

BEAL SIXTH FORM

ONE SIXTH FORM – TWO SITES – THREE PATHWAYS

SIXTH FORM

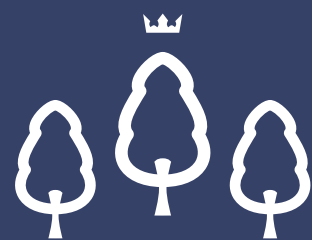
PROSPECTUS

2023-2024



Beacon Academy Trust

A COMPELLING VISION FOR SUCCESS



BEAL SIXTH FORM

ONE SIXTH FORM - TWO SITES - THREE PATHWAYS

WELCOME TO BEAL SIXTH FORM

We are BSF

One sixth form

Across two sites

Offering three
pathways to success

Our core aim is to provide an exceptional and world class quality of education for all of the post-16 students in our school community.

'The effectiveness of the sixth form is outstanding'



We aspire to

- Provide all young people with access to an ambitiously inclusive curriculum that enables them to fulfil their potential
- Improve the life chances and cultural /social capital of all learners
- Develop resilient, self-regulating and empowered young people who positively contribute to their communities and who understand their responsibilities as British citizens

Our students are proud of their school community and strive to fulfil their promise and potential.

Staff all work together across our sixth form family to advance equality of opportunity through providing the best academic and pastoral support we can, so our young people can be the best they can be as they build their successful future. As a post 16 institution connecting to the wider school community, we take our Public Sector Equality Duty very seriously, and we make every step to promote equality, celebrate diversity, challenge discrimination in all of its forms and ensure students of all backgrounds flourish at school. At the heart of our values are equality of opportunity, equity and entitlement and these three essentials drive all that we do. We promote the moral, social, cultural, spiritual and mental well-being of every young person here.

Results at BSF are outstanding and every student secures progression.

Most of our young people currently go to university - including one in three who take up their place at the most competitive and high tariff universities - with all others on secured destinations on apprenticeships, employment or other educational pathways. Most importantly, our young people are confident, caring and well-rounded individuals and they make us all proud to work at Beal Sixth Form.

Our broad, balanced and ambitious curriculum enables students to aim high

Our academic pathways are flexible and aspirational and our personal development curricula inspires our young people to develop their skills, build their character and achieve top grades to facilitate successful progression routes. The curriculum works in conjunction with Beal Sixth Form's ethos and values. It aims to improve the life chances and social capital of all learners, through an inclusive approach to the curriculum and dynamic teaching and learning.

Our curriculum is well designed to provide a broad range of courses and pathways to allow progression routes for all students to maximise success.

It offers 42 academic and vocational courses across three pathways, including our unique Level 2 three year pathway with a foundation year for students who have yet to achieve a 4 in GCSE English and Maths, enabling them to build their skills, linguistic and numerical competence so that they are ready for level 3 in year 2. The curriculum prepares every student to access a university course or a professional career through our personal development and professional skills programme. These create opportunities for students to develop leadership skills through engagement with higher education and the professional workplace.

As the largest school sixth form in the country, we provide students with opportunities to take the curriculum beyond the classroom through participating in extra-curricular, super-curricular and enrichment activities to create independent and creative learners.

Our bespoke Oxbridge, EPQ and MDV masterclasses support students in their applications to highly competitive universities and courses, whilst our Beal Personal Development Award inspires them to make a difference in their local community. We take full advantage of our proximity to the centre of London to explore all of the cultural, social and religious capital that our city has to offer! Our curriculum fosters the development of students' personal growth, health and well-being preparing them to become effective citizens and make a positive contribution to wider British society. Most importantly the curriculum enables students to lead happy, fulfilled lives and to develop their passion for lifelong learning.

BSF offers post-16 education opportunities to students who meet our academic entry requirements.

We have places available for students from Beal High School and The Forest Academy and we welcome applications from students at other schools. The majority of our courses are A Levels and Level 3 BTEC courses but we also offer a three year Foundation Pathway for students not yet ready to embark on Level 3 courses. This pathway allows students to improve their Level 2 qualifications, progressing to Level 3 programmes of study the following year.

'Sixth form students are proud to be part of the school and relish the leadership opportunities they are given, for example mentoring younger pupils'



By enrolling at BSF, you will be joining a successful and dynamic organisation.

We have a wealth of experience to help ensure that all our students make excellent progress during their time in the sixth form. Our size allows us to offer a wider range of courses than many other schools and to continue to offer those subjects which are 'disappearing' such as the Arts and languages. As a student you can trust that you will enjoy an outstanding education at BSF enhanced by supportive and experienced staff. As a parent/carer you can be assured that the students will be given expert teaching, advice and guidance for future success.

"A place of diversity and inclusion and where we all belong."

YEAR 13 STUDENT

'In the sixth form, students make equally rapid progress to achieve standards that exceed the national average both at the top grades and across each year group'



BSF students gain entry to some of the country's leading universities including Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial, UCL, Kings, Warwick, Nottingham and York.

Our most able students achieve Oxbridge places to study Medicine, Chemistry, Physics, English Literature, Economics, History, PPS (Politics, Psychology and Sociology) and Engineering. We have an excellent record of success in Medicine and Dentistry with students securing places at Imperial College London, Manchester University, UCL, and Kings College London. This year over 200 students had successfully completed their University applications six weeks before the official deadline date.

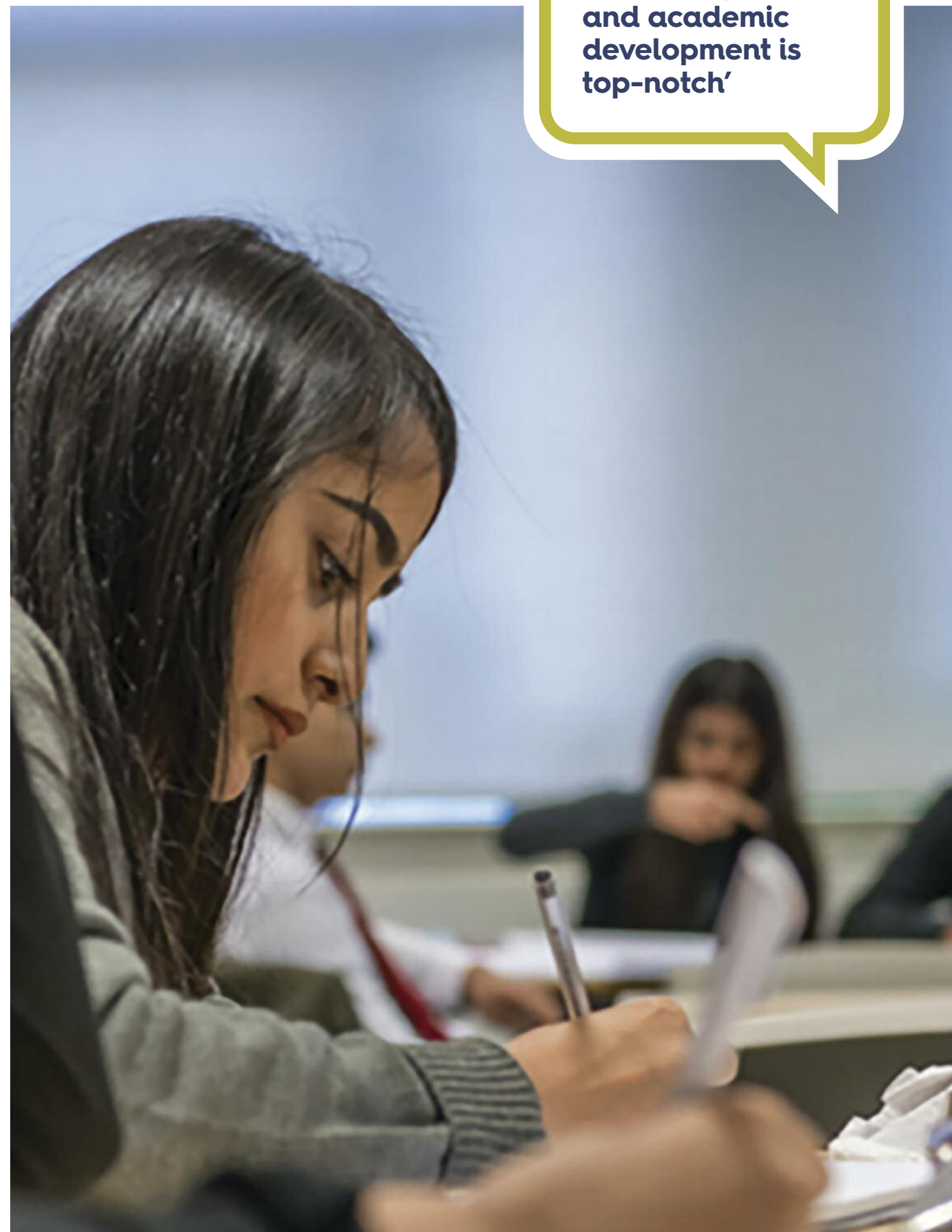
In terms of alternatives to university, an increasing number of students have undertaken apprenticeships and degree apprenticeships across many industries such as finance, computing and surveying. Others prefer to undertake employment immediately, with retail, the service industry or the public sector likely destinations. Some students undertake gap years travelling or completing additional study before moving to university.

There is a positive ethos at BSF and a calm and confident atmosphere.

The campuses have excellent facilities, with dedicated study centres and common rooms giving easy access to computers and printing, laptop lease schemes, a sixth form café and supervised study time. We also open our Study Centres from 4-6pm to support students with their self-regulation, personal organisation and independent learning. We invest in high impact progression and employability software such as Unifrog and Pathways CTM to offer a personalised programme to meet our students' needs and prepare them for success in life.



Students' personal and academic development is top-notch'



'Like a family,
where diversity is
celebrated and
equality promoted'

QUALITY OF EDUCATION

BSF offers an ambitious, diverse and broad curriculum:

Twenty-five Level 3 A Levels courses and one AS:

English Literature; Mathematics; Further Mathematics; Biology; Chemistry; Physics; Geography; Spanish; History; French; German; Computer Science; Art; Law; Photography; 3D Design; Drama; Music; Business Studies; Economics; Media Studies; Sociology; Psychology; Religious Studies and Politics, as well as the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) at AS.

Seven Level 3 BTEC courses:

Business; Construction and the Built Environment; ICT; Media; Applied Science; Sport and Digital Music Production.

Re-sits in GCSE English and Maths

For those either still to pass at 4 or above or those who wish to aim for a higher grade for their future progression.

As part of the 3 Year Pathway, seven L2 courses

AAT (Association of Accounting Technicians); GCSE Combined Science; ICT BTEC; Financial Education; GCSE Photography; Creative Media Production BTEC; L2 Food and Nutrition and GCSE Geography.

BSF offers three pathways:

4 A Levels or 3 A Levels plus EPQ
for highest achieving at GCSE

3 A Levels and/or Level 3
vocational subjects

Three Year Pathway:
A foundation year prior to
commencing Level 3 study

There may be an opportunity to study 4 linear A Levels if: your GCSE Average Point Score is 7.5 or greater; if you choose A Levels Maths and Further Maths; or if there is evidence your progression requires 4 courses.

The 'Pathways' programme for progression from Year 11 to Year 12 is designed to provide a broad range of courses that increase progression chances and success.

Average GCSE Point Score	Subject Choices
7.5 and above	3-4 A Levels
4 and above	3 A Levels/BTECs
Below 4	3 Year Foundation Pathway

Facilitating V Specialist subjects

The subject choices shown on the following pages are based around the Russell Group of universities categorisation of Facilitating and Specialist* subjects, as well as the BSF category - Vocational.

- Facilitating subjects, as defined by the Russell Group, are those that are often more commonly required by these universities and "facilitate" the study of other subjects. For example, Mathematics not only prepares for the future study of Mathematics, but also it facilitates the study of Engineering and Economics; Biology prepares for a degree in Biology, but it also facilitates the study of Sport Science and Medicine.
- The Russell Group also suggests that the 'Facilitating' subjects assess exam proficiency and independent literacy/numeracy skills, which are reflected in the disparate grade requirements.
- Other subjects often contain more elements of non-exam assessment so have lower starting requirements.

In addition to the Average GCSE Point Score requirement to access a given pathway, **students will also need to achieve subject-specific entry requirements for certain subjects. These are listed alongside the titles of courses on offer.**

*See the Russell Group "Informed Choices" at www.russellgroup.ac.uk/media/5272/informedchoices-print.pdf

"I loved the foundation year at the Forest campus- everyone was so friendly and supportive and helped to rebuild my confidence. Now I have just received an offer from a top Russell Group university to study Business Management.."

YEAR 13 STUDENT

ACADEMIC COURSES 2023-24

Level 3 courses

Students must meet the entry requirements to be enrolled onto a course, with no exceptions. This ensures students at the right starting points are on a course they can succeed in and that every student has equal entitlement. The Trust retains the right to add/remove courses depending on demand, viability and capacity.

The table opposite gives an overview of all subjects on offer; whether they are Facilitating, Specialist or Vocational; the subject specific entry requirements; any specific English or Mathematics entry requirements as well as information on the type of subject (humanity, creative etc.)

KS5 Subject	Sector	Type	Ma GCSE min grade	Ma GCSE min grade (whichever higher out of Lang/Lit counts)	Subject Specific min grade	
English Literature	Core	Facilitating	6	4	English	6 6
Mathematics	Core	Facilitating	4	7	Maths	7
Further Mathematics	Core	Facilitating	4	8	Maths	8 + APS 7.5+
Biology	Core/Science	Facilitating	5	5	Science	6 6*
Chemistry	Core/Science	Facilitating	5	5	Science	6 6*
Physics	Core/Science	Facilitating	5	5	Science	6 6*
Geography	Humanity	Facilitating	5	4	Geography	5
History	Humanity	Facilitating	5	4	History	5
French/German/Spanish	MFL	Facilitating	4	4	French	6
Psychology	Science	Specialist	5	5	Science	5 6** 66
Business Studies	Humanity	Specialist	5	4	BS, Economics or Humanity	4
Drama	Creative	Specialist	5	4	Drama	4
Economics	Humanity	Specialist	5	5	BS, Economics, Humanity	4
Law	Humanity	Specialist	5	4	Humanity	4
Media Studies	Creative	Specialist	5	4	Media, Humanity, Creative (iMedia at Merit or above)	4
Music	Creative	Specialist	5	4	Music	5
Politics	Humanity	Specialist	5	4	Humanity	4
Religious Studies	Humanity	Specialist	5	4	RS (or Humanity)	4
Sociology	Humanity	Specialist	5	4	Sociology (or Humanity)	4
Computer Science	Tech	Specialist	4	6	Computing, BTEC IT	6/Mt.
Art	Creative	Specialist	4	4	Art (or Photography)	4
3D Design	Creative/Tech	Specialist	4	4	CDT, DT, Art, Photography or Construction	4
Photography	Creative	Specialist	4	4	Photography, Art	4
Extended Project Qualification	AS level	Specialist	5	5	Average Points Score of 7.0 or higher	7.0 APS
BTEC Construction (double)	Tech	Vocational	4	4	Not applicable	
BTEC Business (single or double)	Humanity	Vocational	4	4	Not applicable	
BTEC IT (single)	Tech	Vocational	4	4	Pass in BTEC IT or 4 in GCSE Computing	
BTEC Media Studies (double)	Creative	Vocational	4	4	Not applicable	
BTEC Digital Music Production						
BTEC Sport (single)	Creative	Vocational	4	4	Pass in BTEC Sport (inc. in exam unit) or 4 in GCSE PE	
BTEC Applied Science (double)	Science	Vocational	4	4	Pass in BTEC Science (inc. Pass in exam unit) or 4 4 in GCSE Science	
Three Year Pathway. Maths and English GCSE and 3 from these subjects: GCSE Combined Science, BTEC Information and Creative Technology, L2 Financial Information, GCSE Food and Nutrition, BTEC Creative Digital Media Production, AAT (Accounting), GCSE Geography and GCSE Photography.						3 Eg and/or Ma

*	GCSE Triple Science	Combined Science
1 A Level in Science	6 in the relevant Science	Minimum 6 6
2 A Levels in Science	7 in the two relevant Sciences	Minimum 7 7
3 A Levels in Science	7 in all three Sciences	Minimum 7 7

**Students choosing to study A Level Psychology need a 56 in GCSE Combined Science or a grade 6 in Biology if they studied GCSE Triple Science

THREE YEAR PATHWAY

What is the '3 Year Pathway'?

Our unique three year pathway affords students not yet ready for Level 3 study the time, space and support to make this transition successfully, so that they are ready for higher academic study and for life beyond the school gates.

Who is it for?

Committed and aspirational young people who are yet to pass English/Maths at level 4 or higher and so cannot yet start level 3 subjects – typically they have grade 3 in their core subjects but are aiming for university. Sometimes these can be EAL learners or pupils with SEND, but not exclusively.

How does it work?

Each student chooses three Level 2 subjects (out of eight varied subjects) as well as their core re-sits, so that they have a broad and balanced curriculum that they enjoy and that secures their progression. After Year 1 these students enrol onto level 3 courses for a further two years. Every year some of our most successful learners are those who have chosen this route to academic success.

How do we know it works?

Most students on this route secure their progression to Level 3 courses and then onto university or apprenticeships with top A Levels and vocational grades.

"I love the teachers here...
they care so much and
go above and beyond to
push you to be your best."

YEAR 12 STUDENT

LEVEL 2 COURSES

Minimum entry requirements:

Grade 3 in GCSE English
and/or GCSE Maths

And any three of:

L2 AAT (Accounting)

GCSE Combined Science

L2 Financial Education

L2 Food and Nutrition

L2 Information & Creative Technology

L2 Creative Digital Media Production

GCSE Photography

GCSE Geography

'The curriculum is
dynamic and carefully
constructed to provide
a range of differing
routes to progression'



'Students have positive relationships with staff, and achieve well because they feel that what they learn is relevant.'

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Students who feel confident that they can meet all entry requirements should complete an on-line application form via the School website.

The closing date for all applications is Friday 24th March 2023 via the school website.

Applications received after this date will be considered but offers may not be made until after the GCSE results.

All applications will be acknowledged and some applicants will be invited for further guidance sessions. Successful students will be made conditional offers, based on their ability to meet the entry criteria. External applicants will be invited to information evenings and our Introduction Tour and given details of registration and induction for September 2023.

In August, students who meet the conditions of their offer will automatically be given a place. Decisions will be made according to group size, ability and aptitude. If students do not fulfil the entry requirements, their place is not guaranteed. The Sixth Form reserves the right to adjust offers based on capacity and availability.

"Choosing Beal Sixth Form was the best decision I have ever made."

YEAR 13 STUDENT

EXPECTATIONS OF ALL STUDENTS

Sixth formers are excellent role models to the younger students in the schools and help to contribute to our community through fundraising, mentoring and literacy support. Students aspire to be part of BSF and relish the leadership opportunities they are given; they are motivated to succeed and their relationships with staff are excellent. At all times students are respectful of their own ambitions as well as toward other students and the staff team.

They come in on time every day at 8.30am, follow our dress code, use their lesson and unstructured time to develop their academic and wider interests and skills, engage in independent study (15-20 hours per week) and other positive commitments and in this way shape the school culture we share.

Where student behaviour falls short of expectations we have a clear and robust attendance and disciplinary procedure to address issues as they arise and we support students to get back on track. Under no circumstances do we tolerate any behaviour that puts the students, their peers or the school at risk.

Our policies regarding attendance, code of conduct and progression are all on the website here: www.bealhighschool.co.uk/sixth-form-information/ and these are communicated clearly to students and their families.

'Pupils' professional relationships with their teachers are especially positive'

PROGRESSION

All BSF students are supported to apply to university and explore alternatives.

Such as an apprenticeship or school leaver employment. All BSF students are given a login for "Unifrog" (a destinations platform to support their aspirations) as well as access to "Pathway CTM" (a bespoke careers platform featuring mentoring and other support) and our careers' advisor. Careers, Education, Information, Advice & Guidance (CEIAG) is delivered through tutor time, assemblies, PSHE lessons as well as trips, events and visits. BSF Students with an APS of 7 or above are targeted to apply to Oxbridge /MDV and to receive tailored support (including with research, applications, references), from internal staff and external agencies. We also offer the Duke Of Edinburgh as well as a range of clubs and societies, such as chess, debating, sports and even miniature painting club!

BSF support and encourage students to be successful.

Our expectation is that they make the most of opportunities offered and that by working with us they realise their ambition through Further or Higher Education or in the career of their choice. Good attendance is vital for success and whilst we expect 95% or higher, students below 90% attendance do not re-enrol for year 13 but re-start to give them the best chances of success.

BSF does not remove students based on academic progress.

At the end of year 12, BSF students will receive predicted grades for the end of their Level 3 qualifications (e.g. A Levels). These grades will be based on a progression exam and all continuous assessments. The progression exam is internally set and moderated and held in April or May, with grade boundaries in line with the expectations of A Levels or vocational equivalents.

"So many extra-curricular activities on offer - every week we get so many opportunities to develop our skills and build our confidence."

YEAR 12 STUDENT

BSF students with a prediction of less than EEE or PPP will have an Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) meeting with their parents or carers.

The BSF Team will determine their best pathway for future success and any necessary support (e.g. re-sits or alternative courses). Sixth form students are under more pressure than ever before to succeed right from the start of Year 12. Below are some recommendations for successful study in the sixth form:

A successful student will:

Choose the subjects they enjoy, and understand what studying those subjects will demand.

For each hour in the classroom, spend a further two hours on independent study.

Organise study time and develop effective study skills.

Read around the subject.

Balance study with other activities.

Take responsibility, alongside tutors, for academic progress.

Set a clear, realistic goal to achieve at the end of the course and plan how to use the qualification for a career or further education.

Get involved in the Personal Development Award, GiveBack and read the bulletin



'Well-directed
advice about next
steps and careers'

UCAS PREDICTIONS

UCAS predictions are decided by subject departments, based on their professional judgment. Decisions are based on A Levels Performance (Alps) Minimum Expected Grades (MEGs), continuous assessments and performance in progression exams. They are finalised in year 13:

- a. By the last week of September, for Oxbridge/Medical, Dental & Veterinary (MDV) aspirants;
- b. By October half-term, for many Russell Group aspirants; and
- c. By the first week of November, for all other higher education aspirants.
- d. For a minority of students, it may be appropriate to submit just prior to the national deadline (end of January).

UCAS predictions will be 'optimistic best fit' grades that match fairly the ongoing assessments, exam performance and academic potential of each student and will, in most cases, be linked to ALPS targets. BSF recognises that UCAS predictions can be very motivating and open up opportunities at some elite, high tariff universities that would otherwise not be possible. They should not be more than a grade higher than the student's BSF latest predicted grade.

As part of their Unifrog platform, students will make choices based across all scenarios of exceeding meeting or missing out on their predicted grades, to ensure that their progression is not compromised. These are their 'aspirational', 'solid' or 'safe' and this will ensure that they can be ambitious and yet secure in their progression pathways.

After progression exams, departments will not attempt to boost UCAS predicted grades by offering additional assessments over and above their usual curriculum offer as this could compromise equality of opportunity.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

At BSF, every student is encouraged to develop their skills, increase their self-confidence and improve their aptitudes of learning (academic learning, managing information/situations and relating to others). We encourage active service toward others, be they lower school students or the wider society.

We run a BSF Personal Development Award from September to June, with accreditation in July at gold, silver or bronze level in time for inclusion in UCAS and apprenticeship applications. Students will be encouraged to take part in a series of events, projects and initiatives across the school to engage and inspire others and make a real difference to their community. They will regularly log their progress via the Unifrog website and then will submit their PD programme portfolio to our assessment team, who will then decide on the level of impact and grading of award. Awards will be presented at a special ceremony in July.

All students participate in the GiveBack programme, where they volunteer to give back to our community, via mentoring, coaching, student leadership, work experience or via charity fundraising.

At BSF we are not an exam factory; exam grades alone seldom facilitate future prosperity, fulfilment or well-being. It is our duty to ensure every student at BSF participates fully in a personal development programme that challenges them to think more, give more and commit more to their wider community. Through projects, workshops, talks, events, mentoring, volunteering, fundraising and work experience, they will build their self-confidence, develop their employability skills and graduate from BSF ready to flourish in the world outside.

'In the sixth form, students make equally rapid progress to achieve standards that exceed the national average both at the top grades and across each year group'

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT



Throughout their time at sixth form, students will participate in a weekly programme including:

Personal, Social, Health Education

Relationship and Sex Education

Healthy and Active Lifestyles

Personal Safety and Online safety

Interview Skills, CV writing and UCAS applications

British Values including democracy, rule of law, individual liberty and tolerance of others

Relationships and consent

E-safety and cybercrime

Radicalisation

Financial Literacy, Budgeting and Student Finance

Problem-solving and Team building

Employability skills

Oxbridge/MDV masterclasses

Volunteering

Charity Fundraising

Mentoring

Critical Thinking

Work Experience

Study Skills

Clubs and societies – Gym, Chess,

Russian, Spanish, Debating etc. Careers' Fair and employer engagement

As well as access to FUSION and BEWISE drop-in support for students with acute needs

The programme is delivered via tutor tie, scheduled PSHE sessions as well as lunchtime/after-school events and a full progression week. Participation is tracked through each student's Unifrog account and this information is used to support the UCAS reference.



PASTORAL SUPPORT

We recognise at BSF that life can be challenging as a young person in our community, and there may be times when difficulties arise. One particular focus is on mental health and well-being and ensuring that students are empowered to seek and access the right support. Our Personal Development programme focuses on developing resilience, coping strategies and underlines the importance of speaking up when issues arise. Our team work closely with internal and external agencies to ensure that the right advice is on hand when required. Every student has access to a personal academic tutor, Head and Deputy Head of Year, SEND Deputy Head, Director of Sixth Form Well-being Team, Student Services Manager, Counselling services, Careers' Advisor, Safeguarding Lead, SENCO and many other support services.

**'Pupils feel safe
in sixth form'**



**"Both of my children have
done amazingly well at
Beal - I'm so proud of them
and thankful of all the
support and guidance they
received throughout their
time at the school."**

**PARENT OF
YEAR 13 STUDENT**





Beacon Academy Trust

A COMPELLING VISION FOR SUCCESS

BEAL SIXTH FORM

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