



Best Yorkshire Secondary Schools Named - HGS Ranked

HGS Ranked 7th in The Sunday Times

At Heckmondwike Grammar School we are delighted with our 2020 exam results and being ranked one of the top schools in the North of England. At GCSE, the government's progress 8 score showed that on average, in all subjects, students 'overachieved' by at least half a grade compared to what was expected of them given their starting points. All of our Year 11 students secured at least five good GCSE grades and 79% of our students achieved five or more GCSEs graded 9-7. In addition, 58% of our Year 11 students secured an impressive eight or more graded 9-7.

At A level, we had similarly impressive results with 78% at grade C or better and 72% of these grades were either A*, A or B. We had over 40 students achieving all grades at A*/A with high proportions of students going on to high calibre Russel Group Universities including Oxford and Cambridge.

Heckmondwike Grammar School

182 nd= NATIONAL RANK **55.1%** A-LEVEL A*- B **58.6%** GCSE A*/A/9/8/7

Selective

TOTAL PUPILS	1,500
GENDER OF ENTRY	Mixed (11 to 18). Mixed sixth form
SCHOOL TYPE	Selective (100%)
CRITERIA	Academic: verbal, numerical and non-verbal ability (CEM)
INSPECTION REPORT	Download report

Full article is available - <https://www.examinerlive.co.uk/news/local-news/best-yorkshire-secondary-schools-named-19366910>



Department Focus: History

Last time I wrote an article for the Heckler was exactly one year ago, in December 2019. It had been a busy term, packed with trips, including a Year 11 trip to Berlin, projects on the Peterloo massacre, events commemorating Remembrance and anniversaries, as well as the normal preparations for exams. Who could have predicted then what a 'historic' year we had in store, for all the wrong reasons! We could never have imagined that our students in years 11 and 13 would never sit their exams, the culmination of an incredible amount of hard work. The vast majority of our students worked well in lockdown and we all had to adapt to a new way of working, with terms such as zoom, Teams and remote teaching/learning entering our vocabulary. It is testament to the hard work and dedication of staff and students alike that we all returned to school in September, ready to learn and keen to meet up again, albeit at a social distance!

Eventually, our A level students were rewarded with the grades which they deserved in the summer, and several students have gone on to study History or history related degrees at university. We wish them all well. We were also pleased, given the nature of the summer exams, that so many of our Year 11 students stayed on to study history with us in the Sixth Form and were as equally delighted to welcome students from other schools to our A level history course. They have contributed extremely well to class discussions and have shown an excellent level of commitment to their studies.

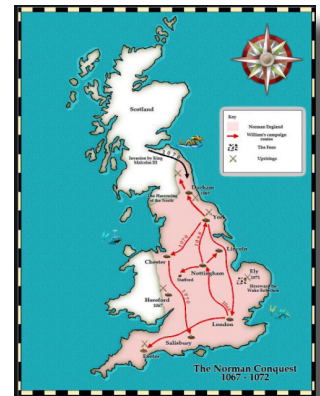


Some of our history students found new ways to work and explore history during lockdown. Some enrolled in online learning courses, such as futurelearn.com, investigating a range of historical enquiries. Many museums and galleries offered free access to their resources, audio books, magazines and journals were more widely available and there were a huge range of historical dramas and documentaries available to watch. One of our Year 10 students, Nancy Roberts, set the

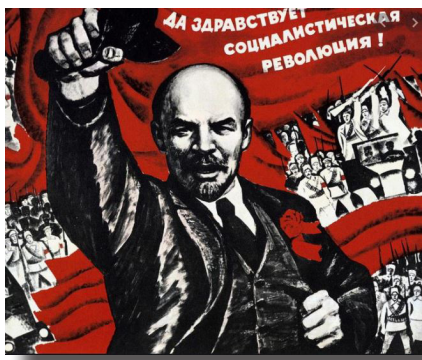
bar high with her own twitter account promoting all things history. [Nanc@AHistoryTeen](https://twitter.com/Nanc@AHistoryTeen) produced a staggering 75 history videos as part of the [#MuseumFromHome](https://twitter.com/MuseumFromHome) project. I would urge you to check them out. Returning to school has not stopped Nancy and she has recently completed a project in collaboration with the Cemetery Club in London. The following link is easily accessible and captioned! Well done and keep up the good work Nancy! <https://youtu.be/8XcNdV7M4Yo>

Back at school, we have been impressed with the manner in which students have continued to engage in their history lessons. The vast majority have made up for lost time and continue to make good progress. Year 7 students have settled in well to their studies of Conquest and Control, focusing on the Roman invasion of Britain as well as the Norman Conquest.

Year 8 have been able to contribute to discussions about the Development of Democracy by following the political changes taking place, not only in the UK, but across the world.



Unfortunately, our planned GCSE trip to Berlin had to be cancelled, but students have continued to work hard preparing for exams and ensuring that all work is completed to the best standard.



At A-level, our students are engaging in topics as diverse as the Russian Revolution, 17th century political and religious change and US Civil Rights. Year 13 in particular, have engaged well with the political implications of the Presidential election this year and have gained an important understanding of how the system works. Our topic of US Civil Rights and race relations has never been so relevant in the context of the Black Lives Matter movement this year.

Diary Dates

W/c 7 December - Year 9 Students working from home - Year 7 Students return

W/c 7 December - Year 10 Revision Week

9 December - Year 7 Flu Vaccinations

W/c 14 December - All Year groups back

15 December - Christmas Jumper Day

15/16 - Christmas Lunch




HECKMONDWIKE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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SITE, MOVING AROUND THE
SCHOOL SITE, IN COMMUNAL
AREAS AND DURING
LESSONS.**

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HGS Physics Department

Astronomy Photography Competition

No specialist equipment required – a smartphone will do!

For more details, hints and tips, and to enter, join the Teams group with the code:

p7ce5ni

Ask your Physics teacher for more details

Deadline for entries – Friday 26th March 2021