



# LOUGHBOROUGH

## Grammar School

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## **1. Introduction**

Loughborough Grammar School (LGS) is an independent day and boarding school for boys aged between 10 and 18 (National Curriculum Years 6 to 13). The School belongs, along with Fairfield Prep School, Loughborough High School and Loughborough Amherst School, to Loughborough Schools Foundation, a family of schools situated on a single campus in Loughborough. The school is a member of HMC.

Our mission is to cultivate an environment that nurtures fulfilled and 'world ready' young men, equipping them to lead fulfilling lives beyond our barrier. We recognise the importance of academic achievement and aim for excellence in all that we and the boys do to promote lifelong learning. Our goal is for all LGS boys to become independent, meta-thinkers, problem solvers, and responsible learners. To this end, the school endeavours to provide each boy with the appropriate support and challenges necessary to realise his academic potential.

We take pride in our pastoral House support system, ensuring consistency and continuity of care throughout a boy's journey at the school, fostering a strong sense of belonging for all. The development of excellent relationships is a key aim of the school, so that all boys are individually championed.

We believe that an excellent education encompasses more than just academic achievement; therefore, we encourage all boys to have fun and strive for excellence in any area of school life where they demonstrate talent, aptitude or interest. Boys are encouraged and supported to become active citizens in their world and go on to contribute positively to society.

The main points of entry to the school are at 10+ (for entry into Year 6), 11+ (for entry into Year 7), 13+ (for entry into year 9) and 16+ (for entry into Year 12). However, assessments for entry are also set at 12+ (for entry into Year 8) and 14+ (for entry into Year 10) where space permits.

Admission to the school is based on a prospective student's ability to meet and, if possible, enhance the education and general standards for all pupils, in line with the school's ethos.

The school is open to applications from boys, irrespective of race, nationality, colour, ethnic or national origin, religion or creed, disability or previous educational background. In particular, the school is fully aware of its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010. The school also make every effort to encourage as wide a range of applications as possible, through Open Mornings, School Tours, Taster Days, Masterclasses and meetings for potential candidates, through advertising, and through contact with local schools.

### **Pupils with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND)**

The school does not discriminate in any way regarding entry. The school welcomes pupils with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND), provided it can meet their educational requirements. We also welcome pupils with disabilities, contingent upon the site's ability to safely accommodate them. Parents are required to disclose any special educational needs their child may have, along with the relevant requirements and a copy of the diagnostic report/s, at the time of application and prior to the entrance assessments. This allows the school to consider and implement any necessary reasonable adjustments. The school will engage in detailed discussions with parents and the relevant professionals to determine the reasonable adjustments that can be made for the pupil upon their admission. The Foundation's SEND policy is available on the Loughborough School Foundation website.

## **2. The Procedure for Candidates from 10+ to 14+**

### **a) Registration**

Every candidate must be registered prior to the date laid down each year by the school. There is a fee that is paid at the point of registration and this is non-refundable.

Formal Entrance Assessments are usually in January however, the school does recruit throughout the year and can take out-of-year applications subject to capacity.

Admission to the school is dependent upon two factors: firstly, a prospective pupil must meet, through his results in the entrance assessments, the academic criteria required to meet the educational standards of the school; secondly, the school must be satisfied that a boy's attitude to academic study, behaviour, co-curricular opportunities and school community are commensurate with the ethos of the school. This will be assessed through a full set of references provided by the existing school, his prior disciplinary record, his attitude during the assessment process and an interview with the Headmaster or delegate thereof.

At application stage, parents who propose to remove their son before the anticipated leaving date from another independent school must have informed that school that they are considering moving their son. All financial obligations to their current school must be settled before a transfer can take place.

A candidate will not be penalised if their current school fails to provide references.

### **b) Entrance Assessments and Interviews for Candidates from 10+ to 14+**

Entry assessments for the Senior School are held annually from January, though we accept applications year-round, subject to availability in the relevant year group. The Admissions Registrar can provide confirmation regarding space.

The entrance assessment includes three papers: English comprehension, English writing, and Mathematics. These assessments are based on the National Curriculum relevant to the student's educational stage, so no additional preparation should be necessary.\*

The entrance interview assesses academic potential and personal qualities. The interview is an informal conversation with the prospective pupil to look for evidence. The entrance interview evaluates both academic potential and personal qualities. This informal conversation with the prospective student seeks to identify traits such as self-motivation, engagement in co-curricular activities, social responsibility, and academic aptitude. Interviews may be conducted with the Headmaster, Deputy Heads, or other Senior Teachers.

\*Reasonable adjustments are provided for candidates with Special Educational Needs (SEN) in line with the Loughborough Schools Foundation's SEN Policy. This may include granting additional time during assessments providing there is an appropriate diagnostic report, and any relevant reports are carefully considered in the final selection process for school entry.

Offers for entry are sent within two weeks of the entrance assessment.

For overseas applicants, entry is by assessment in Mathematics and English, as well as a Microsoft Teams or Skype interview.

**c) Admission from Fairfield Prep School and Amherst Preparatory School**

All pupils who join Loughborough Fairfield and Loughborough Amherst schools before Year 4 are guaranteed a place at one of the Foundation Senior Schools. By the end of Year 5, formal offers of a Year 7 place at either Loughborough Grammar School or Loughborough High School and/or Loughborough Amherst School. will be made to these pupils on the basis of tracking and monitoring of performance in their current educational setting. Pupils joining after the start of Year 4 will need to sit the 11+ Entrance Assessments.

**d) Additional Information**

Information about each candidate is requested from the candidate's existing school and this information forms an important part of the decision-making process. In addition, the school may also make direct contact with a candidate's existing school to ensure that selection is made on the best possible evidence.

**e) Selection**

The final selection of candidates takes into account not only the assessment performance, but also all the other available data outlined above.

The final decision is made by the Headmaster and the Deputy Heads after consultation with the relevant member of the school's Leadership Team (e.g. Housemaster, Academic Co-Ordinator and Head of Department).

We do not publish details of results and, in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 (Schedule 2, Part 4 (25)) we are not required to provide assessment scripts to parents.

**f) Acceptance**

The parents of successful candidates are sent a copy of the Terms and Conditions for Loughborough Schools Foundation and the Parents' Handbook. To secure the offered place, all parents with parental responsibility are required to sign the Acceptance Form (unless there is a court order) and pay a non-refundable deposit to complete the admission's process.

**g) Appeals**

Parents of candidates not accepted have the right to appeal against the decision within two weeks of the publication of the results. That appeal will be heard by two Governors and their decision is final.

**3. Entry into the Sixth Form**

**a) Procedure**

Candidates for entry to the Sixth Form will be invited for interview and a reference request made to the pupil's current school. Following a successful interview, a provisional offer will be made which is conditional on GCSE grades.

**b) Acceptance**

The parents of successful candidates are sent a copy of the Terms and Conditions for Loughborough Schools Foundation and the Parents' Handbook and are required to sign the Acceptance Form and pay a deposit to complete the admission process. The acceptance deposit will be refunded if the school does not confirm a conditional offer. All parents with

parental responsibility are required to sign the Acceptance Form, unless there is a Court Order.

#### **4. Scholarships, School Assisted Places and Foundation Bursaries**

We offer a number of academic scholarships which offer considerable academic prestige. Those who earn the title will take on the Scholar's Journey, a program of extension activities allowing likeminded individuals to excel together to develop and showcase their talents for the benefit of the whole community. Scholarships are based entirely on academic merit and are dependent on assessment performance so there is no need to make a separate application to be considered for these awards.

There are also a number of Music Scholarships; boys wishing to be considered for a music scholarship must submit their music scholarship application form by the start of the Spring Term. This is in addition to the application to sit the academic entrance assessment.

Art Scholarships will be awarded to artists who show exceptional promise, commitment and endeavour to one or more areas of creative expertise, including traditional and/or digital media. The receipt of the scholarship will confirm our commitment to the individual's creative journey as they embark upon an enriched experience of creative opportunities during their time at Loughborough Grammar School. For Years 7, 9 and 10, applications can be made in the Autumn term following entry to the Grammar School

Sports Scholarships have two application points: Year 9 (13+) and Year 12 (16+). Recipients of the 13+ Scholarship would need to re-apply for the 16+ Scholarship in Year 12. The Sports Scholarship comes with a fee remission of up to 20%. The exact amount will be at the discretion of the Head of the relevant School in consultation with the Director of Sport, based on the individual's sporting ability and potential in the School's major team sports. To be considered, applicants should be at least near selection for age-relevant representative and development pathways at county or regional level. More information is available through the Loughborough Schools Foundation Website.

The School can also make limited funds available, according to financial need, to enable pupils through the Schools Assisted Places Scheme. These awards are made on academic merit and will involve a meeting with a member of the Bursary staff.

Foundation Bursaries are available to pupils currently in the school where family circumstances change unexpectedly. Both the schools Assisted Places Scheme and Foundation Bursaries Scheme are administered by the Bursary.

#### **5. English as an Additional Language**

Prospective pupils who do not have English as their first language may apply for a place at the school as outlined above. Entrance assessments will be in Maths and English followed by interview by the Head of EAL.

The results of these English language tests are considered alongside the normal entrance tests appropriate for the age level of entry in order to determine whether the pupil will be able to cope with studying in a second language at LGS. Whilst every applicant is treated as an individual, we generally look for a minimum of A2 on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) for Years 7 & 8 entry; B1 for Year 9 entry; B2 for Y10

entry; and C1 for Lower Sixth (or a high B2 if the pupil is planning to study Maths and Science and scores well on these subject papers).

EAL pupils at Loughborough Grammar School receive specialist help to access the mainstream curriculum. Day boys are billed for this service at the end of term, while it is included in the fees for boarding pupils.

Pupils may also be prepared for assessments like the Cambridge English Language assessments and IELTS. Cambridge assessments are included in the EAL fee and taken at the regional test Centre. The IELTS assessment fee is not added to the end-of-term bill, or parents can arrange for their son to take it at a convenient time outside school hours. All cost associated with the IELTS are dealt with by the parent/guardian and pupil.

During new students' early EAL lessons, further assessments, both overt and discreet, takes place. Subject teachers, tutors and Housemasters also monitor these students both in House and in the mainstream classroom. The Head of EAL may also carry out "shadowing" of new EAL pupils in order to better ascertain their English language needs in the mainstream classroom. Evidence of need for language support will lead to the student receiving group and/or individual EAL lessons.

More information can be found in the EAL Policy which is published on the school's website.

## **6. International Applications**

Admission to the school is dependent upon the pupil having the right to study in the UK. This will usually be verified by receipt of a passport and birth certificate.

International pupils may have the right to study as dependents of others with a right of residence in the UK.

Loughborough Grammar School is a highly trusted sponsor of Child Visas for international pupils and, subject to meeting the qualifying conditions, can apply for a CAS for successful applicants, in collaboration with the school's immigration advisers.

A log of passport and visa details and expiry dates will be maintained by the Admissions Team on a central database, in order that renewals and absences can be tracked and so that strict compliance with UKVI requirements is sustained.

## **7. Inter-school Admissions**

Where pupils move between schools within the Loughborough School Foundation into parallel year groups (rather than through the Year 7 entry point as detailed above), the following considerations guide the decision to offer a place to a pupil without needing to undertake a formal admissions application:

- The academic ability and fit of the pupil into a joining school based on academic data, tracking and performance.
- Broader pastoral and other contextual needs about the suitability of joining a school.
- The Head's discretion.

For any pupil not offered a place under the above protocol, they are able to apply through the external admissions route, as open to all candidates currently not being educated within LSF.

For both inter and external routes, pupils may only apply to join a school once every academic year.

For those joining a school (whether internally within LSF or from externally), curriculum matching will not always be possible, but we will always make best endeavours to provide an appropriate curriculum package for students.