

St Bede's Catholic School
and Byron 6th Form College



School Prospectus 24/25

Welcome

On behalf of everyone at St Bede's, we would like to extend a warm welcome to you and your child.

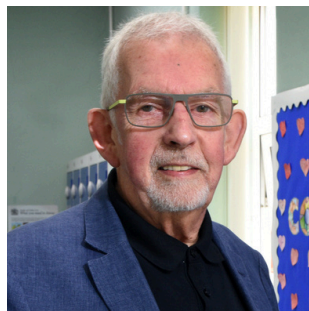
Our distinctive Catholic ethos is at the very heart of all that we do, and as a fully inclusive school we welcome students of other faiths and of no faith to be part of our family. We believe we can offer your son or daughter the very best educational provision, both academically and pastorally as they make the important transition from primary to secondary education.

We strive for excellence in all that we do, whether supporting our students towards first rate academic achievement, or providing extracurricular opportunities for their all-round development. We ensure that outstanding pastoral care, excellent teaching and high quality learning are delivered daily. Most importantly, we help our students to develop as mature young adults who are well educated individuals, fully prepared to take their place successfully in the wider world. We value working closely in partnership with parents and carers as this is key to the success of students. Should you decide to entrust your child into our care, we can assure you that we will give your child the very best provision.

We very much look forward to welcoming your son or daughter to help us write the next exciting chapter of St Bede's continued achievements, as our great school moves from strength to strength.



Mrs F. Cessford
Headteacher



Mr T. McCourt
Chair of Governors



Our School

Choosing which secondary school your child goes to is a big decision. A milestone for both your child and for you as parents.

We believe that St. Bede's is the right place to make the educational experience for your child and you as rewarding as possible.

- Our growing reputation for delivering excellent educational outcomes is rooted in a confidence that this will be sustained over time. We were named as the 8th best school in the region.
- We are committed to support students through our strong pastoral system which enables us to know each student as the individual they are.
- It is our mission to achieve inclusive education and social justice for pupils with SEND.



Our Ethos

At the heart of St. Bede's, and underpinning everything we do is our mission to bear witness to Christ. Whatever your child's faith background, you can be assured that at St Bede's your child will have the opportunity to explore and develop their spiritual life in a supportive environment, where tolerance and mutual respect are some of our guiding principles.

Catholic Education is about much more than just the delivery of an academic curriculum. We are also responsible for the spiritual and moral formation of young people; a responsibility we take just as seriously as academic progress. As parents you have entrusted the care of your child to primary colleagues for a number of years, in a school who no doubt knows your son or daughter as the unique individual that they are. Our admissions intake caters to be more personalised than some other providers can offer. As such we know every student by name and can minister to their specific needs.

These high quality relationships are at the heart of our ethos and explain, more than anything else, why we are such a successful school. Children are extremely well cared for at St Bede's. Staff nurture each student as valued individuals, blessed with God-given gifts and talents. We encourage our students to develop these to the full, for their own sake and in the service of others.



Pastoral Structure

St Bede's is an orderly, well-disciplined community where learning flourishes. Excellent behaviour plays a major part in our continued success.

The pastoral system is the bedrock of our school and is based on high behavioural standards, mutual respect and a true level of dedication towards students from our compassionate staff.

All Year 7 students are assigned to a tutor group within a House structure which they will remain in until Year 11. This group is a mixed-ability group made up of students from different primary schools. Siblings are placed in the same House to allow the Heads of House to form long lasting relationships and get to know families as the first point of home school contact.

Standards

We expect the highest of standards from students and follow robust discipline policies which allow every student to fulfil their potential, and in which classroom disruption is an extremely rare occurrence. Our school is calm and well ordered, we support students to become more self disciplined and to have a sense of responsibility for their actions. We praise and duly reward positive behaviours and attitudes with credits which create our House points system. Pupils who fail to meet our high standards face staged sanctions.

Developing the whole student

Throughout these five years students will experience personal, social and health education. These weekly sessions cover:

- Spiritual development: Providing students with an opportunity to help develop a real and lasting relationship with God.
- Relationship development: Exploring what is understood as authentic human love and the dignity of each person.
- Social development: Developing our students' social skills, self-awareness and personal wellbeing.
- Careers development: Providing impartial advice and unleashing student ambitions for their future.
- Learning development: Acquiring the skills of an effective lifelong learner.

We know that parents and carers play a vital role in children's learning, so we regularly ask them for their opinions and feedback to ensure they're working with us as full partners.



Expectations

At St. Bede's we aim to create a safe, orderly, happy environment in which all students can learn to the best of their ability.

In order to do this, it is expected that each student will:

- Observe the school learning habit regarding uniform.
- Ensure that they have the correct items and equipment for each lesson and take good care of any items of equipment provided for them.
- Be caring and respectful to all others at all times.
- Concentrate on their work and follow the teacher's instructions.
- Record homework tasks in their diaries and complete them diligently.
- Show respect and consideration to all people they meet outside of school and on the journey to and from school.

To ensure the smooth running of the school, students must:

- Keep to the left on staircases and corridors and walk quietly. They must line up quietly and wait for the teacher to lead them into the classroom.
- Have an appointment outside of school day for visits to Doctor/Dentist/Clinic If this is not possible they must bring in the appointment card and show it to their Registration Tutor and follow the correct signing out procedures.
- Ensure parent/carer rings in before 8.45am on the first day of any absence.
- Sign the late list if arriving after 8.45 am registration and then report to their Registration Tutor.
- Provide a note if they need to be excused (on medical grounds only) from PE.
- Remain in school at lunchtime.
- Not use mobile phones and personal devices during lessons or formal school time. They should be switched off at all times and placed in the student's bag, otherwise they may be confiscated.



Curriculum

St Bede's – a school where success and potential of each individual is recognised and a will to achieve is actively encouraged. We provide a broad and balanced curriculum which aims to:

- Develop in students lively, enquiring minds; to help them enjoy the acquisition of knowledge; promote the ability to question and argue rationally; to better understand technology, science and mathematics; to enhance the use of information technology across the curriculum; to encourage students to apply themselves to a range of tasks and skills which will equip them for their life in a technological future and as Christian adults.
- Enable students to use language and numbers effectively; to appreciate and respond creatively through the variety of learning experiences offered to them by all areas of the curriculum.

We provide a curriculum rich in opportunities, recognising that each student is unique and has different talents and gifts. The curriculum provides students with the skills and knowledge which will allow them go onto a range of GCSE, A level and selected applied courses. We are highly ambitious for our young people and every student who is appropriate for the EBACC suite of qualifications is entered.

Students are set by ability from KS2 prior attainment, and reassessed across their 5 year academic career.

Students are set aspirational targets in order to make sure that they push themselves to fulfil their God given potential. In order to realise this goal we know how important it is to work with parents, keeping them informed and working as a team to maximise student success.

We are a forward thinking school, always seeking to futureproof our offer and to find new and creative ways to allow young people to develop a zest for learning.

Core Subjects

English, Mathematics, Religious Education, Science.

Foundation Subjects

Art, Computing, Design & Technology, Geography, History, Music, Physical Education, Spanish.

KS4

- A Modern Foreign Language for most students.
- Year 10 and 11 study all core subjects.
- Further GCSE and vocational course options.
- History and/or Geography.



Admissions

The full Admissions Policy is available under the Policies page on the [school's website](#).

The admission policies explain:

- How we consider applications for each age group.
- What parents should do if they want to apply for their child to attend St Bede's.
- Our arrangements for selecting the pupils who apply.
- Our 'over-subscription criteria' (how we offer places if there are more applicants than places).
- How parents can find out about our school's admission arrangements through our local authority.



Elite Football Academy

St. Bede's offers a dedicated football training programme for both boys and girls who have a talent for the sport.

Students will be given specialised training for young athletes, focusing on long-term player development. Professional standard coaching aims to enhance their chances of a career in football, while also guaranteeing them a good education.

The intention is not only to make the most of a young players ability, but also to support their character development. To have a successful career in sport requires talent and discipline, drive and a professional attitude focused on achievement.

Our Football Academy is run by Fast Feet Football Academy. Their experienced coaches use a holistic approach to enhance technical skills and tactical understanding, to give each player the best possible chance of fulfilling their potential



Our 23/24 U16 girls team won the English School's Football Association National Final.

Uniform

The school requires high standards of personal appearance and all students should wear school uniform to and from school, during the school day or when participating in school-organised events.

Pupils must be dressed properly in full uniform.

Available from Little Gems: <https://theschooloutfit.co.uk>

- Black blazer with school badge.
- School tie (green with gold diagonal stripes).
- V neck black knitted jumper.
- White, standard school shirt, buttoned to neck, tucked in at all times.
- Plain black standard school trousers, worn to the top of the shoe (tight fitting / jean style not permitted) or black pleated skirt (these are available in a two pack from Asda and other retailers at an affordable price) worn to the knee.
- Plain black tights or white/black socks that are ankle length or below-knee length.
- Plain black formal shoes.
- Sensible waterproof coat that must be removed when entering the building (within one minute is a reasonable request)

Extreme **hairstyles** (tramlines, patterns, steps, unnatural colours) are not acceptable. The shortest hair grade accepted 'all over' is a number 2. If you are not sure if a hairstyle your child wants is considered extreme, please check with their Head of House first.

Make-up (including false tan, fake/tinted eye lashes, false/enhanced/tinted eyebrows, false nails) and **jewellery** (including clear plastic piercing retainers) must not be worn – jewellery will be confiscated and will require collection at the end of the school day. Jewellery and make-up are expensive items and promoting equality is a key intention of our uniform policy. Light concealer may be worn but nothing else.

Wrist-**watches** may be worn.

Hats must not be worn inside school.



Our School

Visitors always comment on the warm and welcoming atmosphere which envelops our caring school, which we believe is a very special place to learn and work in.

We are a happy, safe community where students mix together well, and where every member is encouraged to search for excellence in all that they do. When your child arrives at St Bede's they immediately become part of our extended family.

St Bede's Catholic School was part of the 'Building Schools for the Future' government initiative. As a result we benefited from a multi million pound redevelopment of the school site. We are proud to have a beautiful and spacious new school building with modern classrooms, sports facilities, large indoor spaces for dining and pupil use. We also have a dedicated 6th Form area and catering.

Transport arrangements:

All of our students who live more than 2 miles from school in our feeder areas travel on dedicated school transport to and from school. This is without cost to parents and is regardless of faith. We believe in supporting families to access the best education for children, rather than just the closest one.

Our facilities include:

- Sports Hall
- Gymnasium
- Multi Use Game Area (MUGA)
- Extensive school playing fields
- Main Hall
- Activities Hall
- Chapel
- Large Dining Hall and catering facilities
- ICT Suites
- Science Laboratories
- Technology and Engineering Rooms
- Music Rooms
- Art Studios



Sixth Form facilities include:

Bespoke facilities exist for Key Stage 5 students including modern teaching rooms, specialist laboratories, spaces for private and group study as well as a dedicated social space and café.



Proud to be part of
Bishop Chadwick
Catholic Education Trust

**St Bede's Catholic School and
Byron 6th Form College**



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