

WELCOME TO HGS

Transition from Year 6 to Year 7 2026



HARROGATE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

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Contact Details



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Welcome from Mr Renton

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 7, Wednesday 8 and Thursday 9 July 2026**.

In addition, we would like to invite you to join us on the evening of **Thursday 9 July 2026** 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 the link in the accompanying email. We ask that you complete this by **Sunday 15 March 2026**, 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 our 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 You will receive regular communications to share information about starting at HGS. This will include emails, e-cards and videos. We will also provide you with an e-handbook in the summer term which will contain all the information you need to know ahead of your child starting at HGS.
JUNE	PRIMARY SCHOOL VISITS BY OUR PASTORAL TEAM An opportunity for your child to meet our pastoral team in their primary school.
TUESDAY 7 JULY WEDNESDAY 8 JULY THURSDAY 9 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 8.40am) Finish: 3pm
THURSDAY 9 JULY EVENING	PARENT/CARER INFORMATION EVENING We invite parents/carers to meet key staff including our Senior Leadership Team, Pastoral Team and your child's form tutor. Start Time: 6.30pm Finish: 8pm
TUESDAY 25 AUGUST WEDNESDAY 26 AUGUST THURSDAY 27 AUGUST	SUMMER SCHOOL A fantastic opportunity for students to meet with their new friends and engage in a range of activities including Drama, Music, Art and Design and PE activities. In addition, students will collect and set up their school iPad. Start Time: 9am Finish: 1.45pm
DURING SUMMER SCHOOL	IPAD COLLECTION Further information about the iPad scheme will be shared with parents in early June. iPads will be handed to students during Summer School.

Admission Form & Key Information

Admission Form: Please complete by 15 March

We kindly ask you to confirm your acceptance of the place at HGS.

Once you do this, you will be directed to the admission form to collect contact details, medical information, and necessary consents. This information will be securely stored in our system, Arbor. The link to the admission form is included in the accompanying email.

If you do not wish to take up the place, please complete the first page of the admission form to let us know.



Allocation of Form Groups

We want to assure you that we dedicate a significant amount of time and thought to the process of assigning form groups. To facilitate this effectively, we kindly request the names of two friends on the admission form. Our goal is to ensure that your child is placed with at least one of these friends.

While friendships are a vital factor in our considerations, it is not always feasible or in the best interest of the child to group them solely with their friends. We understand that this may cause some anxiety for parents, and you may not always agree with our decisions.

Please exercise patience, as forming new friendships takes time. Based on our experience, the first half term is essential for these connections to grow and thrive. Encouraging participation in clubs and other activities can significantly enhance this process.

For children transitioning from smaller primary schools without a familiar companion, we will organise a 'Making New Friends' visit to the school prior to the transition days.

School Uniform – School Ties

You may be aware of changes to government policy to limit schools to three compulsory branded uniform items, plus a tie for secondary schools.

For students joining Year 7 in September 2026, our three required branded items will be the blazer, PE top, and trousers (for both girls and boys). This marks the beginning of our transition to a trouser-only uniform for all students. The change will be introduced gradually each year as new students move from primary to secondary. Additional branded items, such as the sports hoodie, will remain available as optional purchases.

Alongside the three branded items, students will continue to wear a school tie. The tie design remains the same from Year 7 through to Year 11. The tie for your child is shown opposite. Further details regarding uniform can be found in the appendix.



Transition Events

SAVE!
THE DATE

Transition Days

We are delighted to invite all new Year 7 students joining us in September to attend all three transition days in July.

Tuesday 7 July, Wednesday 8 July and Thursday 9 July

Timings: 8.40am to 3pm

Please make sure to add these important dates to your calendar.

These days are designed to help students immerse themselves in life at HGS.

- Students will engage in a variety of activities each day.
- They will have the opportunity to get to know one another and their form tutor.
- They will begin to navigate the school and experience different lessons with their new teachers.

We hope that these transition days, along with the Summer School, will provide reassurance as we approach September.



Summer School

In response to the wonderful feedback from previous years, we are thrilled to host our Summer School event once again this year.

Tuesday 25 August, Wednesday 26 August, Thursday 27 August

Timings 9am to 1.45pm

Activities: Students will have the chance to explore a variety of subjects, including:

- Drama
- Art and Design
- Music
- Physical Education (PE)

This event will also allow students to get to know the school environment without the presence of other year groups. Throughout these three days, we will also distribute iPads.

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:

- Voice: classical, pop, musical theatre
- Strings: violin, viola, cello, double bass
- Woodwind: flute, clarinet, recorder, saxophone
- Brass: trumpet, trombone, French horn, tuba, cornet tenor horn, euphonium
- Percussion: drum kit, tuned percussion
- Guitars: electric, acoustic, bass, classical
- Piano
- 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 5 June 2026.

Term Dates 2026–27

Staff Development Days	Monday 7 September 2026 Tuesday 8 September 2026
Autumn Term commences	Wednesday 9 September 2026
Half Term	Saturday 24 October to Sunday 1 November 2026
Staff Development Day	Friday 27 November 2026
Christmas Break	End of Autumn Term: Friday 18 December 2.30pm 2026 Start of Spring Term: Monday 4 January 2027
Half Term	Saturday 6 February to Sunday 14 February 2027
Easter Break	End of Spring Term: Friday 19 March 3.30pm 2027 Start of Summer Term: Monday 5 April 2027
May Day	Monday 3 May 2027
Half Term	Saturday 29 May to Sunday 6 June 2027
Staff Development Day	Friday 2 July 2027
Summer Break	End of Summer Term: Friday 23 July 2.30pm 2027
Staff Development Day	Monday 26 July 2027

Checklist and Key Dates

Checklist

ITEM	DEADLINE	LINK	COMPLETED
Admission Form*	Sunday 15 March	Admission Form Link (see your email)	
Encore! Music	Friday 5 June	<u>Expressions of interest link</u>	

*If you do not have access to the internet or are unable to complete the form online, please contact the school on 01423 531127.

Dates for your diary

DATE/TIME	EVENT
Saturday 25 April 10am to midday - The Hub (access via main car park)	PTA second hand uniform sale
Tuesday 7 July Wednesday 8 July Thursday 9 July 8.40am to 3pm	Transition Days students to attend all 3 days
Thursday 9 July 6.30pm to 8pm	Parent Information Evening & PTA second hand used uniform sale
Tuesday 25 August Wednesday 26 August Thursday 27 August 9am to 1.45pm	Summer School including iPad handouts
Wednesday 9 September 8.50am to 2.40pm	First Day at School Students do not need to bring in their PE kit on this day

HGS Social Media

To keep up to date with Life at HGS please follow our School accounts.










Sixth Form
Accounts



Appendix – Uniform 1

All HGS students must wear school uniform.

- Our school uniform means everyone is treated fairly as our expectations apply to all students
- Putting on our school uniform places students in the frame of mind to learn
- Wearing our school uniform shows pride in belonging to HGS

Uniform		
Branded uniform - These items can be purchased via our school uniform suppliers (Emblazon, Rawcliffes). Our PTA also hold regular second hand uniform sales.		
Blazer		Black with HGS logo.
Trousers		<p style="text-align: center;">All students in Year 7</p> <p>Black trousers with HGS logo - school suppliers have boys and girls fit trousers.</p> <p>Skirts will no longer form part of the HGS uniform for students starting in Year 7 (2026/7).</p> <p>Students in Years 8 to 11 will still be able to wear the HGS branded skirt until the end of Year 11.</p>
Tie		There is a different tie for each year group, students keep the same design tie from Year 7 to Year 11.
Jumper (optional)		OPTIONAL: Black or grey with school logo. The blazer must be worn over the jumper.
Non branded uniform - available from any uniform supplier		
Shirts		Plain white shirt with a collar to wear a tie. Shirt must be long enough to be tucked in with the top button fastened.
Shoes		Black, flat shoes. No boots, trainers (inc Nike black Air Force) or canvas pumps. The only person who can provide permission to wear trainers is the Year Manager.
Socks		Black socks to be worn with trousers (boys and girls).




Appendix – PE kit









PE kit

Branded uniform - these items can be purchased via our school uniform suppliers (Emblazon, Rawcliffes)

PE polo shirt		Black/red with HGS logo.
Hoodie (optional)		OPTIONAL: Black/red with HGS logo.

Non branded uniform - available from any uniform supplier

Shorts		Plain black unbranded shorts or HGS branded skort/shorts. No cycling shorts.
Base layer		Black or red.
Joggers / leggings		Plain black non branded joggers or leggings.
Socks		Football / Rugby / Hockey - plain black long socks (suitable to wear over shin pads) or branded HGS socks. Netball / Tennis /Athletics /Cricket / Basketball etc - plain white ankle socks.
Shoes		Trainers. Studded football boots (for rugby, football).
Protective Equipment		Shin pads and gum shield.



Appendix – Uniform 2

We expect students to:

- Wear their uniform correctly and smartly.
- If an item of clothing is not on the uniform list, students should not be wearing it.
- Hair should be a natural colour.
- All uniform must be labelled with the student's name.



Additional Information

Make up	We encourage students not to wear makeup in school. However, if they choose to do so, it should be minimal, subtle, and natural-looking. Please note that false nails, acrylic nails, and false eyelashes are not allowed. These are not suitable for a school environment and can create safety risks during practical activities in several subjects.
Jewellery	Maximum of two plain studs may be worn in each ear. One plain ring may be worn on each hand.
Hair	Hair should be natural colour. Head scarves are not to be worn, except for religious reasons.
School Bag	A bag suitable to carry your school books and school equipment (including your school iPad and pencil case).
Outer clothing	We recommend a simple and inexpensive waterproof coat that covers the school blazer.
Footwear	Students should wear flat, plain, black, polished shoes. No boots, trainers (including Nike Air Force) or canvas pumps. For PE: Trainers should be worn, unless you are taking part in rugby or football outside when studded football boots are recommended.
Cyclists	For those cycling to school we recommend students wear a cycling helmet and reflective clothing. Students should bring a secure locking device and place the bicycle in the designated shelter.

