



Enrichment

Sixth Form is a time for developing a wider understanding in both your subjects and the world around you. Enriching the curriculum of every student here is a core part of what we do.

We look to offer opportunities for students to develop their leadership skills, participate in debates and improve their employability with a range of transferable skills. Our enrichment offer includes:

- **Religious Education**

The Sixth Form General RE course follows a two-year programme. The course consists of broad areas of study including theology, scripture, prayer and moral issues, approached particularly from a Christian perspective. In Year 13, students also explore these issues through the study of other world religions and both Year 12 and Year 13 students have the opportunity to participate in prayer/meditation sessions. The course is designed to challenge and stimulate students and help them reflect on their own beliefs and the beliefs of others.

- **Sport**

The timetable in the Sixth Form includes lessons dedicated to physical fitness and playing sport. Students can use the facilities in the Merici Hall and our extensive school grounds in these lessons and it provides a key opportunity for students to play together and develop meta skills, such as co-operation, communication and resilience.

- **The Extended Project (EPQ)**

The Extended Project is a freestanding Level 3 qualification, equivalent to half an A-Level. EPQ encourages students to engage in independent research by exploring and developing their knowledge on a topic of their choice relating to one of their A Level subjects. The EPQ encourages students to work more independently in exploring and developing their knowledge of a subject they have chosen. The outcome is also determined by the learner and at BUCHS this takes the form of a 5,000 word mini-dissertation. Learners can achieve up to 28 UCAS points on completion of this qualification.

- **The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme**

The Duke of Edinburgh's award (Dof E) is designed to support the personal and social development of young people. It offers an individual challenge and encourages young people aged 14-24 the opportunity to develop skills for life and work. The Award is widely recognised by educationalists and employers.

We offer all three levels of the Award: Bronze, Silver and Gold to the Sixth Form. Participants must demonstrate achievement and dedication through activities in four sections:

1. Volunteering (for example, working with a charity)
2. Skills; a hobby, skill or interest (for example, showing progress with a musical instrument)
3. Physical recreation; sports, dance or fitness
4. Expeditions: from two to four days depending on the level of the award.

- **Work Experience**

Students are encouraged to complete work experience in their school holidays. This is a chance for students to see what parents, siblings and the wider family do in their working life and provides a deeper insight into the working world.

BTEC Business students have to complete work experience as a compulsory part of their course and teachers will provide further details on the arrangements for this.

- **Additional Activities**

Universities and employers are increasingly expecting more from applicants and it is no longer enough to simply succeed in exams. In order to help our Sixth Form pupils reach their potential, students are encouraged to take advantage of opportunities for study outside of lessons and school itself. Participation in such super-curricular activities is excellent development for our young people and we also offer:

- Theatre visits, retreats, field trips and conferences;
- Trips to Ursuline Schools abroad and participation in Ursuline Links;
- Visits to and from universities and careers fairs, including trips to Cambridge or Oxford University.

We also offer a wealth of extra-curricular opportunities in school that will develop our students both personally and socially, as well as enhancing their leadership skills.

These include:

- the opportunity to work with primary school children at a local school (ideal for those who are considering a career in teaching or working with children)
- the paired reading scheme
- mentoring younger students
- supporting and participating in leading GCSE lessons
- charity fundraising through the school house teams
- leading assemblies across the range of the school year groups
- a range of sporting activities
- studying conversational modern foreign languages
- developing ICT skills