



The Sixth Form
at Harrogate Grammar School
Excellence For All

9 July 2021

Final week of term updates

Dear Student, parent/carer for information

The following information provides key updates about the arrangements for the final week of the school year.

Cancellation of Flamingo Land trip

Due to the changing context and rising cases of COVID-19, the planned trip to Flamingo Land on Monday 19 July will no longer go ahead. We understand that this will be disappointing for students who have booked a place on this trip, but this decision has been made in the interest of safety for students and staff within our school community. We will look to rearrange this trip for the end of Year 13.

Any money paid towards the trip will be refunded in due course. Refunds will be processed back to the payment card which was originally used. If for any reason you no longer have this card, please could you contact the finance department as soon as possible via: finance@harrogategrammar.co.uk.

Week commencing 19 July

The final week of the academic year is set aside for work experience, and students are not expected to be in school. The Sixth Form will remain open for students who wish to complete the virtual work experience modules within school, or for those who would like support with progression advice.

While some students have arranged to visit workplaces, we understand that such opportunities are limited this year. Any student who has not informed the school of individual arrangements for their work experience placement is expected to complete the virtual work experience programme through REED Education at home during the week commencing 19 July. In this programme students participate in a range of modules which teach them about the different departments at REED, and students are required to produce a presentation which reflects on the experience.

The resources should be accessed through Showbie: UZW4C. Students will complete the virtual placement when they finish the modules and upload their presentation to the Showbie folder. The Sixth Form Team will make contact with students to support this experience and to check their progress during the week.

Students are also expected to complete a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) of their choice during this week. The completion of both the MOOC and the virtual work experience demonstrates an impressive commitment to personal and academic development, and this will be recognised within the reference that the school will write for students.

Bridging materials

Students will be set bridging work from each subject to complete over the summer in preparation for the start of Year 13. This is intended to provide a clear focus for students as they start the second phase of their courses. Work will be set on Showbie and through

Homework4, and students are expected to complete the work in advance of their first lesson in September.

Progression and UCAS

We hope that students had a positive experience during the Progression Days on 30 June and 1 July. The speakers who delivered the sessions were very complimentary about our students, and we hope that the work done on these days has given students the confidence to develop their own plans for progression beyond the Sixth Form. Form Tutors and the Sixth Form Team will continue to support students in their applications for universities, apprenticeships and employment throughout Year 13.

The [Progression programme](#) page of our website has lots of useful information about the process at HGS, and students and parents / carers have access to [Unifrog](#) which is a fantastic resource for researching available options beyond the Sixth Form. We strongly recommend that students dedicate time over the summer to developing their own progression plans.

Many students worry about UCAS predicted grades at this point. It is important to recognise that the CAT grade and Teacher Estimate, reported next week, does not represent the UCAS prediction for university applications. The UCAS predicted grades are arrived at in September in discussion with teachers, students and considering the overall performance in Year 12 and anticipated progress in Year 13. The parent consultation evening in September provides an opportunity to discuss these grades further. Please be reassured that we will have the circumstances that all students have faced at the forefront of our minds when making UCAS predictions this year.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Year 12 students for the way they have approached the first year of their sixth form studies. During a challenging year they have demonstrated resilience, determination, and maturity.

The new academic year begins on Tuesday 7 September. The start time for the return of students will be communicated in due course. We are looking forward to welcoming students back into Year 13, and are excited about what they can go on to achieve.

Yours faithfully



Ben Twitchin
Director of Sixth Form