



## FAQs for HGSS Open Event - October 2021

Our Open Event is aimed at Year 6 children and their families, but many Year 5 families like to watch this event as well.

### **Exam Results:**

- As a result of the one-off assessment framework used for the Summer 2021 GCSE and A Level grades we do not consider it helpful to publish the results in detail. Instead we would refer parents to the school performance tables for 2019 and 2018 (the last sets of national exam data).
- <https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/>
- In the 2019 league tables Holmer Green Senior School achieved a P8 score of 0.41 (above average) for GCSEs and an L3VA score of 0.38 (well above average) for Sixth Form.
- In 2021 78% of our Year 11 students achieved 5+ GCSE levels 9-4 (equivalent to a pass
- All our Sixth Form students achieved places at either University or on Apprenticeships, including: Manchester, Liverpool, Cardiff, York, Sheffield and Warwick to name a few. 30 % of our students secured places at Russell group Universities, but our students also secured places at some of the most highly regarded non-RG Universities in their specialisms e.g. Engineering Product Design at Loughborough. This year 3 students secured very prestigious Higher Apprenticeships in companies such as GlaxoSmithKline and Morgan Lovell.
- HGSS is very popular and oversubscribed for last 4 years, even with an increase in admission number from 150 to 210.

### **Our STRENGTHS:**

- ✓ **Ofsted report (May 2016) – Good** – commented on strong leadership, quality of teaching, and strong behaviour.
- ✓ Quality of relationships: Students are happy and visitors comment on our great atmosphere. Secondary school with strong pastoral care. Good links with local primaries.
- ✓ Very strong breadth of curriculum: Art, Photography, MFL, Music, Performing Arts, PE, IT, Comp Science, Business Studies and RS all available at KS4.
- ✓ Very strong extra-curricular provision: Duke of Edinburgh Award's, World Challenge, 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.
- ✓ Provision for High Prior Attaining students is a strength with grade '9s' being achieved across almost all subjects at GCSE.
- ✓ As part of our expansion we have new facilities including new classroom suites; Dance Studio; Fitness Suite; and a Sixth Form study area
- ✓ One of a few schools who has a dedicated careers officer to support students with careers.
- ✓ LinkedIn Alumni group for Sixth Form students.
- ✓ Envious curriculum: includes enrichment on Wednesday afternoons for Sixth Form; Oracy; IT skills; PENN resilience program; timetabled PSHCE lessons; AM reading groups and morning lectures for students.

### **Other FAQs:**

- **HOMEWORK** – this 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 available in the Learning Resource Centre after school.
- **SETTING-** used effectively in a range of subjects to best support students of all abilities, including English, Maths and Science from Year 7.
- **High Prior Attaining Students** access activities, such as: Model UN Conference; more challenging work in class; UK Maths Challenge; UCAS support; Brilliant Club, etc.
- **BEHAVIOUR** – 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. 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.