



HARROW  
HIGH SCHOOL





WELCOME TO THE PROSPECTUS FOR

# HARROW HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Parent & Carers,

Welcome to the prospectus for Harrow High School. I recently had to choose a high school for my son so I know what a daunting and overwhelming experience it can be especially when surrounded by so many good options. With that in mind, we hope our prospectus sets out what is different about our school and why we believe you should seriously consider Harrow High.

The school itself sits on the site of Harrow County School, formed in 1911 as a publicly funded competitor to the prestigious nearby Harrow School. The school has been through many iterations since then and is now a successful, welcoming and inclusive academy. We remain a small school and we take time to get to know every child properly. We provide personal support and tailor our teaching and learning to ensure each learner achieves their full potential. Our recent success in GCSE and A Level examination outcomes and the associated progress measures has been phenomenal and we are really proud of our achievement. It reflects the efforts we go to, to ensure all learners are able to stretch themselves and achieve the very best they can, but this is not all we are about

We place a great emphasis on the personal development of our learners to ensure they have the full range of skills and cultural capital they will need to accompany their academic achievements on their journey through life. This is hard-wired into the DNA of our school through our school beliefs:

## WE BELIEVE IN EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

- **Excellent Learning & Progress**  
Challenge and engagement, meeting and exceeding targets
- **Excellent Aspirations**  
Quality progression, passion for learning
- **Excellent Behaviour, Safety & Care for each other**  
Respectful challenge, showing empathy
- **Excellent Communication**  
Understanding each other, clarity of purpose

We hope that this prospectus will give you a flavour of what Harrow High School is about and the importance we place upon our beliefs. We have the highest expectations of all our learners and place great importance on the relationship between learners, parents and school so that every child can flourish, be successful and be happy.

I hope you enjoy what you are about to read and look forward to meeting you in the near future.

With very best wishes

**Paul Gamble**  
Headteacher





# EXCELLENT LEARNING & PROGRESS

One of the main aspects in striving for 'Excellence for All' at Harrow High School is 'Excellent Learning and Progress'. Our ambition for our learners is to equip them with the necessary knowledge and skills that will support them in their future lives be that in progressing to Sixth Form, University or in their chosen career. We believe the acquisition of knowledge and skills are vital not just to pass exams but to cultivate a passion for lifelong learning.

The building and retrieval of knowledge is at the forefront of what we do at Harrow High. Our learners are issued with knowledge organisers which express the key themes and ideas that are explored within our subjects. Cognitive science has shown that re-visiting key knowledge regularly, enhances the capacity of long-term memory. Learners use knowledge organisers in all lessons to help them develop their study skills. This then gives our learners a solid platform before embarking on their GCSE courses.

We also place a great emphasis on reading and extended writing. Each day, for 15 minutes we 'Drop Everything and Read' to help instil this as a core habit. This can be for pleasure or subject-related and like the Knowledge Organisers, helps to improve our learners' academic vocabulary. In line with the demands of exams, we make great efforts to develop learners' extended writing skills across all curricular subjects. We want learners to value the importance of writing so we develop their ability to write extended responses across all subjects so that writing is not just perceived as something done in English. This supports our learners making excellent progress throughout all 3 key stages.



The curriculum at Harrow High School is broad covering all subjects in the KS3 National Curriculum. The modern foreign languages we offer are Italian and Spanish with learners covering both of these in Year 7 before specialising in Year 8. We encourage all of our learners to take the English Baccalaureate which involves taking GCSEs in English, Maths, Science, Geography or History and a Modern Foreign Language. We are very proud of the rich diversity we have in our school and encourage and support learners in achieving GCSE qualifications in their home language. In addition, our Inclusion team offer support to learners who are new or relatively new to English enabling them to access other areas of the curriculum as quickly as possible.

Excellent learning is not just for our learners but indeed for our staff too. We want to ensure that our teachers develop their skills based upon the latest educational research so that our learners in turn have a rich and rewarding experience through their learning journeys at Harrow High.



# EXCELLENT BEHAVIOUR, SAFETY & CARE

Our school community actively promotes positive behaviour to ensure that all members of the school are safe and successful. We foster kind, respectful and professional relationships where everyone collaborates in the making of wise and civil decisions. Our guiding principle is kindness and we expect all members of our community to demonstrate this, regardless of who we are or what our role is in the school.

As adults, we model calm and consistent behaviour, ensuring our school provides a safe and enjoyable atmosphere in which to learn. Children must also learn to be accountable for their actions, learning from their mistakes to develop as responsible young people. Our behaviour policy supports this and we have robust systems in place to look after and care for those needing support and to hold to account those who do not model excellent behaviour.

With input from learners, we designed our 'See It, Report It, Stop It' anti-bullying policy as a tool for reporting acts of unkindness. This allows staff to deal with issues promptly and prevent incidents from escalating further. Our Safeguarding Team ensures any issues are dealt with and that support is put in place for those who are vulnerable. If we cannot provide support within our school systems we find support through counsellors and other charities and support services.

Our Tutor programme and Personal Development lessons guide learners to make well-informed decisions to improve their own lives and those of others. We strive to develop well-rounded and informed young people who are equipped to be excellent citizens of any country they choose to live in.



## STANDARDS & ACHIEVEMENT LEADER MS T SMITH



As a Standards and Achievement Leader, it is my responsibility to monitor, evaluate and review progress, attendance and behaviour for my year group. This means that I, along with the other Standards and Achievement Leaders form an integral part of the pastoral structure at Harrow High School.

The main vision I have for my year group is in line with the school's ethos of 'Excellence for all'. I encourage every single learner to excel in all aspects of school life, whether that is demonstrating academic success or showing kindness towards peers and staff members.

Personally, I believe it is really important to remain a trusted member of staff that learners in my year group feel they can confide in, and to be someone they will listen to.

This leads to meaningful relationships with learners and families in my year group, which in turn allows me to solve any potential issues that may arise, as well as supporting the development of learners and, ultimately, preparing them for life after school.





# EXCELLENT COMMUNICATION

Excellent communication means communicating with clarity, respect and kindness. Through this we ensure that all members of our school community understand each other, are treated equally and work together with common purpose. The use of clear and positive language and modelling excellent behaviour is always encouraged. All staff are committed to the principle of respectful challenge helping to maintain a calm, focused stress-free school environment.

Excellent communication is especially important when working with parents and families. We understand that education is at its most effective when schools and parents work together. To this end, we promise to keep in touch regularly to ensure you are happy with the experience of your son or daughter. We also ensure you receive regular updates on their learning and progress through regular parents' evenings and termly reports.

We will also keep you up to date with the latest events and news through our website, twitter feed and half-termly newsletters. You will also find the learner planner to be a good source of information.

We encourage parents to make contact with the school whenever they need to and promise to respond to all non-urgent questions within 48 hours.

"The PIXL Edge and KS3 graduation was amazing, as it helped me bond with my classmates, and make new friendships. It helped me reach my goals and made me think about what I wanted to achieve when I leave high school and if I want to go to college or university or even start my own business from scratch and to help other people reach their goals"

YEAR 9 LEARNER



# EXCELLENT ASPIRATIONS

At Harrow High School, we are extremely ambitious for all of our learners, and place a strong emphasis on developing our learners aspirations. We are passionate about providing our learners with access to a wide range of enriching, stimulating, and insightful experiences to help develop their character,celebrate their culture and achieve their potential.

We are proud to have a well-established Aspirations Programme developed exclusively for our learners to raise their motivation. We take great pride in being able to offer so many opportunities for our learners to find and develop their talents. Our 'Learner Journey' document shows some of the aspects of the programme, the key hallmarks of which are:

- PIXL Edge Character Development Qualification
- Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 Graduation Ceremonies & Prom
- Enterprise Day
- Work Experience in Year 10 and Year 12
- Core entitlement of a minimum of 12 cultural trips for all students throughout their time at Harrow High School
- 1 University or Careers based trip per year
- Year 11 Mock Interview Day
- Annual Careers Fair
- Year 12 University Preparation Week
- Residential Trips in the UK, and abroad
- Extra-curricular programme including Duke of Edinburgh Award, National Citizen Service, Army Cadets, Code Club, and fundraising.

## PIXL EDGE & KS3 GRADUATION

In Key Stage 3, our learners embark on an innovative scheme called 'The Edge'. The scheme is intended, over time, to develop and accredit the life skills and attributes that employers are looking for; leadership, organisation, initiative, resilience and communication. This will give learners a qualification, which runs alongside their academic successes and recognises what they can do as well as what they know.

In order to gain the qualification at "Apprentice", "Graduate" or "Masters" level, learners need to complete a range of activities from an approved list. The activities can be many and varied and can be undertaken in normal lessons, in extra-curricular clubs or outside of school.

Progress on the scheme is managed by learners themselves using a specially designed on-line application, with tutors providing an oversight and awarding credits towards achieving the qualification. We believe that 'The Edge' provides a real opportunity for Learners at Harrow High School to benefit for the future as they apply to colleges, universities and for positions of employment. At the end of the programme learners are rewarded with a graduation ceremony, and after party to celebrate their achievements and hard work.

Giving our learners these opportunities allows them to enhance their cultural awareness and understanding of their values, beliefs and perceptions. They enable learners to develop their confidence by empowering them to find their own interests, and pursue them. A learner who went to the Amsterdam excursion loved the city so much, that she chose to move there for her university education'

ASPIRATIONS CO-ORDINATOR





# LEARNER JOURNEY

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

- Develop a thirst for reading
- Develop a lifelong love of learning
- Meet our staff and students at our Roadshows or Taster Days

- Build a solid foundation in education
- Apply for a place at Harrow High

- Visit our Annual Open Evening
- Sit SATS in Y6

- Get your new Harrow High School Uniform

- Forge & develop friendships that will last a lifetime

## YEAR 7

- Ensure your attendance is above 97%
- Take part in Vote 4 Schools

- Become an accelerated reader

- Actively seek out rewards

- Lead charity fundraising
- Take part in indoor Skiing at John Nike
- Register on Unifrog
- Take part in Careers Week Lessons to help you identify your strengths
- Take part in a STEM Workshop
- Volunteer to help out at Open Day as a guide or represent a department
- Visit Brunel University
- Become a Reception Monitor
- Attend the Harrow High Careers Fair
- Cultural Excursion to Paris Versailles
- Visit Brunel University
- Take part in the HHS Talent Show
- Investigate post 16 options and opportunities in our local area (LMI)
- Participate in Learner Voice Activities
- Graduate from KS3 and attend the Celebration Party
- Join an extra-curricular club
- Do a First Aid Course
- Reflect on how to study for GCSE's
- Apply for Harrow High Sixth Form, college or apprenticeship
- Attend a mock interview with a local employer
- Consider the format of GCSE examinations and refine revision techniques
- Make a CV
- Visit a Careers & Apprenticeships Fair
- Complete Y10 mock exams to get GCSE ready
- Sign up to the DoE Award
- Develop good independent study habits
- Visit Middlesex University

## YEAR 8

- Become an Anti-Bullying Ambassador
- Join the Brilliant Club and write a dissertation
- Donate to the Christmas Appeal
- Develop skills for life and learning through Personal Development
- Visit Kidzania
- Plan a Form Assembly
- Start completing the PIXL Edge Programme
- Visit a Pantomime
- Be introduced to the school's Aspirations programme.
- Visit the school and meet your form tutor
- Visit lessons at an Open Morning
- Apply for a place at Harrow High
- Visit our Annual Open Evening
- Sit SATS in Y6
- Get your new Harrow High School Uniform
- Forge & develop friendships that will last a lifetime

## YEAR 9

- Take part in the HHS Talent Show
- Investigate post 16 options and opportunities in our local area (LMI)
- Participate in Learner Voice Activities
- Graduate from KS3 and attend the Celebration Party
- Join an extra-curricular club
- Do a First Aid Course
- Reflect on how to study for GCSE's
- Apply for Harrow High Sixth Form, college or apprenticeship
- Attend a mock interview with a local employer
- Consider the format of GCSE examinations and refine revision techniques
- Make a CV
- Visit a Careers & Apprenticeships Fair
- Complete Y10 mock exams to get GCSE ready
- Sign up to the DoE Award
- Develop good independent study habits
- Visit Middlesex University

## YEAR 10

- Prepare for Work Experience
- Experience the world of work and be inspired
- Complete Y10 mock exams to get GCSE ready
- Sign up to the DoE Award
- Develop good independent study habits
- Visit Middlesex University

## YEAR 11

- Apply to become a prefect and develop your leadership skills

## YEAR 12

- Revise and complete your Y12 mock exams
- Support the Sixth Form Open Evening
- Raise money for the Willow Foundation
- Visit Brighton Beach
- Visit a universities Careers Fair
- Engage in Relationships Workshops with Brook
- Take part in a Mock Interview
- Sit public AS or vocational exams
- Visit UCL & QMUL
- Write a CV and personal statement
- Apply for University through UCAS or alternative post 18 courses
- Secure a part time job or work experience
- Apply for a Sixth Form student leadership team role
- Become a Sixth Form Prefect
- Enroll into Harrow High Sixth Form
- Revise for and sit your actual GCSEs to give yourself a competitive edge in life
- Apply for Student Finance
- Revise for and complete your Y13 mock exams
- Have an independent and impartial careers interview
- Sign up for the NCS challenge
- Revise for and sit your Y11 mock exams.
- Attend Harrow High Sixth Form Open Evening & Taster Day
- Develop an effective revision calendar and put it to use.

## YEAR 13

- Reflect on your journey so far
- Refine and perfect your revision techniques
- Become a member of Harrow High Alumni
- Revise for and sit public A-Level and vocational examinations
- Consider summer internship and voluntary work to enhance your learning
- Go to university to enhance your studies and get a degree
- Start a degree level apprenticeship
- Take a gap year, travel the world and embrace new cultures
- Continue your lifelong love of learning and personal development





# ASPIRATIONAL VISITS

## DAY

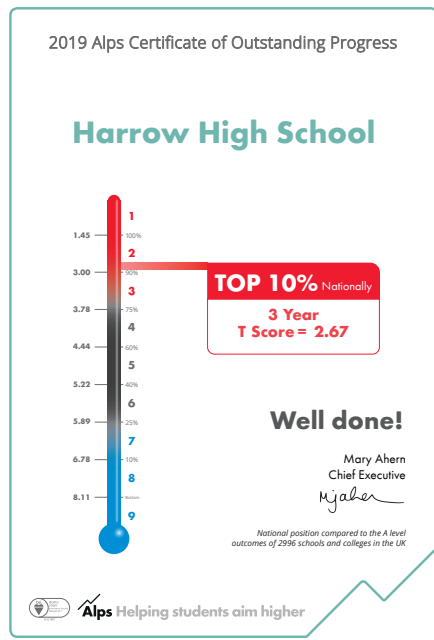
- Southend on Sea
- Brighton Beach
- Hyde Park Iceskating
- Science Museum
- Welcomme Collection
- Tate Modern
- National Portrait Gallery
- Imperial War Museum
- British Museum
- British Library
- Watching pantomime at Hackney Empire Theatre
- Watching a Shakespeare Play at the Globe Theatre
- Kew Gardens
- John Nike Indoor Ski Centre

- Olympic Stadium
- Lords Cricket Ground
- University College London
- Kings College London
- Queen Mary University
- Brunel University
- Middlesex University
- Careers Fair at London Excel

## RESIDENTIAL

- Prague
- Paris
- Amsterdam
- Belgium
- Isle of Wight Field Trip
- Norfolk Field Trip

# DESTINATIONS



Our alumni who graduate from the Sixth Form, achieve fantastic results, and go onto to study at their university of choice. Over the last 3 years, we have been ranked in the top 10% of schools in the country for our A-Level results, and this has allowed our students to go to the most prestigious universities in the UK.

In 2019, 32% of Harrow High Students went to Russell Group Universities compared to the national average of 12%



"When I went on the Paris trip, I absolutely loved the experience. It felt amazing to spend quality time with my friends, teachers, and even making new friends. In my opinion, the highlights of the trip was seeing all the historic and beautiful aspects of Paris such as the famous Mona Lisa and the views after climbing the Eiffel Tower.

YEAR 8 LEARNER



# YEAR 7 VIEWS

## ZAHRA



I was at the transition day and I felt very welcomed. The whole school showed a good first impression which made me more comfortable

When I was leaving year 6 I did feel a bit tense moving to a place with no one I knew and I was also concerned about getting lost

On my first day I felt nervous but during the day I met so many teachers who helped and guided me, for this I am thankful.

I looked forward to football club because I enjoyed playing it in primary school. When I did join the club it was really fun.

My favourite subject is English literature as I love to write stories. I would say all the teachers are nice.

## AAEESHA



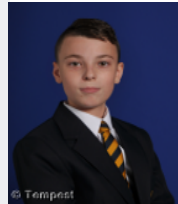
I really enjoyed the transition day because I got to know the teachers and what they teach. The transition day was also an amazing day when you got to see what the school looked like inside and what lessons would be like.

I had concerns that people wouldn't like me but when I met people I felt much better especially when I got to know some of the teachers because they were very kind, helpful and supportive.

I am captain of the girls' football team and I enjoy going on trips with my new friends and new classmates. I was overjoyed when I heard that we were going to Paris at the beginning of Year 8.

My favourite lessons are P.E, Drama, English, Spanish, Computing, Geography and Maths

## RICHARD



I did go to the Year 6 transition day which I enjoyed because I got to do many different things that I didn't do in primary school. I also liked the teachers because they all welcomed you so nicely and all of the subjects were interesting.

I didn't have any concerns because I knew there would be teachers and students who would be willing to help me and to show me around the school. I also knew that I would make friends because I had friends from my primary school.

I felt good knowing that I had a teacher that could help me if I had a problem. I also liked it because I could talk to someone else other than my friends. I am really looking forward to going to Paris because I will have never stayed in another country without my mum or dad. I am also looking forward to it because I will be able to stay with my friends and visit many different landscapes. I enjoy going to clubs like police cadet club because I am doing something that I will need in the future because I want to be a detective.

My Favourite subjects are Science, Maths and English. I like Science because we do experiments which I find interesting and Maths because it was my favourite in primary school. I also like English because it is very interesting and nice.

## KEANNA



On my first day at Harrow High I felt a little bit nervous and shy around the teachers and students, but then I made friends and also saw students that came from my primary school so didn't feel shy or nervous. I also liked some teachers as they were very helpful.

I felt very excited on my first day because I was in a new environment and I had new teachers, new friends and I also had great teachers to help and support me. I enjoy going on trips with my teachers and friends, and

to after school clubs to have fun.

My favourite subject is P.E because I can improve my physical health and learn how to look after my body and how important it is to know about your bones. I also like Art and English because in Art I can draw what I am feeling and show my emotions. In English I can improve my grammar skills and my knowledge of the language, I can also improve on my writing and I have a lot of fun. I have two favourite teachers who help and support me and I am very happy I went to Harrow High.

# PARENTS' VIEWS

## YEAR 7 PARENT

As we had recently moved into the area we were allocated Harrow High and I am so pleased that the local authority did! Upon viewing the school, although not modern in its appearance, I left the school with a 'this is right for my child' feeling. Perhaps this was due to the piped classical music playing in the corridors, which I thought was quite forward-thinking and a calming experience. We were also given an email address and telephone number for the Head of Year in the event we had any further questions which we had forgotten to ask.

## YEAR 8 PARENT

First impressions last! My daughter joined Harrow High School in 2018. It was not my most local school but the best choice for us because we felt welcomed and comfortable from the very first tour.

Following a brilliant transition, my daughter soon settled in and felt happy to go to school every day. The staff have continued to support and nurture my daughter's Academic, Personal, Social and Emotional development.

The pastoral care is outstanding and is well-managed between the designated safeguarding staff and teachers to ensure any issues arising are dealt with efficiently whilst maintaining the utmost care to all concerned.

The sharing of information is key and all heads of year and teachers do this extremely well using a variety of means from phone calls to the SIMS mobile app. The Headteacher, Mr Gamble is extremely focused on providing the very best opportunities for young learners and leads a wonderful team who are passionate, dedicated and clearly committed to the school's vision of delivering "excellence for all".

The transition to high school is never easy (especially for us parents) but my daughter has settled in well and has negotiated the one-way system and found the right class most of the time! She has made new friends and actually enjoys school. I have found the teachers approachable and they have encouraged and supported my daughter. Most importantly the school cares about their students.





# ALUMNI INTERVIEW

## SUELA MERKAJ, STUDYING MEDICINE AT PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY

The mock interviews in Year 11, 12, and 13 were a great way to experience how a real job interview and/or university interview work. The interviews helped with understanding some of my weaknesses, which I could then fix before my actual interviews. My work experience placements were insightful in showing me what I would prefer to have a future career in. I do believe that the programme was a useful way for me to understand the real working world and to seriously start thinking about what I wanted for my future.

The university trips and careers fairs allowed me to speak directly with university admissions officials and gain a greater understanding of the admissions process for Medicine at the universities I was considering applying to. The university trips were particularly helpful in allowing me to see what university life was like. I particularly enjoyed my residential trip to Oxford University, and undertaking Medicine masterclasses.

Getting involved in charity events as a prefect and Head Girl was a fantastic way to bond with other prefects as a team and to learn how to be efficient when organising an event. We all learnt how to assign roles effectively to everyone in a team and I think it made me more confident when working with people I am not well acquainted with. Fun trips, for example, Amsterdam, ice-skating and mini golf, were a great way to relax in the midst of school stress and make sure that we were not overwhelmed.





## **HARROW HIGH SCHOOL**

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