



2027



Shape
the
future





**“Hills is where
ambition becomes
achievement,
and dreams
become reality.”**

Safi

Welcome to Hills Road

Choosing where to study after Year 11 is a big step and we're delighted that you're thinking of joining us!

Here, you'll join a vibrant, university-style community where you're encouraged to take ownership of your learning in a safe, inclusive environment. As specialists in 16-19 education, we know how to support you at this important stage, academically and personally.

You'll be taught by expert teachers who are passionate about their subjects and committed to your success. Alongside your A levels, our Enrichment programme, EPQ, visiting speakers, trips and Future Ready programme will help you discover and develop your passions. Whatever they may be, you'll find like-minded people to help you grow in confidence.

As a former Hills Road student, I know how important these two years are. I'm incredibly proud of our community – where ambition



Ali Kirkman, Principal

is matched by kindness and respect, and where staff and students achieve exceptional things together.

We can't wait to see how you will shape your future at Hills Road!

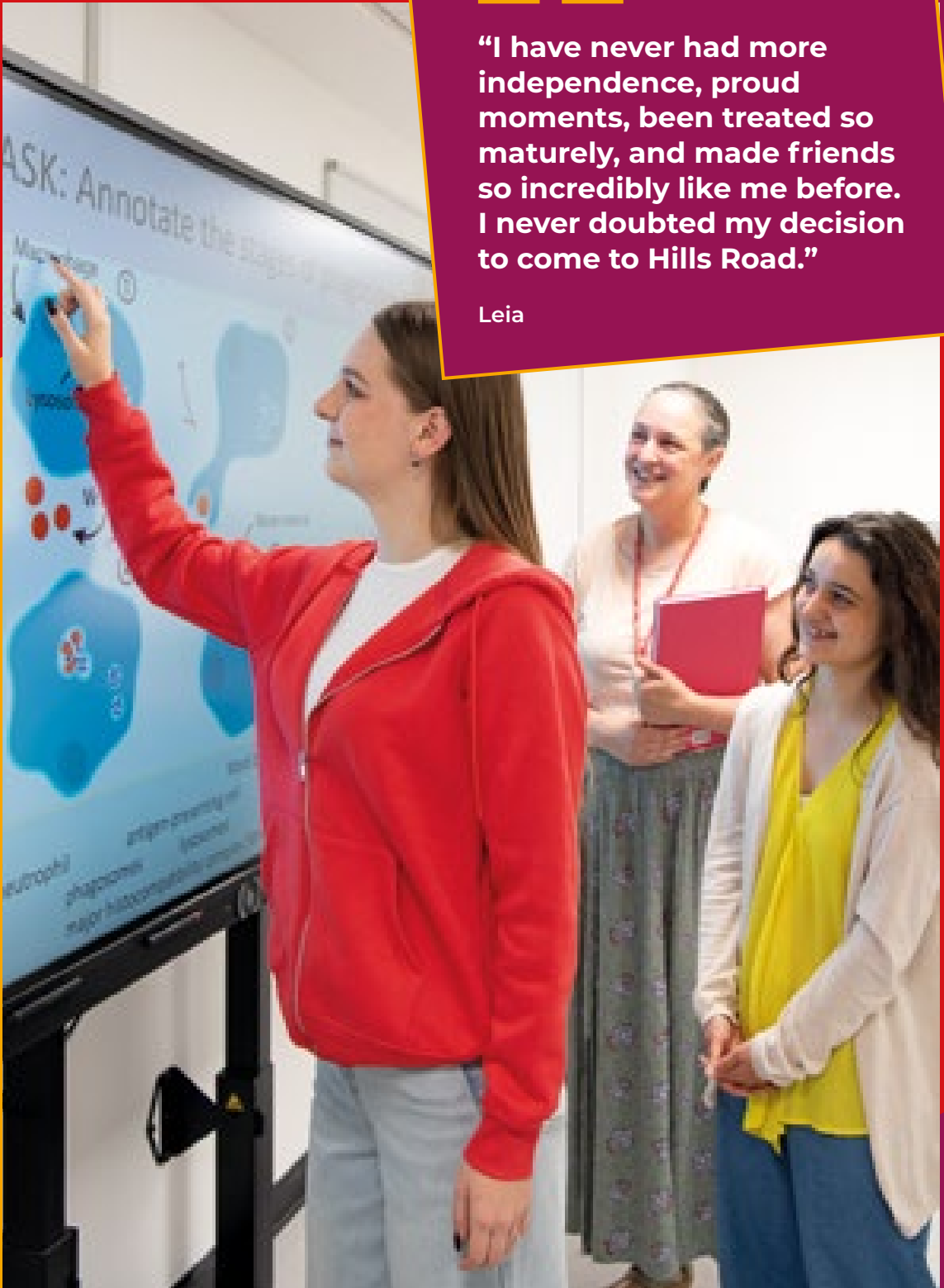


Read on to find out more about our fantastic College, and to delve a little deeper, visit hillsroad.ac.uk

“

“I have never had more independence, proud moments, been treated so maturely, and made friends so incredibly like me before. I never doubted my decision to come to Hills Road.”

Leia



Hello

from the Student Council

Two years ago, we were exactly where you are now – deciding which sixth form to choose, what subjects to take and feeling a little overwhelmed by it all!

We get that the transition from secondary school is a big one, and Hills Road might be very different from what you are used to, but the Student Council are here to ease your transition and help you in any way you need.

There's such an extensive range of A level subjects to choose from and the teachers are so inspiring and supportive – they want you to succeed.

There's also a huge variety of extra-curricular activities on offer, including clubs and societies, for you to join so

Find out more

hillsroad.ac.uk/student-life/student-council

Jasmine and Alisiah



it's easy to find your tribe and build your Hills community. There is something for everyone here.

The College also has amazing support teams who are on hand to help you all through your journey at Hills. Every member of staff really is here for you.

We love it here at Hills Road and we are certain that you will, too. Who knows? It might be you writing this welcome in two years' time!

99%

A Level
pass rate

75%

A*-B grades
in 2025

What makes Hills Road Outstanding

High expectations, combined with the dedicated support of our staff, ensure that students, regardless of their individual needs, can realise their aspirations.



36 subjects on offer

**Over 70
extra-
curricular
activities**



**Fantastic
facilities**



“College staff champion student wellbeing, they care deeply and place student support at the heart of their actions. Students recognise this and appreciate it greatly.”

Ofsted, 2025



**Ofsted rated
Outstanding
in all areas
in 2025**



“Hills provides such a relaxed and welcoming environment where you are treated like an adult. All the staff are so experienced and knowledgeable, supporting you every step of the way and they have our best interests at heart!”

Alex

Higher education success after Hills

92%

progress
to Higher
Education

70

Oxbridge
offers
in 2026

92%

awarded a
2:1 or better
in 2024

45%

awarded a
first-class
degree in 2024



Your dedicated tutor will be ready to welcome you from day one and will be your go-to person throughout your time at Hills.

Meet your support

Wondering how you'll fit in? We know that transitioning to sixth form is a big step and we are here to support you all the way. Our specialist teams are here to help and guide you while you're at Hills.

Who's championing you at Hills?

● **Your tutor:** Your Progress and Support Tutor will support both your personal and academic journey during your time with us.

● **Student services:** The team are on hand to answer any questions.

● **Wellbeing:** Our Wellbeing team offer a listening ear for anything that may be troubling you.

● **Counselling:** If required, our trained counsellors offer focused, in-depth support.

● **Study Skills:** The Study Skills team

provides a range of support, including assistance for students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

● **Careers:** Our qualified and experienced Careers Advisors will help you plan your future.

[Read more](#)

hillsroad.ac.uk/support-and-guidance

“

“It is a privilege to walk alongside you during your time at Hills Road. As your tutor, I’m here to support you – from settling in and managing your wellbeing to preparing you for life beyond Hills. I’m always here as a friendly face with an open door and listening ears!”

Katie Paton, Head of Year



**Read on
to find out
who’s got
your back!**

Your dedicated tutor

Our team of specialist tutors are here to help and support you while you're at Hills.

Your tutor will be ready to welcome you from day one and will be your go-to person throughout your time at Hills.

You will meet with your tutor regularly, both one-to-one and in your tutor group. They will be key to supporting you during your sixth-form experience and with your future plans.

Your tutor will be on hand to ensure that you receive the right level of help and guidance for your needs so that you can make the very best of your time at the College. They offer personal and academic development support and can guide you to our wide range of support services.



“Through structured guidance and regular one-to-one support, tutors help students develop the confidence, resilience and self-belief needed to succeed in their studies and in life.”

Karen, Head of Student Personal Development





“

“My tutor has been incredibly supportive throughout my time at Hills Road. They’re always approachable and genuinely care about how we’re doing, both academically and personally.”

Arush

Your support teams

Taking the step up to A levels can be challenging. Our experienced support teams are here to help and guide you practically, academically and emotionally.

Student Services

If you are feeling unwell, have questions about College life or just need a bit of advice, our knowledgeable Student Services team are here to help.

Wellbeing

If something is troubling you or you need someone to talk to in confidence, our caring Wellbeing team are here to listen.

Counselling

If you need help with your mental health, our experienced, award-winning Counselling team are here to support and guide you.



“

“There are many different types of student support at Hills, from being able to have one-to-ones with your tutor to going to wellbeing drop-in sessions or booking an appointment to see a trained counsellor. Everyone is so friendly and helpful.”

Ella

Read more

hillsroad.ac.uk/student-life/support-and-guidance



What other support is available to me?

- Talk to your teachers or your tutor
- Drop in to Student Services to chat to a member of the team
- Go to the Student SharePoint portal for resources, information, and self-help materials



We are proud to have been accredited with the AcSEED award in recognition of our emotional wellbeing and mental health support to young people.

Financial support

We are committed to ensuring that financial circumstances are never a barrier to studying at Hills Road. Our Bursary Team administers a range of government support to help students meet the essential costs of education.

Bursary Fund

Support is available for students who face financial barriers to participating in education. This includes students from lower-income households, as well as those with particular personal circumstances, such as being in care or a care leaver, or supporting themselves financially.

For more information about travelling to College go to page 80.

The Bursary Fund can help with essential costs, including travel to college, learning resources, compulsory activities, and necessary admissions tests or interviews. All support is assessed individually through one straightforward application.

Read more

Full details and the online application form are available on our website at: hillsroad.ac.uk/bursary-fund

Free College Meals

Free College Meals provide daily support with the cost of food whilst students are on campus, helping to ensure all students can focus on learning and fully participate in college life.

Applications for Free College Meals are made alongside the Bursary Fund, and support is available if students are unsure whether they qualify.

“

“As you work towards your goals, never let financial worries hold you back – there’s help available to make sure you can focus on what really matters: your learning and future. Applying for financial support is simple, and we’re here to guide you through every step.”

Wendy, Bursary Officer

“

“The bursary fund helped me with the loan of a laptop as I needed it for my studies.”

Daniel



Study Skills support

The Study Skills team provides a range of support, including assistance for neurodivergent students and those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

Study Skills and SEND support

The team offers a range of group workshops including organisation, time management and avoiding procrastination and getting the most from assistive technology and revision. They also meet one-to-one with students to help them set individual targets and support them in making progress in areas they find more challenging.

Qualified staff carry out assessments for Exam Access Arrangements, and the team offers appropriate follow-up support. If you have an Education

Health and Care Plan (EHCP), you will be allocated a key worker from the Study Skills team to support your growth in independence and ensure your needs are met.

Supported independent learning

We recognise that not all students can adjust to the demands of advanced learning as quickly as others. The Study Skills mentors offer timetabled supervision and support for students finding the expectations for completing independent study outside lesson time challenging. The mentors work with students to help prioritise their learning effectively, so they feel more confident and able to complete their studies.

Disability

The College is committed to meeting the needs of students with disabilities and recognises that a disability can affect students in different ways. We encourage you to make relevant staff aware of your needs so that full and appropriate support can be provided.



“Study Skills mentors are extremely helpful and available to anyone wanting help. They give you a boost in motivation and confidence, which helps you achieve and work towards set goals.”

Cara

Talk to us

t: 01223 247251

e: StudySkills@hillsroad.ac.uk



“

“The Study Skills team help students learn healthy and effective strategies, to become independent learners and reach their full academic potential. This is done through tailored one-to-one meetings or small group sessions.”

Summer, Study Skills Mentor

Planning your future

Believe it or not, your time at Hills will go by pretty quickly! Our qualified Careers Advisers offer one-to-one careers guidance providing tailored individual support.

Careers Week and Employer Fair

As part of Careers Week in Y12, we host informative online talks that guide you through your post-18 options, such as:

- potential career paths
- apprenticeships
- university options, including the application process, choosing the right degree and preparing for university life.

Each year, we host an Employer Fair, where you can chat about job and apprenticeship opportunities with employers, including:

- Addenbrooke's NHS Trust
- Cambridge City Council
- Cambridge Consultants
- ARM
- Deloitte.

Work experience

During Y12 you will be encouraged to arrange at least three days of work experience. Previous students have gained experience at:

- The National Theatre
- Royal Air Force Museum
- Royal Papworth Hospital
- AECOM.

Apprenticeship sessions

In Y13 we deliver workshops on:

- how to apply for apprenticeships
- CV writing
- interview skills
- entrepreneurship.

**Taking a gap year?
We will support you
with making plans
and process your
UCAS application.**

Employment opportunities

We regularly post job opportunities, and here are some recent examples:

- Environmental Practitioner Degree Apprenticeship with the Environment Agency
- Gap Year Technician at the University of Cambridge
- Solicitor Degree Apprenticeship with Linklaters.

University applications

As well as mock interviews, we support you with UCAS, Medicine and Oxbridge applications.

Where are they now?



Megan Sørensen studied Biology, Chemistry, Maths and Further Maths. She went on to study a Natural Sciences degree, a Master's by Research and a PhD in experimental evolutionary biology before becoming a Postdoctoral Researcher at Heinrich-Heine University of Düsseldorf, Germany.

Megan's journey

Why Hills? It offered all the A levels I wanted to study

My favourite memory: lab work experience opportunities

My Enrichment: Duke of Edinburgh Award

After Hills? Natural Sciences at the University of Cambridge.



“I liked Biology before, but after Hills Road, I really loved it! I felt we were led to think for ourselves and question the subject, which is pivotal for becoming a scientist.”

Societies that support your career choice

The College has a variety of clubs and societies that you can join to help you with your progression planning.

Subject-focused societies

Subject societies offer a range of activities, including hosting talks from industry professionals and former students. Subject societies include Biology, Business, Chemistry, Classics, Computing, Economics, Geography, History of Art, History, Maths, Philosophy, Photography, Psychology and Robotics.

Medical Society (MedSoc) and Veterinary Society (VetSoc)

MedSoc and VetSoc are ideal societies to join if you are considering a career in medicine, dentistry, nursing or veterinary medicine.

There is a speaker programme with talks from clinicians and academics, one-to-one support with applications, interview preparation, work experience and volunteering opportunities and links with Addenbrooke's Hospital and Cambridge University, including a lecture and dissection practical at the Physiology department.

Law Society

If you're interested in a career in law, you can join the Law Society. You will have the opportunity to share work experience ideas, take part in extracurricular activities, attend mock trials for a human rights case, receive support with the Law LNAT university entrance test and attend talks about routes into law by industry professionals, including Hills alumni.



“Leading the Law Society has given me the chance to introduce new ideas and create opportunities for Hills students. It’s been rewarding to see them engage with law beyond the classroom and develop their confidence, research and analytical skills. The experience has helped me to explore my own interests more deeply.”

Sofia



Alumni stories

Where are they now?



21

Laura Robinson studied Chemistry, Further Maths, Maths and Physics. She went on to complete a natural sciences degree, followed by a Postgraduate Diploma in Law and then a Bar Vocational Course at the College of Law. She is now a barrister.

Laura's journey

Why Hills? Being independent

My favourite memory: spending time with my friends

My Enrichment: squash

After Hills? Natural Sciences at the University of Durham.



“Hills taught me to be independent, focused and ambitious. Being in an environment where excellence is expected pushes everyone to achieve their goals.”



Each week, the Y12 Extended Curriculum is:

- Tutor time: 1 period
- EPQ: 1 period
- Enrichment: 1 period

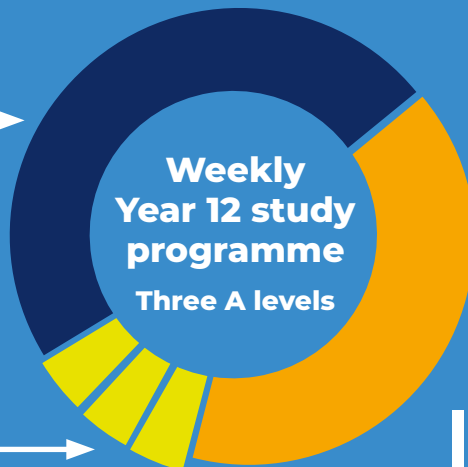
Become future ready

As a specialist sixth-form college, we ensure your study programme is full of opportunities. Your timetable consists of subject lessons, Future Ready, Enrichment, the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), and independent study periods.

**Subject lessons
in class**
12 periods

Extended Curriculum

- Future Ready sessions
 - EPQ
 - Enrichment
- 1 period each



Independent study time:
10 periods

Independent study time includes some timetabled sessions in which students can continue their learning in College or at home.

More info

Find out more about our study programme at: hillsroad.ac.uk/student-life



“

“Future Ready sessions are always very engaging with my tutor, and she made my transition from secondary school to sixth form a lot easier by being so inspiring and supportive.”

Laura



Go to pages
54-73 to find
out what
A level subjects
we offer

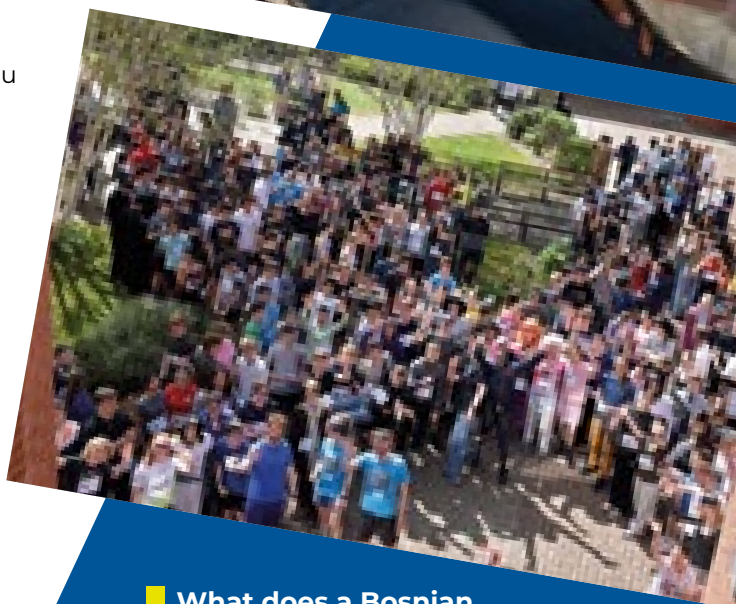
Getting you ready for the future

Underpinning your educational journey is our Extended Curriculum, which will equip you with valuable life skills to support you after Hills.

Being equipped for the workplace, an apprenticeship, university or any other destination you might be considering takes focus, just like A levels. Completing the Extended Curriculum programme will help you to be prepared with the skill set for whatever comes next.

The Year 12 Extended Curriculum consists of the Future Ready programme (FRP), the Extended Project Qualification and Enrichment, providing you with skills to be used now and in the future. Learning occurs through a combination of student input, tutor guidance and external experts and speakers.

You will be encouraged to find your own voice while developing your sense of social and moral responsibility as part of Hills and the wider community. You will also be provided with extensive support with your onward progression plans.



What does a Bosnian waistcoat, Dungeons & Dragons, Jack the Ripper and My Chemical Romance all have in common? They're all topics for EPQ projects. Read on for inspiration!



“Hills Road is a fantastic place to achieve academically. It’s also a conveniently located college that invests heavily in bringing out the best in all students, through personal interests and preparing us for adult life.”

Lillian



Read more

[hillsroad.ac.uk/
future-ready-programme](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/future-ready-programme)

The Extended Project Qualification

At the heart of our study programme is the requirement for every student to develop and realise a Level 3 project.

Delivered in Year 12, the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) offers you the chance to develop real independence, resilience and maturity, while pursuing a topic of your choosing. From staging a fashion show or designing a carbon neutral house to researching groundbreaking cancer therapies or starting the novel you've always wanted to write, the EPQ presents a fantastic opportunity to pursue your interests and spread your wings.



“

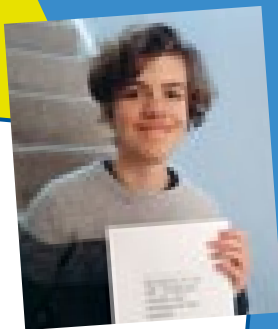
“I decided to make a Jelek, a waistcoat which is part of the traditional Bosnian attire.”

Maryam

“

“I wrote a dissertation on electoral systems, evaluating the one used for general elections in the UK and alternative systems used elsewhere.”

Esther



“

“After careful consideration and lots of mind mapping, I opted to create a video essay about Jack the Ripper as I love a good true crime documentary.”

Christy



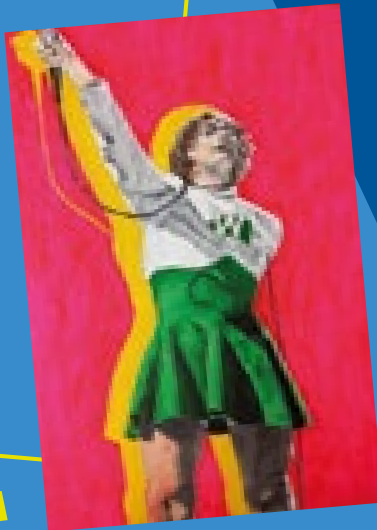
“I wrote a short book on Dungeons & Dragons (D&D) for beginner players (specifically for neurodivergent people), and I included a short three-session campaign in Cambridge during the Bubonic plague in the 1300s.”

Izzy



“For my EPQ, I painted Gerard Way – the lead singer of My Chemical Romance – wearing his cheerleader dress on stage for the first time, which really moved me.”

Mimi



“I wrote a dissertation on the impact of AI on women’s rights because it was the intersection of my interests: feminism, technology, and politics.”

Lily



“I wrote a science-fiction playscript as it connected my hobbies nicely.”

Louis

Read more

[hillsroad.ac.uk/
extended-project](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/extended-project)

Your chance to discover something new

Enrichment

All Year 12s pick an Enrichment activity as part of their study programme. With over 70 different activities from garden design to genetics, we are sure there'll be something that takes your fancy!

The activities aim to be fun and engaging, to allow you to try a new experience or expand an existing interest; to explore new skills such as independence, creativity and resilience, and to help you make new friends.

This is an opportunity for you to develop your skills and talents differently away from your A level subjects. You may discover a new interest or skill through Enrichment that you decide to turn into your EPQ.

“

“The Environmental Leaders' Programme has been an amazing opportunity for me to spread awareness about biodiversity.”

Ethan



What type of Enrichment can I do?

A selection of some activities:

Active: sports ● dance ● Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Community: volunteering ● social action ● sustainability

Creative: ceramics ● drawing ● 3D structures ● garden design

Languages: Chinese ● French film ● Italian ● Japanese

Music and performing arts: choirs ● orchestras ● music technology ● DJ skills ● drama productions

Thinking: debating ● chemistry in action ● assistive technology

STEM: genetics and genomics ● robotics

“

“Enrichment is a great opportunity to meet new people outside of your subject classes.”

Thomas

Read more

[hillsroad.ac.uk/
enrichment](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/enrichment)

Performing Arts

Enrichment

If you love acting, singing, dancing, or technical theatre, there are many exciting production opportunities you can be involved in for your Enrichment.

Theatre productions

Directed by staff, Year 12 Enrichment students put on two successful large-scale theatre productions each academic year. At the end of the Autumn term, student dancers and actors perform in a musical and, in the Summer term, a play: recent shows include *Anything Goes* and *Young Frankenstein*. Year 13 students can also perform in a staff-directed play during the Spring term Enrichment, which has included *American Psycho* and *Young Marx*, as well as our annual Summer Enrichment show with Year 12s, which, this year, was *Much Ado About Nothing*.

Technical theatre and wardrobe

As part of Enrichment, we will train you to become a member of our production crew, where you will work with industry-standard lighting and sound equipment. Students will be invited to work on College performances. There is also a specialist Costume Design Enrichment, producing costumes for the College musical.

Student-led EPQ productions

If you have ever wanted to write, direct or perform your own production, this could be your chance! In Year 12, you will be invited to pitch your idea and, if successful, you'll stage your production in our fully equipped theatre, assisted by the technical team. Current shows in the making include *The Crucible*, student-written work and a dance piece.

“

“My highlight at Hills is the shows! I have been in both of the Enrichment shows and they have allowed me to do what I love surrounded by like-minded people.”

Olivia

Read more

hillsroad.ac.uk/enrichment

Contemporary Dance

Open to all experienced contemporary dancers, you will work on different elements of contemporary dance and create choreography for performance whenever opportunities arise.

“

“The contemporary dance Enrichment is such a great way to meet new people who all share the same passion for dance and performing.”

Eloise



Enrichment

Music

We have a diverse range of opportunities for all musicians, from performing with the Symphony Orchestra to playing in the Folk Roots Group and Jazz Orchestra.

As part of your timetabled programme of Enrichment in Year 12, you can choose to join a music group which could include the College Choir, Jazz Orchestra, Wind Orchestra or Folk Roots Group. Auditions are not required for these ensembles – you just need to sign up!

Which groups could I join?

Symphony Orchestra ●
 College Choir ● Folk Roots
 ● Music Technology ● Wind
 Orchestra ● Jazz Orchestra
 ● Chamber Choir



Auditioned ensembles

Chamber Choir, Symphony Orchestra (woodwind and brass sections, and string principal positions) require you to submit a short video audition. Optional auditions can also be sent for our other ensembles if you wish to be considered for principal positions. Offer holders will be invited to sign up for our ensembles in June 2027.

Concerts and tours

Our ensembles play in formal and informal concerts held at venues such as Ely Cathedral, St John's College Chapel, West Road Concert Hall and the College, with plenty of opportunities for solo performances. The Chamber Choir and a group of instrumentalists typically tour overseas every two years. Each Autumn term, a full-scale musical theatre production is planned in conjunction with the Performing Arts department.

Instrumental Award Scheme

The Instrumental Award Scheme brings together musicians to create small ensembles of the highest quality. We offer award winners professional coaching from world-renowned performers, and performance opportunities at our concerts throughout the year.

We offer tuition for guitar, singing, clarinet, saxophone, piano, flute, violin and viola.

Read more

hillsroad.ac.uk/enrichment#music

“

“Hills offers loads of great opportunities for extracurricular activities including playing in the orchestra, whether taking A level Music or not!”

Matilda



Enrichment

Sport

Hills Road students achieve sporting excellence in equal measure to their academic success, supported by the fantastic facilities available at the College.

Sport for Enrichment is an ideal opportunity to enjoy recreational sporting activities in a social environment – the perfect way to make friends and play non-competitively. Ever fancied trying ultimate frisbee or having a go at lacrosse, badminton, social netball or tennis? Now's your chance!

Competitive sports and teams

While we offer a wide range of social sports, the College also has a regional and national reputation for sporting success. We pride ourselves in providing high-quality, competitive sports.

Hills Road is the holder of the coveted Association of Colleges Clifford Dixon Trophy, awarded to our students for amassing the highest number of points for competitions in the region, making us the most successful sports college in the East of England.

Trials take place in the Summer term, so you can take part in selection before you start with us, and be ready for training straight after your Getting Started day in September. Teams meet for weekly training sessions and match play.

In recent years, we have put forward national representatives in cross country, hockey, cricket, tennis, rugby, netball, table tennis, volleyball, badminton and basketball.

We have 37 teams covering 24 different sports, with students competing at county, regional and national levels.

Club sports

If you are passionate about a club sport, then we will do our best to support you. Some of the most popular club sports are athletics, bouldering, cross country running, equestrian, golf, korfbal, lacrosse, netball, squash, swimming and ultimate frisbee. Enrolment is offered at the start of the academic year, with some club sports teams having regular training sessions, and others meeting on an ad-hoc basis.

Which teams can I join?

Badminton ● Basketball ● Cheer
 ● Cricket ● Five-a-side Football ●
 Men's Football ● Women's Football
 ● Hockey ● Netball ● Rowing ●
 Men's Rugby ● Women's Rugby ●
 Table Tennis ● Tennis ● Volleyball

Read more

hillsroad.ac.uk/enrichment



“

“I have thoroughly enjoyed my role in the Hills Elite Cheer team. It has a great sense of community, and I have got to know each member individually. We are so proud of coming second at Legacy and hope the team continues to work hard and perform at their best!”

Ophelia

Clubs and societies – something for everyone

From Afro-Caribbean to Vegan, and most things in between, the range of clubs and societies you can join at Hills is huge. Plus if there really isn't something that interests you, we can help you to start up your own!

There are many established groups, from LGBTQIA+ and debating to robotics and feminist, but if you think something is missing, then set one up yourself! The vibrant diversity of our students means you're likely to meet someone with similar interests to join a club or society with or to help get your new activity off the ground.

Read more

hillsroad.ac.uk/clubs-and-societies

“

“There is a huge range of societies catering to almost everyone's interest, even if it is really niche.”

Katarzyna, Bird Society and Board Games Society





“Societies are a great opportunity to meet others with the same interests as you. I got into bouldering through the climbing society and have loved it! I have met many new friends and have progressed in my climbing skills.”

Victor, Climbing Society



The College day is made up of five periods, starting at 9 am and ending at 4.10 pm. Each period is 65 minutes.

Explore life at Hills

Hills Road is a friendly, caring and supportive College community committed to offering you the best possible opportunities. We give you the space to explore your interests, fire your imagination, and set ambitious goals.

Annual events to take part in

- **Eco weeks:** in the Spring or Summer term, we host two weeks of eco-conscious activities, including the annual HR4.5 K fun run and talks by eminent speakers to fundraise for charity and raise awareness!
- **Culture Fest:** every Summer term we celebrate our vibrant and diverse community with performances, music, food and games organised by students.



We aim to provide you with a wide range of opportunities to participate in events both within the College and in the wider community.

More info

Find out more about life as a Hills student: hillsroad.ac.uk/student-life





Emma's day

Emma is studying for three A levels: Biology, Dance and Environmental Science. Her favourite part about Hills is the lunchtime subject surgeries that support her learning.

10.00: arrive at the College by bus

10.10 (P2): Future Ready session with my tutor

11.15 (Break): meet with friends for drink and snack in the Hub

11.35 (P3): Environmental Science lesson

12.45 (P4): Biology peer mentoring session with a Y13 student

1.55 (lunch): quick lunch in the Café before attending a talk by an external speaker on climate change

3.05 (P6): dance lesson

4.15: dance performance rehearsal in the Dance studio

5.15: bus home

Every student's timetable is different. We asked two students what a typical day looks like for them.

Elliot is studying A level Classical Civilisation, Geography and Politics. His favourite part about Hills is meeting other students with similar interests.

7.30: get the train to College

8.00: independent study in the Study Centre

9.00 (P1): Geography lesson

10.10 (P2): Classical Civilisation lesson

11.15 (break): meet friends for coffee and something to eat in the Hub

11.35 (P3): Extended Project session with EPQ mentor

12.45 (lunch): grab lunch from the Café before going to Classics Society meeting

1.55 (P5): Enrichment activity: Dodgeball

3.05 (P6): Politics lesson

4.45: train home

Elliot's day



Your tranquil place to study

Our innovative study centre is a bright, modern and dedicated learning space for all students, with specialist facilities for students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

Low-sensory study area

The purpose-built, low-sensory study area on the ground floor is designed to welcome and support students, particularly those who have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. The desks, table dividers, booths and carrels have been deliberately chosen to give the area a quiet and comfortable feel. This study area seats around

45 students in well-spaced zones decorated with neutral tones and with lots of natural light.

Silent study space and seminar room

With 89 spaces for silent study, the first floor helps to enhance the College's provision for students to complete their independent learning periods whilst they are on the College campus. The Study Centre also has a seminar room which is perfect for group work.

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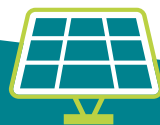
“The Study Centre is the perfect quiet space to get my work done.”

Alex

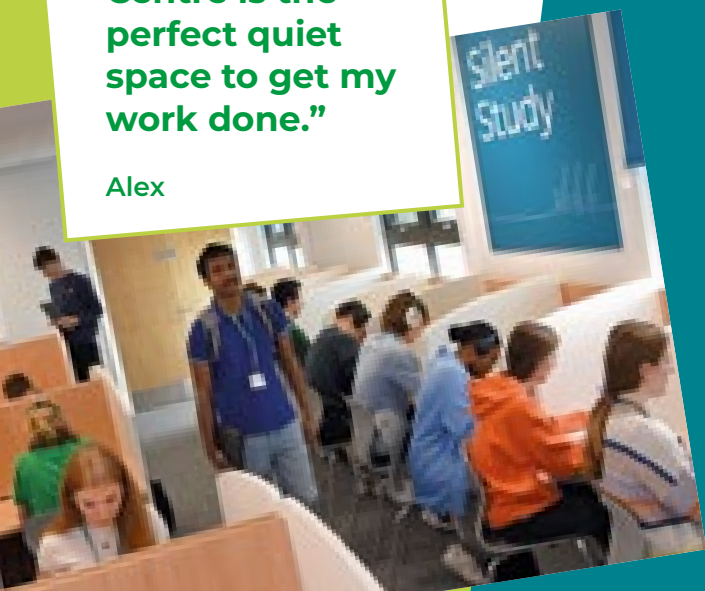
Read more

hillsroad.ac.uk/campus/study-centre

Built to be sustainable



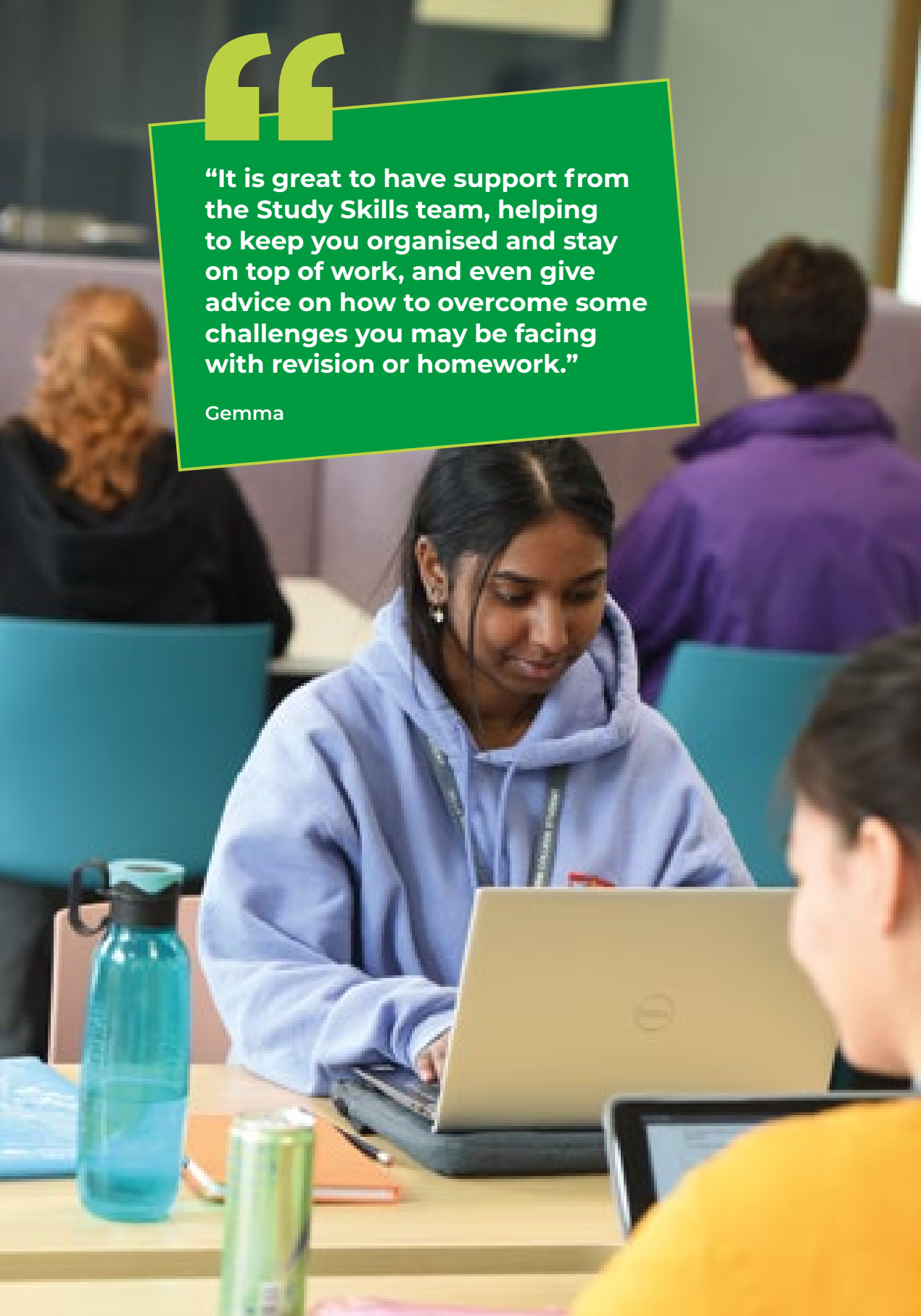
The new modular study centre is fossil free, using solar power and renewable air and ventilation consistent with the College's Climate Pledge. Designed for sustainability and constructed to minimise the environmental impact of our growing campus, the new building is a state-of-the-art learning space that further enhances our commitment to environmental sustainability.



“

“It is great to have support from the Study Skills team, helping to keep you organised and stay on top of work, and even give advice on how to overcome some challenges you may be facing with revision or homework.”

Gemma



The space to inspire your creativity

We offer dedicated, state-of-the-art spaces designed to support your creative learning.

Art

Our well-equipped Art department has all the facilities you need to develop your creative skills. These include painting, 3D sculpture, printmaking, graphic communication, textiles/fashion, digital media and a professional dark room.



Photography

The Photography department features a photographic studio, darkroom and dedicated computer suite, along with a range of film and digital cameras, accessories and lighting equipment available for loan.



“We provide bright, light-filled spaces and a huge range of equipment to ignite your artistic exploration.”

Tim Winn, Head of Art and Design



Media

The editing suites in our Media department feature the latest computers and editing software, all overseen by our in-house Audio-Visual Manager. Your completed films can be screened at our local cinema.

Music

Our Music department features a large recital room, which is a spacious performance venue with superb acoustics, ideal for group rehearsals and concerts. The room includes two grand pianos, available for student use, as well as drum kits and equipment necessary for band rehearsals. There are also several small practice rooms, each equipped with one or two pianos.



Music Technology

Our Music Technology facilities include two recording studios with state-of-the-art equipment, soundproof recording booths and the latest version of Logic Pro. We have two classrooms and one quiet working gallery fully equipped with Mac Minis with the latest versions of Sibelius and Logic.

Enhance your performance at Hills

There are lots of spaces for you to practise your performance skills and to perform to a live audience in our very own theatre.

Dance studio

Step into our modern dance studio with a high-quality sprung floor, full-length mirrors, and a sleek barre - everything you need for a memorable dance experience! Whether you're perfecting your routine or trying out new moves, this dynamic space is the perfect place to let your creativity flow and take your dancing to the next level!

The Robinson Theatre

Our commercial theatre is the perfect setting for showcasing your talents! With cutting-edge computerised sound and lighting systems, the theatre offers an incredible platform for theatrical performances. Students can use this amazing space to bring their creative visions to life on stage. Whether you're performing, directing or exploring behind the scenes, this is your stage to shine!



“

“Hills Road and its amazing teachers have given me so many opportunities to express and develop my passion for drama and all things creative.”

Jennie



Specialist facilities for STEM students

Our specialist Science and Technology facilities and equipment support your learning in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects.

Science laboratories

There are over 16 specialist science labs at Hills, each one set up to support the study of each of our specific A level science subjects.

Our Biology labs feature industry-standard electrophoresis equipment and 168 microscopes, while our Chemistry and Physics labs make use of dataloggers, modern labware and digital oscilloscopes.

With so many science students at Hills, our staff team includes not only expert teaching staff, but also an experienced technician team who support the

many and varied practical experiments conducted most weeks. Many of our students are targeting careers in STEM and our dedicated science labs ensure they get a great start.

Environmental Science laboratory

Our specialist Environmental Science lab is equipped with state-of-the-art technology to support soil science experiments, water pollution analysis and digital microscopy practical investigations. Kitted out with expert guidance from industry professionals, this laboratory allows Hills students to experience what it's like to work in a research space.





Virtual reality learning

Virtual reality equipment is used across all subjects, including STEM and Earth Sciences. Environmental Science students have access to immersive content of forest ecosystems, whilst our Biology department has partnered with local life science employers to create immersive content showcasing research science workplaces. Geography students have recently taken a virtual trip to inner-city Birmingham!

Enjoy our First-class sports facilities

Take advantage of some of the best sports facilities in East Anglia at the College – they're all here for you to use.

We have nine acres of playing fields with football, rugby and cricket pitches at Luard Road, just a short walk from the College. We also have access to St Catherine's College hockey pitches and a 4G rugby pitch at Shelford Rugby Club.

Our Sports and Tennis Centre includes four indoor and six outdoor tennis courts, including the only outdoor clay courts in Cambridgeshire.

The sports hall hosts activities including volleyball, basketball, five-a-side football, netball, circuits, dodgeball, table tennis and badminton. Student-led activities include lacrosse, ultimate frisbee and korfball. In addition, there is a cricket hall with two bowling machines and a fully kitted-out gym, which is perfect for fitness enthusiasts!



“

“The gym facilities here are excellent, modern, well equipped, and really help students stay active, focused, and motivated during studies.”

Max

Facilities at a glance

- Football, rugby, hockey and cricket pitches
- Six outdoor tennis courts
- Four indoor tennis courts
- Sports hall, marked out for a variety of sports
- Fully-equipped gym
- Fantastic cricket hall



“

“Playing tennis at Hills Road has been a huge part of my experience here. I’ve met so many new people, made great friendships, and loved competing as part of the team.”

Alex

Dedicated study spaces

In addition to the Study Centre, there are lots of spaces around the College for you to work outside your lessons.

Our dedicated study areas are purposeful learning environments with charging points for digital devices – just like you might expect at university.

You can take advantage of the College's study spaces, including the Zone and open-access resource areas during your independent learning periods, whether you are completing homework or working on your EPQ.





The library

Located on the first floor of the main building, the library has a fantastic range of resources, from digital subscriptions to online journals, as well as regularly updated books. Staff are always available to help students locate specific resources. Students like studying in the library during their independent study periods.

“The College provides lots of different spaces for independent study. I use the Zone and the Study Centre to complete my assignments.”

Kai

A place to unwind

Whether you want a bite to eat, a chat with friends or a breath of fresh air, we have plenty of options to socialise and relax.

A space to eat

The Café features a range of delicious homemade menu items and a wide selection of pastries and cakes: we aim to cater for every palate.

The Hub is a relaxed space with an array of hot and cold drinks, including coffee from a local supplier and freshly cooked pizzas. It's the perfect spot to socialise and study.

The Link is a welcoming space to take some time out with friends and eat lunch.

A space to meet

The Atrium is the ideal space to meet up with friends or to study during independent study time.

A space to breathe

The tranquillity garden is a quiet place for you to sit and relax during your busy day.

The lawn spaces are open for everyone to enjoy some fresh air and reset between classes.



“

I like to have a coffee in the Hub with my friends when I am in between lessons.”

Sophia





“

“There are plenty of green spaces around College where I like to relax with my friends or even sit peacefully on my own to recharge.”

Emma





Choose your subjects

Deciding which A level subjects to take is a big decision. At Hills, we offer an incredible range of 36 subjects to choose from. Read on to help you select which ones to take!

Four key tips to help you decide

- 1.** List the GCSE subjects you enjoy and highlight the ones you are good at.
- 2.** Find out which subjects we offer on the following pages. Go to our website at hillsroad.ac.uk/subjects to find out more and watch the subject videos.
- 3.** Speak to your teachers, career advisors and family as well as us at our Open Events.
- 4.** Find out our entry requirements for each subject to check you qualify at hillsroad.ac.uk/subjects

Most of our students take three A levels. We ask you to enter five subjects on the application form.

More info

Thinking about university? For more help choosing your subjects visit: informedchoices.ac.uk





“

“The teachers at Hills are incredibly knowledgeable and are so passionate about their subjects. They’re really good at explaining things in a way that makes sense, and they’re always happy to help if you’re stuck. This creates a positive vibe in lessons and makes you feel more confident about your subjects.”

Sam



Read on to be inspired by our current students' subject choices

Bruce's journey

Why Hills? The range of opportunities

My subjects: Biology, Geography, Maths and Physics

My EPQ: writing a play on climate issues

My Hills highlight: Technical Theatre Enrichment

After Hills? Gap year, then Biosciences degree.

“

“Biology is simply fascinating! It has made me reconsider my own life through discovering all the remarkable processes that keep me alive. The department is so organised, and it's always simple to find help when you need it.”

Bruce

Art and Design

Art and Design

Are you considering career pathways in the burgeoning Creative Industries such as art, architecture, graphics, textiles, fashion or game design? Perhaps you simply love the broad-ranging opportunities Art and Design offers you to express yourself through exploring a broad range of media and techniques? If so, then this exciting course will absolutely be for you.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
art-design](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/art-design)

Business and Economics

Business

Business is at the heart of a rapidly changing world. Whether driven by technology, global events or shifting consumer trends, organisations must constantly innovate to stay ahead. This course will help you understand how businesses think, compete and succeed in today's dynamic environment.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
business](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/business)

Sciences

Biology

Love life, love Biology: it's the study of all life's forms. If you enjoy Biology at GCSE and you want to know even more about how life does what it does and why life is the way it is, then A level Biology is for you.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
biology](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/biology)

Sciences

Chemistry

Everything you see around you involves chemistry in some way! Chemistry is the study of the properties, composition and structure of substances; how they interact, the transformations they undergo, and the energy changes that accompany these processes.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
chemistry](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/chemistry)

You can choose three or four A levels to study. For full details of all 36 subjects, including entry requirements, go to: hillsroad.ac.uk/subjects

**Classical and Contemporary
Humanities**

Classical Civilisation

Develop an independent critical approach to ancient literature, history and politics. All texts are studied in translation, so no knowledge of any language other than English is needed. We do not expect any prior knowledge; most students will never have studied any classical subject and the subject will be very different from anything you have done before.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
classical-civilisation](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/classical-civilisation)

Performing Arts

Dance

To touch, to move, to inspire - this is the true gift of dance. Exploring the work of some of the foremost names in dance will lead you to giving you an understanding of their techniques. You'll learn how to apply them to your own creative work, developing your confidence as an inspiring choreographer, whilst also developing your skills as a performer.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
dance](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/dance)

Sciences

Computer Science

Ever wondered how the web works or how to develop a computer game? Computer Science is an exciting and challenging subject in which you will develop valuable skills in problem-solving as well as learning how computers work.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
computer-science](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/computer-science)

Performing Arts

Drama and Theatre

We examine what it is that makes good theatre work: the play, the story, the characters and language, the director's interpretation, the complex work of the actors themselves, and the technical and design elements that make theatre so alive.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
drama-theatre](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/drama-theatre)

You can get involved in our blockbuster Theatre productions without taking A level Drama. Go to: hillsroad.ac.uk/enrichment

Lee's journey

Why Hills? Everyone is so cheerful and open

My subjects: Dance, Drama and Theatre and English Literature

My EPQ: designing and making an 1890s women's hiking outfit

My Hills highlights: choreographing my own solo for the Spring Dance showcase

After Hills? A degree in Costume Design, or studying Dance further.



“

“People put a lot of focus on Hills’ brilliant STEM subjects, and don’t talk so much about all the opportunities in the performing arts. Hills has brilliant provisions for students studying in other areas, and there are so many ways you can join in on the more creative side of things.”

Lee

Enna's journey

Why Hills? The freedom and independence

My subjects: English Language, Politics, Psychology

My EPQ: scriptwriting for a TV show

My Hills highlights: being pushed out of my comfort zone

After Hills? Gap year, then a linguistics degree at the University of Cambridge.

“

“English Language offers an engaging introduction to linguistics – something more people should explore. Regardless of GCSE experience or interests, it builds valuable skills in analysing language, and has inspired me to continue studying it at university.”

Enna

Business and Economics

Economics

Many of the most important issues facing society are economic in nature. Whether you are concerned with global warming or global trade, whether you are considering the collapse of financial markets or the collapse of local businesses, Economics will help you gain the analytical skills to make sense of these challenges.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
economics](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/economics)

English

English Language and Literature

What does a writer's use of metaphor or alliteration add to the meaning of a text? How does the speech in a novel differ from everyday conversation? How does a news story manipulate your reaction to the events it describes? Do you ever ask yourself these questions? If so, English Language and Literature is a course you will enjoy.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
english-language-
and-literature](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/english-language-and-literature)

English

English Language

Develop your independence, creativity and maturity with one of our English courses. Do you ever wonder why people use language in so many different ways? Do you enjoy expressing your opinions on spoken and written language? If so, you will find this course particularly fascinating. You will also develop valuable tools for investigating how language actually works.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
english-language](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/english-language)

English

English Literature

While you avidly read a new book, do you ask yourself, 'What else has this author written?' Do you wonder 'What were the ideas of the period that made the writer think this way?' or 'What did reviewers think of this book when it was first published?' If so, English Literature is a course you will find particularly enjoyable.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
english-literature](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/english-literature)

Earth Sciences

Environmental Science

A multi-disciplinary approach to learning about the threats, management and sustainability of our planet. Environmental Science is an exciting and hugely relevant course that provides a detailed picture of our planet and our relationship with it: the living and physical environment, its biological and natural resources, and how these are interconnected.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
environmental-
science](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/environmental-science)

Modern Languages

French

An increasingly global world makes French a relevant, enjoyable and hugely rewarding subject. French is spoken by over 300 million people across the world, and you will discover their language and cultures. Studying French can be combined with many other subjects, from Sciences and Maths to Arts and Humanities. You will develop a range of skills, equipping you to successfully study or work in the UK or abroad.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
french](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/french)

Film and Media

Film Studies

Learn more about the wonderful world of film. Come with us on a journey and extend your ability to analyse film. You will study cinema from different countries, genres and film movements, learning how to use critical frameworks to evaluate how meaning is produced. Become confidently cine-literate with this fascinating course.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
film-studies](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/film-studies)


Earth Sciences

Geography

A rapidly changing world scene makes Geography a vital, dynamic and lively subject. At A level you will study places, people and the connections between them. To quote Danny Dorling: "Geography is the study of energy; how it builds mountains and then destroys them. It's also the energy that flows through our atmosphere, bringing us our weather and changing our climate."



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
geography](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/geography)



Lyla's journey

Why Hills? Strong community and opportunities

My subjects: Environmental Science, Politics, Psychology

My EPQ: creating a poetry book about teenage mental health

My Hills highlights: Sustainability Rep and working with the Cambs Bat Group

After Hills? A politics or law degree, then take the BAR.

“

“I didn't know Environmental Science existed before I started looking at A levels at Hills Road. It is extremely interesting, relevant and very enjoyable. It's also transferable, as I can apply my knowledge to key global debates and other subjects.”

Lyla

Patrick's journey

Why Hills? More independence and the chance to meet new people

My subjects: History, Politics, Psychology

My EPQ: I made a scrapbook on Jack the Ripper

My Hills highlights: going to the Model UN conference

After Hills? Psychology degree followed by a Master's.

“

“Studying A level History at Hills can start off overwhelming with all the facts, figures and ideas you need to know. However, the way all the information joins together into a broader picture at the end is very rewarding and makes revision so much easier.”

Patrick

Earth Sciences

Geology

Discover past environments and their impact on Britain's present environment and economic resources. A level Geology will give you an understanding of how the earth has been formed, why volcanoes and earthquakes occur where they do, and how resources have been created over geological time and can be developed for our benefit.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
geology](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/geology)

History

History – Crisis, Conflict and Communism

“War is the engine of social change” Arthur Marwood.

Through the study of 17th-century Britain, Russia between 1855 and 1964 and 20th-century Germany, you will develop an understanding of the impact that conflict and change have on humanity.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
history-crisis-conflict-
and-communism](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/history-crisis-conflict-and-communism)

Modern Languages

German

Study German to achieve linguistic fluency and an in-depth knowledge of German culture. Explore topics ranging from contemporary youth culture and politics to architecture and Epic Theatre. Open doors to studying or working abroad with a language highly prized in the business world.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
german](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/german)

History

History – Rights, Race and Revolutions

“Revolutions are the locomotives of history” Karl Marx.

This course offers you the chance to consider how revolutionary ideas impacted and shaped Britain in the 18th and 19th centuries, the USA from 1865-1992 and Europe during the Cold War.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
history-rights-race-
and-revolutions](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/history-rights-race-and-revolutions)

Art & Design

History of Art

Learning to interpret images and understand design are skills for life. History of Art provides you with an exciting opportunity to better understand the world around you by looking at a wide range of artists and architects, from classical antiquity to the modern-day!



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
history-of-art](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/history-of-art)

Maths

Maths

Students enjoy its challenge, its clarity and the satisfaction of solving problems. The Maths A level course gives students the essential tools required to study and understand abstract ideas in a wide range of contexts.



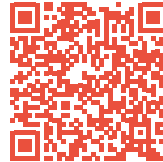
[hillsroad.ac.uk/
mathematics](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/mathematics)

Talk to our friendly student and staff members at the Open events on 4 and 6 July 2026 to help you decide which subjects to take.

Classical and Contemporary Humanities

Latin

The key to a rich and influential literature and a range of modern languages. Through Latin, you will gain access to the classical world, giving rise to debate on Roman poetry, history, philosophy and culture. These are not seen in isolation but are compared with modern literature, events and ideas.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
latin](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/latin)

Maths

Maths (Further)

Do you have a strong interest in pursuing Mathematical subjects beyond sixth form? Further Maths is a very demanding course and requires a strong GCSE profile, particularly in Maths and Science subjects. It is a course for those with a strong interest in pursuing Maths, Physics, Engineering or Economics beyond sixth form. A level Further Maths can only be studied by students who are also studying A level Maths.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
further-maths](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/further-maths)



Cecily's journey

Why Hills? It offered the subjects I wanted to take

My subjects: English Language, German, Latin

My EPQ: making a corset from sustainable materials

My Hills highlights: singing in the Chamber Choir

After Hills? Classics degree, then a career in publishing.

“

“I love Latin. The teacher is really good at teaching grammar, which is something I definitely struggled with before, and I feel like I've made leaps and bounds in my knowledge. Plus, my class is absolutely lovely.”

Cecily

Reuben's journey

Why Hills? The flexibility to be yourself

My subjects: Computer Science, Maths, Media Studies

My EPQ: organised a running race for a local church

My Hills highlights: being on the Student Council, DofE Gold

After Hills? Gap year, then an apprenticeship degree.



“

“I love doing Media Studies at Hills Road, the teachers are so friendly and ready to answer any questions I have! It is such an interesting and modern course which really teaches you about a wide range of media.”

Reuben

Film and Media

Media Studies

Learn to engage critically with the wide range of media you encounter in everyday life. The A level Media Studies course gives you a broad experience of many different aspects of the media, plus the opportunity to carry out your own research, and produce your own print and video products.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
media-studies](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/media-studies)

Music

Music Technology

Learn how to use technology successfully in the field of contemporary popular music. Music Technology is a creative and innovative subject which arms you with the skills and understanding needed to arrange, compose, produce and record music. You will gain an understanding of a wide range of popular musical styles and will learn how to apply these skills in popular music.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
music-technology](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/music-technology)

Music

Music

Practical music-making is integral to this course. Music A level provides an excellent all-round education in the varied aspects of music-making. It is a creative and academic subject which provides opportunities to explore your own preferred musical styles, whilst expanding your musical horizons. The course embraces a myriad of music styles, whilst also providing a focus on traditional Western classical music.

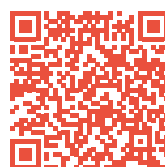


[hillsroad.ac.uk/
music](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/music)

Classical and Contemporary Humanities

Philosophy

What can we know? What is human consciousness? Philosophy deals with the big questions in life. Literally meaning 'love of wisdom,' Philosophy seeks to answer the questions not tackled by other academic fields, including: Can we know anything for certain? What makes good actions good? Does everything have to have a cause? Can AI ever be conscious?



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
philosophy](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/philosophy)

Art & Design

Photography

Learn how to take better photographs that translate into creative and meaningful imagery. If you are interested in the world around you and your place within it, enjoy picture taking and would like to learn how to take better photographs that translate into creative and meaningful imagery, you would be very suited to the Photography course.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
photography](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/photography)

Sciences

Physics

Matter, energy, forces and fields: from particle physics to cosmology, Physics explores the fundamental principles that shape the universe. You will combine rigorous theory with hands-on practical work, developing the analytical and problem-solving skills to describe, predict and explain how the physical world behaves.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
physics](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/physics)

Physical Education

Physical Education

From elite sport to the booming fitness industry, the scientific study of exercise, health and sport is driving some of the world's biggest opportunities. Whether it's unlocking the secrets of peak performance or fuelling a global sports economy worth billions, this subject puts you at the heart of something truly impactful.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
physical-education](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/physical-education)

Classical and Contemporary Humanities

Politics

Politics is about power – who has it, how it's used and how it shapes society. You'll study UK and global politics, examining how political systems work and how major debates influence the UK and the world. If you're interested in current affairs and political change, this course will help you think critically about the world around you.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
politics](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/politics)

Scan the QR codes for each subject to watch videos and find out more.



Sofia's journey

Why Hills? The community and reputation

My subjects: Biology, Maths, Politics

My EPQ: I wrote a book about law

My Hills highlights: Leader of the Law Society and playing in the Basketball team

After Hills? Law degree, then a solicitor.

“

“Politics at Hills is definitely one of my favourite subjects for several reasons. The support we receive from the teachers in consolidation, marking, feedback, and general help with accessing information is very quick and useful.”

Sofia



Leia's journey

Why Hills? A fresh start for a confident start to my future

My subjects: English Literature, Sociology, Film Studies

My EPQ: Film and Literature Podcast

My Hills highlights: How socially active people are

After Hills? Human, Social and Political Sciences degree or a Film degree apprenticeship.

“

“Sociology has become one of my favourite subjects, to the point that I have changed my university degree preference. It helps me remain socially and politically aware and allows me to engage in conversations I wouldn't have been able to before.”

Leia

Psychology

Psychology

A fascinating subject with a rigorous and scientific approach. Psychology is the scientific study of human behaviour and experience. This stimulating subject combines compelling content with a rigorous and scientific approach to investigation. It has recently undergone a huge growth in popularity. Come and find out why!



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
psychology](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/psychology)

Sociology

Sociology

Why do some people succeed while others are held back? Who really shapes your choices - you or society? In A level Sociology, you'll explore the hidden forces shaping our lives, from education and family to religion and power. Question assumptions, uncover inequality and start seeing the world through a completely new lens.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
sociology](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/sociology)

Classical and Contemporary Humanities

Religious Studies

Study Ethics, Philosophy and Buddhism while exploring some of life's biggest questions. Religious Studies is a stimulating subject for students who enjoy thinking deeply, discussing ideas and debating different viewpoints. You will examine fundamental questions, such as: *What or who is God? Why do suffering and evil exist? What is the right way to live? Is there life beyond death?*



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
religious-studies](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/religious-studies)

Modern Languages

Spanish

Let's dive into the Spanish language and culture! Gain in-depth knowledge of the culture and society of Spain and speak a foreign language fluently. A course rooted in Spanish-speaking culture and current affairs, where you will develop your understanding and fluency in Spanish. If you dream of speaking fluently and impressively, then this course is for you.



[hillsroad.ac.uk/
spanish](https://hillsroad.ac.uk/spanish)



Campus is open from 8 until 5*
Lessons are between 9 and 4.10

*Weekdays, term-time

Find out more

Ready to take the next step? Discover how easy it is to join our community – from submitting your application to finding the best way to travel, here's all you need to start your College adventure.



Where to spend your downtime

● **On campus:** you are welcome to stay on site between 8am and 5pm. We have two cafés and plenty of indoor and outdoor spaces for you to relax between lessons.

● **Off-site:** the Cambridge Leisure

Park is just across the road from the College, and you are welcome to come and go throughout the day, as long as you ensure you attend all of your timetabled lessons.

● **Cambridge City Centre:** only 10

minutes away by bus or bike, or a 25-minute walk. Many shops and cafés offer a student discount.

More info

Check out all the social and study spaces on campus at: hillsroad.ac.uk/campus

Don't forget your student discount! Sign up for a TOTUM, UNiDAYS or StudentBeans account to enjoy the perks.



“

“I love the freedom of cycling to college, and knowing I can lock up my bike on campus gives me peace of mind.”

Anna



Read on to find out how to apply to Hills

Your application journey

There are many opportunities to find out more about the College and to decide if Hills Road is right for you.



Before you apply



4 & 6 July

Open Events

Our Open Events are the best way to start your application journey. Getting a feel for the College and exploring the A level subjects you are interested in will help you to develop a better understanding of what it's like being a student at Hills Road.



September to October Post-16 events

We attend Post-16 events at Cambridgeshire Area Partnership (CAP) schools for prospective students and their parents and carers to find out more about sixth forms in the area. We host online talks for non-CAP schools which you can book on our website from late September.



January Apply!

Applications must be submitted by 5 January or 12 January 2027 if you attend a CAP school.

We ask applicants to include five A level subjects that they are qualified to study.

Read more and apply

hillsroad.ac.uk/apply

After you apply



February Guidance meetings

During these sessions, we discuss your A level subject choices, as well as the support and opportunities we offer. These sessions are offered to all qualified students who place Hills Road as their first choice, or second after a CAP school sixth form. Parents and carers are welcome to attend.



March Offers

Offers will be emailed to applicants by the end of the Spring Term.



July Welcome to Hills

Experience life as a Hills Road student for the day – an exciting step in your transition to sixth form.



August GCSE results day

You now need to upload your GCSE results to our enrolment platform, before your place at the College is confirmed. If you haven't achieved the results you hoped for, you will be invited to a meeting at our Advice Hub to discuss your next steps.

In February you will complete a Course Confirmation Form to confirm your final A level choices. You may have changed your mind about your subjects since applying in January; this is fine, as long as you are qualified for all the A levels you include on your form.



September Get started

Congratulations! Your first day as a Hills Road student! You'll meet your tutor and find out more about life in Year 12 before lessons begin the following week.

Making your application

We recommend including five subjects in your application to keep your options open. Make sure you meet the entry requirements for each subject, and review the criteria outlined below before applying.

Our entry criteria

- **Subject entry requirements:** applicants must meet the GCSE predicted grade requirements and the Admissions Score for a minimum of three subjects they wish to apply for. Visit hillsroad.ac.uk/subjects
- **Closing date:** applications must be submitted by 5 January, or 12 January 2027 if you attend a Cambridge Area Partnership (CAP) school
- **Centre preference:** Hills Road should be placed as your first choice A level centre or second choice behind a CAP school sixth form or Cambridge Maths School
- **Travel-to-learn:** if you do not attend a CAP school, you must live within a sustainable commute of the College
- **Home address:** your application is made from the permanent address you live at with your parent or carer when you apply in January
- **Living arrangements:** you will be living with at least one parent or carer for the duration of your course.



How to apply

Please refer to our website for information on how to make your application. We have different application routes depending on which school you currently attend.

Read more

hillsroad.ac.uk/apply

Full list of
CAP schools



To read our entry criteria in full, visit hillsroad.ac.uk/admissions-policy



“Keep your options open! Include five subjects in your application – we’ll support you in refining your choices.”

Lucy, Head of Admissions

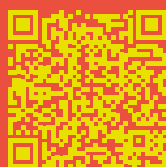
Admissions scores

The Admissions Scores measure the overall academic strength of an application. The easiest way to calculate your score is by using our handy calculator link below.

Subject-specific scores

- Minimum entry: 58 or 56 for CAP students (*applies to 30 of our 36 A level courses*)
- Mathematics: 60
- Higher: 71 or 69 for CAP students (*applies to: Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science and Physics*)
- Four A level Programme: 78 (*applies to Further Maths and all four A level programmes*)

Use our handy Admissions Score calculator



Need help choosing your subjects?

Deciding which A levels to apply for can be challenging. We’ve listed a few tips to help you:

- **Make a list of your GCSE subjects:** highlight those you enjoy most, are good at or feel confident about
- **Find out more about our 36 A levels:** each subject page on our website includes detailed course content, videos and entry requirements. Visit hillsroad.ac.uk/subjects
- **Talk to sixth-form students:** find out how A levels differ from GCSEs
- **Think about your future:** consider your options and talk to your parents or carers, teachers, and careers adviser about what you’d like to do after sixth form
- **Find out which A level subjects you might need:** Research university pathways. Visit informedchoices.ac.uk and UCAS.com

Travelling to College

We encourage students to be as sustainable as possible when travelling to College, and would advise using public transport, walking or cycling.



By bike: We have plenty of bike racks to the rear of the College site where you can lock your bike.



By foot: College is only a 25-minute walk to Cambridge city centre.



By train: Cambridge Central station has links to all the major stations in the South East, as well as Cambridge North, and is only a 10-minute walk to College. Plan your journey at nationalrail.co.uk



By bus: The guided bus (Busway) connects the county. The closest stop to College is Cambridge Central station. For more info, visit: thebusway.info

There is also a bus stop on Hills Road (outside the College) and Drummer Street bus station is a 30-minute walk. For more info, visit: bustimes.org

Cambridge City Centre bus station

Cambridge city centre main bus hub is centered around Drummer Street Bus Station, Emmanuel Street and St Andrew's Street.

Cambridge Central train station

Cambridge Central station links to Cambridge North, Kings Lynn, Norwich, Ipswich, Stansted Airport, London and even Birmingham.

Cambridge City Centre bus station

30 mins
 11 mins

Cambridge Central train station and Busway

10 mins

Hills Road bus stop

As well as Cambridge, buses also serve Huntingdon and Saffron Walden.

Hills Road Sixth Form College

Read more

hillsroad.ac.uk/student-life/travelling-to-college

Subsidised travel

- Get 50% off rail travel with a 16-17 saver card. Apply at: 16-17saver.co.uk

- Travel by bus for only £1 each way with a Tiger bus pass. Apply at: cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/onepoundbusfare

- Go to page 14 to read about the financial support at Hills.

Where are they now?



Stephan Gaiser-Porter studied German, Maths, Further Maths and Physics. He is a Low Carbon Energy Consultant at ERM in Oxford, and has also worked for ERM in London and Sydney.

Stephan's journey

Why Hills? Hearing good things about it from previous students

My favourite memory: the German exchange trip to Hamburg

My Enrichment: 5-a-side football

After Hills? Physics at the University of Oxford.



“I had a fantastic time at Hills – my teachers were all incredibly supportive, and I loved the independence and opportunities to explore what interested me most. I’d encourage anyone considering Hills Road to apply and to pursue what you enjoy!”

Bring your own digital device



To enhance your access to digital learning, you will be required to bring a digital device to College to support your lessons and independent learning time.

Digital inking

The most important functionality you'll need from your device is digital inking. This process enables you to type work and use a stylus or digital pen to write formulas and equations or sketch diagrams. Digital inking is provided by devices such as iPads, Android tablets and touchscreen laptops, and devices can be added to existing laptops.

The advantages of digital learning:

- Skills development ready for higher education and employment
- Increased range of teaching, assessment and feedback options

We will share more information with you about appropriate devices before you join the College.

Support available to you

- Digital support resources at Hills
- Personal 365 Outlook email account
- Personalised progress and guidance network
- Microsoft 365 available on all your personal devices
- Plenty of space on your OneDrive
- High quality WiFi providing exceptional connectivity across the site.

If you need financial support, we can load you a digital device. See page 14.

- Better organisation as cloud-based Microsoft software is used by teachers to distribute resources
- Reduced environmental impact
- Fewer learning resources for you to bring to college each day.

Find out more

hillsroad.ac.uk/digital-devices



“

“Everyone here is thoughtful, considerate, and will support you to be the best version of yourself, but they’ll never push you further than you can go. The atmosphere’s beautiful. I’ve never felt as trusted and willing to trust.”

Charlie

