

Reach Higher, 2018-19





Reach Higher – 2018-19

8 May 2018

Dear Linacre student,

Welcome to the Linacre family!

Congratulations again on winning a place on our 'Reach Higher' programme for 2018-19. The competition was especially tough this year; being selected is a real achievement. Well done! We are all hugely looking forward to getting to know you better.

Enclosed is an information pack. It contains general information about the 2018-19 programme and some specific details about the forthcoming London trip (**July 8 to 13**). **Please read it carefully and make sure your parents/guardians see it too.**

At the end is a **consent form**. Please ask your parents/guardians to fill it in and return ASAP to us at Linacre Institute, % 34 Storrs Road, Chesterfield S40 3PZ. There is also a section that you need to fill in yourself.

I look forward hugely to meeting you again soon.

With warmest best wishes,

Paul Coupar-Hennessy, Executive Director - pcoupar@linacreinstitute.org, 07961 844756

Checklist

I have:

- ★ read the key info about the London trip on p8
- ★ signed the consent form, p10
- ★ got my parents or guardians to sign the consent form, p11
- ★ posted both consent forms
- ★ phoned with any queries
- ★ given details of any dietary information
- ★ checked the dates of the Cambridge residential and can confirm I'm available

About Linacre

We are a registered charity giving northern state-school students the confidence to apply to our leading universities, and the skills to thrive there.

Many of our students apply to Cambridge or Oxford, but this is not at all expected, let alone demanded. We simply want everyone to make an informed choice that is not hampered by shadowy and ill-founded fears.

I know all about such fears having grown up in Chesterfield and then gone on to Cambridge University, which changed my life in many positive ways.

Reach Higher is our key programme and it has been shown to have a transformative impact. Ucas recently did an independent statistical study of its effects; this concluded that our effect on whether students reach highly selective universities was “very significantly high”.

Almost every student wins at least one offer from one of our 12 most competitive universities. On average, our Oxbridge applicants are twice as likely as normal to win an offer. Many students have said this was the best experience of their life.

The programme has three parts - Big Ideas in London (July 8-13), Stepping Stones in Cambridge (August 13-21) and Phone a Friend (weekly Skype sessions beginning in July). More information about these is given later. But I should say that it is important that you take part in all three. If you have any problem with the dates, please contact me immediately.

The Institute is a registered charity. All our programmes are totally free to students, including transport costs. We can provide some spending money too, if this is an issue. Just contact me on the email address below.

I am the executive director and run the programme. My background is in education, as a head of Sixth Form English, and before that in journalism on *The Guardian* and the *Daily Telegraph*. Our patron is Lord Hennessy, one of the country's leading historians, and the chair of our trustees is Mike Munro, a senior partner in a leading London law firm. Other trustees include Pippa Dodgshon, Head of Hall Cross Academy in Doncaster and Anne-Marie Canning, head of Widening Participation at King's College, London.

You will be taught by a wide range of people drawn from leading schools, academia and the professions. They all share first-class academic backgrounds and a passion to help people like you.

Making sure you are safe is important to us, and we work with SAFE CIC, a government-recommended advisor on Safeguarding. They have reviewed and approved our safeguarding procedures. We also want to help you grown, and the only way to do this is to move beyond the boundaries of what you know already. So you will be pushed hard academically, but always in a friendly, supportive way. If you have any concerns at any point, please contact Paul.

I am very excited about getting to know you all very soon.

With warm best wishes,

Paul Coupar-Hennessy, Executive Director

Our Values

Our work is guided by our values. The support we offer is:

Long-term and personal

We offer far more than just a glimpse of the spires. We are with students every step of the way, from Year 12 to arrival at university – and beyond. Our intensive, on-going support is unique, and it works. The same applies to our relationships with schools ([Linacre – Partner Schools](#)): we look to form hubs of expertise within schools so that many students benefit over a long period.

“I can honestly say that Linacre has been the best experience of my life and it continues to support me long after the summer. The ongoing tutor system has been the most supportive part of all. In my AS results I scraped a C in Physics. Then I was introduced to my tutor – she is my Physics guardian angel! With her guidance and help my confidence has grown exponentially. I’m proud to say I’m now consistently getting As.”

Linacre student, 2016-17, from Wakefield

Expert

We believe first-class subject experts are the people best suited to stretching very able young people. Our exceptional teachers, from the UK’s leading schools and universities, inspire by balancing support and challenge – exploring new angles and ways of thinking.

“I left Cambridge captivated by a subject more than I thought possible; something I don’t think can be particularly taught, but rather, inspired in teaching. I felt fulfilled, motivated, and completely in love with the method and setting of learning that will hopefully shape the next three years of my education.”

Linacre student, 2016-17, from Wakefield

Aimed at achievement not just aspiration

Many access schemes aim to raise aspiration. Fewer can point to a record of success like Linacre’s.

“It seemed to be a pipe dream at the age of ten, when I first seriously determined that I wanted to study at Cambridge, and it appeared perhaps even more so for my parents. What were the real chances of a boy from my home-town achieving that? Thanks to the help of Linacre that fantasy became reality.”

Linacre student, 2016-17, from Newcastle

Designed to nurture confidence

We believe our scholars have the talent to reach our top universities – and their results bear this out. We help students develop the same belief in themselves.

“The biggest change has been in my attitude towards my own ability and potential. In the past I have doubted myself. I had a mentality of 'why me?'. I felt that I wasn't as deserving of fantastic opportunities as other people. But since achieving a place with the Institute and receiving all the support and encouragement that I have from a range of people, I have realised that with hard work and dedication, I am capable of really anything that I set my mind to.”

Linacre student, 2016-17, from north Derbyshire

Rooted in a community of curiosity based on friendship and fun

Students form life-long friendships. And they come to see some of our most successful professionals and academics as friends and colleagues. Linacre is above all a family based on shared intellectual excitement.

“Friendships have been formed which I hope will last for years to come; it was amazing to spend time with such lovely, hilarious and like-minded people.”

Linacre student, 2014-15, from Rotherham

The 2018-19 programme: key dates

July 2018: Mentoring begins

One-on-one Skype sessions with a subject expert begin. These will be weekly or fortnightly depending on your subject. In these sessions, you will be helped to explore your subject beyond the boundary of the curriculum. They will continue until at least Christmas 2018 by which time you should be receiving offers from universities.

July 8 to 13, 2018: London residential

The programme begins with a residential school in the heart of London – Big Ideas. This involves intensive subject tuition and a series of unique experiences introducing you to some very exciting career ideas. Further details of the London visit are enclosed. Please read these carefully.

August 13 to 21, 2018: Cambridge residential

We then move to Trinity Hall, one of the oldest colleges at the University of Cambridge, for a second residential – ‘Stepping Stones to Very Competitive Universities’. Here you will begin continue intensive preparation for university application. Further details will be sent to you after the London trip.

Late September 2018: UCAS forms submitted

Early December 2018: Oxbridge interviews

Please note that except in exceptional circumstances, taking part in all three key parts of the programme is compulsory.

London residential – key information for students

Travel

Departure

Sunday 8 July – meeting at Sheffield station. Time to be confirmed but will allow time for students in north east to catch trains to Sheffield.

Arrival home

Friday 13 July – train leaves London late afternoon, arriving Sheffield mid-evening. Time to be confirmed.

Unless you are a student at Ashington or Burnside, you are responsible for making your own way to Sheffield station. If this poses big difficulties, please contact the Institute ASAP.

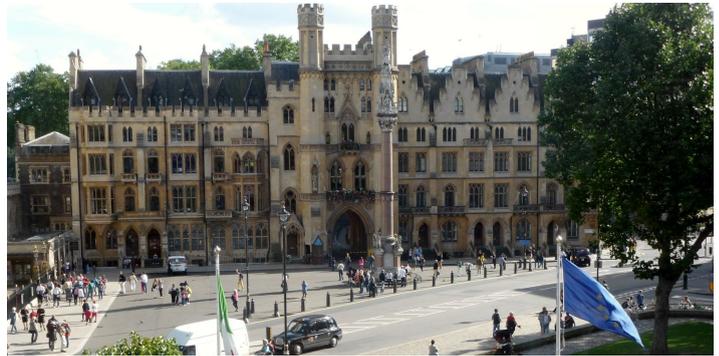
Ashington or Burnside students will have rail travel between Newcastle and Sheffield provided by the Institute. Details will follow nearer the time.

Venues

Accommodation is at the Westminster School, Little Smith Street, London SW1P 3PF (020 7963 1000).

This is one of the world's leading schools. As at most boarding schools the accommodation is functional rather than sumptuous! The setting and facilities are truly excellent.

Several members of Linacre staff checked by the DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) will be staying with you in the accommodation overnight, including the director.



Teaching is also at Westminster School. This will be given by academics, leading teachers and professionals, all with first-class academic records.

Food

All food will be provided free – either at Westminster School or in nearby restaurants.

When eating at restaurants, the cost will be covered up to approximately £9, allowing you to choose from a range of substantial main courses. Should you want to eat more, you will need to supplement this out of your pocket money.

Please let us know as soon as possible if you have any special dietary requirements (vegetarian, vegan, gluten free, Halal etc).

Money and belongings

The entire programme is free to students, including food, entrance costs at venues and transport. We suggest you bring a small amount of personal money for incidental spending. If this presents a problem please do contact the Institute and we can provide some spending money. But we cannot take responsibility for personal money or belongings.

Who will be there?

The four staff present throughout will be:

Paul Coupar-Hennessy – Executive Director

Director of the Institute, former head of VIth form English at Brookfield School, Chesterfield. Graduate of Trinity Hall, Cambridge.

Dr Richard Kowenicki – Head of Sciences

Housemaster, Westminster School. Scholar of Trinity Hall, Cambridge.

Katrine Pebworth – Head of Pastoral Care

Former director of student services, Deincourt School, Derbyshire. Graduate of Edinburgh University.

Ashleigh Weir – Mentor

Linacre 2014 student, currently reading English at Downing College, Cambridge.

Teaching will be provided by some of these staff and a range of visiting experts. At least one of the four core staff will be in attendance throughout these sessions.

Contact details

Prior to Sunday 8 July – Paul Coupar – 07961 844 756, pcoupar@linacreintitute.org

In case of emergency during the trip:

Paul Coupar 07961 844 756

Richard Kowenicki (KOV-EN-IT-SKI) 07818 802 280

Katrine Pebworth 07989 471 136.

What to bring

- Comfortable clothing (bear in mind that central London in the summer can be hot – shorts/light clothing may be a good idea).
- Comfortable shoes for walking in – we will often be walking between venues
- Washkit
- **A towel**
- Pyjamas/nightclothes
- Any medications needed
- A small umbrella may come in handy
- A water bottle is essential
- Small amount of pocket money
- A passport or driving licence (if you don't have either, please let me know)
- Perhaps a light waterproof jacket

- Pens and notebook

Please bear in mind that you will be carrying your own luggage to and from the railway station. Try to pack light!

We will be visiting the House of Lords and other fairly formal institutions so you will want to bring a pair of trousers and a shirt, or a smart-ish equivalent for girls. But no need for suit, tie or party frock!

Supervision

You will be supervised by core staff throughout.

To give you some independence this will, when appropriate, include remote supervision – being allowed to explore limited areas without a member of staff by your side. This will be for limited periods, in groups of at least two, and with rendezvous points, check-in times and members of staff in the area and contactable by phone.

Expectations

You are expected to behave considerately and kindly, to follow instructions when necessary and to enter into activities with enthusiasm. Please bear in mind that a lot of busy people have given up their time to make your experiences possible. Alcohol and drugs are not allowed.

Programme

The full timetable should be ready by the end of May and will be forwarded then. In previous years it has included workshops at the House of Lords, the Foreign Office, a City law firm, the Globe Theatre, the National Physical Laboratory and other inspiring places.

LINACRE INSTITUTE
CONSENT FORM - STUDENTS

Data storage

- I consent to the Linacre Institute storing relevant data about me, such as my home address, their school grades and their university choices. You can withdraw permission at any time by emailing pcoupar@linacreinstitute.org.
- I consent to the Linacre Institute sharing this data with responsible third parties (such as Ucas) from time to time for the purposes of monitoring our performance.
- I consent to very limited parts of this data - for instance your university destination - being used by the Institute for publicity purposes.

Photography and video

- I consent to the Linacre Institute storing pictures of its summer schools, which may include pictures of you. I consent to the use of such pictures for publicity purposes. You can withdraw permission at any time by emailing pcoupar@linacreinstitute.org.

Signed.....(Student)

Date.....

LINACRE INSTITUTE
CONSENT FORM - PARENTS / GUARDIANS

I agree to my son/daughter.....
 taking part in visits to London (8-13 July, 2018), to Cambridge (13-21 August) and to receiving tutorials via Skype.

Residential trips

- The arrangements for the visits as outlined in the accompanying letter meet with my satisfaction. If unforeseen circumstances occur, I give my permission for my son or daughter to take part in prepared alternative activities.
- I understand that all reasonable and proper precautions for the care of my son or daughter will be taken by the staff. I accept that close supervision may not be possible at all times. I understand that staff will make reasonable efforts to protect students from harm but that the Institute accepts no liability for accidents, injuries or damage to property.
- **I understand that if there we suspect students have alcohol or drugs staff may search possessions and rooms. If rules are broken then a student may be sent home.**
- I understand that if my son or daughter should require emergency treatment the organisers will make every effort to contact me. If this is impossible, I agree that the organisers may consent to my child undergoing such emergency treatment.
- **I understand that supervision by core staff may, where appropriate, include remote supervision. This is common among school visits with pupils aged over 16, and involves students being allowed to explore limited areas without a member of staff by their side. This will be for limited periods, in groups of at least two, with rendezvous points, check-in times and members of staff in the nearby area and contactable by phone.**
- I have listed below any medical and dietary issues staff need to know of.
- I know the Institute is not responsible for students in transit to and from Sheffield station.
- I understand that the Cambridge trip may include punting on the River Cam. I can confirm that my son/daughter can swim and I am happy for them to take part in this trip. If you have concerns about this, please indicate in the space later in the form.

Data storage

- I consent to the Linacre Institute storing relevant data about my child, such as their home address, their school grades and their university choices. You can withdraw permission at any time by emailing pcoupar@linacreinstitute.org.
- I consent to the Linacre Institute sharing this data with responsible third parties (such as Ucas) from time to time for the purposes of monitoring our performance.
- I consent to very limited parts of this data - for instance a student's university destination - being used by the Institute for publicity purposes.

Photography and video

- I consent to the Linacre Institute storing pictures of its summer schools, which may include pictures of my child. I consent to the use of such pictures for publicity purposes. You can

withdraw permission at any time by emailing pcoupar@linacreinstitute.org.

Name of parent(s)/guardian(s):

Home address:

Mobile number:

Home number:

Work number:

Son or daughter's date of birth:

Name and address of doctor:

Telephone number of doctor:

Please give the name and contact details of an alternative emergency contact:

Name:

Home number

Work number

Mobile number:

Medical details

Does your child have medical issues that may affect their participation in any activities?	YES / NO
Has your son/daughter had any injuries or illnesses in the last twelve months?	YES / NO
Is your son/daughter on any medication?	YES / NO
Has your son/daughter any allergies?	YES / NO

If you answered "YES" to any of the above, please give details

Any other medical issues we should be aware of?

If your child cannot swim or is a weak swimmer, please give details below:

I do / do not give consent for my child to go punting.

Dietary details

Does your son/daughter have any special dietary needs? YES/NO

If yes, please give details:

Signed.....Parent/Guardian

Date.....

Please return ASAP to us at Linacre Institute, % 34 Storrs Road, Chesterfield S40 3PZ.

