



Frequently Asked Questions for HGSS Open Event - October 2023

GCSE Exam Results:

- 85% of students achieved grades 9-4 in English
- 79% of students achieved grades 9-4 in Maths
- 68% of students achieved 5 or more GCSE grades at 9-4 including Maths and English
- 28% of grades were 9-7
- 67 grades were the top '9' grade

Examples of Star performing students:

- Student A: 9x9, 1x7
- Students B: 9x9, 1x8, 1x7
- Student C: 6x9, 4x8

A-Level 2022 Results:

- 25% of grades were A*-A
- 63% of grades were A*-B
- 80% of grades were A*-C
- 100% of students who applied through UCAS or for an apprenticeship received a place at university or on their Apprenticeship.
- University and Apprenticeship destinations included Exeter, Nottingham, Southampton, Birmingham, York, King's and Deloitte.

Our strengths:

- ✓ **Ofsted report (November 2021) – Good** – commented on strong ambitious leadership, quality of teaching, and strong behaviour.
- ✓ Quality of relationships: Students are happy, and visitors comment on our great atmosphere. Pupils feel safe, well cared for and valued. We have good links with local primaries.
- ✓ Very strong breadth of curriculum: Art, Photography, MFL, Music, Performing Arts, PE, IT, Computer Science, Business Studies and RS all available at KS4.
- ✓ Very strong extra-curricular provision: Duke of Edinburgh Award's, PE, Music, IT, Trips etc.
- ✓ Fully staffed with specialist teachers.
- ✓ Very strong SEN/D support available.
- ✓ Link with Sir William Ramsay enables us to offer a broadened KS5 curriculum offer. Sixth Form is a strength of the school.
- ✓ As part of our expansion, we have new facilities including new classroom suites; Dance Studio; Fitness Suite; Dining area; Coffee Lounge and a Sixth Form study area.
- ✓ Dedicated careers officer to support students with careers.
- ✓ Envious curriculum: includes enrichment on Wednesday afternoons for Sixth Form; Oracy; Careers, IT skills; PENN resilience program; timetabled PSHCE lessons; morning reading groups for students.
- ✓ We are a Microsoft Showcase School which means we are a member of a global community of schools engaged in digital transformation to improve teaching and learning. Showcase Schools create immersive and inclusive experiences that inspire lifelong learning, stimulating development of essential life skills so students are empowered to achieve more.

Other FAQs:

- Homework is published on 'Satchel' and parents receive notifications from the app. Year 7 start with just English and Maths homework for the first two weeks. Support is available in the Library after school.
- Setting is used effectively in a range of subjects to best support all students, including English, Maths and Science from Year 7.
- High Prior Attaining Students access activities, such as: Model UN Conference; challenging work in class; UK Maths Challenge; UCAS support; Brilliant Club, etc.
- We achieve high standards because we have high expectations. Parents support our firm lines, and we have whole school systems for helping students behave well. We are firm and fair.
- Getting a place, HGSS has been oversubscribed for the last three years. The key is to make HGSS first choice. There is nothing to be gained by only putting one school down. We maintain a waiting list for places if you are unsuccessful initially.