

Information for Applicants for Teaching Posts



Lancaster Royal
Grammar School

State Day and Boarding School for Boys Aged 11 to 18
Coeducational Sixth Form

"Pupils flourish at Lancaster Royal Grammar School" Ofsted

Welcome



Most pupils join in Year 7 having passed the 11+. We have a thriving Co-Ed Sixth Form having welcomed Sixth Form girls as day students in 2019 and as boarders in 2020. We currently have 1291 pupils of whom about 120 are boarders who join us from the UK and overseas.

Our students are energetic and ambitious, and it is definitely “cool to succeed” at LRGS!

LRGS consistently features as one of the top state schools in the country in terms of examination success. In 2024, 70% of A-level entries were graded A* to B. At GCSE, 62% of entries gained grades 9 to 7, with 22% at grade 9. Progress 8 scores are well above average. Over 90% of students go on to further education – each year typically 30-40 students will apply to Oxford and Cambridge colleges with an average of 12 students gaining Oxbridge offers. Most students proceed to Russell Group universities or go on to a range of competitive opportunities which have in recent years included RADA, the Dyson Institute, Glasgow School of Art, high-quality apprenticeships and US sports scholarships amongst many others.

We pride ourselves on the profusion of extra-curricular activities offered here. These provide an exceptional range of social, cultural and sporting opportunities, including a full programme of Saturday sports fixtures.

We are also a caring school with strong and effective pastoral support for our pupils. We are forward-looking and leaders in the area of student support and well-being. We have made substantial investment into our estate and teaching facilities in recent years, thanks to a number of grants and donations. We are very excited to have been selected for the School Rebuilding Programme, which will see further improvements to our school site and buildings over the next 5 years.

The school aims to provide a well-balanced and rigorous academic education for all its pupils, and it is fortunate to employ able and dedicated staff. New colleagues will be well qualified in their main subject and also keen to pass on their wider knowledge and enthusiasms to their pupils. A broad level of involvement is encouraged. One of our core aims is to be a school that develops exceptional teaching. New members of staff are assured of help and support from colleagues in this welcoming school. Staff induction and ongoing professional development are fully supported, and we look forward to supporting further progression in our teachers' careers.

Applications for posts at LRGS should consist of a letter and fully completed application form, which must include the details of at least two referees. You may also send a CV if you wish. Please use your letter of application to explain why you wish to apply for the post and to identify any interests or skills which you feel would enhance your application.

LRGS is a happy school with committed staff, and pupils who are a pleasure to teach! I very much hope that you will consider joining us.

Dr Christopher Pyle
Headmaster Dr Chris Pyle

Praesis ut Prosis

Lancaster Royal Grammar School is one of the oldest state schools in the country. It was founded in the thirteenth century and endowed by John Gardyner in 1472. Originally situated close to the Priory Church and Lancaster Castle, the school moved to its present site in 1851. From the outset the Free School of Lancaster educated both day and boarding pupils.



The School Site

LRGS enjoys a large site close to the centre of Lancaster with some distinguished old buildings interspersed with new teaching areas.

Our lower site is located on East Road where you will find the New Building, which houses the Assembly Hall, the Geography, Classics, MFL, Religious Studies departments and the Chaplaincy. Across the road, Old School House is home to the Library, the History, Computer Science, PE, Drama and Economics/Business and Management departments, and the Sixth Form Centre and cafés. The Music block and sports hall are close by.

Our upper site lies between Wyresdale Road and Quernmore Road, and enjoys spectacular views across Morecambe Bay to the Lake District. Our Mathematics, English and Science departments are located here. There is a Technology centre (with three workshops and integrated ICT suite) and the International Building which houses the English department, InspirUS (our primary school masterclass programme) and two Art studios. The main school reception is in City View, which also provides the Food Technology classroom, the Grab & Go café, the staff room and office facilities. The Dining Hall, and most of the boarding accommodation can also be found on our upper site.

The Douthwaite cricket field and cricket pavilion are situated just below the iconic Lancaster landmark, the Ashton Memorial. Our other sports fields for rugby and athletics are a short walk away on Derwent Road.

"The staff at LRGS are excellent and very encouraging. Support from staff in my application to study Medicine has made the process easier, putting me one step closer to achieving my dreams."

Pupil



Leadership

The senior leadership team comprises the Head, Deputy Head (Curriculum), Deputy Head (Pastoral), Head of Boarding & Co-curricular, Head of Sixth Form, Assistant Head (Timetable & Progress) and the Director of Finance and Support Services.



The Staff

We currently have 58 full-time teaching staff and 21 part-time teachers.

The teaching staff are complemented by a team of support staff led by the Director of Finance and Support Staff: office staff, Learning Support staff, technicians, the librarian and grounds staff. Our catering operation is run by Chartwells.

Organisation of the School

We expanded to six forms of entry in 2017, and have approximately eleven tutor groups in both Sixth Form years. It is anticipated that most teachers will have pastoral responsibilities for one of these forms or groups.

We have two boarding houses: Storey House for Year 7 to 10 and School House for older boarders, with senior boys' accommodation in New School House and Sixth Form girls in Ashton House. Each Boarding Housemaster is a member of the teaching staff and is assisted by House Tutors, Matrons and by other catering, medical and cleaning staff. Both residential and non-residential boarding staff enjoy additional benefits specific to their role. Successful applicants may wish to apply for boarding house duties as and when they become available.



"There is a strong, purposeful learning community at Lancaster Royal Grammar School, where pupils and staff support each other equally well." Ofsted

The School Curriculum & Timetable

For our Year 7 to 11 pupils, the school timetable operates using 35 periods per week each of 40 or 45 minutes duration. Break is from 11:20 – 11:40. Lunch is taken from 13.05 to 14.05. Each day is from 08.50 to 15.30 and has seven teaching periods, five of which are before lunch. The timetable operates on a two-week cycle.

Pupils study a broad and stretching curriculum. In Year 7, pupils study two modern languages (French, Spanish or German) in addition to a language and learning course. All Year 8 pupils will need to choose one Modern Foreign Language and Latin or continue with the two Modern Languages that they have studied in Year 7.

In Year 9, all pupils will continue to study Technology. There is also the opportunity to study Ancient Greek but this will be run as an extra-curricular option. Our intention is to offer Ancient Greek as a GCSE option to pupils who opt for the Year 9 extra-curricular Greek course. This would be on the basis of there being sufficient interest to make a viable Year 9 and GCSE class. Additionally, Year 9 pupils study an expressive arts course which includes Art, Photography, Music and Drama.

At GCSE, pupils study 10 subjects. In addition to Maths and English, pupils will choose seven subjects from: Physics, Chemistry, Biology, History, Geography, Latin, Greek, Spanish, German, Art, Music, Religious Studies, French, Physical Education, Theatre Studies, Resistant Materials, Food Technology and Computing. They must choose either three separate sciences or Combined Science, and at least one language.

At A-level, most pupils take 3 subjects, with a small number studying an EPQ or a 4th A-level subject. In the Lower Sixth, time is divided into 4 blocks (13 periods each) and games (4 periods). In the 4 main blocks students choose 3 or 4 A-level subjects from the following: Art, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Classical Civilisation, Computing, Design & Technology, Economics, English Literature, French, Geography, German, Greek, History, Latin, Maths, Further Maths, Music, Photography, Physical Education, Physics, Politics, Religious Studies, Spanish and Theatre Studies. Sixth Formers also benefit from timetabled tutor periods, Values lessons and Games.

On average, full-time staff teach about 58 periods in each two week cycle and spend a further period supervising sixth form private study. The remaining periods are free for planning and assessment. Our GCSE and A-level curriculum offer can be found on our website. Engaging and effective Teaching and Learning are at the heart of our daily practice and pupils are committed to their education. We actively support staff professional and career development. LRGS is active in teacher training with the University of Cumbria and with local Teaching School Alliances. A number of our teachers have undertaken Masters degrees or National Professional Qualifications in Middle and Senior Leadership. Many others work for examination boards or are involved with the Prince's Teaching Institute, local cluster groups or the NNW Maths Hub for which LRGS is a lead school.



Pupil Welfare, Personal Development and Pastoral Care

"Thank you for giving my son a sense of belonging, happiness, and comfort in your house while he was far away from home. Thank you so much for keeping him loved, cared for and encouraged every day, and especially, paying close attention to his emotional issues and for not hesitating to bring them to my attention. You all are awesome housemasters indeed". Parent

Form tutors provide the immediate day-to-day pastoral care for pupils with a form period set aside, each day, from 8.50 am to 9.05 am. The work of a form tutor is supported and co-ordinated by the Head of Year 7 and Transition, the Head of Year 8 and 9, the Head of Middle School (Years 10 and 11) and the Sixth Form Team. Successful applicants will normally be expected to undertake the duties of a form tutor.

Pupils' personal development is aided by the LRGS Values programme, which in Year 7 is based on the excellent Penn Resilience course.

Boarders receive additional care and support from our resident and non-resident boarding staff team, led by Housemasters, Matrons and Medical Centre staff.

Wider sources of pastoral support include our student support and counselling provision, most of which is based in our pastoral centre at Wyresdale House. The Learning Support department also provides very significant support to a number of students, ensuring that every child can reach their potential.



Sport & Extra-curricular Activities

LRGS offers the opportunity for students to compete at a high standard in a range of sports. Rugby, cricket, netball, rowing, athletics, and cross-country running are the major team and individual sports. Football, hockey, tennis, handball, basketball, badminton, orienteering and golf are amongst the other sports we play against other schools.



Values & Charity

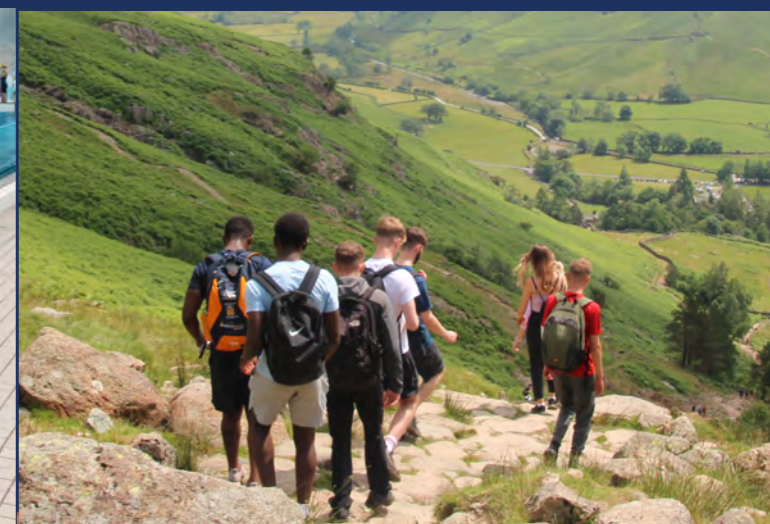


Our core aim at LRGS is to make a positive impact locally and globally by creating the leaders of tomorrow. The school motto is Praesis ut Prosis which means *Lead in order to serve*.

There is a strong culture of pupil leadership in the school. A large number of Sixth Form prefects have significant organisational or pastoral responsibilities. Other formal roles include academic mentors, boarding prefects and Middle School prefects amongst others. Many other students lead clubs, societies, music groups and sports teams.

Our Lenten Charity fundraising efforts are a highlight of the year. Pupils choose local, national and global charities to support each year and devote considerable energy and initiative to fundraising for them in the Lent term (between Christmas and Easter). They have often raised tens of thousands of pounds for good causes.

“Leaders, including Governors, are ambitious for all pupils at the school. They value and foster pupils' talents and abilities. Leaders ensure that all pupils leave the school as well-rounded individuals.” Ofsted



The success of these sports depends to a large extent on the interest and enthusiasm of staff beyond the PE department. Contributions from new staff to the sporting life of the school are always welcome.

Pupils can also take part in a wide range of other outdoor activities run by our dedicated staff. In Year 7, all pupils spend two days on an outdoor activities residential. Year 9 pupils can join the thriving Combined Cadet Force which has Army, Navy and Air Force sections. Other activities include orienteering, canoeing, mountain walking expeditions and rock climbing. A large number of students take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, from Bronze in Year 10 to Gold in the Sixth Form.

For students whose interests are not sporting, the school has active clubs which range from chess to debating to Warhammer! There is a very successful drama group which aims to produce at least two productions each year. The standard of music at the school is high. We have an excellent Big Band as well as a wide range of other ensembles, and a joint orchestra with Lancaster Girls' Grammar School. The school choir is particularly impressive, the highlight of the year being the annual Carol Service in Lancaster Priory.

The school has strong links with partner schools in Europe and runs a number of ambitious international tours and visits. There have been rugby tours to South Africa and Argentina, cricket tours to Barbados and the UAE, music tour to Barcelona, and World Challenge to Costa Rica. Our first girls' sports tour went to London in 2023 and will be joining the Cricket tour to Sri Lanka in 2025.

Friends of LRGS & The Old Lancastrian Club

The parents' association supporting the school is called 'The Friends of LRGS'. The Friends help the school by organising events and social occasions and by fund-raising. Members of staff are encouraged to serve on the Friends' committee.

The Old Lancastrian Club is the school's alumni association. The Club provides regular contact for our leavers and also financial support for school activities.

Child Protection

LRGS is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to show this commitment. The successful applicant will need to undertake an Enhanced Disclosure via Disclosure and Barring Service.

The Lancaster Area

Lancaster is surrounded by areas of outstanding natural beauty and it is only a short drive to the Lune Valley, the Pennines, the Yorkshire Dales and the Lake District. The quality of life is high in this thriving city, which boasts two universities, Lancaster University and the University of Cumbria. Travel connections to the rest of Britain by road (M6) and rail (2½ hours to Euston direct) are first class. There are many delightful residential areas in Lancaster and the surrounding districts.



Further Information

Ofsted Report

Good Schools Guide



www.lrgs.org.uk

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