



Enrichment

At Brentwood Ursuline, we are committed to providing an education that develops the whole person. Our enrichment programme enables students to extend their learning, cultivate new skills, and prepare for life beyond school.

Wednesday Enrichment

A distinctive feature of our provision is **Wednesday Enrichment**, when students are given dedicated time to engage in these activities and explore new areas of interest. This structured programme enhances the Sixth Form curriculum, encouraging intellectual curiosity, personal responsibility, and a spirit of service, while equipping our students with the confidence and resilience required for university and future professional life. In addition to timetabled sport, pupils may choose from a wide range of pursuits, including Russian, Food Preparation for University, Social Sciences, Ursuline Action, and Public Speaking.

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)

An EPQ is an additional qualification that can be undertaken as a way to explore additional interests or passions, allowing students to build on the academic language and comprehensive research skills needed for university.

All students in the Sixth Form are offered the opportunity to complete an EPQ under careful guidance of dedicated teachers. Students are however expected to consider the rigorous and demanding nature of an EPQ alongside their existing course requirements. EPQ assemblies and meetings are

held in the Spring term of Year 12 for interested students in order to prepare them before undertaking a project.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

The Duke of Edinburgh's award (DofE) 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

During Year 12, there is a dedicated week for students to arrange and undertake a work experience placement. Throughout their time in the Sixth Form, there will be other opportunities for encounters with professionals.

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
- developing ICT skills

