



Academic Enrichment at LGS

Introduction

Our aim is to provide a learning environment in which all pupils are able to develop their natural curiosity and challenge themselves intellectually. We believe these traits can be developed through effective teaching and learning, the provision of a stimulating curriculum, and the provision of super-curricular activities.

This document focuses specifically on academic enrichment, but there are also opportunities and support available for talented pupils in specialist areas. For example, our music department offers a range of school ensembles, as well as opportunities to play and learn alongside professional musicians. Similarly, our sports department offers one-to-one mentoring of elite athletes, as well as maintaining extensive links with external sports clubs and associations.

The Academic Enrichment Programme at Leicester Grammar School

The provision of super-curricular activities for pupils within the school can be grouped into six strands.

Maverick Thinkers – A club for pupils in Year 9 run by the Academic Enrichment Co-ordinator. It encourages pupils to develop higher order thinking and research skills, by facilitating the development of their academic interests within small groups. Pupils produce their own blog/multimedia communication and, where relevant, enter age-appropriate national competitions.

Fresh Minds – A club for pupils in Year 10-11 designed to develop a growth mindset by completing an advanced curriculum built on university-based concepts and ideas. Pupils work in groups to research and deliver a STEM research project, often in collaboration with leading academics and industry experts. Projects are submitted for Crest Awards and entry into the Teen Tech Festival.

Curriculum extension – formal curriculum extension opportunities include an extra GCSE in Italian for the most able linguists, Further Maths GCSE for able mathematicians, and the possibility of an early AS Level in Music for the most promising musicians.

Sixth Form extension – A range of opportunities are offered to pupils in Years 12 and 13, including the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and Year 12 Aspire short courses. Mid-way through Year 12 the Academic Enrichment Co-ordinator opens the Competitive Applications programme, a regular lunchtime session aimed at all students considering an Oxbridge and/or other highly demanding university application. The programme allows the

Academic Enrichment Co-ordinator to direct potential applicants towards internal clubs and activities (see below), external competitions and lend support and guidance through the application process.

Department clubs and activities – we offer a wide range of department-led clubs, activities, challenges and competitions. Some focus on skills development (for example, MUN, Debating Club, Greenpower and the Young Scientist and Arts and Humanities Journal), whilst others are focused on university preparation (for example, MedSoc and Physics Extension). Many involve pupils in external competitions (for example, but not limited to, the Bebras Coding Challenge, Maths and Physics Olympiads and Chemistry Challenge). For a more detailed list of current department activities, see below.

External opportunities – the Academic Enrichment Co-ordinator publishes a twice-termly Enrich newsletter, in which she promotes internal and external competitions and challenges for pupils. This newsletter is published to pupils, parents, and staff. Pupils are encouraged to independently take part in competitions and activities advertised, with support available from subject teachers.

Recent and current super-curricular opportunities by age range

It should be noted that the list below is not exhaustive and some activities listed below may run during particular terms. Groups are often set up according to pupils' interests and needs.

Prep	<p>Art: Christmas card competition (internal)</p> <p>Classics: Classics Club</p> <p>Computer Science: Prep Computing Club Bebras UK Challenge, leading onto the Oxford University Computing Challenge</p> <p>DT: Technology Challenge (internal), Electronics Club</p> <p>English: Balcony Bookworms</p> <p>Science: Prep STEM club</p>
Lower School	<p>Art Christmas card competition (internal), Lower School Art Club</p> <p>Biology: Bio Soc</p> <p>Classics: UKLO and EMACT Essay competition, Classics Club</p> <p>Computer Science: Bebras UK Challenge, leading onto the Oxford University Computing Challenge, Cryptography and Cyber Security Challenge, Yr 8 Girls Cyber First Challenge</p>

	<p>DT: Rotary Technology Tournament, Greenpower Challenge</p> <p>English: Shadowing the Children's Book Award, The Arts and Humanities Journal, Balcony Bookworms</p> <p>Geography: Eco Group</p> <p>History: Senior Debating, History Society</p> <p>Maths: Junior Maths Challenge, with follow on rounds in other competitions</p> <p>MFL Spelling Bee and Translation Bee (internal)</p> <p>Music: Music Theory Club</p> <p>Psychology: Year 7 +8 Junior Psychology</p>
Middle School	<p>Art: Royal Academy Competition</p> <p>Biology: Biology Challenge</p> <p>Classics: UKLO led by Classics, EMACT Essay competition in Classics</p> <p>Computer Science: Bebras UK Challenge, leading onto the Oxford University Computing Challenge, Project Euler Club, British Informatics Olympiad, Year 10 +11 programming club</p> <p>English: Journalism Club, Arts and Humanities Journal</p> <p>Geography: World Wise Quiz, Eco Group</p> <p>History: Senior Debating, History Society, The Historical Association Great Debate</p> <p>Linguistics: Year 10-13 Linguistics Advanced</p> <p>MFL: Anthea Bell Competition Club, GCSE Italian (out of curriculum time)</p> <p>Music: Music Theory Club</p> <p>DT: Rotary Technology Tournament, Arkwright Scholarship</p>

	<p>Maths: Intermediate Maths Challenge, with follow on rounds in the Junior Kangaroo or Junior Olympiad, Grey/Pink Kangaroo or Hamilton/MacLaurin Olympiad, Mathematics Olympiad for Girls</p> <p>MFL: Athena Bell Translation Prize</p> <p>Psychology: Psychology Club</p> <p>RS: Philosophy Society</p> <p>Science: Science Challenge</p>
Sixth Form	<p>Art: Life Drawing</p> <p>Biology: Medsoc (also for Vets and Dentists) Bio Soc Intermediate Biology Olympiad, British Biology Olympiad</p> <p>Chemistry: Chemistry Challenge Club, Chemistry Olympiad Challenge</p> <p>DT: Rotary Technology Tournament</p> <p>Economics: The Business and Economics Society; Young Enterprise</p> <p>English: Arts and Humanities Journal, The Leicestrian</p> <p>History: The Historical Association Great Debate, Amnesty Group, History Society, Senior Debating</p> <p>Linguistics: Year 10-13 Linguistics Advanced</p> <p>Maths: Senior Maths Challenge, with potential follow on in the Senior Olympiad and British Mathematical Olympiad, Mathematics Olympiad for Girls</p> <p>MFL: The Stephen Spender Translation Prize</p> <p>Music: Music Theory Club</p> <p>RS: Philosophy Society</p> <p>Physics: Physics and Engineering Extension, Physics Olympiad</p> <p>Science: Young Scientist Journal, Stem Club for Prep</p>