the opposition. Attendance to training, academic progress and behaviour will also be considered when selecting students to represent the school. Therefore, selection may not always contain the strongest players.

Teams will be selected in advance of the fixtures to allow as much notice as possible and confirmation of selection will be emailed to students. Parents will not be notified directly if their child has been selected for a particular fixture, as we want our students to take responsibility to ensure that they are available to play and to arrange alternative transport home if the fixture goes beyond the normal school day. Fixtures will be listed in the Student Newsletter and on the website each week.

Attending Fixtures

We would like to encourage parents to watch and support their children at sporting fixtures. In order to safeguard our students, it is important that the following guidelines are adhered to:

- If the fixture is due to be played **outside of the school day**, please do not arrive early and only arrive after the school buses and students have dispersed.
- If the fixture is on one of the school fields, Astro turf or outdoor netball courts, please park in the main car park and make your way to the designated pitch/court. There is no requirement to sign in at Main Reception. All teams are supervised by members of staff, so should you need any help or information, please speak directly to the member of staff in charge.
- If the fixture/tournament is **during the school day**, then please go to Main Reception no more than 10 minutes before kick off/start time as you will need to sign in as a visitor. You will then be escorted by a member of the HGS staff to the playing venue.
- Please do not go anywhere other than the playing venue. There should be no requirement for any visitor to go into any other part of the school building.

We ask that all parents follow the school's [supporter code of conduct](#). Parents who do not adhere to this will be asked to leave the school premises.

Parent Volunteers

We are also aware that, in our parent community, there may be some individuals who have had experience with sports coaching, refereeing or umpiring. If this is the case, your help would be very welcome. If you would like to get involved and help in assisting the sports programme then please email rydert@hgs.rklt.co.uk.

We thank you in advance for your support in helping PE and Sport continue to expand, flourish and be successful.

Yours sincerely



Mr T Ryder
Director of Sport