

# Lancaster Girls' Grammar School Profile

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## Lancaster Girls' Grammar School

Regent Street

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Telephone: 01524 32010

<http://www.lggs.org.uk>

Local Authority:	Lancashire
Age range:	11-18
Number of pupils:	880
Head teacher:	Mrs Jackie Cahalin
Chair of governors:	Mr P Oglethorpe

## What have been our successes this year?

2009 GCSE results were one of our best year's results ever, with the percentage of A\*/A grades at 82.8%. Everybody passed English, Maths and Science. 88% of girls achieved at least 5 GCSEs at grades A\*/A. 9 students gained 11 A\* grades.

LGGS teams have performed extremely well in a number of regional competitions. Our Year 7 team won the Lancashire Junior Maths Challenge, the Year 9 team won the North West Bronze Crest Award for Technology, our Year 12 team won the overall Young Engineers Award for the North West and our Year 9 team won the Teamwork Award at the Go4Set Engineering Project at Lancaster University.

Our combined orchestra with LRGS won a place at the final of the National Festival of Music for Youth after winning the regional competition.

Our "Girls in Engineering" Day brought together many former pupils who are now successfully working in engineering to share their experiences with current LGGS pupils.

A new exchange was established with Mahidol School, Thailand with five Science AS students visiting the school in February 2008. LGGS' first visit to China took place very successfully in October 2008.

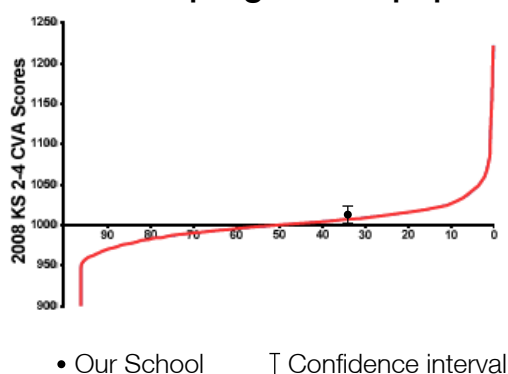
We have been selected as the only Lancashire secondary school for the Flagship Food for Life programme.

## What are we trying to improve?

Our priorities:

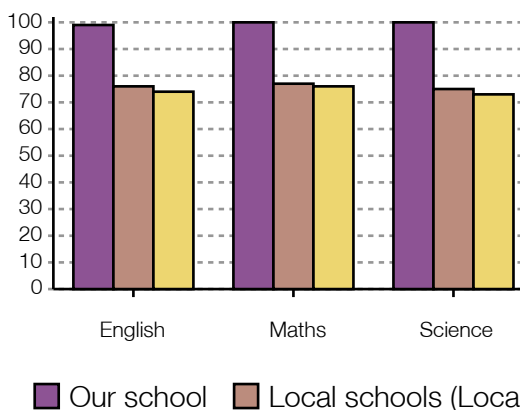
- Maintain our high standards through effective monitoring and evaluation
- Improve the feedback pupils receive on their work
- Introduce targeting setting at Key Stage 3
- Improve sporting facilities at LGGS

## How much progress do pupils make between 11 and 16?



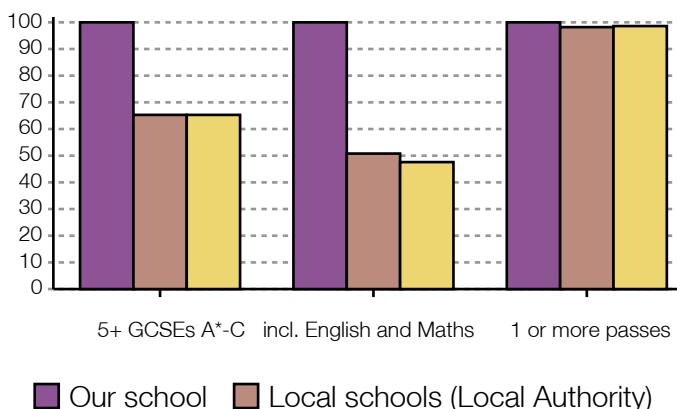
The chart shows our school's contextual value added (CVA) score relative to that of other secondary schools. CVA is a statistical means of assessing how effective a school is, by measuring pupils' progress using their test and examination results. The confidence interval shows the range within which we can be confident the score (calculated on the results of only one year group) represents the overall effectiveness of a school. The percentile rank shows the percentage of schools with a score equal to or higher than ours.

## How well do our pupils achieve at age 14?



This shows Key Stage 3 results for 2007. It shows the percentage of pupils eligible for KS3 tests (usually 14 year olds) who achieved or exceeded level 5.

## How well do our pupils achieve at age 16?



This shows the percentage of pupils (who were at the end of Key Stage 4) who in 2008 achieved 5 or more GCSEs (and equivalent) at grades A\*-C, 5 or more GCSEs (and equivalent) at grades A\*-C including English and mathematics GCSE, and one or more GCSEs (and equivalent) at grades A\*-G.

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## How have our results changed over time?

Our Contextual Value Added score, which measures progress from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 4, was a pleasing 1008.7 for 2007, 1007 for 2008.

GCSE results are consistently outstanding. We are in the top 20 of state schools for our GCSE results.

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## How are we making sure that every child gets teaching to meet their individual needs?

All staff have exceptional subject knowledge and teach mainly in their specialisms. A variety of learning and teaching styles caters for all learners. A system for monitoring teaching is used throughout the school. Lessons are challenging, pace is good and pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning.

The school database, allied to common departmental assessment tasks, allows very effective monitoring of progress. There is a target-setting process for students in Key Stage 4 which allows regular monitoring of student progress. Peer and self-assessment have been introduced and are being further developed.

Pupils with specific learning difficulties have IEPs, which are shared with all teaching staff. There is specific provision for girls with learning difficulties related to spelling and handwriting. Girls identified as having organisational problems are supported. Many of our pupils are Gifted and Talented according to national criteria. Extra curricular activities extend the range of learning experiences and we offer some additional subjects, eg, in Years 10 and 11 small groups of pupils study AS Critical Thinking.

## **How do we make sure all pupils attend their lessons and behave well?**

We operate a very effective First-Day Response system. We monitor absence and contact parents when we have concerns. We stress the importance of not taking holidays during term time. We have introduced new systems for improving punctuality.

The Behaviour Policy was drawn up in consultation with pupils. The policy is publicised on the school website, as is the Anti-Bullying Policy. We have a very strong pastoral team. All behaviour issues are investigated and appropriate action taken. The school believes in working closely with parents. The school Rewards and Sanctions Policy is clearly understood by pupils and consistently implemented by staff.

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## **What have pupils told us about the school, and what have we done as a result?**

We use the Lancashire Pupil Attitude Questionnaire to seek feedback from pupils and Sixth Form students. Their views of the school are very positive.

The School Council meets regularly and all representatives attended a full day's training organised with three other schools as part of our Leading Edge work. Their views have resulted in a new ICT Code of Conduct, the introduction of a Year 9 Outward Bound Day and the inclusion of Year 9 pupils at Parents' Evenings. All Year 9, 11 and 12 are interviewed by a member of the SLT about their option choices and their views on the school are sought.

Last year pupil researchers worked with staff on a number of teaching and learning issues. A number of Year 9 pupils took part in a learning review, observing the learning in lessons.

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## **How are we working with parents and the community?**

We keep parents informed through a regular newsletter. Parents are happy with the quality of the pupil reports and parents' evenings. We have a regular programme of information evenings for parents, eg, Year 9 Options, Year 7 Welcome, Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh. Our Friends of LGGS Group issues a regular newsletter.

As a Leading Edge school, we work closely with Carnforth High and Central Lancaster High School. This year we have started to work with Skerton Community High School. Our projects include Maths and Citizenship.

As a Technology College, we support the teaching of Maths and Science in local primaries. We have introduced Technology days for Year 6 pupils. We also run after-school Masterclasses for Year 6 pupils in Maths and Science.

As part of our Languages specialist status, we support the teaching of languages in 5 primary schools. We run Immersion Days in French and German for local Year 11 pupils. We also support Language teaching in a local secondary school.

Our pupils are becoming increasingly involved in the local community, eg, Year 10 party for local elderly people.

## What activities and options are available to pupils?

Our extra-curricular programme is outstanding.

Pupils are encouraged to participate in a very wide- range of extra curricular activities. In Sport there are various clubs such as Hockey, Fitness, Netball. Dance is very popular and many of the dance clubs are run by sixth formers. We offer BTEC Dance as an after-school option to Years 10 and 11.

In Music pupils have the opportunity to participate in the orchestras, choirs, wind band, joint vocal group and ensembles. The inter-house drama and music festivals are very popular and involve many pupils. There are a number of clubs including the Eco Group, International Society, Amnesty and Christian Union. Latin and Mandarin are popular extracurricular activities.

The Duke of Edinburgh award scheme runs very successfully at all three levels with 150 girls currently taking part in the scheme.

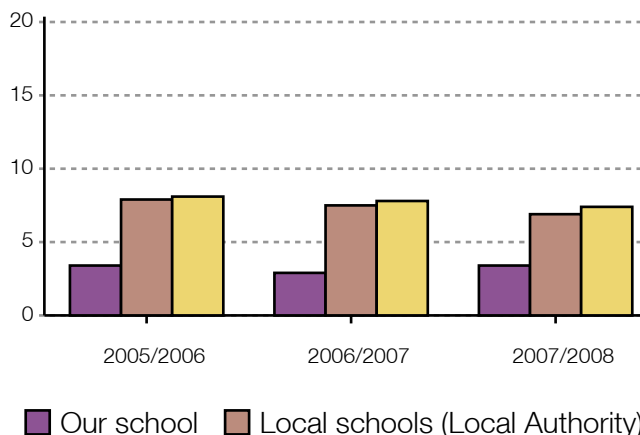
There are many opportunities for foreign travel. We have exchanges with French, Spanish and German schools. We have a partner school in India and are now in our sixth year of exchanges with the VDJ School in Hisar.

At KS4 all girls study the three separate Sciences at GCSE. A language is compulsory for all pupils.

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## How do our absence rates compare with other schools?



This chart shows the percentage of half days missed through authorised and unauthorised absence by all pupils at the school. Information is given for the school, for schools within the local authority and for all schools.

## **How do we make sure our pupils are healthy, safe and well-supported?**

There are over 30 hours of openly available recreational and competitive sporting opportunities available in addition to the weekly PE lessons. LGGS has strong partnerships with local sporting clubs including gymnastics, rugby and hockey.

Pupils are allowed water in most lessons and there are water fountains in school. Catering is of a very high quality and meets government nutrition guidelines. We have gained the Healthy Schools' Award and met the Lancashire Schools' standard for healthy eating. We are now a Flagship for Food school.

"Healthy lifestyles" form part of the KS3 curriculum in Citizenship, Technology, Science and PE.

Teams of experienced Form Tutors are an effective first point for advice and support, with referral to Year Heads, SLT and outside agencies as needed. There are well established mentoring programmes in place.

We have a qualified part-time Counsellor who supports individual girls. There is a well established peer mentoring scheme.

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## **What do our pupils do after year 11?**

Around 95% of our Year 11 students return to the LGGS Sixth Form to begin A level courses in four or five subjects. The rest continue their studies in further education.

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## **Ofsted's view of our school**

The school has an excellent climate for learning and sets very high standards both in terms of academic achievement and personal development. The girls' attitudes to learning, their relationships with one another, and their behaviour and attendance are exemplary.

The high quality of the teaching ensures pupils make excellent progress and also fosters a love of learning. The curriculum is very broad and balanced and meets the needs of the pupils very effectively. The school's specialist status has had a positive impact on the curriculum and has contributed to the high standards. The provision of enrichment and extra-curricular activities is exceptional and ensures that the pupils have a rich education. The provision for care, guidance and support is similarly outstanding and all pupils receive excellent advice about their progress and the next stages of their education.

Leadership and management are outstanding and ensure the school provides very good value for money. The headteacher's contribution to the school's success is exceptional. The senior leadership team work effectively with the staff and governors to ensure high standards are maintained. The strengths identified at the previous inspection have been maintained and built upon and the capacity for sustained improvement in the future is excellent. Parents and pupils are very positive about the school and recognise the high quality of its educational provision.

Date of last inspection: 09-Mar-2006

Ofsted graded our school as outstanding

Inspectors made judgements on a scale: outstanding (grade 1); good (2); satisfactory (3); inadequate (4).



[View the Ofsted page for Lancaster Girls' Grammar School](#)

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## What have we done in response to Ofsted?

Ofsted stated that

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# Information about our sixth form

## Our results this year

Our 2009 A level results were outstanding - 81% of grades were at A and B.

8 students gained 5 grade As and a further 19 students gained 4 grade As.

In the Advanced Extension Awards, 3 students gained distinctions and 6 gained merits.

At AS 20 students gained 4 grade As, with 3 students gaining 5 grade As.

Our first set of results for the Extended Project Qualification were excellent - 6 students gained A\*, 11 grade A and 3 grade B.

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## How have our results changed over time?

A level results have always been excellent compared with national averages.

In 2008 the percentage of A and B grades was 69%. In 2007 the percentage of A and B grades was 81%.

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## What have been the successes of the sixth form this year?

- Introduction of the Extended Project Qualification has been popular and successful.
- Sixth formers are leading many extra curricular events and activities in school eg Talent Show, dance clubs, Junior Drama and the Music Festival.
- Two Sixth Form teams took part in very successful World Challenge expeditions to Madagascar Summer 2008 and led a new fundraising campaign - the Tap Project.
- We have worked with Lancaster University Volunteers Unit on a number of social enterprise projects. One of the LGGS teams won the best team work prize.
- An Academic Mentoring programme for Year 13 has been successfully implemented. The students are very positive about the programme.
- Over 55 students gained the AQA Baccalaureate qualification.
- LGGS won the Annual Institute of Biology quiz for the third year in a row.
- A Sixth Form student was successfully nominated for the Diana Award.
- Six students have gained places at Cambridge University.
- The Sixth Form team won the North West Young Engineers for Great Britain final.

- The Engineering in Education team have worked with Beaumont College.

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## **What are we trying to improve in our sixth form?**

- Extra academic support for students experiencing difficulties with the transition from GCSE to A level.
- More consistent procedures across academic departments on sixth form issues.
- Extend EPQ to all students who wish to take part.

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## **What do our students do after leaving the sixth form?**

The majority of our students go on to Higher Education either immediately or following a gap year.

2008 Destination figures for LGGs show Medicine as the most popular higher education course with 8 students studying Medicine at University.

Our students opt for a wide range of University courses with History, Biomedical Science, Business, Pharmacy and Law always popular.

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## **More Information**

If you would like more information about school policies, including our policies on special educational needs and disability, admissions, finance, school food and our complaints procedure, please contact us:

By telephone 01524 32010

Our website <http://www.lggs.org.uk>