



HARROGATE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

YEAR 7 TRANSITION INFORMATION PACK 2025-2026



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Welcome from the Headteacher

Welcome to Harrogate Grammar School

We really look forward to welcoming your child to Harrogate Grammar School (HGS) in September, and starting a successful partnership with you, your child and our school.

In this information pack you will find details regarding the transition programme including what we would like you, as parents/carers, to do. There is a helpful checklist on the last page which includes key dates and details of the forms to be completed.

We look forward to meeting all the new starters when they visit us for three important transition days on **Tuesday 8, Wednesday 9 and Thursday 10 July 2025**.

In addition, we would like to invite you to join us on the evening of **Thursday 10 July 2025** at 6.30pm in the Main Hall. This information evening is for parents/carers only. During the evening, we will provide further information about starting secondary school and introduce you to key staff including:

- Senior Leadership Team
- Your child's form tutor
- Our Pastoral Team
- Representatives of the Parent Teacher Association
- Uniform suppliers, alongside a display of the Year 7 uniform

Please complete the Admission Form, which can be accessed via [this link](#). We ask that you complete this by Saturday 15 March 2025, as this acts as your confirmation that you are taking up the place allocated to your child.

Our aim is for all our students to enjoy the next chapter in their education. At HGS, we focus on helping each student to become the best they can be by providing a positive, inclusive environment in which young people can find and develop their strengths. We are very proud of the progress students make with us.



Mr Neil Renton
Headteacher



Overview of the Transition Programme

HGS Transition Programme

We are very excited to share the HGS Transition Programme that we have planned for our new Year 7 students.

DATE	ACTIVITY
ONGOING	REGULAR COMMUNICATIONS We will regularly keep in contact with you to share more information about starting at HGS. This will include emails, e-cards and videos. We will also provide you with an e-handbook later in the Summer Term which will contain all the information you need to know ahead of your child starting at HGS.
JUNE	VISITS BY OUR PASTORAL TEAM TO PRIMARY SCHOOL An opportunity for your child to meet our pastoral team in their primary school.
TUESDAY 8 JULY WEDNESDAY 9 JULY THURSDAY 10 JULY	TRANSITION DAYS AT HGS Three important days for students to experience life at HGS. These days will allow them to sample lessons, meet their new teachers and make new friends in preparation for September. Students should attend all three days. More detailed information will be provided nearer the time. Start Time: 8.50am (doors open at 8.40am) Finish Time: 3pm
THURSDAY 10 JULY EVENING	PARENT/CARER INFORMATION EVENING AT HGS An opportunity for parents/carers to meet key staff including our Senior Leadership Team, Pastoral Team and your child's Form Tutor. Start Time: 6.30pm Finish Time: 8pm
TUESDAY 26 AUGUST WEDNESDAY 27 AUGUST THURSDAY 28 AUGUST	SUMMER SCHOOL AT HGS A fantastic opportunity for students to meet with their new friends and engage in some Drama, Music, Art and Design and PE activities. In addition, students will collect and set up their school iPad. Start Time: 9am Finish Time: 1.45pm
TUESDAY 26 AUGUST	IPAD COLLECTION AT HGS Further information about our iPad for Learning scheme will be shared with parents in late May/early June. iPads will be handed out to students during Summer School.

Admission Form & Key Information

Admission Form: Please complete by 15 March

The Admission Form provides the school with important data, including key information about your child, emergency contact numbers and medical details. This information will populate our management information system, Arbor. All data is stored securely.



We also ask on the form if your child can attend Summer School and ask for the names of two friends.

To complete the Admission Form, please click on this link: [HGS Admission Form](#)

Initially you will be asked to confirm that you wish to accept the place at HGS, you will then be directed to the Admission Form. Please insert the password **HGS_2025** and ensure you select 'New Year 7 (Current Year 6)' on the first dropdown list. Our privacy policy can be accessed via this [link](#).

If you have decided not to take up the offer of a place, please complete the first page of the admission form to confirm you no longer require this place.

Allocation of form groups

Please be aware that we put a great deal of thought and time into the process of allocating form groups. To allow us to do this well, we ask for the names of two friends as part of the admission form. We aim to make sure that your child is placed with at least one of these friends.

Whilst friendships are an important consideration, it is not always possible or in the best interests to place them with a group of their friends. We appreciate that this can cause parents some anxiety and you may not always agree with our decisions.

Please be patient, as making new friends takes time. In our experience this needs the first half term for these friendships to develop and flourish. Taking part in clubs and additional activities really helps this.

For those starting on their own from a small primary school, we will arrange a making new friends visit to school ahead of the transition days.

School Uniform – School Ties

We will share further information in relation to school uniform in the Summer Term.

We have 5 school ties. Students keep the same tie from Years 7 to 11.

For students starting at HGS in September 2025, the school tie design is displayed opposite.

Year 7



Transition Events

Transition Days: 8, 9 and 10 July 2025

We have arranged for all new Year 7 students joining us in September to spend three days at HGS on Tuesday 8, Wednesday 9 and Thursday 10 July. Please add these important dates to your calendar.

These days allow all students to experience life at HGS.

Students will follow a programme of activities each day to get to know each other and their form tutor, to begin to find their way around school and to sample different lessons with their new teachers.

We hope that being in school for these transition days, combined with the Summer School, provides reassurance ahead of September.

Timings: 8.40am until 3pm.



Summer School: 26, 27 and 28 August

Following the positive feedback from previous years, we are delighted to run our Summer School event again this year.

These three days provide a further opportunity for the year group to meet, experience a range of subjects including Drama, Art and Design, Music, PE and also allow them to familiarise themselves with the school without other year groups in the building.

Across these three days, we will also hand out iPads and spend time setting this up so students can access their email and other apps that are used in school.

Timings: 9am to 1.45pm



Further information about all these events will be shared with you nearer the time.

Encore! Music Tuition

Encore! Music Tuition

Encore! is our instrumental and vocal music teaching provision. It has been designed to provide an easy transition for all students to continue with, or to start instrumental and/or vocal lessons when moving from Primary School.

Encore! offers tuition for the following instruments:

Vocals	Specialising in a wide variety of styles
Woodwind	Flute, Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon, Saxophone, Recorder
Brass	Cornet, Trumpet, Tenor Horn, French Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba
Strings	Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass
Percussion	Drum Kit and Tuned Percussion including Timpani and Glockenspiel
Guitar	Acoustic, Classical, Electric and Bass
Piano	Classical and Jazz
Drama	LAMDA Drama



Lesson information

Lessons take place during the normal school day, and will be scheduled so there is minimal disruption to the school timetable.

Three lesson lengths:

- 20 minutes
- 30 minutes
- 40 minutes

For discount information, please click [here](#).

For more information about Encore! Lessons and current lesson fees, please [click here](#).

How do I enrol?

We encourage you to enrol promptly to ensure you are offered the instrument of your choice.

Please click [here](#) and complete the form to register your expression of interest by Friday 6 June 2025.

Term Dates 2025-2026

AUGUST 2025 to JULY 2026

AUTUMN TERM 1	<i>Staff Development Days – Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 September 2025</i> Term starts: Wednesday 3 September 2025 Term ends: Friday 24 October 2025, 3.30pm finish <i>Staff Development Day – Friday 24 October 2025</i>
HALF TERM	SATURDAY 25 OCTOBER TO SUNDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2025
AUTUMN TERM 2	Term starts: Monday 3 November 2025 <i>Staff Development Day – Friday 21 November 2025</i> Term ends: Friday 19 December 2025, 2.30pm finish
CHRISTMAS BREAK	SATURDAY 20 DECEMBER TO SUNDAY 4 JANUARY 2026
SPRING TERM 1	Term starts: Monday 5 January 2026 Term ends: Friday 13 February 2026, 3.30pm finish
HALF TERM	SATURDAY 14 FEBRUARY TO SUNDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2026
SPRING TERM 2	Term starts: Monday 23 February 2026 Term ends: Friday 27 March 2026, 3.30pm finish
EASTER BREAK	SATURDAY 28 MARCH TO SUNDAY 12 APRIL 2026
SUMMER TERM 1	Term starts: Monday 13 April 2026 <i>Bank Holiday: Monday 4 May 2026</i> Term ends: Friday 22 May 2026, 3.30pm finish
HALF TERM	SATURDAY 23 MAY TO SUNDAY 31 MAY 2026
SUMMER TERM 2	Term starts: Monday 1 June 2026 <i>Staff Development Day – Friday 3 July 2026</i> Term ends: Friday 17 July 2026, 2.30pm finish <i>Staff Development Day – Monday 20 July 2026</i>

Checklist and Key Dates

Checklist – to complete

We appreciate there is a lot of information to take in. Please find below a helpful checklist of the forms to be completed.

Item to be completed	Deadline	Link	Complete
Admissions Form*	Saturday 15 March 2025	Complete this Online Form Password: HGS_2025	
Encore! Music application form (optional)	Friday 6 June 2025	Complete the Expressions of Interest Form	

*if you do not have access to a computer or are unable to complete the form online, please contact Reception on 01423 531127

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Timings
Saturday 26 April	PTA second hand uniform sale	10am to midday Hub accessed via the main car park
Tuesday 8 July Wednesday 9 July Thursday 10 July	Transition Days Students to attend all 3 days	8.40am to 3pm
Thursday 10 July	Parent information evening Including PTA second hand uniform sale	6.30pm to 8pm
Tuesday 26 August Wednesday 27 August Thursday 28 August	Summer School including iPad handouts	9am to 1.45pm
Wednesday 3 September	First Day at School <i>Students do not need to bring PE kit on the first day</i>	Doors open from 8.40am School Day: 8.50am to 3.30pm