



St Bartholomew's School Sixth Form



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The Sixth Form provides an **inclusive** and **stimulating** environment where **students feel safe** and enjoy learning. The curriculum offers a **wide range of academic and vocational courses** which successfully **prepare students** for higher education, apprenticeships and employment.

Ofsted, 2018

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Welcome to St Bartholomew's School Sixth Form

It gives me enormous pleasure to welcome you to St Bart's Sixth Form. Our school is a fantastically warm, welcoming and inclusive environment for all and we pride ourselves on ensuring that students get outstanding support both academically and pastorally to achieve their ambitions. This is truly a Sixth Form that I am proud to lead and I hope that you will decide to join us for this important next stage in your life.

We realise that choosing your programme of study can be a challenge. Therefore, we hope that this prospectus gives you a real sense of what you can do here at St Bart's. With an impressive range of A Level and BTEC Level 3 courses, we are confident that we can offer you the combination to allow you to take the next steps to higher education, apprenticeships or employment.

Our school has a supportive Sixth Form team, each with its own dedicated House Leader. Our House system is over 100 years old and still plays a vital part in ensuring the welfare and wellbeing of our Sixth Form students. We also offer a fantastic range of sports, trips and clubs for you to strike the perfect balance between your academic studies and getting all those extra experiences that make Sixth Form a time to remember!

St Bart's Sixth Form is truly an exciting place to study with fantastic array of opportunities.

Mr D Cleary
Head of Sixth Form



Our Record of Excellent Results

Students make excellent progress in the Sixth Form. In recent years, our A Level progress has been within the top 25% of schools nationally; demonstrating that we are adding considerable value to already excellent progress achieved at GCSE. Over the last 4 years, over 36% of all grades at A level have been an A* or A and nearly 84% of grades have been a grade C or better, significantly ahead of national statistics.



“ St Bart's Sixth Form has let me study subjects I would not have been able to study at other schools. ”

Georgina, Year 13

A Bright Future

We have an outstanding record of supporting students to obtain their top choice of University, including Medicine, Oxbridge and Russell Group Universities. In 2021, over 190 students gained a place on a degree course across 69 higher education settings, with eight students moving on to study medicine and five securing places at Oxbridge.

Alternatively, many students are interested in pursuing highly competitive apprenticeships and work placements and so all students benefit from a full Employability Skills Programme and careers advice throughout the school year. At St Bart's we work with a number of supporting organisations such as Adviza, The Careers and Enterprise Company, STEM and Young Enterprise. The school is a very active member of the West Berkshire Careers Network and in recent years students have begun careers with organisations such as BMW, Microsoft, RAF, Stryker and Thames Valley Police.

A Wide Choice

As a large Sixth Form with over 550 students, we are able to provide an exceptional range of subjects. With 34 A Levels and 4 BTECs to choose from, we are confident that we can offer a combination to suit all students' interests and ambitions.

Class sizes are carefully controlled to ensure the best possible student experience and our subjects are supported by state-of-the-art facilities. Sixth Form students also enjoy exclusive access to their own study areas and common room with cafe.

A Programme of Student Engagement

Alongside subject lessons, we offer an extensive range of enrichment activities designed to promote skills for life and a wider understanding of the world. Our Personalised Learning team is also on hand to provide specialist learning provision to support additional academic needs.

Personal Development Programme

Our Personal Development Programme addresses the three core themes of Health and Wellbeing, Relationships, and Living in the Wider World, establishing their relevance in adulthood.

The Extended Project Qualification

An Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is available to all Year 12 students. This Level 3 qualification is not taught but completed independently with the support of mentors and enables students to learn a variety of research skills, demonstrating creativity, initiative and enterprise.

Stretch and Challenge

Stretch and Challenge is an optional, non-examined course open to all Year 12 students which teaches the skills of critical thinking such as the ability to create and evaluate clear arguments and understand logic. It is particularly useful for students studying for EPQs, planning to study medicine or law, and for those aiming for highly competitive university courses.

Core Mathematics

We offer Core Mathematics to all Year 12 Students as an additional Level 3 Mathematics qualification alongside A Level and BTEC choices. As an option it is particularly attractive to students studying subjects with significant mathematical content such as Economics, Geography, Psychology and the Sciences.

The Early Entrant Programme

If students are considering making an early entry for a competitive university/course (Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry and Vet Med) they are fully supported to make the best possible application. We offer advice and guidance with wider reading and super-curricular studies; work experience; writing personal statements; aptitude tests and submission of written work; preparation for interviews and support following the decision process.

“ Leaders track students' progress meticulously and regularly, which allows teachers to provide prompt and effective help for any students who are at risk of falling behind. Students are given relevant extra support to help them catch up. ”

Ofsted, 2018



Our Thriving Community

At St Bart's we understand that Sixth Form is about more than purely academic achievement. Our Sixth Form experience is designed to promote student well-being, a sense of belonging and a vibrant learning environment. Around one in three of our Year 12 students join us from other schools every year, as well as from overseas, and we strive to provide plenty of opportunities for integration and participation in our school community.

A Supportive Environment

The House system is a key feature at St Bart's. All 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) and each House has a designated Sixth Form Leader with an overview of students' achievements and targets. In addition to their subject teachers, all students also belong to a tutor and tutor group (including both Year 12 and Year 13 students) providing support every step of the way.

A Portfolio of Co-Curricular Activities

There is a wide portfolio of co-curricular activities in which we actively encourage involvement and leadership. There is truly something for everyone: from subject representatives, school officers, lower school mentorship, music, dance, drama, debating, Duke of Edinburgh Awards and the Combined Cadet Force.

We believe that it is important for all students to take part in 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 inter-school fixture lists. Sports are also available to Sixth Form students on a more social basis on Wednesday afternoons.

A Busy Social Calendar

An active social scene is driven by our School Officer team, comprising the Head Students and House Captains. The team organises a huge array of highly popular events including charity food banks, Christmas quiz, open mic, clothes swap, crafternoons, well being events, the prom and the winter ball. Students are encouraged to make their own suggestions for additions to this busy calendar!



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The big step up from Year 11 involves **freedom, independence** and a stronger sense of **community**. This really makes St Bart's Sixth Form a **memorable experience**.

Ed, Year 12

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We are an open access Sixth Form – there is no catchment area and we welcome students from a wide area as well as overseas. For Level 3 courses, students are expected to have a minimum of five good GCSE passes (with at least three passes at Grade 5 or above and two further passes at Grade 4 or above) including English and Mathematics. Students who do not meet this threshold will be supported in reaching it through our Sixth Form+ Programme. All students will be interviewed and guided towards the appropriate courses for them. Details on the grade requirements for specific subjects can be found within our Course Guide on the Sixth Form page at www.stbarts.co.uk

St Bart's Level 3 Courses (A Level and BTEC)

Applied Science (BTEC)	English Literature	Music
Art & Design	Film Studies	Music Technology
Biology	Food Science and Nutrition	Photography
Business Studies	French	Physical Education
Business (BTEC)	Geography	Physics
Chemistry	German	Politics
Classical Civilisation	Graphic Communication	Product Design
Computer Science	Health & Social Care (BTEC)	Psychology
Dance	History	RS (Philosophy and Ethics)
Drama & Theatre Studies	Law	Sociology
Economics	Mathematics	Spanish
English Language (Linguistics)	Further Mathematics	Sport (BTEC)
	Media Studies	Textiles

For full information on the many Sixth Form courses at St Bart's, please **download our 2022/23 Course Guide** from the Sixth Form page at www.stbarts.co.uk



St Bartholomew's School

Andover Road, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 6JP

General enquiries: 01635 521255

Sixth Form enquiries: 01635 576368

e: sixthform@stbarts.co.uk

 @St_Barts_School

 /stbartsnewbury