

LYMM HIGH SCHOOL PROSPECTUS















WELCOME

Since receiving its Royal Charter in 1601, Lymm High School has a strong tradition of providing outstanding opportunities for young people. Examination results are consistently high and we take pride in making sure that every one of our students is loved and cherished as an individual throughout their time here.

As a school, we do not have a complicated, clever sounding mission statement or a series of radical ideas about what education ought to be. Rather, we aim to keep things simple and focus on the things that matter most.

We work hard to ensure that all of our students leave with excellent academic outcomes, something that is reflected in the large number of students going on to study at top universities, including Oxford and Cambridge.

At the same time, we provide a remarkable range of extra-curricular activities and trips that enable young people to enjoy their time here, to develop as well-rounded human beings and to taste success in whichever areas their talents and interests may lie.

We are very fortunate with the grounds and facilities we have, but the real strength of the school lies in the people. Our students are typically very well brought up; they are polite, ambitious and bright. Their good behaviour helps us to attract excellent teachers, who give up a great deal of their own time to ensure that the students gain a first class, all round education.

As a parent myself, I recognise the huge responsibility we have towards the students who attend our school and towards their families. I also understand that choosing a school can be difficult. Over the years, Lymm High School has been the school of first choice for our community and we will never be complacent about ensuring that remains the case. I trust that you will take the time to visit and to meet some of the people who help make this place so special.

Gwyn Williams Headteacher





ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Parents and carers recognise that the academic standards on offer at Lymm High School are high, with year on year success at GCSE and A level, as well as in other recognised qualifications.

Great schools are about far more than preparing students for examination success. However, at the same time, we are unequivocal about the fact that academic outcomes are hugely important to the life chances of young people. Expectations here are high, and they are rising still further.

Our retention into Sixth Form is very high, with the majority of our students wishing to remain at Lymm in the knowledge that they will have the best chance of excelling and entering into the world of higher education, employment or training.

A great deal of emphasis is placed upon developing the quality of teaching and learning, whether this be more traditional teacher-led activities or lessons where students themselves take more of a lead. Regardless of the style of teaching or teacher, we strive to ensure all lessons contain high degrees of both challenge and engagement.

Teachers and support staff here care about what they do and the young people they work with. Students appreciate this and enjoy their lessons, which plays a key part in them achieving such high standards.

"My teachers always expect the best of me - they try to get the most out of me. They really help me to succeed." Josh - Year 9







FACILITIES

The Lymm campus is a mix of traditional and new buildings, surrounded by wonderful countryside.

The school is situated in its own beautiful grounds with extensive playing fields, an astroturf pitch and our own leisure centre, including a swimming pool, fitness suite and sports hall.

Originally Oughtrington Hall, the oldest block was built in 1810 and is a Grade II listed building. The newest block of classrooms was built in 2012. Our buildings are in good condition and provide an excellent environment for learning.

We are also very fortunate to have our own residential centre - the magical Ty'n-y-Felin, situated in an incredibly picturesque part of Anglesey. Students visit "Tynny" at various points during their time with us, including the annual Year 7 visit, different field trips and revision and study weekends.

Inside the school, we are well equipped with ICT facilities, including a state-of-the-art Apple Mac suite. There is a purpose built sixth form block and a well-stocked library. We even have our own restaurant, 'Chapters,' where our Food Technology students can often be found cooking and serving excellent food to guests.

"The school resources are an excellent standard. We are very lucky to have such history in our school."

Ben - Year 9







ENRICHMENT & LEADERSHIP

Academic excellence is an essential part of any great school, but is not the only aspect that matters. We offer a remarkably wide range of extra-curricular opportunities that help students develop their leadership skills and grow into well-rounded, decent, socially responsible citizens.

Our 'Leadership Ladder' is an important element of our provision. By taking part in various different activities, students can work their way up the Ladder, gaining leadership colours as they go. In the early stages, the focus is on encouraging every single student to take part in the extra-curricular life of the school but, as they progress, more and more emphasis is put upon leadership. At the Platinum level, students carry out a significant project in the local community.

One of the advantages of being a large school is the number of trips, visits and exchanges that we can provide. Typically, we run over 70 trips every year, including recent ones to South Africa, Berlin, New York, Morocco, Naples and Paris - as well as many others a little closer to home!

We make great efforts to support those students capable of going on to the top universities, with a significant number of enrichment activities specifically targeted at the most able through our Scholars Programme.

Many extended activities are at lunchtime or immediately after school and we encourage all students to take part. Details of the programme (which changes regularly) are available on our website.

"There's so much choice and so many activities. It's a great way to make new friends and try new things with the encouragement of the fantastic staff."

Katie & Lauren - Year 8







THE ARTS

The academic curriculum is further enhanced by an outstanding variety of music, drama, dance and theatre as well as the visual arts.

The school boasts a wide range of musical groups, including a brass band and strings group that are both of exceptional quality. We place a great deal of value on music and instrumental lessons during the school day are encouraged.

Our musicians regularly perform in school and in the wider community, including at prestigious venues such as the Bridgewater Hall and Parr Hall. They have embarked on three European tours in recent years - to Paris, Strasbourg, and Venice - and have another trip planned for Barcelona.

The annual school production takes pride of place and involves many students and staff both on stage and behind the scenes. Recent school productions include *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat; Remote; A Midsummer Night's Dream; Blackout; Eleanor Rigby;* and *Oh What a Lovely War*. The latter two took place in a packed Parr Hall and included over 300 of our partner primary school students taking part in the choir.

The visual arts are also very important to us and there are many opportunities for students to get involved in areas such as art, graphics and photography. We routinely hold exhibitions of student work in school and out in the community.

"I've had so many opportunities to join different music ensembles such as the brass band, strings group and orchestra. I also love performing solo in the Young Musician of the Year competition." Jamie - Year 10







SPORT

Lymm High School has a long-standing and very strong tradition of sport. Many individuals and teams enjoy success, gaining national honours in their chosen disciplines. These are reflected in school on our honours boards and by the international shirts displayed in the dining hall.

The physical education programme is wide-ranging and of high quality. The 28 acres of playing fields, our own sports centre and our outdoor centre in Anglesey ensure that we cater for all interests and abilities. Saturday morning fixtures are well established and enjoyed by lots of our students.

Many of our students have gone on to play professional sport or compete in world class events, including the Olympic rower, Richard Egington and rugby union player, David Strettle. We also have very strong links with professional clubs, including Sale Sharks.

Student talent is developed throughout all year groups, with sport included in the curriculum through core PE, GCSE PE and BTEC Sport at levels 1, 2 and 3, and in Sixth Form 'A' level PE.

"It's fantastic having such great sports facilities like the swimming pool. I love competing in the Interhall swimming competitions." Fergus - Year 8







CARING FOR STUDENTS

Although we are a large school, student and parental feedback tells us that we provide excellent support and ensure that every child is treated as an individual.

'Student Services' at Lymm is the focal point for many of our students and parents. Here, you will find highly trained and caring staff who will never accept that a problem cannot be resolved.

Each year group is overseen by a Head of Year who is ably supported by a Student Support Officer. The year group teams work closely with form tutors to provide clear communication and ensure support and care for all students, whatever their needs.

We pride ourselves on being an inclusive school and our Learning Development Department provides excellent support for those students with special educational needs or disabilities. We work very closely with parents and partner primary schools to ensure a smooth transition for SEND students.

Purposeful partnerships with parents are created for every year group. These range from supporting the learning process through information and guidance events to our very active Parent Teacher Association.

"Teachers are great, they really challenge us to think about things. You get loads of information but lots of support and help." Lily - Year 8







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