

PDR/JDN

9 September 2024

## Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome back to the new school year at Heckmondwike Grammar School. I do hope whatever you have been doing, you have had a lovely summer and have managed to get some time together as a family.

We have had a fabulous summer with both GCSE and A levels results being very pleasing indeed. Our GCSE results are a new record for the school, with our students on average exceeding their government set target grades by more than 1 full grade in each subject. This is likely to place us in the top 100 schools nationally. At A level, our percentage of grades at A\*-B has jumped 10 percentage points to 68%, which we are delighted with, particularly in a year where this figure has remained stable nationally at 54%. We have had even more students entering the high calibre Russell group universities and some students entering very attractive apprenticeship pathways.

With this level of success, we are entering the new year with great excitement and optimism, with a fantastic year planned for lessons, extra-curricular clubs, House events and an evergrowing number of school trips.

Despite the annual sadness of saying goodbye to our departing year 13 students, we are particularly delighted to welcome our new year 12 students, many of whom have come through the school, and are joined by equally enthusiastic and aspirant students from other schools, all eager to learn and make the most of our provision. At our youngest end of the school, we welcome our new year 7 students, resplendent in their new, quite rightly oversized, brown blazers. It is always a pleasure to start the 7-year journey with them and we look forward to some wonderful times ahead.

May I take this opportunity to remind you school is closed on Monday 16 September to allow us to run our entrance examination. And to enable the practical setting up, school will close early this Friday at 2.15pm, with us running a compressed school day of 5 slightly shortened lessons.

Thank you once again for your very loyal support of all that we do at the school. As we have frequently reflected, between school, parents and students, we are very much a team and because of this mutual support, we have together become quite an impressive force. Having said that, you know we are always looking for further ways to improve, so please do let us know.

My best wishes to you all.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Peter Roberts

Peter Roberts

Headteacher