

EXCEPTIONAL BEDE'S





Bede's is a senior boarding school for girls and boys, aged 13-18 and offers pupils aged 15 or 16 a Pre-Sixth one year GCSE programme. The course is tailored to the needs of overseas pupils, providing the qualifications they will need to continue their journey through to enter the Sixth Form, as well as the opportunity to discover all that Bede's has to offer outside the classroom.

Introduction

"As Head of Pre-Sixth at Bede's, my role is to ensure that every pupil on the programme is succeeding in all aspects of their life at school. We deliberately limit the numbers of pupils we admit onto the Programme so that it is possible to give this high level of support and supervision. We also try to ensure that there is a good mixture of nationalities within the group.

Typically my role might include helping those pupils who are excelling in their lessons to engage in additional, challenging courses as part of our exceptional Co-Curricular Programme. Equally, if a pupil is struggling academically or socially, alongside their personal tutor, it will be my priority to help in any way I can and signpost other teachers and staff who can provide support as well.

Like all teachers here, I am always happy to help."

Justin Sealey
Head of Pre-Sixth
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ABOUT BEDE'S

Bede's is a busy, vibrant school located in the Sussex countryside with good access to both Gatwick and Heathrow airports. The School is well-known for its unique educational philosophy focused on educating the whole person with expert and highly individualised tutoring forming the bedrock of the School.

At Sixth Form, 82% of pupils gained A*-B grades and 54% were awarded A-A*. Bede's academic offer extends well beyond the classroom with a rich variety of academic enrichment opportunities on offer, including our UK Space Design competition which sees pupils heading off to NASA in the summer.

Bede's has 770 pupils, 300 of whom are boarders in our five boarding houses, some of which have won awards for their design. Boarders are able to make full use of the range of facilities across their day including the gym, swimming pool, library, sixth form centre and even its on-site zoo!





PROGRAMME

We offer a core academic programme of 5 subjects, with English as an Additional Language forming a core part of the programme. Pupils following the Pre-Sixth programme follow the same timetable as other pupils at the School, with the same break and lunch times.

The programme is designed to give pupils breadth of study, developing their English language skills and enabling them to access a wide range of A Level choices, should they wish to continue their study at Bede's.

Academic Programme
Maths
English
Physics
Languages*
Economics

*including Latin subject to previous experience.

It will be possible for pupils to study either a language (which can include Latin) or Art, or in some cases it may be possible for pupils to study both a language and Art, thus increasing the number of overall GCSEs gained.

If a pupil wishes to take a GCSE in their own language this can be supported off timetable, providing the opportunity to gain a potential additional qualification.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TUITION

At the heart of the Pre-Sixth Programme, is the teaching of English as an Additional Language, with 4-5 hours of teaching every week. Pupils benefit from small classes which are tailored to their entry level of English. All pupils are tested for English on arrival and the appropriate programme and support will be organised following this. The focus of the EAL component is on improving pupils' written and spoken English to a level which will allow them to comfortably access the curriculum at Sixth Form.

The majority of Pre-Sixth pupils take the IGCSE First or Second Language in English, meaning they will not need to take the IELTS (International English Language Testing System) in order to gain entry into UK universities following their Sixth Form studies but pupils can take IELTS should they wish to and will be prepared for all aspects of the test.



PRE-SIXTH DIPLOMA

The Pre-Sixth Diploma offer mirrors the successful Bede's Diploma followed by our Sixth Form and aims to provide a structure to, and a record of, the many experiences that pupils gain outside of their academic lessons.

Pupils are encouraged to participate in a range of experiences which include cultural trips and visits to museums and other areas of local interest, talks on academic, environmental and historic topics as well as volunteering and community engagement both in school and the wider community.

The pupils who successfully complete the diploma will receive a log of their achievements and a certificate

"We know that the pupils who enjoy their Pre-Sixth studies the most and achieve the most during the year, tend to be those who embrace everything which is on offer in and out of the classroom. The Diploma has really helped us improve participation among our Pre-Sixth pupils in some really valuable enrichment opportunities with pupils encouraged to engage with the local community, attend talks from world-renowned environmentalists, economists and scientists or take in a theatre trip to London.

The Diploma helps pupils to understand that by grasping these opportunities, they will not only improve their academic outcomes and English language skills but just as importantly, they will grow socially and culturally."

Justin Sealey
Head of Pre-Sixth

CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMME

Students following the Pre-Sixth Programme participate in Co-Curricular activities three afternoons a week, alongside pupils from across the Bede's community. There are over 100 options to choose from covering areas including sport, the performing and visual arts, hobbies and volunteering and community activities and academic enrichment. Pupils are free to change their activities each term in order to take advantage of the broad range of opportunities available.



SIXTH FORM PROGRAMME

During their Pre-Sixth year, many pupils will wish to begin considering their Sixth Form options and preparing for the next stage of their Bede's experience. Pupils will be encouraged to take advantage of the advice and support available from the Sixth Form team at Bede's and to talk to relevant Heads of Department about the subjects they are considering studying. Their personal tutor will also be on hand to offer advice and support during this period.

The Pre-Sixth offers the perfect preparation for Sixth Form, allowing pupils to make the most of the many and varied opportunities inside and outside the classroom during these important years whilst they settle into boarding life and make friendships – some of which may last a lifetime.

Academically, the Sixth Form provides an opportunity to specialise and, with the support of the Universities and Careers Advisors, to begin considering options for future study and work.



"Pupils are more likely to be successful if they carry out careers research early. Early experiences in the world of work can really help pupils develop a view on what kind of career they want to pursue and this can really motivate them to focus on the academic goals which will get them there."

Deborah Franks,
Head of Careers and Employability

There are many social opportunities for Sixth Form pupils, with events held at weekends in the Sixth Form centre as well as in the boarding houses. Sixth Form pupils can also take advantage of weekend trips and activities as well as developing existing friendships and getting to know new pupils who join the school in Year 12.

Finally, Bede's offers a rich array of enrichment opportunities; pupils are encouraged to think and discover new experiences beyond their subject areas, through the Extended Project Qualification as well as the programme of talks and lectures from a broad range of inspiring and motivating guest speakers, including environmentalists and economists as well as those who can share their inspiring life stories and experiences. There are also opportunities to take on leadership opportunities through becoming a prefect, through volunteering outside school including the Sports Leadership Programme.

CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMME

Bede's highly regarded Co-Curricular Programme also features a range of over 100 activities spanning the performing and visual arts, hobbies and clubs, volunteering options as well as the academic enrichment options.

On the sporting front, Bede's offers year-round Academies in Cricket, Football, Tennis and Hockey. Bede's was recently recognised in The Week magazine as "best for sport" in one of its recent independent schools reviews.

VISUAL ARTS
Photography (GCSE optional)
Metalwork & Jewellery Making
Ceramics Club

HEALTH & FITNESS
Extreme Sports
Jogging for Fun
Target Rifle Shooting

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT
Politics & Economics Society
Science & Maths Society
Debating

HOBBIES
Downland Walking
Zoological Society
Reading for Pleasure

PERFORMING ARTS
Theatre Production
Orchestra
Jazz Band & Choir

COMMUNITY & VOLUNTEERING
Duke of Edinburgh Award
Community Links
Sports Leadership Award



WEEKEND PROGRAMME

Finally, Bede's prides itself on remaining committed to its full boarding offer; by this we mean that we invest resources into ensuring that the experience of our full boarders is as fulfilling and enjoyable as possible by offering a busy social programme and engaging and fun Weekend Programme featuring trips, visits and outings as well as on-site activities.



"On the social side, it was great having a class with so many different nationalities as it gave me a chance to learn so much about other people's traditions, food and language. Going on to Sixth Form is a big step and can also be challenging but there is always people around to help."

Abbas Al-Hayali, Pre-Sixth



"I really like the Pre-Sixth - it is a small class that allows teachers to work with you personally every lesson and it teaches you exactly what you need. I have been able to study things that prepare me for the subjects I like at A Level and I have improved my English thanks to the teachers support."

Marcus Cheung, Pre-Sixth



"At the beginning I was very frightened settling into a new school but within one week I have found amazing friends. So far this year I learned a lot about myself - that everything is possible if you have the right people with you people that you can trust and rely on."

Victoria Marten, Pre-Sixth



"I found it very easy to be part of the Pre-Sixth - everyone is kind and your schooling is very flexible. I was nervous when I joined but the trips on the Diploma helped me make friends quickly."

Hang Mok, Pre-Sixth



"The Pre-Sixth was a great year. I made so many new friends and the teachers helped me fulfil my potential. Now I am able to study the subjects I love and I'm looking forward to going to university in England."

Donna Lukas, Current Lower Sixth who joined from Pre-Sixth

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BEDDE'S

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