



St Bartholomew's School

COURSE GUIDE AND OPPORTUNITIES 2017-2018





WELCOME



Sixth Form Office

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WHAT DOES ST BART'S HAVE TO OFFER YOU?

The sixth form years are an exciting time for any student, and choosing the right sixth form for you is a crucial decision. At St Bart's you will find the best environment to grow, develop and reach your full potential. Whatever you are looking for in your sixth form experience, you can be confident of finding it here. Students make fantastic progress academically, and are supported to achieve their potential and to develop plans for life beyond school. All this is achieved in an environment that is lively, fun and energetic.

We encourage our students to participate in and lead a whole host of activities outside the classroom. You might like to think about how you can take advantage of all these opportunities and what you can contribute.

Please contact the school if you would like to arrange an appointment to help you explore your options. We would be happy to help.

Adam Robbins

Head of Sixth Form





A LEVEL RESULTS

2015-16 saw a very strong set of results with 80% of all grades being at a C grade or better. Students' outcomes overall, as measured from their starting points, have been in the top 30% nationally over the last three years. The progression score, which measures how successful the school is in supporting students to complete the full two years of sixth form study, has been rated as 'Excellent' over the last three years.

- 80% of the results achieved were A*, A, B or C grades
- 53% of all grades achieved were A*, A or B
- 14 students gained three or more A* or A grades
- Students with offers for Oxbridge and Medicine achieved the required grades to take up these prestigious opportunities.

AS RESULTS

With the changes in examinations coming into effect in 2016 not all subjects required students to enter AS examinations. In those subjects where students sat the AS Level an outstanding 26% of all entries gained A grades and 68% of all entries gained at least a C grade. This represents the school's best ever results.





INFORMATION

EXTENDED PROGRAMMES OF STUDY

The Personal Development Programme covers topics directly relevant to Sixth Form students, such as careers; personal, social and health education, skills of independent study and enterprise education.

Students are actively encouraged to develop social and employability skills through various non-qualification activities. In particular, students are given opportunities to secure work experience, volunteer for local organisations and mentor younger students.

In Year 13 many students take an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). This gives students an opportunity to complete a major piece of independent research with the support of a member of staff. This is ideal preparation for university, and many universities actively encourage students to undertake EPQs.

WELL-BEING

- We believe that it is important for all students to take some kind of physical recreation during the school week.
- The school enjoys a considerable reputation on the games field, and at Sixth Form level there are excellent fixture lists in: athletics, cricket, lacrosse, netball, rugby, soccer and tennis.
- In addition, a wide range of other team and individual games and sports are available to Sixth Form students on a more social basis for an hour on Thursday mornings and on Wednesday afternoons.

WIDER OPPORTUNITIES

We believe that St Bart's offers an unrivalled choice of activities to broaden students' opportunities beyond the classroom. Some of these are focused around the strong House system and result in friendly rivalry between students in the four Houses. Some of the choices include CCF, Sport, House and School Drama, House and School Music, Mentoring, Young Enterprise, World Challenge, Debating, Equestrian Team and Horticulture. Full details are in our Wider Opportunities guide <http://www.stbarts.co.uk/the-sixth-form/sixth-form-info/>





PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS

All A Level exams take place at the end of Year 13. Students will have an option to take AS exams at the end of Year 12 but these are entirely separate qualifications.

As you can see, there is plenty to choose from and, alongside a wide range of A Levels, we also offer both Level 2 and Level 3 BTEC courses. New A Level specifications are being introduced nationally in a number of subject areas. Where possible, we have tried to include details of these courses, but at the time of going to press some of the qualifications have not yet been formally validated by OFQUAL (The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulations) and we are not able to confirm the syllabuses that will be followed.

This course guide will be updated online when we receive confirmation of any new specifications.





HOW TO APPLY

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Catchment areas do not apply in the Sixth Form and you can apply to us, wherever you live.

Applications for entry to Year 12 in September 2017 open immediately following the Sixth Form Open Evening in November. The application form is available at the Open Evening and is also published on the Sixth Form page of the school website www.stbarts.co.uk. Forms can be requested from the school.

The form is to be completed by the applicant and returned to St Bart's by the deadline of Friday 13 January 2017. Late applications will be accepted up until September 2017. However, priority for courses and course combinations will be given to those who meet the deadline.

All applicants will be invited to an interview with a senior member of staff during February/March 2017 and all decisions about final subject choices are arrived at after discussion with students, parents and teachers. Places are offered following completion of the interview process in late April.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

To access Level 3 courses, you will need to secure at least Grade 4 in both GCSE English Language and GCSE Mathematics, and need to secure at least three other GCSE grades at C or higher.

As you can see from the subject pages in our Course Guide, if you are looking to take an A Level course in a subject that you studied at GCSE, then a GCSE Grade of B (5/6) or higher is preferred. If you fall short of a B, you cannot assume that you will secure a place on the course and will be required to meet with the Head of Department in September to discuss whether you might be offered a place on an 'on trial basis'.

The step up from GCSE to A Level work is particularly steep in Biology, Chemistry, Maths and Physics. Students should be clear that in other than the most exceptional circumstances, they will not secure a place on these courses without at least a B grade in the subject at GCSE, or in the case of Maths, a Grade 6.

HOW MANY COURSES?

Students with average GCSE grades of B or 5/6 and higher will be expected to complete four courses in Year 12. Most students do drop to three subjects for Year 13 but there is no requirement that they should do.

Students with average GCSE grades of C or 4/5 should expect to complete three courses in Year 12 and continue these three courses in Year 13. It is, however, our policy to enrol all students on four courses so that the student can identify his/her best three. Students can request to drop to three from the beginning of October once initial assessments have been completed. It is important that students take advantage of the flexibility that this affords.

St Bartholomew's School
Sixth Form Application Form for September 2017

To be completed by the applicant

Applicant Details:

Surname: _____ Forenames: _____
 Date of Birth: _____ Male Female (tick as appropriate)
 Address: _____ Postcode: _____
 Home Telephone No: _____ Mobile No: _____
 Applicant's home email (surname.name): _____
 Applicant's school email (surname.name): _____

Parent/Guardian Details:

Name: _____ Relationship to Applicant: _____
 Address (if different to that of applicant): _____ Postcode: _____
 Parent/Guardian Email: _____ Parent/Guardian Telephone No: _____

Education:
 Do you currently attend St Bartholomew's School? Yes No
 If Yes, please state current Tutor Group: _____
 If No, please give name and address of current school and dates attended: _____
 Do you currently have siblings at St Bart's? Yes No

Qualifications:
 Please list all qualifications for which you are currently studying, with your teachers' predicted grades (P) and those already held with actual grades (A). Make sure you include all your subjects. Please identify any short courses with (SC) and any double awards with (DA).

GCSE	(P)	(A)	Additional GCSE Subjects	(P)	(A)	Additional GCSE Subjects	(P)	(A)
English Language								
English Literature								
Mathematics								
Core Science								
Additional Science								

Place offered: Yes No Options: _____ Level: _____ (tick relevant) (only relevant) _____ (tick relevant) _____
 Tutor Group: _____

ACCESS COURSE

Students who do not meet the basic entry requirements (at least Grade 4 in both GCSE English Language and GCSE Mathematics, and at least three other GCSE grades at C or higher) have the possibility of taking a one year Access course. If this is completed successfully, students will then have the option to pick up A Level courses and remain in the Sixth Form for a further two years. To secure a place on the Access course, students, if they have taken GCSEs, will require an average GCSE score of a D. Students with a lower average point score are encouraged to explore alternative options in Further Education where more appropriate courses are available.