



Shape the future



Prospectus 2021



Celebrating success

Join us, and share in our achievements



74%

A*-B grades

99%

A*-E grades

achieved based on a three-year grade average (2017-19)



93%

of students progress to higher education



43%

of graduating Hills Road students were awarded a First at University in 2019

93%

were awarded a 2:1 or better

Second highest Y12 to Y13 transition rate

of any other Sixth Form College in the UK

Highest points score

of any other Sixth Form College in the UK



75

students

secured offers for entry at Oxford and Cambridge in 2020

Ofsted rated

Outstanding

Shaping your future

Thank you for your interest in Hills Road Sixth Form College.



JO TRUMP,
PRINCIPAL

I hope that in these pages we can convey something of the unique flavour of Hills Road where I am lucky enough to be the Principal.

You'll find that Hills Road is a busy, vibrant, exciting community of young people. Our aims are, not only that you should leave us brilliantly prepared for your first choice destination, but that you should be resourceful and resilient young adults who are curious about the world and ready to take your place in it.

Now more than ever we need to help you think globally and act locally with acts of kindness and social responsibility that help to shape all of our futures. While the world is on pause, this is our opportunity to educate ourselves and one another to create the future that we all want to be part of.

And this is a College of opportunity to do just that. There are so many ways to get involved when you join us. We hold high expectations for ourselves and our students because we want you to have the chance to be the best version of yourself at the end of your time with us.

Hills Road is very much a half-way house between school and university or the world of work. We look forward to helping you on that journey, starting with your application to join us as a Hills Road student and to shape the future with us.

*Welcome to
Hills Road*

Helping you to navigate your next step

Choosing the education environment that is right for you is a hugely important first step in making the transition from Key Stage Four to adulthood.

As a specialist Sixth Form College, our focus is to help you achieve the A level results you need. However, our responsibility to you goes much further. During your time at the College, we aim to equip you with the vital life skills that will help you with your future programme, no matter which path you choose.

Confident and creative learners

We encourage you to think harder and challenge what you already know. We give you the opportunity and space to explore ideas and interests that fire your imagination, and we inspire you to set ambitious goals.

Resourceful and resilient individuals

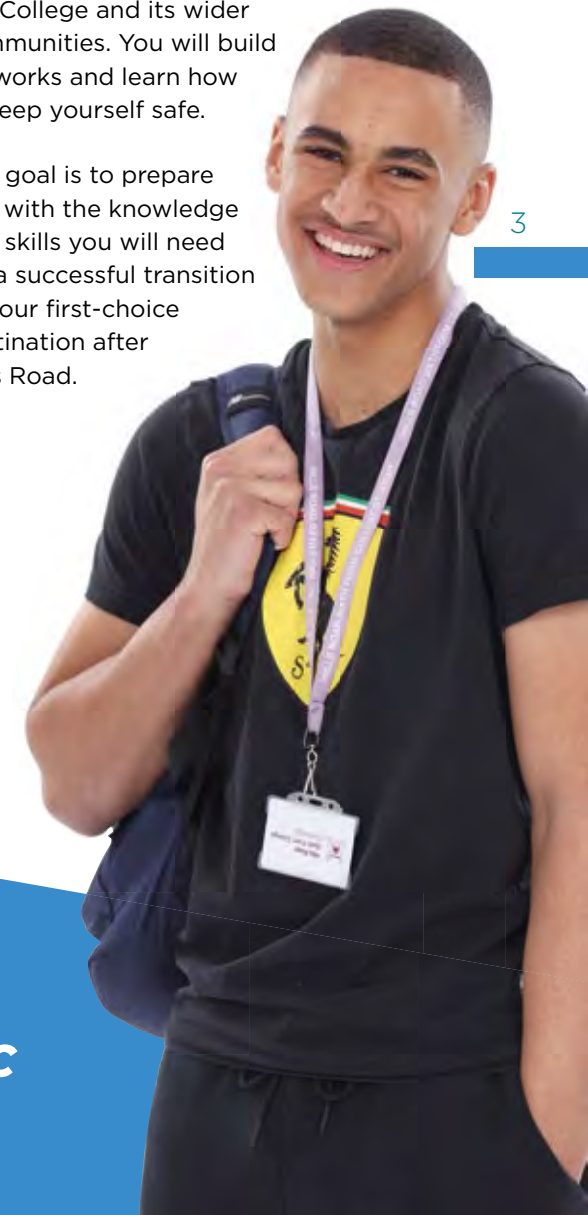
We encourage you to learn more about yourself and your capabilities. We support you to develop critical and creative thinking skills, as well as learning how to become more organised and to take on more responsibilities.

Responsible and active citizens

Alongside your core subjects, you will learn more broadly about the world around you and contribute to the College and its wider communities. You will build networks and learn how to keep yourself safe.

Our goal is to prepare you with the knowledge and skills you will need for a successful transition to your first-choice destination after Hills Road.

Welcome to our vibrant and dynamic community!



Becoming an effective independent learner

Success in employment and higher education depends on the ability to be both resourceful and independent.

As a high achieving Sixth Form College, we specialise in having the services, resources and facilities that allow you to develop the high level skills you need to thrive at university and in employment.

Our expert A level teachers understand the importance of supporting your smooth transfer from secondary school to Advanced level study, and will help you make the most of our post-16 learning environment. It is designed to enable you to become the very best independent learner you can be.

When you join the College, you may find you need help initially to reap the rewards students enjoy through

managing their own study effectively. If this is the case, then help is at hand!

Confident learners

Right from our Induction Programme at the beginning of your time with us, we will be focused on helping you to develop the right approaches to Advanced level study.

This includes learning how to manage your time most effectively. As an Advanced level student, you'll be given significant amounts of independent tasks and it's important to get into good time management and study habits early.

The College has numerous student study areas allowing you to complete much of your independent study during the College day if you're organised.

When you start with us, your tutor will guide you through what it means to be an independent learner; how to organise your time, manage your workload and when you should be asking for help.

We want you to leave us as confident learners: able to shape your own future through the skills you've developed.



“The independent style of learning at Hills was an adjustment; However, I was quickly able to get to grips with it and found myself not only with more time, but able to learn in my own way.”



Walking beside you

Starting Hills will feel exciting, and possibly a little daunting. That's why your tutor is there for you, from day one!

Your dedicated tutor

On your first day at Hills Road, you will meet your tutor. They will be with you during your time at the College, and they are your go-to person if you need help, or if you just need someone to talk to. You will meet with them

every week for group tutorials and one-to-one sessions.

Your tutor will also make sure you are receiving the right level of help and guidance for your needs so that you can make the very best of your time at Hills.

Making a successful transition

Our tutorial programme, at the beginning of Year 12, is designed to help you quickly settle in to how the College works and what it means to be an independent learner.

Your new student Induction Programme will include:

- Choosing your Enrichment options
- What independent learning means and how to make it work best for you
- Managing change and looking after your wellbeing
- How to become a socially aware member of the College and its wider community
- How to make online learning work for you



“My tutor Katie is always there for me. She wants the best for me and I couldn't ask more from her.”



“The support here is amazing. My tutor, Patrick, is there for me whenever I need to talk through anything.”

BEN

Throughout your two years at Hills, your tutor will support you every step of the way.

RIGHT: Inspired by Frida Kahlo, Lucy created a selection of merchandise featuring the artist.



The Extended Project Qualification

At the heart of our study programme is the requirement for every student to develop and realise an Advanced level project entirely of their own devising.

Delivered in Year 12, the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) offers the chance for you to gain real independence, resilience and maturity as an Advanced level learner while pursuing any topic of your choosing. From staging a fashion show or designing a carbon-neutral house to researching ground-breaking cancer therapies or beginning the novel you've always wanted to write, the Extended Project presents a fantastic opportunity both to pursue your interests and to spread your wings. ▶▶



LEFT: With an interest in making jams and pickles, Ben set up a company called Black Squirrel Preserves.

RIGHT: Tatiana wanted to crochet a doll of a controversial figure. Who better to choose than Donald Trump!



"I chose to make a dinosaur because palaeontology has long been a passion of mine. I spent 8 months fabricating the bones and learnt lots of new skills which will help me in the future."

WILL

RIGHT: A skeleton of an Allosaurus Fragilis made out of scrap metal.



LEFT: Daniel made an orrery that accurately shows how the planets and moon revolve around the sun.



RIGHT: Kate (on the left) created a website which includes plant-based recipes, photography, nutritional information and blogs.



RIGHT: Krutika promoted the hobby of beekeeping to younger people by making a series of YouTube videos.



Would you like to learn a new skill?

No matter where your interests lie, the Extended Project is the perfect opportunity to try something different and is at the heart of students' study programmes at Hills Road. You decide the topic, you assess your progress and you determine what your final dissertation, artefact, performance or event will be!

Why is this project important?

Taught in a university-style, through seminars and one-to-one tutorials, this qualification prepares you for both higher education and employment, and focuses on all of those crucial skills that you develop as you take a project through from the drawing board to delivery.

RIGHT: Olenska created Osh's Nosh - a student cookbook that was cost effective and promoted batch cooking.



Why do 100% of Hills Road students take the qualification?

The EPQ is well-regarded by universities and is equivalent to half an A level. The project provides evidence that the transition from college to university will be a smooth one for students who have successfully demonstrated their aptitude for independent learning.



ABOVE: Phyllis designed and built a set for the play 'End of the Line' which was performed at Cambridge's ADC Theatre!



LEFT: Holly created a hand written book about plants used in medicine.

Enrich your experience

There are over 100 clubs, societies and teams to choose from. Find out more about our incredible Enrichment opportunities.



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At Hills Road, there are lots of opportunities for you to take part in activities beyond your A level subjects. A real strength of the Hills experience is the significant variety and diversity of enriching pursuits on offer.

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Enrichment: Year 12 programme and activities

All students in Year 12 undertake Enrichment as part of their study programme and there are lots of activities to choose from!

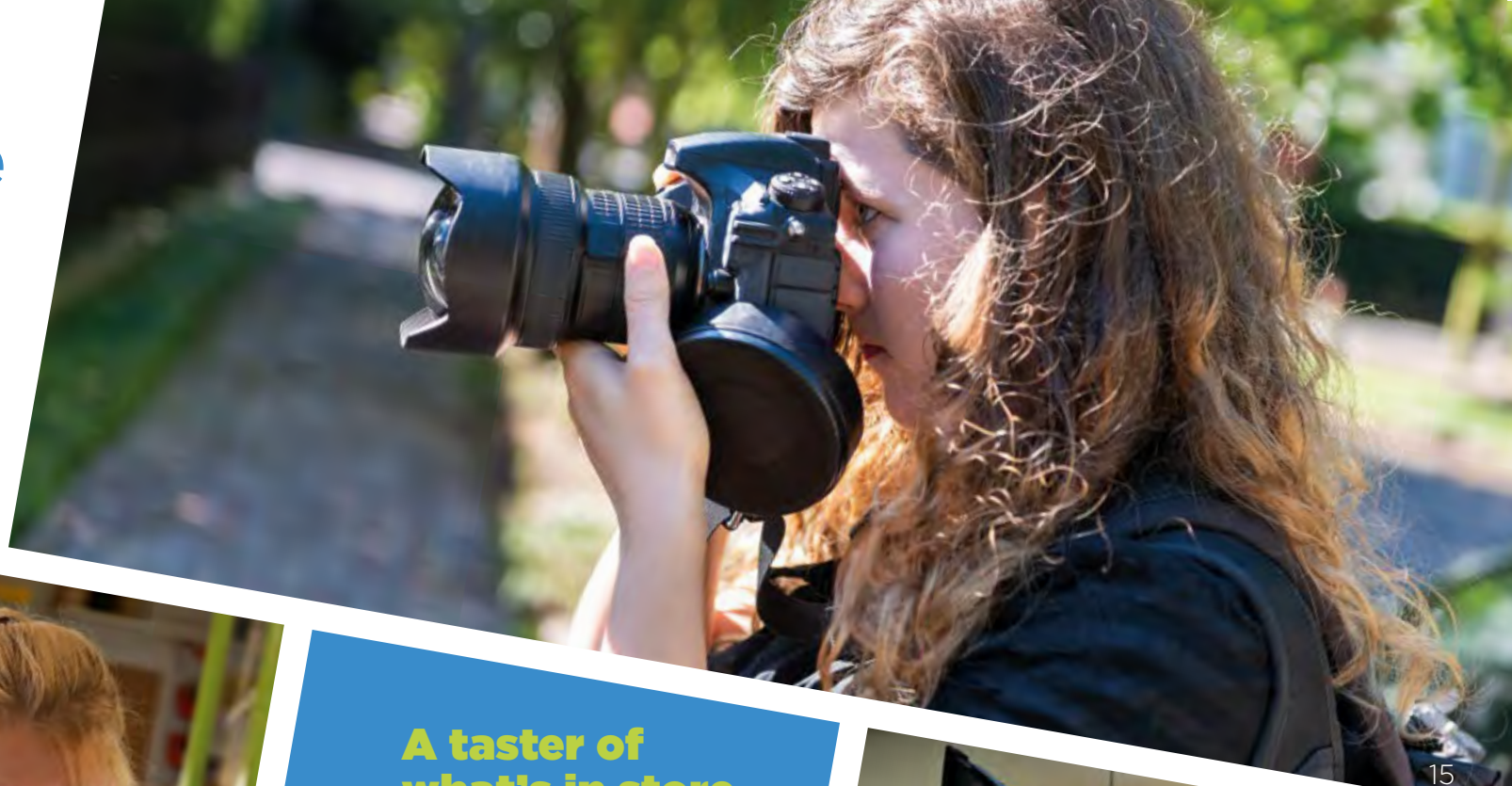
Why is Enrichment an essential part of your learning?

Skills and talents develop in different ways, and they are not always related to your A level subjects. It could even be that you find a new talent or skill through Enrichment that you would like to turn into your Extended Project. Perhaps you will develop architectural skills and will consider your own Grand Design, or maybe choosing Debating will encourage you to start a political commentary blog.

Whatever you decide, Enrichment is your chance to try something new.



"I chose to do DJ Skills which was fun and different, and it was really nice to do something practical that wasn't like any lesson."



A taster of what's in store

- Chinese
- Cricket
- Dance
- Debating
- Digital Photography
- Drama
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award
- Esports
- First Aid
- Forensic Science
- Italian
- Jazz Orchestra
- Learn to Row
- Music Technology
- Pottery
- Psychology
- Robotics
- Sport
- Technical Theatre



Enrichment: Performing Arts

If you enjoy acting, dancing or the technical side of theatre, there are opportunities to be involved in productions as part of your Enrichment programme.

Drama Productions

Every year, Year 12 Enrichment students put on two large-scale productions. At the end of the Autumn term, students perform a musical; previous shows include *One Man Two Guvvners*, *Legally Blonde*, *Sister Act*, *Sweeney Todd* and *West Side Story*.



During the Summer term, the Enrichment production is a play; previous performances include *A Matter Of Life And Death*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *Twelfth Night* and *Metamorphosis*.

Technical Theatre

As part of your Enrichment, you can choose to take Technical Theatre where you will learn the skills necessary to become the crew for the first drama production in December. If you like

being part of the technical team, you can also take part in additional performances during your two years at the College.

Dance company

If you are a confident contemporary dancer, then this could be an exciting Enrichment opportunity for you. Open to all enthusiastic and experienced dancers, this group runs throughout the year to create a performance piece that's either live or filmed.

Student-led productions

Do you love theatre and want to write or direct your own production? Perhaps you are thinking about writing a play for your EPQ? If so, this opportunity could be perfect for you! You will be invited to pitch your idea, and if you are successful, we will help you to stage your production in our very own Robinson Theatre with assistance from the Performing Arts team.



Y12 students performing *Sister Act* in the Robinson Theatre.

“Whether or not you take Drama, there’s no shortage of shows to take part in at Hills. I’ve been involved in the full-scale Enrichment musical, and a student-directed Shakespeare play. Both were amazing opportunities to meet new people.”



For more info visit:
[www.hillsroad.ac.uk/
performing-arts](http://www.hillsroad.ac.uk/performing-arts)

Enrichment: Music

We have a diverse range of opportunities for all musicians from performing with the Symphony Orchestra to playing in the Folk/Roots Group and Jazz Orchestra.

As part of your programme of Enrichment in Year 12, you can choose to join a music group as your timetabled activity, which could include the College Choir, Jazz Choir, Jazz Orchestra, and Folk/Roots Group. Auditions are not required for these ensembles; you just need to sign-up!

Auditioned Ensembles

Chamber Choir, Symphony Orchestra (woodwind and brass sections, and principal positions) require you to audition. The Symphony Orchestra string section and Wind Orchestra may require auditions. You will be invited to sign up for our ensembles in June 2021.

Concerts and tours

Our ensembles play in formal and informal concerts held at venues such as Ely Cathedral, King's College Chapel, West Road Concert Hall and the College, with plenty of opportunities for solo performances.



The Chamber Choir and a group of instrumentalists tour overseas every two years, alternating with the Jazz Orchestra and Folk/Roots group.

Instrumental Award Scheme

The Instrumental Award Scheme brings together musicians to create small ensembles of the highest quality. For more information visit www.hillsroad.ac.uk/musical-activities

Instrumental and singing tuition

We offer tuition for a variety of instruments and singing. For our full programme visit www.hillsroad.ac.uk/music-tuition

Our ensembles include:

- Symphony Orchestra
- Wind Orchestra
- Jazz Orchestra
- Folk/Roots Group
- Instrumental Award Scheme
- College Choir
- Jazz Choir
- Chamber Choir

For more info visit:
www.hillsroad.ac.uk/musical-activities

"I have met so many new friends and had lots of Enrichment opportunities, including singing at Ely Cathedral."



Enrichment: Sport

Hills Road students achieve sporting excellence in equal measure to their academic success, supported by the fantastic facilities available at the College.

Sport for Enrichment is an excellent way to enjoy recreational sporting activities in a social environment; make friends and play non-competitively. You can choose to take part in archery, badminton, five-a-side football, learn to row, racquet sports, social netball and tennis!

Competitive sports and teams

While we offer a wide range of social sports, the College also has a regional and national reputation for its sporting success.

We pride ourselves in providing high-quality, competitive sport. We have 37 sports teams covering many different sports, with students competing at county, regional and national levels. Hills are the holders of the coveted Association of Colleges Clifford Dixon Trophy where our students amassed the highest number of points for



competitions in the region, making us the best Sports College in the East.

In recent years, we have had national representatives in wheelchair basketball, cross country, hockey, athletics, cricket and tennis.

Sports trials take place in the summer, so this enables you to aim for selection to become part of the thriving sporting community at the College, making you ready to get training straight after induction. Teams meet for weekly training sessions and match play.

"I got very involved with the rowing team at Hills, which has been a great opportunity to meet new people and develop new skills."



Our competitive sports teams

- Badminton
- Basketball
- Cheer
- Cricket
- Football
- Hockey
- Netball
- Rowing
- Rugby
- Table Tennis
- Tennis
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Volleyball





First-class training facilities

The College's sports facilities offer all students the opportunity to use some of the best sporting amenities in East Anglia.

Outdoor pitches: As well as the nine acres of football, rugby and cricket pitches that the College owns at Luard Road, we also recently opened a million-pound purpose-built pavilion to support our students' sporting success.

Competition level tennis courts: Our indoor and outdoor courts include the only clay courts in Cambridgeshire. You have the opportunity to train to a high standard with first-class facilities.

Hills Road Gym: The newly refurbished gym, with state-of-the-art equipment, is perfect for fitness enthusiasts who

want advanced functionality and exclusive programmes as part of their fitness training.

Sports Hall: The sports hall hosts a variety of activities such as volleyball, basketball, five-a-side football, netball, circuits, aerobics, table tennis and badminton.

Cricket Hall: The Sir Jack Hobbs Cricket Hall has a floor surface comparable with the cricket school at Lords, and two bowling machines that deliver the perfect ball every time at up to 90mph!

Squash Court: The Centre also has a squash court available for students to hire.

Club sports teams

If you are passionate about a Club sport, then we will do our best to support your interests. Some of our most popular Club sports that our students currently compete in include athletics, bouldering, cross country running, equestrian, golf, skiing, squash and swimming.



Guest speakers

Here is a selection of some of the inspiring speakers our students have had the privilege of meeting.

What is education for? Dr Rowan Williams, Master, Magdalene College, Cambridge.

DR ROWAN WILLIAMS



More women needed in Parliament

Dolly Theis, Director of 50:50 Parliament's #AskHerToStand campaign to encourage more women to stand for Parliament.

Tuberculosis from zebrafish embryos

Professor Lalita Ramakrishnan, MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, University of Cambridge.

Exoplanets: planets outside the solar system! Annelies Mortier, Kavli Institute Fellow in exoplanets, University of Cambridge.

Workplace culture: experiences of a woman in Politics

Lucy Nethsingha, Liberal Democrats Councillor, former MEP and Chair of Legal Affairs Committee in the European Parliament.

The nervous system: the life and death of cells inside your head

Professor Michael Coleman, van Geest Professor of Neuroscience, Babraham Institute and Cambridge Centre for Brain Repair.

Saving cultures in India and Nepal

Professor Juliet Vickery, Head of International Research, RSPB Centre for Conservation Science.

The ideal character of Muslim youth

Dr Sejad Mekić, Head Imam of the Cambridge Central Mosque on Mill Road.

PROFESSOR JULIET VICKERY



Whole cohort event: Racism and Privilege

The event reflected on the experiences of racial injustice in society and considered how we, as a community unite in our shared aim to combat injustice, wherever we may find it.



Clubs and Societies

You can either join an established group or set-up your own!

There are established groups from LGBT+ and Politics to Debating and Robotics, but if you think something is missing, then we encourage you to set up a group to support your interests,

no matter how niche they may be. The vibrant diversity of our students means you are likely to meet someone with similar interests to help get your new activity off the ground.



Running Society

Taking you to new and wonderful places!

The range of trips and activities offered by almost every subject is guaranteed to excite and inspire you!

We take great pride in the partnerships that we have developed and the strong relationships we have with partner schools and institutions, both in this country and overseas. These partnerships enable you to enrich your classroom experience, expand your cultural horizons and enjoy the benefits of working as a group in exciting new environments.

Broadening your horizons

As a College we are outward and forward-looking, encouraging awareness of our global community.

Our dedicated staff organise a wide range of trips and exchange visits to destinations in the UK and abroad, including to Amsterdam, Berlin, Bilbao, Geneva, Hamburg, Montpellier, New York, Paris, Rome, Sweden and Venice!

There are numerous opportunities to extend and support your learning from regular theatre visits with Performing Arts and English to the PE trip to Boston.



PE Trip to Boston, USA



History of Art trip to Paris



Art trip to Amsterdam



Ski Course trip to the Ziller Valley, Austria



Physics trip to CERN, Switzerland



Politics trip to New York



Geology trip to Dorset



Music trip to Prague, Czech Republic



Geography trip to Beijing, China

A vibrant College community

We ask that all students become active members of our dynamic community.

You will be encouraged to:

- Improve your skills of enquiry and communication
- Learn how to exercise your rights and responsibilities effectively
- Develop your role as a well-informed and active citizen

Student Council

As a council member, you ensure your fellow students have a voice by contributing to the decisions being made that may affect their College experience.



#HillsFest

One of the highlights of the year. You take time away from your A level studies to focus on the wider world and have fun while learning about other cultures and engaging in something new.

#HillsSocialAction

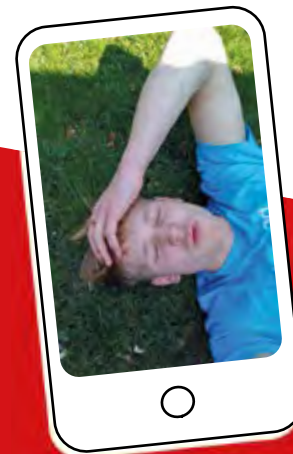
Every Year 12 is required to get involved in Social Action Week - a week-long project challenge to raise £10,000 for charities. The fundraising event provides a strong opportunity for you to connect with a cause you feel passionate about and gives you the chance to make social action part of your learning experience at the College.



"We were amazed at the response and generosity of the people who donated and by how much you can achieve when you put in the work."

GEORGIA

In 2019, the Year 12s smashed their target by raising a record £26,434.



#5KCharityRun

Every year, Hills students take part in a charity run to raise money for several good causes close to the College's heart. In 2020, despite lockdown, students took part in a virtual run from their homes! In total, the College's charity runs have raised over £100,000, and we look forward to the 12th annual run in 2021!



Where are they now?



Barrister **Laura Robinson**

1994-96

What were your subjects?

Chemistry, Physics, Maths and Double Maths.

Which clubs and societies did you join?

Pop, Choir and Squash.

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“Hills Road taught me to be independent, focussed and ambitious. Being in an environment where excellence is expected pushes everyone on to achieve their goals.”

What did you do when you left?

I did a BSc Natural Sciences at Durham University, then went to the College of Law to do a Postgraduate Diploma in Law (Common Professional Examination) and then the Bar Vocational Course. I was called to the Bar (Inner Temple) in 2001.

What you are doing now?

I am a barrister and a member of Chambers at 12 King’s Bench Walk, Temple.



Performance Artist **Susanna Cork** **AKA SuRie**

2005-07

What were your subjects?

English Language, Music, Music Tech and Performance Studies.

Which clubs and societies did you join?

Performing Arts.

What did you do when you left?

I studied at the Royal Academy of Music.



“The incredible opportunities, tutoring, friendships and connections I had at Hills have hugely shaped who I am and what I do. I’m forever grateful for being encouraged and supported to be creative, curious, competitive and uniquely myself.”

What are you doing now?

Singer, songwriter, actor and musical director.

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Scientist **Holly Rees**

2009-11

What were your subjects?

Biology, Chemistry, Double Maths and Physics.

Which clubs and societies did you join?

Cross country running and Italian.

Being a student at Hills Road instilled in me the confidence to ask for what I needed, and the skills to do so kindly and considerately. This was alongside a wonderful science education!

What did you do when you left?

I went to University of Cambridge to study Natural Sciences and I did a PhD at Harvard University.

What are you doing now?

I am a scientist at Beam Therapeutics, Cambridge.



About the College

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There are many resources and services available at the College, from cloud-based collaboration software and a personalised progress and guidance network to our Study Skills and Wellbeing services.

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You will find the space and support you need to aid your successful progression into the world of work and higher education.



Digital resources

Seamless learning anytime, anywhere!

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Personalised progress and guidance network:

ProPortal is where you can access careers and tutorial support materials.



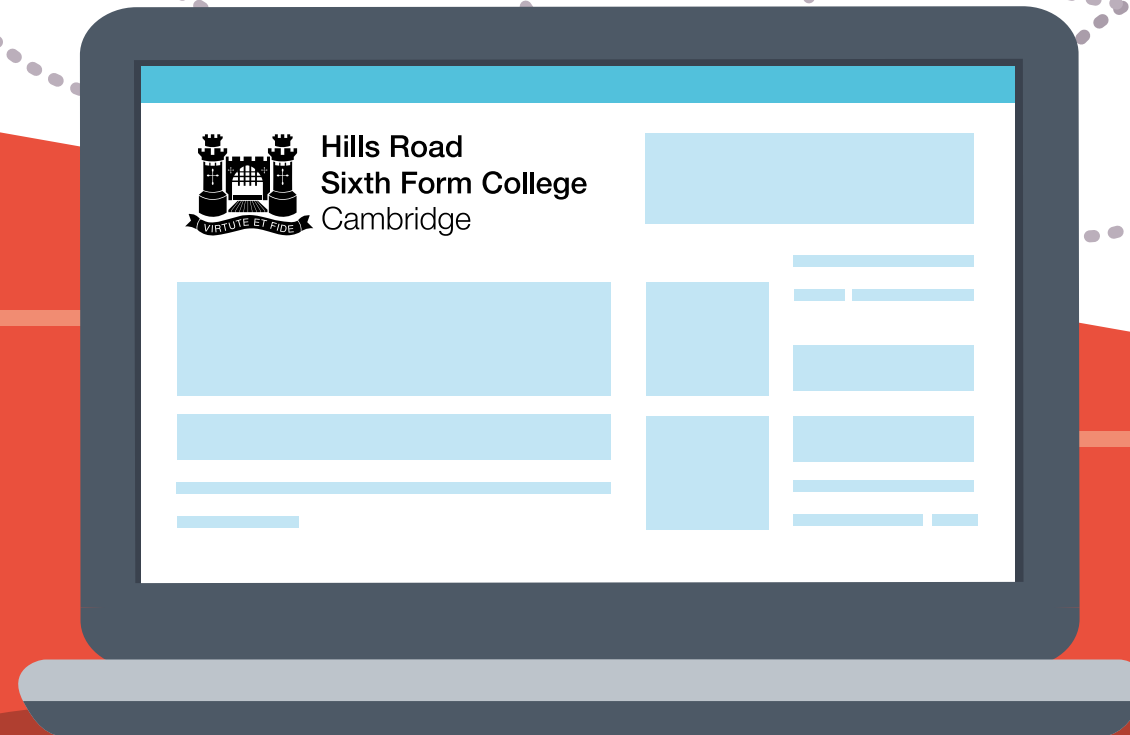
High-speed WiFi access:

Available throughout the College.

Face-to-face teaching supported by a virtual learning environment

Part of the journey to being work and university ready involves knowing what online resources are available to successfully support your progress best.

To make this learning as straight forward as possible for you, your teachers will create virtual learning resources, which are all held in the cloud version of Sharepoint 365, accessible from wherever you are studying that has WiFi. Extension and support materials are available online to challenge and enhance your learning at every stage.



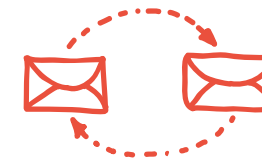
Over 800 computers:

For student use only.



Office 365:

Download Office 365 on up to five devices, plus 1Tb of space on your OneDrive.



Personal email account:

An Outlook email account is assigned to you at enrolment.



Online learning support:

Microsoft Teams, SharePoint and Moodle as well as a wide range of subject specific resources are used to support classroom-based and online independent learning.



Student planner app:

Available from Google Play and the App Store. Search Hills App.

No matter where you are studying - in College, at home, or in a café - you can access the resources you need to keep you on track with your learning.

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Cafés, social spaces and study areas

As all of our students are learning independence, they need dedicated spaces to study, to collaborate on group projects and to socialise during their free periods.



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Our campus is designed for you as you learn to manage your time effectively. Great study and social spaces help you to get the balance right between work and play: essential preparation for university!

Costa and Café Direct

Everyone needs somewhere to meet friends, grab a coffee and enjoy some social time. Our facilities on campus mean you can arrange to meet-up at the College without having to venture further afield if you don't want to.



Study areas

There are many dedicated study locations around the campus, and some include silent study. You can use:

- The Student Zone
- Library
- Study Skills Centre
- Open-access resource areas within subject departments

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Social spaces

The Hub: A relaxed space and the perfect spot to socialise and study.

The Atrium: A bright, airy space and centrally located in the College with benches for you to use your own devices.

The Link: Equipped with several computers, the Link is a comfortable space to meet friends and study.

The picnic area and outside spaces: You're allowed to walk, sit, sunbathe and even try some yoga stretches on the grass areas at the College if you feel like it! We encourage you to make the most of the great outdoors, especially when the sun is shining!





“I’d like to say the biggest thank you to the Student Services team. I definitely wouldn’t have been able to do the last two years without the support from all of you.”

Your support services

To contact Student Services, call 01223 247251 or email StudentServices@hillsroad.ac.uk

There are many services available at College for practical, academic and emotional support.

Making the step up to Advanced level is a challenging one, wherever you go, and our dedicated support teams are ready and willing to help you every step of the way.

Student Services

At the centre of the College is Student Services. The team is here to provide you with the answers to any questions that you might have about College life. Our friendly staff are here to help you if you’re feeling unwell, unsure, or if you just need someone to speak to. Student Services also monitors attendance and contacts home if there are any concerns.

Supported Independent Learning Service (SILS)

We recognise that not all students can adjust to the demands of advanced

learning as quickly as others. Our dedicated SILS team provides timetabled supervision and support for students finding the expectations for completing independent study outside lesson time challenging. The team works with students to help prioritise their learning more effectively so they feel more confident and able to complete their studies. SILS is also on hand for more specific support offering guidance on organisation, time management, exam technique and revision.

Disability

The College is committed to meeting the needs of people with disabilities, and recognises that a disability can affect people in different ways. We encourage you to make relevant staff aware of your needs so that full and appropriate support can be provided.

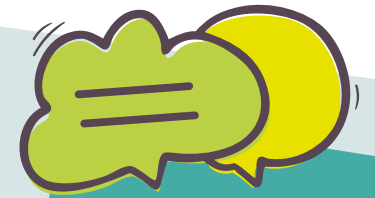
The Student Services team





To contact Study Skills, call 01223 247251 or email StudySkills@hillsroad.ac.uk

Meet your Wellbeing team



How do I ask for help?

There are many ways you can ask for help:

- Send an email to the Wellbeing Team
- Drop-in to the Wellbeing room at break and lunchtimes
- Talk to your tutor or teacher
- Talk to Student Services

Helping you to manage the step-up to Advanced level study is a priority at Hills Road and it's why we have people available to support your needs.

Our Wellbeing Coordinators are here to listen to anything that may be troubling you. Whether you are feeling stressed and anxious about managing your time and workload or apprehensive about the changes ahead, our Wellbeing team is here to support you.

The Wellbeing team



Maggie

How can the Wellbeing team help me?

First and foremost, we will listen to your concerns. Once we have a picture of your situation, we will then help you to find the right support. It may be that we refer you to external specialist services or we might recommend that you meet with our in-house Counsellor.



Rachel

Whatever the outcome, we will support you on your journey to make sure you receive the help you need.



Sarah with Hugo our PAT dog

Who are the in-house Counsellors?

Jane and Gitte are professionally trained counsellors and experienced in listening to young people. As the College counsellors, they are used to talking to students about a range of issues and any information shared with them is confidential.



Jane



Gitte

Study Skills

The Study Skills team provides support covering the full spectrum of needs, including support for students with learning difficulties. Qualified staff carry out assessments for exam access arrangements and offer appropriate follow-up support. With a welcoming atmosphere and a suite of rooms available for one-to-one diagnostic assessment, group study

space and also a comfortable rest space for students needing rehabilitation, make sure you share with our Study Skills team how we can support your needs.

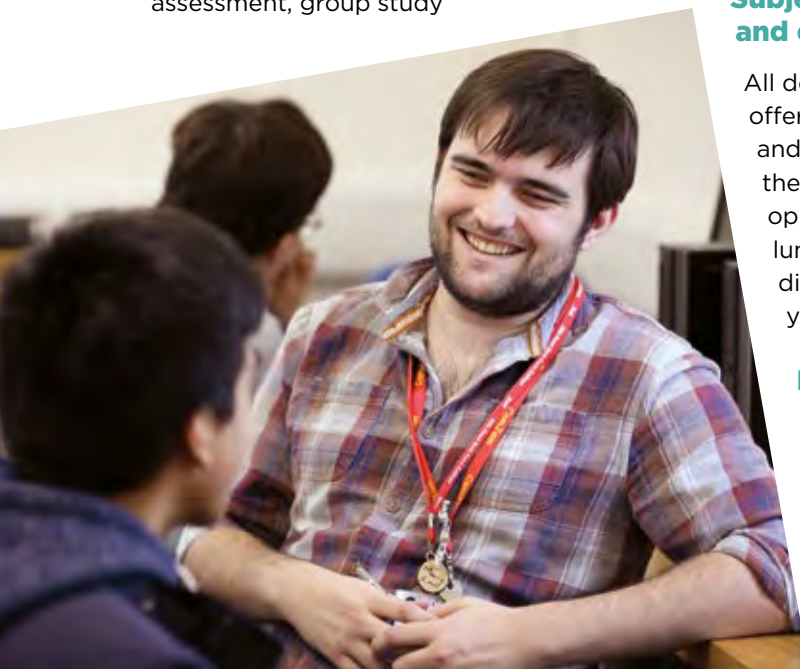
Trained staff support students with everyday tasks where appropriate and students with particular issues requiring specialist software or scribe support are also looked after by the Study Skills team.

Subject support for learning and extension

All departments and subjects offer opportunities to support and extend your learning beyond the classroom. Often, these opportunities are provided as lunchtime 'surgery' slots, used to diagnose, challenge and support your understanding further.

Bursary Fund

Financial support is available to 16-19 year olds who satisfy the fund's criteria. For more information visit www.hillsroad.ac.uk/bursary-fund



In 2018, the College was accredited with the AcSEED award for emotional wellbeing and mental health support. AcSEED promotes the adoption of best practices in supporting the emotional wellbeing and mental health of young people in schools and colleges, and Hills Road was the first school or college in the region to have received the award.



2020 Leavers' survey results

99%

Feel safe at the College.

93%

Say the College is committed to celebrating diversity and championing mutual respect.

92%

Feel they have developed as individuals through the opportunities and experiences provided.

94%

Believe they have become effective independent learners.



What do our students think?

Every year, before our Year 13s leave us, we ask them about their time at the College. We find out what they think about being a student at Hills Road and the subjects they have taken.

"I came to Hills because I believed the College would create good future opportunities for me no matter which path I decided to take."

SAM,
MATHS, DRAMA
& THEATRE
AND SOCIOLOGY

"I came to Hills because I wanted to take advantage of an environment that would contribute to my academic success and where I would make new friends."

ENRIQA,
BUSINESS, PSYCHOLOGY
AND COMBINED ENGLISH



94%

Feel appropriately challenged in their subjects.

92%

Agree they have developed good relationships with their teachers.

92%

Find teaching and learning activities appropriate in supporting their understanding.

90%

Feel they have received helpful feedback and guidance in their subjects that helped them to progress.



Helping you grow

Expert guidance for your future.

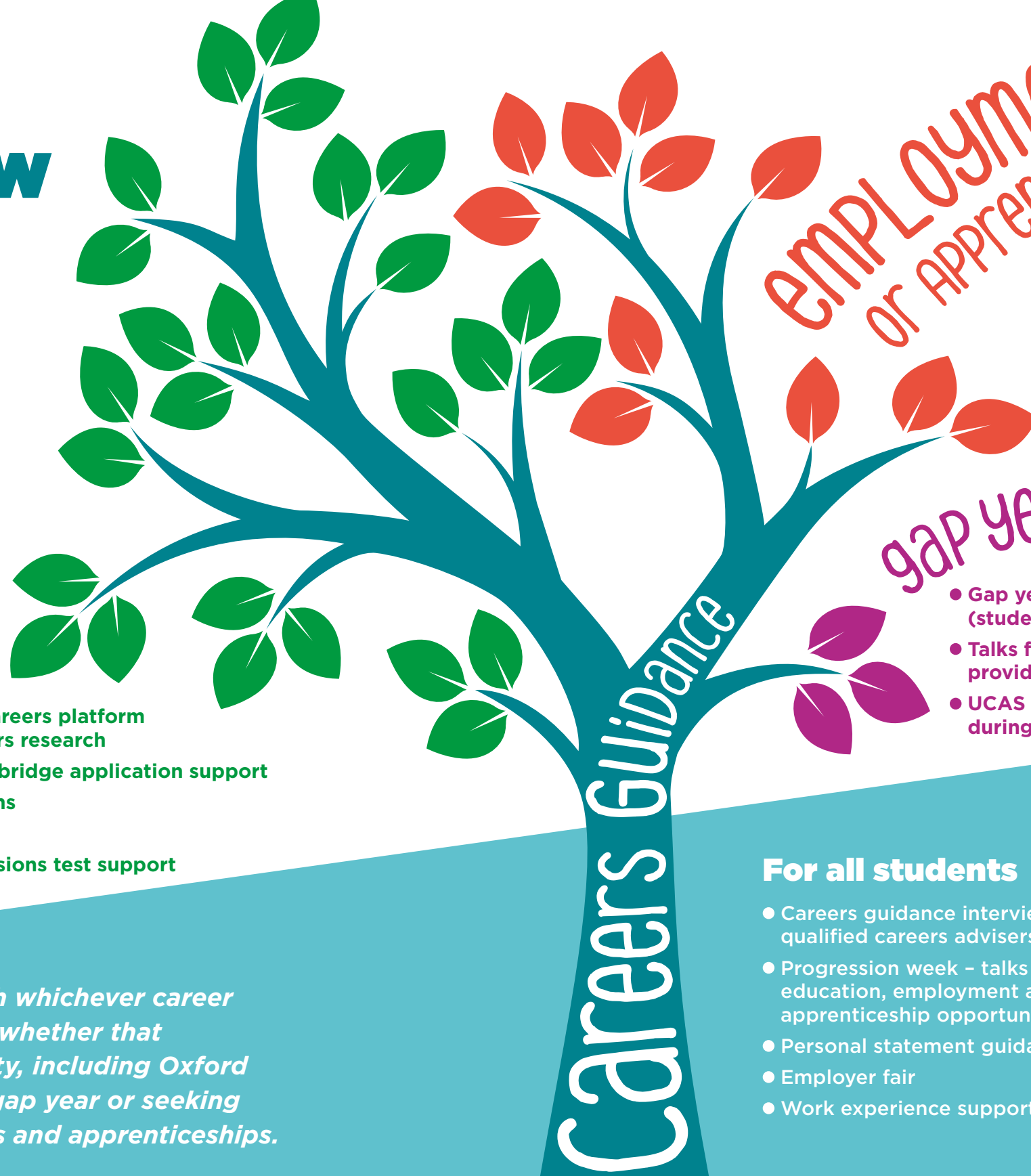
One of the most important things we do at Hills Road is to help you to decide on your career goals, and we then support you in fulfilling them. As a specialist Sixth Form College, our careers team are post-16 experts, dedicated to providing you with the very best advice about your next steps after Hills Road.

44

UNIVERSITY

- Unifrog online careers platform to support careers research
- Medicine and Oxbridge application support
- UCAS applications
- Mock interviews
- University admissions test support

You will be supported with whichever career path you are considering, whether that includes going to university, including Oxford and Cambridge, taking a gap year or seeking employment opportunities and apprenticeships.



EMPLOYMENT OR APPRENTICESHIP

- CV writing and interview tips
- Mock interviews
- Employment and apprenticeship tutorials

gap year

- Gap year evening (students and parents)
- Talks from gap year providers
- UCAS application support during gap year

45

For all students

- Careers guidance interviews with qualified careers advisers
- Progression week - talks on higher education, employment and apprenticeship opportunities
- Personal statement guidance
- Employer fair
- Work experience support

Considering your next move

Believe it or not, your two years at the College will go very quickly, which is why we encourage you to start talking to our Careers team early in Year 12 about your next steps.

It doesn't matter if you're not sure what you want to do next, what's important is that your studies with us are going to help get you to where you want to go. We invite all students to attend a careers interview with one of our qualified advisers, and we help you to make decisions about your first choice career destination and advise you on how to plan your research, to achieve your goals.

Early consideration of your next step will mean you will have a better idea of the questions you will want to ask. During Progression Week, over 40 speakers from universities, employers, Hills alumni and gap year providers come to the College to talk to our students about a whole range of exciting opportunities.

For most students, the process of researching ideas for their future progression and making choices takes place during Year 12, in readiness for applications to higher education early in Year 13.

Work experience

During Year 12, students are required to take at least three days of work experience; this takes place at any time before starting Year 13. Our Careers team provides advice and guidance, encouraging students to approach employers and arrange their own work placement.

Parent information

We invite parents to sessions concerning UCAS applications, gap year activities and HE finance, as well as request parental support for our mock interview programme.



What am I going to do after Hills Road?

This is an excellent question and one we hear a lot! This important issue has to be answered by you during your time at the College, and the Careers department helps you make this vital decision by:

- Encouraging you to assess your skills and personal qualities.
- Providing information and support in completing university applications via UCAS and to specialist colleges, e.g. art, music and drama, as well as to foreign universities.
- Providing easy access to information via an extensive careers library.
- Organising a structured programme of careers education.
- Offering guidance through personal interviews and group work.
- Arranging a broad programme of meetings and work experience.
- Providing information and help with permanent employment or apprenticeships.



Where are they now?



Consultant
Andrew Conway Morris
1994-96

48

What A level subjects did you study at Hills Road?

Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Hills Road was the springboard for my career, the intellectual atmosphere and culture of self-directed learning allowed for easy transition to university life and beyond.

What clubs and societies did you join?

Technical theatre and Rowing.

What did you do when you left?

I studied medicine and clinical neuroscience, then trained as an anaesthetist and intensive care physician, undertaking a PhD in critical care immunology.

What you are doing now?

I work as a clinical academic in the University of Cambridge. I am also a consultant in Intensive Care Medicine in the Intensive Care Unit at Addenbrooke's Hospital.



Curate
Georgina Elsey
2008-10

What were your subjects?

Classical Civilisation, Drama and Theatre, English Language and Religious Studies.

Which clubs and societies did you join?

Performing Arts.

What did you do when you left?

I did a BA Theology, Mission and Ministry at Cranmer Hall, St John's College, Durham.

What are you doing now?

I am a curate of St John's Church, Hyde Park.

"Hills challenged me to engage and do my best whilst also supporting me and giving me great opportunities. My ambitions were thrown open, and the sky was the limit."



49



Architect
Marie Faivre
2016-18

What were your subjects?

Maths, Art and Geography.

Which clubs and societies did you join?

Architecture Enrichment programme with the Art department.

"Hills Road provides a strong foundation for going into the real world and prepares you for living independently and meeting a greater range of people after leaving home."

What did you do when you left?

I have been studying Architecture BSc at The Bartlett School of Architecture at UCL in London.

What are you doing now?

I am going into my final year of undergraduate study. I plan to work during my year out in a practice and then finish my Architecture studies.



Applying to the College

In this section, we explain our application process and show you what's included in our Year 12 Study Programme.



50

Before you apply to us, we recommend you review our many different resources available and attend our transition events, to help you to decide if Hills Road is the right A level centre for you.

51



How to decide if Hills Road is right for you

There are many opportunities available for you to find out more about the College and how we can support your progression plans.

Before you apply

Open Evenings

Our Open Evenings are the best way to start your research. Getting a feel for the College, and exploring the subjects you are interested in, will help you to gain a better understanding of what it's like being a student at Hills Road.

Consider your subjects: Before you attend our Open Evenings, make sure you use our handy guide on page 57 to help you to decide which subjects to explore.

Discover our Enrichment opportunities:

Find out what's available as Enrichment from forensic science, digital photography and creative writing to learn to row. We have over 40 different activities to spark your interest! You can also join a College sports team, music ensemble or performance group as part of your Enrichment.

Don't forget the Extended Project:

Take time to discover the topics other students have chosen, to give you some inspiration for your project.

Meet our tutors: Chat to our Progress & Support Tutors to find out how they support you throughout your two years with us, and how they help you to manage your transition from key stage four to Advanced level study.

Post-16 evenings

The College is part of the Cambridge Area Partnership (CAP) and members of the College's team attend all of the Post-16 evenings that are hosted by our partner schools. These events provide additional opportunities for you to ask questions about the subjects you are considering taking or any other questions you may have about becoming a Hills Road student. If you are unsure if your school is part of CAP, speak to your Head of Year.

Speak to your school

Talk to your school about us. If there are questions about Hills Road your teachers or careers adviser can't answer, then you could ask them to contact us, or you can email our Admissions team directly. No question is too small, so make sure you get in touch.

For more info email:
Admissions@hillsroad.ac.uk



After you apply

Guidance meetings

First and foremost, this is not an interview! We do not assess you, and we don't give you an offer based on the discussions during your meeting.

The purpose of your guidance meeting is to discuss your subject choices with you and to make sure they support any progression plans you may have.

You can also find out more about the Enrichment opportunities available at Hills and ask questions about the Extended Project Qualification and tutorial programme.

Confirming your subject choices

Once you have applied to the College, you may change your mind about your subject choices. Following your guidance meeting, we will ask you to reconfirm the A level subjects you would like to take.

Welcome to Hills

Experiencing life as a Hills Road student, before you start in September, is an essential first step on your journey with us.

Welcome to Hills takes place after your exams have finished in June. You will be invited to visit the campus; to try-out your subject lessons; meet new people who will also be joining us in September, and spend the day feeling like a Hills student on your first day of College.

Welcome to Hills is the best way to prepare for starting with us in September.





How to apply

Your 9 step application guide

1

Research Sept / Oct

Find out about the post-16 options in your area.

2

Open Evenings Oct

Attend our Open Evening and learn more about the subjects you are interested in and what it's like to be a student at Hills Road.

3

Complete your application Dec

Aim to complete your online application form. For more information and to apply visit www.hillsroad.ac.uk/apply

4

Submit your application Jan (2021)

12 January if you attend a CAP school.
5 January if you attend any other school.

5

Guidance meetings Feb

Qualified applicants are invited to attend a guidance meeting.
See page 53 for more information. You will need to reconfirm your subject choices following your session.

6

Offers published Mar

Offers will be emailed to applicants by the end of March 2021.

7

Welcome to Hills Jun

All Year 11 students holding an offer with the College will be invited to spend a day at the College.

8

GCSE results day 19 Aug

You will need to submit your exam results using our online form, by 1pm on 19 August.

Post Results Application opens 19 Aug

Students wanting to apply post-results can submit their application.

9

Enrolment Aug / Sep

Students holding an offer with the College are invited to enrol.

Welcome to Hills Road



Your study programme

As a specialist A level college, we make sure that every student's study programme is full of opportunity.

Your A level subjects are your core qualifications, and these are combined with a blend of activities, guidance and development opportunities to give you a unique programme that's tailored to your interests and progression plans.

Year 12 study programme

- 3 or 4 A level subjects (your core qualifications)
- The Extended Project Qualification
- Enrichment activities
- Tutorial support and guidance
- Independent study periods

Sample timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Period 1 9:00-10:05	Music A level		Extended Project: Mentor session		Politics A level
Period 2 10:10-11:15	Politics A level	Tutorial time	Independent learning period	English Language A level	Independent learning period
11:15-11:35: Break					
Period 3 11:35-12:40		Music A level	English Language A level	Politics A level	
12:40-13:45: Lunch					
Period 4 13:45-14:50	English Language A level	Independent learning period	Music A level	Independent learning period	Independent learning period
Period 5 14:55-16:00	Independent learning period	Politics A level	Enrichment: Pottery	Music A level	English Language A level

How to choose your A level subjects

Follow this handy guide to help you decide which subjects are right for you.

Step 1: Start by making a list of the subjects you enjoy. You might want to order them with your favourite at the top of the list.

Step 2: Now consider the subjects you are good at. You could highlight them on your 'favourite subjects' list you have created in step 1.

Step 3: Read the following subject pages of this prospectus. The subject pages include an outline of the course and will give you a better understanding of what's covered in each subject at A level.

Step 4: Think about the subjects you need to support any career choices you have made. Will your predicted grades give you what you need to access specific A level subjects? When you read our subject pages in this prospectus, make sure you look at the entry requirements section to ensure you will be qualified.

Step 5: Visit our website www.hillsroad.ac.uk/subjects Many of the subjects have more information available online, including the topics you will cover.

Step 6: Talk to people who are already studying the topic you are interested in. Find out how subjects differ between GCSE/IGCSE and Advanced level study.

Step 7: Research what career options could open up to you. Talk to your teachers, careers staff, parents and friends to find out more about the career paths that could become available to you.

Step 8: If you are thinking about going to university, visit www.informedchoices.ac.uk This website is from the Russell Group, and it helps you to understand the degree opportunities available depending on the subjects you choose.

See pages 62-96 for the 35 subjects available at Hills Road.

Application guidance

When you apply to Hills Road, you will have plenty of chances to change your mind about your subject choices before you join us in September.

To receive an offer from us and to enrol, you will need to satisfy our entry criteria which can be found on the following page. However, to be invited to a guidance meeting to discuss your options, you will need to achieve the following in your application:

Guidance meeting criteria:

- Apply by the application closing date
- Place Hills Road as your first choice A level centre, or second choice behind a CAP school sixth form
- Achieve our Minimum Entry Admissions Score for this year
- Be qualified in at least two subjects you are applying for

Admissions Score calculator: check your Admission Score online at www.hillsroad.ac.uk/entry-requirements

Admissions Scores

We have five different Admissions Scores depending on the subjects you are applying for.

Our Admissions Scores are determined by the annual application patterns for each subject and are therefore subject to change. The following is an indication of the levels that have previously been required:

- **Minimum Entry**
Admissions Score = 56
- **Maths Adjusted Admissions Score** = 60
- **Science Adjusted Admissions Score** = 69 (Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science and Physics)
- **Double Maths Adjusted Admissions Score** = 69
- **Four A level programme**
Adjusted Admissions Score = 78

The Admissions Scores are an indicative guide to help applicants understand how places have previously been allocated and should not be taken as a definitive prediction of equivalent scores for entry to the College in 2021, which will depend on application patterns for that year.

Entry criteria

To be offered a place at Hills Road, you will need to satisfy the following criteria.

Admissions Score: You meet the College's Minimum Entry or Adjusted Admissions Score for admission in 2021. Your score is based on GCSE/IGCSE/vocational* or equivalent qualifications.

Minimum grade requirements:

You will need to achieve the grade requirements for your chosen A level subjects, as specified on the previous page of this prospectus.

Subject combinations: Your overall combination of subjects at GCSE/IGCSE/vocational or equivalent qualifications provides a suitable foundation for progression onto your chosen A level programme.

Your reference: The reference or supporting information provided by your school or college indicates no significant concern regarding your

record of attendance, fitness to study a full-time course, punctuality, general behaviour, attitude to study or aptitude for the proposed course of study.

Your commute: You live, or intend to move to live, with your parent(s) within sustainable commuting distance of the College.

Living arrangements: Applications must be made from the address you are living with your parent(s) at the time of applying. Enrolled students are expected to live with at least one of their parents for the duration of their course. In the case of Looked After Children, we recognise that an alternative living arrangement will be in place through Social Services.

You can read our full admissions policy at: www.hillsroad.ac.uk/admissions-policy



Got a question?

Please refer to www.hillsroad.ac.uk/apply-faqs if you have any questions relating to applying to the College. We have included below some of the most frequently asked questions:

Q: My admissions score is slightly below the levels indicated for subjects I want to take, should I still apply?

A: Yes. The admissions scores are an indication of the levels that could apply. As the application patterns in 2021 will

determine the score, these indicative levels may change.

Q: I only want to take one Science subject; which score will apply?

A: The Science Adjusted Admissions Score will apply to your application.

*The Admissions Score can include a maximum of two equivalent level 2 vocational subjects.



Find your subjects

60

At Hills Road we have an excellent range of 35 A levels for you to choose from.



61



Art & Design



Discover what it means to be a creative and imaginative visual artist.

This course presents you with exciting and challenging opportunities to learn much more about what it means to be a creative and imaginative visual artist and to grow in this way throughout the course. We welcome the great variety of experiences and different backgrounds students bring to their learning in this area.

Our course is designed to build on the skills and enthusiasm you bring. We will help you acquire new skills, broaden your knowledge, and support you to

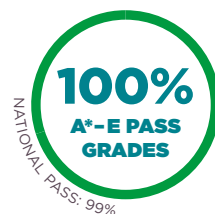
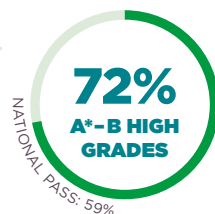
develop the confidence you need to achieve your full potential in this rich and exciting subject area.

Original ideas, experimentation and risk-taking are encouraged. All the staff are practising artists and have a wide range of specialist interests and expertise; you will have one main teacher. There is flexibility for you to try a variety of methods of working, and the staff operate as a team to share knowledge and to support you.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/art-design

Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 or Merit in Art/Design (or similar subject title)
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

Biology



Love life, love Biology: it's the study of all life's forms.

Apart from its value as a way of gaining entry to certain careers and courses, we believe that Biology is a fascinating subject in its own right and one that we hope students enjoy studying. Biology has a higher profile today than perhaps at any other time and this is reflected in the number of people taking a biology-based course at college and university.

Many of the important and often contentious issues which society must address relate to the biological sciences, particularly the role that humankind plays with respect (or lack of it!) to the rest of life.

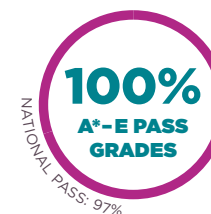
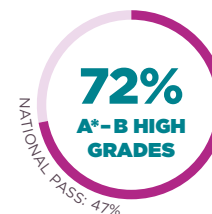
Ethical debates centre around animal experimentation, cloning, stem cells, genetically modified organisms, embryo and fertility research and the human genome project, and the use of its findings. High on the political agenda are health, pollution, environmental protection and food security.

Infectious disease, heart disease, cancer, drug use and misuse, antibiotic resistance and malnutrition all continue to present us with challenges, for which the study of Biology is the first step to understanding.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/biology

Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 7 in Biology or 7/7 in Combined Science AND grade 6 in Mathematics and Chemistry
2. Science Adjusted Admissions Score applies



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average



"Join us! A level Art at Hills has just the perfect balance of independence and support to really let your creativity thrive; wonderful teachers and a wonderful course."



"The Biology department is really friendly and happy to help. Due to the lunchtime talks I feel part of a cohort, not just my class."

Business



Whatever your career path, it is likely you will work for and manage within a business in the future.

The business world is constantly changing and evolving as economic, technological, political and environmental developments alter the commercial landscape. Studying Business will provide you with an understanding of how businesses, large and small, can successfully deal with these challenges. Amongst the issues you will consider are:

- What are the threats to the profits of businesses and are they limited to just rival companies?
- Is a recession always bad news for business?
- How will the UK leaving the EU affect UK companies?

- Should organisations take responsibility for being more ethical?
- How can financial statements be used to assess the strengths and weaknesses of an organisation?
- Are emerging economies an opportunity or threat to businesses based in developed economies?
- Is it always best for businesses to aim to grow? If so, how?

A willingness to use numerical techniques is important, as is the ability to communicate effectively in writing. You will learn through case studies, research assignments, class discussions and group activities.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/business

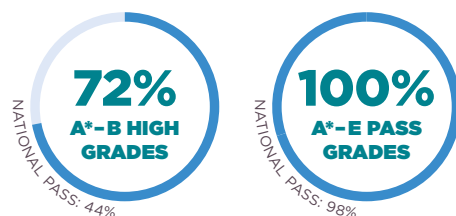
Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in English (Language or Literature) AND grade 4 in Mathematics
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



“Business at Hills is made fascinating by the high level of teaching, providing engaging lessons to students by using real life business examples to enhance understanding of the course.”

OLIVER



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

Chemistry



Everything you see around you involves Chemistry in some way!

Knowledge of Chemistry will give you a greater understanding of the world we live in. Chemistry is the study of substances, what they are made of, how they interact and what role they play in living things and the environment. Everything you see around you involves Chemistry in some way!

Chemists provide many of the materials used in everyday life, together with the knowledge to improve healthcare and to appreciate and tackle the significant environmental problems that face us all.

If you enjoy finding out about how the world around you works, and

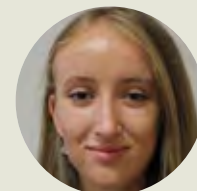
recognising and explaining different patterns of behaviour, then you are likely to enjoy Chemistry. Throughout the course, you will carry out practical work to develop your skills and to enhance your learning and enjoyment of the subject.

You will be encouraged to participate in competitions such as the RSC Schools' Analyst Competition and the International Chemistry Olympiad, and there are opportunities to attend conferences and get involved in our student-led Chemistry society.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/chemistry

Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 7 in Chemistry or 7/7 in Combined Science AND Mathematics
2. Science Adjusted Admissions Score applies



“Chemistry is amazing; the quality of teaching and support available makes it easy to learn and improve. My class and teachers have made Chemistry a brilliant experience.”

TESS



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

Classical Civilisation



Develop an independent, critical approach to literature, history and politics.

Classical Civilisation involves an in-depth study of classical Greek and Roman worlds which have strongly influenced western literature, theatre, art and philosophy.

You will learn to develop an independent, critical approach to literature, history and politics, and to form strong analytical skills. Many students find the subject valuable support for other subjects, such as Art, History, English Literature and Politics, while for others it is a pleasing contrast to science subjects.

You will have the opportunity to go on trips, to plays, conferences, museums and, in some years, to visit classical sites abroad such as those in Rome, Sicily and Greece. There is also the opportunity to take part in a student-led Classics society which offers opportunities to hear from outside speakers, and take part in presentations, debates, discussions and experience games on classical themes. Many students of Classical Civilisation go on to study classical subjects at university; others find that the analytical thinking and writing skills gained prove to be a great help in other higher education courses and in any career.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/classical-civilisation

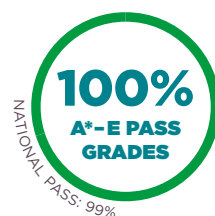
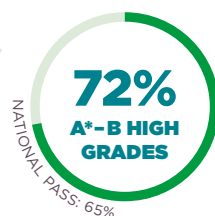
Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in English (Language or Literature)
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



“From Homer to Euripides to Cicero, Classics at Hills is both an exciting introduction to antiquity and a way to develop skills in many disciplines from history and literature to archaeology.”

LILY



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

Computer Science



Ever wondered how the web works or how to develop a computer game?

Computer Science is an exciting and challenging subject in which you will develop valuable skills in problem-solving as well as learning how computers work.

Many of our students take Computer Science at university. You will gain skills and knowledge which will prove useful in a wide range of other courses and careers, particularly in maths, science and engineering.

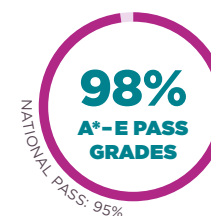
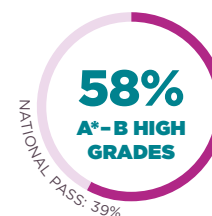
The A level course is strongly focused on problem-solving and programming.

You will learn how to analyse issues, design algorithms and write programs. Some students have no previous experience of programming, and we assume none. We offer excellent support in the form of online resources and one-to-one help. However, we also provide adequate challenges for the increasing number of students who have taken a GCSE in Computing or Computer Science.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/computer-science

Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in Mathematics. Must also have minimum grade 4 in Computing/Computer Science, if studied.
2. Science Adjusted Admissions Score applies



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average



“Studying computer science at Hills allows you to develop effective problem-solving skills and to become a more independent thinker. The course covers an enjoyable range of programming and theory topics; the teachers are very knowledgeable and friendly.”

MATTHEW

Dance



“To touch, to move, to inspire – this is the true gift of dance.”

AUBREY LYNCH

The study of dance is active, physically demanding, intellectually stimulating and fun. This course places significant emphasis on practical dance work, as well as on the analysis of professional choreography. Exploring the work of some of the foremost names in dance will lead to an understanding of their techniques and how to apply them to your own creative work, developing your confidence as an inspired choreographer.

You will develop your technique, expand your movement vocabulary, and explore your performance skills through

regular productions. Additionally, you will improve your collaborative and communication skills, and learn how to write analytically.

Trips to the theatre to see live performances, workshops from visiting practitioners, and a range of additional practical opportunities, are an exciting and enriching part of the course. The A level is crucial in preparing you for degree or vocational dance courses but is also ideal if you have a love of dance and wish to develop your skills. This is a highly practical course with dance and creative work at the heart of the lessons.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/dance

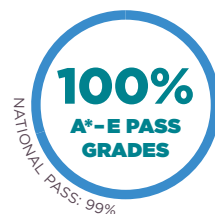
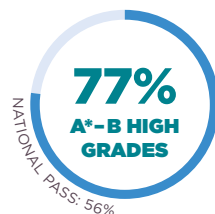
Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in English (Language or Literature). Must also have minimum grade 6 or Merit in Dance, if studied.
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



“The way the Dance course is taught, with theory being integrated into the practical, meant it was the subject I was most confident in.”

HELEN



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

Double Mathematics



Do you have a strong interest in pursuing Mathematical subjects beyond sixth form?

Double Mathematics means studying Maths A level and Further Maths A level together. It is a course for those with a significant interest in pursuing Maths beyond sixth form and demands a strong overall GCSE profile. Students often take the course because they want to study Maths, Physics or Engineering at degree level and would find a stronger mathematical background helpful. It can be extremely rewarding for you if you enjoy Maths and are stimulated by the faster pace and greater depth.

- Further Maths is essential for some university courses and is useful for courses in Economics, Computing, Physics and Engineering.
- Both Mathematics and Further Mathematics are assessed through examinations at the end of two years (no coursework).
- Includes both mechanics and statistics content.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/double-mathematics

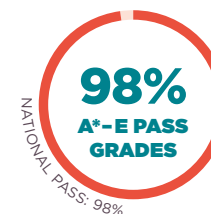
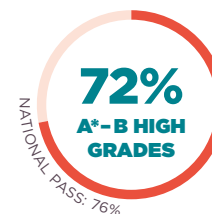
Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 8 in Mathematics
2. Double Maths Adjusted Admissions Score applies



“I loved doing harder questions in GCSE Maths and wanted more. Learning with other people who have the same passion for maths is fantastic.”

OLIVER



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

Drama & Theatre



“Drama is life with the dull bits cut out.”

ALFRED HITCHCOCK

Drama encompasses all of human experience, and we consume more of it today than at any other time in human history. Our need to understand ourselves through the mirror of stage or screen becomes ever more urgent as the world becomes more complex.

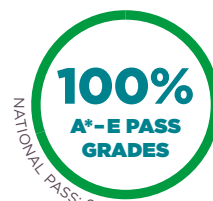
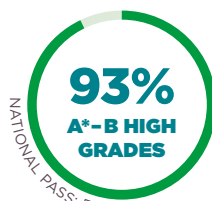
The study of Theatre will develop you intellectually, artistically and socially, as you explore ethical issues in a way that is designed not only to entertain but to make your audience think, challenge and question.

You will explore everything that goes into making great theatre, from text and performance to technical elements and design. You will study superb plays by brilliant playwrights and perform them alongside your own devised work. You will explore the work of the most influential directors of the modern age, supported by a dynamic programme of theatre trips and professional workshops. Essential for those going on to specialist drama or technical training and ideal for those with performance flair wishing to broaden their curriculum.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/drama-theatre

Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in English (Language or Literature). Must also have minimum grade 6 in Drama, if studied.
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average



“Support for students with so many performance opportunities has been incredible. Amazing trips and workshops have allowed me to grow so much as a person and performer, and I have made lifelong friends along the way.”

MADDIE

Economics



Many of the most important issues facing society are economic in nature.

It is an exciting time to study Economics. Whether you are concerned with global warming or global trade, or the potential impacts of Brexit, or you are looking at the collapse of world financial markets or the collapse of your neighbour’s small business, you can’t get far without knowledge of economics!

This course aims to stimulate your interest in how economies work – at personal, national and global levels. A sample of the issues you will be encouraged to investigate include:

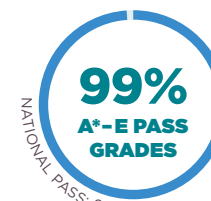
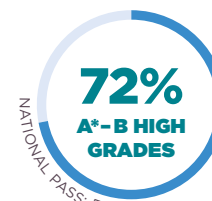
- How might Brexit impact the UK economy?

- Why has the UK economy experienced both boom conditions and slumps in the past?
- What determines the level of UK interest rates? Is a strong pound desirable?
- Why are footballers paid more than nurses?
- What are the implications of a national minimum wage?
- Should the health service be provided by the state or the private sector?
- Do the activities of multinationals assist or hinder the development of poor countries?
- Why have African economies been slow to develop? Should we provide aid?

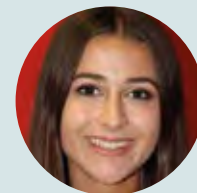
www.hillsroad.ac.uk/economics

Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in English (Language or Literature) AND Mathematics
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average



“Teachers always try to relate our topics to current situations making them relevant. Lessons are often interactive and you leave feeling as though you’ve accomplished lots in a short time.”

HANNAH

English Language



Do you ever wonder why people use language in so many different ways?

Do you enjoy expressing your opinions on spoken and written language? If so, you will find this course particularly fascinating. As part of the new A level, you will analyse a range of written texts, explore electronic communication and study many different kinds of spoken texts. To underpin all this, you will learn the terminology and grammar to enable you to understand how language actually works.

You will also discover how children learn to speak during the initial years of life

and how language represents different social groups.

You will learn mostly by investigation, group work and discussion. Some of the most interesting classes will be when students bring in their own samples of language for analysis. Your work will be supported by a rich set of intranet resources including a wonderful set of speech recordings from across the country.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/english-language

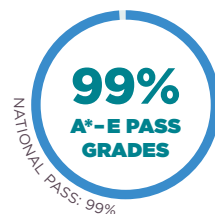
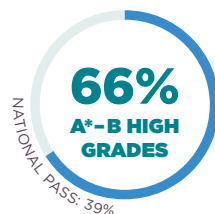
Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in English Language
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



"I've always loved English and English Language has provided the perfect platform for my curiosity to thrive. I find the course well balanced and intriguing; a definite no-brainer."

ESTHER



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

English Language and Literature



Develop your independence, creativity and maturity with our combined course.

English Language and Literature is a course which will give you a chance to pursue your creative interests within a clear framework while developing your analytical skills.

Larkin's poetry and *The Great Gatsby* will be studied under the theme of The Individual and Society. You will also study Voices in Speech and Writing, looking at a set drama text, Miller's *All My Sons*, as well as podcasts, blogs, speeches, screenplays and travelogues. The stimulus material in the anthology is fascinating!

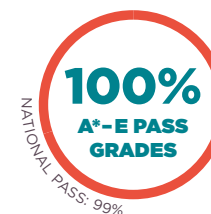
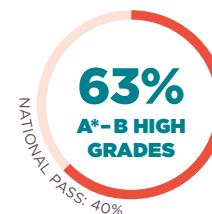
A coursework submission is required, and the topic will be 'Identities'. You will produce your own creative fiction and non-fiction work and a critical commentary, stimulated by texts including *1984* by George Orwell and the articles of journalists such as Caitlin Moran and Charlie Brooker.

If you are an independent thinker who enjoys analysing how values and attitudes are created in texts, and you enjoy producing your own imaginative, creative work, this is the course for you!

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/english-language-and-literature

Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in English Language AND English Literature
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

"The classroom dynamic is amazing - everyone is as passionate about the subject as you are, and I've never had a boring moment, be it studying Maya Angelou or The Great Gatsby."



OLIVER

English Literature



While you avidly read a new book, do you ask yourself, what else has this author written?

Do you ever wonder what were the ideas of the period that made the writer think this way? What did reviewers think of this book when it was first published? If so, English Literature is a course you will enjoy.

Examined Topics

During your study of English Literature, you will explore eight texts, while being encouraged to read independently, widely and in-depth. We will cover all three genres: Poetry, Drama and Prose across a range of periods and will include a selection of contemporary

poetry written since the year 2,000, the romantic John Keats, Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, and the thematic exploration of either 'Science and Society' or 'Women and Society' in the novel. Coursework forms part of this A level course and the theme is Belonging.

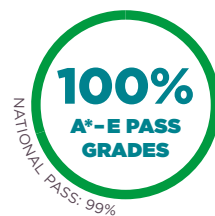
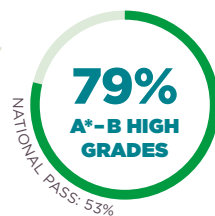
Creative Writing

The English Literature course does not include creative writing. If you would like to be writing creatively, then take a look at our other English courses or Film Studies course.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/english-literature

Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in English Language AND English Literature
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

Film Studies



Enrich your existing appreciation and enjoyment of film.

Film Studies is a well-established academic subject which offers you the opportunity to engage with a wide variety of different films and gain confidence with a range of critical approaches. You will learn how to 'read' a film; consider the nature of the relationship it has with its audience and study the importance of social and institutional factors of production.

The subject lends itself to a wide range of approaches including class discussion, individual study and research as well as written analysis of essays, writing screenplays, producing storyboards and film journalism.

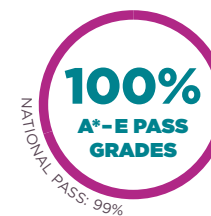
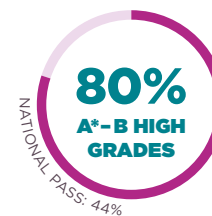
There will also be opportunities for cinema visits. You will be supported to develop skills of critical analysis; to examine the meanings and values contained in films and appreciate cinema as an industry. Films we may study include *Vertigo*, *Do the Right Thing*, *District 9* and *The Hurt Locker*.

You will develop your knowledge of film history focusing on the silent era, European experimental films and more recent movies like *Skyfall* and *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/film-studies

Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in English (Language or Literature)
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average



"English at Hills has given me the freedom to read more and read better, to meet like-minded, interesting people and to be taught by passionate teachers."

MARINA



"It's the most interesting subject I've taken; while engaging and captivating, it has also given me the creative skills to analyse society and culture."

ISABELLA

French



An increasingly global world makes French a useful, relevant, lively and hugely rewarding subject.

French is one of the official languages of the United Nations and the European Union and is spoken in over 50 countries by around 285 million people. Moreover, speaking a foreign language is one of the most sought-after skills for employers.

Debates and discussions in the classroom will give you a broad perspective on a wide range of issues and topics, and you will also gain in-depth knowledge of France and French-speaking countries.

Topics will include social issues and trends, as well as the opportunity to explore cultural themes through film or literature.

French native-speaker Language assistants will lead small conversation classes and help you develop your conversation skills. There will be an opportunity for you to take part in an exchange trip to Montpellier or Paris, and there is also a French Society which is run by students.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/french

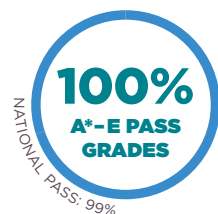
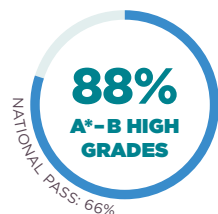
Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in French
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



"I feel much more confident speaking French, and I've found the conversation classes so helpful and fun. I also loved the exchange and now have a really good friend in France!"

HANNAH



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

Geography



If you want to change the world, you have to understand it.

At A level you will study places, people, and the connections between them. To quote Danny Dorling: "Geography is also the study of energy; how it builds mountains and then destroys them. It's also the energy that flows through our atmosphere, bringing us our weather and changing our climate."

The course is a mixture of physical and human geography and provides an opportunity to carry out fieldwork in the UK as well as overseas. You will also carry out an individual independent research project.

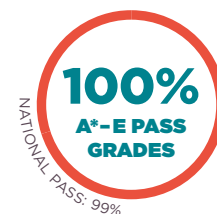
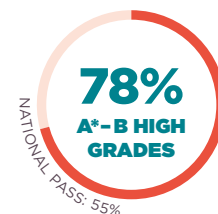
Geographers are involved in investigating and solving climatic change, sea-level change, pollution, population growth and landscape degradation. Understanding the processes behind the changes and being able to predict outcomes means that you will gain essential skills necessary to contribute to the management of these issues in the future.

As a Geographer, you will develop excellent skills in both numeracy and literacy as well as learning how to use Geographical Information Systems (GIS).

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/geography

Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in Geography AND grade 4 in Mathematics OR GCSE grade 6 in English (Language or Literature) AND grade 4 in Mathematics. Must also have minimum grade 4 in Geography, if studied.
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average



"Lessons are engaging and provide the opportunity for sharing views and debate, as well as interactive learning using class computers and online resources such as ArcGIS."

MARIA

Geology



Investigate the processes and changes which have shaped our planet.

In your first year of study, you will investigate how minerals, rocks and fossils were formed in different places and times as well as tectonics. Rocks tell the history of the Earth and are a fascinating subject to study.

There is an opportunity to study in the field in the Lake District, including a visit to a working quarry. In your second year, you will build on the knowledge to investigate the subject to a greater depth, including a field trip to Dorset.

There are many career pathways which lead on from a Geology course. For example, volcanology, civil engineering,

environmental engineering, forensic science, mining and the study of ancient environments which helps us to understand climate change.

Students have the support and guidance of well-qualified Geologists and access to a specialist laboratory and a rich collection of rock and fossil samples to analyse.

Studying Geology at A level provides a unique opportunity to take a new and dynamic science subject. This can be taken further at degree level or as a supporting subject for other degrees in Earth and Environmental Sciences.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/geology

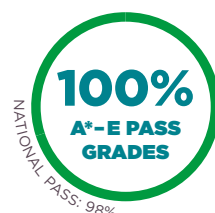
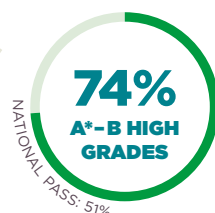
Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in Mathematics AND a Science
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



"Geology has taught me lots about the natural Earth and made me see the world's physical history in new ways. Each topic explores something interesting from teachers clearly passionate about Geology."

HOLLY



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

German



Gain in-depth knowledge of German culture and learn to speak the language fluently.

Are you passionate about speaking a foreign language fluently? Does the idea of working abroad excite you? Studying German could help to make this a reality for you and equip you with skills that will be invaluable in the future.

Through debates and discussions in the classroom, you will gain a broad perspective on a wide range of issues and topics which will help you to become more knowledgeable and better informed.

Learning about Germany's culture and society forms a core part of the

course, and topics cover social issues and trends, as well as the opportunity to explore cultural themes through film or literature.

Native speakers work as Language Assistants in the Modern Languages department and are available to help and support you in a weekly small group conversation class.

There will also be the opportunity for you to take part in a work experience exchange to Hamburg and there is a German Society, run by students.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/german

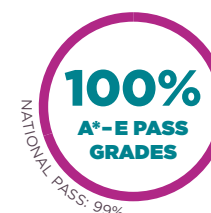
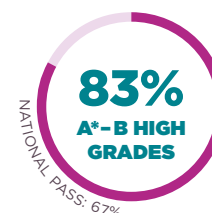
Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in German
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



"I have loved doing German at Hills and would happily do the whole course again! I have been inspired to work and live in Germany."

JEMIMA



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

History

Crisis, Conflict and Communism



“My adherence to the Communist Party is the logical outcome of my whole life.” PABLO PICASSO

History is often the most popular university course chosen by Hills Road students, who repeatedly comment on the extent to which History teachers’ enthusiasm and expertise have given them the confidence to succeed and to enjoy learning. With a well-resourced website and library, revision podcasts, trips to Berlin and a History Conference, there is much to support and broaden your study of History.

You will study:

- Tsars and Communists: Russia and its Rulers, 1855-1964.

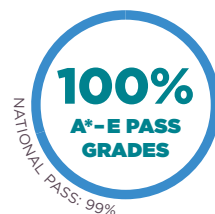
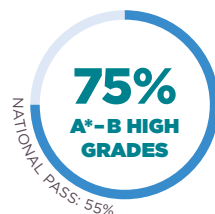
- War to Wall: Democracy and Dictatorships in Germany, 1919-63.
- Invasion and War: The Glorious Revolution and the Making of Georgian Britain, 1678-c.1760.
- Coursework (20%): Choose from topics such as The Crusades, Early Modern Witch Hunts, The French Revolution and The Cold War.

See our other History course Rights, Race and Revolutions with fascinating characters such as Khrushchev, Charles I and Martin Luther King awaiting you there, it’s not an easy choice!

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/history-crisis-conflict-and-communism

Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in History OR GCSE grade 6 in English (Language or Literature). Must also have minimum grade 4 in History, if studied.
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average



“History at Hills rewards you for thinking independently and helps nurture a passion for the subject.”

JOSEPH

History

Rights, Race and Revolutions



“Revolutions are the locomotives of history.” KARL MARX

Through History, you will learn to appreciate and weigh up different points of view, examine the impact of decisions and explore an individual’s motivations. These analytical skills support a wide range of career paths such as those in law, politics or management, and History is regularly cited by admissions tutors at the more competitive universities as good preparation for their courses.

You will study:

- Slaves to Citizens: Civil Rights in the USA, 1865-1992.

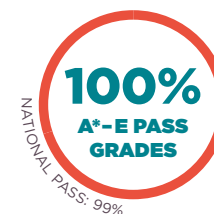
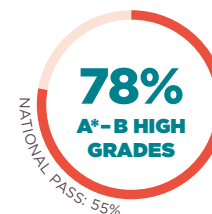
- An Iron Curtain: The Cold War in Europe, 1941-95.
- England in Revolution: The Early Stuarts, Civil Wars and Cromwell, 1603-60.
- Coursework (20%): Choose from topics such as The Crusades, Early Modern Witch Hunts, The French Revolution and Nazi Germany.

See our other History course Crisis, Conflict and Communism with fascinating characters such as Lenin, James II and Hitler awaiting you there, it’s a difficult choice!

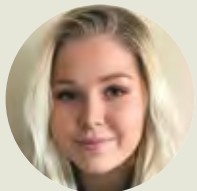
www.hillsroad.ac.uk/history-rights-race-revolutions

Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in History OR GCSE grade 6 in English (Language or Literature). Must also have minimum grade 4 in History, if studied.
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average



“By choosing History at Hills I’ve not only learnt about the past, but also the present. It’s extremely interesting to see how history has determined where we are today.”

ELLA

History of Art



Learning to interpret images and understand design are skills for life.

History of Art provides you with an intimate environment for focused and intense discussion, revolving around the history and development of Art. It provides you with the tools to analyse a range of historical periods through painting, sculpture and architecture.

Classes are highly interactive, and you are encouraged to discuss, debate and present your ideas to both your teacher and with each other.

The course consists of studying works of art and architecture from classical

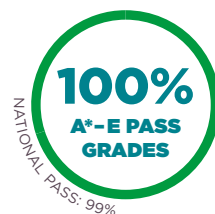
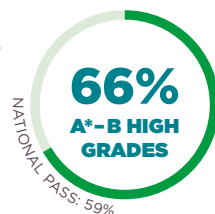
antiquity to the present day. Learning takes place both in galleries and museums and in the classroom, using digital slides and films. You will learn through discussion, presentations and written essays on how to understand these works in the context of the time in which they were made.

Seeing work in situ is an enriching and important component of the course, with opportunities to visit galleries and architectural sites both at home and abroad.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/history-of-art

Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 English (Language or Literature)
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

Latin



The key to rich and influential literature and a range of modern languages.

Historical context and Roman ideas and values are studied as part of the background to literature and language.

You will learn to think logically and analytically about language and literature, and you will develop a critical approach to ideas of Roman society and compare them with those current today.

There are opportunities for developing research and presentation skills, as

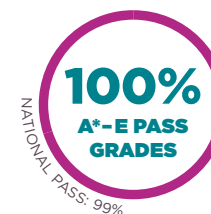
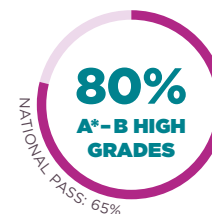
well as trips to conferences, plays and, in some years, to Rome. The work is challenging but rewarding. Some students have gone on to study Classics at universities, including Oxford and Cambridge, others have chosen to study Medicine, Law or modern languages.

Latin A level is now offered by few state schools and colleges; it is a relatively rare qualification valued by universities and employers alike.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/latin

Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in Latin (short course GCSE acceptable)
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average



"I've loved taking History of Art and I have learnt so much. It links into so many different subject areas, and has made me see the world in a completely different light."



"Latin has been my favourite subject at Hills as the content is fascinating and beautiful, both literature and language, and the teachers are extremely supportive."

Mathematics



Students enjoy its challenge, its clarity, and the satisfaction of solving problems.

The Maths A level course gives students the essential tools required to study and understand abstract ideas in a wide range of contexts. Alongside Pure Mathematics, you will also study Mechanics, building on Newtonian ideas of motion and forces, and Statistics, which enables you to analyse and interpret the real world through data analysis.

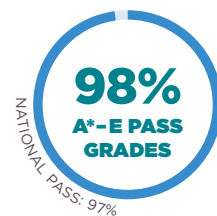
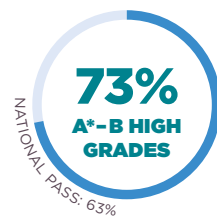
- Maths is a facilitating subject for Maths and Science based degree courses.

- Assessed through examinations at the end of two years (no coursework).
- Maths is good training for the mind, helping to develop logical thinking and problem-solving skills; the kind of analytical processes that have helped solve problems of all kinds for thousands of years.
- A focus on the abstract, linking algebra with geometry, including elements of problem-solving and analysis of a large data set.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/mathematics

Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 7 in Mathematics
2. Maths Adjusted Admissions Score applies



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average



"I really enjoy the satisfaction of understanding a difficult problem in maths and how different topics can be applied to concepts that you thought were unrelated."

Media Studies



Learn to engage critically with the wide range of media you encounter in everyday life.

Media Studies is a popular subject at both A level and degree level. The A level course gives you a broad experience of many different aspects of the media, plus the opportunity to carry out research and produce print and video products. It equips you with the skills and knowledge to engage critically with the wide range of media you encounter in everyday life.

This course will touch on most of the main media at some point: film (*J, Daniel Blake* and *Black Panther*), television (*Life on Mars* and *The Bridge*) advertising and

a range of new media, such as websites and video games.

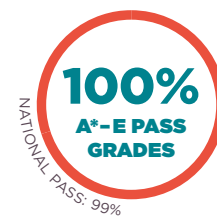
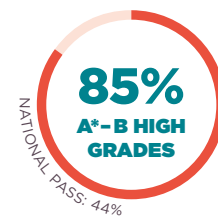
You will carry out studies of specific types of texts. A range of concepts and issues will also be covered: how the media represents particular social groups, who owns the media and how this affects the type of media produced.

You will learn to use digital video cameras and digital editing equipment to create your own video work. There will also be opportunities for trips and extra-curricular activities.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/media-studies

Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in English (Language or Literature)
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average



"One of the reasons I enjoy Media Studies is because it opens your eyes to the world around you and how you can interact with it."

Music



Music A level provides an excellent all-round education in the varied aspects of music making.

Practical music-making is integral to this course. Skill areas cover performing and composing as well as aural, harmony and historical analysis. It is a creative subject which provides opportunities to work in your own preferred styles, while retaining a focus on traditional Western classical music.

The course has a large coursework element which enables you to work at length and in detail on your coursework submissions. Practical music making is integral to the course; solo and/or ensemble playing is required so you must have regular lessons with a suitably qualified professional on your main instrument or voice.

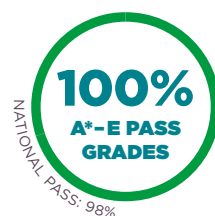
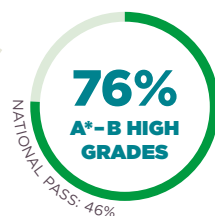
Within the department, there is an excellent and varied extracurricular programme including the following groups: chamber choir, College choir, folk/roots group, Vox Pop, jazz orchestra, symphony orchestra and wind orchestra. You are required to be part of at least two of these groups.

Professional musicians provide coaching for instrumental award ensembles and there are regular extension events including trips to concerts/operas, workshops, careers talks, university talks and concert tours.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/music

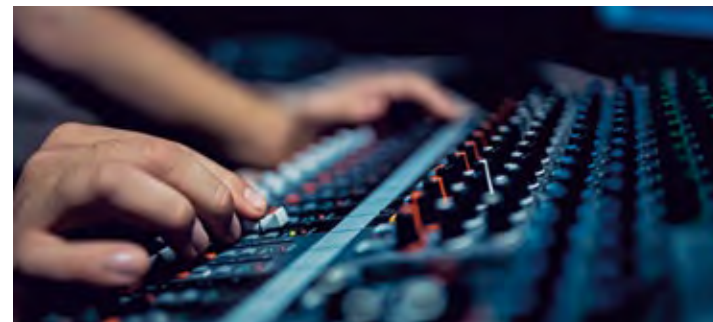
Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in Music AND Grade 5 instrument or voice
OR Grade 5 instrument or voice AND Grade 5 Music Theory (or equivalent)
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

Music Technology



Learn how to use technology to produce popular music.

Music Technology is a creative and innovative subject which arms you with the skills needed to compose, produce and record music. You will gain an understanding of a wide range of popular musical styles and will learn how to use technology to create popular music. The course is practical with much of the work carried out at computer work stations.

There are excellent opportunities to learn to operate a wide variety of music hardware and software, all in superb

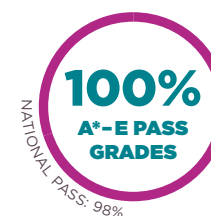
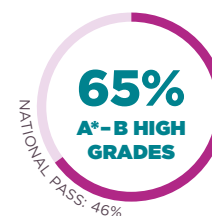
facilities including a teaching room with a fully equipped suite of computers and two recording studios, one including an acoustically isolated booth.

Both studios are equipped with Logic Studio X with Audient iD22 interface / ASP 880 pre-amps, and the second studio also includes some outboard effects, balanced tie-lines to an acoustic booth, and a recital room. There is also access to the full range of McDSP professional audio plug-ins and Native Instruments Komplete 11.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/music-technology

Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 or Merit in Music (or similar subject title)
OR Grade 5 Music Theory or Grade 5 instrument
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average



"I love music at Hills because every lesson is great fun, working with others on a variety of pieces. I'm always in the music block at lunch playing and singing in all sorts of groups."



"I really enjoy the opportunity to record and mix music using professional standard equipment and the relaxed, friendly interactive feel of all the lessons."

Philosophy



What can we know? What is human consciousness? Philosophy deals with the big questions in life.

Philosophy examines the rich treasure trove of answers to questions such as: What is the nature and limitation of our knowledge? How do we decide what is right? Does God exist? What is human consciousness?

Philosophy A level will appeal to you if you enjoy thinking deeply, reading critically and expressing your ideas clearly in essays and discussion. Your opinions will be challenged in lively classroom discussion as you are led through the maze of philosophical puzzles.

A level Philosophy is an antidote to learning facts and figures: this subject encourages you to think for yourself! The course is complementary to both arts and science A levels and prepares you for allied academic subjects at university including a Philosophy, Politics and Economics degree or a straight Philosophy degree. Thinking is a vocational skill and philosophy graduates are extremely marketable in a wide variety of fields such as law, journalism and public services.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/philosophy

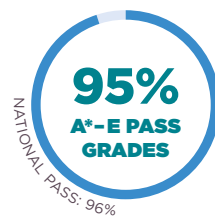
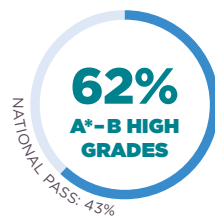
Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in English (Language or Literature)
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



“Choosing Philosophy A level has been one of the best decisions I’ve ever made. I had an amazing time in class and find myself reading more philosophy than fiction. I hope my new found love can continue into university.”

ADAM



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

Photography



Gain an understanding of the photographic art form and the world around you.

Studying Photography will give you a greater understanding of the world we live in, and your place within it. You will be encouraged to explore subject themes that you are personally interested in to ensure you are always on a creative journey that is meaningful to you.

We actively encourage individual ideas and experimentation, with one to one discussion, feedback and group peer review taking place during lesson time to support your project work. There is also the opportunity to take part in several local study visits and one abroad. Recent destinations have included Paris and Venice.

We have a wide range of resources available, including:

- Photographic studio and location lighting equipment.
- A range of film and digital camera equipment.
- Digital editing computer suite.
- Photographic darkroom.

The course is essential in preparing you for degree-level study but is also ideal if you have a love of photography and wish to develop your skills further. No previous knowledge is necessary for this course, but a keen interest in the subject is a must!

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/photography

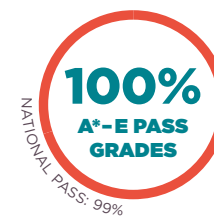
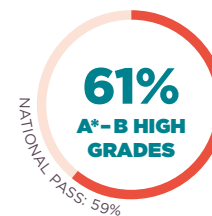
Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in English (Language or Literature) OR GCSE grade 6 in Photography or Art (or similar subject title)
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



“I have really enjoyed learning Photography at Hills Road as the support I have received has been incredible, and the teachers have been really helpful and supportive.”

ESHA



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

Physical Education



The scientific study of exercise, health and sport.

The scientific study of exercise, health and sport is big business, from the riches of professional sport to the equally important personal fitness sector. The impact of sport on both our individual lives and the global economy cannot be overstated.

A level PE covers an incredibly diverse range of topics. You learn about how the body works: anatomy, physiology and biomechanics, how performance can be enhanced, analysed and monitored and about the multiple health benefits of physical activity. For example, did you know that inactivity is costing the NHS around £7.4 billion a year?

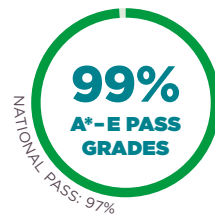
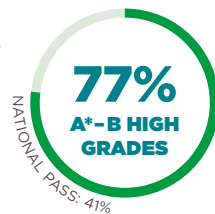
You will study psychology, nutrition, sports injury prevention and management and sports business to understand the financial side of the sports industry. You will also gain an understanding of the role that sport played in the past and the role it will play in the future.

Essentially, you will develop the skills of a scientist as well as those of an arts student. Increasingly, Physiotherapy courses accept PE as an alternative to Biology, for example Nottingham University.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/physical-education

Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 or Merit in PE (or similar subject title) AND Mathematics or a Science OR GCSE grade 6 in English (Language or Literature) AND Mathematics or a Science. Must also have minimum grade 4 in PE, if studied.
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

Physics



Investigate the fundamental principles of how the universe works.

Physics is a rewarding study for those of you with an inquiring mind. It is also the basis on which all forms of technology are built. The course seeks to promote a sound understanding and application of physical concepts along with self-reliance in tackling independent tasks, both theoretical and practical.

Growth of logical and numerical ability accompanies the development of the subject material and goes hand-in-hand with your development, increasing your responsibility for your own learning. Such skills are important in all future

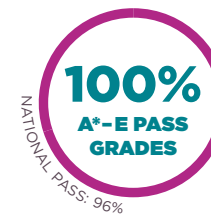
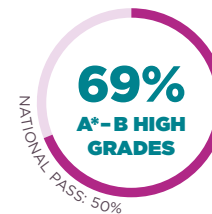
forms of professional activity and particularly so in those areas which require a predominantly logical or numerate approach.

Physics is a fascinating subject and, whilst it can be studied at higher education in its own right, it is also taken by those wishing to go on to engineering courses, medical courses, architecture or degrees in other science areas and it is a widely accepted qualification for any area which requires numeracy or logical thought.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/physics

Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 7 in Physics or 7/7 in Combined Science AND Mathematics
2. Science Adjusted Admissions Score applies



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average



"The lessons are always really inclusive which is really good. There are lots of whole class discussions as well as small groups which helps you understand the concepts better as you hear other people's ideas."



Lessons are really engaging as the teachers are all complete Physics enthusiasts. They constantly find interesting ways to support and extend our learning such as lunchtime talks, workshops and practical experiments."

Politics



Politics is about compromise; it's about power; it's about government.

Politics is the way in which a society or a group manages different views, conflicts and disagreements. We look at these aspects through studies of UK and global politics, examining the political structures and issues of debate both in the UK and around the world.

You will develop research and communication skills through a balanced handling of political questions, an interest in citizenship, an up-to-date knowledge of current affairs and an understanding of the political ideas that have shaped the world. You will develop your analytical skills by evaluating political concepts and arguments from

competing and sometimes controversial perspectives. These are skills highly valued by Higher Education institutions and employers.

There is an active student-led Politics Society and a programme of visiting speakers. The department organises annual study trips to the Houses of Parliament in London and an international residential trip to New York.

Politics students go on to study a wide variety of subjects at university, including PPE (Philosophy, Politics & Economics), international relations, law, journalism and history.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/politics

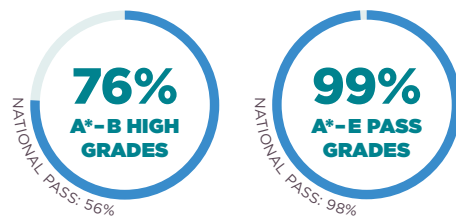
Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in English (Language or Literature)
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



"Through the study of Politics I've learnt more about the turbulent political times we are experiencing, have a more well-rounded and informed opinion in debates and, most of all, have been inspired to pursue International Relations at degree level!"

MILLY



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

Psychology



A fascinating subject with a rigorous and scientific approach.

Psychology is the scientific study of human behaviour and experience. This stimulating subject combines fascinating content with a rigorous and scientific approach to investigation. It has recently undergone huge growth in popularity, both as a choice for A level and undergraduate students.

The course aims to develop both an academic understanding of the subject and an appreciation of its impact on people's daily lives. Psychology A level develops your ability to formulate an argument by presenting and critically evaluating research evidence. Accurate and concise writing is important in

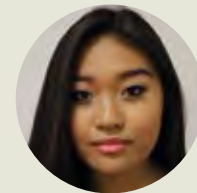
answering short structured questions and longer essay-style questions. There is no coursework, but an important element of the course is practical: designing and carrying out research, reporting findings and analysing data. This provides good opportunities to develop IT and number skills.

Lunchtime workshops and a peer-mentoring scheme provide further opportunities to further your understanding. There is also a student-run Psychology Society which organises lunchtime talks by visiting speakers and shows videos of programmes of psychological interest.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/psychology

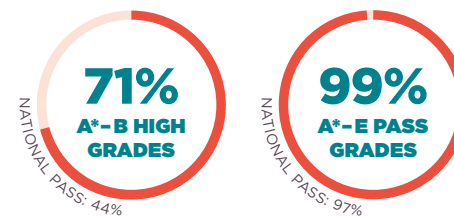
Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in English (Language or Literature) AND Mathematics or a Science
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



"There are so many interesting topics that you'll be able to relate to - Psychology can give you a new perspective on life."

JENNY



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

Religious Studies



Explore and discuss Ethics, Philosophy and Buddhism

Religious Studies is an attractive option if you are interested in studying the fundamental questions which all human beings ask: What is the point of being alive? What or who is God? Why is there suffering and evil in the world? What is the right way to live? Is there anything beyond death?

The course includes the study of Buddhism and how this fascinating religion and philosophy has evolved and developed over time. It also introduces you to some of the great debates and thinkers in religion, philosophy and ethics.

This subject will appeal to you if you are enthusiastic and want to understand fascinating concepts and the deeply held convictions of others and to examine your prejudices, assumptions and beliefs.

The approach taken to studying Religious Studies is an objective, open-ended and exploratory one, encouraging debate and enabling students both to step imaginatively into the shoes of religious believers and to grapple with new ideas.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/religious-studies

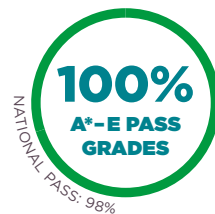
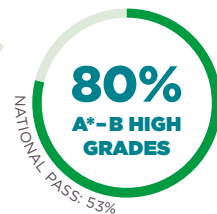
Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in English (Language or Literature)
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



“Religious Studies has encouraged me to challenge the world around me. More importantly, it has made me more open-minded and tolerant to other beliefs and theories, which is a quality that I will always be grateful for.”

CHLOÉ



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

Sociology



Interested in why society works the way it does?

Are you curious about the world in which you live and your place in it? Sociologists are interested in why society works in the way that it does. They conduct research into and look at the extent to which behaviour – and opportunities – can be shaped by social class, age, gender and race.

This course will help you to understand how individual lives are shaped by social institutions such as the education system, religion and the mass media, and investigates key contemporary problems, such as poverty, religious extremism and crime.

Through research and investigation, you will develop a range of transferable skills, amongst them the ability to construct and deconstruct arguments both orally and in writing, analyse information critically and present information logically.

Sociology is a subject within the Political and Social Sciences department at Hills Road. The department regularly invites outside speakers to come into the College to speak to you.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/sociology

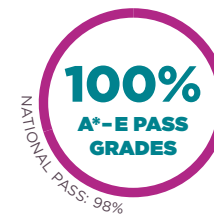
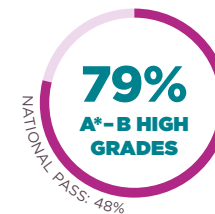
Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in English (Language or Literature)
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



“I love the atmosphere of Sociology. It is such a fun and open environment. I seriously come out with all sorts in those lessons.”

EMILY



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

Spanish



Gain in-depth knowledge of the culture and society of Spain and speak a foreign language fluently.

If you dream of speaking a foreign language fluently and impressively, and perhaps even working abroad, studying a language can help you to achieve these goals. It will equip you with a variety of unique skills that will be invaluable in the future.

Debates and discussions in the classroom will give you a broad perspective on a wide range of issues, and topics and through this you will become more knowledgeable and better informed.

You will also gain in-depth knowledge of Spain and Spanish speaking countries.

Topics will include social issues and trends, as well as the opportunity to explore cultural themes through film or literature.

Native speaking Foreign Language Assistants work in the Modern Languages department and are available to help and support you with small group conversation work. We also run a peer mentoring scheme as well as providing the opportunity for you to take part in an exchange link to Spain.

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/spanish

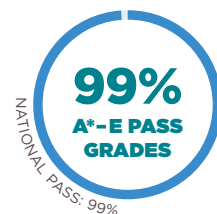
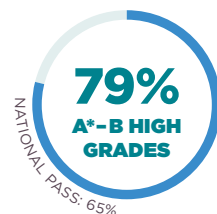
Entry requirements:

1. GCSE grade 6 in Spanish
2. Minimum Entry Admissions Score applies



"As far as I can tell, Spanish is one of the nicest and most close-knit departments where you feel like your teachers actually know you."

LIDDY



The figures above are based on a three-year grade average

Getting here

Hills Road,
Cambridge,
CB2 8PE
01223 247251

By bike

The bike park for the College is located at the back of the College. Please use Purbeck Road to access bike parking.

By train

The College is a 10-minute walk from Cambridge central train station.

By bus

Many students travel to the College by bus with routes that travel to and from the city centre and surrounding villages.

By car

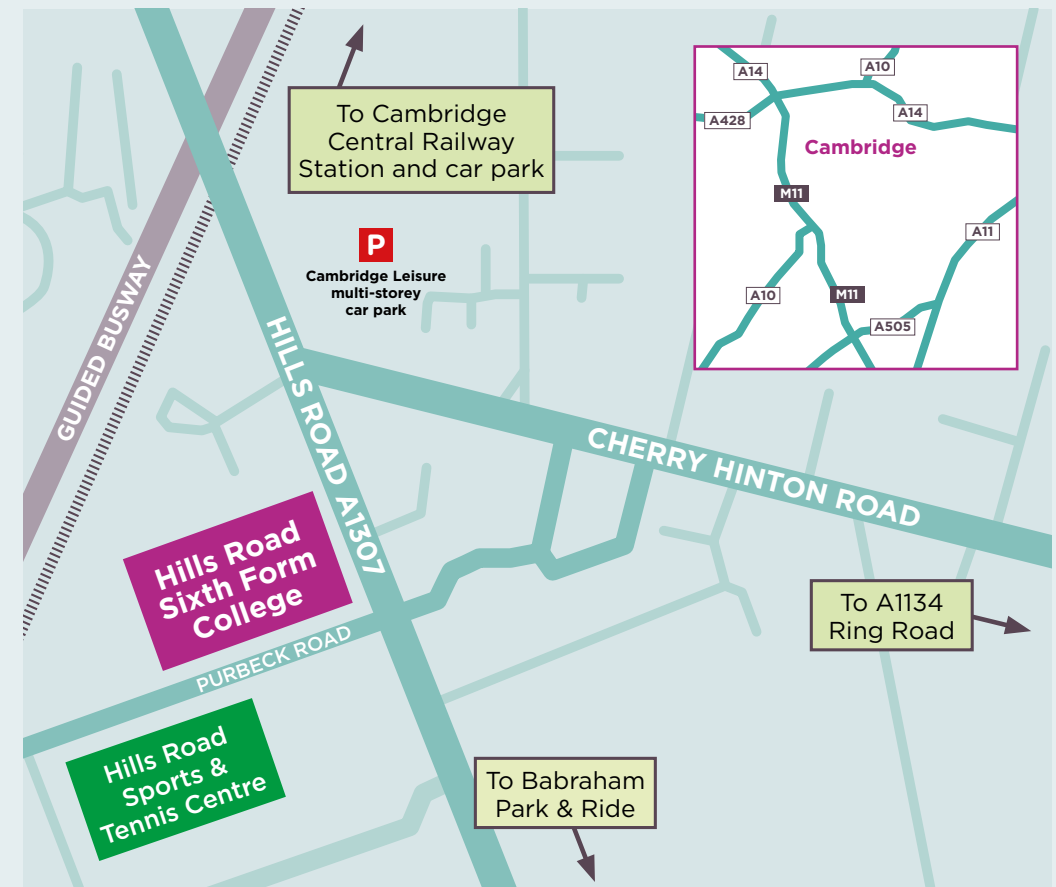
The closest Park and Ride is at Babraham Road. Please note there is no student parking at the College.

Financial support

Financial support may be available for transport for students who meet the criteria for the 16-19 Bursary Fund. Students are asked to apply to the College directly in such cases. For more info visit www.hillsroad.ac.uk/bursary-fund

Subsidised travel

Many of the travel operators that serve Cambridgeshire offer discounts for students. More information is available at www.hillsroad.ac.uk/getting-here





Hills Road
Sixth Form College
Cambridge

www.hillsroad.ac.uk

