

Dates for your diary

Date	Event / Activity	Year Group
Sat 16 & Sun 17 May	DofE Bronze cohort 1 final expedition	Year 10
Tuesday 19 May Period 1	Senate	
Wednesday 20 May	National Numeracy Day	All years
Friday 22 May AM	Year 10 Big Picture morning - preparing for work experience week	Year 10
Friday 22 May Period 3	Year 11 Leavers Assembly	Year 11
Friday 22 May	End of Summer 1 Term - 3.30pm finish	All years
Monday 1 June	Start of Summer Term 2	All years
w/c 1 June	EPQ presentations	Year 12
w/c 1 June	End of Year CATs - Years 7, 8 and 9	Years 7 to 9
w/c 8 June	End of Year CATs - All years	All years
w/c 15 June	End of Year CATs - Years 10 and 12	Years 10 and 12

Assemblies

Day	Time	Year	Location	Additional Information
Monday				No Year 11 assembly (Summer Exams)
Tuesday	8.50am 8.50am	7 12	Hall Forum	Year 7 - register in the Hall from 8.40am Year 12 - register with Form at 8.50am then Forum
Wednesday	8.50am	8	Hall	Register in Hall from 8.40am
Thursday	8.50am	10	Hall	Register in the Hall from 8.40am
Friday	8.50am 11.10am Period 4	9 11 7	Hall Hall Hall	Register in the Hall from 8.40am Register in the Hall at the start of P3 Register in the Hall P4

Road safety message

Please can all students take extra care when crossing Otley Road, particularly where the current roadworks are in place. These works are making the area busier and potentially more hazardous. It is essential that everyone uses the designated crossings and waits for the signal to ensure your safety. Thank you for your cooperation.



Termly Reminders

Shelter in Place

We have no indication that there is any particular threat to our school or any other school, but we feel that it is important to respond to national advice by preparing thoroughly for events that could threaten the safety of our staff and students. Although such an event could be related to a terrorist event, it is also possible that events such as a gas leak or chemical escape could cause us to sound the bell. Shelter in place is a safety procedure that covers extreme hazards such as a smoke cloud, local chemical leak or an intruder on site.

Please familiarise yourself with the instructions below.

A siren alert will signal shelter in place

The siren will stop ringing when it is all clear

DURING LESSONS	DURING BREAK/LUNCH
<ul style="list-style-type: none">You must follow the instructions of your class teacher and remain in the classroomIf you are walking on a corridor, you must enter the nearest classroom and follow the instructions from the teacher.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You must quickly and calmly enter the school and go to the next lesson on your timetable.You must follow the instructions of your class teacher.

If you encounter a shelter in place situation **outside** the school grounds, you should follow the advice from the Home Office - run, hide, tell

You must:

RUN - to a place of safety. This is a better option than to surrender or negotiate. If there's nowhere to go, then...

HIDE - Turn your phone to silent and turn off vibrate. Barricade yourself in if you can.

TELL - the police by calling 999 when it is safe to do so.

iPad checks



Reminder to all students that school iPads are checked by staff to make sure that they are being used appropriately and for any damage to the iPad or case.

iPads are not for taking photos, playing games or sending any messages during lessons. Unless your teacher has asked you to do something on your iPad you should not be using it. When asked for your iPad you need to give it to the teacher and provide them with your unlock code. If you know you have things on your iPad that should not be there, please delete them.

Remember you all signed an acceptable use policy to say you will use your iPad appropriately at all times.

The appropriate use policy includes;

- I understand that if I have a loaned or scheme iPad that it must remain in its protective case at all times. If it needs to be removed from the case this must be done by a member of the IT Services team and no-one else.
- I will only access the systems and my device with my own login and password, which I will keep secret
- I will not access another person's device or storage area, or interfere with other people's work or files
- I will use the iPad for school work and homework
- I will not waste time in school using the iPad for non-learning activities
- I will not behave in a way that can cause damage to iPads, ICT equipment or to IT installations
- The messages I send will be polite and responsible
- I will not give my home address or telephone number, or arrange to meet someone, unless my parent/carer or teacher has given permission
- I will report any unpleasant material/messages sent to me.
- I will ensure that I bring the iPad to school each day and that it is fully charged at the beginning of the school day
- I understand that the school may check my iPad, files and monitor the Internet sites I visit in school
- I understand that use of the iPad is subject to the schools Acceptable Use of ICT Policy
- I understand that Virtual Private Networks (VPNs) are not allowed in school

Spotlight - Hajj and Eid Al Adha

The Purpose of Hajj

As Hajj is one of the Five Pillars of Islam, it is important for Muslims to complete as it brings them closer to Allah.

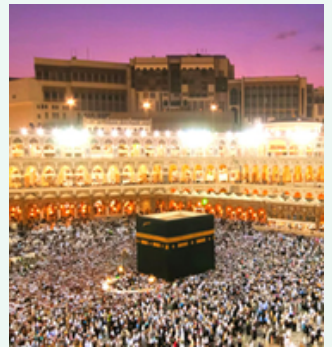
Those completing the Hajj are known as Hajji. Everyone taking part in the Hajj pilgrimage is treated as an equal and there is a great sense of unity. The pilgrimage shows self-discipline and fulfils a religious duty, bringing Muslims closer to Allah.



How is Hajj performed

Hajj begins on the 8th day of Dhul-Hijah and end on the 13th day of the same Islamic month.

Every year, millions of Muslims around the world participate in this Holy Pilgrimage to the city of Makkah, Saudi Arabia. [Find out more here](#). This year the Hajj will be celebrated from Monday 25 May to Saturday 30 May.



What is Eid al-Adha?

Eid al-Adha is one of the most important festivals in the Muslim calendar, it is celebrated on the last day of the Hajj. It is a time to remember God's love and kindness and it is a time of sharing. The festival focuses on the importance of obeying Allah.

The festival is celebrated among Muslims all over the world in remembrance of the sacrifice that Prophet Ibrahim made because of his strong faith in Allah. This year Eid Al-Adha celebrations will begin on Tuesday 26 May until Friday 29 May depending on the sighting of the moon.

How it is celebrated?

Eid usually starts with Muslims going to the Mosque for prayers. They dress in their best clothes and thank Allah for all the blessings they have received.

They spend time visiting friends and family. Muslims give money to charity (zakat) so all the Muslim community can celebrate.



Year 10 Big Picture Careers Morning - Friday 22 May

On Friday 22 May, Year 10 will be participating in a careers themed morning to help support students ahead of their work experience placement in July. The morning has been split as follows, with students attending three presentations followed by team building activities. All students must attend, as important information will be shared covering both work experience placements and students who are remaining in school.



	LEFT POPULATION 10EKT, 10PLB, 10EGC, 10RJM, 10JEH	RIGHT POPULATION 10SYJ, 10AEB, 10MHJ, 10JLC, 10JDS
Period 1&2	Normal timetabled lessons	Forum: Preparing for Work Experience week in July
Period 3&4	Forum: Preparing for Work Experience week in July	Normal timetabled lessons
Period 5&6	Normal timetabled lessons	

Students should be in their school uniform and bring their fully charged iPad, school books, pencil case and any other equipment required for their normal timetabled lessons.

Exam Arrangements

Students in Years 11, 12 and 13 continue with their external exams this week. It is important that we follow the guidance below.

Out of Bounds Areas

Due to the external exams that are now taking place in the Sports Hall and Gym 1. The following areas will now be out of bounds:

- The area in and around Gym 1 and the PE entrance
- The area at the back of the Sports Hall near the Otley Road exit. This includes the grassed areas before the astro.

Expectations

- Considerate of those students taking their exams by keeping noise to a minimum.
- Check for room changes daily
- Follow staff instructions when directed on alternative routes
- Remember that exams can be taking place in other areas of school e.g. classrooms in Sixth Form facing the rugby pitch. Please be silent when passing these areas during your PE lessons.
- Classrooms that are being used for exams will have a notice on the door and/or in the corridor - please remain silent when passing these classrooms or use alternative routes where directed



Our Respect Pledge



Changes to registering for PE lessons during the exams period

- Registration for core PE lessons will take place on the basketball courts
- Please line up quickly, in alphabetical order, in your PE lesson
- Changing rooms:
 - Boys - usual changing rooms
 - Girls - Gym2 changing rooms
- Please move quietly between the basketball courts to the changing rooms and then to your designated PE area

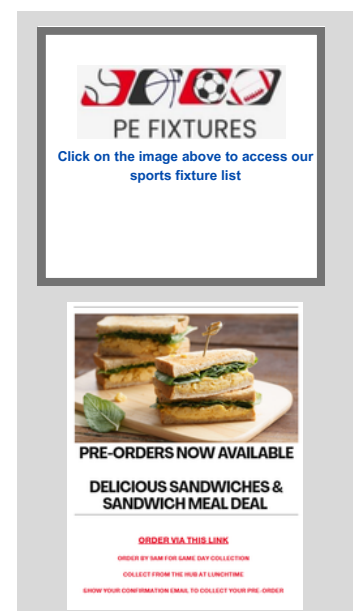
Lunchtime arrangements

Please note the new break and lunchtime arrangements from Thursday:

- Year 11 can access the Hub from noon to 12.25pm (if they have an afternoon exam).
- Year 11 If no exam, they can go straight into lunch at 12.55pm
- Year 10 can go straight into the Hub at 12.55pm
- Year 9 can queue by A14 from 12.55pm
- Year 8 will continue to be called for lunch
- Year 7 will continue to be called for lunch

Termly Curriculum Overviews What am I studying this term?

Click on the links opposite to find out what topics you will be studying this term in each subject.



Information for Year 11

School Attendance during the Exam Period

A reminder that Year 11 students are expected to be in school for the remainder of this half term while completing their GCSE exams. You have timetabled lessons and key revision sessions scheduled on your Arbor calendars, and you are expected to attend these lessons. The only exception is where you have completed an afternoon exam, in which case you can leave school at the end of this exam. For absences outside of this, these will be recorded as unauthorised absence. In line with other Harrogate schools, the official study leave period will begin on Friday 22 May after the leavers' assembly.

Thank you for the way you have conducted yourselves this week, we are very proud of how you have approached your GCSEs so far.

Pre-Exam Technique (PRET) sessions

Ahead of each exam, a PRET session will take place in school, these are compulsory sessions.

- Morning exam - PRET session will take place at **8.25am** - you can access the Hub from 8am for complementary refreshments e.g. flapjacks, fruit
- Afternoon exam - PRET session will take place at **12.25pm** - you can access the Hub from noon to purchase food.

Further details including where these PRET sessions will take place will be added to your Arbor calendar.

Date	Session	Exam	PRET
Monday	AM PM	GCSE Chemistry paper 1 No PM exam	8.25am, Forum N/A
Tuesday	AM PM	GCSE English Literature paper 2 GCSE Computer Science paper 2	8.25am, Forum 12.25pm, D17
Wednesday	AM PM	GCSE French Listening and Reading GCSE RS paper 2	8.25am, Hall (Higher) A19 (Foundation) 12.25pm, Hall
Thursday	AM PM	GCSE English Language paper 1 GCSE Business paper 2	8.25am, Forum 12.25pm, Forum
Friday	AM PM	GCSE PE paper 1 No PM exam	8.25am, Forum N/A

Revision Sessions in School post Half Term

After half term, revision spaces in school will be available to book via Arbor.

- **Subject specific revision** - you can focus on a specific subject, with a subject specialist teacher available to answer any questions. [Click here to view the timetable](#)
- **Independent Silent Study** - a quiet environment in the LRC where you can revise independently

If you would like to attend any of these sessions, these should be booked via Arbor/Trips. Please note, there is a maximum number of students for each session so places are offered on a first come first served basis.

Attending a revision session - remember to sign in and out at the student entrance.

Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze - cohort 1

Well done to all Year 10 students (in cohort 1) who completed their Bronze practice expedition this weekend around the moors near Baildon, Ilkley, Addingham and Swinsty.

Good luck to all students for their assessed expedition this weekend.



Football County Cup Winners - Girls U12

Congratulations to the U12 girls football team who are County Cup winners. A brilliant season, fantastic final and worthy champions.



Well done to the U12 boys and U14 girls football teams

Well done to the U12 boys and U14 girls football teams who were both finalists in the County Cup. Unfortunately, both teams did not win their games against very strong opponents. Both teams showed lots of grit and determination.



Junior Maths Challenge

Congratulations to all our Year 7 and 8 students who participated in the Junior Maths Challenge. This is a nationwide competition which celebrates young mathematicians, and our students performed brilliantly. We are delighted to share that 7 of our students have qualified for the next round of the challenge, the Junior Kangaroo, which will take place next month.



Senior Citizens Summer Tea Party

HGS Sixth Form students are hosting a Summer Tea Party on Tuesday 30 June 2026 for local senior citizens.

If you are able to contribute items for the raffle, please drop off at Main School or Sixth Form reception by Friday 19 June.

Any donations gratefully received, thank you.

CYBER SWITCH UP 2026

CYBER SWITCHUP IS A CYBER AND DIGITAL SKILLS COMPETITION FOR STUDENTS WITHIN THE YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER REGION.

AN ONLINE QUALIFIER WILL BE HELD IN OCTOBER. THOSE WHO DEMONSTRATE THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF SKILLS WILL BE INVITED TO THE IN PERSON FINALS EVENT IN NOVEMBER WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE IN WEST YORKSHIRE THIS YEAR!

ARE YOU READY?

WWW.CYBERSWITCHUP.NET

YORKSHIRE & HUMBER REGIONAL ORGANISED CRIME UNIT

Year 13 Information

We hope your first week of exams are going well. A couple of reminders for during the exam period:

- Please remember that when in school for exams business dress code applies, leavers hoodies are acceptable
- If coming into school to revise, you must wear smart clothes in line with the dress code. We will send anyone home who is not dressed smartly, and this is not something that we want to do!
- It is essential that you sign in and out of school with your lanyard for fire evacuation purposes

Please keep checking your emails, we may still need to communicate important information with you all.

Summer 2026 Exam Timetable

Please click [here](#) to access the summer exam timetable.

Please note there is one contingency day on the timetable. All students taking A level examinations must be available on this date in case of any disruption.

Full exam information can be found [here](#) on the website or in Arbor on individual timetables.

Study space available in school

During the exam study leave period, the LRC will be open to Year 13 students from 8am to 5pm, should you prefer to revise in school.

Students should sign in and out through the InVentry system at Sixth Form reception.

Accepting University Offers

Deadline for accepting offers:

All offers received by 13th May = 3rd June 2026

Ahead of these dates we strongly recommend that you wait and consider your decision carefully, there is no rush.

You will be selecting 2 choices out of the offers you have received.

Firm choice: The university that you most want to attend

Insurance choice: A university that you would be happy to attend if you do not gain the grades for your 'firm choice'. Typically, your 'insurance choice' should have lower grade requirements than your firm.

When making your decision it is important to consider all the following:

1. Is the course content right for you? Look at the type of assessment and the specific modules
2. Is the university and the city the right place for you to live for at least 3 years?
3. Are the grades achievable, for a firm choice and for an insurance choice?

Only after careful consideration of the above, should you commit to making your choices.

Information for Sixth Form Students

Year 12 - Key Dates

Date	Event
Friday 22 May	Break for half term
w/c Monday 1 June	EPQ Presentations
Friday 5 June	End of year exams begin
Monday 8 June	Home study period begins
Monday 22 June	Students return to lessons in school (except where an exam is taking place)
Tuesday 23 June	End of year exams finish
Wednesday 1 July	Progression Day 1 in School
Thursday 2 July	Progression Day 2 at home to draft personal statement or complete structured apprenticeship / employment tasks
Friday 3 July	Training Day - no school
Tuesday 7 July	EPQ deadline
Friday 10 July	Final day in school
Monday 13 July	Work experience week

Year 12 End of Year Assessments

**Friday 5 June to Tuesday 23
June**

Please find the timetable for the forthcoming Year 12 End of Year Assessment period [here](#) Individual timetables including rooming and start times have been added to Arbor and will be emailed to students in due course.

Year 12 External Examinations

Please follow the link [here](#) for the 2026 External Examination timetable. Individual timetables can be accessed via Arbor.

The exams team have emailed details of the exam regulations to those who are sitting exams this summer.

Students have been allocated study leave to prepare at home in the morning if they have an afternoon exam. If students have an exam in the morning, they are expected to attend lessons in the afternoon.

Information for Sixth Form Students



The Sixth Form
at Harrogate Grammar School
Excellence For All

Dress Code

Tuesday 19 May the school photographer will be in the Sixth Form taking pictures for the prospectus. We have high expectations of the dress code in the Sixth Form and whilst most students look smart, it is timely to provide a reminder to every one of the expectations. The following are not acceptable:

- Off the shoulder tops
- Bare midriffs
- Trainers
- Jogging bottoms / yoga pants
- Hoodies
- Ugg boots
- Denim

Click [here](#) to view our dress code policy.



Progression and Careers

Year 12 UCAS Registration

During progression students will be registering through UCAS, beginning the application process for applying to university.

Oxbridge application June Evening Webinars

St Catharine's College Cambridge and Brasenose College Oxford are running a series of hour-long Oxbridge application webinars at 6pm during June. They are designed for Year 12s applying to Oxford or Cambridge this autumn.

Personal Statements: Tuesday 2 June 6pm [register here](#)

Aptitude Tests: Tuesday 9 June 6pm [register here](#)

College Choice and student Q&A: Tuesday 16 June 6pm [register here](#)

For the Personal Statements webinar, those Year 12s that have had or will have face-to-face sessions on this from Brasenose need not come along, as it's likely to be the same material and examples. We will still offer a mix of online and face-to-face interview workshops in the autumn.

University Open Days

We will approve 4 days of absence for open day visits, but this must be pre-approved in advance and not clash with exams.

University Open Days are a great way to explore the campus and decide whether studying there is a good fit for you. Search your open day, plan the most from your visit and see virtual tours and videos of campus life and facilities. [Click here](#) to view open days.

There are many other new opportunities live this week including some fantastic degree apprenticeships on the links below.

[Career and
Apprenticeship
Opportunities](#)

[Work Experience](#)

[Super-curricular](#)

[Career
Pathways](#)