



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 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 career 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*

J R Hooke  
Headmaster



# ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Candidates will need a minimum of six Level 6s (Grade B) or above at GCSE and will preferably have Level 7 (Grade A\* or A) at GCSE in the subjects they wish to study at A Level. Students wishing to study Mathematics will require a Level 8 or 9 (A\*/ high A). For Biology or English A Level 7 (Grade A) will be required. We will also require a minimum of Level 5 (Grade C) in both English and Mathematics. Where a subject is new at A Level, students will be required to achieve Level 7 (A\*, A) or Level 6 (Grade B) 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 University Advisor 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 B 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

We are immensely proud of our Sixth Form Suite which 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.

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 his or her 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: The Value of Metaphor, The Morality of the Crusades and The Media's Treatment of Myra Hindley.

# 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. There are several drama productions each year - one or two of which will be taken to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. 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. There is also an opportunity to take part in Joutes Oratoires, a French debating competition. Aspirational Universities 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 Student Lecture Society.

## TRIPS, VISITS, AND CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

Cultural activities include regular visits to galleries, museums, concerts, theatres and restaurants, in addition to overseas trips to the USA, Greece, 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; a report on the decline of bees; a play written, produced and directed by a student; an investigation into a theoretical treatment for diabetes; an essay on Lenin's interpretation of Marxism; and a report on the financial crisis of 2008.

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 Harroddian. 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 Harroddian student: confidence, cheerfulness and a deep sense of care and compassion for those under their charge. They are all excellent role models and many mentor children in our Pre-Prep and Prep Schools. They are true examples of their own motto 'Aspire to Inspire'.

## 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. These students over their time in the Sixth Form 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 those in the Prep 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.

## VOLUNTEERING & FUNDRAISING

The School is very much part of the surrounding community and is actively involved in supporting local charities and neighbourhood associations as well as external visits. Sixth Formers have the opportunity to make an important contribution to this outreach programme and ensure its continuing success. Students can gain valuable experience working with local primary schools to provide assistance in lessons and for special events such as plays and assemblies. They also work with the senior citizens at local community centres for the elderly. The defining aspect of our volunteer programme is the variety of opportunities available for Sixth Formers. Their feedback reassures us of the challenge, reward and enrichment our programme offers.

# BRIGHT FUTURES

## CAREERS & UNIVERSITY ADVICE

During their time in the Harrodian Sixth Form students will be given intensive help in finding the right Higher Education course 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

#### **Autumn and Spring Terms**

Higher 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.

#### **Summer Term**

Internal Lower Sixth examinations and the results are used for University Grade Predictions.

Students considering applications to US universities will sit initial SAT examinations and those applying to Oxbridge will spend time with the University Advisor.

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 Oxbridge, Medical and Veterinary course applications are submitted. Applications to other universities are submitted shortly afterwards.

Entrance examinations for Oxbridge take place (HAT, PAT, BMAT, UKCAT etc.) and all confidential references will be completed by teaching staff and the University Advisor.

In November and December, final SAT examinations take place and students are offered practice interviews with internal and external interviewers.

Students applying to Art colleges complete their applications 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. Students will decide on their first and second choice of university as offers are received; help in evaluating offers is on-going. Students will then notify UCAS and Private Colleges 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, 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 (8.35am – 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 PREFECT COMMITTEE

As already mentioned, 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 Subject Leader. Prefects are awarded key positions of responsibility across the School including the management of groups involved in sport, charities, the environment, performing arts and general duties. Other options include taking on the responsibility of being one of the four House Captains or a Senior Mentor for junior pupils. Subject Leaders assist their respective department in organising and staging major events to raise awareness around the School. 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

When the time comes for students to leave the School, they will be asked to join our online Harrodian Alumni Community (<https://community.harrodian.com/homepage>). This is a lifelong connection to Harrodian. We are in contact with many former students and hope every leaver will be an active member of the Community. Students will see the valuable role former Harrodians play in their own lives through continued friendships. Regular reunion events are eagerly anticipated and well attended.





# 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](mailto:admissions@harrodian.com) or telephone Admissions on: 020 8762 6321.



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