



PDR/JDN

4 September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our students and families as we begin another exciting academic year at Heckmondwike Grammar School.

It has been a particularly positive start to the term, and I am delighted to report that our new Year 7 and Year 12 students have settled into school life exceptionally well. They have embraced the opportunities and challenges of their new educational journeys with enthusiasm, confidence and maturity, and have already become valued members of our school community.

Summer 2026 Examination Results

We also begin the year celebrating the outstanding achievements of our students in the summer examinations. Our GCSE and A Level results were excellent and among the strongest we have ever achieved. These exceptional outcomes are a testament to the hard work, commitment and resilience of our students, the unwavering support of parents and carers, and the dedication of our teaching and support staff. We are immensely proud of what our students have accomplished and congratulate them all on their success.

Ofsted Report

Alongside these academic achievements, we are extremely pleased to share the findings from our recent Ofsted inspection. A copy of the report is enclosed for your information and I would encourage all parents and carers to take the opportunity to read it. The report recognises the many strengths of Heckmondwike Grammar School and reflects the exceptional work taking place across our school community every day.

Ofsted Report 2026

We are particularly proud that the inspection outcomes place Heckmondwike Grammar School amongst approximately the top 10% of schools inspected under Ofsted's new framework. Further details can be found in the accompanying press release, available on our [website](#).

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Headteacher: Mr P Roberts

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The report is a significant endorsement of the hard work, ambition and commitment demonstrated by our students, staff, governors and families, and we are grateful to everyone who contributes to the continued success of the school.

Governance

This year also marks an important transition within our governing body. After 27 years of dedicated service as a governor, our Chair of Governors, Mr Derek Cross, has stepped down to enjoy a well-earned retirement. Mr Cross has made an enormous contribution to the school over nearly three decades, providing invaluable leadership, support and guidance. On behalf of the entire school community, I would like to express our sincere gratitude and thanks for his outstanding service.

We are equally delighted to welcome Mr Jonathan Hodgson as our new Chair of Governors. As a former student of Heckmondwike Grammar School, Mr Hodgson brings both a strong understanding of our values and a deep commitment to our continued success. We look forward to working with him in this important role.

Site Developments

As well as a busy summer celebrating our students' examination successes, we have once again undertaken some extensive site improvements. These have included 2 canopies in the middle yard to facilitate outside dining, performing arts performances and leisure activities, whatever the weather. Additionally, despite being let down by the contractor, so that the project completion has been delayed, we have remodelled both the girls' and boys' toilets and once finished in the next few weeks will be a welcome addition to our other excellent school facilities. And finally, we are currently embarking on a major project to replace the original Victorian roof tiles on the oldest part of our estate. We are a victim of our own success here in that we have been successful in a bid to gain funding for the project, but consequently much of the school will be covered in scaffolding for the best part of the academic year. We will ensure there is minimal disruption to school life.

School Routines

As we begin the new academic year, I would also like to remind students and families of a number of important expectations that help maintain the high standards for which our school is known.

Firstly, students should ensure they wear the correct [school uniform/dress code for post 16](#) students, at all times please. Our uniform is a source of pride and helps foster a strong sense of belonging within our school community.

Secondly, students should arrive at school each day with the [correct equipment](#), fully prepared for learning. Having the necessary resources enables students to participate fully in lessons and make the most of every opportunity available to them.

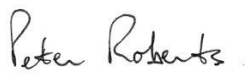
Finally, I would ask all families to support the school's policy regarding electronic devices. The responsible use of technology is important, but equally important is ensuring that mobile phones and other electronic devices do not distract from learning or student wellbeing. We

appreciate your support in reinforcing these expectations and ensuring students comply fully with the school's policy.

As we look ahead, there is much to celebrate and even more to anticipate. The new academic year presents fresh opportunities for learning, achievement, personal growth and participation in the wide range of activities that make Heckmondwike Grammar School such a vibrant and successful community.

Thank you for your continued support, which is greatly valued. I look forward to working together throughout the year and to celebrating many more successes with our students and families.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P' and a trailing flourish.

Mr Peter Roberts

Headteacher