

2026-27



School Prospectus

The Bishop of Hereford's
Bluecoat School

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Strong leadership drives
the school vision of 'life in
all its fullness'

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Headteacher Welcome

A warm welcome to the Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School.

As the Headteacher of The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School I am privileged and honoured to be entrusted with the leadership of this distinguished institution and to work with dedicated students, staff, parents/carers, and governors. The school has a long and proud history, built upon a foundation of strong values and excellence.

As a parent choosing the right school is one of the most important decisions that must be made. This prospectus and our website aims to provide the information necessary to promote our school and support your decision.

At Bishop's we aim to provide each student with opportunities and values to flourish. We value our reputation as a happy caring community where students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning and development. As a school we focus upon the development of the whole student.



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We strive to ensure that students excel academically and work closely with parents and carers to provide an environment and ethos that means each student leaves Bishop's as kind, compassionate, successful, and responsible community members. We all want children to mature and live happy, positive, fulfilling lives that maximises their potential, whether that is university, Oxbridge, or a vocational profession.

There are many opportunities on offer for students at Bishop's, both within and outside the normal curriculum. We are proud that students try new experiences and develop their gifts and talents in sports and the arts.

We encourage students to take on leadership responsibilities in line with their interests ranging from being part of our student council, helping to run facilities such as the library or providing audio visual support for productions, to leading teams and performing.

Mr T Williams
Headteacher

Ofsted & SIAMS Reports



Highlights from Ofsted Report: February 2026

- Students are friendly, welcoming and eloquent. They are proud of their school
- The school has high expectations of students' conduct
- Students work hard in lessons and know that bullying is not tolerated
- The school is a calm and nurturing learning environment
- Students are prepared well for the next stage of education, employment or training and move on to positive destinations
- Relationships between staff and students are positive and respectful
- Disadvantaged students do particularly well
- Students have access to and engage in a broad range of enrichment activities



Highlights from SIAMS Report: November 2025

- Strong leadership drives the school vision of 'life in all its fullness.'
- The needs of students are met with compassion, enabling them to thrive.
- Students show consistently positive behaviour, building warm, respectful relationships.
- A vastness of opportunity ensures that students develop as considerate individuals.

Pastoral Structure

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 & Pastoral Mentors

- At the heart of any successful school are strong relationships between students, staff and parents/carers. It is our aim to ensure that each student feels safe 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 child enters the school, they are 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 Pastoral Mentor who will provide front line support for students with a particular barrier to learning.
- Welfare concerns should be discussed with your child'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 their school experience.
- We offer full time first aid support, an in school counsellor and speedy referrals to outside agencies should the need arise.

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The School Day

Year	AM Reg	L1	Early Break 1 Movement – 10:20	L 2 Early Break 2 Movement – 11:20	L3	Late Break 1 Movement – 12:50	L 4 Late Break 2 - Movement 1:50pm	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

School Uniform

Please help us to ensure high standards of dress and appearance by providing full uniform for your child 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

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 2026

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 extra curricular activities it offers students.

Day	School Club	Details
Monday	Tennis (all years)	3.20pm - 4.30pm
	Athletics	3.20pm - 4.30pm
	STEM Club	3.25pm - 4.00pm, Mr Jones, Room 48
	Maths Drop in and support	3.20pm - 4.00pm, Room 23
	Guitar Army	3.30pm - 4.15pm, Mr Strong/Mr Sutton, Room 71
Tuesday	Years 9 & 10 Wellbeing Group (invite only)	1.25pm - 2.20pm, Room 1A (starting Tuesday 21st April)
	Chamber Choir	1.50pm - 2.20pm, Mrs Bosworth, Rehearsal Room
	Years 9 & 10 Badminton	3.20pm - 4.30pm
	Years 9-11 Psychology Club	3.30pm - 4.30pm, Miss Wicks, Room 58
Wednesday	String Group	1.50pm - 2.20pm, Mrs Kinnaird, Rehearsal Room
	Flute Ensemble	On rotation, Mrs West, Rehearsal Room
	Years 7 & 8 Handball	3.20pm - 4.30pm
	Years 7 & 8 Rounders	3.20pm - 4.30pm
	KS4 French Speaking Club	3.30pm - 4.30pm, Mrs Greenwood and Mrs Campbell, Room 18
Thursday	Christian Union	12.25pm - 12.55pm Years 7 & 8 1.25pm - 1.55pm, Years 9-11 Room 1A
	Cricket (all years)	3.20pm - 4.30pm
	Years 9, 10 & 11 Rounders	3.20pm - 4.30pm
	Warhammer Club	3.30pm - 4.30pm, Mr O'Brien, Humanities Atrium
	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 (until 19 th February), 3.20pm - 5.00pm (from 26 th February) Mrs Shaw, Room 66
	Anti-Bullying Club (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

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English & English Literature

Curriculum

- Schemes of work in Year 7-9 build skills required for GCSE incrementally, allowing students to experience the diverse range of skills required for the successful study of Literature and non fiction. 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 formative and summative 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

- Eight rooms with access to interactive whiteboards.
- A team of very well qualified and experienced staff.
- Successful partnerships with feeder schools with colleagues visiting to deliver engaging materials to Year 6 students in readiness for their transition.
- 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.
- Year 9: Crafting and sustaining a role; engaging with issue based theatre and a modern play.
- Students can opt for the very popular Level 2 Performing Arts course consisting of scripted and devised performances, with opportunities for designers such as lighting, sound and costume

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 "The Addams Family", "We Will Rock You", and many more
- 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



Mathematics

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 (grades 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 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 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 have the opportunity to 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.



Computing

Curriculum

Students at KS3 receive a 1 hour lesson each week. 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.

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Students have access to and engage in a broad range of enrichment activities

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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.



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Science

Curriculum

At KS3 students follow our adapted version of the KS3 Programme of study. This has the applications of science firmly embedded within 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 GCSEs 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 PCs; in addition, we have two suites of tablets, data loggers and a class set of digital cameras.

A team of very experienced and dedicated teachers lead 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.

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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.
- Inspirational and talented subject specialist teaching staff.
- Large numbers take History and Geography at GCSE.
- Emphasis is placed on developing oral, practical research, thinking and writing skills in a focused approach to teaching and learning.
- Fieldwork is an integral part of departmental schemes of work.
- The faculty is abreast of the latest curriculum and subject innovations within each subject area.

Resources

- A suite of six well equipped specialist rooms
- Study group work area

Extra-Curricular Activities

- Regular KS 3 visit opportunities
- Emphasis on learning outside the classroom in Geography
- Use of the local environment for fieldwork
- Students involved in local authority climate change conferences
- Links with local museum and archive centres

Achievements

- Many students go on to study the subjects to A level and beyond

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nurturing learning
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Religious Studies & Skills For Life

Curriculum

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 11 units which include:

- Philosophy and world views
- Abraham: The significance of the covenants
- Prophethood
- Diversity in religion
- Ethics: How do we know what is good
- Jesus: How do different Abrahamic faiths view Jesus
- Buddhism
- Suffering
- Rebels: Should we embrace or challenge
- Religious Law: Relevance today
- What do Christians believe.

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

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.

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 Skills for Life 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

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





Languages

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 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.
- Engaging text books and online resources to enable students to progress on to GCSE success. This includes resources and tasks which are inline with the new GCSE specifications which we are now following at KS4.
- 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 and opportunities to take part in national languages competitions and 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 student teachers.





Physical Education

At Bishop's, Physical Education is at the heart of school life.

We are proud to offer a dynamic, high quality and inclusive programme that enables every student to enjoy sport, develop confidence, and achieve their personal best.

Curriculum

At Key Stage 3, students follow a broad and engaging curriculum designed to develop fundamental skills across a wide range of activities. In Year 7 alone, students participate in up to eight different sports, providing variety, challenge and opportunities to discover new interests. Alongside practical performance, students begin to build their understanding of fitness and training, explore the wider benefits of exercise, and develop the confidence to use subject specific terminology accurately. This foundation supports both their physical development and their ability to understand and apply key concepts within physical education.

At Key Stage 4, students are provided with additional opportunities to further develop their performance, knowledge and understanding through both practical and theoretical pathways.

We offer two examination courses: Edexcel GCSE Physical Education and OCR Cambridge National Sports Studies, allowing students to select a route that best suits their strengths and interests. These courses enable students to build on the foundations established at Key Stage 3, while also developing key employability and life skills such as leadership, analysis and independent learning.

Alongside practical performance, there is a continued emphasis on understanding the importance and benefits of physical activity, with students expected to apply subject specific terminology and theoretical knowledge to enhance their overall performance and engagement in sport.

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
- 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 newly developed functional fitness room with accompanying equipment, interactive whiteboards and state of the art sound system.
- Courted area to accommodate 5x netball courts, 7x tennis courts and a basketball court
- 7x outdoor table tennis tables
- Over the past two years we have secured over £45,000 in funding which has allowed us to purchase 4 trampolines , fitness equipment and table tennis tables.



Extra-Curricular Activities

The Physical Education department provides a wide range of opportunities for students to engage in sport beyond the curriculum. An annual whole school Sports Day ensures all students can participate and represent their houses, while the Sports Awards Evening celebrates both individual and team achievements. Inter house competitions run throughout the year, particularly at Key Stage 3, fostering participation, teamwork and healthy competition.

Students are encouraged to take on leadership roles, with Year 9 students able to apply for the Sports Leaders programme, supporting both school and community initiatives, including the School Games and Girls' Barclays Football programmes. Opportunities to attend live sporting events and take part in an international sports tour, held every two years, further enrich students' experiences.

A comprehensive extra curricular programme runs throughout the year, before and after school, offering a wide variety of activities to suit all interests. This includes externally delivered clubs such as table tennis and basketball, alongside newly introduced activities including handball, functional fitness, tennis and cricket nets.

The department is committed to inclusivity, regularly hosting festivals for SEND students from across the county and actively supporting initiatives such as the 'Here Girls Can' festival, promoting participation and engagement in sport for all.

Our 2025/26 Sporting Achievements

- Awarded the Richard Wydenbach Trophy for Best School in Football for four consecutive years.
- Netball continues to flourish, with multiple players selected for county and regional squads.
- U12, U13, U14, and U16 girls' football teams have all qualified for county finals.
- U12 and U14 boys' football teams have also progressed to county finals.
- U14 and U15 boys' rugby teams reached the semi final stage of county competitions.
- U16 boys' rugby team achieved county finalist status.
- U14 rugby team crowned County 7s Champions.
- U12 basketball team achieved County Champion status.
- Three students qualified for the County Cross Country competition.
- Students across all year groups have represented the county in athletics.
- Students participated in a research project that is now being published to support schools and educational institutions nationwide.
- The Sports Leaders programme has received recognition for its ongoing contribution to the community.
- Awarded the Gold School Games Mark in recognition of commitment to and engagement in school sport.
- U15 girls' football team and U14 netball team won their respective tournaments during the recent international sports tour to Malaga.
- Student achievements are formally recognised and celebrated at the annual Sports Awards Evening.



Technology

Technology is a vibrant and forward thinking area of the curriculum, encompassing Engineering, Food Preparation and Nutrition, Graphical Communication, Materials and Manufacturing, and Electronics. It is an inspiring, rigorous and highly practical subject that encourages students to apply creativity and imagination to design and produce solutions to real and relevant problems, while considering the needs, wants and values of others.

Students are supported to view both success and failure as essential parts of the design process, learning through iteration and developing resilience alongside a positive, 'can do' mindset. They build a broad base of subject knowledge, drawing on disciplines such as mathematics and science, while becoming increasingly resourceful, innovative and independent learners.

Through the analysis and evaluation of past and present technologies, students develop a critical understanding of their impact on society. This empowers them to think creatively and confidently design and manufacture purposeful solutions for the future.

In Food Preparation and Nutrition, students develop a strong understanding of diet, nutrition and healthy eating, exploring how ingredients and cooking methods contribute to a balanced lifestyle. This knowledge is embedded through regular, structured practical sessions, where students apply theoretical understanding, refine key cooking skills, and build confidence in preparing a wide range of dishes safely and independently.

Curriculum

Key Stage 3

All students in Years 7 to 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 and 9 students have 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 successful 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.

Laptop 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.

Textiles club - KS3 and 4 students can practise their textiles skills across a range of mini projects.

Achievements

The Technology Department continues to provide a rich and engaging curriculum, offering students valuable real world experiences alongside strong academic outcomes.

Strong KS5 links established, including student visits to Hereford College of Arts for both Technology and Catering, supporting progression routes and industry awareness.

Regular educational trips to the Williams Racing team, providing real world engineering insight and inspiration.

Excellent GCSE results in Design and Technology, reflecting high quality teaching and strong student outcomes.

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Relationships between staff and students are positive and respectful

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Art

Curriculum

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
 - iPads
- 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 classes 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 at lunch times clubs for students to continue or catch up on work from lessons.

Achievements

- 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 70 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 running Logic Pro X, a wide range of musical instruments and a 48 channel digital mixing desk
- 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 Yaks

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





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 reading 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.

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Students are prepared well for the next stage of education, employment or training and move on to positive destinations

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