

FEBRUARY EDITION: VOL. 2

#LongRoadLife

LONG ROAD SIXTH FORM COLLEGE APPLICANT NEWSLETTER

SUPPORTING YOU - FROM APPLICANT TO STUDENT

Hello, from Long Road!

This month's applicant newsletter is focused on supporting you - as an applicant and as a student. We'll be outlining everything you need to know about our Virtual Advice and Guidance Meetings; the equipment you need, what to expect and lots of hints and tips on how to best prepare for your meeting with us.

We're also looking at the support we can offer you once you join us as a student, meeting more of our Scholars' and hearing about some exciting design competitions and a trip to Parliament with some special guest appearances!

We hope you enjoy the February edition of #LongRoadLife.

Talk to you soon!
Long Road



ADMISSIONS UPDATE

PREPARING FOR YOUR
ADVICE & GUIDANCE
MEETING

MEET SCHOLAR
STUDENTS AVA, LOGAN
& ROBIN

STUDENT SUPPORT:
PROGRESS COACHES

STUDENTS VISIT
PARLIAMENT!



WE'RE HERE TO HELP

Our friendly Admissions Team are here to support and guide you through every stage of your Long Road application.

If you have any questions, please get in touch!



01223 63 1125



admissions@longroad.ac.uk



ADMISSIONS TEAM UPDATE

I HAVE A FEBRUARY ADVICE & GUIDANCE MEETING

Thank you to everyone who has booked their Virtual Advice and Guidance meeting for the 15th or 16th February!

We are really looking forward to meeting you and your Parent/Carers. To ensure that we can have a meaningful conversation about your individual goals and ambitions we require all meetings to take place with **cameras and microphones on**.

All of our staff are equally highly trained and experienced team members able to discuss your post-16 options in detail.

On the day, it is important to log on to the system at least 15 minutes in advance of your meeting to make sure that you are ready when it begins

We understand that this stage can be thrilling and a little daunting; so we hope that the advice in this newsletter will support you in preparing for your meeting.

I WAS UNABLE TO BOOK A FEBRUARY MEETING

If you were unable to book a slot, **please do not worry**. We are holding additional Virtual Advice and Guidance Meetings on **Wednesday 13 March**.

We will send out more detailed communication, after this first round of meetings have taken place, directly to any applicants yet to have a meeting.

If you have any questions or worries please email us on admissions@longroad.ac.uk

Best wishes,
Long Road Admissions Team

YOUR APPLICATION TIMELINE

Your application timeline will help you keep track of where you are in the admissions process and keep you informed of what happens next. Look for the arrow location to see where we are in the process!



OCTOBER 2023

Applications Open

SPRING & SUMMER 2024

Virtual Guidance Meetings & Conditional Offer

(first meetings take place 15 & 16 February 2024)

Discuss your options with an experienced member of staff. You'll receive a formal offer via your Admissions+ account shortly after your Virtual Guidance Meeting.

JANUARY 2024

Applications Close.

Applications made after the deadline may be placed on a waiting list

4 & 5 JULY 2024

Auditions, Welcome Days & Summer Work

Spend the day as a Long Road student; try out your subjects & get a taste of Long Road life. Summer work will be available online & must be completed for your first lesson at college. Auditions for Performing Arts subjects will also be held during Welcome Days

22 AUGUST 2024

GCSE Results Day

Good luck! We're keeping our fingers crossed for you

9 SEPTEMBER 2024

Start of Academic Year
2024/2025

Time to start your Long Road life!

28 - 30 AUGUST 2024

New Student Enrolment

Welcome to the Long Road family!

4 & 5 SEPTEMBER 2024

New Student Orientation



SETTING UP YOUR IT EQUIPMENT - YOU WILL NEED:

- A device with a microphone and speaker/headphones
- A compatible, updated browser:
 - **Apple:** Safari, Chrome or Firefox
 - **Android:** Chrome, Firefox or the Samsung Browser
 - **Windows:** Chrome, Firefox or Microsoft Edge
 - **Linux:** Chrome or Firefox



PREPARING FOR YOUR VIRTUAL ADVICE & GUIDANCE MEETING

Applying for Sixth Form College is some serious business, but there's no need to be nervous. By inviting you to an Advice & Guidance Meeting we can give you the best possible support on choosing your college, your courses and your future career paths!

The most important thing to remember is to **just be yourself**. We aren't trying to catch you out or ask you trick questions, we just want to get to know **you**. By getting to know you as an individual we can give you tailored advice about the college and the courses you want to study. It is also your chance to get to

know us - to get a feel of what Long Road is like and to ask any questions you might have about college life.

Still a bit nervous? Don't worry, that's completely normal. To help make the process as stress-free as possible we've put together this guide so you know what to expect and how to prepare.

WHAT TO EXPECT - GETTING CAMERA READY!

Our friendly staff are really excited to meet you and want to engage with you as much as possible, so please make sure you turn your camera and microphone on.



PREPARING FOR YOUR VIRTUAL ADVICE & GUIDANCE MEETING

To give you a high-quality virtual experience we need to be able to see and hear you; this means we can have a meaningful discussion about your aims and ambitions.

For all meetings you must take some time to consider your behaviour, for example, you must dress appropriately so you feel comfortable, confident and professional. Virtual meetings are no different.

To make things easier for you we have listed some additional considerations for virtual meetings that you may wish to think about.

PREPARATION CHECK LIST:

- Allow yourself plenty of time to set up your device. Make sure you have enough battery power, you have no scheduled updates and that your camera and microphone are working.
- Consider your background; you may wish to remove personal items or put away that pile of washing!
- Background noise can be extremely distracting for you and the interviewer. Find a quiet, well-lit room to attend your meeting so the interviewer can see and hear you clearly.

SETTING UP YOUR IT EQUIPMENT - WE RECOMMEND:

- Using a smartphone for video calls. If you don't have a smartphone with a front-facing camera, use of laptop or computer with a webcam.
- Using a headset (or earphones with a microphone) to reduce echo.





YOU MIGHT BE GIVEN INFO ON:

- Entry requirements for your chosen courses
- Information on your chosen courses
- College expectations of behaviour and attendance
- Our student support service
- Our student enrichment activities
- The Long Road Scholars' Award.

PREPARING FOR YOUR VIRTUAL ADVICE & GUIDANCE MEETING

WHAT HAPPENS DURING MY ADVICE & GUIDANCE MEETING?

Our Advice & Guidance Meetings are informal discussions, lasting 25 minutes, between you and a member of our experienced staff.

We encourage parents/carers to attend with you if possible so you can all discuss, and are kept up-to-date, on your study options with us.

You may be asked questions similar to:

- Why have you chosen this course?
- Do you have any career aims or future plans?
- What are your hobbies and interests?
- What are your subject strengths/likes and weaknesses/dislikes?
- Are there any personal issues or difficulties that may affect your studies?





PREPARING FOR YOUR VIRTUAL ADVICE & GUIDANCE MEETING

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER MY ADVICE & GUIDANCE MEETING?

Your interviewer will update your Admissions account with a conditional offer. You will be sent an email, urging you to login to your Admissions+ to accept your offer.

Remember you can accept and hold a number of offers from different post-16 providers until Results Day. Once you receive your achieved grades, you can make your final decision about which college or Sixth Form you will be enrolling with.

During the summer term, information about Long Road, including your enrolment interview date/time, will be emailed to you.

All updates to your application to Long Road will be made via your Admissions+ account.

Please ensure you check your emails (including spam folders) regularly and update us with any contact detail changes in order to receive important information regarding your application.

TOP TIP - PREPARE FOR THE UNEXPECTED

No one likes thinking about the worst case scenario but it's always a good idea to have one or two back-up subjects in mind, so make sure you have considered some alternative options.

Going into your GCSEs with several plans for your future, whatever the outcome, can help calm those nerves on exam day!





Long Road Scholars' Award

Long Road Sixth Form College

WIN £500 AS A REWARD FOR YOUR EXCELLENT GCSE RESULTS.

If you're predicted to achieve outstanding GCSE results (**average GCSE Grade 8 or above**) you can apply for the Long Road Scholars' Award.

We'll give you **£500** to spend on whatever you like - examples from our current scholars include: travel costs, overseas trips & film equipment!

APPLY ONLINE TODAY
WWW.LONGROAD.AC.UK



MEET SCHOLAR STUDENT, AVA

When looking at my options for schools and visiting Long Road, I was struck by the truly lovely and holistic nature and atmosphere here. A positive and communal school environment has always been just as important to me as the academic opportunities offered, and Long Road encapsulated that for me.

I'm really passionate about being an active part of our community, and the Scholars Award seemed like a great way to facilitate that. I hope to spend part of my award on a membership to the British Museum, and put the rest towards tickets to live theatre, as well as train tickets to London to access these opportunities.

For any Year 11s, I'd say that Long Road is an environment which not only encourages and enables you to seek academic success and excellence, but also supports you in becoming an independent young adult, whatever path in life you choose to take. If you're considering applying for the Scholars Award, I'd urge you to go for it! There's nothing to lose in applying, and it can be a really great motivator to put in that extra bit of effort in your exams, as well as the perfect way to enrich your time at Long Road.

So far, my favourite part of studying at Long Road has been the campus itself and its green spaces. There are so many beautiful spots scattered around to sit and chat or get some work done during the day.

AVA

Secondary School:
Smith's Hill High School,
Australia

Year 1 Student

Studying:
Drama A Level
English Literature A Level
History A Level

Progression Goals:
University then a career
as a Barrister

[Click here to apply for the
Long Road Scholars
Award today!](#)





LOGAN

Secondary School:
Soham Village College

Year 1 Student

Studying:
Biology A Level
Film Studies A Level
Media Level 3 Applied

Progression Goals:
Work in film / TV industry
in a directing or
cinematography role

[Click here to apply for the
Long Road Scholars
Award today!](#)



MEET SCHOLAR STUDENT, LOGAN

I chose the study at Long Road because it felt like a good fit for me to follow my passions. I also felt that Long Road had the friendliest environment of all the colleges that I visited before applying. I also found the green spaces and facilities in the college impressive and very appealing.

I applied for the Scholars' Award because I saw it as a good way to contribute to the college and connect with its community. It will also be a good way for me to push myself and provide me with life experience to apply for further education or jobs in the future. I plan on saving my scholarship money to help pay for filming equipment both for my coursework and myself in the future.

For current Year 11s considering colleges, I would highly recommend Long Road. While the transition from secondary school to sixth form can be intimidating, Long Road has provided a supportive and welcoming environment. I feel that I am allowed to be independent and take control of my own learning while being supported by the numerous networks across college. I would encourage Year 11s to apply for the scholar's award because it is a great way to connect with the college as well as your peers. It can help you get more involved in college life and is a great factor on UCAS applications and CVs.



MEET SCHOLAR STUDENT, ROBIN

As I want to pursue a career in design, I choose to study at Long Road because of the great Design Technology course they have. At the open evening, Owen (my current DT teacher) was really inspiring.

I chose to apply for the Scholars Award as it will allow me to help others with their future steps ahead. I plan on spending my money on a laptop that helps me with my studies, in particular one with a touch screen to help with my design work.

Year 11s should apply to Long Road because it is a warm and welcoming environment where I have made so many new friends.

You should apply for the Scholars Award because the financial reward can give you the opportunity to buy new equipment and work with other scholars on projects for the college.

ROBIN

Secondary School:
Smith's Hill High School,
Australia

Year 1 Student

Studying:
Drama A Level
English Literature A Level
History A Level

Progression Goals:
University then a career
as a Barrister

[Click here to apply for the
Long Road Scholars
Award today!](#)





YOU'LL RECEIVE:

- Ongoing individual and personal support on how to achieve at college and get the most out of your time with us.
- Help creating your own personal progression plan, with advice on careers, apprenticeships and university pathways.

STUDENT SUPPORT: PROGRESS COACHES

We know that moving from school to college is a big change: a new campus, new faces and a new level of independence. To make sure you feel at home you will be assigned a Progress Coach, a dedicated member of staff who will help and support you as you settle into Long Road life.

Working together with you and your family from the moment you join our Long Road community they will ensure a smooth transition to college life. Your Progress Coach will be on hand to guide you, helping you to stay on target and reach your goals.

Working closely with you and your teachers they will help you to plan and achieve your next steps, supporting you as you aim high

and succeed in your academic and career goals.

Ongoing individual support from your Progress Coach means they will continuously oversee your academic progress, updating you and your family on your achievements.

Using this information, you and your Progress Coach will work together to create your own learning plan so you can identify your strengths and clearly see what you need to achieve and monitor your own academic performance.





STUDENT SUPPORT: PROGRESS COACHES

Your Progress Coach will be your main point of contact throughout your time at college. You will attend group tutorials which will cover a range of different topics across the year; from helping you to settle into college to helping to prepare for your next steps and everything in between.

As well as tutorials, your Progress Coach will schedule regular 1-to-1 meetings to discuss your academic progress and wellbeing with you and put action plans in place to make sure you stay on the path to success. You can also book additional meetings with your Progress Coach, or drop in and see them, at any point during the college day if you feel you would benefit from talking to them.

For parents, your child's Progress Coach is also your key point of contact for the college. If you ever have any worries, questions or queries you can give them a call or an email to discuss this and arrange a meeting if necessary.

Although your child gains some extra independence above what they are used to at school, we still keep you regularly updated. You will receive weekly attendance reports from us and the Progress Coach will be in touch with you to let you know about any concerns we have, but also of any outstanding achievements - that's that part of the job we really enjoy!

YOU'LL RECEIVE:

- Support with time management and study techniques.
- Guidance on building your own learning plan so you can see what you need to achieve and how to monitor your progress and performance.





STRAWBERRY FAIR 2024

Every year our Graphic Design students work with the organisers of Strawberry Fair, held on Midsummer Common in Cambridge. Students are challenged to design posters & t-shirts which are used to advertise the festival!

It won't be long now until our winners of the Strawberry Fair competition are announced, so keep your eyes peeled!



GRAPHIC DESIGN STUDENTS GET COMPETITIVE

It's been an exciting start to 2024 for our Graphic Design students. During the first week of term, former student Oscar Peake, returned to college to deliver a live brief to students. Back in 2020, Oscar discovered his passion for pizza and has since then secured a permanent residency at a local pub, cooking delicious Neapolitan-style pizzas, as well as delivering his creations across Cambridge for parties, events and even office lunches! Oscar has now enlisted the support of our students to design stand-out pizza boxes.

Oscar discussed his background, explained the brief and took questions from the students. They now have until 14th February to submit their entries. The winner will be awarded a £100 prize and

be given the chance to work with Oscar again on future design work!

A few weeks later, the Graphics students were treated to another talk and exciting competition, from Long Road Alumni Archie Edwards. Archie spoke to the students about his time in their shoes, studying Graphic Design at Long Road, his experience at Nottingham Trent University and his life working as a designer since graduating.

He will also be setting a live brief to design the marketing materials for an event at CJs vintage shop in Cambridge. The winner will see their event come to life, be given the opportunity to work with CJs vintage in the future, as well as 100 pounds to spend in store.



STUDENTS RAISE OVER £300 FOR ENDOMETRIOSIS UK!

On January 25th and 26th, we organised a clothes swap and bake sale to support Endometriosis UK. Through this project, 34kg of clothes were recycled, and we raised £376.65!

Addressing the issue of fast fashion, our staff and students had the chance to donate their unwanted clothes, allowing others to take what they wanted. This matches with Long Road's aims of reducing environmental impacts and fostering sustainability.

A student currently undergoing her own diagnosis, organised and led the bake sale. Endometriosis affects 1 in 10 people and is ranked amongst the top 20 most painful conditions by the NHS. However, there is no cure, which

is why we felt fundraising would be an effective strategy to try and make a positive difference.

Additionally, we used a period pain simulator to educate and challenge students, offering an insight into the pain associated with Endometriosis. The "Pain Chair" allowed students to work their way up the levels of the period pain stimulator and give us a leader board of who could make it to the highest level - something that a number of male students found particularly challenging and eye-opening!

This was an incredibly successful event which created new conversations between students and raised awareness about pressing issues affecting members of our student body. Thank you everyone involved!

"It means so much that this is an accessible thing for us to experience and for the boys to try it out"

"This is a really good experience, especially for the boys. They can see what women go through on a regular basis!"

"It let me feel how bad the pain other women feel on their period is compared to my own!"





WELCOME TO YOUR VOTE WEEK

Last week we celebrated
Welcome to your Vote
Week (29 Jan - 2 Feb).

Throughout the week we
were joined by Georgia
from Cambridge City
Council who gave our
students a series of
information sessions on
registering to vote, voter
ID and the different types
of elections coming up in
2024!



POLITICS & HISTORY STUDENTS VISIT PARLIAMENT

Politics Course Team Leader,
Gavin, tells us all about the
fantastic experience our students
had last week when they visited
the UK Parliament at Westminster!

*On Wednesday 10th January I had
the pleasure of travelling to
London with 58 Long Road Politics
and History students in order to
visit the UK Parliament at
Westminster and the UK Supreme
Court.*

*After a fairly lengthy journey, we
arrived at the Parliamentary
Education Unit to be taken on a
tour of the Palace of Westminster.
Although the Commons had
closed by the time of our arrival,
we were guided through the
Sovereign's entrance and
followed the path taken by the
Monarch when conducting the
state opening of Parliament.*

*This involved a visit to the Robing
Room where King Charles III
prepared for the most recent
state opening ceremony back in
November 2023. As we
proceeded on our tour it was
hard not to be overwhelmed by
the appearance of the Palace
and this impression continued
upon our visit to the House of
Lords, where students were shown
the Woolsack, the seat of the Lord
Speaker of the House.*

*After passing through the central
lobby, we were taken to
Westminster Hall and shown the
'New Dawn' art installation by
Mary Branson, a work unveiled in
2016 to commemorate 150 years
of the struggle for female
suffrage. In the hall we were met
by Daniel Zeichner, MP for
Cambridge, who met with the
group and answered questions on*



POLITICS & HISTORY STUDENTS VISIT PARLIAMENT

sustainability, his role as a shadow minister, the cost of university, and, perhaps, most important - why the students should consider voting Labour in the next election.

Whilst one student was able to witness Rishi Sunak taking part in Prime Minister's Questions, others were able to explore the medieval splendour of Westminster Hall. At the conclusion of PMQs the students were then taken in small groups to view the debate in the Commons concerning the ongoing scandal relating to the Post Office, with many regretting that they were only able to spend a short time in the public gallery. During this point of the visit, the students were also met by Rt (Hon) Matt Hancock, the Independent MP for West Suffolk,

who came to meet the students and answered questions on his own parliamentary career, what he plans to do after leaving the Commons, and his views on 'Partygate'.

After leaving Parliament, we proceeded across the road to visit the UK Supreme Court. As there were no cases taking place that day, the group were permitted to visit Courtrooms 1 and 3, the latter being home to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, the senior body that deals with cases from UK Overseas territories as well as some Commonwealth nations. The court is an impressive sight and the students were able to take advantage of the empty rooms and sit in the chairs occupied by the most senior judges in the UK.

WELCOME TO YOUR VOTE WEEK

Georgia also worked with a team of student ambassadors to run a ballot - asking students to vote on the question *Do you think the voting age should be lowered to 16?*

It was extremely tight, but interestingly *No* was the winner, by just 2 votes!

What do you think?
Would you like to see the voting age lowered?



FEBRUARY EDITION: VOL. 2

#LongRoadLife

LONG ROAD SIXTH FORM COLLEGE APPLICANT NEWSLETTER



LONG ROAD SIXTH FORM COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE

 help@longroad.ac.uk

 01223 63 1125

 www.longroad.ac.uk

 Long Road Sixth Form College

 @LR6FC

 @lr6fc

 Long Road Sixth Form College