



St Bartholomew's School



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Within the **ambitious** and **caring** ethos of the school, students make excellent **progress** and **achieve** very well.

Ofsted, 2018

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Welcome to St Bartholomew's School

St Bart's is a truly exceptional school which I am proud to lead. We are a caring community where students enjoy learning in a way which stimulates their imagination and creativity. We have a strong record of success and take pride in the very high standards achieved by our students of whom the majority progress on to our vibrant and highly successful Sixth Form and leave as well qualified, confident and motivated young citizens.

Our success is underpinned by the high expectations we have of all staff, students and governors, and the support we receive from parents and the wider community. Every year, our students are recognised locally and nationally for their achievements.

All students are valued equally, whatever their talents and abilities. We are proud of our traditions and our vast extra-curricular and leadership opportunities which provide enrichment for all.

The last 18 months have been particularly challenging for everyone, but here at St Bart's we have continued to ensure our students have thrived and are well cared for by embracing flexible learning approaches and giving the students as many opportunities as possible, as their future is our priority.

We hope that this prospectus will help you in making that important decision for your child's next phase in education. We look forward to welcoming you to St Bart's.

Ms Julia Mortimore
Headteacher



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The teachers at St Bart's are **inspiring**. They make the lessons fun and interesting so we learn a lot.

Rebecca, Year 7 Student

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Achievement for Everyone

At St Bart's we want the best for every individual student. We foster an inclusive ethos in which all students benefit from equality of opportunity. Students are encouraged to aim high and are supported to achieve their full potential. To meet each individual's educational needs, students are closely monitored and parents receive regular reports about their child's performance and targets.

Every year at GCSE and A-level our students perform well above the national average. A high proportion of Sixth Formers progress to university; a significant number choose to study medicine and many go on to study at Oxford or Cambridge.

Able, gifted and talented

St Bart's has an excellent record in extending the most able students.

Students who are able, gifted and talented are identified and monitored and extension opportunities are provided. There is provision within the timetabled curriculum to develop further their learning, as well as an exceptional choice of enrichment opportunities, including the option to study twilight courses in Latin and Chinese.

Personalised learning

The school has a dedicated department to support students with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Specialist staff work with individual students, over and above normal classroom activities. This additional help is organised to best meet the needs of students and enable them to make good progress in their learning.

Inspired to learn

The school's aims

We expect that each individual will actively contribute towards achieving the school's aims. The school seeks to foster learning by creating:

- * A calm and friendly atmosphere which encourages and promotes high personal standards.
- * A healthy, safe and secure environment.
- * A stimulating and inspiring learning environment which values academic achievement.
- * Structures which recognise individual achievement.

The school values every individual equally and aims for them to:

- * Fulfil their potential now and in later life develop confidence, self-esteem and decision-making skills.
- * Enjoy and value learning.
- * Develop personal responsibility and respect.

The school lies at the heart of its community and aims to:

- * Promote open and effective communication.
- * Foster a sense of community among all employees, students, parents and governors.
- * Work co-operatively with the business community to make the curriculum relevant to its students.
- * Work co-operatively with feeder schools and other educational institutions to promote curriculum continuity and appropriate pastoral care.

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Leaders track students' progress meticulously and regularly, which allows teachers to provide prompt and effective help for any students.

Ofsted 2018

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Learning is paramount

Learning is our overriding priority; our breadth of subjects provided throughout the school goes beyond teaching to the national curriculum. Together with our highly qualified staff, this enables every student to achieve their potential giving access to a choice from 40+ subjects in the Sixth Form.

Broad and balanced curriculum

We offer diversity and choice, ensuring courses are interesting, stimulating and intellectually challenging and lead to the appropriate qualifications at the highest level each individual can achieve.

Students have the opportunity to show and develop initiative, creativity and leadership. They develop skills in a wide range of contexts in lessons, cross-curricular enrichment days and extra-curricular activities that prepare them for the opportunities and experiences of adult life. In the core subjects, lessons are taught in ability groups in Mathematics from Year 7 and in English from Year 9. Average class sizes are small at 26.

In the Sciences, Biology, Chemistry and Physics are taught in a framework to prepare students for further studies in separate sciences at A-level. All students study a Modern Foreign Language in Year 7 with a second language introduced in Year 8. Language skills are strengthened with the opportunity to take part in school exchange programmes to France, Germany, Spain and China.

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Our children are benefiting from the **passion, dedication and professionalism** that is everywhere you look.

Parent

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In Key Stage 3 courses in Expressive Arts include Art, Dance, Drama and Music and in Humanities, Geography, History and the multi-faith approach to RE are explored. Design Technology challenges students to work in the areas of Food, Textiles and Resistant Materials such as plastics, wood and metal. Information Technology is used across the curriculum and Computing is taught from Year 7.

In Year 9 we offer choices in the Creative, Humanities and Design Technology subjects to allow them to be studied in greater depth in preparation for GCSE. In Years 10 and 11 we offer an extensive range of GCSEs as well as courses leading to vocational qualifications.

The learning at St Bart's is supported by a well-resourced library, which includes an extensive selection of books for recreational reading.



A tradition of excellence

Founded in 1466, St Bartholomew's School lies at the heart of Newbury's community and has a long heritage of academic excellence, sporting success and artistic achievement. The school preserves the best traditions of the past whilst looking ahead to the demands of today's world, ensuring students gain life-skills and confidence. Today, the facilities we offer students are quite simply outstanding.

Outstanding pastoral care

Student well-being is our highest priority. Ofsted confirmed that students' behaviour and safety is outstanding. The House system is a key feature of St Bart's and central to our provision of pastoral care. Students belong to one of the four Houses: Curnock, Davis, Evers and Patterson (named after former students who lost their lives in the First World War), where they will be well-known and cared for. House Heads and tutors have an overview of each student's achievements and targets; they also encourage participation in a wealth of House based competitions, productions and charity fundraising.

The Tutor Group – known and cared for

Tutors play a central role in building positive relationships and a sense of belonging; they are the first point of contact for students' welfare and progress. Important aspects of personal and social development are taught by tutors. As an additional support for our younger students, all Year 7 tutor groups have Year 9 mentors allocated to them.

Seamless transition

To help students settle in easily to secondary school, pastoral support begins before students even join St Bart's with our comprehensive transition programme. This includes tailor-made visits to our feeder primary schools, a carefully planned induction day for Year 6 students, family welcome House evenings and summer school.

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Everyone at the school works very hard to provide the best for every student.

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Ofsted 2018



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Over the last four years we have become part of the family and community that is St Bart's. It is a joy to see my children **grow as individuals** and in knowledge in this vibrant learning environment.

Parent

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Working together

St Bart's works closely with many partners, but most importantly parents as we recognise the important role they play in motivating and encouraging their children to succeed. Throughout the year we keep parents informed about the progress their child makes through regular reports and parents' evenings.

Student leadership

Students are encouraged to contribute to the life of the school. From the day they join St Bart's there are opportunities for them to take on increasingly more roles as they become more mature and self-confident. Students can apply for roles such as peer mentors, year councils, prefects and subject representatives.

Rewards

St Bart's is committed to rewarding students for good progress and effort in their studies and extra-curricular activities with reward systems in place at Key Stages 3 and 4. The school acknowledges commitment to House and sporting activities through awarding 'colours' and students' contribution to the wider community through Community Awards. Formal annual prize giving ceremonies at each key stage are organised to celebrate the success of students.



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St Bart's is a great school because there are lots of people to make friends with and an endless amount of activities to try and take part in.
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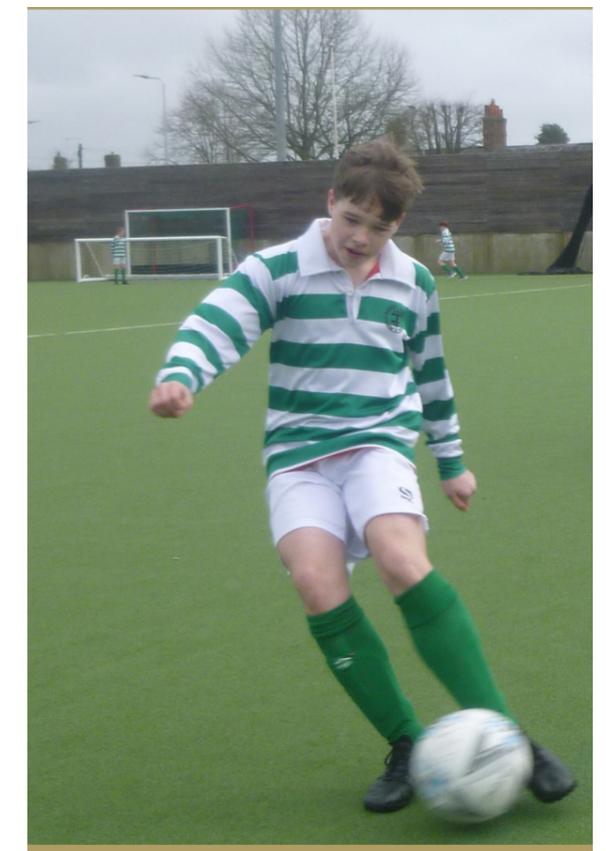
Sam, Year 7 Student

Sport & PE

Physical Education plays a vital part in the development of a healthy lifestyle. The school has extensive facilities including a large sports hall, gym, outdoor synthetic turf pitch and multi-use games area, as well as extensive playing fields. House matches take place in all major sports for all years.

St Bart's is proud of its sporting achievements in a vast range of sports, including athletics, cricket, football, hockey, netball, rounders, rugby and tennis. Students go on to represent their county and compete in national championships.

St Bart's has an extensive co-curricular sports programme in which all students are encouraged to participate.



“ There's a special magic that you will come to recognise, be it a House evening, House competition or a sporting, cultural or social event.

Governor

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Enrichment

At St Bart's we develop the whole child by offering a wide range of experiences beyond the core curriculum. We actively encourage students to take advantage of the wealth of opportunities, to explore existing interests and try new ones. After school and Activity Time clubs include Drama, Art, Dance, Choir, Chess, Cooking, Debating, Science, Moths, Maths, Fives, Young Enterprise, Computing, as well as a large number of sports clubs and activities. A large number of students also take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Lessons are brought to life through a wide range of educational trips to places of interest including galleries in London, local theatres and field trips, including overseas. Faculties enhance student learning through school based activities organising themed events such as Science Week and Shakespeare's Birthday.

The school calendar includes plenty of opportunities for students to get involved with dance, music and drama productions as well as House evenings and competitions.

Optional activities

At Key Stage 4, the curriculum is enhanced by opportunities to develop team working and leadership skills through participation in CCF, fitness including Eton Fives, Junior Sports Leader, Dance Leaders' Award, Horticulture, Arts Award options or photography, held one afternoon every other week.

Combined Cadet Force

The school's Army, Navy and Air cadets form one of the most active units in the country. CCF may involve cadets orienteering, sailing and flying. The school's CCF officers support adventure training at weekends and at Easter and the summer RAF and Army camps. Teams compete in the Ten Tors event on Dartmoor. Older cadets are encouraged to take the initiative and lead many activities.





St Bartholomew's School

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