

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

03

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.

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 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.

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.

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

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

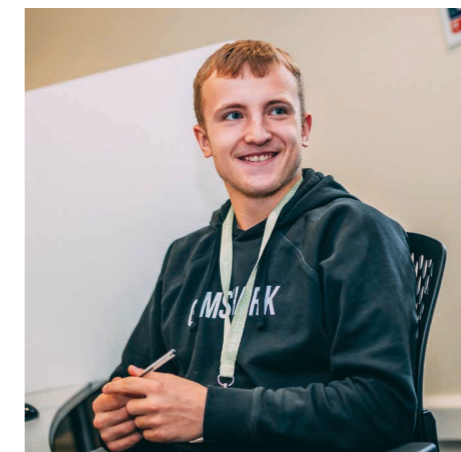
WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

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.

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.

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.



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

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	5+ 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 WJEC Level 3 Diploma	Medical 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 (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 (Single or 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 (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.

Ofsted 2023

GENERAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

05

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.

Ofsted 2023

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.

Ofsted 2023

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

09

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

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

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*)

AISHA MEHARBAN YEAR 13 2023/2024

'I decided to continue my studies in the Sixth Form as I always felt comfortable and at ease, having built excellent relationships with my teachers and peers. I chose to study Biology, Chemistry, and Mathematics after thoroughly enjoying these subjects at GCSE. My teachers were brilliant in the way they structured and taught the lessons. They also gave us a good level of independence, allowing us to self-learn certain topics in preparation for our future degrees. When I required extra help, my teachers were always happy to re-explain and review the work with me so that I understood everything to a high standard. They were also willing to provide after-school and lunchtime revision sessions to ask questions or go through topics one-on-one. This was invaluable in eliminating any confusion and solidifying my knowledge in every subject.

All the Sixth Form staff supported me through every stage of my application to Medicine; from perfecting my personal

statement to preparing for interviews and results day. They were there for every hurdle and kept me motivated through any challenges I faced. They also encouraged extra-curricular activities; I played badminton, which proved to be a pastime that taught me valuable lessons in resilience and collaboration. Additionally, being part of the student committee was an amazing opportunity developing my teamwork and communication skills, enabling us to organise events such as the Christmas fair and the end-of-year dinner.

My time at Lawnswood was exceptional, and I can confidently say that I enjoyed it. I am currently studying Medicine and Surgery at the University of Sheffield and would not have been able to achieve this without the support of my teachers and friends in the Sixth Form.'

Aisha studied A Level Biology (A*), Chemistry (A), Maths (A)

ELEANOR PEPPER YEAR 13 2023/2024

'I chose to stay on for Sixth Form because I'd heard how good the A-level teaching was and wanted to stay with the same teachers. I studied Psychology, English Literature, Geography and EPQ which I had found interest in through GCSEs and the sixth form open evening. At sixth form I most enjoyed the opportunities for people of all academic ranges.

In my first year I visited Oxford, debated ethics at a National level, and did a course on dentistry, all incredibly valuable experiences for my CV and personal statement. I also really enjoyed the partnership with Lawnswood; I made new friends and experienced what it would be like at college, alongside the comfort of a familiar building and dedicated teachers. It also helped me study psychology which I wouldn't have been able to without this partnership. I'm currently studying Philosophy and Psychology at the University of

Nottingham, which has foundations in all of the subjects I took for A-level.

My advice to Y11 students would be to firstly not stress about this year, but instead think about what you want from it. Pick the sixth form or college which will best help you get to where you want to be, which I can thoroughly recommend to be Ralph Thoresby and Lawnswood Sixth Form.'

Eleanor studied English Literature (A), Geography (A), Psychology (A) and EPQ (A*)

CHARLIE EMERY YEAR 13 2023/2024

'I came to Ralph Thoresby Sixth Form to be part of the UFCA Football Scholarship Programme, and I am so glad I did. The teaching I received was fantastic and the support along the way was amazing. I achieved great results that I am very proud of and I got to play football alongside my studies.

The partnership with UFCA is excellent and the skills I developed have allowed me to become more confident and feel ready for my next destination. I really liked how Ralph Thoresby made me feel, it was a fun, but caring environment and I am so glad I decided to move from my school to this Sixth Form. I am currently coaching for UFCA and I am looking to go to University in America September 2025 all of which would not be possible without Ralph Thoresby Sixth Form.'

Charlie studied A Level Economics (B) Applied Psychology (Distinction), Sport (Distinction) and UFCA Scholar

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

Lawnswood School

Ring Road, West Park
Leeds LS16 5AG

Tel: 0113 284 4020 Fax: 0113 284 4021

Email: school@lawnswoodschool.co.uk

www.lawnswoodschool.co.uk



Ralph Thoresby School

Holtdale Approach,
Leeds LS16 7RX

Tel: 0113 397 9911 Fax: 0113 261 3132

Email: info@ralphthoresby.com

www.ralphthoresby.com
