Encouraging *Curiosity*
Ensuring *Achievement*

PROSPECTUS 2018
Top University Destinations

Northumbria University Newcastle
Newcastle University
Leeds Beckett University
University of Leeds
York St John University
University of York
University of Hull
The University of Manchester
University of Huddersfield
The University of Sheffield
University of Nottingham
University of Leicester
University of Oxford
University College London
Imperial College London
It is my pleasure and privilege to welcome you to Heckmondwike Grammar Sixth Form.

We are immensely proud of the education we offer here, and of the students - of you, potentially - who make it what it is. It is your sixth form and we do not lose sight of that.

We know young adults, mainly due to our being a school that teaches all the way from 11-18. This means that we know the challenges you face from Year 7, regardless of which school you were at previously, and the nature of the new courses you have taken in Year 11.

Our staff’s consequent knowledge and experience results in progression rates that are second to none, not only to university courses (though this is the destination of the vast majority) but also apprenticeships and other possibilities, if that is what you aspire to. This year, that even includes golfing scholarships to the USA, for example. We say our motto is ‘nothing without work’ and we live by it as a sixth form. You will find that to be the case in your partnership with us when you join our community. And we, for our part, look forward to getting to know you.

Nathan Bulley
Headteacher

We prioritise individual support in all of its forms: from thorough careers guidance, to thoughtful and compassionate pastoral support, through to teaching that addresses the needs of individuals.
As a Year 11 student, you have an important decision facing you as you decide what to do after your GCSEs.

You need to consider all the options open to you, thinking carefully about the learning environment that best suits you. Heckmondwike Grammar Sixth Form allows students to experience the freedom of sixth form life, supported by a dedicated team of tutors and Student Support Managers who ensure all students have access to first class pastoral and academic support.

Students are offered the opportunity to immerse themselves fully in the subjects they choose, taught by specialist teachers who understand the transition from GCSE to A level.

Sixth form life at Heckmondwike Grammar School is about far more than academic progress. With an experienced in-house careers team and flourishing work related learning programme, students are able to make informed decisions about their futures. This support, along with the hard work of the students, ensures that the majority of our students progress to their first choice destination.

Our sixth form is part of the wider school community, offering leadership opportunities to students through the Senior Committee and prefect system. Sixth form students are encouraged to interact with the main school, providing a wide range of extra-curricular activities for younger students. Our new Sixth Form Centre will open in summer 2018 providing additional social and study space for sixth form students.

A decision to study at Heckmondwike Grammar Sixth Form is one that opens up a world of opportunity to you, and one that I am certain you will not regret.

Helen Naylor
Head of Sixth Form
As an academic Sixth Form, we offer a wide range of A level courses delivered by inspirational teachers.
The happiness and wellbeing of our students is vital to their success in sixth form. Our pastoral support system ensures that no student slips through the net and have access to any support they need to flourish.

Each student will be allocated to a form group at the start of Year 12. The Form Tutor leading each form is the first point of contact for the students when any advice or guidance is needed. There is a tutor period each day which gives tutors time to really get to know the students in their form.

The year group is led by a Student Support Manager (SSM), a non-teaching member of staff who can provide additional support for students. This support can take many forms, from developing time management and planning skills to referrals to other services such as the school nurse or school counsellor.

For Year 12, the Deputy Director of Sixth Form (Transition) ensures that all students settle well into their new environment, monitoring both pastoral and academic concerns as the year progresses.

Student Support

All students have access to our excellent in-house careers team who can help students to prepare themselves thoroughly for whatever career they aspire to.
Following the recent reforms to post 16 qualifications, all A levels now follow a linear assessment model, with all formal examinations taking place at the end of Year 13.

In line with this, and the requirements for university entry, a large majority of students will study 3 A level subjects. For those students with the highest GCSE point scores it may be appropriate to study a fourth A level subject. Those wishing to study Further Maths must choose 4 A levels.

Students may also opt to complete the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). This project can be completed on a topic of the student’s choosing and is excellent preparation for degree level study as it allows students to develop research and writing skills that are invaluable in higher education.

Our timetable operates over a two week cycle. Most A level subjects are allocated 10 hours per cycle of lesson time. Skills lessons are allocated 2 hours per cycle. This means that all students have a number of periods on their timetable when they are not in lessons. Our dedicated sixth form centre and independent learning area in the main building provide an ideal location for students to study, though students are able to leave the site at these times if they choose to.

In addition to their A level courses, all students will follow a skills programme aimed at developing the skills needed to be a successful student and develop a deeper understanding of the world around them. This programme has been designed with the students to equip them for life after sixth form.
Sixth form students at Heckmondwike Grammar have a wide range of opportunities to develop their skills outside the classroom. Our sixth form is an integral part of the school community, with students acting as positive role models for students in the main school.

The Sixth Form Senior Committee play a leading role in shaping the school, with representatives contributing to all aspects of school life. The Head Boy and Head Girl chair the School Senate, which meets each half term to discuss issues raised by students. The members of the School Senate are elected by their year councils, all of which are led by Senior Committee Members. The Head Boy and Head Girl are invited to attend a Senior Leadership Team meeting following each School Senate meeting, sharing the feedback from students with Senior Leaders.

Another branch of the Senior Committee leads on teaching and learning in the sixth form. Each subject elects representatives to feedback to the committee on any issues within a subject area. Their feedback is vital in ensuring all students make the best possible progress.

Students also have the opportunity to become a School Prefect. This could either be an academic prefect, supporting younger students who are facing challenges in particular subjects, or a behaviour prefect supporting the smooth running of the school day. We encourage students to set up activities of interest to them, giving them the chance to develop their leadership and communication skills, as well as enriching the school experience for all students.

“Student Leadership & Enrichment

“The enrichment programme provides us with real life skills in order to prepare us for the working world.”

- Student

The Senior Committee organise fundraising events throughout the school year to support their chosen charities, raising thousands of pounds each year for those less fortunate than themselves.
Financial Support

The student bursary fund aims to help and support students enrolled in the sixth form who face the greatest barriers to learning, and to ensure that students can fully participate in and benefit from the 16-19 curriculum provision.

There are three categories of support available:

**Category A** is a guaranteed bursary of £1200 per annum, payable to students in one of the following groups: in care, care leavers, student is in receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit or disabled students.

**Category B** payments allow students to claim a regular monthly payment (subject to meeting the terms of the learning agreement) if the household income is less than £16190.

**Category C** payments are discretionary payments available to students who do not qualify for either category A or B funding, but are facing significant barriers to education leading to a need for financial support. Students can apply for funds to meet a short term need such as a contribution to a trip or a specific item of educational equipment.
“There is a very supportive relationship between students and teachers. They are always approachable and willing to help.”

Student
As part of our excellent support for post-18 progression, we can offer:

1. Two qualified Careers and Higher Education Advisers.
2. One-to-one guidance interviews.
3. Expert guidance on work-related learning, and support in gaining work placements.
4. Sustained, relevant and timely careers education, information, advice and guidance built into the tutorial curriculum.
5. The opportunity to participate in HE+, a regional academic extension programme.
6. Well-developed links with Russell Group and other leading universities.
7. Support in applying for access programmes, summer schools and taster courses.
8. A three-day timetabled Progression Event, typically attended by over 40 universities and 20 major apprenticeship providers.
9. Personalised, one-to-one personal statement guidance and support.
10. Extensive guidance and support on all aspects of the UCAS application process, from making choices all the way to Confirmation or Clearing.
11. Facilities to sit pre-admissions exams, including the BMAT, with support available.
12. Guidance on academic and clinical interviews, including a mock MMI for medics, dentists and vets.
13. Expert advice and guidance on fees, loans and university finance, delivered by university staff.
## Entry Requirements

The minimum entry requirements are:

- Achieving a minimum of a grade 4 in mathematics.
- Achieving a minimum of a grade 5 in English Language.
- Achieving at least 3 other GCSEs at grade 6 or above.
- Achieving the subject specific requirements in the subjects that a student wishes to study.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Entry Requirements</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>5 Art and portfolio of assessed work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>6 Biology or 66 in Science and 5 in Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Studies*</td>
<td>General entry criteria apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>6 Chemistry or 66 Science and 5 Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science*</td>
<td>6 Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design Technology</td>
<td>B Grade in Design Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drama*</td>
<td>5 or Merit Drama and evidence of involvement in drama if not studied at GCSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics*</td>
<td>5 Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Language</td>
<td>General entry criteria apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Literature</td>
<td>5 English Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>6 French</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>5 Geography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government and Politics*</td>
<td>General entry criteria apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>5 History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>6 Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Further Maths**</td>
<td>8 Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>6 Music or Grade 5 Voice or Instrument and Grade 5 Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>Competence in a specific sport</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>6 Physics or 66 Science and 6 Maths</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychology*</td>
<td>55 Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious Studies*</td>
<td>5 Religious Education (if studied)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology*</td>
<td>General entry criteria apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>6 Spanish</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Can be studied at A level without prior study. ** Should only be chosen as a fourth option.