

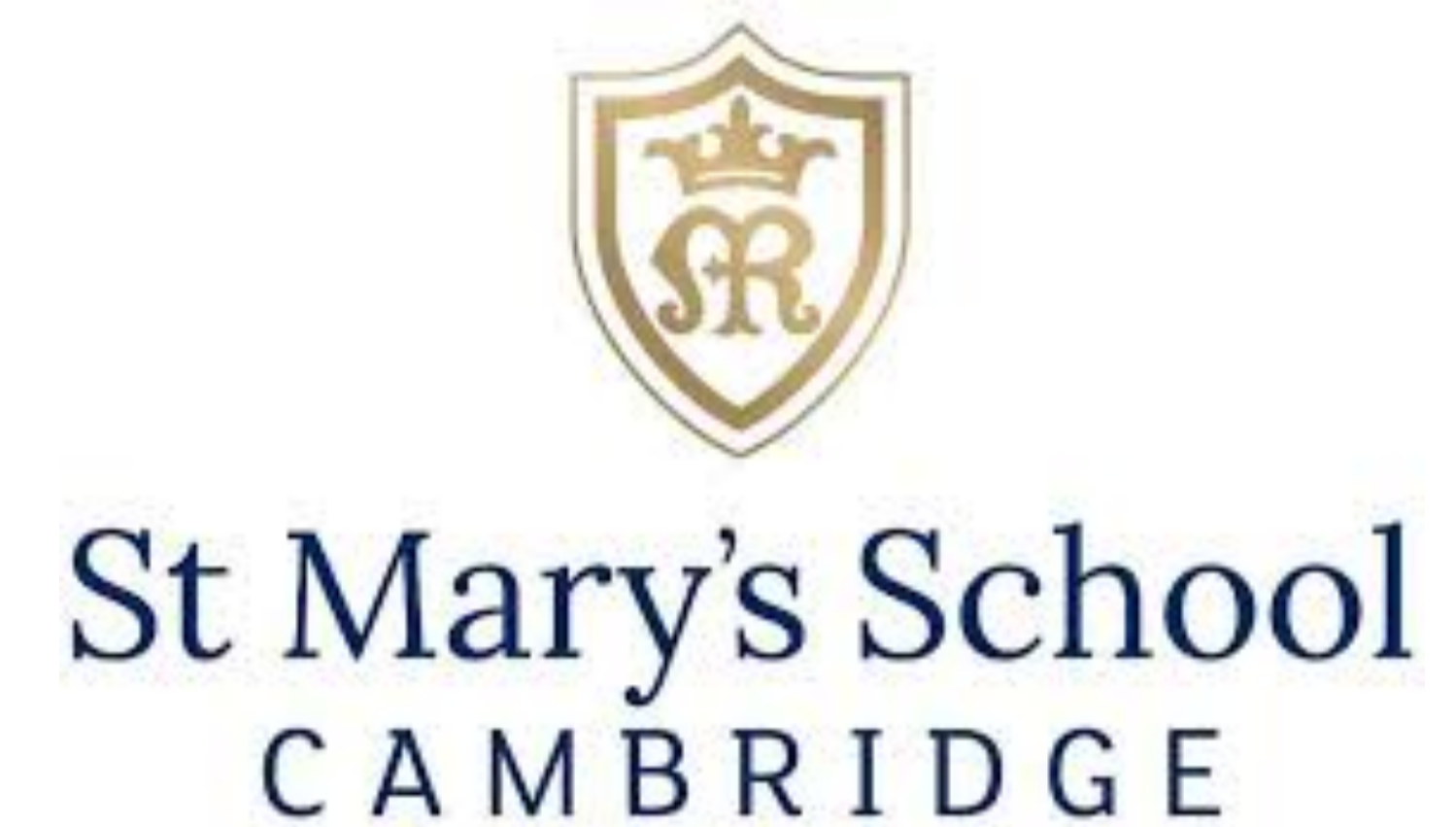
## How did we work together?

“The use of Structural Learning Blocks is an example of the type of activity that supports students to develop HPL characteristics. Students have been using the blocks to plan essays, recording their key ideas onto miniature whiteboards which they then attach to the blocks, which helps students to plan, to swap ideas and collaborate to organise their thinking. They then organise them into paragraphs and use the structures to help them to write.

The blocks encourage students to see knowledge not as distinct, but as evidence that can be linked together to form developed arguments. They can easily change their ideas on the whiteboards, so are more willing to take risks and worry less about being incorrect.

As teachers, we can easily check their understanding by reviewing their models. Many of the students have commented how the physical, creative and collaborative nature of the blocks has helped their understanding and we are seeing their benefit in supporting the learning of both high-achieving students who are sometimes averse to taking risks and also those who find writing essay plans to be difficult.”

Dr Andrew Flint  
HPL's inaugural Global Lead Teacher  
St Mary's School Cambridge



Organised Thinking = Better Learning