

LANCASTER ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL
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July 2019

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. I am writing to share with you all the key details that you'll need to know for entry into the Sixth Form and to let you know the arrangements for enrolment day 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.

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 Enrichment

Many 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. [Click here for details](#). Please be aware that there is a significant step up from GCSE to A-level in terms of workload, complexity, commitment to self-directed learning and the need to take a full and active interest both within and beyond lessons. By working through the enrichment tasks, you will begin to develop the effective study habits and independence needed for success.

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!

Art & Photography Competition

A number of students worked with the architects on the design of the refurbished Sixth Form Centre. It is important to us that the students continue to contribute to the legacy of this space. As such, we have launched an Art & Photography competition to all Sixth Form students with the winning works going on permanent display within the Sixth Form Centre. We'd like as many as possible of you to consider

submitting either a piece of art or a photograph responding to one of the following themes: New beginnings; Height; Resilience; Leadership/ Praesis ut Prosis; Legacy. The final submission date for entries will be Friday 6th September.

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 retain receipts for any books purchased. To facilitate accessing the bursary promptly, please return the required documentation to Mrs Haywood. You may opt to do this by post or [email](#) before term starts. Please be reminded that students need to apply for the bursary – it won't be actioned automatically.

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. Please click [here](#) if you might be interested in signing up for LAMDA lessons.

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

We pride ourselves on providing high quality competitive sport, with students competing and excelling at county, regional and national level. Most sporting activities take place on a Wednesday afternoon and fixtures run throughout the academic year. We inspire students to engage in sport, while giving rising stars the chance to compete at both county and national level. Physical Activity and well-being go hand-in-hand. At LRGS we believe everyone should have the opportunity to seek out a sport they enjoy, regardless of their ability. Sport and PE in the Sixth Form at LRGS can be whatever students want it to be - competitive, recreational, or even just for a sociable experience.

The first Games lesson of the term will be on Wednesday 4th September. Please follow this [link](#) to select your Games option.

Pupils will be sent a link to the online shop in August, to purchase their LRGS Senior Games kit. A link will also be published on the induction page in August. From this September, there will be a compulsory requirement for all pupils in the L6th to wear LRGS kit. Should you have any questions or queries regarding Senior Games or Sport in the 6th Form, please email Mr Clarke directly on sclarke@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

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](#).

Morrisby – careers.

Mrs Hope, our independent careers adviser, would like you to be aware of the option to complete the [Morrisby Assessment](#) which is a careers guidance decision making tool. Please be aware that Mrs Hope will be available every Wednesday morning in the seminar room in the Sixth Form Centre and an appointment can be made with her via [Mrs Gibbon](#).

Wisepay

LRGS uses an online payment system “Wisepay” to enable parents to pay for trips, music lessons etc. From 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 [Wisepay Information](#) document.

Admin

For students new to the school, there are three important forms we need you to complete. You’ll find the permission form for us to take an electronic fingerprint ([biometric](#)) – important if you wish to purchase food at school (although the Sixth Form café does accept cash); there is also the [Information for School Records](#) form; and the form to contribute to our [Annual Fund](#) which covers a multitude of activities, in which we hope you will participate.

Results & Enrolment

As you know (and probably don’t need reminding) GCSE results day is Thursday 22nd August. If you are new to the school, please attend our **enrolment morning on Friday 23rd August**. This is a drop-in session in the **Library** from 09:00 - 12:00. Please bring confirmation of your GCSE results with you as well as the completed documents mentioned above. You will also be able to purchase a school tie or pin badge. If you are out of the country or unable to attend, please e-mail [Mrs Carol Haywood](#), our Sixth Form administrator, or telephone her (01524 580600, ext 254) 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 our Year 11 there is no need to attend the enrolment morning. If you wish to change your subject options, please email [Mr Chambers](#). It is very 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 also be discussed by e-mail or phone.

Tuesday 3rd 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 Tuesday 3rd September please report to the school assembly hall. Dress code for the day is informal. Please wear practical, comfortable clothing suitable for the team-building activities which for some groups may take place outside.

08:30-10:25 Arrival of boarders. New boarders should go to Ashton and School Houses and have orientation meetings with Mr Atkinson and Mr Millatt.

10:15 – 11:20 Hall: Registration & Assembly

All Lower Sixth pupils to register in the hall between 10:15 and 10:30. As you sign in, you will find out your form. There will be chance to buy a tie or pin badge on arrival from Mrs Haywood. Extended Assembly from 10:35.

11:20-11:40 Break. The Loft Sixth Form Café will be open or you can bring snacks with you. New students are advised to bring cash for the first day. The Grab & Go and Dining Hall are also available.

11:40-13:00 Icebreaker activities in form rooms. You will spend time in your form groups with your form tutor doing ice-breaker activities and having discussions to unpick what it means to be a Sixth Former at LRGS.

13:00-14:10 Lunch. 6th Form Loft Café open for lunch. New students are advised to bring cash for first day. The Grab & Go and Dining Hall are also available, or you can bring a packed lunch. The downstairs Sixth Form Café will be used for taking biometrics for new students during the lunch hour. Your tutor will give you a time slot over lunch to attend.

14:10-15:20 Team-Building There will be a series of competitive team-building activities completed in form groups.

15:20-15:30 Reflection time.

Induction Evening for parents – Tuesday 3rd September. 17:30-18:30. School Hall.

Please accept this letter as an invitation to parents to come into school between 17:30 and 18:30 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. If you wish to have a tour of the newly refurbished Sixth Form Centre, please arrive for 17:00.

Wednesday 4th September – first day of term for real

Pupils should go straight to form rooms for registration by 08:50.

Please find details here of our [dress code](#).

Forthcoming events – dates for your diaries

Friday 6th September – Getting into Medicine. Lunchtime talk by two former pupils currently studying Medicine at Cambridge.

Thursday 12th September. Big Band performs at Lancaster Brewery. Tickets are now online. It sold out last year so we recommend booking early!

<https://www.lancasterjazz.com/youth-jazz-night1.html>

Wednesday 18th September – Supper Run. The [race](#) is open to students, family members, staff and friends. It starts at 18:30. Tickets cost £6 in advance and £8 on the night. Supper included for all runners.

Thursday 25th of September - L6 Theatre Studies trip to The RSC's *As You Like It* at The Lowry Theatre. <https://www.rsc.org.uk/as-you-like-it/> (Tickets will be available on Wisepay in September)

Tuesday 1st October – Lunchtime talk from KPMG

Friday 3rd October – Elevate, study skills workshop on time management; parents workshop that evening. Details to be confirmed in September.

Thursday 7th November – L6 Theatre Studies trip to *As Light Falls* by Simon Stephens at The Manchester Royal Exchange. This is a whole day in Manchester and will start with a workshop on the play followed by a matinee performance. <https://www.royalexchange.co.uk/whats-on-and-tickets/light-falls> (Tickets will be available on Wisepay in September)

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](#). Please also be aware that we have a team of transition prefects who have set up a Facebook page ([LRGS Sixth Form 2019](#)) as part of their role to help students settle in to the Sixth Form, so if you have any questions that current students can answer, please do use this option.

We wish you all the best for results day and look forward to seeing you on September 3rd.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Haigh

Jamie Reynolds

Jemma Marshall

Head of Sixth Form

Deputy Head of Sixth Form

Deputy Head of Sixth Form