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SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS



ST BENET BISCOP
CATHOLIC ACADEMY

WELCOME

We are delighted that you are considering joining St Benet Biscop Sixth Form as a place to continue your studies. We recognise that this stage in your life is crucial in establishing the key skills and preparation for life beyond school, whether that be at university, further education or in the workplace. Whether you're moving up from our school or joining us from elsewhere, our Sixth Form offers a highly distinctive experience.

Being the only mixed Catholic Sixth Form in Northumberland, our Sixth Form is a vibrant and energetic place to study. Sixth Form life involves much more than simply academic study. At St Benet Biscop, we are proud of the provision we offer, which allows students to develop a wide range of skills and knowledge, as well as providing many opportunities for students to develop as individuals in a more social, moral and spiritual sense.

Our Sixth Form is characterised by its strong sense of community, and wide-ranging curriculum and extra-curricular opportunities. We have a highly dedicated team of teachers and leaders, as well as a highly talented and industrious student body, characterised by its enthusiasm, talents and intelligence.

As a Sixth Form that is proud of its Catholic tradition, our ethos is very important. We are a very caring and supportive community where every student is valued and where every student's talents and interests are nurtured and encouraged. With around 150 students in our Sixth Form, every individual is known extremely well by the leadership team and form tutors, making our Sixth Form an extremely supportive place to study. Students of all faiths and none are equally welcome in our Sixth Form and the variety of faith backgrounds enriches the overall ethos.

Students are given many opportunities to explore and develop in faith and understanding of self. This includes a significant leadership offer, making a significant contribution to the care and support offered in the main school, supporting younger students as mentors, leading in school events, presenting at parents information evenings and becoming ambassadors of subjects and elements of school life including the environment, politics and wellbeing. Students build skills for life, developing confidence, contributing to form assemblies, leading prayers or living out our school values and Catholic Social Teaching by supporting charities such as CAFOD and by undertaking the Pope John Paul II Award, which is a service based, Diocesan Sixth Form Award.

OUR MISSION

*To seek **wholeness** through **faith, quest** and **learning**
to **become** what **God** intends **us** to be.*

At St Benet Biscop, we are incredibly proud of the exam results that our Sixth Form students achieve. More importantly, we are incredibly proud of the people that they become. The work ethic of our students and the support that is offered within school ensures that our students leave with not just strong academic performance, but also having developed personally and spiritually.

We are proud of the provision we offer, which allows students to develop a wide range of skills and knowledge, as well as providing many opportunities for students to develop as individuals in a more social, moral and spiritual sense to rise up and shine.

This ensures our students are well prepared for university study or the world of work. In recent years our students have been successful in gaining places at Oxford and Cambridge University, Russell Group universities and securing apprenticeships with highly successful companies. There are many exciting opportunities for students to take up over the course of their time in our Sixth Form. We believe that it is important that students develop a broad set of social and leadership skills, as well as their academic skills, to prepare them for the next stage in their lives. In a competitive market, we seek to ensure that our students stand out from their peers.

Life in the Sixth Form is busy and exciting. There is an atmosphere of focus and direction, but also a sense of camaraderie and mutual support. The support for sixth-formers begins now, in Year 11, as we work with students and their families to ensure students are placed on appropriate courses that are suitable and that are linked to students' career aspirations.

From this prospectus, you will get a strong sense of what is on offer at our distinctive Sixth Form. However, should you wish to discuss any aspect of the Sixth Form in more detail, you are more than welcome to contact us at the school. We look forward to working with students in Year 11 and their families to ensure a smooth and enjoyable transition into the Sixth Form.

Suzanne Lewis-Dale
Headteacher

Stephen Plumb
Assistant Head of Sixth Form

Peter Maughan
Head of Sixth Form

The curriculum, including in the sixth form, allows pupils to build on what they have learned previously. Effective questioning during lessons helps teachers to check pupils' understanding. Staff encourage students in Sixth Form to be mature and independent learners. Ofsted 2023





Armstrong Building

“ Throughout my seven years at St Benet Biscop I felt completely supported, no time more so than in the sixth form. The holistic outlook of subject teachers and the leadership team alike, I believe were instrumental to the various milestones, offers and grades that were achieved by our cohort. I for one, will be forever grateful for the dedication of the staff who lifted and encouraged us, and thus made these achievements possible.”

Jasmine Friend
Studying Biochemistry at University of Oxford



OUR CURRICULUM

Our Sixth Form is largely made up of students from our current Year 11 with a number of students who join us from other local schools. Students joining us in September will be placed on a pathway, which can be read in further detail below. For the majority, this will involve studying 3 A-levels, or equivalent, during Year 12 and Year 13.

All A-level subjects are now linear. This involves studying for courses for which the content is assessed entirely by examination at the end of Year 13. Choosing the right pathway and subjects is, therefore, vitally important.



PATHWAYS

We work closely with all students to give them individual guidance on their subject choices. It is very important that students start with an appropriate programme of study.

We have to balance a number of elements, including aspirations and interests with the relative difficulty of courses in order to ensure that our students leave St Benet Biscop having achieved their full potential. We use a range of national data in order to identify the relative difficulty of subjects. This information is then used to guide students towards choosing a suite of subjects for which they are suitable. At St Benet Biscop we will be offering the following pathways to students:

- **3 A-levels and an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) in Year 13.**
- **3 A-levels**
- **A combination of A-levels and vocational courses**
- **3 vocational courses**



Students are directed towards a pathway and advised to pick subjects based on their GCSE performance and their average GCSE grade. Many students at St Benet Biscop complete 3 A-levels and an EPQ.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students who join our Sixth Form do so voluntarily. In signing up for Sixth Form, therefore, students are agreeing to abide by all of the general requirements of students at our school. The decision to join Sixth Form should be carefully considered. **An excellent work ethic, attendance and punctuality record are all essential for success, as is a contribution to the wider dimension of Sixth Form life.** Furthermore, participation in all aspects of our Personal Development Programme and support for the school ethos is expected. A student with poor attendance in Year 11 (unless there are genuine medical reasons), poor punctuality or a poor work ethic in Year 11 is unlikely to succeed in Sixth Form where the academic demands are greater. Throughout Year 11, all of these factors will be reviewed and, if necessary, discussed with students during the transition to Sixth Form.

For each specific course in Sixth Form, entry requirements will vary, depending on the degree of course difficulty, as well as each student's track record over their two years' study of the subject in Key Stage 4. The 'make up' of a student's GCSE grade in the subject is evaluated too. For example, a student may have a '6' overall at GCSE in a particular subject that they wish to pursue at A-level but, if the key written exam component was a '5', our strong advice might well be not to take the subject at A-level, if extended writing is a key feature of the A-level.

Some courses will require a higher minimum entry grade, either in the subject itself or in a related subject.



For example, entry to certain Science courses will have a minimum requirement not only in Science, but in Maths too, given the degree of Maths involved in the A-level. Many subjects will have a minimum requirement in English, if written work is a key feature of the A-level. Finally, we also look very closely at the combination of A-levels that a student is proposing to study. For example, we may feel that a student has the potential to succeed in one of the harder A-levels but a combination of two or three such subjects may well prove too much and, in such cases, we may well advise strongly against the proposed combination. In general, students are most likely to succeed on the traditional, academic A-levels if they have obtained GCSEs that include, as a minimum, a number of GCSEs in the 7-9 range and some at grade 6. Ideally, a student would have a 7 or better in their chosen subject but some of these subjects may consider a 6 if there is evidence of strong performance in some of the key components of the GCSE, or mitigating circumstances that affected the GCSE grade.

For a number of A-levels (for instance, some with a strong practical component), grade 6 or above will be considered and, exceptionally, a grade 5. Students achieving grades largely in the 4-6 range will be best suited to our vocational courses. Further information about individual courses is contained in the Sixth Form Curriculum booklet and, throughout Year 11, entry requirements and their suitability for different subjects, will be discussed with students.



SUBJECTS OFFERED

We usually offer the following subjects at A-level. Please note, however, that not all courses run each year if the numbers are very low.

- **ART**
- **BIOLOGY**
- **CHEMISTRY**
- **DRAMA & THEATRE STUDIES**
- **ENGLISH LANGUAGE**
- **ENGLISH LITERATURE**
- **FRENCH/SPANISH**
- **GEOGRAPHY**
- **HISTORY**
- **MEDIA**
- **MATHS**
- **PHYSICS**
- **PSYCHOLOGY**
- **PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS**

The vocational subjects that we offer (depending on demand) include:

- **BUSINESS**
- **CRIMINOLOGY**
- **EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT**
- **HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE**
- **SPORT**
- **IT**

Our curriculum is reviewed regularly and subjects being offered are subject to viability. For further information on subjects, please refer to our Sixth Form Curriculum booklet. Our Core Curriculum is part of what makes our Sixth Form distinctive, as all students also study as part of their timetable Religious Education and the Personal Development Programme. This curriculum provides excellent foundations for studying in the Sixth Form and allows the students the opportunity to develop a variety of skills that will enhance their overall experience.



CHOOSING **YOUR SUBJECTS**

WHAT SUBJECTS SHOULD YOU CHOOSE?

Picking subjects to study in the Sixth Form can be a difficult task and requires careful consideration. Here, we offer some advice and key questions to ask when thinking about which subjects you might want to choose.

WHICH SUBJECTS DO YOU ENJOY THE MOST?

The amount of time you will have to spend studying your subjects in Sixth Form means you should pick subjects you enjoy. In Year 12 and 13, you will have 9 hours for each A-level every fortnight. You should then look to ensure these are subjects that you will be able to cope with at a higher level and that you meet the entry requirements for the course.

WHICH SUBJECTS ARE YOU EXPECTING TO EXCEL IN?

Your predicted performance in your GCSE subjects will be a real indicator as to what you should consider studying at A-level. The work you do at GCSE will lay the foundations for the work in the Sixth Form. Talk to your teachers to discuss whether they think it would be suitable for you to study their subject in the Sixth Form.

DO YOU HAVE A CAREER / UNIVERSITY COURSE IN MIND?

DO YOU REQUIRE SPECIFIC SUBJECTS?

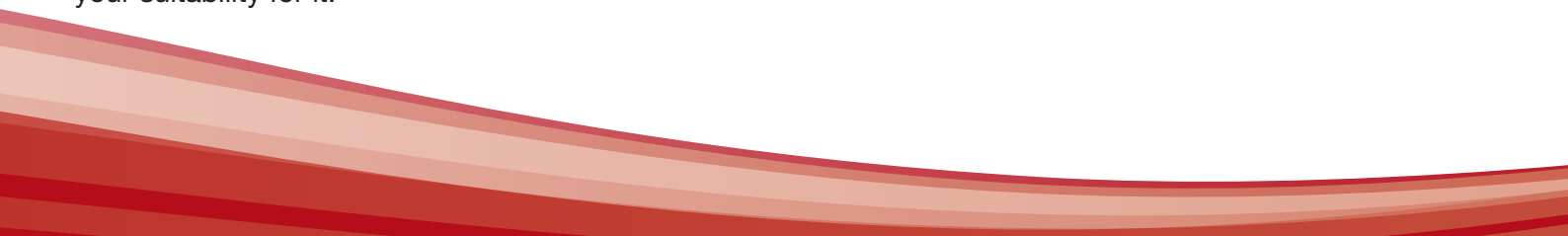
Some degree courses specify subjects that should be taken in the Sixth Form. For example, to study Medicine you will need to secure a high grade in Chemistry. Think carefully about what you might want to do after Sixth Form and then look to see if you are required to have studied certain subjects. If you don't yet know what you want to do after Sixth Form, then opting for a range of subjects will help keep your options open. You will, of course, have to ensure you meet the entry requirements for these courses.

WHICH SUBJECTS WILL BE MOST USEFUL AND WILL GIVE YOU THE BEST CHANCE OF SUCCESS?

As mentioned above, it might be that you want to keep your options open for when you make decisions about life after Sixth Form. Think carefully about the combination of subjects you are studying too. Russell Group universities have published a guide to making informed choices. Their Informed Choices website www.informedchoices.ac.uk has been developed to help pupils and parents/carers find out more about how subjects taken at Sixth Form can affect students' options at university and later on. It is important to get a balance between the subjects you enjoy, have the best chance to succeed in and that will be relevant to you for the next stage of your life.

WHO CAN YOU TALK TO ABOUT YOUR OPTIONS?

You will have the opportunity to discuss your options with a member of our Sixth Form Team. They will provide guidance and discuss with you the most appropriate options, and pathways. Remember, discussing your options with teachers will also help you get a good idea of what is involved in a subject in the Sixth Form and your suitability for it.



CORE CURRICULUM



All Sixth Form students follow a course in Core RE in Years 12 and 13. This course aims to enable students to explore their own beliefs and values, develop their moral reasoning skills and apply these to their own and others' religious traditions. Learners will develop their knowledge, understanding and skills to think spiritually, ethically and theologically. It is suitable for students from any faith tradition or none.

Through discussion and debate, students will be able to formulate and articulate their own views and opinions on a variety of subjects including matters of life and death, justice and inequality and the environment. There will also be opportunities to contribute to the wider life of the school and the community through Core RE. Many students participate in 'practical RE' through working with younger students, fundraising for charities and leading learning in KS3. These experiences help build confidence, communication and interpersonal skills, and are a fantastic addition to applications beyond Sixth Form.

Many of the skills developed in General RE lessons can be transferred to other subjects and indeed will help students develop into good citizens, committed to the 'common good'. Students can choose to formalise this work by following the Pope John Paul II Award.



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT & INDEPENDENT LEARNING

At St Benet Biscop Catholic Academy, success isn't just about getting good grades. It's about reaching your full potential and growing as an individual. We believe that your personal development goes hand in hand with your academic success and being in our Sixth Form means working hard in class, and outside of lessons, but also taking responsibility for your own expansive education. After all, the person who benefits, is you!

TAKING OPPORTUNITIES

Outside school you might be part of a club, a team, or have a part-time job. All of these experiences are great for your personal development. In addition to these, we want our Sixth Form to be vibrant and busy with extra-curricular activity. We encourage all our sixth formers to make the most of opportunities that are offered in school, for example:

- Becoming a Peer Mentor or Reading Mentor.
- Helping with the school newspaper.
- Joining a Sixth Form society or school club.
- Taking part in school trips and residential visits.
- Getting involved in projects facilitated in school by other organisations.
- Becoming a Shine Ambassador and taking on a lead role in the Catholic life of the school, helping to prepare acts of worship, charity events and collections and promote our RISE values.
- Becoming a RISE Role Model in a subject area or in a sixth form/whole school capacity such as community, enrichment and learning support.
- Coaching a sports team with lower school students such as football, netball or basketball.



PREPARING YOUR NEXT STEPS

University outreach opportunities are made available through our partnerships with local universities as well as Oxford and Cambridge. These provide opportunities for students to experience university life and gain an insight into what university is like, before making their applications in Year 13. In addition, more apprenticeships are becoming available, as alternative routes into employment and training. Whatever your Post 18 choice is, we offer support to help you make informed decisions that are right for you. These include:

- visits to universities and employers
- workshops and assemblies in school, delivered by university staff, employers and higher education outreach providers
- support making applications to UCAS and/or employers
- mock interviews
- study days at universities
- work experience
- residential experiences
- information and guidance on making applications, student finance, study skills and careers.



GO THE EXTRA MILE

The opportunities offered in school can only go so far in helping you achieve your ambitions. Your personal development is yours to take charge of. You need to go the extra mile by having the motivation to find opportunities that will shape you as an individual and help you to make choices about your future. Our most successful students took their personal development seriously. Here are some examples of the things they did, that we encourage you to do:

- Attending online and in person short courses such as MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses), and Mini Medical School. These are often courses that run in the evenings for around eight weeks, led by online providers or universities. There are courses out there to suit everyone, so get looking!
- Researching university courses so that they were fully aware of the entry requirements and course outlines before making their choices
- Researching apprenticeships, starting salaries and career progression
- Arranging work experience
- Attending university open days and careers fairs
- Making good use of study periods in school by working on wider reading and independent learning.



INDEPENDENT LEARNING

70% of your Sixth Form work and learning should be done outside the classroom. On average a Sixth Form student should be completing between 15 and 20 hours of study, outside lessons, per week.

Subject teachers will provide homework and wider study, with deadlines that need to be met. In addition, subjects will provide you with a selection of wider, independent tasks, reading material and research. This is to help you grow as a learner, and to build a robust knowledge base.

All of your wider study and extra-curricular involvement is vital when it comes to making your Post 18 applications. Whether applying to university, another higher education provider or an employer, good predicted grades (the majority of your applications will be made before you get your results), and school references will only get you so far. Your UCAS personal statement or CV, need to show that you are motivated, have initiative and can demonstrate the personal skills they're looking for as well as the academic ability needed.

To help you reflect on your learning and development, all students have access to Unifrog; an online career exploration platform. You will use your Unifrog account at regular intervals throughout the academic year to record the wider study you've completed, as well as any extra-curricular activities you've been part of in school or outside of school. Your form tutor, Mr Maughan and Mr Plumb will support you in keeping a detailed record of your learning, achievements and skills acquired.

These could include:

- Evidence of independent learning completed each week
- Notes on wider reading
- Additional exam practice and revision notes
- Certificates such as First Aid or Food Hygiene, coaching or refereeing qualifications
- Attendance at university events
- Extra-curricular activities.





PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Our varied Personal Development Programme offers students the opportunity to develop skills that will help them in their studies and in their preparations for life after Sixth Form. Students spend 2 hours a fortnight on the programme. Sixth Form students regularly join together where guest speakers offer impartial advice and guidance. Speakers come from a variety of backgrounds, sectors and professions.

Following each talk, time is spent with tutor groups reviewing and discussing the content delivered. The programme involves time spent in tutor groups following a carousel of activities focussing on developing life skills, study skills and employability skills. Aspects included involve developing skills in self-sufficiency, money management, running an enterprise and travel. The important UCAS process (for entry to university), and applications for employment and apprenticeships, also form an important part of this programme.

CULTURE OF HIGH AMBITION

St Benet Biscop Sixth Form prides itself on creating a learning culture of high expectation, where all students are actively encouraged to maximise their potential. In doing so, we believe our students leave us as confident, articulate and caring people who are well-equipped with the academic skills to succeed and flourish in higher education or the workplace. At St Benet Biscop, students attend lessons that are stimulating and challenging and, as an inclusive school, we endeavour to ensure that the needs of our talented and ambitious students are met in a variety of ways. As well as ensuring our students are catered for through excellent teaching in lessons, our talented and ambitious students become involved in various wider curriculum activities and have the opportunity to complement their studies with an Extended Project Qualification.

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), is designed to deepen and strengthen study skills in an area of the student's own choosing. Our students are able to choose from producing an artefact (examples include sculptures, organising events, musical productions) or an essay on their topic of interest. As part of the process students formulate their own title and must submit their proposal to their Supervisor prior to the production of their essay or artefact. Our students also have regular meetings with their Supervisor to discuss the progress of their project. Students have to work autonomously to complete this original piece of work and, as such, an EPQ is highly regarded by universities. Some previous titles are detailed below:

'To what extent do feeding and management factors influence the risk of a domesticated horse developing colic symptoms?'

Student who progressed to study Veterinary Medicine at University of Cambridge.

'Does the UK need a second city?'

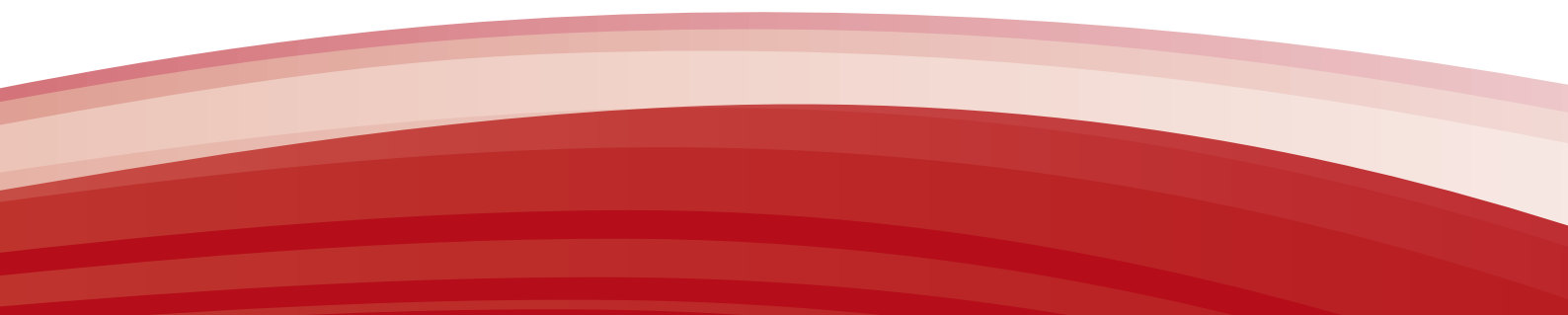
Student who progressed to study Philosophy, Politics and Economics at University of Oxford.

'A recipe book for patients on Haemodialysis.'

Student who progressed to study Medicine at Durham University.

'How did the 1984-5 miners strike affect short-term community cohesion in south east Northumberland?'

Student who progressed to study Politics and History at Newcastle University.



CAREERS ADVICE & PROGRESSION

At St Benet Biscop, we take very seriously the responsibility that we have to ensure students are well-prepared for their future careers. Whether that is university, an apprenticeship or employment, we want our students to use the skills they develop during their time with us. We have an excellent record for students securing places at their first-choice university. For those who decide that university is not for them, we support students with their preparation for employment and apprenticeship applications, discussing interview techniques and helping with CV writing. Students are supported as they attempt to secure apprenticeships, internships and employment.

We do our best to aid our students, in obtaining essential experiences to enhance their career choices. These can include attending UNIQ summer school, Mini Med school and attending subject-specific workshops at local universities. These opportunities give our students an advantage in applications, where we will aid them in choosing the right career path. We also work with universities and employers to help our students decide on their next step. Furthermore, all Year 12 students take part in one week's work experience to enhance their post Sixth Form applications.

Students work through a planned careers programme supported by Unifrog and Futureme. Sixth Form students develop an excellent knowledge of pathways available to them and secure work placements in a variety of sectors, developing skills to be successful in the workplace. There is a thorough programme to prepare high-quality Oxbridge and Russell Group university applications, including residential visits to Cambridge University, Oxbridge workshops and mock interviews.

Our students complete valuable summer school placements at various leading universities, including Sutton Trust and UNIQ summer schools, Durham Supported Progression Scheme, Mini Med School and Newcastle University Partners Summer Programme.



EXTRA CURRICULAR

INTERNATIONAL EXPEDITIONS

Students are able to take advantage of once in a lifetime opportunities to travel to places such as Costa Rica and Ecuador where they support small communities and help those less fortunate. Projects involve building not only schools, social areas, and basic facilities, but also building relationships and bonds with those people that students come into contact with. As part of this students have to raise funds for their expedition which helps them develop their skills further. The opportunity to immerse themselves in other cultures and traditions and taking an active part in supporting impoverished communities is an experience they are unlikely to surpass.

Our Sixth Form students have benefitted hugely from these experiences and visits, gaining an array of life-changing experiences as well as enhancing their CVs in readiness for their applications to university and more.

SIXTH FORM SPORT



If you are interested in sports, there are many opportunities to develop sporting interests at St Benet Biscop. We currently have an Under-19 boys football team who play fixtures in the East Northumberland Schools League and the County Cup, as well as an Under-18 Girls netball team who play in the Northumberland Tournament and a central league. Away from teams, there are opportunities to get involved in various clubs, including badminton, volleyball and table tennis. Students who are talented in sport and who compete at a high level are fully supported by the school.



Apart from field work arranged as part of your courses, there will be opportunities for you to join in a host of activities which offer visits, social events, drama, music and sport...there is plenty on offer. Over the last few years there have been Sixth Form trips to New York, Geneva and skiing in Switzerland.



DRAMA & MUSIC

Sixth Formers enjoy taking part in drama productions. We have many talented musicians and performers in our student body and there are also various opportunities to take part in school shows, Night at the Musicals, Liturgical worship and school workshops.



EXTRA CURRICULAR

SERVICE TASKS

All Sixth Form students are expected to take on service tasks, which range hugely in nature depending on the interests of the student. Previous service tasks have included supporting younger students with their studies, either by supporting lessons or running lunchtime clubs and clinics. Students have also undertaken supported reading with Year 7 students, and have become 'mentors' to students lower down the school.

RISE ROLE MODELS

Our Sixth Form students act as role models to their peers, staff and our lower school community. As such we encourage them to take up leadership roles as RISE Role models, supporting their subject areas by acting as ambassadors for the respective department; supporting students in lessons, representing the department at events and leading on various projects. This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to develop their skills and gain additional experiences; all part of a student's quest to become the best versions of themselves. Away from subject specific RISE Role Models, we also have opportunities for Sixth Form/school wide roles; as Community RISE Role Model, Enrichment RISE Role Model and Learning Support RISE Role Model.

LEADERSHIP

Sixth Form students are also encouraged to become involved in leadership, by taking on key roles and responsibilities within school. The Leadership Committee is a visible and respected group of students whose presence can be seen across a huge variety of school events.

YOUNG ENTERPRISE

Running through one academic year, students make all the decisions about their enterprise, from deciding on the name and products to creating a business plan, managing the student company finances and selling to the public at trade fairs. This is your opportunity to shine in the business world!

READING & PEER MENTORS

Many of our sixth form students support students lower down the school in developing their literacy skills through our Reading Mentor Programme. Furthermore our Peer Mentoring Programme allows our Sixth Form students to support a younger student in building their resilience and life skills.



PASTORAL **SUPPORT**

The transition into Sixth Form can sometimes seem daunting. Deciding which subjects to specialise in, and being expected to be able to work autonomously and prioritising work, can be difficult for some. To support this transition, students have daily contact with their form tutor who is experienced in supporting students and helping them to achieve their absolute best.

The relationship between the form tutor and student is essential to success in the Sixth Form, as tutors will monitor and support students throughout the two years of their studies. They will work with their tutees, getting to know them well as individuals, helping to nurture their talents and interests as well as supporting them academically. Form tutors will have the holistic overview of how our students are progressing in the Sixth Form and they will be the first point of contact if parents or students have any concerns or problems. As well as a form tutor, students are supported by Mr Maughan, Head of Sixth Form, and Mr Plumb, Assistant Head of Sixth Form. We work hard with parents and carers to ensure all of our students' needs are met. We are happy to discuss with parents any aspect of your child's needs and development at any point throughout the course of the year.



SIXTH FORM CENTRE



SIXTH FORM CENTRE

Our innovative new Sixth Form building, St Cuthbert's Sixth Form Centre, has been purpose-built to provide an exceptional educational experience that supports both academic and personal development. This modern facility features two state-of-the-art classrooms that double as assembly and conference spaces, offering a versatile environment for high-quality teaching, large gatherings, and special events. In addition, the building includes a dedicated study area, ideal for focused revision, research, and collaborative projects, our stylish RISE café space for socialising and relaxation, and pastoral offices to provide personal support and guidance



BURSARY

The 16-19 Bursary Scheme provides financial help to young people aged 16 to 19 who face financial barriers to participating in education or training, provided they meet agreed standards of attendance and behaviour.

Only students in defined vulnerable groups, or experiencing the greatest financial disadvantages and course-related costs, can be supported using the 16-19 bursary funds.

The 16-19 Bursary Fund has two alternative options:

VULNERABLE BURSARY

A bursary of up to £1,200 per year for young people in the following defined vulnerable groups: in care; care leavers; young people in receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit; and disabled young people in receipt of both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance/Personal Independence Payments.

DISCRETIONARY BURSARY

The school may award a discretionary bursary to students to help with educational expenses. This award can vary due to the individual circumstances of the student. The basic eligibility criteria are for those students in Year 12 and 13 who are currently in receipt of free school meals.

Students who do not meet these criteria but are experiencing hardship should in the first instance speak to The Sixth Form Team regarding their circumstances.



STUDENTS FROM **OTHER SCHOOLS**

We warmly invite students who have studied their GCSEs at other schools to apply to our Sixth Form. The process is straightforward, requiring students to complete an application form, available from the school website. You will then be invited into school to meet the Sixth Form Team to discuss aspects of your application and your options. Any offer of a place at St Benet Biscop Sixth Form will be subject to entry requirements being met for specific courses and receiving good references from your current school.



HOW TO **APPLY**

If you are currently in Year 11 at St Benet Biscop Catholic Academy, you will be guided through the application process within school.

If you are currently attending another school and wish to join our Sixth Form, please register your interest by emailing Mr Maughan, Head of Sixth Form at maughanp@stbb.org.uk. If you are an external student you will be required to submit an application form in addition to copies of your Year 10 and 11 reports and attendance certificates to support your application.





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CATHOLIC ACADEMY