

Laurence Jackson School

A Specialist Sports College



Information for Parents

WELCOME TO LAURENCE JACKSON SCHOOL

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to Laurence Jackson School. Everyone associated with the school is justly proud of what has been achieved over recent years and I feel immensely privileged to be leading this impressive school through its next phase of development. However, the governors, staff and parents are not complacent and share a great ambition for the future of the school and all its students. At LJS, our core purpose is to 'Improve the Life Chances' of all students regardless of ability, background or circumstance. High expectations, together with an unrelenting focus on student achievement and well-being are at the core of our effectiveness. Learning is at the heart of everything we do and for effective learning to take place there has to be high standards of behaviour. This is something on which we insist, both during school time and in the community, working within the caring and respectful ethos that is LJS. Moving to secondary school is a very important time in the life of your child and if we are to work together successfully, it is

important that you have confidence in the school you have chosen. Not only are we proud of our academic achievements and the exceptional progress our students make, but we place high value on the importance of enrichment, offering a wide range of quality learning experiences outside the classroom. As a sports college, our superb range of extra-curricular activities encourages greater participation and development of healthy lifestyles. Most departments offer extra-curricular enrichment and we provide numerous clubs, teams, practices, visits and residential throughout the school year. We believe that these experiences are essential in helping young people develop the lifelong skills required for the world beyond their secondary education. We hope you choose LJS and look forward to working in partnership with parents/carers to ensure that we maximize the potential of every individual.

(Belinda Wheatman, Headteacher)



It is a privilege to be a governor of Laurence Jackson School and to 'add value' to daily school life. As governors, we never forget that we are here to help ensure that LJS students receive the very best opportunities. Believing in continuous improvement, we set ambitious goals and provide long-term strategic leadership for the benefit of the entire school community
(Alan Ankers, Chair of Governors)



"Clear leadership has contributed to improving rates of progress"
(Ofsted)

Improving life chances

*“Students are
making good
progress in key
subjects”
(Ofsted 2016)*



Improving life chances

Our Vision

Laurence Jackson, a school to be proud of at the heart of the community. A place where everyone is valued and learning is cherished in a safe, caring and supportive environment.

LJS is an exciting, vibrant learning community where we

- Value everyone equally
- Prepare all learners for the challenges of the 21st century
- Celebrate talent, reliability, endeavour and achievement
- Develop independent learning and enquiring minds
- Promote active participation and healthy lifestyles as a specialist sports college
- Aim to improve the life chances of every individual

At the heart of the community

Laurence Jackson School places itself at the heart of the community. It opens its doors to parents, students and all the community through a variety of experiences, opportunities and events.

- Musical/Drama/Dance productions/ OAP Concert
- Parents' Evenings
- After school classes
- A wide range of sporting events
- Charity events
- A wide range of clubs
- Links with businesses

Improving life chances



"I have loved my experience during my time in BTEC Dance, it has helped my confidence in all of my subjects, there's never a negative vibe from our teacher which has made the whole time so enjoyable. It has also improved my teamwork skills."

(Year 11 Student)

Results Day 2017



"The quality of teaching is good and improving and is enabling the majority of students to make better rates of progress"

Educational Outcomes

At LJS we have high expectations for all our students. We set aspirational targets to create a climate of success that enables our students to thrive.

Students are supported in their academic journey with high quality teaching and learning and a rigorous monitoring and intervention programme.

Educational outcomes 2016

61% A*- C in Eng and Maths

22.7% Ebacc

68.8% English Language

72.5% English Literature

66.4% Maths

98% Biology

98% Chemistry

100% Biology

64.6% Combined Sciences

66.5% Additional Science

66.7% ICT

Improving life chances

Curriculum Provision

Students at Laurence Jackson access a broad and diverse curriculum that enables all students to make the best of their talents, whilst acquiring the skills and knowledge to succeed in the wider world.

Key Stage 3

On arrival in the school each student is placed into an appropriate year group and house. Within a year group each student is allocated into a mixed ability form. In Year 7, students are taught in mixed ability forms for some subjects but are set in others, such as the core subjects. Most departments decide to set students during their first year as a result of their own internal assessments. At the end of each year students are assessed by their teachers in each of the subjects studied.

House names and colours:

Applegarth: Red

Hutton: Blue

Priory: Yellow

Roseberry: Green

Improving life chances

Key Stage 4

There have been significant curriculum changes over the past few years and these changes will continue until 2018. The Core subjects: English, Maths and Science, along with the English Baccalaureate subjects History, Geography and MFL have been delivering the new curriculum to our KS4 students.

From September 2017, other subjects commence their new curriculum with their first exams being taken in 2019.

As a result of these new curriculum changes and the greater curriculum content within these subjects we have commenced the KS4 curriculum for some subjects in Year 9. These include English, Mathematics, Science, GCSE MFL French & Spanish and Business & Communication Systems. All other options subjects commence in Year 10 and follow a two year syllabus.

Options currently follow a Pathway route, to fulfil every child's potential, whilst conforming to the Government's National Curriculum requirements .



*"Students demonstrate a positive approach to learning"
(Ofsted 2016)*

Additional Curriculum Information

Careers Education Information and Guidance

The school aims to give all our students an awareness of the education, training and careers opportunities available to them Post 16. Our comprehensive Careers Education Information and Guidance programme includes talks, visits, videos, college taster courses, use of a computer database, action planning, individual vocational guidance interviews, a making opportunities programme, an annual careers convention and a full week's work experience.

Laurence Jackson has recently been awarded the coveted "Investors in Careers" status. CEIAG provision is provided by our Routes to Employment dedicated careers advisors who provide up to date, impartial careers advice to students.

Business and Enterprise Links

The school has, through its specialism, supported by other curriculum areas, developed extensive links with local businesses. Throughout their school life students are encouraged to develop their enterprise skills. These skills are developed through a number of different activities such as work experience, taking part in enterprise activities, working towards the Duke of Edinburgh Award, participating in a school team, getting a part time job, or organising an event or trip.



Home Learning

At Laurence Jackson we believe that all students should develop skills as independent learners. Home study plays an important part in the development of this skill and is essential if students are to achieve maximum success in their work. Students are expected to take responsibility for their learning and read around their subjects. The Headteacher's Challenge, various apps and websites are available for extension work.



Progress Checks

For parents, we aim to encourage full involvement in the life of the school and provide a range of information so as to encourage improved understanding and closer liaison between home and school.

Throughout the school year parents are kept informed of their son/daughter's progress. Progress Checks are issued at set times throughout the year and help to inform parents of their child's progress, effort and behaviour.

Improving life chances

LJS has achieved a huge array of positive accolades centred around our Sports College Specialism.

Despite government changes Laurence Jackson School has retained its title as a Sports College, as we vehemently believe in the power that PE and Sport has to positively impact the lives of young people.

Our focus on high quality PE with numerous extra curricular opportunities was recognised when we were awarded Youth Sport Trust Gold Partner status and the Sainsbury's School Games Gold kitemark.

Improving life chances

Laurence Jackson School, a Specialist Sports College

At Key Stage 3 the PE curriculum includes a wide range of activities with the emphasis on high levels of participation and skill development. As well as core PE at Key Stage 4, we offer several extremely successful qualifications including GCSE PE and BTEC Dance. The Sports College also boasts an extensive lunchtime and after-school club timetable and competitive fixtures delivered by PE staff and external coaches.

As a Sports College, partnership opportunities form an integral part of the positive work we do and we have strong links with local primary and secondary schools through our School Sport Partnership.

In addition to this the Sports College also has its own handsomely refurbished leisure centre which serves the local community on evenings and weekends together with a fabulous new full size 3G AGP. Further details about the sports college and leisure centre can be found on our school website;
www.laurencejackson.org



"We love all sport on offer"
Y9 Student

Care and Support at Laurence Jackson School

We place the utmost importance on the pastoral care we provide with emphasis being on the development of the individual both socially and academically.

Students have Form Tutors, each with an Associate, and each year group is allocated a dedicated Year Leader and Student Welfare Manager. Within each tutor group students are part of one of four houses – Applegarth, Hutton, Priory or Roseberry.

Improving life chances

Student Voice

We value the vision and views of our students and actively encourage their involvement in the school's Student council, each form has two student council representatives

Student representatives from our active Student council attend Governor meetings and are involved evaluating many aspects of school life and make their voice heard in a very positive manner. Students also have the opportunity to become involved in consultation projects outside of school. Students also have the opportunity to join the school debating project.

"We believe Laurence Jackson School is one of the best educational environments in the area with fantastic facilities"
(Student Council)

Behaviour for Learning

All students are expected to behave in a responsible manner and show consideration, courtesy and respect for other people, property, and their surroundings. The Behaviour for Learning Policy is clearly spelt out to students and there are well defined courses of action which may be taken if students do not meet our expectations.



READY



RESPECTFUL



SAFE

Parents and the School

We regard our relationship with our parents as a partnership which is essential if students are to reach their full potential.

Friends of Laurence Jackson School

The Friends of LJS represents parents, teachers of students at the school and the school's support staff, as well as members of the local community. They meet regularly to promote partnership with the staff and school in the education of our children. A major role of the Friends of LJS is fundraising which is used to support students in the school.



Our School Day

Our school day is organised to provide education at times when our students learn best and also to maximize opportunities for extra curricular activities. Our morning session starts at 8.25 am and ends at 12.05 pm, with a 20 minute break from 10.45 am. The afternoon session starts at 12.55 pm and ends at 3.00 pm.

The times above include five 1 hour teaching periods, a mid-morning break, lunch period and a tutorial session.

All students are expected to stay on site at all times and must sign out for any medical appointments, having provided bona fide evidence.



For more information:

- *visit our website*
www.laurencejackson.org
- *E-mail*
reception@laurencejackson.org
-  *@LJ_School*
- *visit our Facebook page*

Improving life chances