



HARRODIAN

THE SIXTH FORM





A WORD OF WELCOME

Welcome to Harrodian and, in particular, to our dynamic and vibrant Sixth Form. I am delighted that you have expressed an interest in joining us for your A Level studies and this prospectus, together with the accompanying curriculum information, is designed to assist you to make the right decisions about your future at Harrodian, in Higher Education and beyond. Choosing your Sixth Form subjects can be a difficult decision, but you should find within this booklet much that will help you make the very best of your future. It will also give you an understanding of the opportunities, study environment and exciting atmosphere of our Sixth Form.

You should consult widely with your teachers and parents about your interests and choices to ensure, as far as possible, that your combination of subjects will suit you well. The choices you make now could affect your career options in the future. Careers and university entrance advice will be readily available

and our programme of cultural, sporting and enrichment activities will broaden and enhance your final two years at school.

As the most senior members of the pupil community, you will have many opportunities to develop your leadership skills, share ideas, assume responsibilities and make significant contributions to school life. You may wish to become involved in our mentoring and community service programme, take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme or attend some of the many lunchtime clubs, activities and societies. The Sixth Form at Harrodian will enable you to enjoy our famous tradition of independence, whilst developing your individuality in a supportive environment.

These should be the best years of your school life and I hope you will grow in confidence, not be afraid to risk being wrong, be tolerant enough to accept new ideas and to balance your

judgement. Above all, you will be encouraged to immerse yourself in your studies to reach for the highest levels of attainment in your chosen sphere.



J R Hooke
Headmaster



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Candidates will need a minimum of six Grade 6s or above at GCSE and will have Grade 7 at GCSE in the subjects they wish to study at A Level. Students wishing to study Mathematics will require a Grade 8 or 9. Students cannot study Physics without Mathematics. For Biology or English Grade 7 will be required. We will also require a minimum of Grade 6 in both English and Mathematics. Where a subject is new at A Level, students will be required to achieve Grade 7 or Grade 6 in related subjects, reflecting the skills required for success on these courses.

Candidates are encouraged to be adventurous in selecting courses within our flexible curriculum arrangements. Those hoping to enter medical school might consider a course in Psychology, or Historians may study a science to provide a balanced qualifications profile. Scientists may find the addition of an Arts or Humanities subject not only to be of intrinsic interest, but also a means of opening doors in the future.

Individual choices are made subject to timetabling constraints. Help and advice in selecting the most appropriate combination of courses is always available from subject staff, our Further Education Coordinator or Head of Sixth Form.

In addition to specified subject material, all Examination Board syllabuses (usually referred to as “specifications”) include statements indicating the skills that courses aim to develop. Completion of a full Sixth Form course should provide students with qualifications that will demonstrate to universities, employers and others, their ability and potential in academic study and the level of their proficiency in other skills, including communication, IT, literacy and numeracy.

Courses move at a fast pace, placing considerable demands on time and ability. Students will need knowledge and skills

developed through GCSE if they are to benefit from such study. Consequently, there are entry requirements for all courses. Grade 6 at GCSE will not be a suitable starting foundation for many courses and students should assess their own prospects carefully before committing to their chosen subjects.

Each candidate will be considered individually and assessed as a potential Sixth Former on his or her merits. Senior subject staff will then interview selected candidates. Consideration will be given to references (particularly important for external candidates), predicted grades at GCSE, personal motivation and the ability to contribute to the unique environment of Harrodian. An exemplary work ethic is one of the defining characteristics of all A Level students.

SIXTH FORM SUITE

Our Sixth Form Suite comprises approximately 8,500 square foot of teaching and study space. Situated on the top floor of the Senior building, our students benefit from natural light and a quiet, peaceful working environment. The calm, professional and purposeful atmosphere, conducive to study, is immediately apparent on entering the Suite.

A purpose-built, glass-walled study room, containing seating for forty students is fitted with the latest Macs, powerful filtered wifi, a large screened TV, air conditioning and an unparalleled collection of rare books. The study room is central to the Sixth Form Suite and also provides an area of comfortable seating. Lessons take place in the eight light and airy classrooms all equipped with state-of-the-art technology and offering wonderful views over the school grounds.

The Sixth Form management team is centrally located in an office containing a meeting space ideally suited for discussions of academic progress, Higher Education or personal matters.





BROADENING HORIZONS

Life in the Sixth Form is about more than just studying for your chosen A Levels. Harrodian's enrichment programme means that there are many opportunities to become involved in a wide variety of established activities and plenty of encouragement for those with new ideas and initiatives.

SPORT

The Sixth Form has a sports afternoon each Wednesday and there are a wide range of activities running throughout the year including football, netball, hockey, basketball, rugby, tennis, rowing, rounders, swimming, cricket and athletics.

Harrodian is renowned for its sporting prowess and success; surrounded by 25 acres of playing fields, as well as two all-weather pitches, netball, basketball and tennis courts. Our top teams have achieved success at high levels and the School prides itself on the availability of competitive fixtures for all.

Planning permission has recently been granted for a new indoor Sports Centre. There is also a full programme of off-site activities including gym training, weight training, swimming, spinning, aerobics/body pump and pilates. The PE department will do its best to organise any additional and popular activities as requested by our students.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

The aim of the Duke of Edinburgh Award is to encourage independence in young people outside the classroom. It is an excellent means of developing self-reliance and leadership qualities, as well as introducing students to new and varied activities within their local community.

This award is offered to all Sixth Form students as an extra-curricular activity. Previous experience at Bronze level is very useful but not essential to beginning the Silver Award. Our aim is for the highly motivated Harrodian to have completed a Gold expedition before leaving for university.

THE THOMSON SOCIETY

The Thomson Society serves to honour the memory of our late Principal, Mr Peter Thomson, by preserving his passion for extending student learning beyond the curriculum. Regular talks on a wide variety of topics given by members of staff and external speakers give students a regular opportunity to be challenged, entertained and enlightened. Topics have included epigenetics, fascism, utopia and dystopia, AI, ISIS, currency, the atom bomb, flags, female composers, capitalism, tarot, metaphors, Africa, food production, understanding China, Myra Hindley, the nude in art, earthquakes, prisoners of war, the saxophone, Liverpool, Dracula, statistics, Bach, and much, much more.

ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE

PERFORMING ARTS

Harrodian has a vibrant Performing Arts department. Students do not need to study Music or Drama as A Level subjects to participate in this exciting part of school life. On average, there are 10 drama performances each year across the different age groups. Larger scale musical productions requiring the collaboration of our Drama, Dance and Music departments take place every two years – *School of Rock* was our first, followed by *The Addams Family*, *Legally Blonde* and *Grease*. For musicians, there are choirs and ensembles to join and the annual Battle of the Bands in which to compete. For budding film makers, there is the opportunity to create a short film for the Harrodian Film Festival. Dance is also a regular fixture in the Performing Arts programme.

OTHER CLUBS & SOCIETIES

Harrodian has an active Model United Nations Club. Debating also has a significant part to play in the Sixth Form and teams have competed successfully in regional and national competitions. 'UP' club provides useful and helpful preparation

for those wishing to apply to the world's leading universities and in addition there are a number of student-led clubs, such as the very successful Student Society.

TRIPS, VISITS, AND CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

Cultural activities include regular visits to galleries, museums, concerts, theatres and restaurants, in addition to overseas trips to China, Iceland, USA, Italy, France and further afield, to supplement A Level course content. The Sixth Form Ball is a popular and eagerly awaited annual celebration of success for the Upper Sixth and the Sixth Form ski trip is a regular and exciting fixture on the calendar.

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

All Sixth Form students have the opportunity to undertake an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). This is a voluntary course that students start in the Lower Sixth and complete by the October of their Upper Sixth year. It is an

opportunity to research a topic that interests them outside of the curriculum and provides a great introduction to university style learning. Students are guided in how to research, plan and structure their project, but the bulk of the work is done independently. The final report may be in the form of an essay, report, performance, product or artefact.

Recent projects have included an original novella based on mental health; the design and programming of an online scientific calculator for A Level Mathematics students; an investigation into the future of Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies; a report on potential cures and treatments for blindness; the design and construction of a 3D printable drone and an essay on the feasibility of nihilism.

The qualification is worth the equivalent of half an A Level, but is also highly regarded by universities as a mark of hard work, independence and a love of learning. It has become increasingly popular amongst students keen to stretch themselves and recent results have been excellent.





ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY

SENIOR PREFECTS

Our Senior Prefects are selected from the Upper Sixth and have important roles in the daily organisation of Harrodian. They also act as ambassadors at major events and run committees that address fundraising, sports, performing arts, the environment and the four School Houses.

Prefects are immensely proud of their role and value the trust placed in them by the School. They typify the best characteristics of the Harrodian student: confidence, cheerfulness and a deep sense of care and compassion for those under their charge. They are all excellent role models who engage and run many of our school events and charity activities.

MENTORING

In their last term in the 15s (Year 11) students are selected to be mentors and assist with building a caring community that supports each other and provides positive role models for younger children in the Prep and Senior Schools. This peer to peer support tackles individual concerns of an academic, social, family and/or personal nature. During their time in the Sixth Form, our student mentors provide an important cornerstone to the delivery of pastoral care across the School through; weekly one-to-one sessions that nurture individual well-being, induction of the new 11s (Year 7) and acting as a Reading Buddy to pupils in the Prep School or an Academic Buddy to pupils in the Senior School. There is a considerable opportunity for self-development as a mentor and several will progress to become Head Mentors who manage the programme and take responsibility for leading and training their teams of new mentors.

OUTREACH AND PARTNERSHIPS

Harrodian has a strong community spirit, both internally through its mentoring and buddies schemes, and externally through its outreach to the wider community. Sixth Formers play a vital role in representing and supporting charities, taking the initiative to raise funds at events organised by the School and the Friends of Harrodian committee, as well as through activities they plan themselves such as the Swimathon or the Sixth Form Charity Dinner.

Partnerships with local organisations are equally important, with recent initiatives including STEM and debating workshops delivered by Sixth Formers at Lowther Primary School. In these ways, our students extend Harrodian's ethos of care and support well beyond the school gates, developing leadership and communication skills while making a meaningful difference to others.

BRIGHT FUTURES

CAREERS & UNIVERSITY ADVICE

During their time in the Harrodian Sixth Form students will be given intensive help in finding the right Academic or Creative Pathway for them. We will also support students should they decide to progress directly to the world of work.

In order to help students research their applications in a sensible fashion and timescale, and to enable us to provide appropriate advice and support, we adhere to the following programme:

LOWER SIXTH

Summer Term

Further Education information is given to all students and individual meetings are held with Form Tutors to discuss university options. Where appropriate, US university and Oxbridge preparation is started.

Internal Lower Sixth examinations and the results will then be used for University Grade Predictions.

All students are introduced to the UCAS application process and, following the internal examinations, will have initial help with university applications and are encouraged to attend university open days.

Students begin drafting their Personal Statements after an individual interview with their UCAS mentor.

UPPER SIXTH

Autumn Term

During the early part of this important term, all Personal Statements are completed and submitted to UCAS.

Entrance examinations for Oxbridge take place (HAT, PAT, UCAT etc.) and all references will be completed by teaching staff and the Further Education Coordinator.

Students applying to Art colleges continue with their applications until March and the US Common Application deadline is the last day of the school term.

Spring Term

A Level mock examinations are held early in this term and help in evaluating offers is ongoing. Students will notify UCAS of their first and 'insurance' choices.

Those applying for student loans complete their Student Finance application forms and will make their applications for accommodation at their chosen institutions.

Summer Term

A Level examinations take place. Examination results are published in August. For any individual who has not met the required grades, in-school support is given and the 'Clearing' process begins. Post A Level applications will commence in September.





DAILY LIFE

SCHOOL DAY

From the start of the school year, all members of the Sixth Form are expected to attend school throughout the working day (8.30am – 4.55pm) and many will stay on to take part in extra-curricular activities or continue with their studies. Students who work hard and apply themselves diligently may receive the privilege of being allowed to sign out early from midday if they are not required to be in a class. Study periods are spent in the Sixth Form Study Room, Library or elsewhere in another approved activity. Coffee breaks can be enjoyed in the Café and lunch is taken in the Dining Room where students and staff eat together. Food is diverse and good quality fresh ingredients are cooked on the premises.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Harrodian sets a premium on improving transferable skills to prepare students well for a successful future career. Two skills increasingly in demand are the ability to lead and work effectively in dynamic teams. In the Sixth Form there are opportunities to increase understanding of leadership by becoming a Prefect or Mentor. Prefects are awarded key positions of responsibility across the School including the management of groups involved in sport, charities, the environment, performing arts, media and general duties. All these activities are vital to the daily management of the School and uphold the traditions that help to maintain the Harrodian's distinctive atmosphere.

DRESS CODE

Harrodian has deliberately allowed flexibility with a set of guidelines. Members of the Sixth Form are encouraged to express individuality within the confines of sensible judgement and good taste. The School reserves the right to determine the acceptability of a student's attire. More formal occasions will, of course, demand more formal dress.

WORKING IN UNISON

THE SIXTH FORM & THE SCHOOL

When students become a part of the Sixth Form, they become senior members of the larger school and this offers them opportunities, privileges and responsibilities. Students have the chance to actively participate and set an example in other aspects of school life including sport, music, drama, debating, work experience etc. This will give them the opportunity to gain valuable insight into efficiency, reliability and cooperation. There is also a vibrant and effective peer mentoring programme which provides support and assistance to the Pre-Prep and Prep Schools. All of this experience builds a student as a person, becomes a valuable part of their broader education and helps them stand out to universities and future employers.

As Harrodian is not a 16+ college, many of the school guidelines for pupils in the Prep and Senior Schools still apply to the Sixth Form students. We expect them to dress smartly and encourage them to read the information regarding the Sixth Form dress code carefully. Students are also expected to attend and be punctual to all their lessons and to meet deadlines for handing in work. Success will depend on how soon students start serious work and how much they put into their studies and other activities around the School during their two years in the Sixth Form. If students work hard, they will find the academic education and other aspects of Harrodian life both worthwhile and enjoyable.

HARRODIAN ALUMNI

Many students continue to embrace our Harrodian community for years after leaving the School. In their final term of the Upper Sixth, leavers are invited to stay connected by leaving us their details and joining our alumni mailing database. There is a dedicated alumni section of the School website, where former pupils can submit their personal details if they did not have the chance to do so before leaving, and where they can access information about reunions, events, and community news. Alumni are warmly welcomed back to contribute to school life, whether by supporting our careers fairs, offering advice on university pathways, or sharing their expertise with current Sixth Formers. Regular reunion events are eagerly anticipated and well attended, and lifelong friendships forged at Harrodian continue to flourish long after pupils move on.





JOINING US

HOW TO APPLY

A Sixth Form Open Evening is held at the start of each Autumn Term.

Enquiries and applications should be directed to the Admissions Office in the early part of the Autumn Term preceding the desired year of entry. Entrance assessments and interviews will take place in the latter part of the Autumn Term.

If you have any questions, please contact the Admissions Office or refer to our website, *www.harrodian.com*.

For all enquiries please email: admissions@harrodian.com or telephone Admissions on: 020 8762 6321.



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