



Felsted

Academic Extension Opportunities

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KEY: For ● Years 3–4 ● Years 5–6 ● Years 7–8 ● Years 9–11 ● Years 12–13

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ACADEMIC EXTENSION OVERVIEW

Our approach to learning

At Felsted, our teachers are passionate about their subjects and they are committed to deliver flexible, creative lessons which stretch and challenge all children. Alongside this, we recognise the importance of allowing children to explore beyond the curriculum, to deepen their knowledge and understanding and satisfy their intellectual curiosity.



Our extensive programme of academic enrichment opportunities provides an ideal opportunity for pupils to challenge themselves on a regional, national and international level. At the heart of this programme is the desire to provide pupils with opportunities to challenge themselves academically to achieve their own personal best.

Our academic enrichment programme fully supports the school ethos, with pupils having many opportunities to develop resilience, perseverance and a growth mindset through the challenging nature of the tasks set for them. Supported by subject specialists or external experts, our pupils learn to lead their own learning, further developing their character to make a difference to the world around them.

Prep School

Who can get involved?

Pupils with Academic Scholarships will be expected to attend at least one Academic Enrichment session each week. Teachers, parents or pupils themselves may also make recommendations for pupils to attend these sessions. However this programme is open to any pupils whose interest and curiosity has been sparked in a particular area and we encourage all to take part.



What ages can access these opportunities?

Pupils from Years 5-8 can take part in most of these activities, with some opportunities for Years 3 & 4 built into the curriculum.

How do I get involved?

To take part pupils will need to sign up for these sessions as part of their activities programme, overseen by the Director of Co-Curricular Activities, or get involved from home.

When do the school sessions take place?

Allocated academic enrichment time forms part of the activities programme, although many of the activities can also be followed at home.

YEARS 3 & 4

We offer a number of extension opportunities though most is built into the curriculum at this stage.

YEARS 5 & 6

Brain Booster sessions run for all pupils on **Tuesday** and **Thursday** and during activity time (4.15–5.30pm) as well as during their Academic Studies on **Tuesdays, Thursdays** and **Fridays** (3.45–4.15pm).

YEARS 7 & 8

Academic Enrichment sessions run for all pupils on **Thursday** and **Friday** during activity time (4.15–5.45pm) and **Saturday** sessions for Academic Scholars and invited pupils (10.30–11.30am).

Senior School

Academic opportunity and extension of all learners is something that we aim to achieve throughout our senior school curriculum. We know that pupils flourish academically when they feel supported and encouraged, but also when they are stretched through well planned lessons and activities; this is done within a framework of appropriately demanding and rigorous schemes of work and continuous teacher assessment and feedback.

Core subjects (English, Maths & Science) are organised in sets, allowing children to be taught at a pace and level that is appropriate to their prior learning and skills. The most academically able mathematicians will take not only GCSE Maths, but also the Free Standing Maths qualification, whilst our most academically able Scientists will take separate sciences at GCSE Level in preparation for potential further study at A Level or IB. In subjects where pupils are in mixed ability groupings, the most academically able pupils are provided with stretch and challenge activities in a variety of ways, for example through using sophisticated stimulus material or providing opportunities to think and tackle problems in a cross-curricular way.

At the heart of our balanced curriculum are opportunities for pupils to engage in research-based project learning, in which pupils are able to unpick, analyse and evaluate ideas, and to find creative solutions and responses to issues that cut across the curriculum. For example, matters of globalisation or aesthetics. This is formalised through the Felsted Diploma Project in Year 10 and the EPQ or Extended Essay for A Level or IB Diploma study.

Felsted Diploma Project

All pupils in Year 10 participate in a year long programme of project learning. There is one lesson per week devoted to the FDP, but as an opportunity for independent learning, many pupils will choose to work on their projects in their own time. Project learning encourages both the development of study skills and fosters individual enquiry and the development of a love for learning. Pupils select a 'brief' for their project from a provided selection, based on the Round Square IDEALS (Internationalism, Democracy, Environmentalism, Adventure, Leadership & Service), but they are free to then decide how to tackle this brief. All pupils completing the project are recognised with a Diploma Project certificate, but some pupils can submit work for a CREST award or externally accredited competition.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) / Extended Essay (IB Diploma)

A Level pupils will study their three main subjects plus the EPQ. IB Diploma students complete an extended essay as part of their diploma. Both provide an opportunity for academic challenge through the demand that pupils identify their own topic, conduct research using academic material and primary data gathering, analyse and evaluate the data, and draw reasoned, evidenced conclusions. Both the EPQ and the IB Diploma are recognised by many universities as making a significant contribution for readiness for undergraduate study, and for those making the most competitive applications, it is excellent evidence of academic ability, rigour and commitment to a specific field of academia.

Academic Enrichment

In addition to the above, there are many activities where pupils can extend their learning in the senior school.

Who can get involved?

Pupils with Academic Scholarships will be expected to apply for either the Roberts Society for Years 9-11 or the Andrew Society for Sixth Form pupils. All other activities are open to any pupils whose interest and curiosity has been sparked in a particular area and we encourage all to take part.

What ages can access these opportunities?

Pupils from Years 9-13 can take part, though some activities are targeted at certain age groups.

How do I get involved?

To take part pupils will need to sign up for these sessions as part of their co-curricular programme or subject lessons, overseen by the Director of Co-Curricular and Academic Heads.

When do the sessions take place?

We have allocated co-curricular time as part of the curriculum, though some of the activities can also be followed as part of a curriculum lesson, at home, at break time, during prep or in free time.

YEARS 9-13

Monday 4.30-5.30pm, plus many different activities happening throughout the week



Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Maths (STEAM) Extension

The underlying principle of 'STEAM' is integration and collaboration. Instead of teaching subjects in isolation there is a growing focus on interdisciplinary learning. STEAM education promotes the development of skills to be used in employment and life in general. It is about learning how to think critically and evaluate information, how to apply knowledge, conduct research and the development of problem solving skills. These skills will be needed by Felstedians in our increasingly technology-driven world. The addition of Art to 'STEM' to create 'STEAM' is to emphasise the importance of creativity in our approach to science and technology. Art is not just about working in a studio, but includes innovative ways of problem solving, integrating materials and techniques or presenting information or concepts in visually engaging ways – all essential skills for university and for industry or professional pathways.

1 BA Crest Awards ●●●●●

This is the British Science Association's flagship programme for young people, the only nationally recognised accreditation scheme for STEAM project work. Around 30,000 students in the UK gain CREST Awards every year.

CREST gives students the chance to participate in hands-on science through investigations and enquiry-based learning, supporting them to solve real-life STEAM challenges through practical investigation and discussion.

The CREST Awards provide a framework for STEAM project work that supports all students, not just future scientists, to leave school with the skills and confidence to discuss and shape scientific and technological advances in society, whatever their career choices.

Felstedians have been gaining these awards over a number of years – there are a number of awards to be gained, and our pupils are encouraged to get involved from Year 5.

Further details can be found here: www.crestawards.org

Every year approximately 20 Prep pupils enter and achieve BA Crest Awards.

“

I was so proud to be awarded my BA Crest Discovery Award

Thomas, Year 8

“

The BA Crest projects have developed a real passion and interest in Science for my daughter. She now has the confidence to tackle problems

Felsted parent



2 STEAM Competitions ●

In addition to Crest Awards, pupils can compete in many other regional and national competitions, such as:

- Talent 2030 Competition for Girls
- UK Young Scientists and Engineers Competition
- Youth Grand Challenge
- CSES Science and Engineering Competition

Talent 2030 Competition for Girls ●

A National Engineering Competition offering girls the chance to win £500 for themselves and £500 for their school. The competition invites girls to solve the major challenges of the 21st century, to get creative, get thinking and most of all – have fun!

All competition entrants have the opportunity to get a Bronze, Silver or Gold CREST Award and complimentary membership to the Women's Engineering Society. All shortlisted finalists are invited to showcase their entries at the Big Bang Fair, with £150 awarded to the best exhibition and project explanation on the day. They are also invited to an exclusive trip by the competition sponsors, PepsiCo and Rolls-Royce. Each category winner is also given an engineering mentor.

Some exceptional entries have been received in recent years, including some from our own Felstedians. Open to pupils from Year 7.

Competitions like this one are very valuable in promoting engineering as an interesting career for young women. They allow girls to see that engineering can be applied to a number of different, relevant problems; enabling creativity and innovation at many different levels.

A number of Felsted teams have won National recognition at the Big Bang Science and Engineering Fair.

Freya P, Grace B, Ava R and Anna W (right) won the National Talent 2030 Engineering prize for their project the 'Sanitary Shark', an invention to remove waste products from the sea; helping to clean up the oceans of pollutants whilst preserving marine life. Judges were particularly impressed with their additional research into hidden plastics in sanitary products and their positive promotion of plastic-free alternatives which had gained them support from eco-hygiene company Grace and Green.



Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Maths (STEAM) Extension

UK Young Scientists and Engineers Competition ●

This competition aims to recognise and reward young people's achievements in all areas of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) and provide them with the opportunity to build their skills and confidence in project-based work.

The Big Bang Competition offers opportunities for more young people than ever to showcase their STEM projects and recognise and reward their achievements. National rounds take place with a final held at The Big Bang Fair in Birmingham. Finalists compete for a number of exciting prizes in the Junior, Intermediate & Senior categories for Science and Engineering, as well as the coveted title of GSK UK Young Scientist and UK Young Engineer of the Year.

Open to pupils from Year 7.

Further information can be found here:
www.thebigbang.org.uk

Pupils in Years 7 & 8 have reached the National Finals of the Big Bang UK Young Scientists and Engineers Competition for many years, claiming national titles since 2013.



Shesh A-J won the Biology Prize at the East of England Big Bang Event and was then awarded the Big Bang National Runner-Up prize for his project 'The Pro-Hand Way'. This focused on a 3D-printed prosthetic hand which Shesh spent months testing and developing into a fully functioning, and cheap to develop, prosthetic with a low carbon footprint.

Jasmine W, Ayla A, Ava B, Amelie L and Phoebe H won the STEAM Communications Prize with their project 'Equality in the Realm of the Munchkins' in the Big Bang Eastern Fair. Grace B, Ava R, Freya P and Anna W also won a place through to the Nationals with their project 'Sanitary Shark'.

Isabelle S and Ruby R were awarded the 'Best Junior BA CREST Award' for their project 'Can You Learn Perfect Pitch?' at the East Regional Big Bang Science and Engineering Competition and went on to be awarded National Runners up at the Young Science and Engineering National Competition.

Youth Grand Challenge ●●●

For children aged 11 to 19, this challenge provides real-world opportunities for young people to engage with cutting-edge research and product design ideas that have the potential to change the world.

From researching vaccines for infectious diseases to designing creative new solutions that improve the lives of some of the poorest people on our planet, the competition calls on students to come up with innovative solutions that have the potential to change the world, and will reward the best projects from young people created in response.

This exciting initiative is supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), encouraging young people to use their skills, passions and interests to develop creative solutions to contemporary issues aligned with the BMGF Global Grand Challenges – unsolved scientific challenges that could lead to significant advances in terms of preventing, treating and curing diseases across the developing world.

Further details can be found here:

www.crestawards.org/youth-grand-challenges



Felstedians can get involved in Years 7 & 8, and we have had much success with our entries to date!

BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation

Pheobie B and Sophie T were National Discovery Award Junior Winners. They were interviewed on Sky News as well as BBC Essex Radio.

“We entered the Youth Grand Challenge with our hygienic hand washing device as many children around the world die through poor hygiene. Our hand washing device allows children to wash their hands without touching the device – thus stopping the spread of harmful microbes.”



CSES Science and Engineering Competition ●●●

A competition based locally at Anglia Ruskin University in Chelmsford, which encourages students from Years 7-13 to showcase their engineering projects or STEAM Club each summer.

This includes coursework or personal projects from any technology-based subject or engineering discipline, and projects completed on STEAM schemes such as the Engineering Education Scheme, the Youth Rocketry Challenge and FIRST LEGO League. With seven categories, winning projects are invited to attend the Awards evening.

Further information can be found here: www.chelmsfordses.org.uk

Shesh A J and Hamish B triumphed with their project the 'Pro-Hand Way', winning the CSES Design Execution Award (Years 7-9). In addition, the 'Plastic Pollution Plan' by Toby S and Guy M-J received highly commended for their initiative to recycle plastic water bottles into reusable string.

Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Maths (STEAM) Extension

Our Year 7 Academic Enrichment Club were also accepted to take part in the MARSBalloon Project, carrying out Mars-analogue science experiments without having to put on a spacesuit! This allows pupils to have an experimental experience with outer space, so that they can make a contribution to the future of science on other planets.

The experiments are carried on high altitude balloons 30km up into the Earth's atmosphere, a place where conditions of gas pressure, temperature and radiation are very similar to the surface of Mars. We will then be carrying out analysis on these substances on their return to Earth to find out the effects of their journey to space. The MARSBalloon project is supported by Thales UK and run by enthusiastic STEAM supporters from Thales Ania Space, that will test student ideas for technologies that could one day be destined for Mars!



3 Chemistry and Physics Olympiad ●●

The UK Chemistry Olympiad is a leading competition for ages 16-18, giving students the opportunity to push themselves further and excel in the Chemistry field. The British Physics Olympiad encourages the study of physics and aims to recognise excellence in young physicists through ten annual physics competitions for Year 11s.



Five Year 12 chemists recently achieved RSC Chemistry Olympiad certificates. Yue C and Alex O achieved silver and Annabel S, Connor O'T and Sana A-J achieved bronze. Students also performed exceptionally well in the British Physics Olympiad, gaining 3 gold awards, 10 silver, 12 bronze and 5 commendations.



4 Academic Extension Science & Women In Science Days ● ● ● ● ●

Each year, Felsted hosts a couple of days where pupils from across the county are invited to attend Science workshops aimed at meeting and extending the needs of more able pupils in Years 5 & 6, including some of our own pupils.

Year 5 children are welcomed to 'Felspell School of Magic, Witchcraft and Wizardry', where they learn about the 'Magic Metal Magnesium' in their Potions class. They gain an understanding of reactions in their Charms class, using chemicals to reveal and send secret messages. They also learn about acids and alkalis with the help of the 'Plant of Possibilities' in Herbology. These workshops provide an exciting and unique opportunity for like-minded children from across the county to extend their knowledge and understanding of key scientific principles.

Year 6 girls, as part of Women in Science Day are treated to a day of fun-filled activities in the Senior School Science Labs; as a day formulated to inspire and encourage girls to aspire to science-related studies and careers in the future. The day is split into a carousel of three discipline-based activities in Biology, Chemistry and Physics where they study practical topics such as animal behaviour, mystery liquids and rocket science.

An inspiring Women in Science video resource is available to all on our Felsted website, which is shared with local schools and the wider community to inspire girls into the world of science.



“

The activities were captivating for my daughter as well as being instrumental in developing her scientific knowledge.

Thank you Felsted for organising and hosting this event – she really did have an amazing and magical day!

Felsted parent



In 2021, Felsted launched an inaugural STEAM Competition, inspiring children to find 'practical solutions to pandemic problems'.

This was open from ages 4-16. The aim of this exciting STEAM challenge was to encourage children to think outside the box and to get creative in helping solve issues resulting from the current pandemic, using science, technology, engineering or mathematical techniques. There were a total of 65 entries from across the region and the standard was so high that five overall winners and a number of runners-up were selected.

Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Maths (STEAM) Extension

5 Medical Society (Med Soc) ●●

Med Soc meets once a week and provides academic enrichment and career guidance to those interested in medicine, dentistry, veterinary science (MDV) and health care in general. The aims of the Society are:

- To develop enquiring minds and go beyond the constraints of the examination syllabus both in terms of theory and practical work undertaken
- Provide career guidance and help pupils make informed decisions about their futures
- Provide access to speakers and mentors via the Felsted Network
- Undertake trips to conferences and exhibitions
- To support students in navigating the MDV application process
- Enable access to courses to develop entrance exam skills and interview technique. Tutorials and mock interviews included
- To provide a platform where students can share ideas and concerns around challenging medical topics, with a particular focus on medical ethics
- To work on some of the key skills required such as communication, powers of analysis, problem solving, teamwork and leadership
- To promote wider reading and develop students' ability to review articles and begin to understand the concept of evidence based medicine



Pupils may join the Med Soc from Year 9, although Prep pupils who already have an interest can join in with the visiting lectures.

“

Med Soc has been really helpful for me as I have aspirations to be a vet. I've really enjoyed listening to the talks, especially from the vet from Mercer and Hughes. However, the highlight for me was the 'Night at the Vet College' which was held at the Royal Veterinary College where we watched a dissection of a white jaguar

Holly, Yr 11

“

Some personal highlights for me were the trip to 'Body Worlds, London' where we gained insight into the human body and how it works on a more complex level than is covered in the classroom, alongside the tailored courses and networking events to prepare me for my University application. Thanks to the support and guidance of the Society, I am very pleased to have received offers to read Medicine from the University of Birmingham, Southampton and Leeds. Chloe, U6

6 Primary Young Engineers Leaders Award ●●

Engineering is all around us, from the cars we drive in, TV screens we watch to the food we eat. It is what makes our lives liveable and as such forms the basis of discussion, creativity and problem solving. How can we make life better for others and ourselves?

Children are invited to interview an engineer, identify a problem, draw and annotate a solution to it and explain why their solution should be manufactured by engineers.

Further details can be found here: www.leadersaward.com/primary

As part of our Year 6 Passport programme all our Year 6 pupils enter the Primary Young Engineers Leaders Award competition as part of their Science, DT and Computer Science lessons. In the South Eastern region there are normally over 3,000 entries each year; approximately 100 of them shortlisted and they are asked to display their work alongside 20 winners at the first Primary Engineer and Secondary Engineer Leaders Award Exhibition.

Ethan (Distinction and Shortlisted), Thomas (Distinction and Shortlisted) and James (Highly Commended) were invited to display their designs at the exhibition.



Toby S won the Primary Engineer Young Leaders Award with his 'Electricity Trampoline' and had the opportunity to see his invention come to life at Kingston University, who had been developing it into a functioning energy converter. Toby was able to see the production of his design and had the chance to jump on the trampoline, which used six laser engraved power generators to convert energy to electricity.

Pupils in Years 6 to 8 can get involved!



Amrit T was shortlisted for the South East England Finals of the Young Engineers Competition answering the question 'If you were an engineer, what would you do?' Amrit was inspired by her dislike of injections, leading her to create a concept called the 'Injecto-plaster', an inventive way of receiving an immunisation without the need of injections.

Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Maths (STEAM) Extension

7 Young Engineers Club & Competitions ●●

The Young Engineers Club is run by our Senior Design Technology Department, as a co-curricular activity, encouraging young Felstedians to develop their engineering skills and enter national competitions.

Pupils may take Design Technology at both GCSE and A Level and as part of the International Baccalaureate Diploma. Workshops are open every Tuesday and Thursday afternoons to support students to receive high grades, with two technicians always on hand to support pupils. Pupils are really fortunate to have the most wonderful facilities with a specialist centre that comprises two metal and woodworking rooms and two dedicated teaching rooms.

In recent years students have succeeded in reaching the finals of a national engineering competition at the House of Lords, and were given £3,000 to develop their prototype of a modern corkscrew! Pupils were also involved in the design of a boot scraper as a gift to HM The Queen, when she visited Felsted to celebrate our 450th anniversary.

Further information can be found here: www.triumphdesignawards.co.uk/



Archie P was successful in reaching the finals of the Triumph Design Awards, which is open to

16-18 year olds who have used design to solve a real world problem. Archie's design, a sustainable electronic bird scaring device, was selected as one of the top 26 in the country and was displayed at the Triumph HQ. He hopes to improve the lives of farmers and landowners alike, in a safe and effective manner.





Scarlett W-H and Matthew R entered the Technology, Design and Innovation (TDI) awards, which is open to 16-19 year olds to show their creative talents off to industry professionals. They built a functional cello made mainly from laser cut stainless steel sheets, with a sand-cast aluminum fingerboard. Their aim was to build something that represented the different aspects of creativity at Felsted, from DTE and Art, to Music and Performing Arts.



8 Robot Wars – Rampaging Chariots ●●

Leonardo, one of the UK's leading aerospace companies, hosts a Robotic Games each year. Working with rampaging chariots, the Games see young people testing their powerful and lightweight robots in a series of challenges.

The Rampaging Chariot is a radio controlled robot built from a kit provided by Leonardo, which is then modified and improved upon by schools and youth groups. The kits were created by Leonardo engineer and famous test pilot, Peter Bennett, who designed and built the Typhoon robots featured on the television programme Robot Wars – winning many awards along the way.



Participation in the Robotic Games provides an excellent engineering challenge which can inspire participating students towards Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths (STEAM) through design and technology, wood and metal working skills, basic electronic engineering, electrical skills and radio control.

Pupils from Years 7-11 can get involved!

Further details can be found by searching for Rampaging Chariots on their website: www.uk.leonardocompany.com

Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Maths (STEAM) Extension

9 Arkwright DT Scholarship Programme ●

The Arkwright Scholarship is a prestigious national engineering scholarship which aims to cultivate the future leaders in the field of engineering.

Scholarships are awarded each year to Year 11 students who display passion and aptitude for engineering. The Scholarship gives them access to mentoring, enrichment opportunities, networking with like-minded students, personal development and enhanced confidence. Arkwright Undergraduate Scholarships are available exclusively to Arkwright Engineering scholars – worth £12,000 over the duration of an undergraduate degree in engineering, computing or technical design.

Our most promising students from STEAM subjects (mainly DT and Science) are entered, which comprised of an exam and interview. Over the past 12 years Felsted has produced 8 Arkwright Scholars, which has allowed them to access a commercial sponsor, work experience and funds for both themselves (£300) and the school (£250).



An Arkwright Engineering Scholarship is the most prestigious scholarship of its type in the UK to inspire and nurture school-age students to be the country's future leaders of the Engineering Profession.

Ed P, Silas T-J, George H and Madeline W have all been successful in gaining an Arkwright Scholarship over previous years.

10 Quiz Club: General Knowledge, Mathematics & Science ●●

Quiz Club is a unique and exciting approach to motivating, inspiring, encouraging and rewarding children in their quest for knowledge and providing them with the opportunity to celebrate their achievements as part of a high profile, national competition.

The Championships reinforce teamwork, boost confidence, encourage strategic thinking and light the fire for knowledge. By selecting teams using the team selection quizzes provided, all children, regardless of ability, can be involved in the initial stage of this inclusive, exciting and educational competition, whilst challenging the most able pupils.

More than 400,000 children take part in these Championships annually, making them the largest inter-school competitions in the UK. Many of our Felstedians get involved in these competitions each year, reaching high levels of success.



Further information can be found here: www.quizclub.org

Quiz Club runs three national championships:

- The National General Knowledge Championship for Key Stage 2 (Yrs 3-6)
- The National Mathematics Championship for Key Stage 2 (Yrs 3-6)
- The National Science Championship for Years 5 & 6



The National General Knowledge Championship for Key Stage 2 (Yrs 3-6)

A unique and exciting competition which motivates, inspires and rewards children in their quest for knowledge.

Momentous events in history, incredible geographical landmarks, beautiful art, inspiring music and literature, amazing science, cultures from around the world, current affairs and world knowledge all feature in the quizzes and serve to broaden our pupils' understanding of our past, present and future.

The National Mathematics Championship for Key Stage 2 (Yrs 3-6)

An exciting way to challenge our pupils' mathematical ability, speed and mental agility.

Teams are challenged to solve quick fire calculations, use logical thinking to work out more complex problems, test and extend their knowledge of time, measurement, money, fractions, decimals, percentages, statistics, geometry and algebra all within an environment that is very exciting and great fun.

The National Science Championship for Years 5 & 6

The National Years 5 & 6 Science Championship is an exciting and challenging way to broaden our pupils' scientific knowledge whilst offering us a unique platform for our most able young scientists to showcase their abilities as part of a team representing the school.

From the solar system to the smallest creatures on earth, from inventions that transform our world to science in our everyday lives, the quizzes will engage, motivate and inspire Year 5 & 6 children, encouraging them to explore science in a fascinating, engrossing and educational way.

The Felsted Prep General Knowledge Quiz Club team has won the area finals and represented the school in the regional finals several times over the past few years.

The Prep School Maths Quiz Club teams came 4th and 6th respectively in the area heats.

One of our two Felsted Prep Quiz Club teams reached the regional and national science finals, held at Oxford University.

Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Maths (STEAM) Extension

11 World Class Tests in Mathematics and Problem Solving ●●

World Class Tests were first conceived of by the Department for Education in London, UK. They cover Mathematics and Problem Solving and are designed to provide a challenging and fun assessment of the most able 8-14 year-old students.

The approach in World Class Tests is to focus on a student's mastery of the curriculum typically taught in primary and early secondary schools. Each test requires students to apply creative thinking and logic to respond to problems and clearly communicate their thought processes.

The tests were designed and produced under an international collaboration involving leading academics at the University of Leeds, University of Nottingham and University of Durham and advisors from the USA, Australia, Singapore and Hong Kong.

Further information can be found here: www.worldclassarena.org

Many Felstedians from Year 6 upwards have challenged themselves with these tests over the years, with many achieving distinctions.



12 Maths Competitions & Challenges ●●●●

There are a number of competitions and challenges our young Felstedians can get involved in, as follows:

The National Young Mathematicians Award

A national maths team competition run in association with the NRICH project at the University of Cambridge, who are given a unique opportunity to tackle a never-before-seen mathematical problem.

Further information can be found here: www.explorelearning.co.uk/schools-and-community/national-young-mathematicians-award

Felstedians can get involved from Year 6.



UK Maths Challenges ●●●●●

Junior Challenge

These Mathematical Challenges aim to stimulate mathematical problem solving. The Junior Challenge is aimed at students in Year 8 or below and is the UK's most popular mathematics competition, with over 300,000 students taking part each year.

The highest performers in the Challenge are awarded bronze, silver and gold certificates. In addition around 8,000 of the top performers take part in the Junior Kangaroo Challenge the very highest performers in the country take part in the Junior Mathematical Olympiad.

Further information can be found here:
www.ukmt.org.uk/jmc

Intermediate Maths Challenge

In Years 9-11, students have the opportunity to enter the Intermediate Maths Challenge.

These are similar in style to the Junior Challenge, but the questions are set at a more difficult level. Students who perform well enough are invited to take part in one of the follow on rounds, the Grey or Pink Kangaroo. Exceptional students may be invited to sit one of the Cayley, Hamilton or Maclaurin papers.

Senior Maths Challenge

In the Sixth Form, Felsted mathematicians participate in the Senior Maths Challenge.

Again, top performers have the opportunity to sit the extension paper (the Senior Kangaroo), or in exceptional cases to take the British Mathematical Olympiad paper, taken by just the top 1,000 performers nationwide.

Many of our Year 7 & 8 pupils achieve Gold, Silver and Bronze awards, with a few going on to take part in the Junior Kangaroo challenge out of approximately 8,000 selected from across the UK.

Poppy H was one of our highest achievers, placing her in the top 1.5% of mathematicians in the country for her age group.

Ruozhong H (Yr 12) and Irvette X (Yr 13) achieved gold awards in this year's competition, qualifying them for the Senior Kangaroo.

13 Chess ●●●●●

An excellent game that practises strategic, analytical and problem-solving skills. This is a structured academic extension activity for Years 3 & 4 and then becomes an activity to play during break times and evenings in the older years.

An annual House Chess Competition takes place in the Senior School, which holds much kudos due to skills involved.



Literacy, Language & Communication

1 SATIPS Challenges ●●

SATIPS is a Society for support and training in Prep, Primary and Senior Schools. Each year they run a variety of challenges from General Knowledge, through to Art and Handwriting.

Felstedians have been entering both the Junior (Years 5 & 6) and Senior (Years 7 & 8) Challenge of their General Knowledge Quiz for several years.

Further information can be found here:
www.satips.org



Henry F achieved second place nationally in the SATIPS Senior General Knowledge Challenge

Helen M came 22nd in the Senior Championships and received a prize as one of the Top 50 in the Competition.

2 Reading Challenges & Events ●●●●●

Prep School – Accelerated Reader Scheme

At its heart, Accelerated Reader is simple. A student reads a book, takes an online quiz and gets immediate feedback. Students respond to regular feedback and are motivated to make progress with their reading skills. Accelerated Reader gives our teachers the information they need to monitor each child's reading practice and make informed decisions to guide their future learning.

A comprehensive set of reports reveals how much a student has been reading, at what level of complexity, and how well they have understood what they have read. Vocabulary growth and literacy skills are also measured, giving teachers insight into how well their pupils have responded to reading schemes and class instruction.



Further information can be found here:
www.renlearn.co.uk/accelerated-reader

“

Children and young people who use Accelerated Reader tend to enjoy reading more, do it more often and think more positively about reading than their peers who do not use Accelerated Reader. They are also more likely to see a link between reading and their successes

Dr Christina Clark,
National Literacy Trust

Felstedians have been actively involved in this scheme for many years. We celebrate reading at Felsted, with points awarded for books read, contributing to League totals. Individual tallies are also made, resulting in many awards for Word Millionaires, Double and even Triple Word Millionaires!

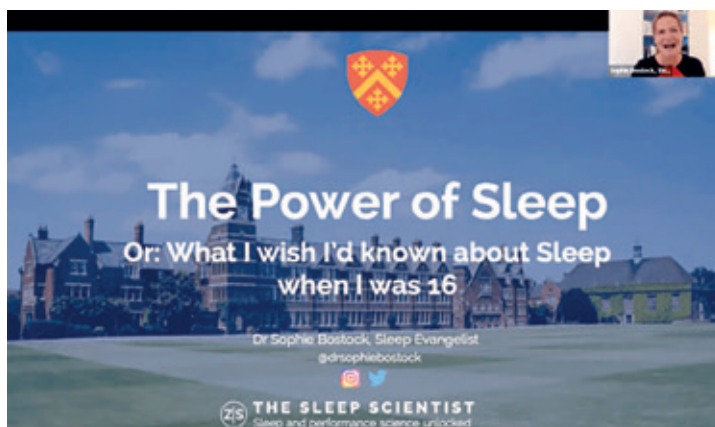
Senior School Events & Challenges

Reading in the senior school centres around the Reading Challenge, which encourages pupils to become independent readers who will develop an appreciation of both fiction and non-fiction as part of their lifelong reading journey.

Avid readers can complete the Silver, Gold and Platinum levels as part of the Felsted Diploma, with awards handed out at Speech Day each year.

A substantial book stock is also complemented by a suite of online resources and ebooks, providing our pupils with access to a wealth of academic material that encourages information literacy through the FDP (Year 10), and EPQ (in parallel with A levels) or the Extended Essay (IB).

Alongside a pupil committee, the Library organises the annual Cromwell Lecture. This year's Cromwell Lecture was delivered remotely by Dr Sophie Bostock, on the 'Power of Sleep'.



3 English Speaking Board (ESB) Exams

English Speaking Board (International) Ltd. (ESB) is a national awarding organisation offering qualifications focused on communication skills.

The qualifications are recognised by OFQUAL and are mapped to the relevant National Curriculum requirements. All our Felstedians participate in the ESB exam in Year 4.

Further information can be found here:
www.esbuk.org/home/about-esb

A high number of distinctions are gained each year at Felsted.



Jemima B performed so well in her assessment that she was nominated by her ESB assessor for the first round of Young Speaker of the Year.



4 Story Writing Competitions ●●●●●

BBC Radio 2 '500 Words' Competition

Every child in Years 3 to 6 was given the opportunity to take part in the BBC Radio 2 500 Words story writing competition as an exciting extra-curricular challenge. '500 Words' is the UK's most successful short story-writing competition for children between the ages of 5 and 13.

Each young author edited and perfected their story and finally, when they were sure that it was the best it could be, submitted it for the competition. In total, 30 children submitted their short story to be judged by an expert panel. Nationwide, over 100,000 children entered the competition.

All of the stories have been compiled in a specially made 500 Words book which is on display in the school library.



Young Writers' Competition

The Young Writers run a number of poetry and writing competitions for Year 3 upwards which pupils can enter in their free time.



Evie (Yr 8) and Hector (Yr 7) both received 'Talent for Writing' Awards in the Young Writers' Competition 2021. Their creative writing pieces were published in a Young Writers' Anthology!



Further details can be found here: www.youngwriters.co.uk/competitions

Commonwealth Class Story Writing Competition

Hosted by the British Council each year, over 1,500 children and hundreds of teachers from a host of Commonwealth countries around the world take part in an annual competition, submitting moving and thought-provoking stories on a particular theme for that year.

There are two age categories for children (7-10 and 11-14 year olds).

Felstedians are able to enter this competition in their own free time.



Further details can be found here: www.schoolsonline.britishcouncil.org/about-programmes/commonwealth-class/story-writing-competition/top-entries

Senior School

Pupils at all ages are encouraged to enter creative writing competitions. These are wide-ranging in form, including poetry, nonfiction, descriptive writing, mini-sagas, short stories and plays.

The scope of themes that these competitions cover is also broad: recent tasks have included writing poetry about peace, describing a nightmare world, writing creatively about being underwater and writing about something that inspires you. Pupils are also supported in entering critical reading competitions, in which they are required to respond to a piece of literature. In the senior school, all competitions are advertised on the English department noticeboard, some of which offer significant prize money! For example this year the Christopher Tower Poetry Competition offered £5K in prize money for a poem written on the theme of "Underwater".



Franky S (Yr 13) was long-listed for the National Theatre New Views Festival for her play script 'Give Me A Name'

5 Foreign Language Spelling Bee & Translation Bee ●●

Building on the requirements of the KS3 curriculum, with its emphasis on translation and grammatical manipulation, the aim of the Translation Bee is for able pupils to practise and improve a range of skills vital to preparation for starting a GCSE course: vocabulary, pronunciation, memory, verb conjugation, tenses and sentence formation.

Further information can be found here:
www.flsb.co.uk

Violet N came in second place at the Regional Final of the Year 7 Foreign Language Spelling Bee in German, securing her a place in the National Final.

There are two inter-school stages and the winners earn a place in the Regional Final. If successful, the pupils progress to the National Finals.

Three pupils from Year 9 secured places in the National Final of the Foreign Language Translation Bee. Phoebe H won the German Regional Final with Ava S taking second place and Julia Z achieved fourth place in the Spanish Regional Final.

Literacy, Language & Communication

6 Creative Writing Competitions in Modern Foreign Languages ●●●

Through our links with the University of Cambridge's Routes into Languages programme, we encourage our more able senior school linguists to take part in a range of creative writing competitions throughout the year.

For example, Mother Tongue Other Tongue is a tried and tested multilingual poetry competition that celebrates cultural diversity and the many languages currently spoken in secondary schools.

Another example is the Poetry in Translation competition – The annual Stephen Spender Prize, for which the students are required to translate a poem from any language, ancient or modern, into English.

Our younger Felstedians studying German in Year 7 and 8 have the opportunity to enter the Oxford German Olympiad, administered by the Oxford German Network, as part of the Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages at the University of Oxford.



THINK
GERMAN
NETWORK

7 Language Ambassadors ●

A Language Ambassador is a Sixth Form student who believes and demonstrates that learning languages and discovering new cultures is exciting, beneficial and contributes to their future success.

Amongst other things, a Language Ambassador should actively promote an international outlook, demonstrate global mindedness, go out of their way to include students who are struggling to find their place. They may also have multiple languages, however, this is not essential.

Language Ambassadors can apply to the Head of MFL to be considered for the role.



8 LAMDA Examinations (London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art)



LAMDA is one of the UK's oldest and most respected awarding bodies, offering practical examinations in communication and performance subjects for over 130 years. Their qualifications have helped hundreds of thousands of candidates of all ages and abilities to develop lifelong skills.

LAMDA exams are about achievement – recognising and rewarding the endeavours of each individual – but they are also about empowerment. Their ultimate aim is to provide all people with the opportunity to develop the life skills they need to be a success: attributes such as self-confidence and the ability to communicate clearly and present ideas.

Felsted has been offering LAMDA lessons and examinations with professional LAMDA teachers for a number of years, with much success, with the most popular being “Public Speaking” and “Acting” awards. Pupils from Years 5-13 may take part in group, pairs or individual lessons as an additional paid for activity with the aim to take two qualifications per academic year.

Further information about the LAMDA qualifications can be found here: www.lamda.ac.uk



We teach —
LAMDA
— Exams & Qualifications



Over 200 students take these exams each year, with a superb number of merits and distinctions gained. Many former Felstedians have taken LAMDA qualifications whilst at Felsted and have gone on to pursue a wide range of careers where their communication skills could be put to great use as a Barrister, Doctor, Entrepreneur etc.



Literacy, Language & Communication

9 Public Speaking & Debating Competitions ●●

Pupils are encouraged to take part in various internal and external public speaking competitions.

Teams are encouraged to enter the English Speaking Union and Rotary Club Public Speaking Competitions and the Gepp's Legal Debate, with Felstedians having much success over the years.

Internally, the Lower School Public Speaking and the Sixth Form Upjohn Declamation Competitions are hotly contested, giving pupils the opportunity to gain confidence and hone their skills in front of an audience.



10 The UK Schools Memory Championship ●

The competition is run by the UK Memory Sports Council and involves students taking a series of online memory challenges, testing their learning skills against competitors from around the country. This includes being given a list of 160 words, dates and numbers which they have five minutes to learn and five minutes to recall.

Felsted pupils in Years 7 & 8 undertake brain-training sessions to develop powerful memory strategies, such as mnemonic techniques. The training programme helps them to make links to a series of unconnected words and numbers which can then be applied to every area of their education.

Further information can be found here: www.schoolsmemorychampionships.com

11 Philosophy Clubs ●●●●

Prep School

In addition to fortnightly Philosophy lessons, pupils in Years 7 & 8 can choose to join the Philosophy & Film Club where they can explore higher order thinking and debates through the medium of film.

Various themes and topics are covered ranging from care for the planet and the future of the human race (Wall-E) to thoughts/feelings of self-redemption and modern warfare (Iron-man).

Senior School

Pupils have the option to enter a range of Philosophy competitions and Theology, Ethics and Philosophy (TEP) is offered as a subject option at GCSE, IB and A level.

Felsted has invited guest speakers from a range of academic fields to give talks and lead debates.



Our Prep Headmaster includes a Philosophy question in his newsletter each week for both pupils, parents and teachers to explore and share their answers.

Examples of Headmaster's weekly questions:

Which Felsted value is the most important, and why?

Which is more important, being right or being nice?

One of our proudest moments was when John Lennox, the mathematician and philosopher of science, spoke to the group.

12 Oxplore ●●●●

An innovative digital outreach portal from the University of Oxford. As the 'Home of Big Questions' it aims to engage those from 11 to 18 years with debates and ideas that go beyond what is covered in the classroom.

Big questions tackle complex ideas across a wide range of subjects and draw on the latest research undertaken at Oxford. Oxplore aims to realise aspirations, promote broader thinking and stimulate intellectual curiosity.



Further information can be found at www.oxplore.org

Literacy, Language & Communication

13 Classics Competition ●●

Every year, the Lytham St Annes CA holds a Classics Competition open to any student aged 7-13.

In the Junior Competition, students in Years 5 & 6 are tasked with answering questions such as; 'If you could travel back in time to the ancient world, where would you go?' Children can travel through hundreds of years of ancient history and journey from Sicily to Rome and on to Greece.

This year in the Senior Competition they asked pupils to prepare and deliver a presentation on their three favourite artefacts from the Ancient World. Anna Bushby, Felsted's Classics teacher encourages her students in Years 7 & 8 to take part in this each year.

Further information can be found here:
www.lsaclassics.com/classics-competition

The Competition Patron, Caroline Lawrence, the author of the Roman Mysteries series, watches all the presentations and offers her generous and helpful feedback to these budding young classicists.



14 TED Ed & FelTED Talks ●●●●●

The TED Student Ideas programme supports students in discovering, exploring and presenting their big ideas in the form of short, TED-style talks. Students work together to discuss and celebrate creative ideas.

Discover and explore great ideas with new (or old) friends, researching and developing ideas and learning how to present your ideas to the world in the form of TED-style talks.

Pupils in the Senior School have many opportunities to hear outside speakers talk about their experiences in a specific area. Speakers will often address ethical, moral or intellectual questions that take pupils beyond the confines of the exam syllabuses, and provoke debate and discussion. Many speakers are drawn from the OF community, and all are notable for their expertise. Pupils are able to debate and reflect on the ideas they encounter with tutors, with one another and in their subjects where teachers encourage pupils to extend their written responses by incorporating ideas garnered through these events.

At Felsted Prep we use TED Ed's flexible curriculum as a guide to help inspire tomorrow's TED speakers and leaders.



Further information can be found here:
<https://ed.ted.com/series>

The FelTED Talks podcast series features various members of the Felsted community from parents and staff, to former pupils. Topics discussed include what have been the biggest impacts in their development as characters and how each has made a difference to the world around them.

15 Felsted Media ●●

Students have the opportunity to build their communication skills across a range of media; skills that are extremely valuable to most businesses today.

Whether a budding journalist, broadcaster, film-maker or blogger, your skills can be put to use and finessed as a member of the Felsted Media Team. Working closely with former journalists and qualified Marketing staff, pupils can gain valuable work experience by contributing to the School Magazine, Newsletter and social media channels (YouTube, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and TikTok). Guided by pupil interest, the school have the technology and know-how to support pupils in gaining experience in any form of media.

Media Studies is now an option for Sixth Form pupils to study at A Level.

Previous pupils have set up Felsted TV, filming key events across the school whilst others have been student editors of the annual *Felstedian* Magazine. Sixth Form students have also set up their own online student magazine, 'Source' which includes articles on a range of subjects from science and technology to politics and culture.



16 School Report ●●●

A journalism project for students aged 11–18 across the UK.

Students make the news and upload it to the school website
Students get the chance to:

- upload their work and programme ideas
- learn a range of journalistic and technical skills
- improve digital and media literacy
- use resources which link to the school curriculum across the UK
- report on activities their school is undertaking
- take part in a high-profile project which works with hundreds of UK schools and organisations

Young Felstedians from Year 7 upwards can get involved in this activity.

Internationalism, Leadership, Service & Environmentalism

1 Model United Nations (MUN) ●●●●●

Also known as Model UN, the MUN is an educational simulation in which students can learn about diplomacy, international relations and the United Nations. MUN involves and teaches participants researching, public speaking, debating, and writing skills, in addition to critical thinking, teamwork, and leadership abilities. It is meant to engage students and allow them to develop deeper understanding into current world issues.

Participants in Model United Nations conferences, known as delegates, are placed in committees and assigned countries to represent, or occasionally other organisations or political figures, where they represent members of that body. They are presented with their assignments in advance, along with a topic or topics that their committee will discuss. Delegates conduct research before conferences and formulate positions that they will then debate with their fellow delegates in the committee, staying true to the actual position of the member they represent.

At the end of a conference, the best-performing delegates in each committee, as well as delegations, are recognised with awards.

Further information can be found here:
www.una.org.uk/get-involved/learn-and-teach/model-un-portal



Felsted hosts its own Model United Nations Conferences each year, one for Senior students, at which Felsted Prep pupils from Year 7 and above are invited to participate, and also a Conference for Prep Schools (for children from Yrs 5-8). Pupils from schools in the local area and from across Europe are invited to participate to create a diverse pool of opinion. Pupils also attend conferences in The Hague and Geneva.



2 Environmentalism

Prep School

Global Gang is an activity that aims to develop and nurture each student's leadership and team skills.

We help promote the environmental wellbeing, awareness and practices of Felsted Prep. Goals for the year have included reducing electricity wastage, making better use of recycling bins, maintaining the school vegetable plots along with designing and making some scarecrows to protect our crops. Students invite staff from around the school (such as the catering manager and the premises manager) to suggest and promote methods in which we can be more ethical at school with regards to the environment. They then share their feedback with both staff and fellow students.



Club members also run fun charity events for a local environmental charity; this year they are supporting the Essex Wildlife Trust by raising money and awareness for the valuable work they do for our local countryside and natural habitats. Our first event was a pumpkin carving competition!

Jointly run by the Design Technology & Engineering and Religious Studies Departments, this activity is open to anyone in the school from Years 3-8.



Forest School

Forest School uses the outdoor environment to help all Prep School children learn. Through regular weekly visits to our own on-site Forest School, our young Felstedians are encouraged to develop independence, improve language and decision making and raise their self-esteem through small achievable tasks.



Senior

Senior students can run their own environmental initiatives. Recent projects have involved food waste reduction, meat-free meals and measures to reduce the use of single plastics.

Olga A led a project in Yr 12 to replace all plastic milk cartons at Felsted with glass bottles. In March 2019 23 students planted 30 trees behind the Felsted Philipps Astro Turf to help combat the effects of deforestation. The trees were donated by the Woodland Trust, the largest woodland conservation charity in the United Kingdom.



Internationalism, Leadership, Service & Environmentalism

BSA Boarding Orchard

Felsted were delighted to join the Boarding Schools' Association (BSA) initiative 'Boarding Orchard' by planting a fruit tree in front of Stocks's House. The aim is to plant the 'largest' orchard by geography in the world and encourages schools to involve their pupils in planting trees to support the environment.



One Tribe Global

Felsted recently formed a new eco partnership with One Tribe Global! As a global community, we want to do everything we can to help preserve our rainforests and protect our planet. With every admissions registration or long haul school trip, a fee percentage will go towards protecting the rainforest. In just half a year Felsted has helped protect over 80,000 trees.

3 Leadership Training ●●●●●

Prep School

Prep Leaders Scheme

Ffreme Court: Leadership in Years 3 & 4 is about the development of the self, developing traits that will lead to leadership in the future.

This is developed under the Leaders mnemonic (Learning, Environment, Adventure, Democracy, Embracing the world, Responsibility and Service) with suggested challenges provided under each heading for the pupils to take part in. There are classroom and Ffreme Court roles of helpful tasks that aid the development of responsibility and a feeling of esteem, self-worth and looking after the community. The 'Rising Stars' leadership is rewarded with Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates.

Cloisters: The leadership scheme continues in Years 5 & 6, where children have many opportunities to grow as a leader, whether leading themselves or others.

Guided in Tutor time, children record their activities under the various 'LEADERS' challenges framework and work towards a Bronze, Silver or Gold certificate.

‘Shoot for the moon and even if you miss, you will land amongst the stars.’



Courtauld House: The leadership scheme develops further in Years 7 & 8 with children challenged to reach one of five standards; White, Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum.

The challenges are all based under the same 'LEADERS' challenges framework, but also around our continual drive for Education for Social Responsibility. There are some suggestions given in each category but there are no limits and no barriers! It is part of each challenge for the children to lead themselves, look for opportunities and strive for the very best they can achieve. Challenges can be completed in term time or holidays, supported by friends and family.



Senior School

Junior Leaders Programme

The Junior Leaders programme is run on a Wednesday afternoon for all Year 9 students. It gives them an introduction to the Combined Cadet Force and to the Duke of Edinburgh Award as well as introducing them to skills such as teamwork, first aid, archery, shooting and navigation.

At the end of the Autumn Term, cadets have a choice as to whether to continue with Junior Leaders or undertake their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award. Those who remain with Junior Leaders continue to develop their personal skills and also receive expedition training in preparation for two overnight expeditions in May. Most of the training is delivered by older pupils; students in Years 10-13 have the opportunity to volunteer as leaders within the programme giving them the opportunity to improve their communication and leadership skills.



Leadership Roles

Alongside the many traditional leadership opportunities such as captaining a sports team or leading a group academic task, pupils in Lower Sixth may apply for a number of leadership roles within their Houses.

In the Upper Sixth, pupils may also apply for school leadership roles that include Head Girl or Boy, Deputies and Prefects where they can gain much experience in helping to represent and run the school.



Internationalism, Leadership, Service & Environmentalism

4 The Duke of Edinburgh's Award – Bronze, Silver, Gold ●●

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is central to our co-curricular provision at Felsted and forms a major core element of the new Felsted Diploma.

Each year, the vast majority of Year 10 students will complete the Bronze Award, at least 50-60% of Year 11 will complete the Silver Award, and between 20 and 30 Sixth Form students will complete the Gold Award. This major achievement is marked with a presentation by a member of the Royal Family at St James's Palace.

It is not for nothing that employers and universities value the scheme so greatly – it is undoubtedly true that success in the programme builds confidence, determination and self-esteem, giving students the soft skills that are needed for success in other areas, as well as specific areas of expertise that will stay with them for life.

There are four sections to the award at Bronze and Silver level.

These are:

- **Service**
Volunteering in the local or school community
- **Skills**
Learning new or developing existing skills
- **Expedition**
Plan, train for, and complete two adventure expeditions
- **Physical Recreation**
Usually completed through our sport programme

At Gold level, there is an additional fifth requirement:

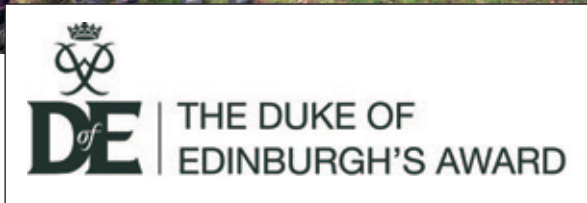
- **Residential:** Spend time away from home on a shared activity

Progression through the scheme is as follows:

- In Year 9, students commence the Skill and Sport elements of the Bronze DofE Award, and complete their practice expedition.
- In the Autumn Term of Year 10, students commence the Service and Expedition elements through formally joining either the CCF or DofE programme, and continue with their Skills and Sports, with the aim of completing the whole Bronze Award by Christmas.
- From the Spring Term of Year 10 onwards, students who opt to continue with DofE will work on the Silver Award, with the aim of completing this by the end of Year 11. Again, this can either be done within the CCF or through a separate DofE programme.
- In the Sixth Form, students have the opportunity to tackle the Gold Award.

We have one of the most active school groups in the country, with participating numbers so high that we have our own DofE Operating Authority, ensuring that all Felstedians gain the full benefits of the opportunities provided by this scheme.





For more information, please visit the official Duke of Edinburgh's Award website at www.dofe.org

Adventurous Locations: each year, service projects, residential trips and expeditions take place in a range of different locations. Recent destinations have included India, Rwanda, Namibia, the Pyrenees and of course the UK, including such diverse projects as shadowing the Devon Police, exploring the United Nations in Geneva and learning to deer stalk in Somerset, as well as trips across wild country areas such as Dartmoor or the North York Moors.

5 Combined Cadet Force ●●

Felsted's Combined Cadet Force offers students in Years 10-13 an opportunity to develop individual skills and work as part of a team.

Students who stay on for a number of years are given responsibility for training junior cadets, giving them an opportunity to further develop their communication and leadership skills. The skills developed tend to be practical in nature and include first aid, navigation, expedition skills, military fieldcraft, weapon handling and shooting. Training takes place on a Friday afternoon and there are also a number of field days during the year. There is an opportunity to attend an annual camp for those who wish to be promoted within the organisation and once cadets reach age 16 they have an opportunity to attend external leadership and adventure training courses.



Internationalism, Leadership, Service & Environmentalism

6 Round Square Exchanges, Conferences & International Service Projects ●●

Membership of the Round Square opens up access for Felstedians to numerous exciting opportunities to visit the 80+ schools worldwide who share the same core values.

Through exchanges, gap year opportunities and educational conferences at European and World level, the school experience of the Felstedian is enriched.

Felsted is justly proud of its traditions, but we are also excited to be part of a worldwide community of schools who try to make the difference, to go that extra mile, to help others, both locally and internationally, and in so doing to grow as people who are truly international citizens of the world.

Exchanges

Felsted pupils may exchange with one of our Round Square partner schools around the world from anything from a few weeks to one term.

Taking part in an exchange such as this can be transformational, with pupils engaging as global citizens through living and studying in another culture.

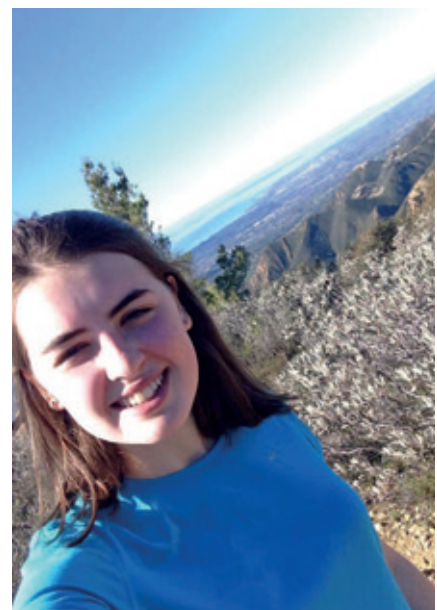


“Plus est en vous!” is one of the leading beliefs and mottos of the Round Square Organisation.



Further information about The Round Square Organisation, of which we are a Global Member can be found at: www.felsted.org/about-us/roundsquare or www.roundsquare.org.

Recent exchanges have included students going to schools in Bogota in Colombia, Lima in Peru and California in the USA.



Conferences

Throughout each academic year, there are many opportunities for pupils to engage in the Regional and Global Round Square Conferences held around the world.

These conferences follow a theme and fully engage pupils to expand their cultural thinking, debate topical issues and become more global citizens. Pupils have taken part in many conferences over the past few years including ones held in Transylvania, Belfast, South Africa, Denmark and at Felsted itself.



Round Square International Service (RSIS) projects

These are opportunities for students and adults from Round Square schools to come together from across the globe and to take part in something amazing.

Participation in a Round Square International Service Project is a great way for young adults to learn about global citizenship, community engagement, develop a deeper understanding of the world's problems and experience a new culture. Packed with challenging adventure and cultural awareness opportunities, the project programmes are designed to ensure that students have an exciting, experiential and holistic learning experience that is second-to-none.

Each year Round Square host two unique service projects for 50 students from Round Square Schools (2-3 maximum from one school). The projects take place every year in July and December and run (on average) for two weeks. Students work together with a rural community in need to build a vital piece of infrastructure. In the past this has been classrooms, accommodation for teachers, bridges and clean water systems.

Normally held out of term time pupils age 16 and over may apply. Look out for newsletter articles about these opportunities or contact Mrs Grant on rg@felsted.org. Places do get taken up quickly so apply early if interested.

Examples of recent projects that our students have been on can be found on our [website](#) but have included building a school for children in Morocco and working on an environmental project with elephants in Sri Lanka!



Internationalism, Leadership, Service & Environmentalism

Charity and Volunteering

It is our aim that all pupils should leave Felsted with a sense of responsibility and purpose that they can make a difference to the world around them and to those less fortunate.

The School Charity Team develops a programme of events and ideas to encourage all Felstedians to grow as global citizens. The team decide which charities the School will support and assist

the Houses in choosing how to deploy their efforts. From volunteering in the Felsted Mission Nightshelter to visiting children whose education is sponsored by fundraising in Uganda, Malawi or Mumbai, Felsted is committed to building partnerships with a number of charities, core to who we are and our aims to make a real difference locally, nationally and globally.



Safi Coffee is a partnership between Felsted School, Hull Collegiate School, Highgate School in the UK and Great Lakes High School in Uganda. Through links with Teach Uganda, one of Felsted's core charities, the school teams discovered that the coffee grown in the South West Region of the country is one of the best tasting coffees in the world. All profits from the sale of Safi Coffee go directly to the education of young people in the Kanungu region, aiming to break the cycle of poverty for many young people. A pupil-led, Community Interest Company, students are involved at every step, helping to pioneer entrepreneurship, develop international friendships and make a difference to children in Uganda.

Felsted recently partnered with local coffee shop 'Rumblebees' to sell Safi Coffee



Careers & Ongoing Progression

1 University Short Courses ●●●

The Open University short courses as well as MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses), offered by a range of universities, provide the opportunity for pupils to develop their own learning on a variety of subjects, from law and politics to languages. Children from Year 7 can choose whatever topic is of interest to them and complete them on a Saturday during term time.

Certificates are awarded at the end of each topic, which helps to build up a good academic CV for life beyond school.



Further information can be found here: www.open.ac.uk and www.mooc.org

2 Careers Talks ●●●●●

Prep

Our youngest Felstedians are introduced to different careers from a very early age with visiting parents such as pilots and nurses coming in to explain what they do.

As pupils move through the Prep School, different opportunities present themselves to get involved. In the past, children have had the opportunity to visit a trading floor in the City of London, whilst others have taken part in Careers Workshops.



Senior

Pupils in Years 9-11 periodically have visiting employers within their Career Workshops to enable them to find out about different pathways available to them as they progress.

Pupils in Years 11-13 (and those in the years below who express a specific interest) are invited to attend fortnightly Careers Seminars in the Autumn and Spring terms, in the Careers Library which enable them to discover more information about specific careers. These are led by parents, OFs and other contacts, and as they are small group events enable discussion.

Recent seminars have included Property, Advertising, Law and Architecture.

We host around 60 businesses and universities for our annual Careers and Higher Education Fair which is open for all year groups and their parents to attend.



Careers & Ongoing Progression

3 Roberts Society ●

The prestigious Roberts Society is an academic enrichment society which is open to pupils in Years 9-11.

It was founded with the principal aims of inspiring and challenging those pupils who wish to develop their intellectual curiosity – it is not necessarily just for the most able academics. Membership is offered to those who show not only academic excellence but also a keen engagement with the world around them. Once elected, students will receive a Roberts Society tie (boys) or badge (girls).



The Society organises academic challenges, competitions, debates, events and outings to allow pupils to explore both existing and new areas of interest. Past events have included a Parents vs Pupils Quiz, a trip to Bletchley Park, the Coca-Cola Business Challenge, the Apprentice Challenge, Hot Topic nights, inter alia. We also run a public speaking programme, with training and competitions, in order to develop oracy skills.

4 Andrew Society ●

A prestigious academic enrichment society open to pupils in Years 12 & 13, with the aim to inspire and challenge those pupils who wish to develop their intellectual curiosity.

Once elected, students will receive an Andrew Society tie (boys) or badge (girls). The Society is run at a more advanced level to the Roberts Society, organising challenges and getting pupils involved in academic competitions, debates, events and outings to allow pupils to explore both existing and new areas of interest.



5 Business Enterprise Events & Competitions ●●

DECA Challenge

DECA is an American organisation linked to the High School & Collegiate programmes “DECA prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality and management in high schools and colleges around the globe”.

Every year in conjunction with Global Entrepreneurship Week, we take part in the DECA Ideas Challenge. Students have to produce a 4 minute video, showing how they have taken the “item” identified by DECA, usually something that has an issue (tin cans, cardboard, paperclips etc.) and turned it into something else. Roberts Society & Yr 12 Business students participate.

We have reached the Global finals for the UK on 3 occasions in the last 5 years of participation.



Apprentice Challenge

Internally run event for Roberts Society students. Students are given a theme/ challenge; they have a week to research the issue and produce a mock up of the item, a TV commercial and a presentation.

In the past we have looked at projects varying from creating a toy for children with special needs to designing a special sandwich for a supermarket to celebrate Valentine’s Day. Recently we looked at the “snacks” market and were fortunate to have David Nairn, MD of Burts Chips, judge the competition.

BASE Competition ICAEW

Accountancy competition run by the ICAEW. Year 12 students participate in an online competition in teams, in which they take on the role of consultants to a business, advising them on their future strategy.

Felsted have been finalists twice 2017 & 2018 and regional winners in 2016.



Careers & Ongoing Progression

IMI/Sytner Enterprise Competition

Year 9 compete in this competition run by the Institute of the Motor Industry in conjunction with Sytner Motors plc. The students have to design a car to meet the needs of a target market. This competition is run in-house for all Year 9; with all entries submitted to the competition.

● Felsted were the National winners in 2018.

Institute of Directors (IoD) – Aspirations Day

Felsted hosted the IoD event in November 2018 and will be doing so again this year. This brings together schools from across the South East to participate in an enterprise event run by the IoD.



6 UK University Preparation (UCAS) ●●

Pupils begin to think about their future pathways through bespoke Careers lessons in Year 11 which continue into Year 12.

We encourage them to focus on the skills and competencies which will enhance their future applications. We have invested in Unifrog which allows pupils to research and store information relevant to applications both for work and university in the UK and abroad. All pupils in Year 12/13 have a 1:1 with a member of the Professional Guidance team to support their choices and there is a weekly drop in clinic also.

Specific support is offered with Personal Statement Writing, Entrance examinations, Interview preparation, including mock interviews for all Year 13 students. In the summer term of Year 12, a full day Futures Conference is held, with visiting academics providing taster lectures alongside workshops to help with Personal Statement Writing, Interview Skills, CV Writing, Student Finance, Student wellbeing, and many more.



Academic Scholar Milly Adshead-Grant was one of Felsted's top performing girls in the IB Diploma 2021, securing her place to study Medicine at King's College London.

In the Sixth Form Milly was a Prefect as well as a member of the Academic Andrew Society and Medical Society. She balanced her studies with her role as a Peer Counsellor and Anti-Bullying Ambassador.

She comments; *"My time at Felsted has flown by. I am so grateful to all my teachers and the staff at Felsted for making my time so memorable and for supporting me throughout."*



Andy Vong gained three A*s and one A grade in Chemistry, Physics, Maths and Further Maths, securing his place to read Natural Sciences at University College London (UCL).

Andy joined Felsted as an Academic Scholar on a full boarding bursary from The Royal Docks Community School in London, with whom Felsted has an ongoing partnership. Andy enjoyed playing badminton and the violin at Felsted and was also a member of the Senior Choir.

Head Boy, Henry Barker achieved four A*s in Economics, Maths, Further Maths and Psychology plus an A* in his EPQ (Extended Project Qualification), securing his place to read Computer Science at Durham University.

Henry, a weekly boarder from Lt Bardfield, made the most of his time at Felsted as both an Academic and Music Scholar; he was member of the Senior Funk Band, was a keen tennis and rugby player and joined the student charity team on an overseas mission to support the Magic Bus charity in Mumbai. A key highlight of his time was also joining the rugby team on their tour to South Africa.



Careers & Ongoing Progression

7 Oxbridge Preparation ●

It is vital that every student applying to Oxford and Cambridge feels well-prepared and supported throughout every stage of this journey, both at home and at school.



Each potential Oxbridge applicant will be interviewed individually by an Oxbridge member of staff to establish a picture of each student's academic experiences and aspirations. Student progress will be tracked throughout the process with each student's tutor and teachers frequently updated.

Oxbridge applicants are paired with a subject-specific mentor, often the Head of Department within each subject area, who meet regularly with the students to provide extension lessons and support any relevant pre-interview assessment preparation. Wherever possible, we also seek to pair Oxbridge applicants with Old Felstedians who have attended Oxford or Cambridge in relevant subject areas to provide their own perspective on the process. Experts within each field are recruited to provide mock interview practice.

Applicants receive individualised personal statement writing support from their tutors and subject mentors and have the opportunity to take part in interview workshops and mock interview days.

Matthew Hipkin, a weekly boarder, secured his place to read History at Homerton College, Cambridge, with four A*s in English, History, Government & Politics and TEP (Theology, Ethics & Politics).

An Academic Scholar, Matthew balanced his studies as a member of the School's running club. He achieved a commendation for his entry to Oxford University's prestigious Julia Wood Prize and enjoyed representing the School at the Model United Nations in The Hague.

He comments; *"One thing I'll continue to appreciate about my time at Felsted is the space provided to grow, both academically and in character."*



Charlotte Perry secured her offer to study Classical Archaeology and Ancient History at Somerville College, Oxford after achieving A*A*AB grades in Classics, English Literature, Politics and Latin respectively.

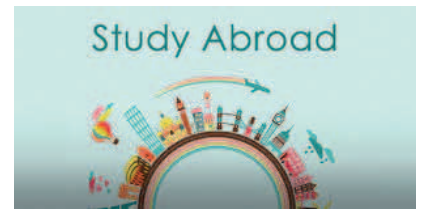
An Academic Scholar, Felsted Prefect and Andrew Society member, Charlotte was also a founding member of both the Felsted X student media team and the Felsted Pride Society. A weekly boarder at Felsted, Charlotte took full advantage of all the opportunities on offer.

"Coming to Felsted was one of the best decisions I've made, and I can't thank all of my friends and teachers enough for their support."

Honourable mentions have to go to the whole of the Classics department for enthusing me with a deep love for their subject, and also to Mr Townsend for his encouragement and support over the years."

8 Applications to International Universities ●

Recognising the increasingly diverse outlook of all Felstedians and the role of c25% international students in the Sixth Form, we have developed a programme delivered from Year 11-13 focusing on the benefits of studying abroad.



Students are able to consider options as far afield as Australia and New Zealand, Canada, USA and closer to home in places such as the Netherlands and Italy. Staff have expertise in applications to all these areas and enlist expert support and visits from worldwide university outreach teams as well as experts in the field.

Zoia Okulova, an international full boarder from France, achieved an excellent set of IB results to secure her place at Northeastern University, USA. Here she will continue her academic career as a Biology and Political Science major on the Pre-Med track.

A Felsted Prefect and Music Award holder, Zoia was also particularly involved with the Felsted charity team, notably the Teach Uganda initiative where she has played a vital role in the launch of Safi Coffee within the school. Her hard work in helping to make a difference has earned her a prestigious BSA (Boarding School's Association) UK Education Guide Citizenship Award.

"I am very grateful to Felsted for all the support and encouragement that I have received while learning and growing, and I am excited to see what the future holds for me."



Sebastian Martinez-Minett is off to Canada to read Geography and International Relations at the University of British Columbia.

A Felsted Prefect and Music Award holder, Seb was a member of the Senior Choir and took part in many Felsted Drama productions. Also a keen sportsman, Seb played 1st team Hockey and Tennis, reaching the Aegon National Tennis Finals twice. He also took an active part in Model United Nations conferences and was a colour sergeant in the CCF.

"I am very excited for the journey ahead and am hugely thankful to Felsted for putting me in the best position possible."

Careers & Ongoing Progression

9 Degree Apprenticeship & Workplace Preparation ●

Apprenticeship and Careers advice is given to all students and we work specifically with students identified in Year 12 wishing to take this increasingly popular route.

Students have successfully been placed direct into companies – for example as traders or clerks in Banks and Law firms. We are also able to offer support for students offered professional sporting contracts; we have had several students over recent years sign professional contracts with Saracens Rugby.



Archie Pritchard, an IB Diploma student and weekly boarder, secured a place on the PwC Flying Start Degree Apprenticeship Programme via Nottingham University.

Archie, who has been at Felsted since Reception, is a keen squash player, reaching the English National Schools Plate Finals with the Felsted U16 team in 2019. He also plays tennis, 1st team football and is a member of the CCF.

The degree programme has been developed in partnership with ICAEW and PwC, and students will spend three to four months on paid work placement in their second, third and fourth years, assisting on real client work.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Felsted and I am very grateful to all of the members of staff who have helped me over the years."

Elle King secured A Levels in English, Psychology and Economics plus a B grade in her EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) before taking up a Paralegal Apprenticeship with Kennedy Law, a global law firm.

The two year Paralegal Apprenticeship offers an introduction to the fundamentals of legal practice and will build the knowledge and skills required to work as a Litigation Assistant. Once completed Elle will have the opportunity to join the five year Solicitor Apprenticeship, involving the completion of a (Hons) degree in Legal Practice, leading to qualification as a solicitor.



Parent Testimonials

"My son has set his heart on studying English at University; we think it is a testament to Felsted that you can turn a profoundly dyslexic child into an aspiring English undergraduate. Thank you for all the support you have given him over the years, his progress has been nothing short of phenomenal!"

"The level of careers support the students get from the school is truly remarkable and we have impressed on our girls how important it is to use the resources at their disposal and listen to the advice on offer."



"I am very happy that my daughter decided on Felsted. The support she has received from her Houseparents, Matron and the spectacular wider team has been legendary."

"We've always had faith in his potential, but turning that potential into achievement is a testament to the expertise of the Felsted teaching team. He has tremendously grown in confidence and relishes the many, many opportunities he has. No other school could have done better."

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