



## HECKMONDWIKE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

JCB/SMF

31 August 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the start of a new academic year, we can share our plans for the first week back to school with some degree of certainty. As I am sure you are aware, the Government has asked schools to undertake coronavirus testing for all students as they return after the summer holidays. We have tried to minimise the disruption to the start of the year, but, as I am sure you can appreciate, this is a logistical challenge for a school of our size. Below is the key information for each year group covering the arrangements for the first week.

Please pay particular attention to the start and finish times for each year group and note that the school is closed to all students on Monday 6 September and Monday 13 September.

### **Monday 6 September – Inset Day**

School is closed to all students.

### **Tuesday 7 September – Induction Day**

School is open to Y7, Y12 and Y13 only

<b>Year 7</b>	08:30 - 08:40 arrival at North Street Student Entrance 15:15 students will be dismissed via the North Street Student Entrance
<b>Year 12</b>	08.30 onwards staggered arrival via Main Reception. Individual arrival times will be sent to students in the final week of the holidays
<b>Year 13</b>	13.15 arrive via the High Street gate into the Middle Yard to be met by tutors.

### **Wednesday 8 September**

The school day will be split between morning and afternoon sessions to facilitate coronavirus testing. Students in year 7 and 12 only will be in school all day.

<b>All day</b>	
<b>Year 7</b>	08:30 – 08:40 arrival at North Street Student Entrance 15:15 students will be dismissed from the North Street Student Entrance
<b>Year 12</b>	08:45 – 08:40 arrive via Main Reception and go straight to the Swann Hall for registration and assembly.

Heckmondwike Grammar School, High Street, Heckmondwike, West Yorkshire, WF16 0AH  
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Headteacher: Mr P Roberts

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<b>Morning session only</b>	
<b>Year 8</b>	08:30 – 08:40 arrival via the High Street Gate to muster in the Middle Yard 12:15 Students dismissed from school
<b>Year 10</b>	08:30 – 08:40 students muster on the MUGA 12:15 students dismissed from school

<b>Afternoon session only</b>	
<b>Year 9</b>	11:45 – 12:00 arrival via the High Street Gate to muster in the Middle Yard 15:15 students dismissed from school
<b>Year 11</b>	11:45 – 12:00 students muster on the MUGA 15:15 students dismissed from school

### **Thursday 9 September**

Normal school day for all years

Students in Y7 – 11 to enter the school via the North Street Student Entrance. All students must be in school by 08:40 when the first bell sounds and make their way to form period. Students not in school at this time will need to report to Main Reception to be marked as late.

Year 12 – 13 will be directed by the sixth form team

### **Friday 10 September**

Normal school day for all years

**Please note that school will close at 14.15 to allow preparation for the Entrance Exam**

### **Monday 13 September**

Entrance Exam - school is closed to all students

### **Face Coverings**

We have taken the decision to remove the compulsory use of face coverings from September. In line with current guidance, it will be the personal choice of staff and students if they want to continue to wear face coverings in crowded areas. Please be aware this decision is subject to change in the future and will be kept under review.

### **Entering school from Thursday 9 September**

This year we will be asking all students in Y7 – 11 to enter the school via the North Street Student Entrance each morning. All students must be in school by 08.40 when the external gates will be locked. After this time students are classed as late and will have to report to Main Reception. We believe that punctuality is important, so please ensure students arrive in good time, allowing for the roads being busier at both arrival and dismissal times.

### **Uniform**

During the last academic year we were sympathetic to the difficulties students and parents faced with regard to school uniform. However, as society has started to open up fully, I would like to remind you of our expectations regarding school uniform. We expect students to be in correct

uniform at all times and our expectations are clearly outlined on the school website. If you are unsure about any element of the uniform policy, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

### **Information regarding Testing for Covid-19**

On their return to school, students will be asked to take two lateral flow Covid tests. This is in line with Government policy for the start of term.

The tests that students will be taking will be the newer Orient Gene test which only require nasal swabs. Testing will be undertaken by trained test operatives and full instructions will be given to all students, as these tests may be different to the ones we have all become accustomed to.

The first test will take place on the first day students return to school, with the second test a few days later.

It is important for the safety and security of all students and staff as well as keeping schools and communities safer that as many students as possible undertake these Covid tests at school.

I would therefore urge you to agree to your child taking these in-school tests.

**Please complete the consent form for testing by clicking on the link below, even if you have already given consent.**

#### [Consent Form](#)

Following the second in-school test, students will be issued with a box of home test kits for twice-weekly testing. Further details about these tests, how to report the results and how long at-home testing will last, will be available shortly after the start of term.

You can read a privacy notice relating to the data which is collected for the purposes of these tests as well as a set of FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) which has been produced by the DfE and NHS Test and Trace by clicking on the links below.

#### [Privacy Notice](#)

#### [FAQs \(Frequently Asked Questions\)](#)

We hope all students are enjoying a restful break and we look forward to welcoming them back to school in September.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeremy Barnett', written in a cursive style.

Jeremy Barnett

Assistant Headteacher