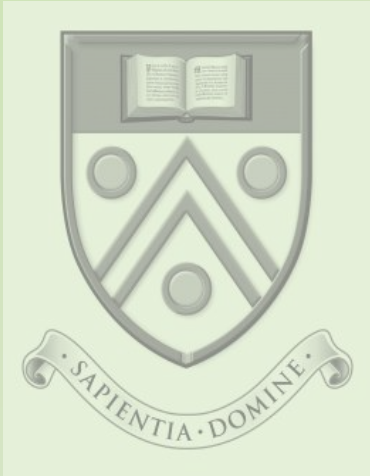


LANGLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL RAISING ACHIEVEMENT AT A LEVEL



Information Evening for
Year 12 Parents



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Agenda for this presentation



- Overview of the next two years
- A level course structure, assessment & the importance of Year 12
- The challenges of A level study and our support for students
- Focus on Study Skills
- Summary and questions



Overview of next two years

- September 2017 Commence AS courses
- January 2018 Subject Assessment week, decision about fourth subject.
- May/June 2018 AS examinations and Internal Exams
- **June/July 2018** **Commence university application process (UCAS), or alternative options**
- August 2018 AS results published
- Sept. 2018 Carry forward 3 or 4 subjects for A Level
- **Sept.– Nov. 2018** **Finalise university applications (or alternatives)**
- Jan 2019 A Level Mock Examinations
- June 2019 A Level Examinations
- August 2019 A level results published

Course structure



- **Year 12:** Three or four AS levels with 2 or 3 units in each subject (may include controlled assessments / practical units)
- **Year 13:** Typically three subjects taken to A2, again with 2 or 3 units in each subject (may include controlled assessments / practical units)
- **All A Levels follow the linear format- Final A level grade based on A level units ONLY taken in June 2019.**



The A* grade at A Level

- Awarded for the first time in 2010
- Need to have an overall grade A at A2 **and** average over 90% in across the A2 units
- No A* at AS level

This year is hugely important:



- AS courses lay the ground for A2
- Progression to A2 dependent on achievement at AS: students with a “U” grade will not normally progress to A2
- All AS grades will be on university applications (UCAS)
- This year provides the evidence for predicted grades for UCAS
- University offers are dependent on AS grades & predicted grades

Target grades

Mean GCSE score and **Minimum** target A level grades
(A*=58, A=52, B=46, C=40 etc)



Approx GCSE grades	QCA score band	Indicative Grade Outcomes
Mainly A and A*	55.0–58.0	A*AAA/A*AA
Mainly As	52.0–<55.0	AAA
Mainly As few Bs	50.2–<52.0	ABB
Mainly As & Bs	48.4–<50.2	BBB
Mainly Bs few As	46.6–<48.4	BBC
Just over all Bs	44.8–<46.6	BCC
Mainly Bs few Cs	43.0–<44.8	CCC
Mainly Cs few Bs	41.2–<43.0	CCD
Mainly Cs	38.2–<41.2	CDD
D/Es with 4 Cs	34.0–<38.2	CDD/DDD
Mainly 2/3 Cs+	10.0–<34.0	CDD/DDD



Converting AS grades to A level results (LGS 2014)

A level Grade

	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U
A	42	105	31	2			
B	2	35	54	18	3		
C		5	31	32	5	1	
D		1	6	15	14	2	
E	1		3	4	4	5	
U				1	3	1	
Total No.	45	146	125	72	29	9	



Converting AS grades to A level results (LGS 2017)

A level Grade

	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U
A	77	83	22	6			
B	6	38	64	25	3		
C	2	14	28	34	11	1	
D			8	12	9	8	
E			1	3	3	2	2
U					2		1
Total No.	85	135	123	80	28	11	3



GCSE and A level study: What is the difference?

- Expectation of independent learning
- Productive private study in school and at home
- Course content much deeper and more intellectually demanding
- Success demands consistent effort through the year
- **Cannot recover lost ground in final few weeks before examinations**
- **Revision needs to have started now.**



Independent Learning

- Take personal responsibility for progress, asking teachers questions about how to attain the next grade up.
- Be organised to use private study time at school and at home productively.
- Part-time job- no more than 8hrs per week (outside school hours).
- Home study concession (conditional!)
- Plan carefully to work on coursework assignments and meet deadlines
- Students should commit to spend as much time on their studies outside lessons as they do in lessons
- Opportunity to carry out an 'Extended Project'

Independent Learning



- Student Handbook
- Study Skills session and follow up tutorial activities
- Individual contracts
- Tracking/Monitoring

Magic Wand Information

- Specifications/ MyPLC
- Wider reading
- 3hrs each evening
- Strategies for focused study
- Asking teachers for how to improve.
- Reading through class notes, 'fleshing these out' and then completing topic questions.

Monitoring Progress



- **Bridging Work**- assessed broadly- after 2 wks
- **Pastoral Review**- after 6 wks
- **Assessment Week WB 15 Jan** –decisions about AS entry.
- **Parent/Teacher Consultation 1** 31 January
- **Parent/teacher consultation 2** End of May
- **Student Led Reviews** WB 21 May
- **Year 12 Internal Exams**- WB 25 June
- Pastoral/ Subject Intervention and Mentoring available



Support from school

- Study mentoring and Careers Guidance (Ms J Ray)
- Teachers
- Tutors
- Higher Education toolkit- ODRIVE/SIXTH FORM RESOURCES/UCAS
- Deputy Head of Sixth Form- Mr M Aplin or Ms F Northcott(Tel. 01753 598364/5)
- Head of Sixth Form: Ms H Makowski
(Tel. 01753 598317 email: helenamakowski@lgs.slough.sch.uk)

Support from home



- Reinforce the messages about personal organisation and regular commitment of time to personal study
- Help to identify good times (and places) for study
- Support good working practices e.g. an hour's quality study followed by a ten minute break etc.



Beyond the curriculum

- The Sixth Form is also about gaining broader experience and developing as a well rounded individual:
 - Enrichment opportunities
 - Participation in sport / community service / mentoring projects
 - Student Leadership
 - Reading around subjects
 - Super-curricular opportunities

Beyond the curriculum: more ideas



- **TED talks & iTunesU**
- **University websites:**
 - blogs, podcasts, reading lists, public events, taster courses
- **Museums & galleries**
- **Radio 4 on iPlayer:**
 - More or Less, Material World, Costing the Earth, Front Row



Beyond the curriculum: more ideas

- **Work experience/shadowing:** **ESSENTIAL** for vocational courses (e.g. Healthcare, Teaching, Law, Journalism, Architecture, Accountancy); **HIGHLY DESIRABLE** for many others
- **Volunteering:** www.do-it.org.uk
 - Working in a charity shop/fund raising → planning & organisation, team working, budgeting, marketing
 - Regular contact with any “vulnerable” group → empathy, listening skills, compassion, emotional resilience
- **Any role involving regular contact with general public helps to develop employability skills:**
 - e.g. Library or Sports Centre assistant, Maths tutor

Study Skills Sessions

elevate
education



Two sessions:

‘Study Sensei’: Tuesday 03 October 2017

‘Ace Your Exams’: Tuesday 15 May 2018

Key Dates: post-18 options



Enrichment (ongoing)

October

Careers Talks

Pathways Launch assembly and Unifrog

November

'Getting into Competitive Universities'

January

Career Profiling (Centigrade), *optional*

January

Professional and Industry Expert Speednetworking

From March onwards:

One-to-one interviews start

March

UCAS Exhibition Trip

June

UCAS Meeting for Parents

19 June

Passport for Life Day 1

6 July:

Passport for Life Day 2

June/July/Sept:

University Open Days

By end of summer term:

First draft of Personal Statement