TCC/JOA

10 November 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

We are once again proud to be supporting **Children in Need** at Heckmondwike Grammar School. In recent years, our school community has demonstrated incredible generosity, raising **over £10,000 across the last two years alone** for this worthwhile cause. This year, we are determined to build on that achievement and, through the collective efforts of our students, staff, parents and carers, raise as much money as possible to support children and young people who need it most.

This letter shares our plans and logistics for **Children in Need Week**, which will take place from **Friday 13 November to Friday 20 November 2026**.

Why are we supporting Children in Need?

This year's Children in Need campaign is focused on supporting **children's mental health**. The charity provides vital support for children and young people experiencing challenges linked to mental health, poverty, social inequality and family circumstances. The funding raised helps provide early intervention, support services and opportunities that can make a life-changing difference to young people across the country.

Importantly, funds raised by Children in Need also support organisations much closer to home, with charities across West Yorkshire having benefited directly from grants in previous years.

Children in Need at HGS

Over recent weeks, students have been learning about the work of Children in Need and planning their own fundraising activities. We have challenged every student to think creatively about how they can contribute, whether through sponsored activities, creating items for sale at our Pudsey Party, or other fundraising initiatives. Sponsor forms and donation envelopes have been made available for any fundraising taking place outside school.

Students have also been encouraged to work together within their form groups as part of our annual fundraising competition. The form raising the most money will win a special reward, but, of course, it is about more than winning a competition – it is about being charitable and raising as much as we can to support young people.

Children in Need Events

There are a whole host of activities throughout the week. The main events include:

- **Staff Masked Singer/Dancer** - Friday 13 November 2026, lunchtime, Swann Hall (£2 ticket sold during form time)
- **Y7 Disco** - Friday 13 November 2026, after school, Swann Hall 6.00pm-7.30pm.
- **Staff Football Match** - Monday 16 November 2026, lunchtime (£1 entry)
- **Pointless Quiz Show** - Monday 16 November 2026, lunchtime (£1 entry)
- **HGS Got Talent** – Thursday 19 November 2026– see below for more information.
- **Pudsey Party** - Friday 20 November 2026, lunchtime
- Additional activities organised by students throughout the week.

HGS Got Talent – Thursday 19 November 2026

We would particularly like to invite parents and carers to attend our **HGS Got Talent** showcase on **Thursday 19 November from 6.00pm to 7.30pm in Swann Hall**. This promises to be an entertaining evening featuring performances from our talented student finalists, audience voting, a judging panel, and even a special performance from the staff band. Tickets are available via ParentPay for **£5**, with all proceeds going towards Children in Need.

A significant amount of time, effort and courage has gone into preparing for this event. Our performers have worked exceptionally hard, and we would love to see a strong audience there to support them. Whether you are attending to cheer on a particular student or simply enjoy a fantastic evening of entertainment, your support will help us raise vital funds for an important cause.

Donations

For any fundraising completed independently, students should bring sponsorship money into school on **Friday 13 November 2026**. Each student will receive an envelope to record their name, form and amount raised before handing it to their form tutor. Students should also hand in their sponsor form with their donations. This is for all students except Year 10; they have an assembly on Friday so they should bring their donations on Thursday 12 November 2026.

Any money raised after the 13th should be handed directly to Mr Audis. He will provide an envelope and sticker to complete and will ensure all money is processed towards the overall form totals. This is mainly applicable to all students who are hosting a stand at the Pudsey Party – more details will be shared with those who have signed up for a stall in due course.

Students who have raised money online through the Pudsey Run will receive further instructions on how to declare their fundraising totals which will be via a Microsoft Forms link sent to them.

Bringing Spending Money into School

Throughout Children in Need Week, there will be several opportunities for students to support fundraising events. If families are able to do so, we recommend students bring **around £5 in loose change** across the week.

A suggested £5 could be used to:

- Purchase a ticket for the **Staff Masked Singer/Dancer** event (£2)
- Purchase a ticket for the **Staff Football Match** or **Pointless Quiz Show** (£1)
- Spend approximately £2 at the **Pudsey Party** stalls on Friday 20 November 2026

This helps students support several fundraising activities while keeping spending manageable.

Thank You

Finally, I would like to thank all students, parents, carers and staff for their continued support. The enthusiasm shown towards Children in Need each year is a real reflection of the values we hold as a school community. The generosity, kindness and willingness to support others demonstrates what an incredible community we have at HGS. Events such as these remind us that success is not only measured by what we achieve individually, but also by how we come together to make a positive difference for others. It is this community spirit that makes HGS such a special place, and we look forward to working together once again to make this year's Children in Need week our most successful yet.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours faithfully,



Mr J. Audis
Assistant Headteacher