

Welcome to the launch of the Centre of Excellence

'faber est quisque fortunae suae'
Everyone is the architect of their own success

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Director of Excellence



Rationale for Centre of Excellence.

The Centre of Excellence will be a **persistent advocate for students who show exceptional academic success and commitment to learning** providing a range of exciting opportunities to widen communication skills, leadership and teamwork. It will promote student self-regulation through effective planning, monitoring and evaluation of independent learning. It resolves to be passionate and relentless in fostering success, aspiration, challenge and inclusion.

The Centre of Excellence will develop students who are active enquirers and immersed in the world around them. They will have the knowledge, skills, attributes and experience to promote themselves with confidence in any context. Through exposing students to a **dynamic range of cultural and educational experiences, we aim to promote parity and social mobility**. Our work involves developing relationships with primary schools, HEI, community and parents; we are building an expanding network of educational partnerships. We benchmark our provision against the best.

The Five Pillars of Learning and over-arching aims:

Civics:

- The provision of information and learning experiences to equip and empower students to participate in democratic processes.
- To gain the ability to form their own hypotheses, create sustained and reasoned arguments and reach substantiated conclusions about citizenship issues.

Leadership:

- To possess self-awareness, credibility, a bias for action and the desire to empower others.
- To exhibit humility and stay authentic.
- To present themselves as constant and consistent role models that are fully present.

Scholarship:

- To nurture roots of education in learners and lay strong academic and intellectual foundations.
- To empower learners by ensuring they have enhanced cultural capital.

Communication:

- To be able to convey or share ideas and feelings effectively through an enhanced vocabulary.
- To be able to read, write and speak confidently with the ability to adapt to any given audience or circumstance applying ethos, pathos and logos.

Latin and Classics:

- To provide a solid foundation for the acquisition of other languages.
- To improve reading, writing, and speaking of English specifically enriching vocabulary, sharpening grammar and enhancing logic.



The Independent School Model

- It is about learning and scholarship
- It is about combining a **breadth of experience** through sport, creative and performing arts, CCF and many other character forming activities.
- It is about providing pastoral care that goes well beyond basic welfare and focuses on **developing and maturing the individual**
- And, vitally, it is about preparing young people for life after school at their chosen university and beyond – equipping them **to become suitably qualified and confident to lead, to serve and to be of good influence.**

(from Harrow School's prospectus)



Why has your child been selected?

- ❑ based on having a SATS score in English and Maths significantly above average and a NGRT score of 120+.
(The New Group Reading Test (NGRT) is a standardised, biannual assessment that reliably measures reading skills against the national average)
- ❑ Teacher recommendations and achievement points from Terms 1-2 have also been used to determine aptitude and excellent commitment to learning.

Nota Bene :

- * All of these tests are reliable but not perfect.
- * Shows ability but not commitment and dedication.
- * Work ethic is essential for future success





Aims of school for Higher Attaining students:

As a school:

- Broad and balanced curriculum that is challenging and enriching.

In lesson:

- High quality teaching that teaches to the top and is aspirational in its outcomes.
- HA needs are met through intellectual, creative and physical stimulation in order to develop higher thinking skills, problem solving skills and independent study.
- HA students are able to move on more quickly to more challenging activities.
- All departments will have a policy statement for HA students that addresses provision(copy is available this evening)

Centre of Excellence

A school within a school

- We want to develop students' love of learning.
- We have developed a Super Curriculum which provides students with a range of suggested activities that take their regular curriculum *further*.
- These activities can take many forms including reading, watching videos online, downloading podcasts, attending lectures, visiting museums or entering academic competitions.

Anyone can do *extra-curricular activities* – I am most interested in those students who choose to extend their love for their subject by engaging in *super-curricular activities*
(Oxford University admissions tutor)



OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE PROVISION

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 12
Latin and classics	Latin Year 7 Classics Amarantus	Latin Year 8 Pompeii and Herculaneum	GCSE Year 1	GCSE Year 2	OCR Level 3
Scholarship	Project work: What makes who I am ? Allusion Birds Reading and discussion	Project work: Aristotle Carnegie Shadowing and competition Introduction to Ethics (link with RS)	Scholar's Programme Biblical and classical Illusion	Critical thinking OU Ethics introduction	Extended Project
Communication	Presentation of Project Debating basics	Presentation of project Debating Improvers	Etiquette Ted Talks and presentation styles	Ted talks challenge competition.	Telephone skills Empathetic listening Micro interviews The importance of interpersonal skills OU
Civics	Plymouth and local Governance	History of democracy and types of governance	Trip to Houses of Parliament Central Governance	International laws and Treaties	What are your political views? MP visits
Leadership	Importance of school council. Subject Ambassador	Leadership programme - Navy	Duke of Edinburgh CCF	Duke of Edinburgh CCF	Open University- Leadership and fellowship 24 hours 8 weeks Peer Mentors



LATIN

- **Helps improve your English vocabulary- 60 % of all English words come from Latin.**
- **Helps with your understanding of English grammar. Helps you learn other languages.**
- **It unlocks many doors later in life for jobs - medicine, law, philosophy, sciences.**
- **The study of Rome and its people is fascinating.**
- **The educated elite study it!**
- **It is fun !**

		TERMLY PROPOSED PROVISION BY YEAR GROUP					
Year	TERMS	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	Latin and classics	LATINKS3 YEAR 1 (TB)				Classics- Amarantus (TB)	
	Scholarship		Project work: What makes who I am ? (LS)				Allusion- Birds Biblical
	Communication	Debating –Basics LT		Presentation of Project (TB, MC)			
	Civics				Plymouth and local Governance.		
	Leadership	Importance of school council.	Subject Ambassador		Navy Leadership programme		

For example 1 :
Why have they got blue eyes?



Historical route

Research family history -who has blue eyes and what were their lives like ?



Biological reasoning - study of genetics.

- Light sensitivity- red eye photography
- Eye health
- Blue eyes are not actually blue



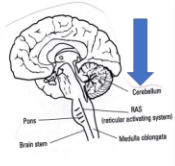
Racism- Aryan race-1940s European history

Psychology Jane Elliott carried out the “**Blue Eyes**, Brown Eyes” exercise in her classroom in 1968.





Hindbrain



Cerebellum

- Controls movement and balance
- Stores lots of neurons
- Helps form memories
- Holds/stores procedural memories such as
 - "how to"
 - "ABC's, basic facts"



Bristol University Neuroscience Festival



Visits to Exeter and Bristol University





Debates in
the Plymouth
Council
Chamber
Visit to Lord
Mayor's
house- Elliott
Terrace



Why join?

- Be part of a community overtly, and proudly, dedicated to excellence
- Push yourself at your own pace to further your knowledge and ability in particular areas
- Have access to new opportunities
- Surprise yourself!
- Gain great experience for university/work applications and references
- Realise that it is ok to falter on the path to success – be supported in dealing with setbacks

Thank you very much for coming!

Questions?

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