



# US APPLICATIONS TEACHER TRAINING

School Document Overview 2022-23

Simon Lewis

# UES

EXPERT ADMISSIONS



# SCHOOL DOCUMENTS SURVEY



**June 2020** – Latymer Upper School survey to US colleges

Asked for preferences on following documents:

- School Profile
- Transcript
- Counselor Letter of Recommendation
- Teacher Letter of Recommendation

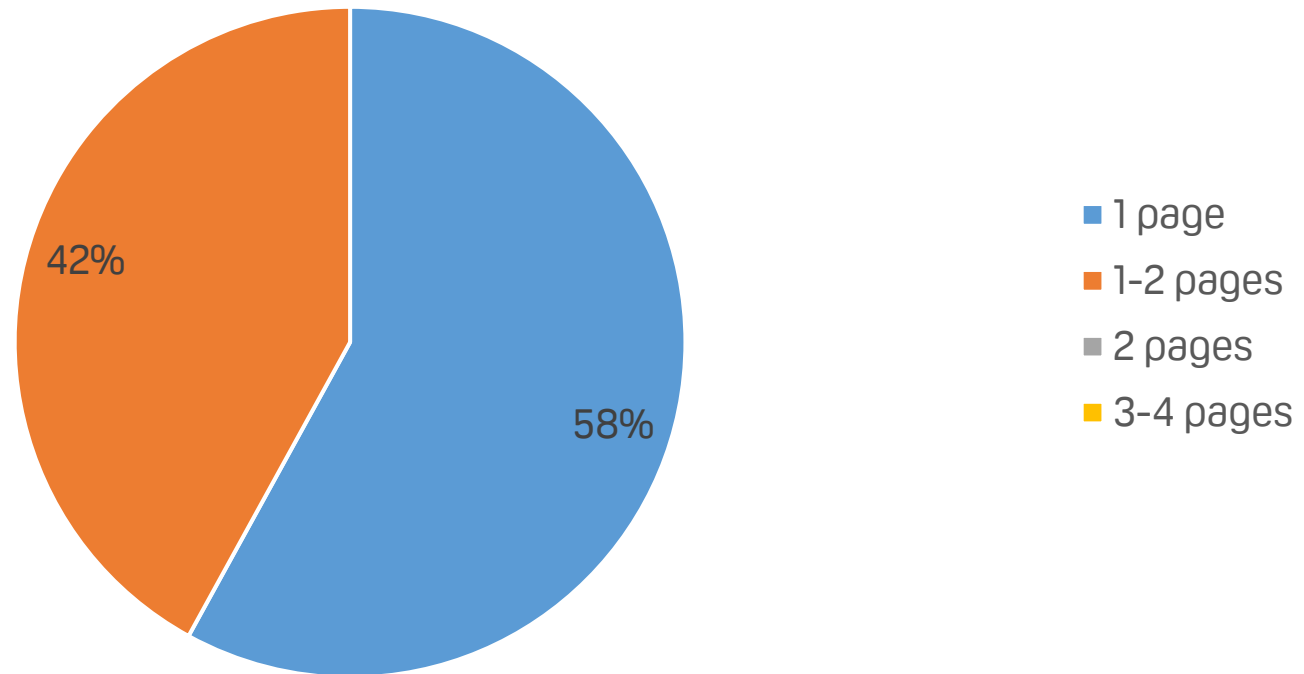
**June 2021** – IACAC survey to schools on predicted grades

- Policies on issuing predictions
- Best practice for information to include

# SCHOOL DOCUMENT SURVEY - TRANSCRIPT



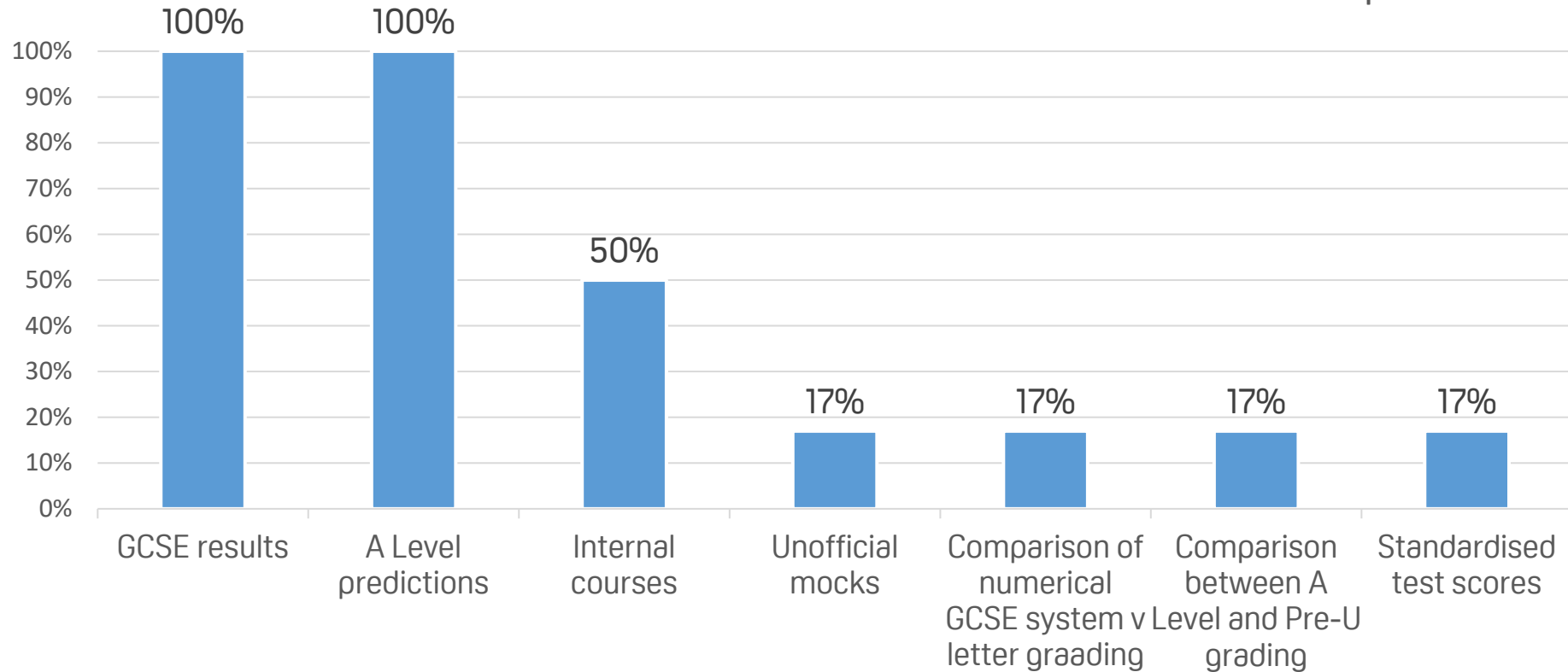
Length of Student Transcript



# SCHOOL DOCUMENT SURVEY - TRANSCRIPTS



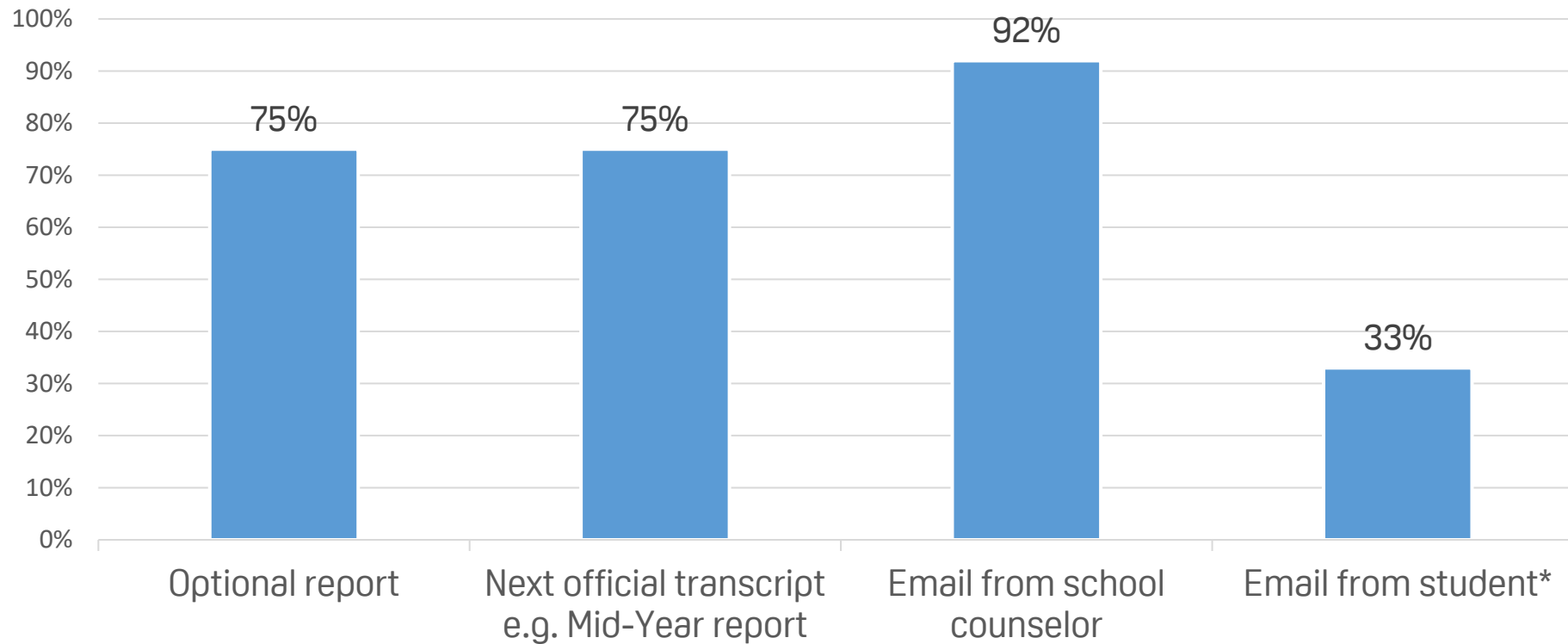
What information would you like to see included on the student transcript?



# SCHOOL DOCUMENT SURVEY – TRANSCRIPTS



How would you like to be notified  
of change to a student's transcript?



\*Specifically regarding change to academic programme

# SCHOOL DOCUMENT SURVEY – PREDICTED GRADES



IACAC survey of 128 schools internationally. Key findings:

- Practices between schools vary significantly
- Colleges are keen to understand more about how schools arrive at predictions
- Some colleges will track accuracy of predictions – integrity matters
- 75% of schools measure accuracy of predictions internally, but only 15% share this data externally
- 78% maintain the same prediction for UK and US
- Only 9% include statement on how predicted grades are determined

# SCHOOL DOCUMENT SURVEY – TRANSCRIPTS



## Summary:

- Transcripts should include the following:
  - GCSE results and A Level predictions
  - Internal electives courses (**not** all end of term grades)
  - Recommend statement on school process for determining predicted grades
  - Schools could consider sharing accuracy of predicted grades on School Profile/Transcript
  - Mid-Year transcript should include any updates on predicted grades
  - Final Transcript should include date of A Level Results Day

# SCHOOL DOCUMENT SURVEY – EXAMPLE STATEMENT



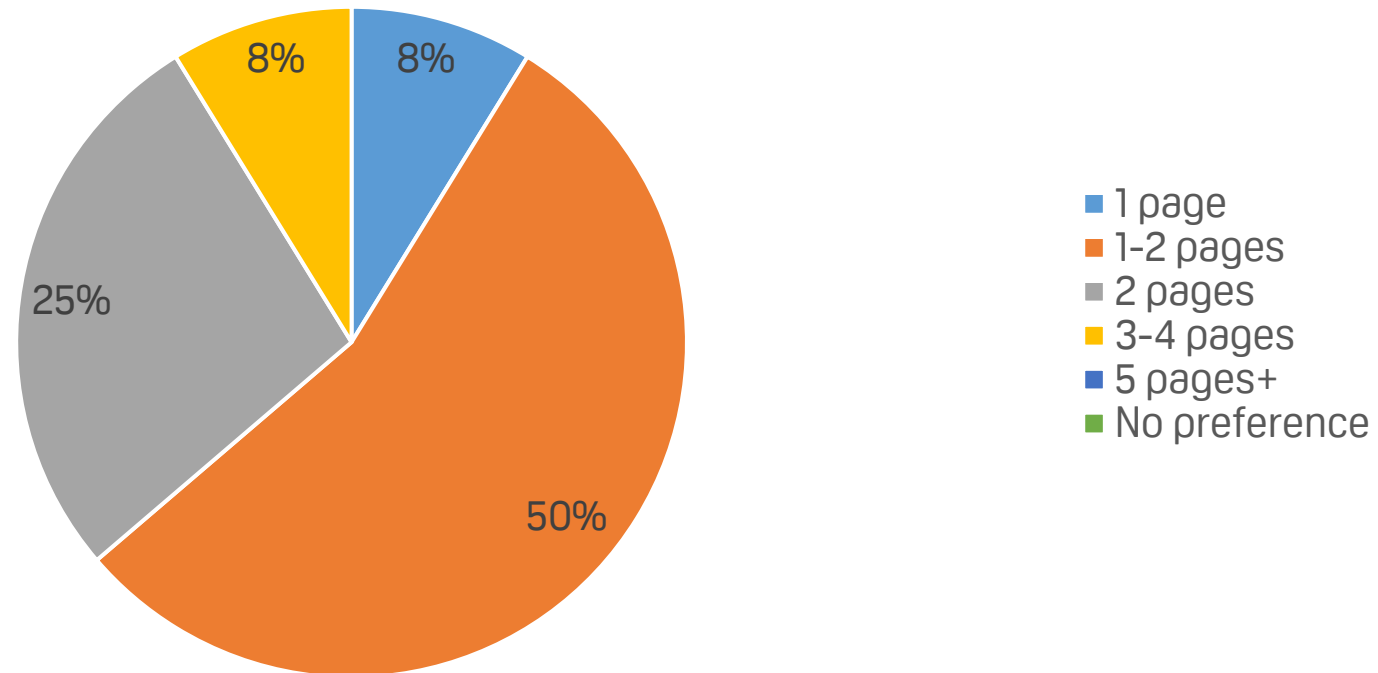
*“University Application Grades were finalised on September 22nd 2022. The grades represent the professional judgement of Heads of Department in consultation with individual subject teachers, and have been determined on the basis of all the evidence of a student's ability and progress to date, taking into account teachers' knowledge of a student's strengths, weaknesses, and individual circumstances, class work throughout the academic year, and internal exams in May and September 2022. In making these predictions we assume that students will work to their best to fulfil their aspirations.”*



# SCHOOL DOCUMENT SURVEY – SCHOOL PROFILE



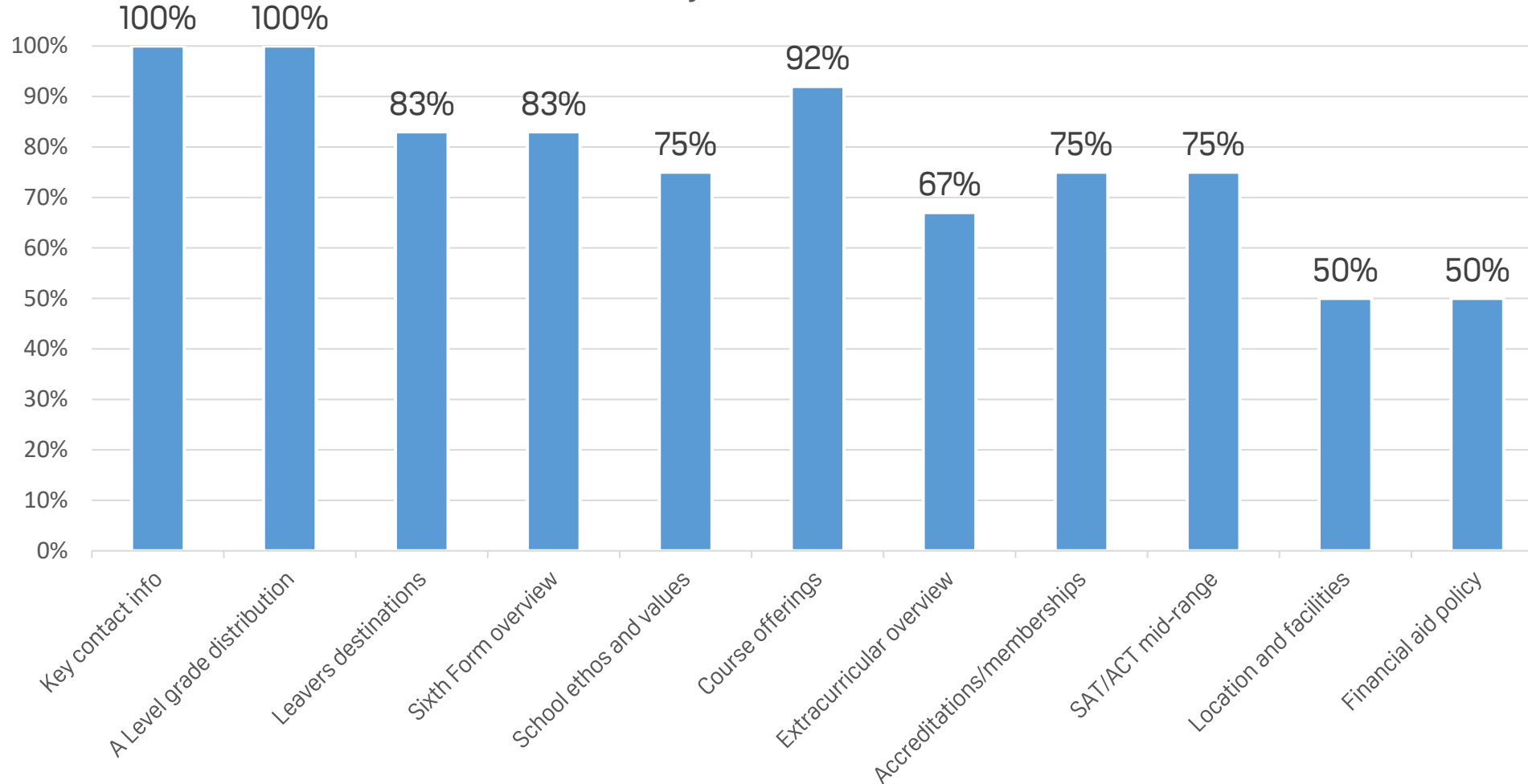
Length of School Profile



# SCHOOL DOCUMENT SURVEY – SCHOOL PROFILE



What information would you like to see included in School Profile?



# SCHOOL DOCUMENT SURVEY – SCHOOL PROFILE



- Since 2020: can give overview of how COVID-19 affected school e.g. grading, exams, instructional methods, calendar
- Recommend bullet-pointed response with key dates/changes
- Demographic information
- Info on bursaries/financial aid/free school meals
- Block schedule/AP
- Academic ratings – up to school policy
- GPA/Ranking – usually no
- Grading scale ABCDF (A=A\*/A; B=B; C=C; D=D-E; F=U)

# SCHOOL DOCUMENT SURVEY – SCHOOL REPORT



- Class rank/GPA – usually not reported (do not convert)
- Curriculum – how demanding is curriculum?
- Ratings – academic, extracurriculars, character, applicant overall
- Ratings – “below average” to “top few in career”
- Disciplinary history + accompanying document
- Transcript
- Level of recommendation
- International school

PROFILE

2020-21

CEEB CODE: 751344

## SCHOOL & COMMUNITY

Founded in 1624, Latymer Upper School is a vibrant, academically selective, coeducational independent day school for students aged 11-18. The school sits on the banks of the Thames in Hammersmith, West London, and the 1,420 students reflect the diversity of the city, with a high number of international families and a flagship financial aid programme that provides funding to 20% of students.

## ACADEMIC, ROUNDED & GROUNDED

Rooted in tradition but forward-thinking, Latymer offers a rich education that is rigorous but balanced, imparting a love of learning, academic breadth, a sense of social responsibility, and a global outlook. Latymerians are scholarly and engaged, compassionate and thoughtful, independently-minded but conscious of their impact on the community and their role in society.

Student wellbeing is central to our ethos. We have a Peer Mentoring scheme where senior students are trained to mentor younger pupils, and our school-wide wellbeing initiative, BOUNCE, is designed to encourage self-reliance and resilience. Students are encouraged to shape the school's values through participation in school committees covering issues such as Sustainability and Equality & Diversity.



LATYMER  
UPPER SCHOOL

## ACADEMICS

The emphasis in the Sixth Form programme at Latymer is on the development of academic depth and breadth, intellectual and personal independence, social responsibility, and a global perspective. The hallmark of this is the Latymer Diploma, where alongside A Levels or Pre-U, students complete core courses in Knowledge and Research Skills and Life Skills, take several ten-week electives, undertake a personal research project, and complete a service placement within the school or with one of our partners.

### Academics at Sixth Form - equivalent to Grades 11-12

- Core of three A Level or Pre-U subjects and Latymer Diploma
- Optional fourth A Level, AS Level, language ab initio, or EPQ (Extended Project Qualification)
- Latymer Research Report for those students not completing an EPQ
- A choice of over 30 ten-week elective courses

In line with peer institutions in the UK, we do not rank our students or calculate Grade Point Averages.

| A Level grades   | 2017-19     | A*         | A          | B          | C         | D         | E         |
|------------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Art & Design     | 68          | 41%        | 35%        | 18%        | 6%        | 0%        | 0%        |
| Science          | 457         | 32%        | 35%        | 22%        | 8%        | 2%        | 0%        |
| Mathematics      | 413         | 36%        | 35%        | 18%        | 7%        | 3%        | 1%        |
| Classics         | 55          | 29%        | 49%        | 15%        | 5%        | 2%        | 0%        |
| Performing Arts  | 41          | 27%        | 29%        | 32%        | 10%       | 2%        | 0%        |
| Social Sciences  | 276         | 19%        | 46%        | 26%        | 8%        | 0%        | 0%        |
| English          | 151         | 51%        | 34%        | 13%        | 1%        | 1%        | 0%        |
| Modern Languages | 110         | 33%        | 45%        | 16%        | 5%        | 1%        | 0%        |
| Humanities       | 219         | 39%        | 41%        | 24%        | 8%        | 2%        | 0%        |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>1790</b> | <b>34%</b> | <b>38%</b> | <b>21%</b> | <b>7%</b> | <b>2%</b> | <b>0%</b> |

| GCSE | 2017-19 | %  |
|------|---------|----|
| A*/A | 4553    | 91 |
| B    | 348     | 7  |
| C    | 741     | 1  |
| A*-C | 4975    | 99 |

## SPORTS & EXTRACURRICULARS

Team sports play a central role in the life of the school, with time set aside each week for physical activity and over 100 coached teams across all age ranges. The major sports offered at Latymer are rugby, soccer, and rowing for the boys, and field hockey, netball, rounders, and rowing for the girls, with cricket offered to both in the summer. We have a state-of-the-art sports centre on the King Street site, extensive playing fields at Wood Lane, and a boathouse overlooking the Thames.

Latymerians have the opportunity to participate in over 100 clubs and societies at the school. Music and drama are particularly strong, with four plays performed each year, and twelve school choirs and orchestras that perform regularly on site and at major London venues. Other extracurricular activities include subject extension classes, olympiads, debate and discussion societies, creative clubs, and the Duke of Edinburgh Award. We also run a dedicated Activities Week each year in July.

## DISCIPLINARY POLICY

Latymerians are encouraged to take personal responsibility for their academic and personal conduct. We will disclose on request any serious disciplinary violations relating to academic or behavioural misconduct.

## FINANCIAL AID

We are committed to making a Latymer education accessible to high-achieving students from low income backgrounds. We currently provide financial aid to 20% of students and aim to increase that to 25% by 2024 through our Inspiring Minds campaign. We also provide a number of merit-based scholarships for exceptional ability in academics, sport, music, art, or drama.

## LEAVERS' DESTINATIONS 2017-19

### UNITED STATES

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Brown University                      | 1 |
| Carnegie Mellon University            | 1 |
| Claremont McKenna College             | 1 |
| Columbia University                   | 5 |
| Cornell University                    | 1 |
| Dartmouth College                     | 1 |
| Duke University                       | 1 |
| Emory University                      | 1 |
| Georgetown University                 | 3 |
| Harvard University                    | 2 |
| Massachusetts Institute of Technology | 1 |
| New York University                   | 2 |
| Pomona College                        | 2 |
| Princeton University                  | 2 |
| Stanford University                   | 4 |
| University of Chicago                 | 4 |
| University of Pennsylvania            | 3 |
| University of Texas at Austin         | 1 |
| University of Virginia                | 1 |
| Wesleyan College                      | 1 |
| Yale University                       | 3 |

### CANADA

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| McGill University     | 5 |
| University of Guelph  | 1 |
| University of Toronto | 1 |

### EUROPE

|                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Bocconi University, Milan            | 1 |
| dBs Music Berlin                     | 1 |
| Leiden University                    | 1 |
| Sciences Po, Paris                   | 1 |
| Trinity College/Columbia Dual Degree | 1 |

### REST OF WORLD

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| University of Sydney     | 1 |
| University of Queensland | 1 |

### UNITED KINGDOM

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Architectural Association              | 2  |
| University of Bath                     | 18 |
| BIMM London                            | 1  |
| Birkbeck, University of London         | 1  |
| University of Birmingham               | 9  |
| Brighton & Sussex Medical School       | 1  |
| University of Bristol                  | 39 |
| Brunel University London               | 1  |
| Camberwell College of Arts             | 2  |
| University of Cambridge                | 23 |
| Cardiff University                     | 5  |
| City, University of London             | 2  |
| Courtauld Institute of Art             | 3  |
| Durham University                      | 23 |
| University of East Anglia              | 2  |
| University of Edinburgh                | 38 |
| University of Exeter                   | 20 |
| University of Glasgow                  | 2  |
| Goldsmiths, University of London       | 2  |
| Guildhall School of Music & Drama      | 1  |
| University of Hull                     | 1  |
| Hull York Medical School               | 1  |
| Imperial College London                | 16 |
| Kensington and Chelsea College         | 2  |
| King's College London                  | 10 |
| Kingston University of London          | 3  |
| Lancaster University                   | 1  |
| University of Leeds                    | 20 |
| Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts | 1  |
| University of Liverpool                | 1  |
| London School of Economics             | 12 |
| Loughborough University                | 7  |
| University of Manchester               | 33 |
| Newcastle University                   | 11 |
| University of Nottingham               | 11 |
| University of Oxford                   | 45 |
| Queen Mary University of London        | 3  |
| University of Reading                  | 6  |
| Royal Academy of Dramatic Art          | 1  |
| Royal Drawing School                   | 1  |
| Royal Holloway, University of London   | 1  |
| Royal Veterinary College               | 1  |
| University of Sheffield                | 2  |
| SOAS University of London              | 4  |
| University of Southampton              | 3  |
| University of St Andrews               | 6  |
| St George's, University of London      | 3  |
| University of Surrey                   | 1  |
| University of Sussex                   | 15 |
| Swansea University                     | 1  |
| University of the Arts London          | 3  |
| University College London              | 23 |
| University of Warwick                  | 16 |
| University of York                     | 4  |

### KEY CONTACTS

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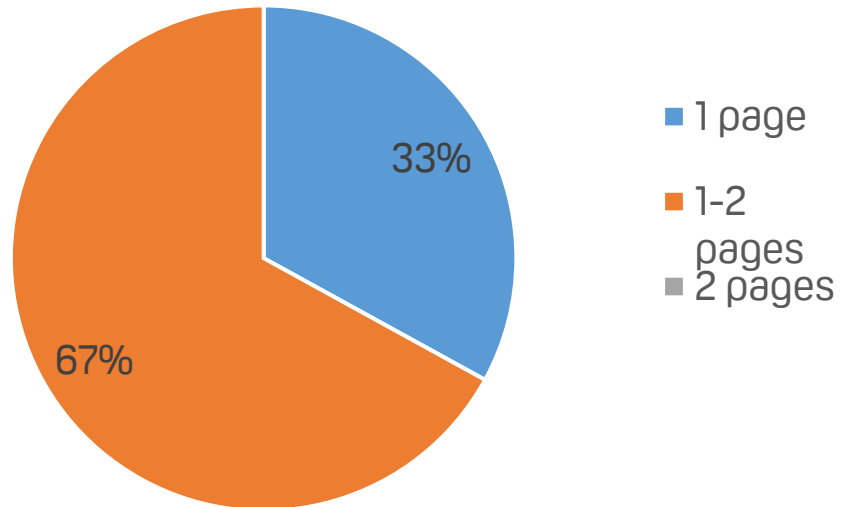
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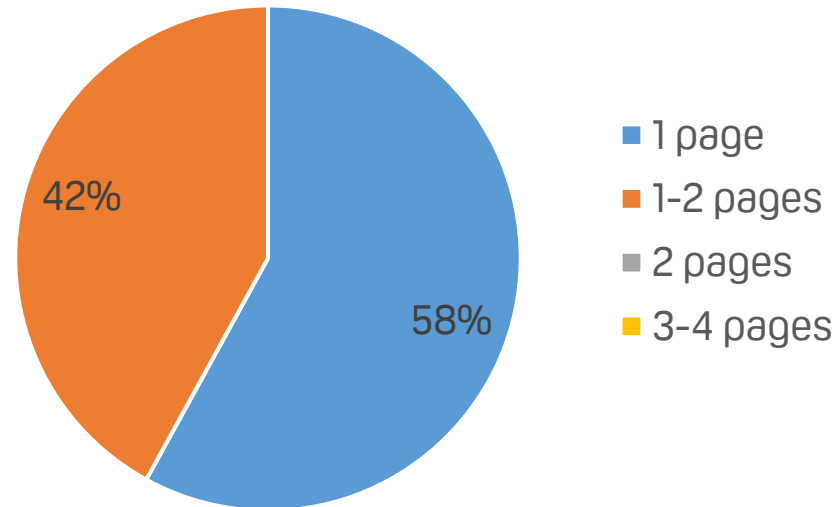
# SCHOOL DOCUMENT SURVEY - LOR



Length of Counselor LOR



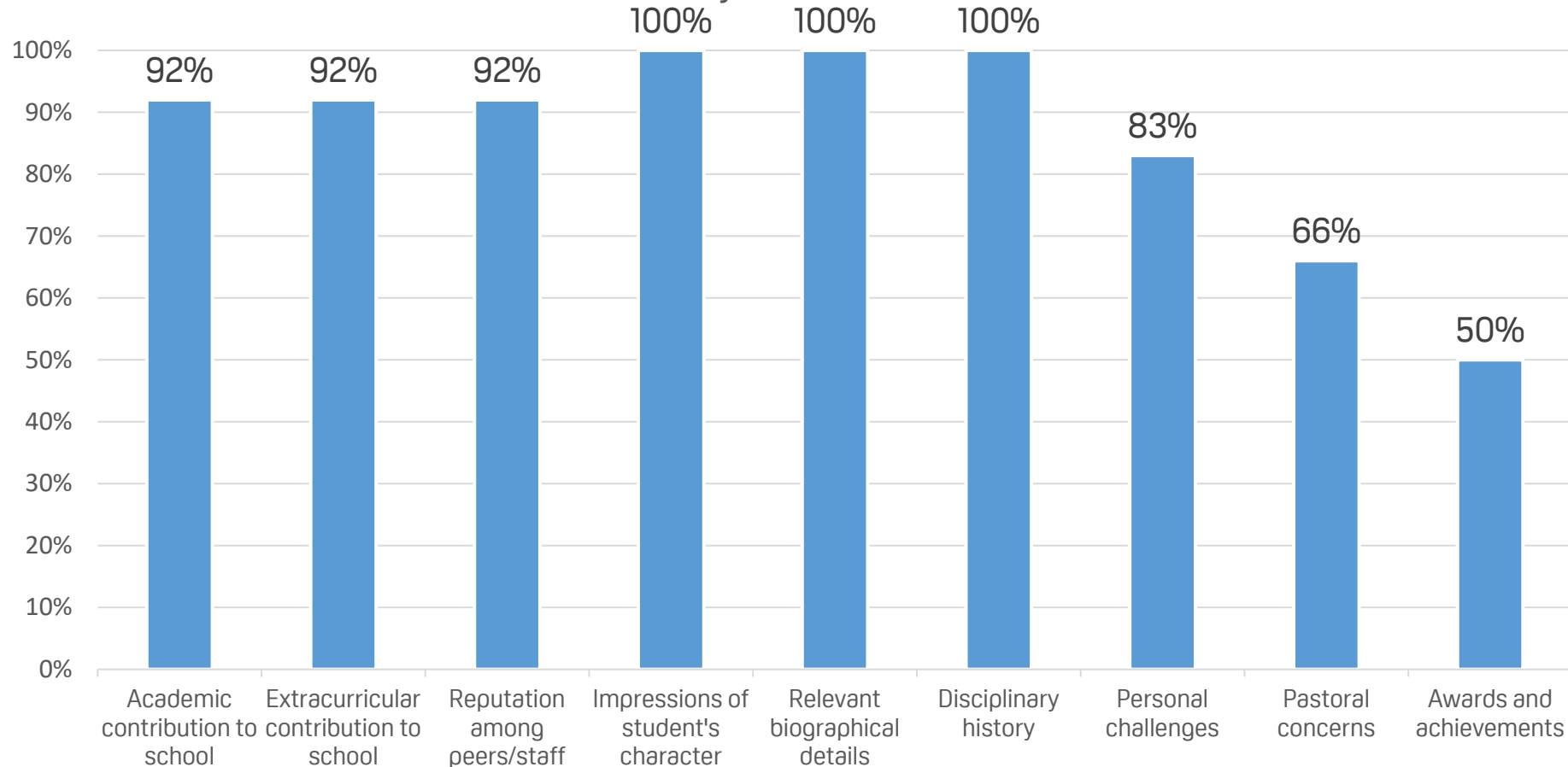
Length of Teacher LOR



# SCHOOL DOCUMENT SURVEY – COUNSELOR LOR

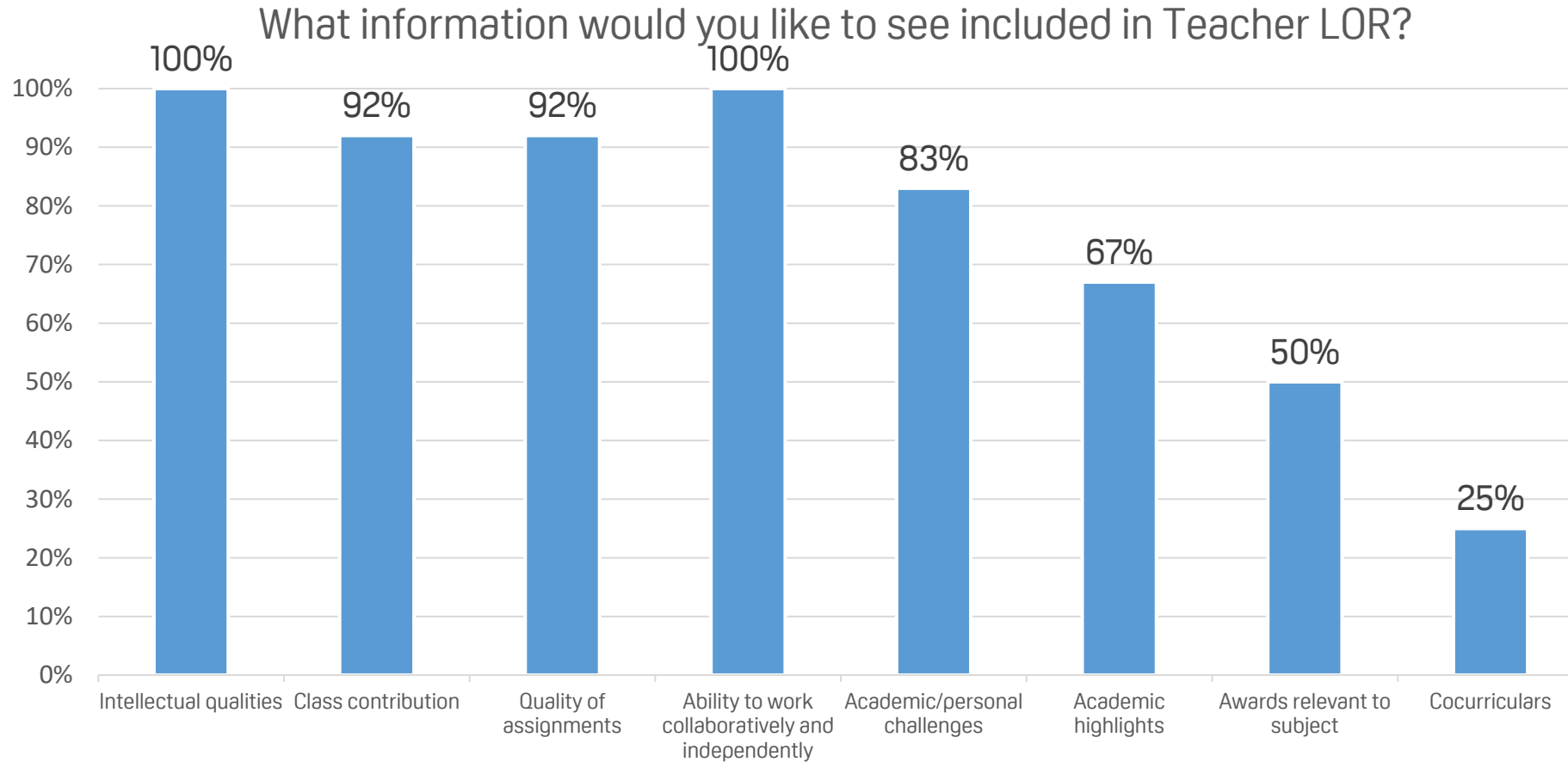


What information would you like to see included in Counselor LOR?





# SCHOOL DOCUMENT SURVEY – TEACHER LOR



# SCHOOL DOCUMENTS



## Summary:

- School documents are key to managing school brand and reputation
- Clear, concise and relevant documents show you “get it”
- Too much information is as bad as too little
- Consider getting professional design / budget from marketing
- Use exemplar letters of recommendation
- Speak to us if you want additional support!