

LAWNSWOOD SCHOOL

PROSPECTUS

2024/2025



LAWNSWOOD
SCHOOL

Embed confidence; fuel ambition.

www.lawnswoodschool.co.uk

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Mrs J Bell
Headteacher

"Pupils are polite, friendly and respectful. They belong to a welcoming and inclusive school that seeks to know and understand them as individuals. The school has created a positive environment in which pupils feel happy and safe."

Thank you for taking an interest in Lawnswood School. We are a vibrant community where everybody matters and we work together to provide a learning environment in which all our students make the best possible progress, both academically and personally. We believe it is important to ensure students feel happy and secure and are enabled to develop into successful adults and active members of the community.

In addition to academic provision which is both challenging and supported, where necessary, we offer excellent pastoral care and a wide range of opportunities for students to engage with school and the wider community.

It is important to us that our students enjoy their time in school and make the most of every opportunity, whilst still preparing themselves for their future. Our alumni are testament to the fact that we are able to prepare our students for varied and successful careers.

We understand how important the choice of secondary school is for both students and parents/carers and therefore hope this prospectus gives you an overview of our school. The dedicated and talented staff at Lawnswood are committed to ensuring your child succeeds and achieves their very best. To really get to know a school, it is advisable to visit during the working day. Therefore, we welcome visitors at all times and should you wish to visit the school, please do contact us.

We look forward to welcoming you to Lawnswood School.

AIMS AND VALUES



We aim to create an inspirational community of learning where we combine our ambitions for academic attainment with an emphasis on students' moral, personal, social and spiritual needs, so that they may take their place as caring, committed, self-aware and confident members of society. To ensure all our students are treated as individuals and are able to flourish and excel, Lawnswood School aims to:

- create a vibrant community where we work together, respect differences, treat one another with justice, tolerance and respect;
- ensure our students are equipped with the necessary knowledge, skills and confidence to undertake the next stage of their career;
- foster leadership and engagement to encourage our students to make a positive contribution to both our school and community;
- offer all students a broad and balanced curriculum that leads to positive outcomes;
- offer a range of activities, visits and trips that help students develop the skills and knowledge to take an active and positive role in the world;
- engage with members of our community to support opportunities of learning, experience and social skills; and
- provide and maintain an attractive, secure, safe and healthy school environment.

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AND LEARNING

Students at Lawnswood School are encouraged to be independent learners. Our broad and balanced curriculum ensures students are equipped with the knowledge and skills to ensure a successful future.

Staff at Lawnswood are passionate about their teaching and work hard to deliver high quality, interesting and engaging lessons.

Putting the learner at the centre of the learning process places a real emphasis on developing individual students' capability to acquire the skills, knowledge and attributes needed to be successful during their time at Lawnswood and as they leave to pursue their future career.

We deliver a wide range of subjects that allow students to excel in their specialist areas and prepare them with the knowledge and skills for a rapidly changing workplace. When students arrive in Year 7 they spend the first four weeks working on a cross-curricular project in teams. During this time we take every opportunity to assess and evaluate their individual learning needs.

This includes undertaking Cognitive Ability Tests, reading tests and gathering teacher feedback. Our baseline data, in conjunction with information from primary schools, is used to ensure that the students are placed in the correct classes, given appropriate targets and provided with additional stretch, challenge and support where needed.

At Key Stage 4 and 5, students are afforded more choice in their learning and our information, advice and guidance ensures they are supported in choosing a curriculum which both suits them as individuals and will open doors in the future. We report regularly to parents on their child's learning and encourage a continuing dialogue between school and home. In addition to parent consultation evenings we ensure there are frequent parent information evenings to support students and parents in their educational journey. Lawnswood has high expectations for all students and, whatever their individual gifts, interests and talents, they will be challenged, supported and above all inspired.

"The curriculum is ambitious and well sequenced. Pupils build their knowledge and understanding with increasing depth and complexity. They learn to think and work like subject specialists."

OUR FACILITIES



The school is set in spacious and attractive grounds that support a wide range of outdoor learning. This is in addition to our traditional classrooms, smaller group rooms and individual spaces.

A well resourced library in addition to specialist facilities in science, PE, drama, technology and music enable our students to excel in all areas of the curriculum.

To ensure we prepare our students for a changing modern day world of work, we have extensive ICT facilities, designed to accommodate different lesson formats and our curriculum.

We are always conscious of the need to improve our facilities in order to provide the best possible experience for our students. With this in mind, we have recently redesigned our catering facilities to provide relaxed and safe social spaces.

“I love that there are lots of opportunities available at Lawnswood School.”

Year 7 Student

MOVING UP TO LAWNSWOOD

At Lawnswood School, our aim is to make the transition from primary to secondary school as smooth as possible: when students arrive here in September, we want them to feel that they are valued members of the school community; as such, we have an ambitious programme of transition events, starting for most students, in Year 5.

Our student engagement team visit our main feeder primary schools as often as possible: this could be delivering an assembly, with the school alumni, or running numeracy and literacy activities. We also like to invite primary students to attend some of our main school events, such as our large-scale annual production, which is always a fun and exciting show!

Once your child has confirmed their place at Lawnswood School, we also visit the primary school to answer any questions or worries they might have. Following this, students will be invited to attend a two-day induction event at the school, where they'll participate in lots of different activities to help them get to know their fellow students and their new surroundings.

At that final stage in the process, we also offer one-to-one parent and student interviews, where we invite students and parents/carers to the school to meet with a member of staff individually; this provides a further chance to ask questions.

By the time students arrive in September, they will have had the opportunity to visit the school on several occasions, have met their new form and their new tutor and will begin the year as confident Lawnswood learners.

It is a calm and orderly school where pupils form positive relationships with each other and with staff."

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THE SCHOOL DAY



We organise our school day to put our students' learning and experience first. Students can arrive to school from 8am when we offer breakfast. At 8.20am students arrive to school and are ready to start their school day at 8.30am with registration in their form groups. During this time, students engage with activities designed to support their social, moral, spiritual and cultural development.

At break and lunchtime students can relax in the well-designed social and eating areas, where there is a choice of appetising and healthy hot or cold food.

Special dietary requirements are fully catered for. Our lunch break is 35 minutes and during these times students have a choice of activities to attend. Break is 20 minutes in the morning. We have a range of opportunities to take part in a wide variety of clubs and activities at lunchtime and afterschool. Our library is also open with staff on hand to support with home learning or further study.

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

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OPPORTUNITIES

Trips

At Lawnswood School we value students having broad opportunities and exposure to both domestic and international travel. There are many different trips on offer to students at Lawnswood school. We offer International exchanges, Ski trips, Sports tours, trips to capital cities and a breadth of domestic events.

We believe that Educational visits and trips are critical to a child's development and place great importance on creating these diverse and engaging opportunities to best enrich the lives of the young people at the school.



Clubs and Activities

We offer a variety of different clubs to meet the needs of all of the individuals at Lawnswood School. All subjects provide opportunities outside of the curriculum ensuring there is an educational breadth.

The clubs and activities are another opportunity to engage with the school community and make new friends whilst developing common interests.

We are very proud of our enrichment programme and all students receive a booklet in September that outlines the wealth of experiences on offer.



SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

Lawnswood has a strong pastoral system that supports all students during their journey through the school. Each year group has a dedicated team of Form Tutors, led by a teaching Head of Year, a non-teaching Year Manager and a Pastoral Support Worker. Each year group also has an Assistant Headteacher assigned to oversee the pastoral leadership of the year group. They work together to support all aspects of students' progress, ensuring that an adult is always on hand if students are in need of guidance.

We have a wide offer of intervention for any students who require additional support. Our SEND and Inclusion team, working closely with our pastoral staff, help students to overcome any social and emotional barriers to their learning, as well as supporting students with any SEND. Key policies, including our SEND offer, can be viewed on our website at www.lawnswoodschool.co.uk.

Supporting students' social, emotional and personal development is very important to us too. As well as enhancing this through our daily tutor sessions and PSHE curriculum, our engagement programme offers a wide variety of opportunities for

students to gain new experiences and develop a hobby or wider life skills. The Student Leadership structure also offers students of all ages the opportunity to develop their leadership skills, as well as contributing to the wider life of the school. Our Student Leaders can be identified in school by their leadership badges; however, they are more than this – they are representatives of the wider student body and their voice plays a vital role in shaping a school in which the whole community can thrive.

"The school has established a comprehensive, age-appropriate personal development programme. Pupils learn about relationships, equality and diversity and physical and mental health".

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L HEALTH



SCHOOL OF SANCTUARY

In June 2014 we were delighted to be first awarded the School of Sanctuary Award. In 2023, we were successful in maintaining our accreditation. A School of Sanctuary is a school that is committed to being a safe and welcoming place for those seeking sanctuary. It is a space for those whose lives were in danger in their own country, who have troubles at home or are just looking for a space in which they can feel safe.

As a School of Sanctuary we are committed to helping our students, staff and wider community understand what it means to be seeking sanctuary and to extend a welcome to everyone as equal, valued members of the school community. We pride ourselves on being a place of safety and inclusion for all. Welcoming families of students with English as an additional language (EAL) and working in partnership with them is key to supporting our EAL students and their learning. We have regular meetings with our EAL parents and host a new arrivals parent meeting soon after their child starts. Furthermore, our EAL team have been nationally recognised for their work and have contributed to national educational publications around supporting EAL learners.



WE PROMOTE AMBITION THROUGH FOCUS ON YOUR FUTURE #FOYF

CAREERS AT LAWNSWOOD

The decisions that young people make at school have a big impact on their lives – not just next steps in education, but their social lives, finances and health outcomes.

At Lawnswood School we plan through years 7 - 13 to prepare students to transition successfully towards their future career path. We work across the curriculum to provide opportunities for students to see the relevance of their learning, to build their skills and develop qualities, and to make informed decisions about their subject choices and pathways. Every topic in every subject is linked to the world of work, supporting high aspirations and allowing students to develop a wide knowledge of career possibilities.

All students have access to an online careers platform designed to connect 11 – 18 year olds with their future career potential. Through a planned programme of activities, students explore the world of work and study options so that they are fully informed about choices at every stage. Interactions with a wide range of colleges, higher education institutions and employers further

enrich our students' experience and ensure that the guidance our students receive is both independent and impartial.

Focus On Your Future work forms a continuous thread throughout a student's time at Lawnswood School. Our aim for all students is that they develop the knowledge and self-awareness necessary to make balanced decisions throughout their time with us, and as they move on through their next steps.

"The school raises pupils' aspirations further through strong links with universities and employers".

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Notes



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