

The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School



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Always Faithful with Christ



Highlights from Ofsted Report: graded "Good"

- All staff have high expectations of what pupils can achieve
- The school has a culture of continuous improvements
- Senior Leaders and Governors are passionate about giving pupils the best education and care possible.

Highlights from SIAMS Report: graded "Good"

- Pastoral care is exemplary in reflecting the school's vision and has benefited from the restructuring of roles and responsibilities
- The Christian ethos has been revitalised and is empowering staff and students to grow in their leadership roles through clear expectations and a culture of listening and attention to wellbeing
- Christian values are widely understood by new and established staff to be the basis of the supportive and caring relationships seen throughout the school community

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SOME EARLY THOUGHTS ABOUT OUR PASTORAL STRUCTURE



At Bishop's we aim to enable students to flourish both academically and socially. Our central ethos of care, respect for the needs of others, courtesy and a warm community feel provides an atmosphere where our students can make the very best of their talents to achieve success and are inspired to chase their dreams. All our work is based on our core Christian values.

Our school has:

- a discernible energy and thirst for learning built on clear Christian values where everyone matters.
- an environment where students are given every opportunity to succeed in the widest sense, achieving the best possible outcomes
- the whole school community: governors and staff, parents/carers and young people all working together; using expertise, experience and innovation
- students making a positive contribution to their community

Promoting Positive Behaviour has several key principles

- high expectations and standards for all, a determination that all will succeed
- students have the right to expect a positive and orderly learning environment in which their efforts and achievements are recognised and rewarded
- staff have the right to expect appropriate student behaviour and to ask for assistance from parents/carers and senior colleagues
- inappropriate behaviour should not be tolerated and should be challenged
- our expectation is that students stay on task, are supportive and positive, strive to achieve the best and take an active role in their learning
- students who exceed these expectations should be given recognition and rewards

CARING FOR STUDENTS: THE HOUSE SYSTEM AND LEARNING MENTORS

- At the heart of any successful school are good relationships between students, staff and parents/carers. It is our aim to ensure that each student feels 'comfortable' at school, aware that he or she is known, respected and cared for as an individual.
- Whatever a student's strengths, weaknesses, experiences and potential, we do our utmost to create a stable, positive and caring environment. For many students all that is needed is a good atmosphere and ethos; for some students a little extra support may be helpful.
- When your son or daughter enters the school, he or she is placed in a form of between 25 and 30 students with a Form Tutor who will get to know members of the form very well. The Head of House takes a close interest in the welfare and progress of their students, and excellent relationships are built up over the five years. Often these relationships are formed with the whole family; sometimes younger siblings have met their House Leader well before they actually begin at the school.
- Communication between subject teachers and support staff and between teachers and parents/carers is seen as very important. Form Tutors and House Leaders are always ready to discuss any matter of concern over basic expectations.
- Each year group has a learning mentor who will provide front line support for students with a particular barrier to learning.
- Welfare concerns should be discussed with your son/daughter's form tutor initially.
- Our House system contributes to the life of the school in various ways e.g. through sport and other competitive events, through fund-raising for charity and through the Prefect system. The principal focus for the life of the House, however, is the assembly and act of worship which takes place five times each week. It is here that a vital part of the school's ethos is created and sustained.
- We are a Church school. As such, we feel there is a particular responsibility to set high standards and do all we can to help the young people in our care to fulfill their potential - and to enjoy the experience.
- We offer full time first aid support, an in house Counsellor and speedy referrals to outside agencies should the need arise.
- We use a parent app to enable fast and efficient communication

THE SCHOOL DAY

Year	AM Reg	L1	Early Break 1	L2	Late Break 1	L3	Early Break 2	L4	Late Break 2	PM Reg Form Time	L5
7 Start Finish	8.50am 9.00am	9.00am 10.00am	10.00am 10.25am	10.25am 11.25am	11.25am 12.25pm	12.25pm 12.55pm	12.55pm 1.55pm	1.55pm 2.20pm	2.20pm 3.20pm		
8 Start Finish	8.50am 9.00am	9.00am 10.00am	10.00am 10.25am	10.25am 11.25am	11.25am 12.25pm	12.25pm 12.55pm	12.55pm 1.55pm	1.55pm 2.20pm	2.20pm 3.20pm		
9 Start Finish	8.50am 9.00am	9.00am 10.00am	10.00am 11.00am	11.00am 11.25am	11.25am 12.25pm	12.25pm 1.25pm	1.25pm 1.55pm	1.55pm 2.20pm	2.20pm 3.20pm		
10 Start Finish	8.50am 9.00am	9.00am 10.00am	10.00am 11.00am	11.00am 11.25am	11.25am 12.25pm	12.25pm 1.25pm	1.25pm 1.55pm	1.55pm 2.20pm	2.20pm 3.20pm		
11 Start Finish	8.50am 9.00am	9.00am 10.00am	10.00am 11.00am	11.00am 11.25am	11.25am 12.25pm	12.25pm 1.25pm	1.25pm 1.55pm	1.55pm 2.20pm	2.20pm 3.20pm		

8:50	Registration, including student bulletin/notices (all year groups)
9:00	Lesson 1 (All year groups)
10:00	Lesson 2 (years 9, 10 and 11) Early Break 1 (years 7 and 8)
10:25	Lesson 2 (years 7 and 8)
11:00	Early Break 2 (years 9,10 and 11)
11:25	Lesson 3 (all year groups)
12:25	Late Break 1 (years 7 and 8) Lesson 4 (years 9,10 and 11)
12:55	Lesson 4 (years 7 and 8)
1:25	Late break 2 (year 9, 10 and 11)
1:55	Form Period and Registration (all year groups)
2:20	Lesson 5 (all years)
3:20	End of School Day



Please help us to ensure high standards of dress and appearance by providing full uniform for your son/daughter in accordance with our uniform code. When a student starts at Bishop's the parent/carer is given an up to date copy of the uniform code.

STOCKISTS:

School Shop

Some items (indicated on the list) are only available from the school shop. Please contact school to discuss requirements and arrange collection.
schoolshop@bhbs.hereford.sch.uk

Uniform Shop

St. Peters Street, Hereford.

Please see school website for full uniform details:

The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School - Uniform Expectations and School Shop
(bhbs.hereford.sch.uk)

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AUTUMN 2025

Weekly programme

Please find below an example of the weekly programme of extra curricular activities in the Autumn term. Further details of specific events and matches appear in the termly diaries and fixture cards distributed to students. You will also receive notice and details of concerts and drama productions in letters distributed before each event and on the school website. Bishop's is proud of the wide range and regularity of the extra curricular activities it offers students.

Day	School Club	Details
Monday	Basketball	8.30am, Sports Hall
	CrossFit	3.20pm – 4.30pm
	GCSE PE Intervention	3.20pm – 4.30pm
	Years 7,8,9,10 Rugby	3.20pm – 4.30pm
	STEM Club	3.25pm – 4.00pm, Mr Jones, Room 48
	GCSE Art (Impact Groups)	3.30pm – 4.30pm, Mrs Gregory, Room 54
	Maths Drop in and support	3.20pm – 4.00pm, Room 23
	Addams Family Cast – Singing	3.30pm – 4.15pm, Mrs Collingbourne, Room 70
	Guitar Army	3.30pm – 4.15pm, Mr Strong/Mr Sutton, Room 71
Tuesday	Rugby passing club	8.30am
	Sports Leaders – invite only	3.20pm – 4.30pm
	Table Tennis	3.20pm – 4.30pm
	Year 11 Rugby	3.20pm – 4.30pm
	KS3 Basketball	3.20pm – 4.30pm, Sports Hall
	Chamber Choir	1.50pm – 2.20pm, Mrs Bosworth, Rehearsal Room
Wednesday	Basketball	8.30am, Sports Hall
	Years 7&8 Netball	3.20pm – 4.30pm
	CrossFit	3.20pm – 4.30pm
	GCSE Art (Open to all)	3.30pm – 4.30pm, Mrs Gregory/Mrs Warley, Room 54
	Addams Family Cast – Acting/Choreography	3.30pm – 4.30pm, Mrs Goodall, Mrs Collingbourne, Main Hall
	String Group	1.50pm – 2.20pm, Mrs Kinnaird, Rehearsal Room
	Flute Ensemble	On rotation, Mrs West, Rehearsal Room
	KS4 French Speaking Club	3.30pm – 4.30pm, Mrs Greenwood, Room 18
Thursday	Rugby passing club	8.30am
	Christian Union	12.25pm – 12.55pm Years 7&8 1.25pm – 1.55pm, Years 9-11 Room 1A
	Year 9 & 10 Netball	3.20pm – 4.30pm
	Year 7 & 8 Rugby	3.20pm – 4.30pm
	KS4 Basketball	3.20pm – 4.30pm
	GCSE PE Intervention	3.20pm – 4.30pm
	Warhammer Club	3.30pm – 4.30pm, Mr O'Brien, Humanities Atrium
	Addams Family Principles – Acting/Choreography	3.30pm – 4.30pm, Mrs Goodall/Mrs Collingbourne, Main Hall

	Brass Ensemble	3.20pm – 4.00pm, Mr Griffiths, Rehearsal Room
	Clarinet Ensemble	On rotation, Mrs Rees, Rehearsal Room
	Chess Club	3.20pm – 4.00pm, Mr Parry, Room 43
	Textiles Club	3.20pm – 4.30pm, Mrs Shaw, Room 66
	Anti-Bullying Meeting (all welcome)	3.20pm – 4.20pm, Mrs Barker, Room 53
	Knitting and Crochet Club	3.30pm – 4.20pm, Mrs Reynolds, The Bridge
Friday	GCSE Composition	3.30pm – 4.45pm, Mr Sutton, Room 71

Learning Hub, Library and Computers

Open 8:30am – 4.15pm Monday – Thursday

9.00am – 4.15pm Friday

BHBS

Subject Overviews



- English and English Literature
- Drama
- Mathematics
- Computing
- Science
- Humanities
- Religious Studies and Skills For Life
- Languages
- Physical Education
- Technology
- Art
- Music
- Learning Hub

“Life In All Its Fullness”



CURRICULUM

- Skills based course in Years 7 - 9 with a wide variety of language and literature work.
- Poetry and non-fiction texts also feature strongly in day-to-day teaching.
- A mixture of contemporary and pre-twentieth century Literature, including Shakespeare, studied from Year 7 to Year 11.
- Emphasis on developing verbal communication, as well as reading and writing skills.
- A focus on the creation of multi-media texts in Years 7, 8 and 9.
- Current Year 10 and 11 Students are assessed by a mixture of milestone assessments from the Language and Literature courses. Final examinations at GCSE in both subjects are worth 100% and the Language GCSE also includes an oral presentation to their peers.
- Targeted support and provision for students with Additional Educational Needs.

RESOURCES

- Seven rooms with access to SMART TV, visualisers and a large English-based media library.
- A team of very well qualified and experienced staff.
- Successful Year 6-7 Transition unit of work.
- A significant number of new and engaging novels used to stimulate, engage and challenge students.
- Well stocked resource library with contemporary and literary non-fiction resources.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Theatre visits/KS4 Drama Workshops – relating to GCSE texts.
- Public speaking and debating teams.
- Entrants in nationwide competitions in Poetry and Writing
- KS4 study support groups after school from Autumn term Yr11



DRAMA



CURRICULUM

All students study Drama for one hour each week in Years 8 and 9.

- Year 8 - Spontaneous and polished improvisation; non-verbal communication; communication through movement. Modules include: 'Macbeth', Theatre Through The Ages, Comedy.
- Year 9 – Crafting and sustaining a role; engaging with issue-based theatre and a modern play. Modules include: The Mystery, Page to Stage, The Gothic. Pathway to design allows an opportunity to choose sound, lighting, costume or set design which can be continued at GCSE for interested students.
- Students can opt for the very popular GCSE Drama course consisting of scripted performance, devised performance and a written exam made up of Theatre Roles and Responsibilities, a set text and a live theatre study.

RESOURCES

- Hale Drama Studio offering dedicated space for improvisation and performances using lighting, sound and non-naturalistic elements.
- Stage offering facilities for Drama and performance using lighting, sound and multi-media.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- The aim is to promote theatre and to allow all students to have the opportunity to express themselves through the medium of Drama.
- Whole school productions using students from Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4, with close collaboration with Music and Art.
- The opportunity to experience live theatre, with visits as well as professional companies visiting school, where possible.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Well received productions including; " Avenue Q", " We Will Rock You", "Matilda" and many more. Future events planned including our next production of Matilda.
- Students have been chosen to perform with the National Youth Theatre.
- Former students have extended study of Drama at institutions including The Royal Academy, Central School of Speech and Drama and Guildhall School of Music and Drama before entering the professional theatre.



CURRICULUM

- All students study Mathematics from Year 7 to 11
- The KS3 course combines traditional Mathematics with a more functional type of Mathematics, dealing with real world problems and investigations.
- In KS4, students follow the Edexcel GCSE (9-1) course, with three examinations at the end of Year 11. This may be at the Higher tier (grades 9 to 4) or the Foundation tier (grades 5 to 1).
- All students have access to "Sparx Maths" allowing them to access a vast amount of revision materials, mathematical games and online homework at home or school.

RESOURCES

- The Mathematics rooms are serviced by a department office and work room.
- The curriculum team makes intensive use of interactive SMART TVs at both KS3 and KS4.
- Full use is made of available technology such as revision lessons that can be viewed at home and online homework providing instant feedback.
- A trolley of 16 laptops is available for use in lessons.
- A Higher Level Teaching Assistant is dedicated to the Mathematics team.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Mathematics staff are always available to provide additional help outside lesson time if needed.
- Homework and help clubs are run every week.
- Revision classes are provided in the build up to key examinations.
- Gifted and talented Mathematicians are entered in the UK Intermediate and Junior Mathematics Challenges achieving excellent results. We also enter teams in competitions against other local schools.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Top set students at GCSE also take the AQA Level 2 Certificate in Further Mathematics, excellent preparation for A level.
- Many students go on to study Mathematics to A Level and beyond.



CURRICULUM

Students at KS3 receive 1 hour per week of lessons. We aim to prepare students for their use of computers and other technology in school and later life; covering such themes as e-safety and cyber security, as well as introducing them to programming.

At KS4 we offer GCSE Computer Science. This covers a wide range of topics such as logic, algorithms, programming and an understanding of the components that make up digital systems. Students can also opt to study Creative iMedia, which equips them with the wide range of knowledge and skills needed to work in the creative digital media sector.

RESOURCES

The school has 6 main teaching rooms, each equipped with 30 pcs; other departments also have dedicated suites or hubs of laptops and tablets.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

There are a number of after-school activities offered, as well as support being provided in the build up to examinations.

ACHIEVEMENTS

We are an increasingly popular choice at KS4. Students have gone on to study Computing at A level and beyond with great success.



CURRICULUM

At KS3, students follow our adapted version of the new KS3 Programme of study. This has the applications of science firmly embedded within in it and provides students with plenty of practical opportunities and investigative work. Biology, Chemistry and Physics are taught as separate units, and the fundamental principles of 'Working Scientifically' are taught in each lesson. This enables students to develop important skills such as modelling, data analysis and scientific literacy whilst preparing them for the GCSE course.

At KS4, students will either follow the Edexcel Pearson Combined Science or Triple Science courses. Students following the Combined Science course will achieve two GCSE grades. Triple Science is an option subject and enables students to attain separate GCSE's in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

RESOURCES

The Science Faculty is well equipped with nine laboratories. We make extensive use of ICT and benefit from a lab equipped with PC's, in addition, we have two suites of laptops, data loggers and a class set of digital cameras.

A team of very experienced and dedicated teachers staffs the Science Faculty and we have an equal proportion of Physicists, Biologists and Chemists who are passionate about their subject and are continually involved in developing their professional practice.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

An enthusiastic, lively and well-attended science club provides opportunities for students to explore and discover science in a more informal manner. Activities have included the usual flashes and bangs, construction of loudspeakers and motors, candle making and many other experiences. We have close links with the STEM network and have a range of speakers coming in to school to vary students' experiences of science.

ACHIEVEMENTS

We are very proud of our excellent record of accomplishment in Science. Attainment continues to be high and we are proud of the large proportion of 8 and 9 grades achieved by our triple scientists.

The uptake of A Levels in Science by our students is high with many of them progressing to study science related courses at university.





HUMANITIES



CURRICULUM

- All students are taught a broad and balanced curriculum in History and Geography, in Years 7 to 9, following National Curriculum programmes of study.
- Large numbers take History and Geography at GCSE, (consistently above the national average).
- Emphasis is placed on developing oral, practical research, thinking and writing skills in a lively approach to teaching and learning.
- Fieldwork and residential visits are an integral part of departmental schemes of work.
- The faculty is abreast of the latest curriculum and subject innovations within each subject area.
- We include the National Literacy Scheme, the Secondary National Strategy and Citizenship in subject schemes of work.

RESOURCES

- A suite of six well-equipped specialist rooms including a purpose designed GIS lab/History research central resource area and study centre.
- Dedicated tablets for Humanities work
- Extensive use of ICT, interactive SMART TV and visual resources in schemes of work.
- Regular use of the school's learning hub centre to develop independent learning.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Regular KS3 visit opportunities.
- Emphasis on learning outside the classroom in Geography
- In addition to regular use of the local environment for fieldwork, the department also runs overseas visits, for example to the First World War battlefields in Northern France/Belgium, to Berlin and Krakow and Auschwitz.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- GCSE results in both subjects are above the national average.
- Many students go on to study the subjects to 'A' level and beyond.
- Use of Instagram to celebrate and enhance learning.





All students are taught a broad and balanced curriculum in Religious Education and Skills for Life (S4L). In Religious Studies we follow the Understanding Christianity programme and the Herefordshire Agreed Syllabus. Our lessons aim to create a safe space which stimulates debate and discussion. Our Teachers, who are experts in their field, will help students to develop their skills by challenging the variety of conceptions, preconceptions and misconceptions. Through the study of religion our students will consider the following fields:

- Theology (believing): exploring where beliefs come from - how they have transformed over time, how they are applied differently in different circumstances and how they relate to each other.
- Philosophy (thinking): exploring concepts like ethics, the nature of reality, thought, existence, time, morality, meaning and value.
- Social Sciences (living): exploring the varied ways in which people express their beliefs; engaging with the impact of beliefs on individuals, communities, and societies.

Religious Education is a compulsory subject through to 16 and all students follow the short course GCSE examination course with an option for students to take the Full Course GCSE.

All students take a course in Personal, Social, Citizenship and Health Education in both Key Stages. This is called S4L (Skills for Life)

In RE and S4L, students develop skills in interpreting and evaluating information, communicating and applying knowledge, and in solving problems. They also have the opportunity to develop their debating skills.

In KS3 RS, students study nine units which include:

- God and creation
- The Fall and why people are good
- The people of God and wisdom
- Inspiration and action

- What is so radical about Jesus
- Salvation and enlightenment
- Life and death
- Living the Christian life • Living the Muslim life

In KS4 RS students explore issues of Christian Belief and Muslim Belief and two themes: Relationships and Families, Religion Peace and Conflict. Students who opt to study the Full Course GCSE will also study Christian Practices, Muslim Practices and two further themes that include: Religion and Life, and Religion Crime and Punishment.

In S4L students look at how they develop as a person, physically and socially in order to help them to develop the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to manage their lives. As part of a whole school approach, S4L develops the qualities and attributes students need to thrive as individuals, family members and members of society.

RESOURCES

- There are four well equipped, specialist rooms with a central resource area.
- Regular use of technology to support learning and engage and challenge students.
- Up to date textbooks reflecting the modern issues faced in society.
- Religious artefacts are used to support teaching in KS3 and KS4

OUTSIDE LEARNING

- In RS there are opportunities for students to visit other places of worship. These visits support the teaching of several of the religions taught in KS3.
- In S4L there are opportunities for outside visits and visiting speakers taking sessions in both KS3 and KS4. These may include demonstrations from The Safer Roads Partnership, talks from local Police Education Officers and Magistrates.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- GCSE results are strong for those that opt for full course.
- Many students go on to study Religious Studies to 'A' level and beyond.



CURRICULUM

- Students learn French in Year 7, which they continue into years 8 and 9.
- Those students who perform exceptionally well and show an aptitude in languages in Year 7 will be offered the opportunity to take Spanish as an additional language, alongside French, in Years 8 and 9.
- We adopt a lively, active and enjoyable approach to learning languages which covers all four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing and develops intercultural awareness, as students learn about the world and where the languages they are learning are used and the customs and traditions of the people who speak those languages.
- Our teaching aims to foster good retrieval practice and to develop effective, confident learners who are able to independently manipulate and use the language they have learnt.
- A student's language learning journey begins with personal information and everyday life and then moves on so that students are able to take part in day-to-day interactions, cope in a target language country and discuss issues of wider concern, beyond their own lives.
- GCSEs are available in Spanish and French.

Students with skills in other languages which they speak/have learnt at home are encouraged to gain formal accreditation for these where this is available.

RESOURCES

- A suite of four attractive, recently refurbished and well-equipped specialist rooms.
- A team of well-qualified staff, each speaking at least two languages in addition to English.
- Effective use of technology to enhance teaching and learning, including the use of interactive screens.
- Recently updated text books and online resources to enable students to progress on to GCSE success.
- Technology used to enable students to present their spoken work, as well as to aid retrieval and practise vocabulary via online homework and learning tasks.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- During a student's time at Bishop's, there will be opportunities to enjoy international travel and experience the languages they are learning in real-life situations.
- Ongoing coaching and support for KS4 students to prepare them for GCSE success, with additional online resources.
- Cultural awareness enrichment events.
- Opportunities to be involved in outreach events to our local primary schools.
- Spelling Bee
- Language Ambassadors scheme, where students take on leadership roles and help to organise some of our outreach events, competitions and cultural events.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Consistently successful GCSE results across the different languages.
- We have traditionally had students going on to study Languages at 'A' level and in Higher Education.
- Involvement in the training of ITT students.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION



CURRICULUM

- Our aim is to provide a curriculum and extra-curricular programme that caters for all interests and ability whilst aligning with the expectations of the national curriculum.
- Our KS3 curriculum offers a breadth of sporting activities with students having the opportunity to participate in 8 different sports in Year 7 alone.
- KS4 students are provided with additional opportunities to further enhance employability and key life skills through tailored courses.
- PE staff are committed to delivering high quality lessons that promote participation and enjoyment whilst encouraging students to strive to achieve their potential.
- Although being active is an essential part of our teaching philosophy, understanding the importance of why we exercise underlines all lessons.
- During each key stage students will be expected to learn and apply key language to their lessons.
- We offer two examination pathways to help cater for all learning styles. These are: Edexcel GCSE PE and OCR Sports Studies.

RESOURCES

- A well-equipped Sports Hall and Gymnasium including indoor cricket nets
- Playing fields to include 1 rugby pitch, 1x11 aside and 1x9 aside football pitch alongside an all-weather cricket wicket.
- Large off-site playing fields with a sports pavilion and room for 3 rugby pitches, 3 football pitches an athletics track, long jump pit and a grass cricket square.
- A functional fitness room which has recently been updated with new equipment.
- Courted area to accommodate X5 Netball courts, x7 tennis courts and a basketball court
- X7 outdoor table tennis tables
- Over the past two years we have secured over £40,000 in funding which has allowed us to purchase 4 trampolines and new fitness equipment

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Each year the PE department run a whole school sports day in which every student is provided with an opportunity to take part and represent their houses.
- We hold an annual Sports Awards Evening providing us with an opportunity to celebrate both team and individual sporting success.
- Inter-house sports competitions are held throughout the year in a range of sporting activities for KS3.
- Year 9's are given the opportunity to apply to become Sports Leaders who then support both school and community sporting projects such as the School Games
- The PE department have recently reintroduced Sports Tours as part of our mission to provide additional sporting opportunities. This year sees a joint netball and football tour departing for Barcelona during October half term 2024.
- We have an extensive extra-curricular programme that is offered to all students throughout the academic year both before and after school, this can be viewed on the school website. These are supported by a number of experienced local coaches.
- Externally run clubs such as fencing, cheerleading and table tennis feature on our extra-curricular programme.
- We regularly host inclusive festivals providing SEND students within the county to take part in a range of inclusive activities providing them with the opportunity to represent their school.
- For the past 3 years we have engaged and attended the 'Here Girls Can' festival.



OUR 2024/25 SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

- Received the best school for football three years running being awarded the Richard Wydenbach trophy
- U12, U14 and U16 representation at Westside and county Netball
- U12 and U13 boys' football county champions
- U12 girls' football county champions
- Seven teams qualified for the football County Finals
- U15 boys' rugby County Champions for the second year running
- U16 boys' rugby team won the Plate
- Our KS4 basketball team made it to the County Final for the 4th year running
- Two Y7 teams entered the County Softball Cricket tournament achieving 1st and 3rd
- The mixed Y7&8 Cricket Hardball team lost in the final of the County competition
- Our KS3 girls softball cricket team also lost in the final of the County competition
- Students across all age groups represented the county in Athletics with four qualifying to represent Hereford & Worcestershire at the Mason Trophy meet
- BHBS students have taken part in a research project which is now being published and will be used to help support schools and education establishment across the country.
- Our Sports Leaders programme has continued to grow offering 30 BHBS students to opportunity to develop their leadership skills and apply these to supporting the local community by running various festivals for young people.
- The PE department organised and ran its first International Sports Tour in 6 years which was a great success
- Individual student achievements are celebrated by receiving either a flash, half colours or full colours tie.



Technology



This is an exciting and dynamic area of the curriculum, incorporating Engineering, Food Preparation & Nutrition, Graphical Communication, Materials & Manufacturing and Electronics. Technology is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject. Using creativity and imagination, students make a range of products that solve real and relevant problems within a variety of contexts, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values. Students are encouraged to embrace failure and success equally, learn from each iteration of their product and challenge themselves with a 'can do' attitude. They acquire a broad range of subject knowledge and draw on disciplines such as mathematics, science and. Students learn how to be creative, becoming resourceful and innovative. Through the evaluation of past and present technology, they develop a critical understanding of its impact and are inspired to and manufacture solutions.

CURRICULUM

Key Stage 3 - Five courses

All students in Years 7 – 9 study Technology. The subject is all about learning to design and make, using a range of equipment and technological activities. In Years 7, 8 and 9 students visit five focus areas, which include food, construction in wood, engineering, electronics: systems & control and graphical communication. In these areas' students are taught how to design and make a variety of products, using a range of materials and equipment.

Currently, Years 7, 8 & 9 students 2 hours of technology per week.

Students will be working actively within their lessons, learning about materials and the safe use of equipment. They will also be taught to come up with their own design ideas and to produce finished products.

What do you need to be 'good' at Design and Technology?

Successful students will be alert and interested in their surroundings – looking at the design of items and being curious about what they are made from, and how they are made. They need to be good at listening to instructions and working to a time limit. They also need to be able to work positively and to be proud of the things that they produce.

RESOURCES

- Eight well equipped specialist rooms, including food areas, drawing studios, a technology area and workshops.
- Three rooms, each equipped with 24 computers for use with graphics, CAD software, 3D printer, Laser cutter and Systems and Control.
- Lap-top computers in food areas for nutritional analysis work, and workshops for design activities.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Use of facilities by students after school to continue project work. Also regular after-school workshop clubs.

Bright Sparks – An electronics club for those with an interest in electronics and wish to further explore and practise their skills.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Increasing numbers of students from Bishop's following Technology based courses at post-16 courses, many students going on to degree courses across the country.
- Close links with Hereford Group Training has led to a massive increase in students going into engineering based apprenticeships.
- The department supports D & T throughout the county in both primary and secondary schools, hosting training courses for staff, providing resources for other schools and regularly welcoming KS2 students into the workshops and food areas. The most recent project, 'Scrap Mechanic', has been delivered to Year 5 students across 6 local primary schools.
- Strong local business links have helped to develop a number of STEM activities.
- STEM workshops and trips throughout the year.
- Regular visits from the Herefordshire NMITE 'Imagination Laboratory', promoting STEM activities across KS3 and KS4, with a strong focus on developing more female engineers.



All students study Art and Design in Years 7 to 9 with students experiencing a variety of disciplines including drawing, painting, printmaking, mixed media, ceramics and 3D modelling. About one third of each year group continues studying Art and Design to GCSE, following a varied course allowing students to experience all areas of study.

RESOURCES

- Two well-equipped busy studios, each catering for all areas of study, which provide pleasant and stimulating environments for students.
- Each art room benefits from ICT equipment including:
 - Interactive smart TV
 - Computers
 - Digital cameras
 - Printer
- This is complemented with a wide range of visual stimulus, i.e. visuals, image database, books and a collection of natural and man-made materials.
- Two committed and hardworking staff who can offer a broad and excitingly rich experience of Art and Design. Specialisms include: graphic design, photography, fine art, textiles, 3D design and ceramics.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

After-school master club are on offer to allow students develop more key skills in Ceramics, Textiles, Photography, Fine Art and Graphics during different points in the year. The department also offer KS4 catch up clubs.

- The Department runs clubs lunch times clubs for students to continue or catch up on work from lessons.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- A major exhibition of the GCSE coursework of all students taking Art, Craft and Design is mounted each summer, to which parents and governors are invited.
- Increasing numbers of students go on to study Art, Craft and Design at the Sixth Form College or Herefordshire College of Arts.
- Art is an extremely popular option in the upper school with approx 100 KS4 students currently taking GCSE.





Music



CURRICULUM

- All students study Music in Years 7, 8 and 9. They are taught in mixed ability classes in Year 7 and grouped according to individual need in Years 8 and 9.
- Classroom activity involves listening, composing, performing and appraising music through practical activities, supported by an extensive Mac network.
- Schemes of work are creative, varied and innovative, using tried and tested methods of music teaching; combining traditional and modern approaches to music making. Pop, rock and a variety of world music is studied alongside classical music.
- Students in Years 10 and 11 may opt for GCSE Music.

RESOURCES

- Two main music teaching classrooms, five practice rooms and a small rehearsal room.
- Two iMac computer suites (using Sibelius, Garageband and Logic Pro X), multi-track equipment and a recording facility.
- In addition to two Music teachers who are full-time members of staff, the school also has the services of 11 specialists who provide tuition for instrumentalists and singers. They also lead instrumentalist groups according to their professional performing specialism.
- We put on four formal concerts a year, with an average of one hundred students performing.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We run a weekly programme of musical activities, which encourages those with musical interest and ability to reach high standards. This includes:

- Bishop's Show Choir
- Chamber Choir
- String Ensemble
- Brass Ensemble
- Rehearsal facilities for school rock bands
- Guitar Army
- Other groups: Clarinet Ensembles, Flute Choirs, Sax Choir,

A wide range of opportunities for public performance for musicians of all standards, including:

- Annual Cathedral Carol Service
- Termly concerts and house assemblies
- An annual Musical Theatre Production
- Shake Off collaboration with The Hey Yahs

ACHIEVEMENTS

- A consistently high standard of public performance.
- Excellent GCSE results
- The school provides many instrumentalists for the County Orchestras.
- Former students have become members of the National Youth Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Hallé Orchestra, National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain and the National Youth Choir of Great Britain.
- Students from Bishop's have been selected to continue their musical education at the Royal Northern School of Music, Chetham's School and the Purcell School in London, and some have gone on to perform in West End musicals as well as pursuing choral scholarships at Oxbridge.



SOME OTHER ASPECTS OF THE CURRICULUM: *THE LEARNING HUB*



The Learning Hub centre has a policy of open access for students of all year groups throughout the school day to provide space and resources for homework, work catch up and revision groups. We aim to promote an enjoyment of reading and to develop our students' ability to use the library for independent learning and research. Key Stage 3 students use the library for reading and completing catch up work or homework. In Key Stage 3, the Accelerated Reader Programme is used to increase students' enjoyment of reading and comprehension as the books are organised in the library by reading age to support good book choice and progression with literacy. Key Stage 4 students use the library for revision groups or independent research tasks. Library use is built into the schemes of work in most curriculum areas. We have gradually extended the library to offer a wider range of learning resources. In addition to the large fiction and nonfiction sections, there are computer work stations available and iPads, together with an audio library with listening and viewing facilities, as well as four smaller rooms for small group and one to one working. There is a lift to allow easy access to both floors by all students.