



HECKMONDWIKE GRAMMAR SIXTH FORM

Monday, 19 July 2021

Dear student,

Summer preparations for post-18 progression

Summer research and preparations

I hope that you have enjoyed the post-18 progression opportunities that you have encountered this term, not least the Progression Conference earlier this month. These activities should have spurred your thought and research around your post-18 options, and you should now take some time over the summer break to complete key activities ahead of year 13.

All students should, as a minimum, complete all items on the list below ready for September. Note that some hyperlinks may not work unless you log in to your school Outlook account.

- Register on Ucas Apply 2022. You can watch a video about how to do this [here](#).
- Complete your Apply 2022 application form as fully as possible. Support resources are available [here](#).
- Prepare a full, first-draft personal statement that should be between 3000 and 5000 characters, inclusive of spaces, and as close to 4000 characters as possible. The [Progression Conference workshop from the University of Bristol](#) is well worth reviewing to help with this, as is this [support sheet from the University of Manchester](#).

All students are expected to bring a paper copy of their personal statement to school, for feedback from your tutor, on your return on Tuesday 7 September. Students who are not able to produce an acceptable draft statement on this day will be asked to attend school on Wednesday 8 September for support from the Careers and Sixth Form teams.

More generally, the new [HGS Careers Sharepoint](#) and your Ucas Hub are fantastic resources to help focus your research over the summer.

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Predicted grades

Now that you have received both your Summer Attainment (DC3) and mock examination grades, I would like to take another opportunity to remind you of how the school will calculate predicted grades to be sent to universities and other post-18 providers next term.

Students will receive a predicted grade for each subject. The criteria for arriving at predictions are set out below:

- Where a student's year 12 mock exam grade is one grade below their DC3, we will predict DC3.
- Where a student's year 12 mock exam grade is equal to or higher than their DC3, we will raise the DC3, usually by one grade.
- Where a student's year 12 mock exam grade is two or more grades above or below their DC3, we will consult with teachers and Subject Leaders to identify the most appropriate prediction.

Clearly, there are occasionally particular circumstances to be borne in mind, and myself, Mrs Naylor and Miss Grimes carefully consider these on their own merits. However, in the vast majority of cases we believe that this evidence-based method is fair, consistent and in the best interest of all of our students.

You might find it useful to [review the briefing from earlier this term](#).

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity of wishing you all a very happy and restful summer. I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Yours sincerely,

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

Mr R N Oxby

Deputy Director of Sixth Form (Progression)