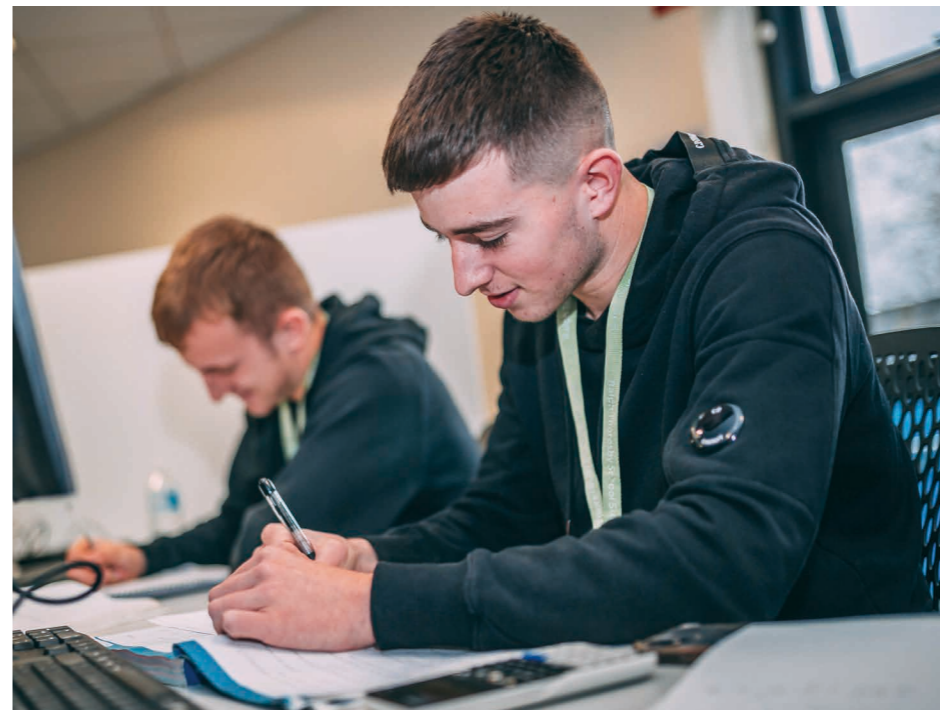




# LAWNSWOOD SCHOOL AND RALPH THORESBY SCHOOL SIXTH FORM PARTNERSHIP

PROSPECTUS





The formal sixth-form link with a neighbouring school has proved to be successful. In 2017, A-level students made significantly better progress than the national figure. Indeed, the performance was ranked in the top 20% of schools nationally.

Ofsted, May 2018

## A WARM WELCOME

Welcome to Lawnswood School and Ralph Thoresby School Sixth Form Partnership. We are delighted that you are considering joining us for the next stage of your education and hope this prospectus will help you make a decision about what to study and how we can support you.

Our partnership is well established with both sixth form leadership teams working collaboratively to ensure the individual needs of students are met. Together we offer a broad, balanced and engaging curriculum which takes the best elements from both schools, to create a unique post 16 experience, with a proven record of success.

We are very proud of our Sixth Form which offers students the opportunity to study a range of A levels and vocational equivalents in a dynamic and supportive environment. We have an outstanding success rate with 100% of applicants gaining a place at university after studying with us. Over 20% of our students go on to study at prestigious Russell Group universities. Our results are consistently strong with high proportions of students reaching the top grades (and positive

value added performance across both centres). Both schools have also recently been graded 'Good' by Ofsted.

Alongside our websites and open evening, this prospectus will give you a flavour of studying within the Sixth Form Partnership and the options available. We are committed to offering a combination of academic challenge and support which will enable you to successfully progress into higher education, employment or further training. Our specialist information, advice and guidance is tailored to suit the needs of each individual and our dedicated team of tutors and mentors work with you to ensure your success.

Our academic record reflects high quality teaching in the Sixth Form. Pastoral care is strong across the partnership and effectively supports both academic and personal success. In addition, our broad enrichment programme will ensure you are fully equipped for the next stage of your career. Students relish the opportunity to meet new people and broaden their horizons, while still retaining the support they have grown accustomed to in their 'home' school.

Should you wish to visit the Sixth Form Partnership, please see the information at the back of this prospectus. It will be a pleasure to show you around and answer any questions you may have. Finally, we would like to take the opportunity to wish students all the best in your forthcoming examinations.



**Mrs Jo Bell**  
Headteacher,  
Lawnswood



**Mr Will Carr**  
Headteacher,  
Ralph Thoresby

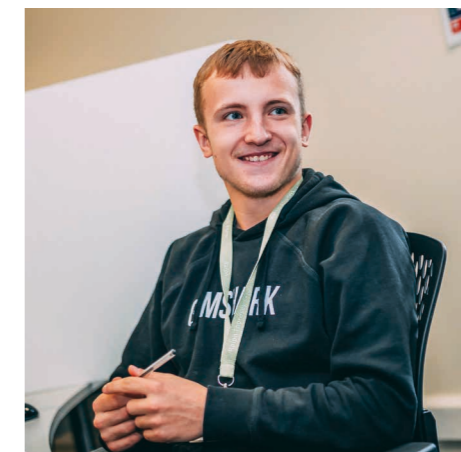
## WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

Working in partnership allows us to offer an impressive selection of tailored study programmes, meaning that every student can pursue their interests and prepare themselves for the future.

Across both sites, highly specialised and experienced teaching will provide access to lessons, that are designed to support outstanding progress within lessons and across the two academic years. Teachers will stretch every student and provide challenge. Our regular feedback helps students overcome their misconceptions and ensures they meet and exceed the high targets we, as a partnership, set our students.

Each student develops an extended professional network across a joint sixth form of more than 300 learners. A collaborative approach to learning is enhanced by a wide variety of enrichment opportunities including our 'Get Set for Sixth Form' visit to London and study trips including New York City, Brussels and Paris. Students will be given the chance to take on leadership roles to shape our Sixth Form Partnership and will be supported in pursuing extra-curricular opportunities on either site.

Working in partnership allows us to offer a unique multi-campus experience, providing students the chance to access state of the art facilities across the two sites.



# COURSES AND REQUIREMENTS

Ensuring study programmes provide appropriate challenge and prepares you for the next steps in your career is our first priority in inducting every student. A professional discussion during Year 11 will ensure that students receive guidance that is individualised to their needs.

Note: Entry requirements are subject to change. Current entry requirements can be found at [www.startinleeds.com](http://www.startinleeds.com)

Qualification	Subject	Entry Requirements
A-Level	Art	4+ GCSE Art
A-Level	Art Textiles	4+ GCSE Textiles and/or 4+ GCSE Art
A-Level	Biology	At least a 6-6 in GCSE Combined Science or a 6 in GCSE Biology with at least one other GCSE Science at grade 6+ and a 5+ in GCSE Maths
A-Level	Economics	5+ GCSE English and 6+ GCSE Maths
A-Level	Chemistry	At least a 6-6 in GCSE Combined Science or a 6 in GCSE Chemistry with at least one other GCSE Science at grade 6+ and a 5+ in GCSE Maths
A-Level	Computer Science	5+ GCSE Maths and 5+ GCSE Computer Science
A-Level	Drama & Theatre Studies	5+ GCSE Drama or successful audition piece
A-Level	D&T-Product Design	4+ GCSE Product Design
A-Level	English Language	5+ GCSE English Language
A-Level	English Literature	5+ GCSE English Language and 5+ English Literature
A-Level	French	5+ GCSE French and 5+ GCSE English Language
A-Level	Further Maths	7+ GCSE Maths
A-Level	Geography	5+ GCSE English Language
A-Level	History	5+ GCSE English Language
A-Level	Home Languages	8+ GCSE Home Language
A-Level	Law	6+ in English Language
A-Level	Maths	7+ GCSE Maths
A-Level	Photography	5+ GCSE English Language
A-Level	Physics	At least a 6-6 in GCSE Combined Science or a 6 in GCSE Physics with at least one other GCSE Science at grade 6+ and a 6+ in GCSE Maths
A-Level	Politics	5+ GCSE English Language
A-Level	Psychology	5+ GCSE English and 6+ GCSE Maths and Science
A-Level	Religious Studies	5+ GCSE English Language
A-Level	Sociology	5+ GCSE English Language
A-Level	Spanish	5+ GCSE Spanish and 5+ GCSE English Language
L3 RSL	Music Practitioners	5+ GCSE Music
L3 AQA Extended Certificate	Applied Science	5+ GCSE English Language and 4+ in Maths and at least 2 grade 4s in GCSE Science
L3 AQA Certificate	Core Maths	4+ in GCSE Maths
L3 BTEC / CTEC	Business	4+ GCSE English Language and/or Maths and a Level 2 qualification in a related subject.
L3 OCR (Cambridge Technical Award)	Digital Media	4+ GCSE English Language
L3 CTEC (Cambridge Technical Award)	Health & Social Care, double or single award	4+ GCSE English Language and/or Maths and a 4+ in Science with a Level 2 qualification in a related subject. (Science or Health and Social Care).
L3 CTEC (Cambridge Technical Award)	IT, double award	5+ GCSE English Language and/or Maths and a Level 2 qualification in a related subject.
L3 CTEC (Cambridge Technical Award)	Performing Arts	4+ English Language and 4+ from within one of the performing arts disciplines (Dance, Drama or Music).
L3 CTEC (Cambridge Technical Award)	Sport (Extended Certificate), double or single award	4+ GCSE English Language and/or Maths and a Level 2 qualification in a related subject.
L3 WJEC (Vocational)	Criminology	4+ GCSE English Language



Sixth-form courses build on and complement students' key stage 4 studies. This helps sixth form students to progress on to higher education, apprenticeships and employment.

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## GENERAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

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Typically, we ask that students achieve a minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above. Students who have not achieved a minimum of Grade 4 in English and maths will undertake guided learning to achieve these essential qualifications. Students must have normally achieved at least a grade 4 in English or maths in order to study in the sixth form.

Students will undertake a study programme with a minimum of 540 hours of guided learning each year.

Regular assessments will be taken ahead of formal A-Level examinations and where appropriate, students will receive additional support if assessment results show they have fallen below their trajectory to achieve the aspirational targets we set.

Level 3 vocational qualifications (Most commonly CTECs and BTECs) are equivalent in value to A-Level qualifications but have a greater focus on regular completion of portfolio work. The majority of university courses and employers welcome a broad programme of study.





The school provides pupils with a wide range of opportunities to develop their talents and interests.

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## EFFECTIVE STUDENT SUPPORT

Being part of the highly successful Partnership gives our students access to a network of experts who will work tirelessly to ensure that students successfully graduate to the next stage of their career. Our Sixth Form leadership team includes a range of highly trained and experienced staff who collaborate to ensure our students achieve their aspirations.

**Academic leaders** work with our students to help them capitalise on their skills. They will guide students in their subject and university/employment choices and are also on hand to provide support to parents/carers.

**Heads of Year and Progress Managers** build a strong bond with students to help them to make exceptional academic, professional and personal progress.

**Tutors/Mentors** are members of the extended Sixth Form team and are committed to helping students in developing professional attributes like time management, independent study, file organisation and research.

All members of the Partnership community will have access to independent careers advice from **Independent Careers Advisors**.

### Academic support

**Subject teachers** are committed to giving the students the potential to meet and exceed their academic targets. Meticulously planned lessons and incisive formative feedback will support students to become exceptional learners of each of their subjects.

### Support for applying to Oxford, Cambridge, Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science

We have a strong reputation for supporting students in pursuing their ambitions in higher education.

Our support programmes for selective courses and universities begins from Day 1. Whether it is receiving guidance on appropriate work experience to meet statutory application requirements or developing skills through rigorous mock interviews, you can be certain that the Partnership supports every student in reaching his or her true potential.



## ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT

### The Extended Project Qualification

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) provides a unique opportunity to explore a specific area of academic interest. Selected students will undertake substantial independent research to prepare either an academic report, performance or artefact.

This standalone qualification is worth half an A Level and is graded between A\*-E.

Students will benefit from access to academic staff and the libraries at the University of Leeds and will work closely with their research supervisor throughout the process. Completion of the programme provides additional UCAS points and an outstanding source of fascinating discussion at university and employment interviews.

### Work Experience

Our strong relationships with local, national and global employers across the public, private and voluntary sectors, enable us to offer a one-week work experience that complements each student's study programme.

### Access to Higher Education

Overcoming the daunting process of university applications begins early in Year 12.

Although every student will be given the opportunity to visit a local UCAS exhibition, our work with Leeds-based and national universities gives us the chance to provide students with a unique experience.

In recent years, students have received support to access funded summer schools in Oxford, Cambridge, Durham, Leeds, Bristol, London, Sussex and Edinburgh. There is even the opportunity to apply to explore American university options at Yale University.

### Preparing You for Life after School

Students will participate in an exciting 'Enrichment Block' of activities, which will ensure they are equipped for university or independent life. From healthy cooking to banking and finance and from first aid to driver safety, students will leave us with the wealth of skills needed for the diverse pathways they will pursue.



From Year 7 to Year 13, pupils receive careers information, education and guidance. This helps pupils to make well informed decisions about course choices and future careers.

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## OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Outstanding academic results must be paired with skills and experiences developed outside the classroom. Our impressive extra-curricular offering provides every member of our Partnership community the chance to gain new skills and develop existing ones.

Activities take place during and outside the school day, so whether it's the stage, sports field, classroom or laboratory where students flourish, the Partnership will provide every opportunity to leave Sixth Form with a CV that stands out for all of the right reasons.

Opportunities include:

- Peer and academic mentoring
- Sixth Form leadership roles
- The annual school production
- Music and theatre performances
- Duke of Edinburgh-Gold Award
- LEAP enterprise programme
- Poetry tournament
- Sports teams
- Debating
- The pursuit of literature book clubs
- West Yorkshire Police Explorer Programme

- Leeds Beckett University-Progression Module
- The National Citizenship Service (NCS) programme



## APPLICATION PROCESS

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### Open Evenings

Students and their families are warmly invited to meet with subject staff during our special Open Evenings in October and November, providing an opportunity to hear from staff and students about our unique experiences.

### Experiencing Sixth Form

External candidates and their families are invited to visit both campuses on a normal working day. Please contact staff at either sixth form to make arrangements.

### Applying

All applicants must apply using UCAS Progress on the webpage: [www.startinleeds.com](http://www.startinleeds.com)

Internal applicants should apply to their host institution. External applicants are invited to apply to one of our schools. All applicants will have full access to all the facilities and opportunities across both campuses.

Application deadlines vary across both sites and will be advertised via the Sixth Form section of our webpages.

### Professional Discussions

Students will be invited to a professional discussion at which we will jointly explore aspirations for your future.

### Sixth Form Launch

In July, applicants will be invited to join us at a special launch event to experience the exceptional teaching and learning on offer across the Partnership.

### GCSE Results

Students should speak to a member of the Sixth Form team to confirm the suitability of their chosen study programme.

### Sixth Form Induction

The start of your exciting future begins now. During your induction, you will meet your tutors and have full access to the facilities and experiences that will help you to excel.

Students participate fully in a wide range of additional opportunities to enrich their studies. As a result, they gain in stature as they progress through the sixth form and are confident, responsible young adults.

Ofsted, November 2013

## PEN PORTRAITS

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### PHUONG VO YEAR 13 2022/23

'Having started at Lawnswood in Year 7, I formed strong relationships with my peers and teachers and enjoyed the quality learning environment. Therefore, I decided to further my study at Lawnswood Sixth Form. The support given to me by the school and teachers were impressive. Hard work and independence were expected from students, but we always had the privilege of visiting a teacher's classroom to ask for help on difficult questions or concepts. Subject teachers also provided after school sessions that focused on revisiting and maintaining content taught in class. I also appreciated the small class sizes which I found to have created more welcoming work environments and allowed teachers to form more robust connections with their students.

The Sixth Form understood that achieving academic goals were important, but so were soft skills, and had put great amounts of effort into providing us opportunities to further develop them, as well as allowing us to further explore our interests. They encouraged students to be part of internal programmes such

as EPQ and external programmes such as Reach for Excellence. The weekly bulletin introduced new or seasonal work experience, volunteering opportunities and scholarships throughout the year to ensure students didn't miss out. Having participated in some opportunities provided, I found that I had developed many skills throughout my time there, from networking to project management, to dissertation writing. These had aided me with my university application and transition.

The Sixth Form Team not only brought out the best in each student but also tried to make the process fun. Along with the help of the Student Committee, regular events and fundraisers were held to reduce pressure, boost morale and form a strong community. I can confidently say that I enjoyed my journey at Lawnswood and would not have been able to achieve the results I had at GCSE and A-Levels without them and their support.'

**Phuong studied A Level Computer Science (A\*), Physics (A\*), Maths (A\*), Further Maths (A) and EPQ (A\*)**

### JAMIE HAYTER YEAR 13 2022/23

'I stayed on at Lawnswood for Sixth Form after hearing from other students about how brilliant the sixth form team was and how hard they worked to help each student achieve their goals. Throughout my time as a Lawnswood sixth form student, I had many opportunities to learn skills outside of my regular subjects, from learning how to lead different groups of people to writing a good CV to managing a budget. Lawnswood has helped build my confidence and has shaped me into the person I am today. The sixth form team really encouraged me to apply for the QUEST scholarship helping me write my personal statement for it and offering interview practice to refine my soft skills.

My subject teachers throughout my time at Lawnswood have all been excellent never hesitating to help me if I was struggling to understand something. There were always sessions after school which I could attend to work with my peers and prepare for exams or simply have a quiet place to learn.

Throughout my time at Lawnswood I attended many extra curricular activities such as jazz band, puzzle club and table top club each one organised extremely well and provided me countless hours of enjoyment. I also had the opportunity to do five Musicals with the school each time playing in the pit band from Annie as a small year seven student to Little shop of horrors in my final year I enjoyed all of them.

Lawnswood is a school where I grew into the person I am today and I will take the lessons that I have learnt there into completing my civil engineering degree and from there becoming a civil engineer. I am incredibly proud of the fact that I studied at Lawnswood and look back on my time there with lots of fond memories.'

**Jamie studied A Level Maths (A\*), Chemistry (A), Physics (A) and Further Maths (B)**

### MOLLY BLACKBURN 2022 LEAVER

'I studied health and social care, sociology and psychology at both Ralph Thoresby Sixth Form and Lawnswood Sixth Form. I loved the freedom of sixth form. Being able to direct my own study during study periods and free periods allowed me to feel much more independent, and I also loved the social side of sixth form such as attending the bake off and pumpkin carving. I am currently studying Midwifery at Liverpool John Moore's University, which would not have been possible without my time at sixth form. While in Ralph Thoresby Sixth Form, I felt supported by my head of year and the teachers of my subjects. They are more than willing to give you extra time and attention to help your studies and even address any worries or concerns. I knew there was always someone I could go to. If I could give some advice to future sixth form students I would say pick subjects you enjoy as it makes the two years much more enjoyable.'

**Molly studied A-Level Psychology, Sociology and BTEC Health and Social Care (AA\*D\*).**

### LUKA MATIJEVIC 2022 LEAVER

'I am Luka Matijevic and I left Sixth Form in the summer of 2022. At Sixth Form I studied Level 3 BTEC Sport whilst also playing for UFCA football scholarship programme. The most enjoyable thing about sixth form was the togetherness of the whole sixth form and the endless help from the teachers and motivation to achieve bigger and better. I am currently studying Sport Management at Northumbria University. Throughout sixth form, I had constant support to make sure I finished my work and was ahead of deadlines to ensure I got to go where I wanted to. Some advice for upcoming sixth formers, would be getting involved with the student union as either an ambassador, vice president or president as it really gave me extra skills to go above and beyond.'

**Luka studied BTEC National Extended Diploma in Sport (D\*D\*D\*).**

Pupils are polite, friendly and respectful. They belong to a welcoming and inclusive school that seeks to know and understand them as individuals.

Ofsted 2023



**LAWNSWOOD**  
SCHOOL

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