



**Welcome to
The Sixth Form
Open Evening 2025
at
Holmer Green
Senior School**



SIXTHFORM@HGSS



**Headteacher
Mr Ed Hillyard**



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Results:

Strong academic results:

- % of grades A*- B = 40.6%
- % of grades A*- C = 67.8%
- Average grade = C+

Strong vocational results:

- Distinction * - Distinction: 71.4%

University and Apprenticeship destinations included:

Birmingham, King's College London, Exeter, Liverpool, Nottingham, Loughborough, Southampton, Warwick and York.

Subjects studied and apprenticeships awarded have included: Cyber Security, Ecology and Wildlife Conservation, Chemistry with medicinal Chemistry and Drug Discovery, Aeronautics and Astronautics, Space Craft Engineering.

Flying start Degree Apprenticeship Programme: PWC and Reading University

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Head-students

Max Dennis
Amelie Reid



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Deputy Head of Sixth Form

Mr Kodey McMaster



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Some key questions to think about this evening:

- Why apply to HGSS Sixth form?
- Which subjects to apply for?
- Which HGSS Pathway to apply for?

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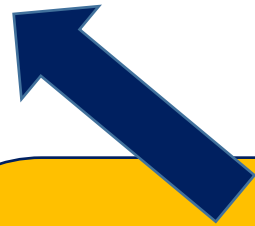


Why apply to HGSS Sixth form?

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Excellent
facilities



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Exciting Enrichment
opportunities



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Individual support

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Why apply to HGSS Sixth form?

Smooth progression, and effective induction

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Why apply to HGSS Sixth form?

Smaller class size

Smooth progression, and effective induction

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Why apply to HGSS Sixth form?

Choice of different course types

Smaller class size

Smooth progression, and effective induction

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Why apply to HGSS Sixth form?

Opportunities

Choice of different course types

Smaller class size

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Excellent facilities

Exciting Enrichment opportunities

Individual support

Strong results

Why apply to HGSS Sixth form?

Practicalities

Opportunities

Choice of different course types

Smaller class size

Smooth progression, and effective induction

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Assistant Head Teacher Sixth Form

Mrs Rachel Golding



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Some key questions to think about this evening:

- Which subjects to apply for?



Choosing Your Subjects Some Principles

DO:

- Go for subjects you enjoy
- Think about your strengths
- Think about your aims after the Sixth Form
- Do some research
- Think about subjects that support each other and your preferred way of working

Make an informed, appropriate choice

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Choosing Your Subjects Some Principles

DO NOT choose a subject because.....

- You “like the teacher”
- It sounds “interesting” but, in fact, you know nothing about it!!
- Your friend is doing it
- It is new
- It has a reputation for being easy!

Make an informed, appropriate choice



Sixth Form 2026-2028

The Types of Post-16 Courses

The main post 16 courses taken at HGSS, valued by employers, universities and apprenticeships.

A Levels

- The A Level grade is determined by exams taken at the end of 2 years only. Some subjects will have some Coursework content

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Subjects Available: A Level

- Art & Design
- Art & Design: Art Textiles
- Biology
- Business studies
- Chemistry
- D&T: Product Design
- Drama & Theatre Studies
- Economics
- English Literature
- Further Mathematics
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Philosophy and Ethics (RS)
- Physics
- Psychology
- Sociology

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Sixth Form 2026-28

The Types of Post-16 Courses

**Vocational courses: AAQs (BTECS, CAN, WJEC) Extended Certificates:
Mix of Examinations and Coursework**

- More vocational in content
- Coursework assignments throughout the course
- All now have an element of examination taken throughout the course

Equivalent to A-levels in terms of university (UCAS) points

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Vocational courses available at HGSS Sixth Form

- Medical Science (AAQ BTEC Extended Certificate)
- Computing (AAQ CAN Extended Certificate)
- Health & Social Care (AAQ BTEC Extended Certificate)
- IT (AAQ CAN Extended Certificate)
- Sport (BTEC Extended Certificate)
- Food Science and Nutrition (AAQ WJEC Extended Certificate)

UCAS POINTS	A Level	BTEC Level 3	AS
56	A*	Distinction*	
48	A	Distinction	
40	B		
32	C	Merit	
24	D		
20			A
16	E	Pass	B
12			C
10			D
6			E

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The “4th subject”

- **The EPQ** (The Extended Project Qualification)
- **AS Maths in Context** (Core Maths)

Both equivalent to an AS and can really strengthen students’ applications to competitive courses



The EPQ: Universities view

“We encourage students to complete an EPQ, where possible, as we value the development of skills in independent study and research, which an EPQ can offer. ...an EPQ in the subject that is related to the course or discipline that you wish to progress into... may be taken into account by admissions tutors when making decisions between applicants of equal academic standing.”

University of Sheffield

“The University welcomes applications from students who have taken the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). We see this as positive evidence of motivation to explore a subject in greater depth, as well as an opportunity for further development of analytical, critical thinking and independent research skills.”

University of Southampton



AS Mathematics in Context (Core Maths)

Offered for students who are keen to extend their GCSE Maths Skills, but not to A Level.

*Recommended for students planning to study subjects such as **A Level Sciences, Geography, Business, Economics, or Psychology** or vocational subjects, as an alternative to the EPQ*

What does it cover?

How to use and apply Maths in different situations, such as interpreting data, applying statistics, probability etc. Develops quantitative and problem-solving skills.



Sixth Form 2026-28

The “HGSS Pathways”

Ensure that your selection is the best combination in terms of your:

- Abilities and Strengths
- Preferred way of working and assessment
- Interests and future career ambitions

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HGSS Pathways

PATHWAY 1 4 A-Levels	PATHWAY 2 3 A-Levels + EPQ or MIC	PATHWAY 3 3 A-Levels	PATHWAY 4 Combination of A-Levels and AAQs	PATHWAY 5 3 AAQs
Best 8 APS is greater than or equal to 7.50.	Best 8 APS is greater than or equal to 6.0 but less than 7.50.	Best 8 APS is greater than 5.0 but less than 6.0.	Best 8 APS is greater than 4.5 but less than 5.0.	Best 8 APS is greater than 4.0 but less than 4.5.
You have achieved at least a 6 in English and Maths	You have achieved at least a grade 5 in Maths and a grade 6 in English.	You have achieved a grade 5 in English and Maths.	You have achieved a grade 5 in English and Maths.	You have achieved at least a grade 4 in English and Maths
Choose 4 A Level subjects you have qualified for. EPQ or MIC advised	You may choose 3 A Level subjects. To take Maths, Biology, Chemistry or Physics, you will have achieved a grade 6 in those subjects EPQ or MIC advised	You may choose 3 A Level subjects you have qualified for except Maths, Biology, Chemistry and Physics	You may choose a combination of 3 A-Level or AAQ subjects you have qualified for.	You may choose 3 AAQ qualifications only.

If you are not predicted to achieve grades as described above, please discuss your options at your personal careers Interview

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Get informed



Informed Choices

Choosing the right subjects to study post-16 is very important in helping you to get into university, particularly a Russell Group university.

If you don't know what degree subject you want to study, it's important to choose A Levels (or equivalent qualifications) that keep as many options open to you.

Whatever your situation, Informed Choices can give you the start you need in deciding what to do next.

Get started

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE **RUSSELL GROUP**

<https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/>

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Get informed

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk>



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All the information and tools you need to explore your future career



Career Tools

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- My Skills Profile
- My Subjects
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- My Action Points

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Take the quiz >



www.Prospects.ac.uk

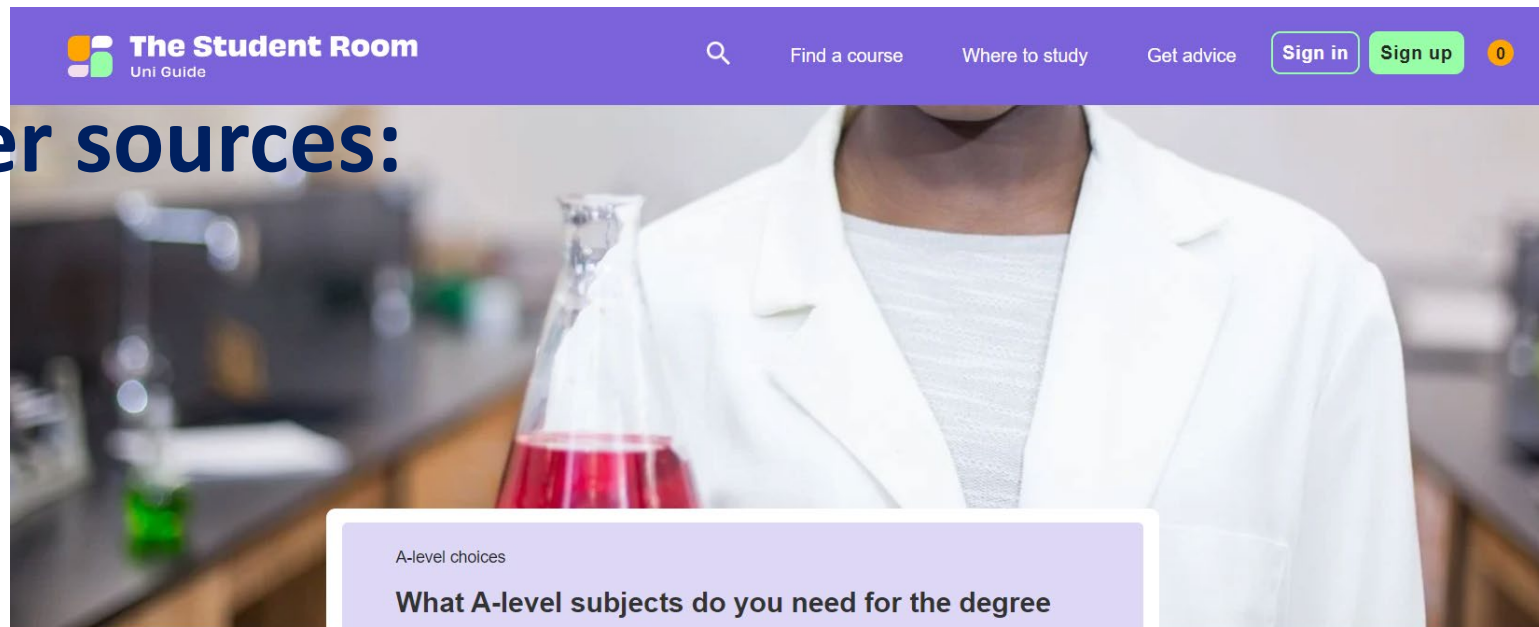
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Some further sources:

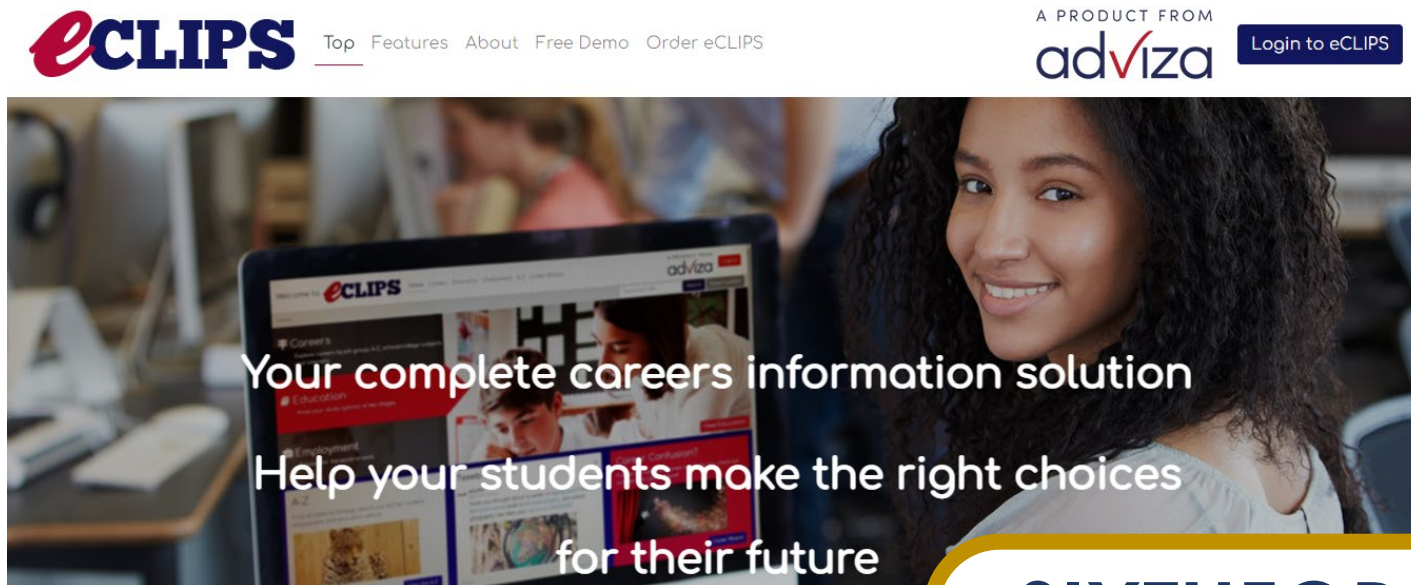
<http://university.which.co.uk/advice/what-a-levels-do-you-need-for-the-degree-you-want-to-study>

<https://www.eclips-online.co.uk/>



How can you help?

- Have discussions about their future
- Take them to careers fairs
- Help them find appropriate work experience



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STEAM Scholarships

The HGSS STEAM Scholarships are a unique opportunity for students who are aiming high for a professional career.

STEAM stands for:

- **Science**
- **Technology**
- **Engineering**
- **Art and**
- **Maths**

and our Science, Technology, Art and Maths Departments are thriving at HGSS.



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The logo for HGSS features the letters 'H', 'G', and 'S' in a stylized, overlapping font. The 'H' and 'G' are blue, while the 'S' is gold. The letters are connected by flowing lines.

STEAM Scholarships

Students who wish to attend HGSS Sixth Form on a **STEAM Scholarship**, should apply separately, and be studying the appropriate courses for a career in the following:

- **Medicine** (Biology, Chemistry and Maths or Physics)
- **Veterinary** (Biology, Chemistry and Maths or Physics)
- **Computer Science** (Computing, Maths, Physics)
- **Engineering** (Maths, Chemistry, Physics)
- **Architecture** (Maths, Art, Physics)

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The logo for HGSS (Higham Grammar School Sixth Form) features the letters 'H', 'G', and 'S' in a stylized, overlapping font. The 'H' and 'G' are in blue, while the 'S' is in gold. The letters are connected by flowing lines.

STEAM Scholarships

What will the Scholarships offer you?

A Scholarship in these areas will offer you:

- Funding to cover your textbooks in all qualifying courses
- A career related mentor and
- A place on a career related internship programme or relevant work experience

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The logo for HGSS (Hemel Hempstead Grammar School) features the letters 'H', 'G', and 'S' in a stylized, overlapping font. The 'H' and 'G' are blue, while the 'S' is gold. A gold swoosh underline is positioned beneath the letters.

STEAM Scholarships

Students wishing to apply should:

Apply to HGSS Sixth Form using the usual procedure

In addition, students should:

- Be predicted to achieve the entry requirements for 3 appropriate courses for their chosen career.
- Write a letter of application
- Attend an additional Interview with our Scholarship panel.

Please see our Prospectus on our website for further details

Applications close on Friday 20 March 2026

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Visual Arts Scholarships

- A unique opportunity for students who are gifted and talented in the area of Art & Design.
- Holmer Green Senior School holds the prestigious **Platinum ArtsMark award**, and we would like to celebrate this honour by offering 3 talented students the privilege of this opportunity.
- Students who wish to attend HGSS Sixth Form on a Visual Arts Scholarship, should apply separately, and be studying at least one of the Art & Design endorsements and be wanting to pursue a creative career once they leave us.

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Visual Arts Scholarships



A scholarship will offer you:

- Funding to cover your materials and equipment for use in all qualifying courses
- A teaching mentor with specific 1-to-1 support and
- Support to gain a work experience placement linked with a practicing artist / company

* Art & Design endorsements A Level Art & Design, A Level Textiles, A Level Graphic Communication (by request), Art & Design : 3D Design (by request)

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Visual Arts Scholarships

Students wishing to apply should:

Apply to HGSS Sixth Form using the usual procedure

In addition, students should:

- Be predicted to achieve the entry requirements for 3 appropriate courses for their chosen career, including at least 1 Art & Design endorsement*
- Write a letter of application
- Prepare a portfolio to include 10 pages of what you believe to be your best work to show and talk about at a further interview.

Please see our Prospectus on our website for further details

Applications close on Friday 20 March 2026

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And finally.....

What next?

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Masterclasses for HGSS students

Find out what taking our subjects really feels like by attending our Masterclasses:

See Email for more details

Masterclass Schedule 2024-25

Time	Date	Staff	Subject	Room
LUNCHTIME 1.45pm	Monday 2 December	ABL	Health and Social Care	T5
AFTER SCHOOL 3.25pm	Monday 2 December	MED	Business	B4
AFTER SCHOOL 3.25pm	Tuesday 3 December	AKA	BTEC Applied Science	S8
LUNCHTIME 1.45pm	Wednesday 4 December	YAD	A Level Economics	
AFTER SCHOOL 3.25pm	Friday 6 December	AKA / SK	Chemistry	S8
AFTER SCHOOL 3.25pm	Tuesday 10 December	NSH	Sociology	SOC
LUNCHTIME 1.45pm	Wednesday, 11 December	CSM	A Level Geography	G2
AFTER SCHOOL 3.25pm	Wednesday, 11 December	REL	BTEC Sport	PE1
LUNCHTIME 1.45pm	Thursday 12 December	BLB and EKI	A-level History	H2
AFTER SCHOOL 3.25pm	Thursday 12 December	RG and VN	A Level Product Design	T2
LUNCHTIME 1.45pm	Friday 13 December	BRI and DRO	Maths in Context	M1
LUNCHTIME 1.45pm	Monday 16 December	SCO	A level Physics	
LUNCHTIME 1.45pm	Tuesday 17 December	JOR, EHI and JME	A Level Maths	M5
AFTER SCHOOL 3.25pm	Tuesday 17 December	AH, CS	A Level Art & Design, Art Textiles and Photography	A2
Christmas Break				
LUNCHTIME 1.45pm	Wednesday 8 January	PSI	A Level English Literature	E2
AFTER SCHOOL 3.25pm	Wednesday 8 January	KdG/HLA	A Level French	L4
LUNCHTIME 1.45pm	Thursday 9 January	OCJ	Food and Nutrition	T3
AFTER SCHOOL 3.25pm	Thursday 9 January	MV	Psychology A-Level	Psych
LUNCHTIME 1.45pm	Friday 10 January	GS	Drama and Theatre Studies	Drama Studio
LUNCHTIME 1.45pm	Monday 13 January	ALB	Biology	S6
LUNCHTIME 1.45pm	Tuesday 14 January	EKI	EPQ	H3
AFTER SCHOOL 3.25pm	Tuesday 14 January	RNI/JKI	RELIGIOUS STUDIES (PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS)	RS1
Sixth Form applications close 17.1.2024				

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See our:

- Prospectus and
- Application form online at:

www.hgss.co.uk

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What next?? Key Dates

Final Applications: **Friday 16 January 2026**

Final STEAM and Visual Arts Scholarship Applications: **Friday 20 March 2026**

Internal Applicant Meetings begin: **Week commencing 2 February 2026**

Offers of Sixth Form places: **From Week commencing 23 March 2026**

Sixth Form Induction Days: **2 and 3 July 2026**

GCSE Results Day and Sixth Form Enrolment for Internal students: **Thursday 20 August 2026**

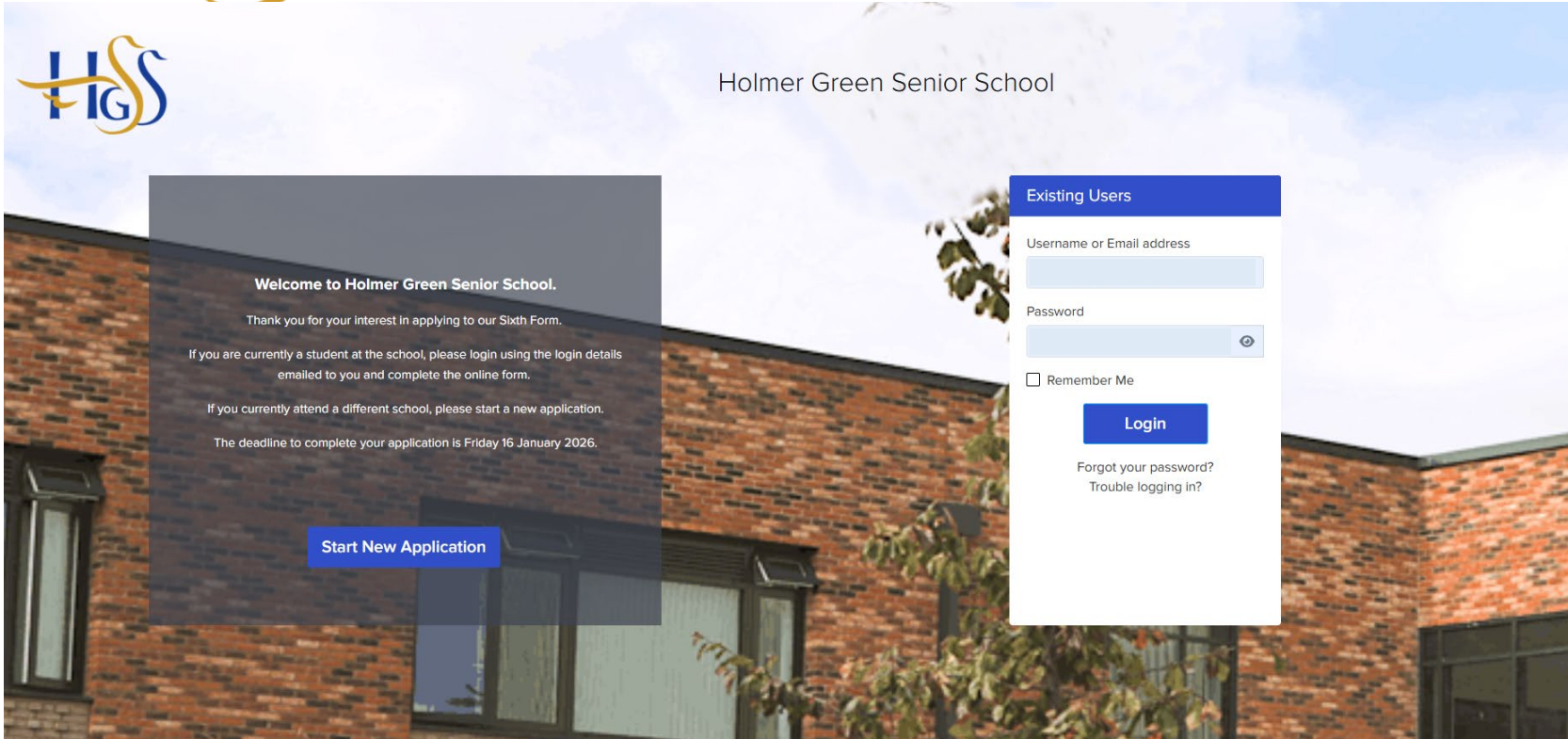
Sixth Form Enrolment for External Students: **Friday 21 August 2026**

First Day of Autumn Term for Year 12: **Thursday 3 September 2026**

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Applying to HGSS Sixth Form: Current students



HGSS students:

Received an email earlier which Includes:

- link to this page,
- a username (school email address)
- and password.

If you wish to apply, log in using these details and complete your application.



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Applying to HGSS Sixth Form: New students

Welcome to Holmer Green Senior School.

Thank you for your interest in applying to our Sixth Form.

If you are currently a student at the school, please login using the login details emailed to you and complete the online form.

If you currently attend a different school, please start a new application.

The deadline to complete your application is Friday 16 January 2026.

[Start New Application](#)

Existing Users

Username or Email address

Password

Remember Me

[Login](#)

[Forgot your password? Trouble logging in?](#)

Students that are currently studying at another school:

The link to the sixth form application Site is:

<https://hgss.applicaa.com/2026Year12>

Press the Start New Application button (in blue).

Set up your email address and a password for the system.

Complete your application.



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Talk to teachers
Talk to our students
See our facilities

Thank you and Good night

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