



## Cultural Programme



**LOUGHBOROUGH**  
Grammar School





Being an overseas boarder in the UK, one of the best things that happened to me was the trip to Manchester City Football Club stadium. As a supporter of the team it was such a wonderful opportunity to visit the stadium and see the magnificent team with my own eyes. With a spectacular view over the entire pitch and the lively atmosphere of the crowd... you couldn't afford to miss this!

Perry





# The Cultural Programme for Boarders

As Housemasters, Mr Blackman and Mr Marlow are committed to the welfare of the boarders in their care. To enable successful integration into UK life, they have developed a cultural programme of activities to introduce boarders to many aspects of British culture and tradition.

What makes this programme different from others, is that each event is carefully chosen to allow boys to experience essential and popular elements of British life, and encourage them to enjoy experiences which are so familiar to the day boys they meet at School. These events are supported by other areas of the School, accompanied by specific English teaching and information about the historical or cultural significance of the outing.

The whole cultural programme has an emphasis on fun and enjoyment, and boarders have the chance to reflect and feedback their thoughts and opinions after each activity. One specific aim of the trips is to prepare pupils for independent living in the UK, should they choose a British university after their time at the School. We aim to familiarise boys with British transport and travel, entertainment, socialisation in a family setting, visiting a large city, British sporting events and popular recreational locations.

At the heart of this programme is the International Dinner. Boarders invite day boys to share a formal meal, and are usually invited in return to the house of another Grammar School pupil. The comments following these International Dinners are enthusiastic and positive, cultural barriers are removed, and fine friendships are formed. It is always a pleasure to see that boarders have such a positive relationship with the day boys, and the events of the cultural programme provide much for them to speak about in common.

## Housemasters



Mr Philip Marlow



Mr Craig Blackman



The trip to Oxford was absolutely unforgettable. It is an important reminder for all boys to challenge themselves and get into the top universities. The walk in the town and the university was a tasty bite of the beautiful scenery in the British countryside. In the end, the punting was a combination of joy and fun.

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# 2023 Programme Details

<b>Visit London for sightseeing and a West End show</b>
<b>Visit at least one other UK city</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Birmingham Christmas Markets</li><li>York</li></ul>
<b>Go to a formal dinner at School, this always includes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Boarders' Christmas meal</li><li>The International Dinner</li></ul>
<b>Experience the British tradition of Guy Fawkes Night on 5 November</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Bonfire and fireworks at Quorn playing fields, hot dogs and gingerbread men</li></ul>
<b>Visit a UK National Park</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Usually cycling in the Peak District during the Summer term</li></ul>
<b>Visit either Oxford or Cambridge University</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Usually a guided tour of Oxford, then punting on the river and a meal at a World Buffet restaurant</li></ul>
<b>Visit another UK boarding school</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Football and basketball vs Warwick, Oakham and Sibford boarders</li></ul>
<b>Go to a premiership football match</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Manchester City premiership match</li></ul>
<b>Go to a UK Theme Park</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Drayton Manor</li></ul>
<b>Watch a traditional British professional pantomime performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Either Nottingham Theatre Royal or Birmingham Hippodrome</li></ul>
<b>Visit to the seaside at Cleethorpes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>End of the Summer term if the weather is suitable</li></ul>
<b>Other activities that are included in the programme</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Outdoor Go-Karting at Nottingham Raceway</li><li>Ten pin bowling, Nottingham</li><li>Tobogganing at Snowdome in Tamworth. A great experience because many of our boarders have never seen snow</li><li>Visit to Loughborough Fair in November</li></ul>

Boarders have regular, designated use of all the School's sporting facilities, and enjoy indoor and outdoor football, basketball, badminton and use of the School gym equipment.



# Introducing our boys to British culture and traditions



Christmas dinner was one of the most enjoyable experiences for boarders. The change of food, the atmosphere, and the British traditions are some of the more refreshing experiences to get as a boarder.

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