



HECKMONDWIKE GRAMMAR SIXTH FORM

September, 2020

Statement of school context

Heckmondwike Grammar Sixth Form is a large, diverse, co-educational state sixth form of over 500 students, located in Kirklees, West Yorkshire. While a large number of students progress to the sixth form from our selective 11-16 school, the majority join us from a large number of neighbouring schools, some of which perform at below the national average at GCSE level.

University progression

Typically, over 80%, of our students progress directly to university at the end of year 13, and most of the remainder apply having left the school. Of those who do progress to university, around 50% are of the first generation of their immediate families to progress to higher education and around 40% typically progress to 'high tariff' courses. Rates of progression to both the Russell Group and Oxford and Cambridge universities are significantly above the English state-sector average.

Sixth form curriculum

Students are admitted to the sixth form on the basis of their GCSE results and select a curriculum appropriate to their ability and interests.

The typical student will complete three A levels, though a small number elect to take four. Some students also elect to complete an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), and very able mathematicians may sit further mathematics either as an AS level at the end of year 12, or an A-level in year 13. Some students may also sit the Level 3 Mathematical Studies (Core Maths) at the end of year 12.

We do not offer vocational qualifications and students are not entered for AS-level examinations, except in further mathematics.

Predicted grades

Students are assessed regularly against external examination criteria, including a full mock exam series, which this year was postponed to the September of year 13, owing to the disruption to the school calendar occasioned by COVID-19. Subject teachers also provide evidence-based attainment grades at regular intervals throughout the programme, which provide a rounded and reliable picture of each student's attainment and likely progress in each subject. Taken together, these internal grades provide the evidential basis of our predictions.

COVID-19

In advance of the national lockdown, the school closed to the current year 13 (then year 12) students on Wednesday 18 March 2020. We continued to deliver the full A-level curriculum online, through a mixture of 'live' and recorded lessons and pre-set activities. From Monday 22 June 2020, year 12 students were invited back to school on a limited basis, with one face-to-face lesson of 45 minutes per subject taking place each week, supplemented by online learning. The school closed again at the end of the summer term on Friday 17 July 2020.

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Registered office address as above.

Kirklees was subject to additional local restrictions in the summer of 2020, as were other areas in which many of our students live, notably Bradford. Many of our students also travel to the sixth form from Dewsbury and Batley, areas within Kirklees where additional local restrictions remained in place for longer than in the rest of local area.

The school re-opened fully, as planned, from Tuesday 8 September 2020 and students recommenced a full, timetabled curriculum. At time of writing, student and staff health and attendance are excellent, but individual students and families may be affected by the illness and their studies disrupted. Where this has been the case, we will include more information in students' Ucas references.

We hope that you find this information useful in adding general context to our students' applications; please refer to Ucas references for context about individual applicants, and feel free to contact the school should you require more information about our school or a particular student.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Oxbby', written in a cursive style.

Mr Ross Oxbby

Deputy Director of Sixth Form (Progression)