

THE

## GATEWAY

**PROGRAMME** 

OVER 40% OF LYMM HIGH SIXTH FORM STUDENTS WENT ON TO STUDY AT THE PRESTIGIOUS RUSSELL GROUP UNIVERSITIES IN 2023





At Lymm High School Sixth Form, we are dedicated to ensuring the best outcomes and progress for all our students.

The Gateway Programme was established in 2014 to inspire and inform our most able students to have the opportunity to succeed in their applications to the best universities in the country.

Students are selected based on their strong interest in studying at Oxbridge, or competitive courses such as Medicine, Veterinary Science and Law, and their successful GCSE profile based on a minimum of five 8/9 grades.

Students are offered a personalised package of support including tutorials and individual feedback on their university and course choices. Their ability to think broadly within and outside their subject areas will be stretched through the tutorials and links to super-curricular activities.

We recognise that achieving excellent grades is only one aspect of securing a university place. The aim of the Gateway Programme is to support our students in developing the specialised interview and thinking skills required to excel in the pressurised atmosphere of an Oxbridge or medical interview.

WELCOME

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# What is the Gateway Programme?

The Gateway programme will support and guide students through the UCAS process with specific focus on early entry application.

## WHO IS THE GATEWAY PROGRAMME FOR?

The Gateway Programme is specifically for students that are:

- Working towards A/A\* at A' Level and achieved at least five 8/9 grades at GCSE
- Considering Oxbridge universities
- Interested in studying competitive courses such as Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science and Law

## HOW WILL THE GATEWAY PROGRAMME HELP STUDENTS?

- Regular meetings to provide guidance to students
- Signposting to advice from external agencies on the application process
- Provide students with information on supercurricular activities

## Super-Curricular

#### Definition

"Education beyond the classroom"

These are academic enrichment activities that show you are interested in your studies beyond what is on the school syllabus.

OxNet is an Access initiative run collaboratively between participating colleges at the University of Oxford, led by Pembroke College, other HE institutions across the UK. It is unapologetically academic in its focus, and has had significant impact in the local communities in which it has worked since 2008. https://www.oxnet.org/

**STEM SMART** (Subject Mastery and Attainment Raising Tuition) is a widening participation initiative from the University of Cambridge to provide free, complementary teaching and support to UK.

https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/stem-smart

**HE+ Programme.** Students will be encouraged to engage with the HE+ programme to give them access to some fantastic opportunities to stretch, challenge and develop their skills to make you really stand out from the crowd when applying to university.

https://myheplus.com/

**Cambridge Shadowing Scheme** offers students the opportunity to spend two days at Cambridge, shadowing undergraduate students.

http://www.applytocambridge.com/shadowing/

The University of Manchester Open Lectures offer free lectures and seminars on a variety of topics. http://events.manchester.ac.uk/calendar/tag:lectures/tag:seminars

**Daresbury Laboratories Talking Science Programme** offer public lectures on a variety of science-based topics. http://www.stfc.ac.uk/public-engagement/see-the-science/talking-science-at-daresbury-laboratory

**Pembroke North at South Cheshire College** is an intensive academic programme aimed at broadening the social and intellectual horizons of young people in the North West.

https://www.ccsw.ac.uk/a-levels/scholars-programme/

**Chemistry Race** is a competition for teams of students organised by the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford. The teams race against each other in solving chemistry problems; whoever gets the most points within the time limit wins! <a href="http://chemistryrace.com/">http://chemistryrace.com/</a>



**Medlink** provides students the opportunity to attend a free medicine conference in December.

http://medlink-uk.net/

In2Science UK empowers young people from disadvantaged backgrounds to achieve their potential through life changing opportunities that give them insights into STEM careers and research and boosts their skills and confidence. https://in2scienceuk.org/

UKBC Intermediate Biology Olympiad consists of a 1-hour multiple choice paper to be taken online. Questions are set on topics students are likely to have covered at GCSE and in their first year of A' level. Some additional ideas will be introduced requiring their problemsolving skills and understanding of core principals.

https://ukbiologycompetitions.org/intermediate-biology-olympiad/

The Sutton Trust Summer Schools offers high achieving students a taste of life at a leading university.

http://www.suttontrust.com

Peterhouse's Vellacott Cambridge University Essay writing competition is for Year 12 students to write an essay in one of the following areas: History Prize, Kelvin Science Prize and Thomas Campion English Prize.

https://www.pet.cam.ac.uk/essay-prizes

**Villiers Park** offer students the opportunity to take part in a residential at Villiers Park which gives them a taste of what to expect at university.

http://www.villierspark.org.uk/

**Virtual Insight** into universities are available to students from 14-18 years old interested in studying Science, Technology, Engineering or Maths.

http://www.etrust.org.uk/

**STEP Maths** gives students the opportunity to sit the Sixth Term Examination Paper which is designed to test candidates on questions that are similar in style to undergraduate Mathematics. STEP is used by the University of Cambridge as the basis for conditional offers.

http://www.admissionstestingservice.org/for-test-takers/step/about-step/

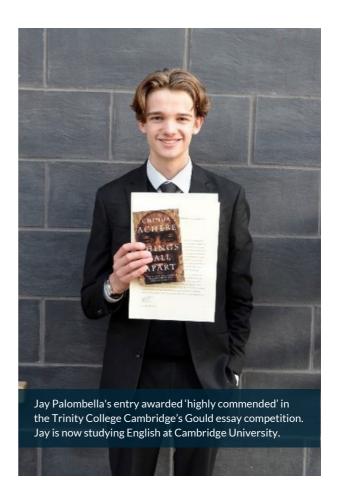
**UNIQ summer schools** are Oxford Universities official summer school programme that offer state school students a taste of life as an Oxford undergraduate. http://www.uniq.ox.ac.uk/courses **Extended Project Qualification** (EPQ) is the equivalent of an AS level and students will be given the opportunity to independently study a topic in depth and produce a final dissertation.

http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/projects/aqacertificate/EPQ-7993

### Trinity College Cambridge and Caius Explore Essay Prize

https://www.trin.cam.ac.uk/undergraduate/essay -prizes/

https://www.cai.cam.ac.uk/accessoutreach/resources-and-events/caius-explore



## Further reading (Books and Journals)

#### **Reading Lists**

In preparation for writing personal statements and interviews it is very worthwhile to have a look at the recommended reading for the course. Here are links to reading lists at Oxbridge:

#### Cambridge reading list:

https://www.kings.cam.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/re ading-lists

#### Oxford reading list:

https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/courses/suggested-subject-resources

#### **Gresham College Academic Lecture Bank:**

https://www.gresham.ac.uk/

## Memberships and Affiliations

Students have the opportunity to set up their own societies and clubs at school, we currently offer astronomy, engineering, debating, medic and animal conservation societies.

Young Engineers offers a free membership that offers students the opportunity to enter competitions and keep up to date with engineering events.

https://youngengineers.org/



#### Links/Websites

#### Admissions tests

Admission tests are common with Medicine and Oxbridge courses e.g. BMAT, CAT, TSA. Please use the following link to check out the tests you will need to complete.

http://www.admissionstestingservice.org/

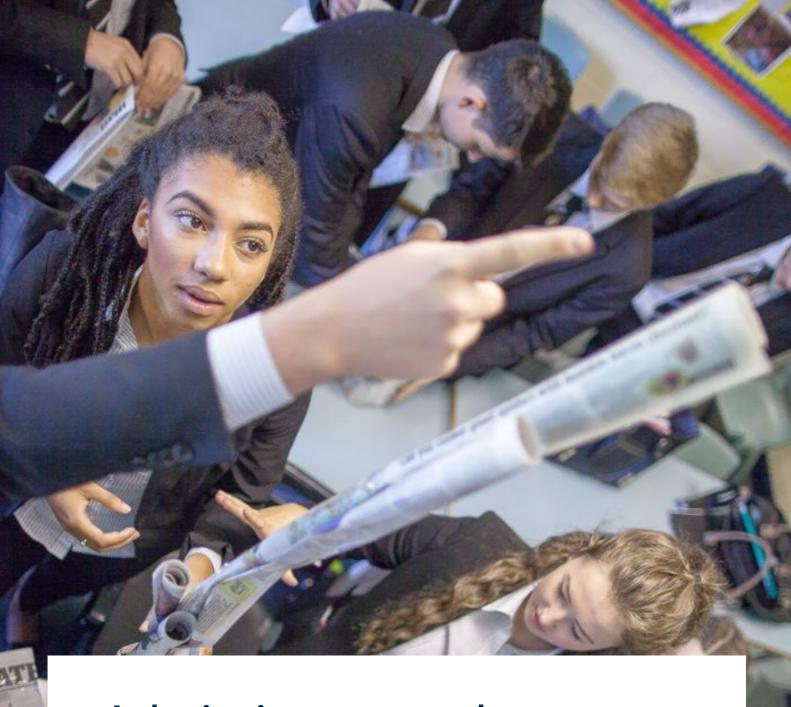
#### Interviews

More universities are using interviews as a method of selecting students the following link will give you some sample questions from Oxford University.

https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/appl ying-to-oxford/guide/interviews







## Admissions to early entry courses

- A' Level (or equivalent) grades and subject combinations
- GCSE grades
- UCAS reference
- UCAS personal statement
- Submitted work (where requested)
- Entrance test results (where applicable)
- Interview performance



## The standard Oxbridge Offer

#### Cambridge - A\*A\*A Oxford - A\*AA

- Usually A\* needed in subject of choice
- Rarely accepting of resitting exam results
- Not always necessary to do 4 A' Levels
- Would rather 3 A\*/As than 4 AABB
- Eight GCSEs at 8/9 (average Oxbridge student would have five 9s)

## Gateway Programme Timeline

Students applying to study Medicine, Dentistry or at Oxbridge Universities will need to complete their UCAS application by the early entry deadline of October 15th. Therefore we offer students this timeline of support to guide them through this application process:

YEAR 12 | TERM 1

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER

TERM 2 JANUARY - APRIL TERM 3 MAY-JULY

SEPT OCT NOV DEC JAN FEB MAR APR MAY

Introduction of the
Gateway
programme.
Identification of
students that are
suitable for the
Gateway Programme
based on their GCSE
grade profile and
their aspirations
after Sixth Form

Students complete applications to summer schools and other super-curricular events (Jan - but some application deadlines are earlier)

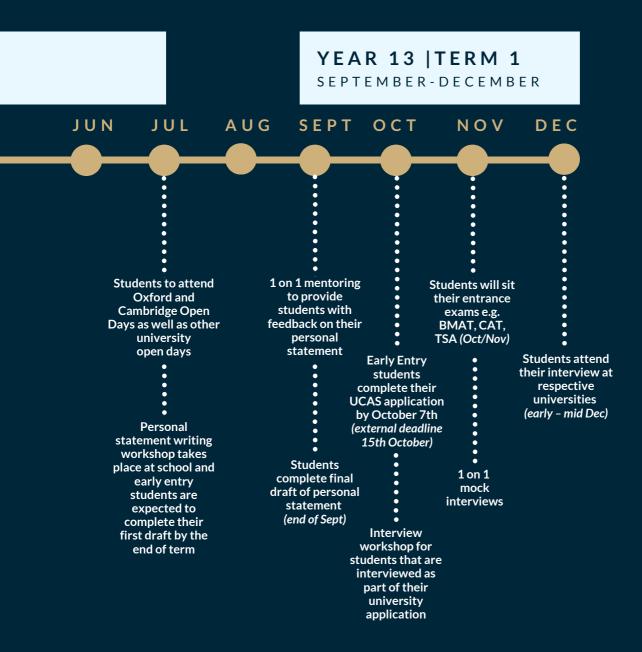
Students attend the Oxbridge Conference to gain knowledge of the application process at these universities as well as tips on writing their personal statements from admissions advisers

Gateway graduates offer advice to students on Oxbridge and Medical applications

> Students attend a variety of tutorials across a broad range of topics

Students are signposted towards super-curricular activities that will stretch and challenge them as well as supporting their UCAS applications

Students will receive their responses from universities by March and students use their remainder of time to focus on revising and preparing for examinations within subjects to ensure they achieve the entry requirements for their universities.





## Year 13 2022-23 Final Destinations

NAME	A'LEVEL GRADES	COURSE
B Bower	A*A*A*A*	University of Cambridge - Mathematics
l Rogers	A*A*A*	University of Leeds - Psychology
R Beattie	A*A*A	University of Liverpool - Mathematics
O Wood	A*AAA	University of Warwick - Mathematics and Physics
A Case	A*AA	Loughborough University - Aeronautical Engineering (with placement year)
L Slater	A*AA	University of Sheffield - Law
S Dodd	A*AA	University of Sheffield - Civil Engineering
A Grieve	A*AA	University of Leeds - International History and Politics
C Evans	A*AA	University of Liverpool - Sociology and English
A Good	A*A*A	University of Sheffield - Zoology
A Hodgkinson	A*AA	University of Liverpool - Law
H Matthews	A*AA	University of Manchester - History
E McConville	A*AA	University of Nottingham - Criminology and Sociology
L Price	A*AA	University of Liverpool - Medicine
A Proctor	A*AA	University of Cambridge - Modern and Medieval Languages
N Johnson	AAA	University of Leeds - Midwifery
E Newhouse	AAA	University of Sheffield - Biology
N Nevitt	AAA	The University of Edinburgh - International Business
l Elliott	AAA	University of Leeds - Psychology
S Wright	AAD*	University of Manchester - Children's nursing







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