



At Amherst we believe in stretch and challenge for all, including providing bespoke challenge for high academic potential pupils. The school's policy is to encourage excellence in all areas, consistent with our Mission Statement.

At all times, every effort is made to support a pupil's particular talent, allowing it to flourish and develop further. In accordance with our Minerva Learning Culture, we believe in growth mindset and do not place any limits on pupils' potential. Our HAPPs provision aims to provide a high level of challenge for more able pupils in regular classroom settings and enrichment to enable them to make rapid progress in school. HAPPs provision aims to positively influence students' futures, including their post-secondary plans and we recognise that students who have participated in HAPPs have a greater likelihood to maintain their interests over time and stay involved in creative productive work after they finish school. The HAPPs programme is further supported by our offer of High Project Qualification (HPQ) at KS4 and Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) at KS5.

What is HAPPs?

HAPPs is a programme where we identify high academic potential pupils using our in-house identification rubric. Pupils then participate in variety of activities through co-curricular and in regular teaching.

HAPPs identification rubric

Senior school identification rubric:

- CEM MIDYIS score of more than 120 with two additional teacher recommendation
- CEM score in Maths or English of more than 120 with three teacher recommendations
- More than five teacher recommendations across subjects
- Art, Music, or Sport to at least have 1 teacher recommendation

Preparatory school identification rubric:

- During first half of Autumn term, pupils from each class of English, Maths and RE will be identified as Learning Ambassadors for their class
- During second half of autumn term, scholars to be identified across all subject areas

HAPPs provision:

Senior school:

- Scholars' group project
 - Pupils to find a book or area of interest and research it
 - Pupils to conduct a presentation by end of term on their research
- Weekly Scholars' enrichment sessions on Wednesday lunch time, with tutors checking progress with bi-half-termly check-ins and quizzing
- Guest speaker to conduct workshops
- Scholars' badge awarded at the start of term
- Scholars' annual dinner

Preparatory school:

- Special badge of recognition
- Enrichment activities
- Termly meeting with Head of Preparatory school for pupil voice
- Learning Ambassadors' special dinner