



Meet The Senior Leadership Team

My name is Roxanne Lashley and I'm an Assistant Headteacher at Hendon School. Currently I am in charge of Teaching and Learning across the whole school and I also have the pleasure of being Head of Year 11.

Originally I'm from the East End of London and I was born in the same area as Alfred Hitchcock! This sparked my interest in Drama and performing as I am, in fact, a qualified English and Drama teacher.

Before joining Hendon, I worked at Ashmole School in Barnet and The Chadwell Heath Academy in East London. I came to Hendon in September 2011 as Head of Year 8 and was blown away by the brightly coloured interior and the positive energy that dripped from the walls. That energy still remains which is why I love working here.



Paired Reading - Awards

On Wednesday 25th February, forty Year 7 students and their sixth form mentors were brought together in order to celebrate all their hard work. These students are on a paired reading programme to improve their reading fluency and understanding. They underwent tests just before half term to establish how much improvement they had made.



We are particularly proud of the following students who have all made over a year's difference to their reading age - Yusuf Alshawish, Ahmed Schati, Mason Brown, Marius-Catalin Burturuga, Mustafa Hersi, Ishraf Siddiquey.

Congratulations particularly to Andrei Boitan 7.5 who achieved more than two years progress in only 4 months. Also well done to the following students who have all made significant progress - Zabi Davoodi, Shayma Touatou, Wendy Villalba-Pillajo, Eeman Ahmadzai, Mobeen Rafiq, Yunis Samie Ghani, Mohammed Rangraz, Halima Zayyad, Ainsley Borges, Sethum Jayakody Arachchilage, Rebecca Neagu, Miroslav Horvath and Regina Radi.

This programme will continue until Easter when we hope to see all students achieving and enjoying success. Thank you to the sixth formers who have given up their precious time and acted as a real inspiration to the Year 7 s. Reading is key to their education so please keep them reading!

Mrs Williams

Diary Dates

❖ Tuesday 10 th March	Enrichment Day
❖ Tuesday 10 th March (5.45-8 pm)	Investing in our Futures Careers Event (Canteen)
❖ Wednesday 11 th - Friday 13 th March	Year 12 Geography Field Trip
❖ Monday 16 th - Friday 20 th March	Science Week
❖ Friday 27 th March	End of Spring Term
❖ Monday 30 th March - Friday 10 th April	Easter Holiday
❖ Monday 13 th April	Start of Summer Term. Staff Development Day (School closed for students)
❖ Tuesday 14 th April	Academic Review Day

Music Fees for the Summer Term are now available to pay on Parentmail. To secure your place full payment MUST be received by Monday 23rd March.

Year 9 Activities Week payments must also be received by Tuesday 31st March.

Don't forget you can also top your child's dinner money up on Parentmail.

Hendon Student gains a place to read physics at Oxford University

On the 15th of December last year, I went to a 3 day interview at Oxford University, Corpus Christi College to study physics. I was put through my paces during 3 interviews and a PAT test.

The first interview was on Newtonian mechanics, the topic I was most comfortable with; but they pushed it to its limits. I am not directly allowed to say what questions they asked me, but I can tell you it ranged from space stations to atmospheric assumptions and theory questions in scenarios that were constantly changing. The next interview was harder, I was questioned on a range of seemingly unrelated topics including wave intensity, lightbulbs and asked to explain what was happening in a metallic boiling experiment in which I had honestly no clue what on earth was going on. In my final interview I was questioned on charge and oscillating particles, which was slightly better but I did think I had hashed the problem a bit.

Luckily that didn't seem to matter, and I was offered a place at the university, if not the college. Even though I didn't know what was going on in the experiment during my second interview, they really just wanted to see my thinking process. I asked to see it again (it was on video) and I started by making obvious observations that anyone could have made and worked my way up from there. They seemed fine when I suggested attributing the observations to completely wrong theories, like suggesting the chemical composition was the reason for the change. I made quite a few wrong suggestions, but they seemed fine about me making mistakes and put me back on track with prompts. Clearly they weren't testing my knowledge but my experimental thinking. My other two interviews I think were of the same vein, they seemed pleased when I had background knowledge, but when I didn't they just prompted me and carried on. They were far more interested how I applied any knowledge to the given problem, rather than how much I actually had. I guess they figured I couldn't have got that far by knowing nothing. Whenever I had no clue where to start, I just stated the obvious, stated a bit about what I knew of the topic (maybe a law or a fundamental equation) and I usually could work myself up from there.

It goes to show that you can never tell. I felt that I did terribly at my interviews, I thought I had required too many prompts and talking to the other candidates I found out I hadn't even reached the differentiation question everyone else seemed to reach. I guess they were just smarter than me, but I don't think that's what the interviewers wanted to see. I think they wanted to see me out of my comfort zone, and I definitely was, so that must have been good. I was also in awe of the other candidates; they could recite string theory at the drop of a hat, they had flown in from America and Brazil and they all went to really flash schools with money and stuff. In fact I feel a bit guilty of stealing a place from somebody smarter than me, not that I'm about to turn it down. My advice to anyone who is going for an interview; don't worry about it not going too well. I have no idea what the interviewers were looking for, but I know they don't want you to already know the answer, because I didn't know any of the answers to my problems and they still offered me a place. Also, you may get passed from college to college a bit. Apparently they just do that to regulate the marking or get conformation or (an older student told me) to show off some of their brighter candidates. I was deferred to one other college, but everyone in my subject was.

Oh, and Oxford is amazing. The food is gorgeous, the people are lovely and the buildings are beautifully magical. I snooped around every college I could get into on my last day, after the interrogations, and they all looked absolutely fantastic. Even if they hadn't offered me a place, it would have been a brilliant experience; I would do it again and would encourage others to apply. Now all I have to do is get the grades. Piece of cake...

Fred Varley 13.4

Friends of Hendon Meeting Monday 9th March 6pm

Thank you to all those who attended the Friends of Hendon School Association (FOHSA) meeting on Thursday 22nd January. There was a mixture of Current & Former Students, Parents and Staff present.

After the initial introduction by Ms Povey we split into groups and discussed the Summer Fair & Reunion, Volunteering, Career Talks & Work Experience, General Fundraising and Social Aspects. There were some amazing ideas that were put forward and these will all be looked at in closer detail. We will therefore have a separate meeting focusing on each topic

The next Friends of Hendon School Association meeting will be on **Monday 9th March at 6pm** in D5 (next to the school canteen). It has been decided by the Trustee's that this meeting will be focusing on the Summer Fair. The Summer Fair is not only an important fund raising event for the school, in which money raised will be for the benefit of all current students. It is also a 'fun day' giving everyone a chance to socialise and meet up. All current & former students/parent/carers/friends and family are invited to attend.

If you are able to attend please email us on FOH@hendonschool.co.uk. If you are unable to attend but have some ideas re the Summer Fair and/or would still like to be involved please email us.

Jacqui Jack - Parent Voice Coordinator



Free Saturday Morning English classes for Hendon Parents

A parent who is a qualified English teacher is offering free classes for our parents. These classes will be on a Saturday between 10am-12pm and will start in the summer term. If you are interested please email Jacqui Jack our Parent Voice Co-ordinator on JackJ@hendonschool.co.uk

Investing in Our Futures

Tuesday 10th March 5.45-8pm

An evening to meet people currently doing the jobs you might be interested in pursuing in the future.

Open to Years 11, 12 and 13

Students must wear smart/business dress

If they want to attend they must sign up in advance in the sixth-form centre or email Miss Doona on DoonaN@hendonschool.co.uk

Investing in Our Futures

Medical Engineer

Sports lawyer

Tax associate
Japanese Bank

Chemical Engineer

British Council, student
opportunities abroad

Banker

Mechanical engineer

Inter-Broker

Biomedicine

Entrepreneur

Vice President Barclays
Sports in the
Community

Paediatrician

Television Producer

FA Anti-doping team

Product developer for a
women's brand (fashion)

Buyer - retail

Director of Projects
Construction/Chartered
Surveyor

Architect

Youth worker/teacher/
make-up artist