

Welcome to our Information Evening for Parents of Year 8 and 9 Students

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To Be Covered

- Changes to assessment at KS3
- Changes to GCSEs
- The role of literacy and numeracy
- Update on the core subjects – English, maths and science
- How to support your child's learning
- Dates to remember



KS3 Assessment

- No more levels
- End of Year minimum expected grades (MEG) using the new number scale
- Skills and knowledge checklists for each subject in each year
- Core and extension skills and knowledge



KS3 Assessment – reporting to parents

- Minimum expected grade, MEG
 - Progress indicator
 - Effort and behaviour grade
 - Area for development targets
-
- Information booklet for parents



New GCSEs

- 2 year course
- Greater emphasis on performance in exam
- More content
- New grading system
- Importance of independent learning skills



New GCSE Grading Structure

NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE	CURRENT GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE
9	A*
8	
7	A
6	B
5	
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

GOOD PASS (DfE)
5 and above = top of C and above

AWARDING
4 and above = bottom of C and above



Literacy and Numeracy

- Extended written answers in many subjects
- Spelling, grammar and paragraphing
- Increased numeracy content such as
 - Percentages
 - Drawing and reading graphs
 - Using formulae



KS3 English



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KS3 English

- The course your child will be following is based upon the skills they will need in the GCSE examinations.
- From year 7 onwards they will building sophistication and understanding of the skill areas as well as developing their ability to apply those skills.



KS3 English

- We will be using the GCSE grades (1-9) when assessing the students and all examination papers are in the GCSE style so that by the time they reach the end of year 11 they are well prepared.
- The papers are specially designed to be appropriate in challenge for each year group.



KS3 English Progress and Monitoring

- Students will sit a number of common assessment tasks. Their progress will be monitored by both the subject teacher and either Mrs Foulder (Years 7/8) or Mrs Booth (Years 9 – 11).
- If any student is performing below their target then interventions will be put in place and parents notified



KS3 English

- To prepare them for the English Literature GCSE they will study a range of texts during years 7 – 9 including Shakespeare, the 19th century novel as well as more modern texts.



KS3 English Grouping

- All students will be taught in mixed ability groups
- This means that classes have approximately 22 students in them allowing much more opportunity for 'one to one' teacher attention.
- Feedback can be even more detailed and specific.



KS3 English Support

- The skills checklist and the use of marking grids will enable your child to see where they are and the skills they need to develop to continue to improve and make progress.
- Support materials are available via RM Portico and the shared area as well as through www.doddlelearn.co.uk
- Information regarding the scheme of work and assessments will be available on the English area of the school website.



GCSE Maths

3 Year Course

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Mathematics – new GCSE 2017

Below are the main changes:

New grade structure 1-9 (not G-A*)

Big increase in harder content and more focus on problem-solving and reasoning.

3 examination papers (not 2)

Paper 1 - 1hr 30mins - non calculator

Paper 2 - 1hr 30mins – calculator

Paper 3 - 1hr 30mins - calculator

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Mathematics – home support

Encourage homework and revision using

1. www.mymaths.co.uk

login: helsby, password: subtract.

All pupils have their own login.

2. www.mathswatchvle.com

All pupils have their own login.

Centre ID = helsby, password=helsby,

login is 14/15(initial)(surname) e.g.

14jsmith

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Mathematics – school support

Maths Space – teacher available every
Tuesday lunchtime in A59

Any questions or feedback, email the
Maths Dept. Leader (Mr K Sewell-Davies) at
ksewelldavies@helsbyhigh.org.uk

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KS3 Science

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KS3 Science Check lists

- Given to students at the beginning of each unit in lessons and stuck in book.
- Students will use to self assess progress during lessons.
- This will highlight areas of improvement required.



KS3 Revision for End of Unit Tests

- **Revision materials available via Remote/RM Portico on school website**
- Log on with network username and password, then click on:
 - RMShared, Science, KS3 revision
- There are revision summaries for each unit specific to the test being taken.
- More resources will be added throughout the year to help students develop their independent learning skills.
- Please encourage students to use it.



Science - end of year exam

- Covers the 10 units covered throughout the year.
- Past paper questions with mark schemes are available via the KS3 revision folder



GCSE Sciences from 2016

More content to learn

More Maths questions

Need to learn equations and units

Practical work is assessed in the exams

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Supporting Your Child's Learning At Home

Encourage your child to:

- Check and proof read their work
- Review learning regularly
- Experiment with different revision techniques to see which work best for them
- Read widely – novels, newspapers and magazines, instructions, text books

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Show My Homework

- New for Autumn 2016
- All students and parents in Years 8 and 9 have been given access
- Details of homework set and deadlines



The School Voice

- Student Voice
- Parent Voice
- Staff
- Governors
- Community

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You said, we did...

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“You said, we did”!

Mr S Edwards | September 8th, 2016 |

Helsby High School students have returned to school this week to find 2 significant upgrades to the fabric of the school.

Our ‘student voice’ panels have in recent times told us that whilst significant investment was made some time ago to upgrade the toilet facilities for girls in school, the facilities for boys needed refurbishment too. Therefore, over the summer in the region of £35,000 was invested doing this, for the main toilets in the centre of the school building.

This upgrade includes the installation of hand-sensor flushing and hand-washing, new soap dispensers, extractor fans, as well as the removal of urinals and the construction of new partition walls, doors and so on.

This project has also benefitted from the school-wide installation of new LED lighting, at an investment of £100,000. This not only is an energy-saving measure, which will in the medium and long term save the school money too, but it also provides a more consistent lighting environment for students in all parts of the school, aiding concentration and reducing the ‘flicker’ which was always a risk of the old fluorescent lights.

Two welcome school developments and more reason for us all to be proud of our school environment.



Latest News

Star of the Week

Posted on October 14th, 2016 by Mr S Edwards

Year 11 @Succeeding in Exams’

Posted on October 14th, 2016 by Mr S Edwards

Y11 English Language Revision List

Posted on October 12th, 2016 by Mr S Edwards

Y11 English Literature Revision List

Posted on October 12th, 2016 by Mr S Edwards

Autumn Music Concert

Posted on October 12th, 2016 by Mr S Edwards

Upcoming Events

Yr 11 : Revision Event (evening) on October 20, 2016

Yr 11 : Student Profiles issued during the week on October 24, 2016

Yr 11 into Sixth Form Evening on October 25, 2016 18:30

Yr 12-13 : Trip to New York/Washington Departs on October 28, 2016

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Recent SV:

- 94% of students know who to see/where to go if they have a problem
- Amount of homework – too much/too little/about right – 52/5/42
- High levels of extra-curricular involvement – see below*
- 97% of students know how to stay safe online
- 55% of students think it is a good idea to carry out a review of uniform
- Students favour the concept of rewards trips being spread across all the tutor groups
- 80% of students would like to continue to be asked their views
- 83% of students proud to attend HHS
- In terms of the behaviour and conduct of fellow students around and about the school, 87% feel students are well behaved. Take-up rates of our online learning support are high (e.g. My Maths

98%, 85% Doodle)

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Answer Choices	Responses	
PE	78.89%	157
English	9.55%	19
Humanities subjects	3.52%	7
Music	22.61%	45
Drama	13.07%	26
Art	6.03%	12
Science	7.54%	15
Maths	10.05%	20
Food	5.03%	10
ICT	7.54%	15
Other (eg STEM)	23.62%	47
Total Respondents: 199		

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Students can make their Voice heard at Helsby in many ways, and whenever they want

- For example, students can:
- Use the SHARP button on the website
- Email student voice: studentvoice@helsbyhigh.org
- Use The VoiceBox suggestion box in the breakout space

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Parental Voice:

- Currently at most school events.
- New this year, option to email survey links to all parents:
E.g.:
- Views on the consultation process itself
- *I feel I have sufficient opportunity to make any views about the school clear if/when I wish to*
- *I have given school my views in the past 12 months*
- *Suggestions for improvements (open)*

- Views on rewards in school
- Views on uniform



Pastoral Support

- Form Tutor
- Year Leader
- Assistant Head (Key Stage Leader, KSL)
- Student Support Co-ordinator
- Email:

year8admin@helsbyhigh.org.uk

year9admin@helsbyhigh.org.uk

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Year 8 – dates to remember

- Mon 28 November – Autumn Student Profile (progress report) published
- Mon 30 January - Spring 1 Student profile published
- Mon 6 March - Year 8 Consultation Evening

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Year 9 -dates to remember

- Mon 28 November – Autumn Student Profile (progress report) published
- Mon 30 January - Spring 1 Student profile published
- Tues 31 January – Year 9 consultation Evening
- Wed 15 February – Year 9 Options Evening

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