



JANUARY EDITION: VOL. 1

#LongRoadLife

LONG ROAD SIXTH FORM COLLEGE APPLICANT NEWSLETTER

WELCOME TO #LONGROADLIFE

Hello, from Long Road!

We are so glad that you have decided to make an application to study with us in September 2025. We would like to introduce you to #LongRoadLife, our monthly applicant newsletter that is jam-packed with information all about, you guessed it, Long Road life!

Our applicant newsletter is designed to help prepare you for life as a Long Road student and contains important updates from our Admissions Team.

We hope that it will keep you excited about joining us as a new student in September!

Best wishes,
Long Road



WELCOME FROM OUR
ADMISSIONS TEAM

TRAVEL & TRANSPORT

WEEK IN THE LIFE OF A
LONG ROAD STUDENT

EXTENDED PROJECT
QUALIFICATION

MEET OUR LONG ROAD
SCHOLAR STUDENTS

WHATS BEEN GOING ON
AT COLLEGE!



WE'RE HERE TO HELP

Our 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!



Julianna Sosnowska
Director of Admissions



Michelle Butteriss
Admissions Officer



01223 63 1125



admissions@longroad.ac.uk



HELLO FROM OUR ADMISSIONS TEAM

Hello to all Long Road Sixth Form College applicants from the Admissions Team!

We are delighted that you are considering joining us for this next exciting step in your educational journey, and are here to support you through the admissions process.

Now that you've breathed a sigh of relief that your application has been safely submitted what's next?

The next big admissions events are the Virtual Advice and Guidance Meetings, which will take place throughout the Spring, running all the way up until Summer.

These meetings are a chance for you to get to know us and for us to get to know you; to talk through your options, your chosen courses and your plans for the future with a friendly expert. They are meant to help you decide if Long Road is right for you, and are not something to worry about.

We will be explaining a little more about them in our special Advice and Guidance Meeting edition of the newsletter over the coming weeks so make sure you check your emails regularly for our next update.

We are looking forward to meeting you!

Very 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 2024

Applications Open



JANUARY 2025

Applications Close.

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

SPRING & SUMMER 2025

Virtual Guidance Meetings & Conditional Offer

(first round takes place 13 & 14 February 2025)

Discuss your options with an experienced member of staff. You'll receive a conditional offer via your Admissions+ account shortly after your meeting.

30 JUNE 2025

Welcome Day

Spend the day as a Long Road student; try out your subjects & get a taste of Long Road life. Auditions for Performing Arts subjects will also be held during Welcome Day.

21 AUGUST 2025

GCSE Results Day

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

LATE AUGUST 2025

New Student Enrolment

Welcome to the Long Road family!

EARLY SEPTEMBER 2025

Start of Academic Year 2025/2026

Time to start your Long Road life!



SHUTTLE BUS TIMETABLE

Daily Morning Buses:

Collect from Cambridge
Train Station at 8:10am,
8:40am & 10:25am.

Monday, Thursday,

Friday Afternoon Buses:

Collect from
Long Road 2pm &
4:20pm.

Tuesday & Wednesday

Afternoon Buses:

Collect from
Long Road 12:30pm &
4:20pm.



TRAVELLING TO COLLEGE

PLANNING YOUR JOURNEY:

If you're not sure what your journey to college will look like then a travel planner is a great place to start. [Click here](#) to use our journey planner.

LONG ROAD SHUTTLE BUS

To support our students in their journey to college we provide a FREE Shuttle Bus that runs between Long Road and Cambridge Train Station.

The Shuttle Bus is exclusively for Long Road students, simply show your Student ID Card when you board the bus!

Take a look at the dark pink box on this page to see our current Shuttle Bus Timetable.

TRAVELLING BY BUS

Long Road is well served by local bus companies Whippet, Stagecoach and the Guided Bus. The closest bus stops to the college are Robinson Way, Puddicombe Way and Long Road. Addenbrookes Hospital Bus Station is just 10 minutes walk away. Journeys may be direct to college, or could require a change in Cambridge City Centre.

Further information on bus routes and timetables across Cambridgeshire can be found by [clicking here](#).

If you choose to travel by bus you may be able to receive discounted travel in the form of a [Tiger Pass](#) or Student Bus Pass. To find out more information about the discount deals, visit the bus providers website.



TRAVELLING TO COLLEGE

TRAVELLING BY TRAIN

Cambridge Railway Station is currently the closest station to the college approximately 1.5 miles away.

Students can then catch the **FREE Long Road Shuttle Bus** from Cambridge Railway Station to the College. Alternatively, the walk from Cambridge Railway Station is approximately a 25 minutes or 10 minute cycle.

Students who travel by rail may be able to receive discounted travel by visiting the rail providers website, or [click here for more information](#) on our college website.

For more information on train routes and timetables please [click here](#) to visit the [National Rail Enquires](#) website.

HELP WITH TRANSPORT COSTS

Please contact your local County Council in the first instance to check eligibility and request a Post 16 Educational Transport application form. If you require assistance with this cost or your application is rejected by your local County Council, then you may be able to get help through the College's 16-18 discretionary bursary.

THE NEW CAMBRIDGE SOUTH STATION IS DUE TO OPEN IN AUTUMN 2025 AND IS LOCATED JUST A 10 MINUTE WALK AWAY FROM OUR CAMPUS!

TRAVEL TOP TIPS

Research your route using simple tools such as [Google Maps](#)

Discount Deals

Once you've figured out how you'll travel to college, visit the website of your travel provider to see if they offer any student discount.

Do a test run

Get up one morning and do a test run of your journey to college to see if it's something you could manage everyday!





KEY INFORMATION

Average Class Size
= 20 students

Maximum Class Size
= 24 students

College Day
= 9am - 4:10pm

Year 1 Student Lunch =
12:25pm - 1:05pm

Lesson Duration
= 1.5 hours

Weekly Lesson Time
= 14 hours

Recommended Weekly
Independent Study
Time
= 12 hours



WEEK IN THE LIFE OF A LONG ROAD STUDENT

Studying at Long Road is different to studying at school. We recognise you as an individual and treat you as an adult. Not all of your learning will be in classrooms; you'll hear lectures and attend workshops led by experts related to your study programme and future goals.

At Long Road you will be taught by highly qualified and experienced subject specialist teachers. Our small class sizes (maximum 24 students) allow for high levels of student participation in mature group discussions, encouraging you to develop and express your opinions.

The college day runs from 9am - 4:10pm, but unlike school you won't spend all day in classes. Independent study periods allow you to work on assignments, carry out research and explore your course in depth outside of the classroom.

You will have 3 lessons per subject per week, meaning you spend just over 14 hours per week in classes.

We recommend 4 hours per subject per week for independent study, totalling 12 hours per week, and an additional 1 hour planning for the week ahead. This adds up to 27 hours, 10 hours short of a working week. If you use your independent study periods wisely you'll be able to keep every evening and weekend free to enjoy!

College life isn't all about academic study; it's a time to meet new people and try out new experiences. Our enrichment activities are a great way for you to explore your passions and get to meet other students outside the classroom. Maybe you've already got a keen interest - or maybe you're looking for a new hobby - either way we're sure to have something that you want to get involved in.



EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

Boost your CV and enhance your personal statement while carrying out an independent project on a topic you love. The EPQ is equivalent to half an A Level, but it's so much more than an extra qualification.

The Extended Project Qualification showcases to employers and universities that you're an independent learner, able to manage a project, solve problems, organise your time, conduct original research and produce a high-quality product.

Independence is key with the EPQ, meaning you get to choose what you'd like to study and how you'd like to study it. The topic can be related to your other subjects or can be something completely different, allowing you to explore your other passions.

You can decide how you present your final product. You can...

- write a dissertation
- create an artefact
- produce a performance
- carry out an investigation.

If you decide to carry out the EPQ you'll start at the end of Year 1 of your Level 3 course, giving you time to think about your goals after Long Road and tailor your EPQ to help achieve these dreams.

Although the EPQ is largely independent study, you'll have a specialised EPQ tutor to keep you on track and regular lessons to help you to understand the requirements of the qualification.

WHY SHOULD I STUDY EPQ?

Depending on the grade you achieve you can gain up to 28 additional UCAS points!

Universities look at EPQ as an excellent way for students to prepare for degree level study. It demonstrates your dedication to independent learning. In fact, it's so highly valued that some universities will lower their grade boundaries if you achieve a high EPQ grade!





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. Also, I knew that a Scholars Award would make it possible for me to go further than just my studies in the classroom and delve deeper into my passions.

To 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.

My favourite thing about being a Long Road student is the friendly atmosphere, something that I find really unique compared to other schools and has been by far the best part of my Long Road experience. Also, the campus itself, 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

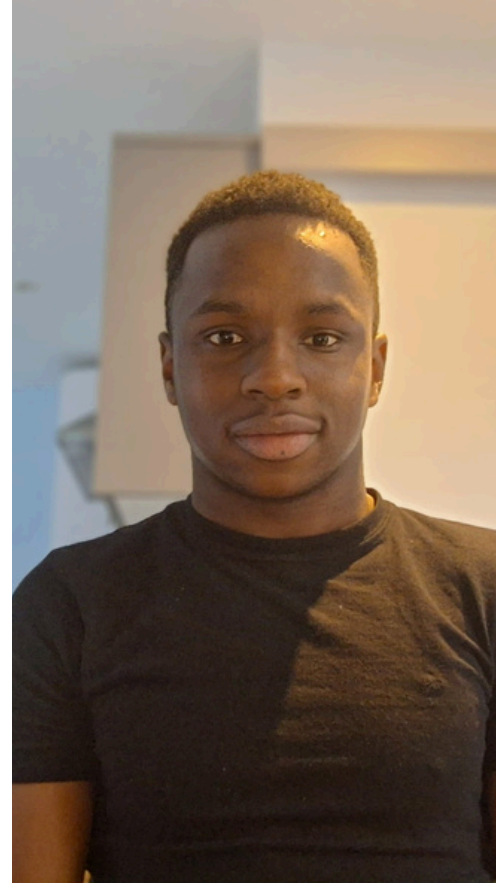
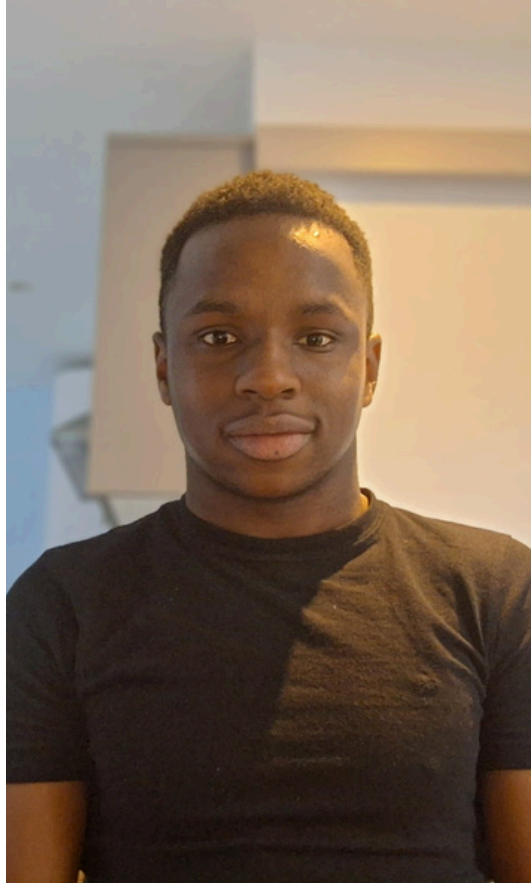
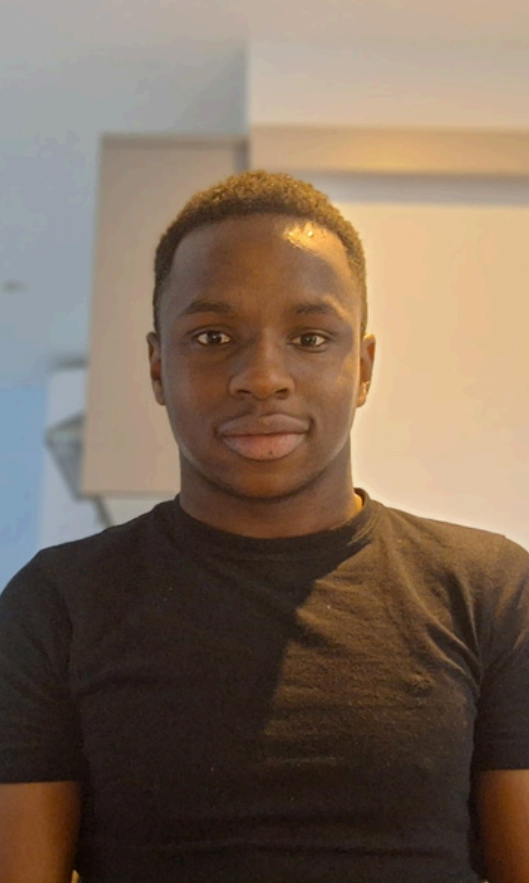
Year 2 Student

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

Progression Goals:
Barrister

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





ZACHARY

Secondary School:
Maru-a-Pula School,
Botswana

Year 1 Student

Studying:

Chemistry A Level
Maths A Level
Physics A Level

Progression Goals:

Engineering or Medical
Degree

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



MEET SCHOLAR STUDENT, ZACHARY

I chose to study at Long Road because the school was highly recommended by friends and family. Students are supported through school and given plenty of freedom to explore and participate in other activities. The campus, students and staff are all very welcoming.

I chose to apply for the Scholars' Award because I felt it would help me connect with the community while being of service. The award allows me to meet and work with new people, and will help me grow as a person. It is a great addition to my CV, and the reward will help me do more of what I enjoy.

I would encourage Year 11s looking for a good work-life balance to apply to Long Road. It's good preparation for the future, and the support you get at school means there is more time for what's important to you outside of school. Long Road also really helps students choose what works best for them after college.

My favourite thing about Long Road so far has been the atmosphere. Choosing your own subjects means lessons are more engaging. Outside of lessons, you and your friends have the freedom to choose where and how to spend your time. The staff and students create an easy-going yet focused environment.



MEET SCHOLAR STUDENT, CANDICE

I chose to study at Long Road due to the ability to choose the style of qualification I wanted to study, as well as being given the opportunity to learn independently whilst still being supported by teachers and tutors. I also liked the plentiful study areas across the college as this allows me to maximise my free time to study or to be with friends.

I chose to apply for the Scholars Award as it was a strong motivator for me to study for my GCSE's and develop successful study techniques that I can continue to use throughout the rest of my education. It also offered me the unique privilege of improving my non-academic skills and promoting my college to future students.

This is an amazing opportunity as these skills will look amazing on my university applications, as well as being a way to stand out from other applicants.

I would encourage current Year 11's to apply to Long Road as it provides more freedom to take the initiative in your learning. There is also a substantial support network of academic, emotional and financial support that is readily available for students.

So far, the best thing about being a Long Road student is that everyone is in a new environment, so people are more considerate and caring. This has made my experience amazing thus far, as it has been easy to meet new people and develop relationships as everyone is in the same boat.

CANDICE

Secondary School:
Impington Village College

Year 1 Student

Studying:
Business Level 3 Applied
Photography A Level
Psychology Level 3 Applied

Progression Goals:
Clinical Psychologist

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





POLITICS STUDENTS LEARN WITH THE LORDS

It was a very enriching day for all involved, and we thank Lord Balfe and the House of Lords for including us in the programme this year and giving our students a fantastic opportunity to engage in person with a legislator.

—
Gavin Sheffield,
Politics Course Team
Leader

In September the Politics department was pleased to welcome the Rt (Hon) The Lord Balfe to meet with our students as part of the 'Learning with the Lords' outreach programme. In addition to the Long Road Politics cohort, we were also pleased to welcome staff and students from The Sixth Form College, Colchester for our first event since the creation of the Sixth Form Colleges Trust.

Lord Balfe began by presenting slides on the role and status of the Lords as well as engaging the students in his own journey from a childrens' home in Sheffield to the Upper Chamber of Parliament via decades of service as an MEP in the

European Parliament and the Labour Party, which he left in 2002. He was able to discuss and expand upon the existing knowledge of the students with regard to the Lords as well as explain the purpose of those appointed to life peerages such as himself, including their vital role as a revising chamber.

Following the initial presentation on the Lords, Lord Balfe then opened up to questions from the students that involved discussions on a range of topics that included the recently abandoned Rwanda scheme, the ongoing conflicts involving Russia and Ukraine and Israel, his views on the Brexit vote of 2016 and whether or not he saw a future role for the Lords.





FROM SIXTH FORM TO SIX FIGURES

Joe Mitton, founder of the successful sport and fitness company Mitffit, and former Long Road student, shared his inspiring journey with Business and Sport students back in September.

Despite struggling academically, coping with dyslexia, and facing significant health challenges, Joe defied expectations with his drive and personal ambition. After college, unable to go to university, he pursued a career in personal training before quickly moving on to found his own company, Mitffit. He now works with thousands of clients, billionaires, celebrities, and leading businesses around the world.

He highlighted the importance of hard work and determination, emphasising that success is not solely measured by academic performance. He encouraged students to be ambitious, focus on their priorities and avoid distractions. He emphasised the value of mentoring learning from other professionals in his field, especially those who have been more successful than him.

Joe encouraged Long Road students to absorb knowledge, set ambitious goals, and pursue their dreams, regardless of what others may think. And most of all, he encouraged students to be curious and confident.

DO YOU KNOW A FORMER LONG ROAD STUDENT?

They can register to our Long Road Alumni Network and be invited to attend our 50th Anniversary Celebration event in July 2025!

[Click here to register](#)





ENGINEERING CHALLENGE REVS UP

The college is very grateful to the Department of Engineering and our college and employer partners for this wonderful opportunity.

In recent years, campaigns have encouraged more women to go into STEM and engineering careers, so it was very encouraging that half the group were female, and the fastest time was posted by one of them!

–
Tariq Sadiq
Careers Lead

Last term, 17 students visited the Department of Engineering at the University of Cambridge in the first part of an engineering challenge. They were taught the principles of torque and were given the task of designing and building a small kit car.

Using electric motors, wooden sticks, wheels, CDs, rubber bands, and plastic boards and spokes, each student worked individually to create a functioning model car, with the aim of racing them to see whose was fastest. This hands-on activity allowed them to apply classroom knowledge of maths and physics in a practical setting.

Some created lightweight designs to enhance speed,

whilst others focused on traction and stability. Throughout the process, students faced challenges that required critical and imaginative thinking. Departmental staff provided advice, encouraging them to come up with their own solutions to problems.

This visit was the first activity in a programme to inspire students into engineering careers. The next four sessions will involve working with engineering and architecture company Ramboll to learn engineering principles. To end the programme, the students will visit Churchil College, Cambridge for a final hands-on activity with a sustainability focus.





ILLUMINA, NHS, AND LONG ROAD CREATE NEW VIRTUAL REALITY RESOURCES

Long Road Sixth Form College has launched three virtual reality videos developed in partnership with leading genomics company Illumina to provide students with an insight into key jobs and careers in the life sciences industry.

The project, funded by a government grant from the Local Skills Improvement Fund (LSIF), is designed to give students virtual access to workspaces that would otherwise be hard to enter in real life and it follows the release of a set of four similar videos developed in partnership with Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge.

The Illumina videos focus on the roles of Bioinformatician, Software Developer, and Lab Scientist and feature members of staff talking about what they do, demonstrating a typical task, and explaining the routes into those careers.

Students can enter a 360-degree immersive environment using a virtual reality headset and can look in every direction. They can also see text, labels, diagrams, and animations to get a rich and detailed picture of life science spaces and related careers all within the space of 5 - 10 minutes per video.

MEET OUR CAREERS TEAM

We're committed to helping you create your own progression plan and supporting you to achieve your goals.



Tariq Sadiq
Careers & Employability Lead



Emma Greenhill
Careers Assistant



Geordie Bailey
Project Coordinator



careers@longroad.ac.uk



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 help@longroad.ac.uk

 01223 63 1125

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