



BEACONSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

*KS3 - 4 Prospectus*

2024 - 2025



At Becky High our focus is on the holistic well-being of all members of our community. There is a culture of inclusiveness, where emotional intelligence is prized and respect for self, for others, for learning and for our environment create an atmosphere where students feel secure, free to embrace the privilege of learning, and inspired by the huge breadth of opportunities available, both within the core and extra curriculum programmes, they *Dare to be Remarkable!*

Our staff work hard to nurture students, they know each student is individual and thus has individual needs, and they will help guide your child to develop, dream big and unlock their potential. The key to the success each student experiences at Becky High is ensuring they are happy and settled. We live our ethos of creating a '*happy, high achieving learning environment*'. Our community - teachers, support staff, students, parents and governors - work together to achieve this. A learning culture is at the heart of what we do and this, which of course means more than the study of curriculum subjects. It is about taking advantage of opportunity and challenge, developing a wide range of skills, working in and for a community and being part of a team. Being caring, taking responsibility and showing initiative are also vitally important.

We are very proud of our school and we think it is a special place to learn and grow but do come and visit us so you can see for yourself!

*Ms Tina Bond* (Headteacher)



As Head of Learning for Year 7, I would like to offer you a warm welcome to Beaconsfield High School. Leaving primary school is a big step in a child's educational journey. It can be a daunting experience for students and parents which is why it is important to us that this transition is a smooth and enjoyable one.

Our staff are experienced in creating a welcoming and nurturing atmosphere for all our new students, helping them to deal with issues like making friends, getting to grips with homework and even getting the right bus home! Before students join us in September, our transition programme gives them the opportunity to come into school, get used to the surroundings, meet current staff and students, and get a real feel for what life at Beaconsfield High is like. The aim of this being that students feel confident and prepared when they officially join us in September.

Life throws up many challenges, but I am dedicated to ensuring that my students feel happy and safe at school, which in turn will allow them to thrive in whatever path they choose to take.

*Ms Charlotte Lewis* (Head of Year 7)



Every day, our wonderful teachers are supporting and nurturing their students, both in classrooms and through our wide range of extra-curricular activities, providing the skills and knowledge students need to make the most of all the opportunities that lie ahead of them.

Students are encouraged to collaborate with others and view mistakes as the perfect learning opportunity. This promotes problem-solving skills, resilience, and self-belief, all of which are vital skills for a future beyond Beaconsfield High School. This, along with engaging lessons and approachable teachers, means students have the confidence to step outside their comfort zone and learn beyond the curriculum.

Our school community is committed to providing each student with the opportunity to speak out on topics they feel passionate about and think critically about new topics they may not have encountered before.

Most of all, Beaconsfield High School is a happy, inclusive, and uplifting community that allows every student to reach their full potential by equipping them with the vital skills needed and the support required to achieve and exceed their goals.

*Sophie Davies* (Head Girl)

# About us

Since 1967, Beaconsfield High School has been a thriving community of happy, high achieving students.

We are proud to be a centre of excellence, demonstrated by our summer 2023 results on page 7. Our 1000+ pupils are challenged by remarkable teaching standards and benefit from the attention and respect of highly proficient, dedicated and conscientious staff. Staff are empowered to provide students with consistently inspiring experiences, backed by strong assessment and reporting, all of which ensure students have the tools to be motivated and driven learners.

Our students bring with them a melting pot of abilities, interests and outlooks, which is what makes our school community so exciting. Each year group is split into six form groups, named after one of our Houses – Blackman, Rambert, Parks, Hamilton, Bhutto and Holmes - themselves a nod to six exceptional and inspiring women.

Leadership, respect, humility and morality, creativity and physical activity are just some of the additional life skills and behaviours that are taught on a daily basis.





These and many other aspects of school life were recognised in December 2019 when we were inspected by Ofsted and subsequently rated ‘Outstanding’ in all areas. The report states that pupils *“are fiercely proud of their school and of their own achievements”* and in terms of leadership, the headteacher is *“passionate about pupils’ entitlement to a well-rounded education... with the governing body and her senior leadership team, she has transformed the curriculum.”*

Inspectors noted that whilst learning is a priority, *“leaders and governors rightly give a high priority to pupils’ mental health”* which has been and continues to be a clear priority for the future plans of the school and its students.

We are one of only 45 schools nationwide to be recognised as an *Exceptional School*, an award exemplifying the excellence and uniqueness of outstanding schools, including the quality and consistency of teaching that Ofsted now expects.

Our Governing Body has also been awarded the prestigious *Governor Mark*, a national award supported by the Department for Education and a recognised kite mark of good practice.

# 2023 BHS EXAM RESULTS

55%

9 - 8 grades at GCSE

76%

9 - 7 grades at GCSE

97%

9 - 5 grades at GCSE

99%

9 - 4 grades in English and maths

A\* and A grades at A-Level

54%

A\* - B grades at A-Level

83%

A\* - C grades at A-Level

94%

Students who have accepted Oxbridge places.

7

Students offered a place at their 1st choice university.

83%



*“My main piece of advice is to really grasp the phenomenal opportunity you have been given in coming to this school.”*

# Our Vision & Values

Studying at Beaconsfield High School unlocks a child's future, providing the skills and aptitude to enable them to thrive in the competitive worlds of higher education and work.

Our curriculum intent is to support a happy, high achieving learning community enriched by the opportunity to discover talents and passions. We plan and build our curriculum so that academic knowledge, enrichment and life skills match the high aspirations of our learners and allow them to make the strongest progress over time. This will prepare them to be the best they can be in school, as citizens in their community and in their future.

We understand the pressures of studying in a high achieving learning environment. The reason 'happy' is one of the first words in our Vision is because we try our hardest to help students and staff with strategies that allow them to understand why they feel pressured and in doing so, find the skills to manage this.



# The Beaconsfield High journey

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## Year 7

Our caring, fun and supportive team of teachers and support staff are here to guide you through your first year of secondary school. Not only getting to grips with your classes and homework, but also helping you to adjust to a much bigger school. It's an exciting time!

8

## Year 8

No longer a newbie, you're a happy, high achieving student! You're enjoying all the exciting extra-curricular activities; maybe you're on one of the sports teams, in one of the music groups or looking forward to performing in the school play again.

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## Year 9

Your final year of the Lower School and in February you'll be thinking about which GCSE options to take. Have no fear, staff will be there every step of the way to guide both you and your parents through the process.

## Year 10 + 11

You've joined the Upper School, where determination and hard work really will pay off when you come to take those GCSEs at the end of Year 11. It's also the point where we look at your plans for further education.

GCSE

## Year 12 + 13

This is when you get to really focus on your chosen subjects with our highly qualified subject teachers. It's also time to start thinking about uni and life beyond Becky High. Our Sixth Form team has been nurturing students for many years, so you are in safe hands!

A-Level

## Beyond Becky High!

You now have the life skills, education, confidence and experience to take your next step. If our alumnae is anything to go by, you'll have had a very special time with us and a fantastic future ahead of you.



# Six reasons to study with us

Our tutors, heads of learning and teaching staff are experts in supporting and guiding students through the many stages of secondary school and growing up. From Induction Day in July, new students are welcomed into our community by current pupils. In September, we provide a student buddy system to connect our youngest students with older years, to help them learn the ropes – where to find the library, which reception to go to and how to sign up to clubs and societies.



Leadership, teamwork, creativity and independent thinking are skills we nurture and encourage in all our students from day one. As a school, and as individuals, we pride ourselves on being progressive and dynamic in everything we do. Our community is a diverse mix of cultures, religions and ethnicities, all of which further develops students' understanding of the society we live in, facilitating tolerance, respect and broad thinking.

Our teaching staff are specialists in their chosen subjects and bring with them an exceptional level of talent, and a variety of relevant backgrounds. From working in the corporate world, to gaining doctorates in their field, students enjoy all the benefits our remarkable staff bring. We offer students a portfolio of subjects that provide them with a strong, comprehensive grounding, delivered in engaging and progressive styles.



Our Getting Life Ready initiative not only helps our Year 7s make the move from primary to secondary school, it's also the foundation upon which we will build remarkable learners and future citizens. The GLR curriculum fosters creative and critical thinking and teaches methods to develop resilience and resourcefulness. These skills enable students to deal with problems both academically and socially, which in turn allows them to take academic risks.



As a girls' school, we are acutely aware of the need to educate our students in all the career options available to them, regardless of historical gender stereotypes. Our students are encouraged to strive for the remarkable in whichever field they are passionate about. Careers events, workshops and talks are arranged by our careers team which allow students to explore a wide range of careers options.

We seek to discover and develop the full potential of each individual, however, there will be some students whose needs are so individual that special provision must be made. Our experienced Learning Support Department has its own suite of rooms which cater for one-to-one or group work support, Braille modifications and specialist support sessions.





*“There are endless opportunities here...the sky really is the limit!”*

# Our Lower School curriculum

From Year 7 to Year 9 our students study a broad curriculum that is designed to provide a rounded experience and the required preparation for their futures.

English | Maths | Science | History  
Geography | \*French | \*Latin  
\*Spanish | Art | Dance | Drama  
Music | Design & Technology  
Computing | Physical Education  
Religion, Philosophy & Ethics  
Personal, Social, Health and  
Education (PSHE)

Many subjects are also supported by lunchtime clubs run by Sixth Form subject prefects.

\*Students choose two of either French, Spanish and Latin in Year 8.



# *Beyond the classroom*

Education and development aren't limited to the classroom, which is why we offer an eye-watering range of extra-curricular, travel and creative experiences.

We have 11 orchestras and ensembles, and four choirs, and staff, parents and students enjoy watching them perform at termly concerts, smaller recitals and music competitions. There are a range of sports clubs and teams open to all, many of which are the foundation step for some of our elite players. There are a number of dance troupes, some are for everyone, others are by audition only.

Senior Prefects run Art, Drama, Pride, STEAM, Amnesty International and Debate Club, as well as career-focused societies like Model United Nations and MedSoc. Some of the more unique offers include Chess Club, Carnegie Book Club, D&D Club and Coding Club.

There are educational trips ranging from theatre productions and visits to museums and art galleries, to music, dance and sports tours to South Africa, America and Australia. Our sports teams compete across the country, as do our dance troupes and gymnastic and cheer teams. There's an annual ski trip, Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, and the Year 7 Bushcraft Experience as well as subject specific trips to countries like Iceland, Spain, France and Italy.

Student talent is celebrated in our annual drama production, the dance show at a local theatre, music concerts, art exhibitions and the Sport and Dance Awards Dinner. You can also take part in the Mock Trials competition, the Shakespeare for Schools Festival, Young Enterprise and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.



*“It is an amazing school filled with wonderful teachers and fantastic clubs and opportunities.”*

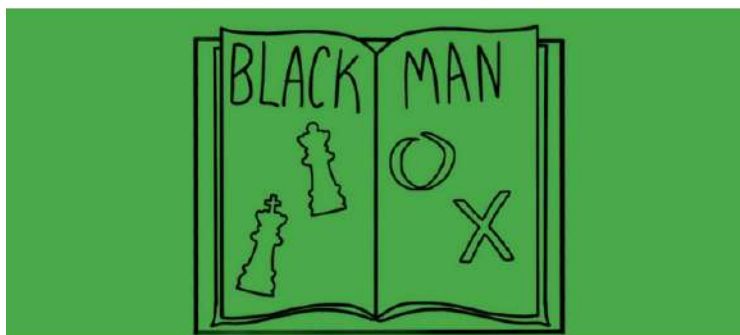
# Our community

The Beaconsfield High community is an inclusive and welcoming one embracing staff, students and their families, and there are many ways you can play your part.

If you feel strongly about having a voice and helping to shape the direction of our school, there's our Student Council where inspiration, creativity, teamwork and debate come together to develop ideas that are actually implemented.

Our Senior Prefect Team is carefully selected and plays an important part in school life. They head up our Houses, are the student leads for STEAM, charities and fundraising, communications, media, equality and diversity and our Blossom and Roots tutoring/mentoring programmes. Our Head Girl and her deputies work closely with staff to both raise the profile of the school and to represent the views of students. Prefects are always looking for students to support the work their committees and societies are doing.

Parents play their part in our community too, by joining [The Friends of BHS](#), attending social events, volunteering their time or by becoming a Form Rep. You can do as much or as little as you like!





*“When you join  
Becky High you  
instantly feel part of  
the community. We  
work really hard, but  
there are so many  
ways to have fun  
together too.”*



# Studying for your GCSEs

In the Upper School (Year 10 – 11) you begin your two-year GCSE course. Alongside six compulsory subjects – three sciences, English language and literature, and maths - you will choose your preferred language (French, Spanish or Latin), a humanity or social science, and at least one creative course or PE.

Choosing your GCSEs in Year 9 is an important but exciting process, and we encourage our students to talk to subject teachers, form tutors, Heads of Learning, our Careers Coordinator, current Year 10 students and of course, their own parents.

The process starts in February with a series of student assemblies, drop-in sessions with Subject Prefects and a parent information evening. We are there every step of the way to make sure our students are confident that their choices are the right ones for them.

Our current GCSE curriculum is listed below. The current GCSE Options Booklet can be found [here](#).

### *Compulsory Subjects*

English Language |  
English Literature | Mathematics |  
Biology | Chemistry | Physics

### *Options*

Art, Craft and Design |  
Business Studies |  
Computer Science | Dance |  
Drama | Food Prep and Nutrition |  
French | Geography | Graphics |  
History | Latin | Music | Spanish |  
Philosophy and Ethics |  
Physical Education

### *Compulsory National Curriculum Core Subjects*

Physical Education |  
Religion, Philosophy and Ethics |  
Personal, Social, Health and  
Education





Our Sixth Form welcomes 180 students into Year 12 and every student who joins us, whether existing or from another school, enjoys focused one-to-one attention in an inclusive environment. We offer a unique and exceptional learning environment; joining us opens up an inclusive world of specialist support, fun, opportunity and a highly tuned programme of learning.

You'll experience team spirit, collaboration and endless support. We are consistently recognised for our remarkable academic environment and highly competitive results. In 2023, 20% of all A-Level grades were A\* and 54% of grades were A\* or A.

Whilst these grades are important, what sets us apart is our holistic approach to development and genuine investment in each student. Our job is to get to know you, to nurture you through your studies and guide you into the world of higher education and work. When the time comes, you might consider an Oxbridge college and we are adept at coaching our students through this very specific process. We'll help you to find the right degree course whichever university you want to apply to, or you might want to apply for a degree-level apprenticeship. Whatever you decide, when the time comes we will be there to show you the way.

*Ms Juliette Ganachaud* - Director of Sixth Form

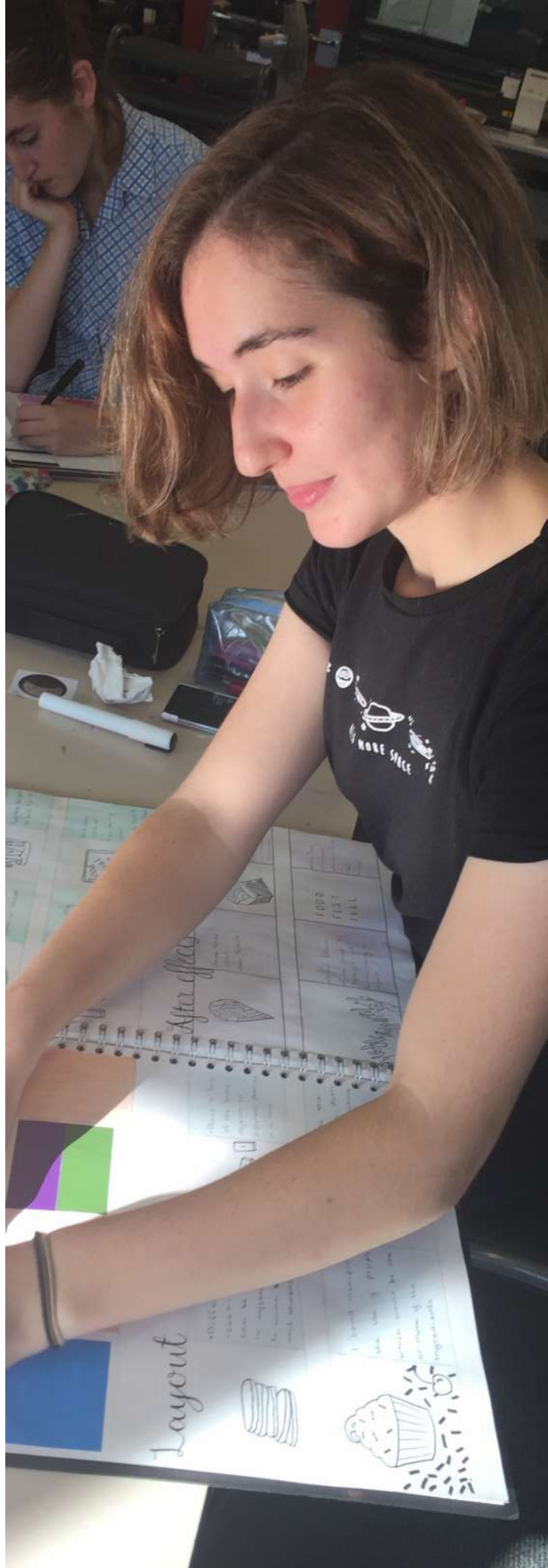
# Studying for your A-levels

## Our A-level Programme

- Three A-Levels
- Enrichment volunteering
- Extended Project Qualification
- Friday Lecture series
- Sports programme
- Duke of Edinburgh (optional)
- Fourth A-Level (optional)
- AS Level (optional):
  - Spanish and French

## Current A-level Subjects

Art, Craft and Design | Biology |  
Business Studies | Chemistry |  
Classical Civilisation |  
Computer Science | Dance |  
Drama and Theatre Studies |  
Economics | English Language and  
Literature | English Literature |  
French | Geography |  
Graphic Communication |  
History | Latin | Mathematics and  
Further Mathematics | Media  
Studies | Music | Physics | Politics |  
Spanish | Psychology |  
Religious Studies | Sociology |  
Spanish | Sport and Physical  
Education |





## Our Alumnae

When students join us in Year 7, for most, their focus is which lunchtime club to join, trying out for one of our choirs, orchestras or sports teams, or making it to the front of the cafeteria line at lunchtime! Which career they might eventually embrace is something reserved for Year 9 or Year 11 when the time comes to choose their GCSEs and A-Levels.

For us, our alumnae are a wonderful example of how Beaconsfield High prepares students for life after school and university. The paths our students choose are diverse, exciting and challenging. Every year, alumnae return to us to take part in careers talks, our Sixth Form Lecture Series, support our UCAS mock interviews or speak in assembly, and we couldn't be more proud of them.

The following alumnae profiles will give you a flavour of just some of our students' exciting career choices!



## Dr Melanie Windridge

Dr Windridge left BHS to study physics at Bristol University, followed by a PhD in plasma physics from Imperial College London in 2009. She is a plasma physicist specialising in fusion energy and currently works as the Communications Consultant for Tokamak Energy. Melanie also loves the outdoors and summited Mount Everest in 2018!



## Beth Rigby

Beth left BHS to study social and political science at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge where she graduated with a first. She continued her studies at the University of London where she gained a master's in Latin America.

She has worked as a journalist for the FT and The Times and is now the Political Editor for Sky News.



## Katie Raettig

Katie left BHS to study sociology at the University of Bath. She is currently the Post-Production Coordinator at Outpost, an independent TV and film post-production company at the world famous Pinewood Studios. Katie is also a keen writer and 'Disney fanatic' and writes regularly for the US Disney fan information site WDWNT.



## Bekah Cork

Bekah left us to study music at The University of Birmingham and after graduation she joined the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra as their Assistant Planning Manager. Currently she is the Artistic Planning and Tours Manager at the Royal Scottish National Orchestra.

## Saliha Mahmood-Ahmed

After BHS, Saliha studied medicine at Kings College graduating in 2012. She is currently an NHS junior doctor training in gastroenterology. She has always had a passion for cooking and in 2017 won the BBC's MasterChef competition. She has since written her own cookbook winning Best New Cookbook in the 2019 Observer Food Monthly Awards!



## Jessie (Baker) de la Merced

Jessie left us to study Biological Anthropology at The University of Cambridge followed by a one year studentship at Harvard University studying political communications. She went on to intern at Google, spent three years at Brunswick Group before joining Facebook where she is now the EMEA Communications Director.



# Useful information

*The school day* - Morning registration is 08:50 until 09:10, followed by two one-hour periods (lessons). Break is 20 minutes, followed by two more periods, then lunch which is one hour (13:30 – 14:30). The final period finishes at 15:30.

*Homework* - We know homework can be a whole new experience for some of our Year 7s, which is why we provide a homework timetable showing the days homework for each subject needs to be completed and the length of time it should take. Students are expected to complete around one hour of homework a night, five days a week.

*Learning Resource Centre* – Our library or LRC is managed by Mrs Seal, a highly experienced Chartered Librarian. The LRC promotes reading for pleasure, provides resources to suit students' studies, develops students' information literacy skills, provides study space and computers, and manages textbook issues. Mrs Seal also offers the opportunity to take part in the Bucks Book Awards, the Carnegie Children's Book Award, book groups and many other competitions and author visits.

*Biometric system* - The school operates a no-cash policy. Instead, we have an online payment facility that parents can top up in order for their child to buy food from the cafeteria. School trip payments are also made using this system. Students use the biometric system of a scanned thumb print to loan books from the Learning Resource Centre.

# What next?

Thank you for taking the time to read our prospectus. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email us using the address on the next page.

Our website is a great place to find out more, as is our social media. Simply click on the logos below to follow us.

Good luck making your secondary school decision. We look forward to welcoming some of you when the new school year starts in September.





Call us - 01494 673 043

[Click here to go to our website](#)

[You can also email us here](#)