



The Sixth Form
at Harrogate Grammar School
Excellence For All

Friday 24 May 2019

Dear Parent/Carer and Student

This letter contains an outline of the key dates and events for Year 12 students for the next half term. In summary:

Week Commencing	Summary
3 June	Return after half term, normal lessons
10 June	Normal lessons
17 June	Internal exams
24 June	Internal exams, 28 June – Home Study Day
1 July	Progression Days – 4 & 5 July
8 July	Normal lessons
15 July	Work Experience/In school

Monday 17 June – Friday 28 June

Year 12 internal school exams take place during this time. Students will receive their individual timetables via the Examinations Office after the May half-term break.

Students are expected to attend school and lessons as normal. However, if a student has a PM examination they are permitted study leave in the morning of that day. This study leave also applies to those students who are taking external examinations.

Friday 28 June – Home Study/Independent University Visits

Students have been allocated home study/independent university visit time on the above date due to the new Year 12 Induction Day taking place in school. Please follow the link provided below to search for open days that are available on this date. The student and parent bulletin contain useful information on many progression opportunities.

<https://www.opendays.com/>

Further university visits

Students typically use this final half term to visit universities on official open days. It is important to note that students may need to book their place on the open day online in advance of their visit. We ask that students make no more than **four** visits in term time and parents/carers notify Mrs Reed on tar@harrogategrammar.co.uk one week in advance of the visit.

Thursday 4 and Friday 5 July: Progression Days

All students will participate in a programme dedicated to preparation for post-18 work or study. These sessions will be supported by a range of universities. This will comprise:

- Registration on UCAS Track and a clear explanation of the UCAS application process

- Introduction to personal statements
- Support for students in writing the first draft of their personal statement
- Sessions run by current employers to include finding apprenticeships and approaching the employment market
- Guidance on Gap Years, Student Finance and Oxbridge
- Preparation for Interviews and employability
- Current University Ambassadors offering “Advice to my Year 12 self”

This programme is designed to engage students in the university application process at an early stage and also to raise awareness of a range of alternative post-18 options.

For those students intending to apply to university, the UCAS website contains useful advice for parents/carers, such as the parent guide. Parents/carers can register to receive a regular e-newsletter, containing advice and information from UCAS and other directly relevant organisations. Parents/carers can register at www.ucas.com/parents www.whichuniversity.co.uk and www.gov.uk/student-finance/overview are also useful sources of information.

We are aware that some students will be absent from school for educational trips and a separate session will be arranged before the end of term to ensure all students are registered for UCAS.

We will access Unifrog during these progression days. Unifrog supports Sixth Form students when making decisions about the next steps in their career, bringing into one place every university course, apprenticeship, and college course in the UK, as well as other opportunities such as School Leaver Programmes. In addition, it gives students access to ‘massive open online courses’ (moocs), which are free online modules written by universities. We encourage all Year 12 students to **complete at least one** in preparation for their application to university and to broaden their understanding. Your son/daughter has a personal login and has already received training on how to utilise this tool. It may be worthwhile asking them to show you how this is informing the decisions that they are starting to make via www.unifrog.org/

Monday 15 July – Friday 19 July - Work Experience

All Year 12 students have been encouraged to take part in work experience in order to strengthen their insight into a chosen field and enhance future applications to universities and apprenticeships. Students who have not secured a placement should see Mrs Warren for further guidance and support. If placements are not secured students will be expected in school as normal.

Bridging Materials

During the final weeks students will be receiving Year 12 – 13 Bridging Materials, similar to those used before joining the Sixth Form, as additional independent work. The Bridging Materials are designed to prepare students for Year 13 study and we expect all students to complete Bridging Materials before returning to school in September.

Year 12 students will receive their end of year internal exam results week commencing 15 July. Post-results interviews will then take place with identified students to support them in the next steps of their education.

Year 12 students will break for the summer holiday on **Friday 19 July**. We will write to you at this point with an outline of arrangements for Results Day for those students who have taken external exams.

We would like to thank all parents/carers for their support over the course of this year and fully recognise the efforts that students have made.

Yours sincerely



Neil Renton
Associate Headteacher/Head of Sixth Form



Lucy Vincent
Deputy Director of Sixth Form