



Welcome to  
The Sixth Form Open Evening 2024  
at  
Holmer Green Senior School



[SIXTHFORM@HGSS](mailto:SIXTHFORM@HGSS)



Headteacher: Mr Ed Hillyard



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# Results:

## **Strong** academic results:

- % of grades A\*- A = 18%
- % of grades A\*- B = 49%
- % of grades A\*- C = 79%
- Best 3 'A' Levels = B
- Average grade = C+

## **Strong** vocational results:

- Distinction \* - Distinction: 66%

University, Apprenticeship & American scholarship destinations included:

Bath, Birmingham, Oxford Brookes, Sheffield, Durham, Bristol, Loughborough, Manchester, Southampton and Eckerd College USA.

Subjects studied and apprenticeships awarded have included: Architecture, Economics, Finance, Law, Engineering, Psychology, Textiles, Veterinary Science and Biomedical Sciences.

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Head-students



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Deputy Head of Sixth Form  
Mr Kodey McMaster



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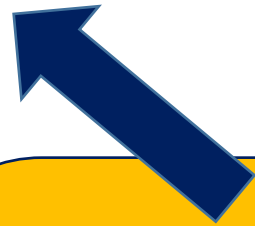
## **Some key questions to think about this evening:**

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

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Excellent  
facilities



**Why apply to HGSS Sixth form?**

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Excellent  
facilities

Exciting Enrichment  
opportunities



**Why apply to HGSS Sixth form?**

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Excellent facilities

Exciting Enrichment opportunities

Individual support

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79% A\* to C (2024)

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**Why apply to HGSS Sixth form?**

Smooth progression, and effective induction

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79% A\* to C (2024)

**Why apply to HGSS Sixth form?**

Smaller class size

Smooth progression, and effective induction

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Choice of different course types

Smaller class size

Smooth progression, and effective induction

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Opportunities

Choice of different course types

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Excellent facilities

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Individual support

79% A\* to C (2024)

**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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## **Some key questions to think about this evening:**

- Which subjects to apply for?



Assistant Head Teacher: Sixth Form  
Mrs Rachel Golding



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## 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 2025-2027**

# **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
- French
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Philosophy and Ethics (RS)
- Photography
- Physics
- Psychology
- Sociology

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## **Sixth Form 2025-27**

### **The Types of Post-16 Courses**

**Vocational courses such as BTEC / AAQs, WJEC Extended Certificates and Diplomas:**

**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

- Applied Science (BTEC AAQ Extended Certificate)
- Computing (BTEC AAQ Extended Certificate)
- Health & Social Care (BTEC AAQ Extended Certificate)
- IT (CTEC AAQ Extended Certificate)
- Sport (BTEC Extended Certificate)
- WJEC Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition

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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## Level 3 Vocational courses: The latest

Level 3 Vocational courses are currently subject to a **“Pause and Review”**. We are expecting clarification from the Government anytime in December 2024.

If the Government announcement affects our offer in anyway, we will all applicants through our **application system** and **update our website**.

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## The “4<sup>th</sup> subject”

- The EPQ
- AS Maths in Context

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



\*4<sup>th</sup> Subject only

## 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.*

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## **Sixth Form 2025-27**

### **The “HGSS Pathways”**

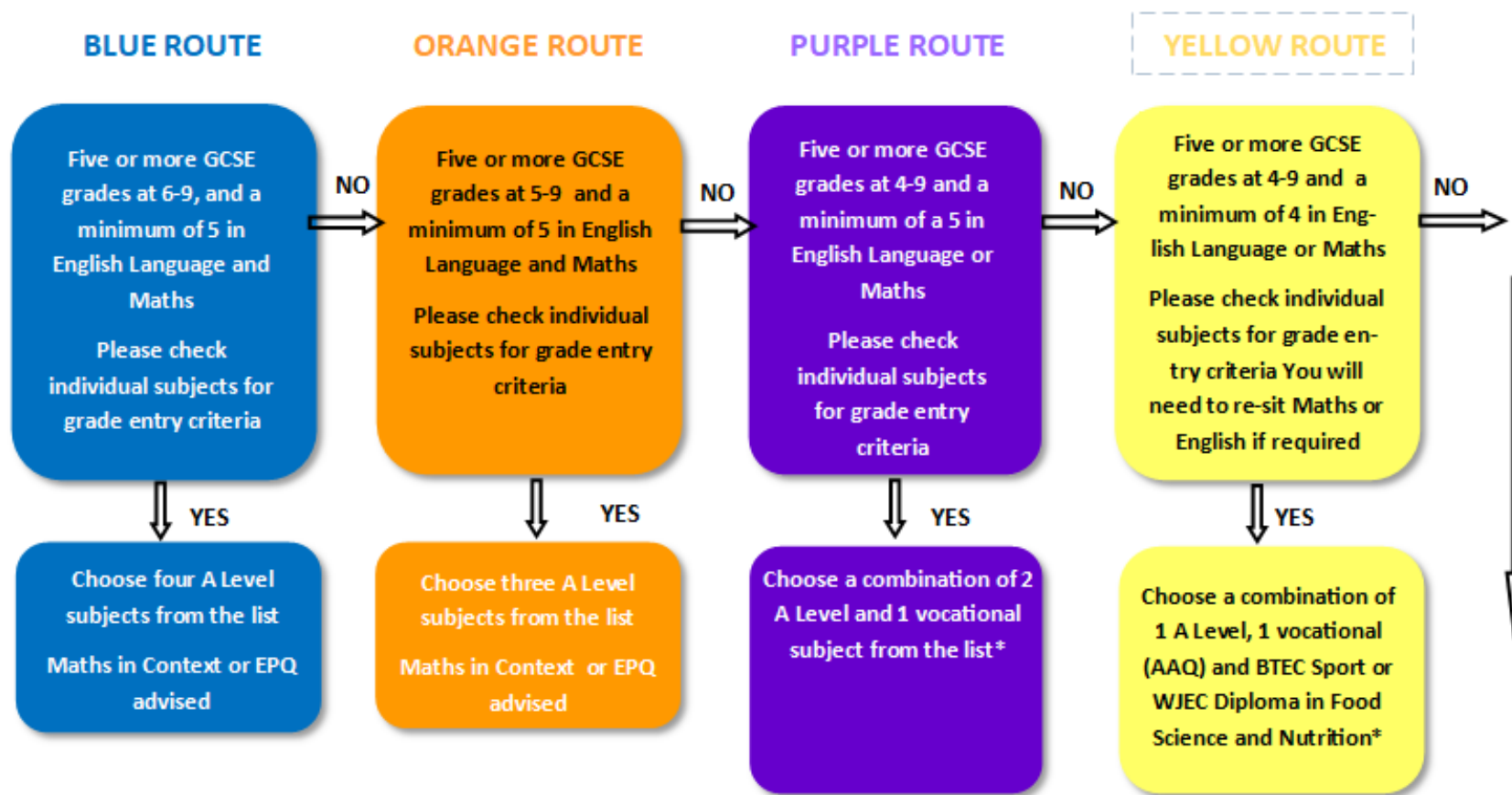
**Ensure that your selection is the best combination in terms of your:**

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

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# HGSS Pathways



Please note: Vocational subjects are currently under review, pending a final decision in December 2024, and so may be subject to change\*

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

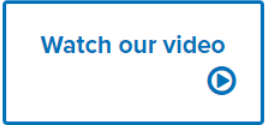
<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk>



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



### Career Tools

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- My Subjects
- My Job Sectors
- My Values
- My Qualifications
- My Providers
- My Courses
- My Bookmarks
- My Next Steps
- My Action Points

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[www.Prospects.ac.uk](http://www.Prospects.ac.uk)

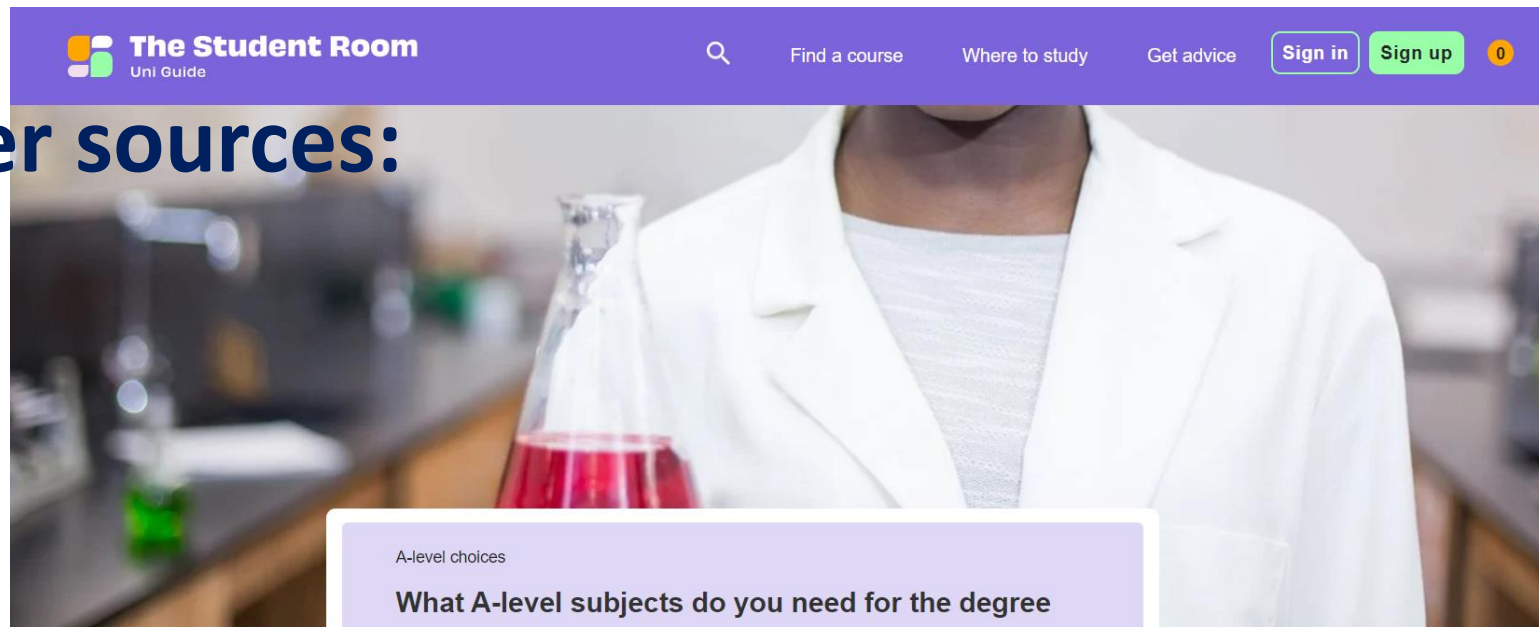
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## Some further sources:

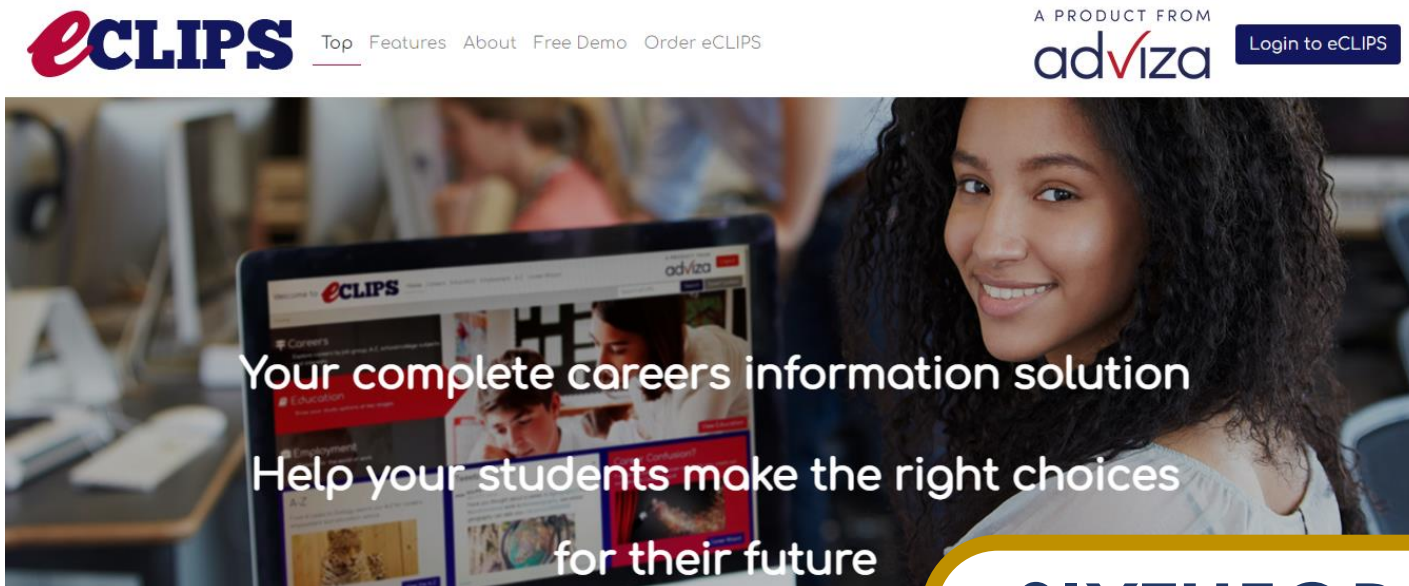
<http://university.which.co.uk/advice/what-a-levels-do-you-need-for-the-degree-you-want-to-study>

<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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# 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)
- **Computer Science** (Computing, Maths, Physics)
- **Engineering** (Maths, Chemistry, Physics)
- **Architecture** (Maths, Art, Physics)
- **Investment Banking** (Maths, Further Maths, Business or Economics)

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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. 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 School) 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 interconnected, with the 'S' looping around the 'G' and the 'H'.

# 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 14 March 2025**

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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 Photography, 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 14 March 2025**

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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
<b>Christmas Break</b>				
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
LUNCHTIME 1.45pm	Tuesday 14 January	RNI/JKI	RELIGIOUS STUDIES (PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS)	RS1
AFTER SCHOOL 3.25pm			Sixth Form applications close 17.1.2024	

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See our:

- Prospectus and
- Application form online at:

[www.hgss.co.uk](http://www.hgss.co.uk)



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# What next?? Key Dates

Final Applications: **Friday 17 January 2025**

Final STEAM and Visual Arts Scholarship Applications: **Friday 14 March 2025**

Internal Applicant Meetings begin: **Week commencing 3 February 2025**

External Applicant Meetings begin: **Week commencing 3 March 2025**

Offers of Sixth Form places: **Week commencing 24 March 2025**

Sixth Form Induction Days: **3 and 4 July 2025**

GCSE Results Day and Sixth Form Enrolment for Internal students: **Thursday 21 August 2025**

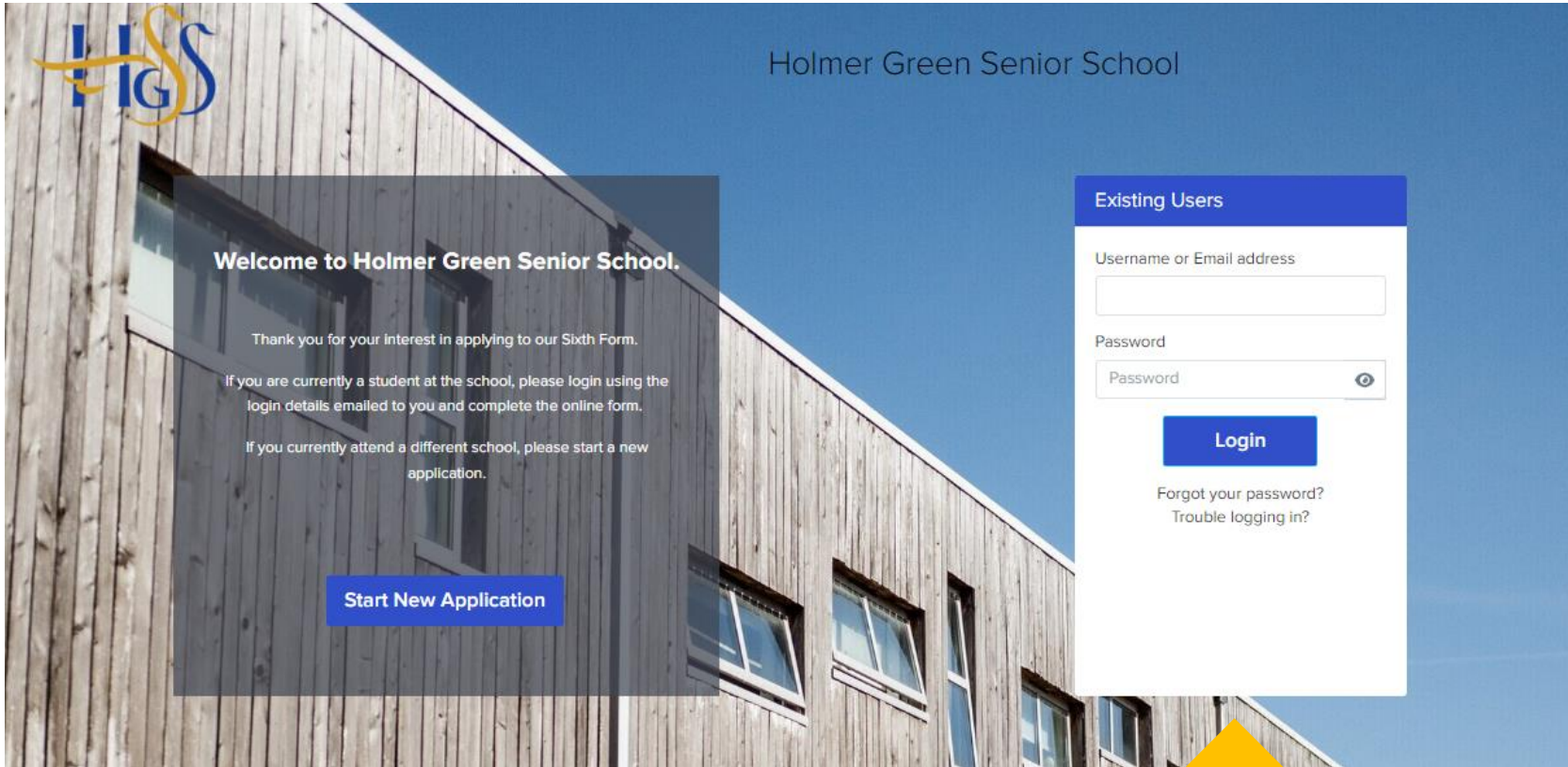
Sixth Form Enrolment for External Students: **Friday 22 August 2025**

First Day of Autumn Term for Year 12: **Friday 5 September 2025**

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# Applying to HGSS Sixth Form: Current students



## HGSS students:

Received an email earlier which Includes:

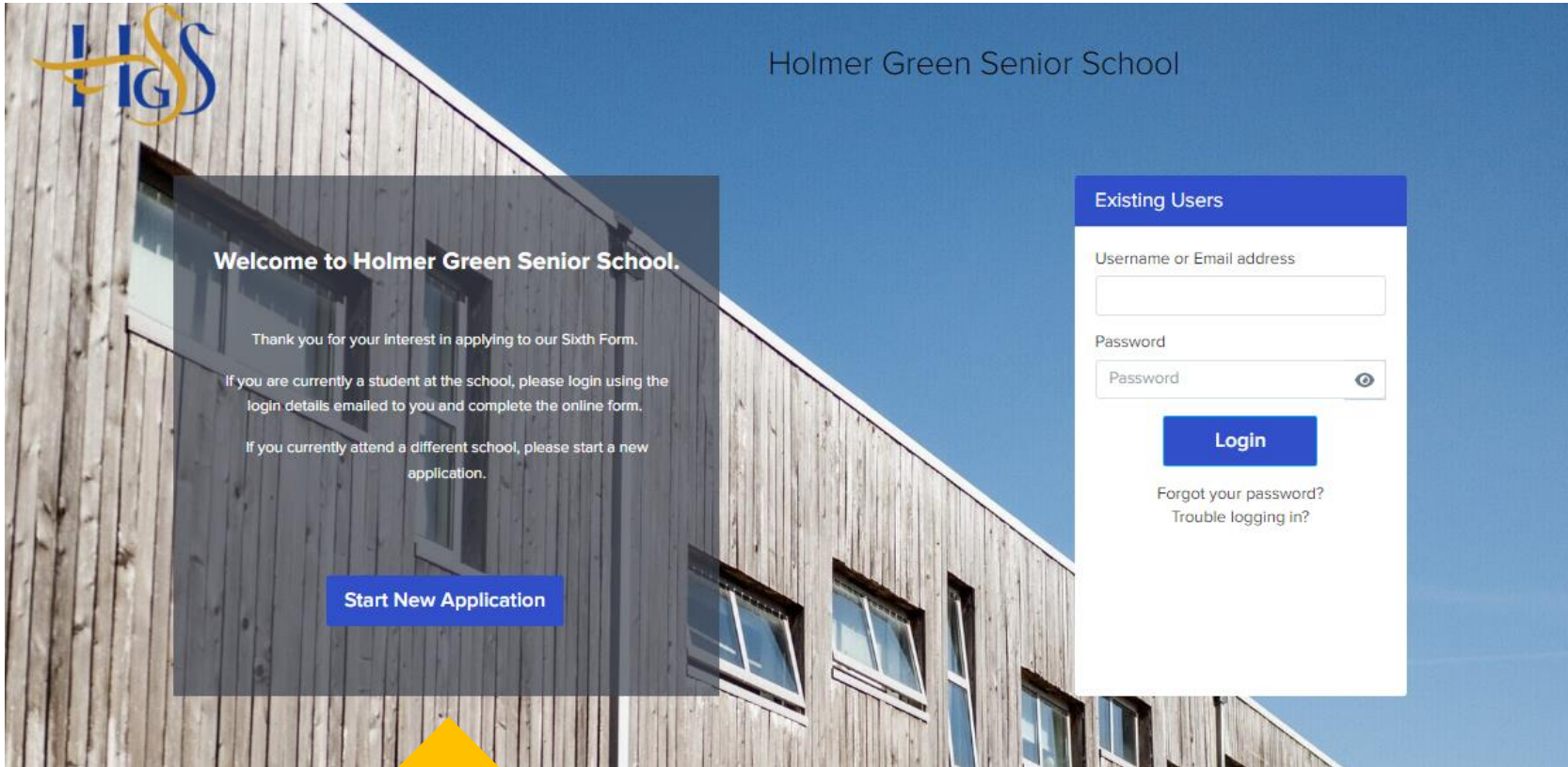
- link to this page,
- a username (school email address)
- and password.

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



**Students that are currently studying at another school:**

The link to the sixth form application Site is:

<http://hgss.applicaa.com/2025Year12>

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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