



## The Sixth Form

at Harrogate Grammar School

Excellence For All

6 September 2019

To Parents/Carers of all students in Year 13

We would like to welcome all Year 13 students to this new, and their final, school year. Please find below arrangements for Year 13.

All Parents and Carers are warmly invited to an information evening on **Wednesday 11 September**, from **7.00pm – 8.00pm in The Forum**. Parking will be available in the school car park, plus there is extra car parking in the overflow car park behind the former nursery building. We hope to clarify the information within this letter and address any queries that you may have. We value your support and look forward to a successful year.

It is important that all students reflect carefully on their performance over Year 12 and establish a suitable strategy through seeking appropriate guidance from their teachers at the start of the academic year. In our experience, the majority of students respond positively to advice and improve their performance in the final year at school.

Key dates for this year include:

- Wednesday 11 September at 7.00pm: Parents Welcome Evening
- Tuesday 17 September at 4.00pm: Parents Consultation Evening
- Friday 18 October: Progress and Attitude to Learning Grades – Autumn 1
- Friday 13 December: Progress and Attitude to Learning Grades – Autumn 2
- Monday 6 January – Friday 17 January: Internal exam weeks
- Friday 7 February: Progress and Attitude to Learning Grades – Spring 1
- Wednesday 5 February – Student Finance Evening at 7.00pm
- Tuesday 25 February at 4.00pm: Parents Consultation Evening
- Wednesday 4 March – Sixth Form Examination Advisory Evening at 7.00pm
- Friday 27 March – Progress and Attitude to Learning Grades – Spring 2
- Monday 6 April – Easter Revision Week
- Monday 11 May – A Level Exams Commence (provisional)
- Friday 15 May – Leavers Assembly and Study Leave Commences
- Wednesday 24 June – A Level Exam Contingency date
- Saturday 27 June – Leavers Ball

Mrs Vincent, Deputy Director of Sixth Form and Mrs Jackson, Student Support Manager, should always be the first point of contact for any pastoral concerns for students.

## **UCAS**

Students who apply to university will do so in the course of this term. It will be an online application overseen by the Sixth Form Team. As you are aware, time in the summer term was dedicated to preparation for this process. It is crucial that students make appropriate course choices in line with their predicted grades and which match their personal preferences. Students will shortly begin discussions with their teachers regarding their UCAS predicted grades which will form part of their application.

Please be aware that numerous checks need to take place and an application can take up to three weeks to process in school.

We would like to make you aware of important dates for the submission of applications by the students to the school:

- Monday 20 September for applicants to Oxbridge, Medical, Dental and Veterinary Schools, in order that we can meet the specific deadline set by UCAS
- Monday 20 September for CUKAS applications, for Conservatoires
- Monday 11 October for Russell Group and applications to other competitive courses
- Monday 4 November for all other applicants

The school has a dedicated Student Adviser based in the Sixth Form who is available to discuss higher education options and career opportunities for all students. Appointments can be made with Dr Gregson via [szg@harrogategrammar.co.uk](mailto:szg@harrogategrammar.co.uk). In addition, our independent Careers Adviser, Mrs Tunstall, will be available every Tuesday to see Sixth Form students by appointment for careers advice. Mrs Tunstall can be contacted via [atunstall@harrogategrammar.co.uk](mailto:atunstall@harrogategrammar.co.uk).

As you will be aware, there have been significant changes to university tuition fees. The following website offers useful information and guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>. To clarify these issues, we will host a Student Finance talk for parents on Wednesday 5 February.

## **Sixth Form Bursary**

Students may apply for a bursary which aims to help and support students who face the greatest barriers to learning. To find out if your son/daughter might be eligible, and how to apply, please consult the school website or contact Mrs Reed at Sixth Form Reception via [tar@harrogategrammar.co.uk](mailto:tar@harrogategrammar.co.uk).

## **Routines and Expectations**

The new academic year might also be an appropriate time to remind you of the high expectations we have of all our sixth form students:

- We look for high levels of attendance throughout and will contact you if there is an unexplained absence.
- If at all possible, medical and dental appointments need to be made outside school time.
- Year 13 students to register daily at their first lesson.
- Students are required to sign in and out at break and lunch times via our electronic Inventory system.
- Please call Mrs Reed (01423 535236) or email [tar@harrogategrammar.co.uk](mailto:tar@harrogategrammar.co.uk) before 10am in the case of illness so that staff can be informed.
- If a student is ill during the school day, they must come to Sixth Form Reception and an assessment will be made as to whether they should remain in school.
- It is important in this crucial year that students do not take on excessive commitments out of school that are likely to impinge upon study time.

- **Students are issued with an ID badge and lanyard and this must be visibly worn at all times to help safeguard all members of our community.**
- Students are expected to follow the dress code outlined in the handbook available online. **All students are required to wear a blazer to school, and trainers are not permitted. We thank you for your support in upholding the dress code.**
- Students may apply for home study in the afternoon, but must always sign out at Sixth Form Reception.
- Students are expected to complete 16 hours of independent study or 1 hour for every lesson taught in school.

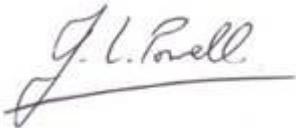
We value your continuing support in helping us to maintain these high standards.

Sixth Form students have achieved 57% A\* - B at A Level (and the highest value added progress score in the last 4 years) and we look forward to our Year 13 students contributing to this success.

We look forward to working with you and your son/daughter in a way that best serves their interests and effectively shapes their future.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you require any information throughout the year via 01423 535235 or via [sixthform@harrogategrammar.co.uk](mailto:sixthform@harrogategrammar.co.uk)

Yours faithfully



**Mr J Powell**  
Director of Sixth Form



**Mrs L Vincent**  
Assistant Director of Sixth Form