

Dear Year 6 student

The science department at Holmfirth High school are looking forward to meeting you in September and we are sure that you are excited about starting to do some Science lessons with us. Unfortunately, the start of next year might be a little bit different because we do not know yet if you will be allowed to do practical work when you first come back. Thinking ahead though, some of you might be a bit nervous about some of the things which you will be doing when Science lessons get back to normal so I have included a list of activities and ideas that you could do together with your parent or carer to help you to prepare for High School. Please show the table below to an adult in your household and see if there are any skills that they can help you to develop over the summer.

Skill	Examples of how we use this skill at school	Ideas to improve confidence at home (pupils will need supervision for most)
Using electrical sockets safely.	Pupils will be expected to use a range of electrical appliances including; hairdryers to model the wind and power-packs to build circuits.	Ask your child to get the vacuum cleaner out, clean the floor and then put it away again.
Striking a match	Looking at energy transfers and lighting tea lights for experiments.	Ask your child to help you to light a candle for the dinner table.
Boiling a kettle and pouring the water.	Investigating cooling rates of water.	Ask your child to make you a hot drink.
Transporting hot liquids.	Taking hot water to work areas. Taking hot water to pour away after an experiment.	Ask your child to help move the vegetables from the hob to the sink to drain them. Get them to pass you a hot drink.
Walking with a flame	Carry a lit splint to light Bunsen burners.	Ask your child to help you carry a candle to the dining room table.
Sweeping up breakages.	Accidents happen and pupils may need to sweep up and safely dispose of broken glassware.	Ask your child to help clear up a breakage at home.
Cleaning the work bench.	Pupils will need to make sure that their work area is clear of chemicals and biohazards at the end of an investigation.	Ask your child to help clean the kitchen surfaces after preparing dinner.
Handling hazardous substances.	Pupils will use a variety of chemicals and microorganisms.	Ask your child to help clean the bathroom using bathroom cleaner. Help squirt bleach around the loo.
Tie hair up.	All pupils with hair chin length or longer will need to be able to put their hair up when we use naked flames.	Give your child a bobble and ask them to tie a pony tail in and take it back out. Neatness doesn't matter!

Throughout year 7 you will be introduced to lots of new equipment and your new year 7 teachers can't wait to see how quickly you will become confident completing practical investigation work.

Yours faithfully

Your new year 7 teacher