



**HECKMONDWIKE**  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Our Values – Respect,  
Responsibility and Excellence

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**PROSPECTUS**



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*“The support given to us by the teachers and the whole school community is like no other - every student grows into a well-rounded individual and it is such a confidence-boost knowing we’ve been given the best foundation for life after education.”*

YEAR II STUDENT



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*"HGS is a great school. All of the lessons are enjoyable and academic at the same time. There is a mixture of learning styles with each subject. Also, I think that the pastoral care is amazing. If I need anything I know I can go to the Pastoral Office and somebody will point me in the right direction. HGS has everything!"*

**YEAR 8 STUDENT**



# Welcome from the Headteacher



Our students are happy, feel very well supported and looked after and greatly enjoy their seven years with us.

It is my absolute pleasure and privilege to welcome you to Heckmondwike Grammar School. We have a long tradition, dating back to 1898, of providing an outstanding education for our students. To this day, we have maintained the school's traditional values of our motto Nil Sine Labore – Nothing Without Work – and there is an expectation that we all do our absolute best to ensure the success of our students.

I am an old scholar of the school myself, and four generations of my family have attended the school, including my two children, who benefitted enormously from seven years of exceptional support and guidance. Indeed a number of staff either attended the school themselves or their children do now and this is a mark of how good we believe the school is.

Typical life at Heckmondwike for a student is very busy, with so much on offer, from the highly engaging lessons taught in excellent facilities, to a plethora of extra-curricular activities centred around the highly competitive and popular House system. To this end, we expect a lot from our students and they uphold the philosophy of the more they put in to school life, the more they will get out of it.

We firmly believe that once a Heckmondwike student, always a Heckmondwike student and we strive to look after our 'family' well beyond the age of 18. Indeed, we have a thriving group of alumni who frequently support the school both financially and by working with our current students.

As a result of the opportunities provided at HGS, our students go on to become highly successful in very high calibre professions, typically making a profound contribution to society and so the legacy of the school continues for many generations to come.

I look forward to welcoming you to the school.

**Peter Roberts**  
Headteacher



*"I have discovered many interests I never thought I'd have a real appreciation of music, maths, and languages. You become motivated by challenges (mainly through the encouragement of teachers!) and develop your own character and independence. There is also a strong sense of community and mutual support."*

**YEAR 10 STUDENT**



# Welcome from the Lower School Team



Choosing a new school is a big decision and can be a daunting one, especially if a student is the first amongst their friends and family to make this step.

I am very proud of the way we welcome new students to our school community and help them settle into their life at Heckmondwike Grammar School.

All of our students are part of a form, led by a form tutor who is the person they see on a daily basis. Any concerns can be addressed to the form tutor as well as to the Pastoral Team.

By communicating with students, their parents and primary school I can ensure that all the necessary information is gathered to make the transition to life at HGS as smooth as possible.



Meeting students during the transition phase gives the opportunity to start building positive relationships in order to make them feel at ease right away. This advocacy continues into September and beyond; enabling students to fully participate and access our way of life. The aim is to promote the school ethos and values, generating a desire to fully contribute in all areas of school life and achieve their potential.

I look forward to meeting and welcoming students to our community!

**Jeremy Barnett**  
Assistant Headteacher





# The Curriculum

An exciting and broad-ranging curriculum is crucial in engaging the most enquiring of minds. Our curriculum provides the body of knowledge, skills and attitudes relevant to the high ability students who attend Heckmondwike Grammar School. Our students develop their capacity for applying this knowledge in future life so that they are fully prepared for the challenges in further and higher education, work and leisure.

## Key Stage 3 (Years 7 & 8)

Students follow a curriculum of English, Maths, Biology, Physics, Chemistry (taught as Coordinated Science in Year 7), Physical Education, Religious Education, Geography, History, Technology, Spanish or French, Drama, Music, Art and Computer Science.

## Key Stage 4 (Years 9 – 11)

Midway through Year 8, students choose their GCSE option subjects to complement the compulsory subjects of English Language and Literature, Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry and Physics, Core Religious Education and Core Physical Education. GCSEs are taught in all subjects over 3 years from Year 9 to Year 11.

The subjects on offer to study to GCSE include: Art and Design, Business, Computer Science, Drama, Food Preparation

and Nutrition, French, Geography, Design Technology Graphics, History, Music, Physical Education, Religious Education, Design Technology Resistant Materials and Spanish.

*"I have enjoyed the constant support from teachers along with the many exciting school trips and compelling competitions both in and out of school. There has always been a range of extra activities, from hockey to running to Spelling Bee to dress making. For me, one of the best things at school is the friendly, supportive community."*

YEAR 11 STUDENT



*"My favourite part of the school week would have to be cooking during practical Food Preparation and Nutrition lessons as I find it both relaxing and extremely enjoyable. I believe what makes HGS the best place to be is that my peers and teachers are always friendly and supportive. The learning environment is extremely positive and it enables me to reach my full potential and achieve my academic goals."*

**YEAR 10 STUDENT**

### **Key Stage 5 (Years 12 – 13)**

The vast majority of our students choose to continue with us post-16, accessing a wide breadth of A level options with enrichment

electives. Due to strong results, progression from here to a range of top universities and apprenticeships is the norm, and our students move on to high calibre careers in all sectors.

### **Outcomes**

Our students arrive with us in Year 7 having done very well at their primary schools. Despite this, not only is the expected achievement very high, but progress is also outstanding. Year on year, GCSE results put Heckmondwike Grammar in the top 10-20% of schools nationally. At A level, results are commonly the best of all school-based sixth forms in Kirklees.



# Transition & Student Support



Preparation for a successful start at Heckmondwike Grammar School begins in the March before students arrive in September and continues throughout their first half-term. The process is led by the Head of Year 7 and is designed to ensure that our new students and their parents have as smooth a transition from primary school as possible.

We welcome students with additional needs and we provide extra support during the transition phase, including further visits and one-to-one sessions with the pastoral team.

We are very proud of the level of additional assistance that we offer our students. One of our greatest strengths is the support we provide our students, both academically and pastorally.

We have set aside transition days, two of which will take place in July. These two days provide an opportunity for new students to meet with their class and form tutor, find their way around the building and enjoy some lessons. These will include Geography, Science, French or Spanish, Design Technology and Physical Education.

*"The Heads of Year take pride in helping students with issues they have with their work or any of their own problems. If you are struggling with a subject, the school offers additional studies. There is an after-school programme run by the teachers to help students on a certain topic. I personally plan to attend the English impact to improve my essay style. All the teachers I have had at this school are enthusiastic about their job and enjoy passing on their knowledge to their students."*

YEAR 9 STUDENT





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# Extra-Curricular Activities

There are a number of opportunities for students to extend their participation during lunchtime clubs as well as after-school training sessions, fixtures and competitions. Activities on offer include concert band, soul band, guitar group, youth theatre, choir, dance club, British sign language and various modern foreign language sessions.

The physical education department enters teams into a number of competitions at local, district and county levels and students have achieved a great deal of success. The school runs teams and clubs for a range of sports, including athletics, badminton, basketball, cricket, cross country, football, hockey, netball, rounders, rugby, tennis and swimming.

Students in the school are also given the opportunity to represent their House in a variety of sports during the year; these include all of the major games as well as a swimming

gala which takes place in December, and a whole-school sports day held at the Princess Mary's Athletics Stadium in July.

The numerous musical groups together with the house drama competition and annual productions, for example, enable actors and musicians of all abilities to display their talents. Each year a large number of students succeed in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme at Bronze, Silver and Gold; we are a licensed centre in our own right for the award and the largest provider in Kirklees.

## The House System

Students are allocated to one of four houses when they join us and will remain in this house throughout their time at Heckmondwike Grammar School. House competitions in sport, music, drama, debating, chess and some curriculum-related events such as the Maths Challenge and Spelling Bee are a feature of the school and

*"The wide variety of extra-curricular activities has really made me fit in and I have grown not only academically but socially. Coming from a very small primary school I thought it would be hard to fit in with so many more people but now I don't know what I was worried about. It feels like I have been here forever and I have lots of friends to support me."*

**YEAR 9 STUDENT**

competition is intense. Students are awarded house colours denoted by a shield badge when they participate in four house events within an academic year.

At the end of the year the Lees Cup is awarded to the most successful house when all the activities are concluded.

Parents should note that when purchasing uniform the colour highlighting on certain items needs to be in the appropriate house colour: Brontë (blue), Clarke (yellow), Houldsworth (green) and Priestley (red).



*"The experience I have had has been very welcoming and teacher support has been superb. If you are struggling, the tutors, pastoral staff and subject teachers are always there to help."*

**YEAR 11 STUDENT**



# Parent View



99%

of parents would recommend HGS to another parent

98%

of parents feel that their child is happy

98%

of parents feel they receive valuable information from the school about their child's progress

99%

of parents believe their child is taught well and makes good progress

98%

of parents believe the school ensures students are well behaved

99%

of parents believe their child feels safe and is well looked after

97%

of parents believe bullying is dealt with effectively

99%

of parents believe the school is well led and managed

## Achieving in all areas of life...



### Annual entry into competitions:

- Young Chef of the Year
- Spen Valley Netball Tournament
- Spen Valley Cup (football)
- National Cross Country Championship
- National School Badminton Championships
- The Mace National Debating competition of which 23 Students achieved awards in 2020
- Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- World Challenge Expedition

### Competitions & events:

- Prestigious Invitations for our talented musicians and choir to attend multiple music festivals and services
- Cipher Challenge of which years 7 and 9 were runners up in 2020

# Student Achievements

Extra-Curricular - Getting Involved

## Fund-raising including:

- British Legion Poppy Appeal
- Xmas Jumper Day
- Red nose Day
- Children in Need
- Reverse Advent



*Reverse Advent*

## House events:

- Rugby
- Rounders
- Football
- Chess
- E-sports
- Swimming
- Athletics
- Netball
- Art
- Creative Writing
- Spelling Bee

## Out of school achievements:

- Double Medal Winner in the English Women's Artistic Gymnastics Championships
- Ex-student won Yorkshire Asian Young Achiever in 2020
- Student accepted into Castleford Tigers Scholarship Scheme
- Student selected for Yorkshire ladies U15 Rugby Union Squad
- Several students gained success from auditioning for tv programmes and West End Shows

...that's what students at  
Heckmondwike Grammar School do



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# Upcoming Future Events

2021 - 2022



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Entrance Exam  
**13 September 2021**

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New Year 7 Parents'  
Introductory Evening  
**21 & 23 June 2022**

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Transition Days  
**4 & 5 July 2022**

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New Parents' Information Evening  
**20 & 22 September 2022**

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Transition Events  
**26-28 & 28-30 September 2022**



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# Catering

The catering provision at Heckmondwike Grammar School is provided by Mellors Catering Services Limited.

Mellors is a family run, award-winning catering company. They cater for more than 300 schools across the North of England. They aim to source produce locally and all of their food is freshly prepared on site daily. The catering team strives to support healthy lifestyles while aiming to make all dishes interesting and tasty, using a wide range of ingredients.



Together we offer a large range of hot and cold food including home-made dishes such as roasts, bakes and pies. We take inspiration from many international cuisines such as those of Italy, Spain, India and China. Our cold meal offer includes a vast range of salads and sandwiches and we also have a range of 'food to go' such as paninis, flat breads and wholesome soup.

Students may opt for the meal deal option, which includes a main meal (hot or cold) plus a dessert or tetra drink.

We feel that we offer excellent value for money and operate a cashless payment system for meals: parents are encouraged to top-up regularly using our on-line payments system, ParentPay. ParentPay account set up details will be issued to all parents. You will be able to link any existing ParentPay accounts if you choose.

Parents whose children may be eligible for free school meals (FSM) should apply to Kirklees Council. Students eligible for a FSM will be entitled to a meal deal every day, or up to the meal deal value towards other food and drink purchases.

We have recently revamped the decor in the main dining room, and plan further investment in one of the other eating areas in school. With the offer available this means that the students get the best eating experience, the best quality of food and all for the best value!

A couple of years ago the school ran a campaign to reduce plastic bottles and packaging in school. We offer drinks in tetra cartons, water bottle refilling stations and aim to recycle where possible.

Catering for up to 1,500 students and staff each day is a considerable task but one that is relished by the catering team at Heckmondwike Grammar School through Mellors.

Details of the catering provision in school are available at:

[www.heckgrammar.co.uk/students/daily-life/catering/](http://www.heckgrammar.co.uk/students/daily-life/catering/)



*We strive to cater for all dietary requirements and are, of course, well informed and vigilant in the case of food intolerance and allergies. Parents with any concerns or questions are encouraged to contact our Head Chef.*



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## Entry & How to Apply

All students seeking entry into Year 7 must sit the school's entrance examination, which takes place on **Monday 13 September 2021**

To register for the entrance exam, please complete our online registration form which is accessible via our website:

[www.heckgrammar.co.uk/admissions](http://www.heckgrammar.co.uk/admissions)

Please note that registration closes at midday on **Monday 28 June 2021** and that we are unable to accept late submissions.

In order to be eligible for a place parents must also make the school one of their choices via the local authority common application system. Parents who reside outside of the boundaries of Kirklees should apply to their own local education authority.

The school offers 180 places via the local authority. All applicants will be notified as to whether or not they have achieved the required standard prior to the deadline for submission of the Common Application form to the local authority.





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Community Swimming  
progress amazing Happy Sport  
independence great academic hockey care  
peers knowledge rewards Diverse healthy  
approachable peers Transition journey  
friendly fun staff enthusiastic  
goals impact Achievement  
environment support encouragement  
competitions encourage football netball pride kind  
inspirational safe Extra-curricular helpful respect  
Potential confidence spelling-bee positive  
Trips Bewerley-Park results  
houses compelling House  
pastoral confident enjoyable  
relaxing



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