



# 1st

A PARENTS' GUIDE



LOUGHBOROUGH  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

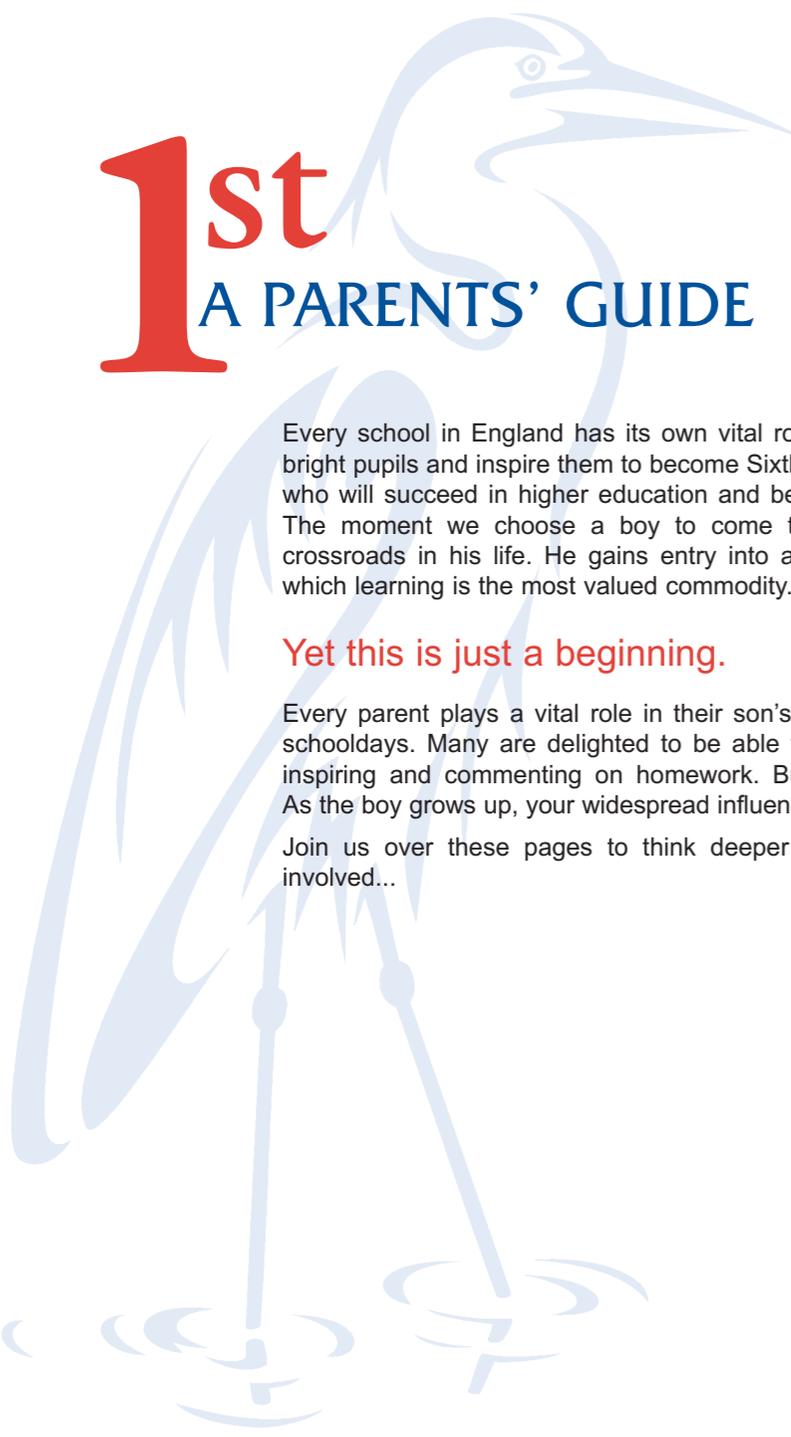
# 1<sup>st</sup>

OUR PROSPECTUS HAS MIGRATED

IT HAS OUTGROWN ITS  
TRADITIONAL FORMAT  
AND FLOWN TO A LAND  
OF ONLINE LUXURY AT  
[www.lesgrammar.org](http://www.lesgrammar.org)

Now we have space...





# 1st

## A PARENTS' GUIDE

Every school in England has its own vital role to play. Ours is to select bright pupils and inspire them to become Sixth Form students: young men who will succeed in higher education and become leaders of the future. The moment we choose a boy to come to our school represents a crossroads in his life. He gains entry into a privileged cultural world in which learning is the most valued commodity.

**Yet this is just a beginning.**

Every parent plays a vital role in their son's education right through his schooldays. Many are delighted to be able to relive their own youth by inspiring and commenting on homework. But it goes further than this. As the boy grows up, your widespread influences remain vitally important.

Join us over these pages to think deeper about how we can all be involved...

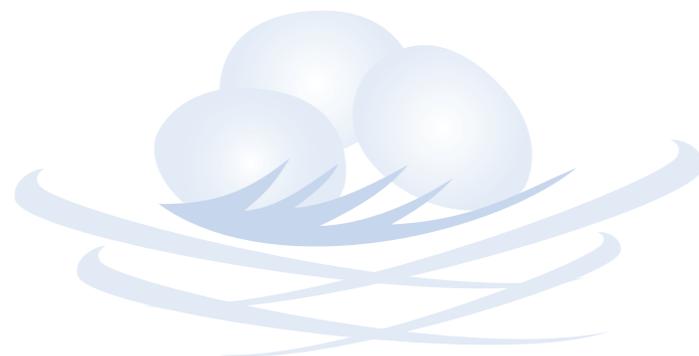


# 1st NESTS & FLEDGLINGS

The keys to creativity are forged in the nest and developed at school. There is no great mystery involved in the process. The level of your boy's creative ability doesn't depend on some kind of divine gift. All that is required to convert a base metal to pure gold can be found in aspects of character development, personality and above all motivation.

Our boys are happy because they are fully engaged throughout the day. Not only in the classroom but within an abundance of extra-curricular activities. They are fully motivated, assimilating knowledge and gaining experience from a variety of different sources. Much of the time they are so involved they don't even realise that they're learning.

So if your boy comes to us, don't expect to see quite so much of him as you would if he went to another school. Loughborough is an idyllic playground in which youngsters also discover the joy of academic study and grow into successful students. There's simply no time for boredom. Quite the reverse, our pupils feel good about themselves. And when your boy finally gets back home and finishes his homework, don't be surprised if he yawns. He's probably tired and needs to get to bed!



# 1st PONDS AND OCEANS

Parents, pupils and even teachers often forget that any school is but a small pond within the wide ocean of our national education system. We must all remember to extend our vision beyond the secluded walls of Loughborough. Because this is a highly competitive world.

Take your boy. If he succeeds in joining us and then gets to the top of his class in his favourite subject, that would be an excellent achievement. But think further. Imagine how many thousands of boys at other schools are equally top of their class in that same subject? Or how many millions from across Europe through to China are also competing to become one of the best in that field. And thus we understand that learning doesn't begin and end in our own classrooms.

When a boy develops a thrill for a subject, he should be encouraged to take it as far as his imagination and ability will stretch. Parents can help foster this attitude in as many ways as they can either imagine or afford. They can also endorse one of the great truths of a good education – there is no such thing as anyone declaring that he's finished all his homework. Impossible. There's always more to be learnt. No excellent schoolboy should ever sit back on his laurels, especially in his best subjects.

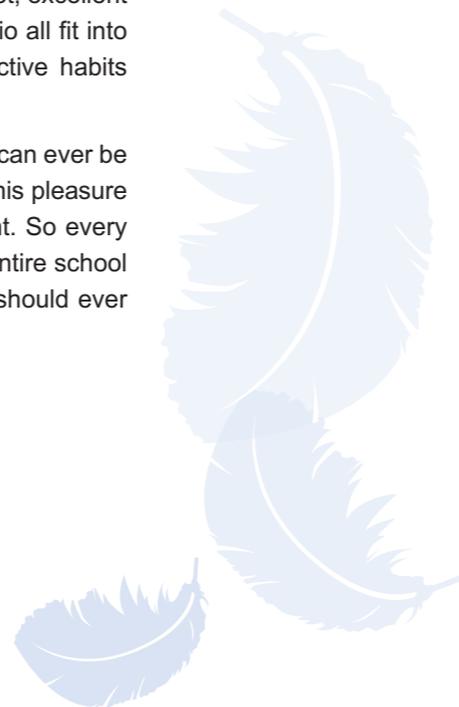


# 1st GROWING FEATHERS

A young boy's mind is like a sponge, often assimilating knowledge and information with staggering ease. But what exactly should he be learning or spending his time on? What are the good influences and, equally worrying, what are those other forces we should guard him against?

The modern schoolboy is growing-up in a rapidly changing world. He is surrounded by outside influences, many of which he needs to explore and understand and some that can be beneficially avoided. Thus, like the bird who shows its fledgling what is good to eat, watchful parents steer their son towards what is best for him. Careful use of the internet, excellent TV documentaries, good newspapers, magazines and talk radio all fit into that category. Not so those time-consuming and even addictive habits such as 'soaps' and computer games.

Instead and alongside homework, one of the greatest gifts that can ever be given to a child is the habit of reading good books. To acquire this pleasure sometimes requires a degree of discipline and encouragement. So every summer we purchase 1,000 copies of a famous novel for the entire school to read, striving to fulfil our objective. No Loughborough boy should ever be without a good book to read.



# 1st FLYING HIGH

Even in nature, the decision to jump from the nest and take to the sky involves an act of bravery. The same is often true with boys. However good his junior school has been, if the day arrives when your boy walks through our gate, he will almost certainly experience a degree of trepidation. The truth is, he has nothing to fear except fear itself.

It really doesn't matter to us whether your boy is naturally shy or audacious, strong or frail. We don't care – so long as he is curious and wants to involve himself in any of the myriad activities that we offer, all designed to enrich his life and his character. In that spirit, perhaps there is such an image as the typical Loughburian. Amongst our most famous old-boys was the legendary WW2 Spitfire ace "Johnnie" Johnson. Having secured his monument to history through his glittering wartime career, he was still inspired to found the important Housing Trust that today bears his name – and the travel awards that generate such inspiration within our Sixth Form. These lifetime commitments exemplify the spirit of our school.

We owe it to men like "Johnnie" Johnson to encourage our young boys to become fully engaged in their work and their play, exploring their various talents and hobbies to the very limits of their ability. There's always a time and a place to relax. After that, school life is a wondrous challenge. All we ask of a boy who leaves the nest to join us is to have fun, work hard and get involved.



# 1st BUT HE'S A GENIUS

Many parents dream of spawning a genius. A boy who will take the world by storm and leave his mark on the pages of history. Alas, a little Mozart or Einstein doesn't regularly visit planet Earth. Although we would like to think we would spot one were he to walk through our gates

Whilst pondering such thoughts we want to offer some sincere advice to those whose boy isn't accepted into our school. Demand for entrance is high and sadly we cannot take everyone. So to those parents whose boy doesn't make it, we want to say that an academic education isn't necessarily the right choice for every boy in the land.

Think of Winston Churchill. As a child he was a self-confessed 'failure' and hated his schooldays. Yet he didn't turn out too badly. Or remember any of those UK entrepreneur billionaires who achieved next to nothing at school but went on to develop international success and fortune.

Some boys mature later than others. Others are simply not suited to academic work yet have a huge hidden talent which only needs the slightest flame to ignite into a superb career. Never be surprised what any child can achieve beyond school. And never give up. You never know.

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Our own ornamental herons  
flew into the Courtyard  
in the 1980s and decided to remain.

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