



LEICESTER
GRAMMAR
SCHOOL

Head of History

Full-time
September 2025

THE SUNDAY TIMES

SCHOOLS GUIDE
2024

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL
OF THE YEAR FOR
ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE
EAST MIDLANDS

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SCHOOLS GUIDE
2024

INDEPENDENT SECONDARY
SCHOOL OF THE YEAR
EAST MIDLANDS

A message from the Principal

Many thanks for your interest in Leicester Grammar School Trust. I hope that the following introductory notes will give you an impression of our thriving and ambitious schools and will help you to decide whether or not to submit an application. You will gather from the Trust's remarkable history that it is an inspiring and vibrant place both to learn and to work, with a commitment to preparing young people for a lifetime of challenge and fulfilment. Staff share high expectations not only of what children can achieve but, above all, of who they can become – when enthused through dynamic teaching, provided with outstanding opportunities and supported through attentive pastoral care.

I hope you may wish to be part of this warm and happy community as it goes from strength to strength.

John Watson
Headmaster of Leicester Grammar School and Principal of Leicester Grammar School Trust



Leicester Grammar School Trust

Leicester Grammar School Trust (LGST) is a forward-thinking family of schools, underpinned by a strong sense of values. Its mission is to be an inspiring centre for co-educational excellence in academic and personal development, within a Christian ethos. We attract and encourage enthusiastic, dedicated and innovative teachers and support staff who all contribute to our pupils' progress and happiness.

At the heart of the Trust is Leicester Grammar School, founded in 1981 in response to the demise of the maintained grammar schools in the area. The Junior School was added in 1992, which broadened the educational offering of the Trust. The defining milestone in the Trust's development was the bold and inspired decision in the mid-2000s to move the two schools from the heart of Leicester to the edge of Great Glen, a rural village some seven miles to the south of the city. Since September 2008, the two schools have occupied a very attractive, 75-acre campus, which was officially opened by Queen Elizabeth II.

The acquisition of nearby Stonegate School in 2016 brought a third educational institution under the umbrella of the Trust, offering greater choice to parents in Leicestershire and surrounding areas who seek an independent education for their children. In September 2021, Stonegate was relaunched as LGS Stonegate, with its own unique ethos and identity within the Trust's family of schools.

Situated on the outskirts of one of the most multicultural cities in the UK, all three LGST schools are proud to draw children from city and country, and to welcome pupils and staff from a rich range of cultural and religious backgrounds.



Leicester Grammar School

Leicester Grammar School won the accolade of Sunday Times East Midlands Independent Secondary School of the Year in both 2020 and 2024, as well as achieving ST 2024 East Midlands School of the Year for Academic Performance. The school was also in 2024 shortlisted as one of eight finalists for the TES Independent Senior School of the Year award and, most recently, for Independent School of the Year for Student Well-being. In its last inspection (January 2024), the importance of pupils' well-being was seen as a significant contributory factor to their success.

Our pupils enjoy exceptional opportunities within and beyond the classroom; we have high expectations, but the success of our community stems above all from a culture of aspiration and care.

The school, indeed the Trust as a whole, is financially strong and led by a very committed leadership team and an open, collaborative and well-qualified board of fourteen local Trustees. We attract positive, polite and 'grounded' children, who display a strong sense of respect for one another and for staff. Concerns over behaviour are rare; our pupils thrive in a calm and purposeful community.

Examination results in the last two years since a return to pre-pandemic standards have been excellent: in 2023, 69% of A levels were graded A*/A, making us the top-performing co-educational independent school in the Midlands, and 30th independent school nationally (The Telegraph). GCSE results at 9-7 were 81% in 2024, and pupils typically proceed to a range of highly coveted courses at university (including Oxbridge and overseas) or win degree apprenticeships. A recent Telegraph article ranked the school within the top five in the Midlands for value for money (based on the ratio between fees and examination outcomes).

The school has very good local transport links, with both London and Birmingham under an hour away by train. It is nestled in the glorious countryside of the East Midlands with many beautiful villages in the surrounding area. The market town of Market Harborough, situated 10 miles to the south of Great Glen, offers a strong sense of community and regularly features in the top 10 of lists such as 'the Most Liveable Place in England' and 'the Sunday Times Best Places to Live.

The school's aims are to:

- Promote intellectual curiosity and academic excellence.
- Provide a broad, balanced and stimulating curriculum.
- Offer a rich range of co-curricular opportunities which enhance pupils' physical, cultural and personal development.
- Equip pupils with the self-belief, consideration and skills required for a principled and fulfilling life.
- Create a happy and mutually-supportive community of learners and staff, in which each individual is encouraged and enabled to do and be their best.
- Care for the mental and emotional well-being of pupils, and be proactive in the promotion of a healthy lifestyle.
- Welcome pupils of diverse backgrounds and faiths, nurturing their social and spiritual development.
- Foster a generous contribution to charity, community service and society.



Campus and Facilities

The new-build scheme, completed in 2008, provided the Grammar School and the Junior School, housed in the same building, with excellent facilities, outstanding equipment and a beautiful and practical space in which to learn and work together.

Accessed from the main entrance foyer of the Grammar School is St Nicholas' Hall which seats over 900 and hosts assemblies, chapel services, school concerts and large drama productions. An extension was added in 2015, providing additional science and lecture facilities, meeting and office space and an enhanced Sixth Form common room. We have recently installed a new Medical Suite and extended Well-being and Learning Development hubs, as well as a new Sixth Form Study Centre.

In addition, there is an indoor sports complex which offers multi-use courts for Badminton, Basketball and Netball. Indoor Cricket nets and Table Tennis are available, along with a well-equipped and supervised fitness suite, a Gym/ Dance Studio and a 25-metre, six-lane, heated swimming pool. With 75 acres of land, including several full-sized rugby pitches, cricket pitches and nets, two all weather artificial hockey pitches, eight floodlit hard tennis and netball courts, it is no wonder that the site has been used as a team training base for national teams, including the Canadian Rugby team and the West Indies Ladies' Cricket teams.



History Department

The History Department at LGS has a strong record of academic success in recent years, with 65% of our IGCSE (Edexcel) pupils achieving Grades ⑧ and ⑨ over the past two years. Similarly, of our A-level (AQA) candidates in the same period, 71% have achieved A*- A and 97% have achieved A*- B. Pupils are able and hardworking and many opt to study History at Higher Education institutions, occasionally overseas. These have included places at Oxbridge and other leading academic institutions. The Department very much emphasises the transferable skills of the subject to potential KS4 and KS5 pupils as well as the myriad of career directions these can take the pupils in such as journalism, law, teaching, charities work, policy-making, strategic administrative roles, business as well as the creative industries. Others have also taken History at A level to naturally complement and balance their non-humanities choices.

The KS3 Curriculum broadly follows the National Curriculum but also follows recent scholarship on Diversity and Inclusion and we actively encourage pupils to explore their heritage in topics such as the British Empire. Similarly, we are proud to follow an International GCSE course which incorporates topics such as China as well as the more traditional Cold War, Germany and First World War modules.

We strongly believe that our pupils' educational development is enhanced and reinforced by experiences outside lessons. We took some of our year 13 pupils to Riga in Latvia for the first time this autumn to study Soviet history. Other opportunities have included visits such as our Year 11 Battlefield Trips to Ypres and the Somme, and this year's trip to Berlin exploring the history of Nazi Germany, East Berlin and the Cold War. Day trips for the younger years have involved studies at the Black Country Living Museum in Dudley and we have also hosted speakers giving talks on the arrival of the Ugandan Asians in Leicester and Idi Amin.

Academic progression is likewise strongly encouraged through internal and external debating and public speaking competitions to give pupils greater confidence and practice at marshalling effective arguments and responding to opposing viewpoints. These have led to repeated successes in the annual Great Debate competition run by the Historical Association as well as regional victories in inter-school competitions. We also run a weekly History Society co-curricular club for pupils involving talks, debates, documentaries and pupil presentations, ably supported by our team of History Society Pupil Coordinators.

The History Department launched the inaugural Leicester History Festival in 2018 with its post-Covid return in 2022, on the theme of 'Empires'. We attracted hundreds of visitors and much positive feedback from the public. Pupils from Y10-13 were actively involved with the lead-up and running of events on the day, which saw a range of outside speakers, authors, historians, museum workshops and historical re-enactments on topics ranging from the First World War, the Hong Kong protests, Raj-era crime novels, Cold War diplomacy and Persian history.

The History Department currently consists of five members of staff: two full time and three part time including one Deputy Head.



The Post

From September 2025, we have an exceptional opportunity for an enthusiastic and excellent new Head of History to lead our History Department.

As Head of History, the successful candidate will have overall responsibility for the History department at Leicester Grammar School, ensuring exceptional progress and outcomes for our pupils. You will lead the development of a forward-thinking, innovative curriculum that engages pupils in a deep and meaningful understanding of history, both in and outside the classroom.

We are looking for an individual with a passion for teaching and a proven ability to inspire and motivate both staff and pupils. The ideal candidate will have a commitment to fostering a creative and supportive teaching environment, where curiosity and intellectual growth are prioritised. You will understand the life-long value of a strong historical education in shaping well-rounded, critical thinkers and dedicated future leaders.

If you are ready to take on a role where you can make a lasting impact on the academic journey of our pupils, we would love to hear from you.

Job Description

Leadership of staff

- Lead the department to the highest standards of professionalism as a role model for colleagues and pupils across the school.
- Create an effective departmental team with a strong sense of purpose in which responsibilities are appropriately allocated, devolved and shared.
- Oversee the allocation of teaching for departmental colleagues, ensuring teachers have proper resources and schemes of work.
- Assist departmental staff in their professional development, including leading and organising CPD.
- Chair Department Meetings which enable all staff to contribute to planning and ensure that records of such meetings are kept and distributed accordingly.
- Keep staff informed of curriculum developments and of thinking on whole school issues.



- Monitor and evaluate the work of the department: conduct lesson observations, development review and regular work scrutiny.
- Lead in consultation with the Headmaster on staff recruitment.

Leadership of pupils

- Lead delivery of a stimulating and varied curriculum, designed to maximise pupils' engagement with history and ensure they make excellent progress.
- Lead and coordinate the arrangement of a wide range of inspiring internal and external events, designed to support ongoing pupil engagement and enthusiasm.
- Monitor pupils' involvement and progress in history.
- Lead departmental involvement in school events, including Open Days and parents' evenings.
- Support and encourage pupil leadership in class and across the department.
- Ensure clear provision is made for pupils of different abilities, including the most able and those who find the subject challenging.

Departmental responsibilities

- Work closely with other colleagues across the school to ensure that the vision for history is coherent throughout the Trust.
- Develop and maintain the Department Development Plan.
- Ensure the Departmental schemes of work are regularly reviewed and updated.
- Manage the departmental budget.
- Teach history across Leicester Grammar School from KS3 to A 'Level.
- Attend and contribute to the Heads of Department Committee.
- Implement Health and Safety Regulations as they apply within the department; ensure that statutory procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children are followed.
- Provide the point of contact on all departmental matters for pupils, staff, parents and outside agencies.

It is recognised that this job description is not comprehensive and will alter for each head of department, so as to reflect her or his own interests, aptitude and involvement in the various activities and roles in operation at the school.

Additional Duties

- Work in accordance within current safeguarding guidance and legislation
- Use excellent organisational skills and interpersonal and communication skills to manage own workload and build relationships
- Monitor, review and evaluate departmental plans and strategies
- Support the School's well-being approach
- Be committed to Leicester Grammar School Trust's vision and ethos.



Person Specification

Essential Qualifications, Experience and Skills

- Have a recognised teaching qualification: PGCE or equivalent (QTS)
- Have a degree in History or a highly related subject
- Have experience of teaching KS3 through to A Level
- Be an inspirational and experienced teacher of History
- Be well organised, with an eye for detail and the ability to forward-plan
- Demonstrate commitment to high academic standards
- Demonstrate the ability to build strong working relationships with pupils, other professionals and parents
- Have strong written and oral communication skills, and relate effectively and sensitively to pupils, staff and parents
- Possess excellent time management and organisational skills
- Demonstrate the ability to follow instructions, policies and procedures
- Be capable of leading the history department whilst also enjoying working alongside other Heads of Department and their line managers
- Demonstrate commitment to your own professional development
- Work well under pressure and be able to manage conflicting priorities
- Be wholly supportive of school aims, ethos and policies/ procedures
- Have an understanding of the benefits of co-education
- Enjoy involvement in the pastoral and co-curricular life of a busy and ambitious school community
- Have a strong understanding of safeguarding
- Possess good ICT skills, and the willingness and ability to learn new systems, as required by the post

Above all, the successful candidate will have an infectious enthusiasm for the value and relevance of History in young people's lives.

Please note this job description outlines the main duties and responsibilities of the position and is designed for the benefit of both the post holder and Leicester Grammar School Trust in understanding the prime functions of the post. It should not be regarded as exclusive nor exhaustive as there may be other duties and requirements associated with and covered by the post.

Original certificates will be required as proof of qualification. All other attributes will be assessed using the contents of the application form, at interview and with professional references.



Working at Leicester Grammar School

Staff are well qualified and enthusiastic, and have high expectations of themselves and their pupils. The school has a strong reputation for pastoral care, and teaching staff are committed to co-curricular activities. Fee remission for the children of permanent staff is available at all schools across the Trust. There is an excellent and loyal support staff, who understand their vital role in contributing to pupils' growth and achievements.

The salary for this full-time post will be commensurate with the applicant's experience, based on the LGS Trust's own salary scale. The Trust participates in the Teachers' Pension Scheme.

Other benefits enjoyed by our staff include:

- Daily lunch allowance provided by Sodexo Catering during term-time
- Access to Medicare health plan
- Free on-site parking
- First class sports facilities, including gym and pool
- Regular theatre trips & social events
- On-site coffee house

Please refer to our website www.lgs-senior.org.uk for a fuller description of the school, and our latest news.

Child Protection

The post-holder's responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young persons for whom he/she is responsible, or with whom he/she comes into contact will be to adhere to and ensure compliance with the school's Safeguarding Policy at all times. If in the course of carrying out the duties of the post the post-holder becomes aware of any actual or potential risks to the safety or welfare of children in the school, he/she must report any concerns to the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead or to the Headmaster



Application Details

The closing date for applications is 18 March, 9:00am, any incomplete applications or applications received after the deadline will not be considered. **Interviews will take place on Friday 28 March.**

If you are interested in applying for the position of Head of History, we encourage you to submit your application as soon as possible, as we reserve the right to close the vacancy earlier than the stated deadline should a suitable candidate be found.

Shortlisted candidates will have the opportunity to tour the school as part of the interview process. References will be requested prior to the interview.

Leicester Grammar School Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Applicants must undergo safer recruitment checks, including checks with past employers, online searches and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). This role involves engaging in regulated activity relevant to children, it is an offence to apply for the role if you are barred from engaging in regulated activity relevant to children.

This role is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and the Trust is therefore permitted to ask you to declare all convictions and cautions (including those which would normally be considered "spent") in order to assess your suitability to work with children.

If you are successful in being shortlisted for this role, you will be required to provide information about your suitability to work with children by completing a self-declaration form. In this form you will be required to provide details of all spent and unspent convictions and cautions. However, you will not have to disclose a caution or conviction for an offence committed in the United Kingdom if it has been filtered in accordance with the DBS filtering rules.

Please refer to the Data Privacy Notice and Annexes on the Policies page of the school's website for the Data Privacy Notice for individuals applying for work within Leicester Grammar School Trust (Annex 3).



Equal Opportunities

Leicester Grammar School Trust is an equal opportunities employer and is committed to equality of opportunity for all staff. The Trust takes very seriously its duty to safeguard children, to remove discrimination, to advance equality of opportunity and to foster positive and caring relationships, by integrating safety and equality into each school's core priorities and functions.

We welcome applications from all sectors of the community as we aspire to attract staff who reflect the social and cultural diversity of our pupils. We consider the most important factors to be the right skills, abilities and aptitude for the job which will ultimately improve the education and well-being of our pupils. We also encourage applications from staff at all stages of their career, and regardless of age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief and marriage / civil partnerships.

Applicants must have the right to work in the UK.





LEICESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Independent Co-educational Day School
for children aged 3-18
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