

## LANCASTER ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Dear incoming Lower Sixth students and parents / guardians,

### **Entry to the Sixth Form**

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you to the Sixth Form at LRGS. Although latest regulations on testing in September have impacted our induction plans, we are working hard to ensure that you can have a seamless start to Sixth Form. This letter contains all the key details that you'll need to know for entry into the Sixth Form and explains the arrangements for Enrolment Morning and the first day back in September. All key information and documentation is displayed on the Sixth Form area of our website in the [Induction](#) section, and the hyperlinks within this letter should take you directly to the relevant sections. Please familiarise yourself with this area of the website which we will continue to update over the summer if we need to communicate further key information with you.

### **Sixth Form Handbook**

Our student handbook provides lots of information about key dates, expectations, pastoral support, university applications and much more besides. Please familiarise yourself with its content before September.

### **Summer Bridging Work**

We hope that you've enjoyed the recent online lessons and now have a flavour of what A-level study will be like. Departments have set work that they would like students to complete over the summer. This is to avoid 'summer slide', and to ensure that you hit the ground running in September. You will have already received details, but a reminder of the bridging work for each subject is also in the induction area of the website. Please be aware that there is a significant step up from GCSE to A-level in terms of workload, complexity and commitment to self-directed learning, and A-level students need to take a full and active interest both within and beyond lessons. The jump from GCSE to A-level may be even more of a challenge this year given the impact of the pandemic on face-to-face learning. By working through the tasks, you will begin to develop the effective study habits and independence needed for success and should be able to start with confidence on your A-level courses.

### **Reading List**

We are a school who love to read and we hope that you are able to use your long, summer holiday to lose yourself in some good books. Your tutor will be expecting you to be able to present on a book you've read over the summer holidays when you join us in September. We've compiled a [list](#) and would encourage you to dip into these books, not just over the summer but throughout the Sixth Form. Most books come from the 20th and 21st centuries, but there are some from the eighteenth and nineteenth, as well. Most are works of fiction, but there are some that are non-fiction. We've also included a wide range of nationalities. Some of the books are "page turners", but some of them are extremely challenging and provocative. Enjoy!

### **Visual Arts Challenge**

Art is a thriving department at LRGS and we like to exhibit student art work around the Sixth Form Centre. The Art Department would like to invite you to respond to the themes of either 'Opening Up' or 'Freedom' through taking part in the [Visual Arts Challenge](#). We look forward to seeing your entries.

### **Textbooks**

Pressures on school funding unfortunately mean that the school will not be able to cover all the costs of [textbooks](#) for Lower Sixth students. Students may need to purchase a copy of the texts that are required for their Sixth Form subjects. Pupils who are eligible for the Sixth Form bursary will be able to use this money to pay for these books. Some departments buy back books from Upper Sixth leavers and re-sell these at a reduced cost.

### **Bursary**

The Sixth Form Bursary is a government funded scheme offering financial support to help students overcome specific barriers to participation in education. If you think you will be eligible for the bursary, please complete and return the required [documentation](#) to Mrs Haywood. You may opt to do this by post or email before term starts. Please be aware that students need to apply for the bursary - it won't be actioned automatically. Please retain receipts for any books, bus/train passes or essential items needed for the start of Sixth Form as these are required before payment can be made.

### **LAMDA – Speech & Drama Award**

Mrs Marriott, our former Head of Theatre Studies, is offering this exciting drama opportunity again this year. Each cohort so far has achieved outstanding success in this qualification. If you might be interested in signing up for LAMDA lessons, please read this [letter](#).

### **Music Tuition**

We have a wide range of ensembles and groups to get involved with at LRGS, along with a great variety of tuition available. Please see the Music Tuition Information [Leaflet](#) and the [tuition letter](#) or contact [Emma Lamb](#) or [Kim Taylor](#) if you have any queries.

### **Sport & Games**

Sport at LRGS is a fundamental part of school life through participation in competitive sport or recreationally in clubs and Games lessons. In the Sixth Form, pupils are required to choose an option for Games lessons that take place weekly on a Wednesday during periods 6 & 7.

Regardless of the level of sporting participation, Games lessons are compulsory and an important part of your weekly timetable as they provide an opportunity to take part in physical activity as part of a balanced healthy and active lifestyle. Comparable to your academic timetabled lessons, there will be expectations in Games regarding your attitude, effort and application. Each Games option will be carefully planned so that all pupils are able to access a chosen activity regardless of ability or experience. Through the course of the academic year, Games options will change depending on sporting seasons and facility availability.

### **Extra-Curricular Sport**

In addition to Games, sport at LRGS also takes place after school and at weekends, which includes competitive sport programmes. There will be plenty of information circulated in September regarding extra-curricular sport with details of the staff member in charge and when it takes place during the week. The simple advice to extra-curricular sport is to get involved and make the most of the amazing opportunities at LRGS!

## **Kit**

Please find below a link to the online shop which provides our bespoke LRGS Senior Games Kit:  
<https://www.graysteamsports.com/collections/lancaster-royal-grammar-school-6th-form?ref=13396>

Pupils are required to purchase a T-shirt and a pair of shorts/tracksuit bottoms or a skort, all other items are optional. However, we would advise purchasing a layer for cold or wet weather.

All questions relating to Games/6th Form Sport should be directed to Mr Loney ([aloney@lrgs.org.uk](mailto:aloney@lrgs.org.uk)).

## **Praesis ut Prosis Award (PuP)**

Students will be encouraged to engage with this award throughout the Lower Sixth. The Award seeks to embody the school motto (Lead In Order To Serve), encouraging students to lead and serve within the school and wider community. In preparation for Post-18 options, the Praesis ut Prosis Award recognises, develops and enhances experience and achievement in a work-related environment. Click [here](#) for more details. For any questions related to the PuP award, please contact [Mrs Marshall](#).

## **EPQ – Extended Project Qualification**

Students who wish to add value to their post 18 applications could consider an EPQ in the Lower Sixth, but must evaluate their workload levels carefully as this represents a considerable commitment of time. This summer would be a perfect time to consider a potential topic for study and to begin to engage with background reading. The bulk of this work is done independently, entirely in the Lower Sixth and with guidance from a member of the teaching staff. For any questions related to the EPQ, please contact [Mr Reynolds](#).

## **Wisepay**

LRGS uses an online payment system “Wisepay” to enable parents to pay for trips, music lessons etc. At the beginning of term, parents of new students at the school will be sent, via email, their username and login details to access Wisepay. Further information can be found in the [information document](#). It is imperative that pupils’ accounts are kept topped up if they intend to buy food at school catering facilities.

## **Annual Fund**

We would like to draw your attention to the Headmaster’s [letter](#) to parents explaining about our Annual Fund [scheme](#) which funds all the extra-curricular activities that we provide. Thanks to generous donations from parents, we are able to offer all of our students a variety of exciting and challenging opportunities that are an essential part of school life. Each year we invite all families to consider joining our community of Annual Fund supporters so that we can continue to provide a wide range of experiences. Supporting our Annual fund is about the spirit of participation and this is an excellent opportunity for you to get involved, at whatever level you can afford. Small, regular donations have the power to collectively make a huge difference. Should you wish to join our community of supporters please read the Annual Fund documents and complete the [donation form](#).

## **Admin**

For students new to the school, there are two other important documents we need to draw your attention to: firstly, the [biometrics letter](#) outlining our use of biometric information, (our catering services use biometric systems so this is important for students to purchase food at school); secondly, the [Information for School Records](#) form which needs completing and returning **on the enrolment morning**.

## **Results & Enrolment**

GCSE results day is Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August. If you are new to the school, please attend our **enrolment morning on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> August**. This is a drop-in session in the **Library** from 10:00 - 12:00. **Please bring paper confirmation of your GCSE results with you as well as the completed documentation outlined elsewhere in this letter.** You will also be able to purchase a school tie (£10) or pin badge (£2). Please bring the right amount of change if possible. If you are unable to attend the enrolment morning, please e-mail [Mrs Carol Haywood](mailto:Mrs.Carol.Haywood@LRGS.org), our Sixth Form administrator, that day to let us know your results and to confirm both your A-level choices and your intention to take your Sixth Form place.

If you are currently in Year 11 at LRGS there is no need to attend the enrolment morning. If you wish to change your subject options, please email [Mr Chambers](mailto:Mr.Chambers@LRGS.org). It is important that you do this so that we can confirm who will be in which forms and classes ready for the first day back. Any problems, changes or difficulties can be discussed by e-mail or phone. If you choose to make alternative plans for your A-level studies, please inform Mrs Haywood so that your place can be offered to someone on the waiting list.

## **COVID Testing**

Currently, we are being asked that all students complete two lateral flow tests administered on school site before joining lessons. We will be in touch with you after Results Day to confirm specific arrangements for this testing. We are anticipating the Lower Sixth needing to complete their **first test** on the morning of **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August**. This will take place in the sports hall. Staff and prefects will be on site to direct new students to the right place. Timings for the first test will be done in alphabetical order. On this morning, new students will also be able to have their biometrics taken and will be given details of their new forms. Please try to keep the morning free. The **second test** will be on the morning of **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September** before joining the induction afternoon. Students who are new to the school will receive a separate e-mail about COVID testing which will include a link to complete the online consent form prior to the Enrolment Morning. We appreciate that some students will not be able to attend on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> due to pre-existing commitments. If this is the case, please contact Mrs Haywood.

## **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Induction Day**

The aim of the day is to settle you in to the Sixth Form and to allow you to find your feet in your form before term properly starts on the Monday. After taking your second lateral flow test in the sports hall, you will join your form tutor for ice-breakers and team building activities. There will also be a full welcome assembly. You will have chance to buy a tie (£10) or pin badge (£2) on arrival from Mrs Haywood if not previously purchased. The Café will be open at break and lunch, or you can bring snacks with you. New students are advised to bring cash for the first day. Please follow the Sixth Form [dress code](#).

## **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September – first day of term for real**

Pupils should go straight to form rooms for registration by 08:45.

## **Teams Induction Evening for parents – Wednesday 15th September. 18:00-19:00**

Please accept this letter as an invitation to parents to attend a Teams Induction evening. You will be able to hear a selection of staff and students talk about what it means to be a Sixth Former at LRGS and what you and your son / daughter can expect over the next couple of years. This will be an opportunity for families to make contact with our Sixth Form team, for you to realise the strength of the pastoral and academic support your son / daughter can access and a chance for you to ask any questions you may have about your son's / daughter's Sixth Form journey. Further details and a joining link will be shared closed to the time.

### **Keeping in touch**

If you have subject specific questions, please contact the relevant Head of Department. For other questions, please contact the [Sixth Form team](#). Our prefect team will be working hard to help you settle in – you can find out more about our Senior Prefect team [here](#).

### **Key dates**

Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> August	GCSE results Day
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> August	Enrolment morning
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> August	COVID testing 1
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Induction Day
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	First Day of lessons
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	Parental induction evening on Teams

We wish you all the best for results day and look forward to seeing you at the Enrolment Morning, testing morning and on Induction Day.

Have a fabulous summer.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Haigh  
Head of Sixth Form

Jamie Reynolds  
Deputy Head of Sixth Form

Jemma Marshall  
Deputy Head of Sixth Form

Carol Haywood  
Administrator