



Sixth Form End of Year Message – Summer 2023

We would like to thank our students for their positivity, maturity and focus during the academic year. They continue to be a credit to the school, and we are excited about what they can go on to achieve next year. This year the Sixth Form has celebrated significant success. This is reflected in collective achievements including 58% of last year's university applicants gaining their first-choice place, the largest number of work experience placements ever undertaken, the extension to the Sixth Form study and social space, and the continued success of the Sports Academy programme which included the netball team reaching the regional finals and the 1st XV rugby team being crowned National Bowl champions. In addition, there have been a number of individual student achievements across a range of disciplines this year, including in sports, the arts, science Olympiads, the Arkwright Scholarship, the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award, and services to the community.

Student Leadership Team

This year we appointed the new Student Leadership team in January. The team, led by Tess Eastaugh and Zach Southworth have already made a significant contribution to the school in their new roles, and we are sure they will continue to represent the students at HGS with pride in September. With the end of the academic year, we say goodbye to our previous Student Leadership Team. The team of Harry Baskind and Harriet Winspear (Head Students), and Jake Sandland, Iman Aslam, Lewis Walsh, Olivia Cooke, Mason da Souza, and Lucy Taverner (Deputy Head Students), leave a legacy of positive leadership, and we thank them for their service to the school.

Year 13 Progression

Our students are celebrating success with offers from a wide range of universities, as well as apprenticeships and courses in art, music, drama and performing arts. 308 students applied to university which is 81% of the year group. Currently 51% of the applicants have accepted offers from Russell Group Universities to study a range of courses from History to Zoology. In addition, students have been offered places on a range of courses such as medicine, nursing, and allied healthcare professions as well as social sciences, business, engineering and education. It is fantastic to see the range of apprenticeships and degree apprenticeships undertaken by our Year 13 leavers increasing. Students are holding offers with companies such as HSBC, BMW, PWC and Rolls-Royce. We would like to recognise the success of all our students on whatever their chosen pathway and wish them all the very best for their future. We are incredibly proud of our students and their achievements. This is testament to the hard work and determination of students, their families, and teachers over many years.

Year 12 Progression

We have been pleased with the work that our Year 12 students have completed in developing their career ideas and planning for progression beyond the Sixth Form. We were particularly impressed with the way students engaged in our Progression Days on 5 and 6 July. Students embraced the opportunity to hear from a range of speakers, including 22 recent alumni, about universities, apprenticeships, gap years and careers. Students have all started the process of writing a personal statement for applications to university, apprenticeships or jobs, and they should take the opportunity to research courses over the summer using [Unifrog](#), and also to visit universities. When students return in September they will be completing their applications in the autumn term.

It is important that our students have a well-earned break over the summer in order to re-charge in anticipation of returning to school in September. There are many opportunities for students to continue their personal and academic development over this period and we encourage Year 12 students to use their time productively by engaging in wider research around their chosen future study course or job sector and engaging in a MOOC available via Unifrog. Research on reading age post 16 indicates the importance of carrying out wider reading around the subject and this is something that should be encouraged over the summer.

We wish you a restful and enjoyable summer break and look forward to welcoming you back to school in September.

Mr Twitchin