



THE BISHOP'S STORTFORD  
HIGH SCHOOL

6<sup>th</sup>  
FORM



**2022  
ENTRY**





## A New School with a Traditional Ethos

For several years we have been working on a project to relocate the School to the St James' Park development zone in the south of Bishop's Stortford, less than half a mile to the south of our existing site.

Our aim is to provide a state of the art new learning environment for our students, whilst retaining the strong ethos and proud traditions that help make The Bishop's Stortford High School (TBSHS) *Outstanding*. It promises to be a fantastic site that combines high-quality teaching spaces and excellent enrichment facilities to support our superb extra-curricular programme, as well as providing great facilities for the whole community. This move will enhance the Sixth Form experience further with an even larger Sixth Form area with more study and social spaces (including a Sixth Form Café and high spec IT facilities) with additional extra-curricular facilities such as a fitness studio.

The project is being funded by the proceeds of the sale of our existing site, along with contributions from the DfE and local authorities. We also hope that our own fundraising efforts will help us to provide new equipment and further resources to really optimise the quality of experience for our students.

The Year 12 students who enrol in September 2022 will be the first sixth form cohort in our new school in Spring 2023. This move is very exciting as we look to combine all the exciting innovations in education with our traditional ethos. We hope you will become part of our first Year 12 in an exciting journey for the school and the Black and Gold Community.



**Mr Reeve and the Senior Leadership Team at the Breaking-Ground Ceremony, September 2021**

# Welcome to our Sixth Form

Our Sixth Form provides a unique, dynamic, enjoyable and highly personalised experience that produces outstanding outcomes in the classroom and across all aspects of School life. We pride ourselves on a truly inclusive and outstanding all-round education, combining the importance of academic rigour with extensive opportunities outside the classroom, all delivered by a dedicated team of high-quality professionals.

Our Sixth Form provides a unique, dynamic, enjoyable and highly personalised experience that produces outstanding outcomes in the classroom and across all aspects of school life. In 2021, almost 40% of A-Level grades awarded were an A grade or above, and two-thirds of all grades were B grade or above; seven of our outgoing Year 13 cohort achieved places at Oxford or Cambridge University. Our impressive academic performances are just one factor of the fantastic education provided at The Bishop's Stortford High School Sixth Form as we ultimately pride ourselves on our 'Black and Gold spirit' which drives and inspires our community to do some truly exceptional things.

I do not know many state funded Sixth Form providers that: send all of their Year 12 out on adventure day to enable our students to make new friendships; reach the finals of national schools football competitions; provide 350 students on site weekly enrichment activities; reach the national school debating championships (beating Harrow in the semi-finals); have Sixth Form international trips to Poland, USA, Austria, France, Germany or Russia; give all students

an opportunity to be on stage in a play or musical; hear from high profile speakers like Greg James or Huw Edwards; provide specialist one-to-one support for Post-18 applications and careers guidance; contains an on-site fitness suite and dedicated sports facilities; provide dedicated sixth form social and study areas; and enjoy and believe in putting its students first.

On top of all the brilliant things that already occur in our special community, we are delighted to be moving to a new state-of-the-art new building in Spring 2023.

We offer you a flexible and wide range of options within our broad curriculum and our staff demonstrate a relentless commitment, empowering you to face life beyond The Bishop's Stortford High School with confidence, resilience and enthusiasm.

You will be valued, challenged, nurtured and developed within the Sixth Form, and leave our school prepared to take your next steps within higher education or training, or to enter the world of work. We want to support you to become the best person that you can be.

Rob Stark  
**Assistant Headteacher,  
Head of Sixth Form**





## Starting Sixth Form Life at TBSHS

We are a mixed Sixth Form with an intake of approximately 200 students into Year 12. On your first day in the Sixth Form, you will quickly discover that we are a diverse and welcoming community and that we prioritise your transition into our School. In fact, on your very first day in Year 12 the whole day is dedicated to team-building and establishing new friendships. Within one month of being at TBSHS, the whole year group will go on a "community and bonding trip" where Year 12 will complete a range of team building activities such as climbing, kayaking, paddle-boarding, white-water rafting and raft building. We really value students who are willing to 'get stuck in' and we practise what we preach - you may end up rafting or kayaking with your tutors! These opportunities will help you to settle into Year 12 and enable you to become a valued member of a Year 12 tutor group. Ultimately, a happy student will always get the most out of their time inside and outside the classroom.

To help you deal with the challenge of A-Level study, Year 12 students are assigned dedicated Sixth Form

study areas to ensure they make the most of our challenging curriculum. Our Tutorial Programme and Summer Bridging Units will further support your smooth transition from Year 11, and help you meet our high academic standards. Your tutor will meet with you regularly on a formal one-to-one basis to check on your progress and provide guidance in a non-judgmental environment for you to critically assess your own learning and development. Your Year 12 Tutors and the Sixth Form Management Team will also provide support in making any necessary improvements.

Our busiest students are often our most successful. Therefore, all students are also encouraged to get involved in Sixth Form life whether it is in the classroom, as part of our curriculum Enhancement programme, or developing your extra-curricular skills on our Enrichment programme.

You will be given the chance to get a flavour of all that is on offer during our Induction period in the summer.









Apply online at  
[www.tbshs.org](http://www.tbshs.org)  
Go to Sixth Form  
then follow the links  
under *Apply 2022*

**"The high-quality teaching in the school is typified by the exceptionally strong working relationships established between staff and pupils. These working relationships are well supported by teachers' excellent subject knowledge. As a result, the well-matched combination makes a significant contribution to pupils' progress and the calm, orderly learning environment which is a particular strength of the school." Ofsted 2017**





"I chose to do four A Levels because I wanted to keep my options open between medicine or engineering. I also really enjoy maths."

**Israel**

A-Level Maths,  
Further Maths, Biology  
and Chemistry



"I absolutely loved these subjects at GCSE and I don't regret my decision to continue on with these subjects at A-level."

**Bella**

A-Level Theatre Studies,  
Religious Studies and  
Psychology

## What Should I Study in The Sixth Form?

We offer a great range of subjects and we would encourage you to choose the subjects which you enjoy the most and to play to your strengths, whilst also bearing in mind any career aspirations that you may already have. For example, if you wish to become a doctor you would need to study Chemistry and Biology. If you wish to become an engineer, studying Maths will be essential. However, if you are not sure what career path you wish to follow, select subjects that you enjoy or find interesting as we believe that our happiest students are our best performing and most motivated. Our own students are more than happy to share their reasons for selecting their subject combinations – so feel free to speak to them during our open evenings, guidance meetings and induction days.

When we come to create our timetable, we do our utmost to ensure that as many subject combinations as possible can be accommodated. To further enhance your curriculum, you will choose an Enhancement Option that is designed to prepare you for undergraduate study, leadership or employment. You can find more information about all our courses - and the GCSE grades that they require - in our Options and Subjects booklet.

Our most recent Ofsted report praised our exceptionally high quality guidance and, if you would like any advice on which subjects to choose, then you can contact the school and we would be very happy to talk through your options.



"I knew that I wanted to do something science based at university after studying these subjects at GCSE, and once I'd looked at the courses at TBSHS I knew that they were for me."

**Leyla**

A-Level Biology,  
Chemistry, Geography



"I've always had a passion for each of these subjects and I was keen to do subjects that I wasn't able to study at GCSE. I also love debating and there is element of debating in each of my chosen subjects."

**Finn**

A-Level Politics, Sociology  
and English Literature



## Teaching and Learning

You will be joining the Sixth Form in order to maximise your academic potential and we are passionate about helping you make this happen. The Sixth Form has three dedicated study areas, which all contain ICT facilities. Two of these areas are supervised silent study areas with the third area being a venue where quiet discussion can take place. Independent Study is a skill that we will help you to develop, as it will enable you to find success at Sixth Form and Higher Education.

You will find that your teachers will all be dedicated experts in their respective fields, sharing their knowledge with you through innovative and inspiring lessons. You will be encouraged to discover things

for yourself and ask questions to deepen your learning. Subject teachers will stretch and challenge you and you are expected to work hard in return.

Our teaching staff will go that extra mile to support you outside of your lessons, meeting with you in study periods, at lunchtimes and after school to reinforce your learning.

On top of your A-Levels and BTEC studies, you will be given a choice of a curriculum enhancement option to broaden your CV and your independent study skills. You will be able to choose from:



- **Core Maths** – is an AS Level equivalent award, which enables students to increase their confidence in using mathematics to be better equipped for the mathematical demands of other courses, higher education and employment.
- **Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme (Gold Award)** – is an internationally recognised award, which will give you skills, confidence and an edge over others when you apply for college, university or a job. You do not need to have done the Bronze Award to this option in Sixth Form.
- **Extended Project Qualification** – is an AS Level equivalent award, which will help you to develop a range of extra study skills. It is highly valued by higher education institutions as it demonstrates your dedication to independent learning and is often included in offers made by institutions to applicants.
- **Fundamentals of Finance Qualification** – allows students to develop essential knowledge of the financial services sector and commonly used financial products, such as shares, bonds and insurance and it will provide you with an understanding of financial terminology.
- **Sports Leaders Qualification** – which will enhance your leadership and coaching skills. In this qualification, you will be given the opportunity to coach younger students within the school and in surrounding primary schools. It is a great qualification to demonstrate that you have used your 'soft skills' to great effect.



**“Teaching provides very well managed opportunities for pupils to gain knowledge, skills and understanding in a climate of high expectations. These include the expectations of pupils’ commitment to arrive on time, with the right equipment, to work hard and to achieve well.” Ofsted 2017**



Apply online at  
[www.tbshs.org](http://www.tbshs.org)  
Go to Sixth Form  
then follow the links  
under *Apply 2022*



**"Staff are unequivocally committed to, and successful in, developing the highly valued skills of initiative, confidence, teamwork, perseverance and empathy. Alongside a wide programme of drama, sporting and musical activity, the extra-curricular programme includes over 100 options each term." Ofsted 2017**



**Apply online at  
[www.tbshs.org](http://www.tbshs.org)  
Go to Sixth Form  
then follow the links  
under *Apply 2022***





## WHAT DOES A TYPICAL SCHOOL DAY LOOK LIKE FOR FINN?

Time	Session	Finn's Comments
0830	Morning registration	Mr Harris is my form tutor and when he's not cracking jokes, he loves starting form sessions with random facts.
0840 - Period 1	Study Period	During this study period, I have a weekly one-to-one conversation sessions with a native French speaker. These are scary at first but I've found them really useful to help me be more fluent in French.
0940 - Period 2	A-Level Theatre Studies	I'm pursuing a career as an actor and this is my favourite subject.
1040	Break	The Sixth Form Centre is very much our space. It's where I spend break times and where I can find the SFMT (Sixth Form Management Team) if I need them.
1100 - Period 3	A-Level French	I chose A-Level French because I wanted the challenge of learning a foreign language at an advanced level. The lessons at A Level are great with more 1-2-1 attention.
1200 - Period 4	A-Level Music	This is another of my passions. I love doing this A-Level and the music department provides lots of opportunities to perform.
1300	Lunch	Lots of us decide to go off site for lunch, but there are also options to get lunch in the dining hall or grab a meal deal in the Sixth Form Centre.
1400	Sixth Form Enrichment	For me, my favourite thing about Sixth Form is the enrichment programme. It is great because I get the chance to play rugby for school and socialise with friends.
1500	Tutor one-to-one	We get an opportunity to discuss a range of issues during our one-to-one meetings with our tutors.
1530 - 1700	Extracurricular Activities	The best thing about the school for me has to be getting stuck into the extracurricular programme. At the moment, I am busy doing rehearsals for the school show in November and training for rugby, but I know that my friends go to subject clinics or other sports clubs after school and at lunchtime.



## Our Community and the Black and Gold Ethos

Community is one of our core values and we are proud of the fact that our students are part of warm, diverse and welcoming community. As Sixth Form students and leaders of the school, you will set the standard for younger pupils. You will lead by example, behaving and dressing professionally, readying you for your future move in to Higher Education and employment. You will run your own Senior Prefect Team, Sixth Form Council and Sixth Form Committee and provide valuable guidance to younger students through our paired reading, peer mentoring, literacy, sports coaching and other subject-specific initiatives.

We have very high standards and an expectation that all of our students want to challenge themselves to live up to the "Black and Gold" ethos. You will also act as representatives of TBSHS forging close links with organisations such as the Mitre Fund, Grove Cottage and the Rotarians to raise money and to do direct outreach work to help vulnerable people. You will represent the Sixth Form at TBSHS in all that you do.

Our Sixth Form will also broaden your understanding; you will have access to academic enrichment events and opportunities such as our Model United Nations programme, Mock Bar Trial, language exchanges, and student-run clubs like our MedSoc, Computing, Law, Maths and Physics Societies and History Discussion Group. We also invite internationally recognised speakers to share their experiences with you. In the last few years we have welcomed Alastair Campbell, Emily Maitlis, Michael Heseltine, Shami Chakrabarti, Michael Holding, Huw Edwards and former TBSHS Deputy Head Boy Greg James, now of Radio 1 fame.

Furthermore, our Sixth Form will also broaden your horizons with a range of excellent trips you can bring your subjects to life through visits to Russia, France, Germany, Iceland, Poland, Holland and New York. Despite the challenge presented to us by pandemic, we have still maintained an excellent calendar of trips. We have listed some of them overleaf:





**"Teachers in the sixth form have excellent subject knowledge. They have very good knowledge of their students' capabilities and, typically, plan learning very effectively to meet their learning needs." Ofsted 2017**

Apply online at  
[www.tbshs.org](http://www.tbshs.org)  
Go to **Sixth Form**  
then follow the links  
under *Apply 2022*









**“Pupils readily take on leadership roles. For example, they act as prefects, peer mentors, help younger pupils with reading, lead the school council and an extensive range of clubs and societies. Pupils also work in partnership with local Rotarians raising impressive sums of money for local, national and international charities.” Ofsted 2017**

2021/2022 A SELECTION OF OUR TRIPS		
TRIP NAME	SUBJECT AREAS	TIME IN THE CALENDAR
Geography Field Trips (London and Dorset)	Geography	September
Gold Duke of Edinburgh Practice expedition	Duke of Edinburgh (Curriculum enhancement)	September
Adventure Day - Community and Team bonding Trip to Herts Young Mariners	All of Year 12	October
Jack the Ripper Walking Tour	Psychology and Sociology	October
The French Institute (London)	French	October
Russia and Revolution Study Day (London)	History	November
Maths in Action (Emmanuel Centre)	Maths	November
Hamilton the Musical	History and Politics	December
Harry Potter Studios	Media Studies	December
Shakespeare Trip and Workshop (Stratford-upon-Avon)	Theatre Studies	December
Ski Trip to Austria	Available to any member of Year 12 and 13	February
Visit to the Houses of Parliament	Politics	March
Gold Duke of Edinburgh Practice expedition (Lake District)	Duke of Edinburgh (Curriculum enhancement)	July
Rugby Tour to New Zealand	Year 12 and Year 13 Rugby Players	July



## Extra-curricular Life

At TBSHS we pride ourselves in offering an active and vibrant extra-curricular programme as a crucial part of your holistic Sixth Form education. Our wide range of opportunities will further your personal development and increase your future options and wellbeing as well as making a valuable - and valued - contribution to the highly varied life of TBSHS. For many students, the highlight of their Sixth Form experience is the 'buzz' generated from the vast number of extra-curricular activities on offer. Research shows that the most fulfilled, happy, successful and interesting people balance a busy, challenging work life with a variety of other interests. Many of the activities on offer involve participation and achievement at a regional or national standard and all will enhance the very best of CVs.

You can choose from over 60 different clubs, societies and leadership opportunities to enrich your Sixth Form life beyond the classroom and we always welcome new ideas and suggestions to further develop the experiences available. There are numerous and various sporting opportunities here at the Sixth Form. You could be playing high level Rugby, Football, Cricket or Netball as

part of our prestigious and competitive fixture card. Alternatively, you could focus on achieving your own personal goals in our Running, Fitness or Weight-Training clubs. There are plenty of sporting avenues you can explore to boost your overall development. There are also fantastic extracurricular opportunities in Art, Drama and Music where students can join a whole host of Art and Drama enrichment clubs, or take part in a dozen different music groups. Furthermore, there are plenty of leadership opportunities in activities such as the Model United Nations, Debating and our ever-popular fundraising and charities group, Interact. Many of our students enjoy fundraising in the pursuit of experiences abroad. You could experience different cultures on our sports tours that have ventured to South Africa, Singapore, Australia, New Zealand, South Korea and Austria.

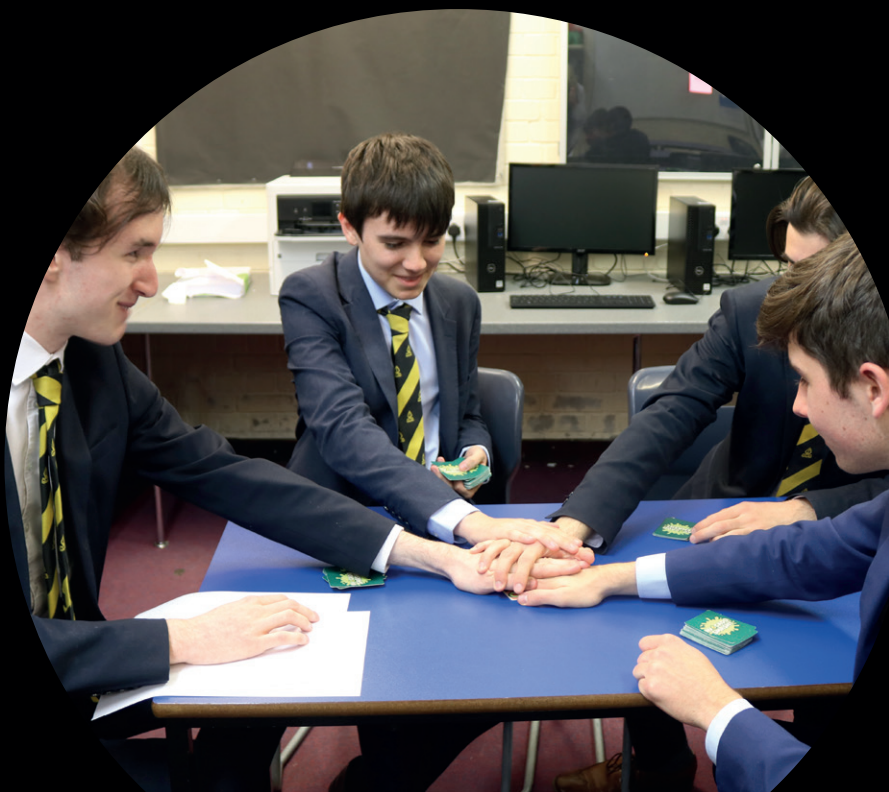






## WHICH EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPTIONS WILL YOU CHOOSE?

Athletics	Dodgeball	Leadership of the School Council	Rock Bands	Swimming (off-site)
Art	Drama	MedSoc	Rugby	Swing Band
Badminton	Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions	Mock Bar Trial	Running Club	Table Tennis
Basketball	Engineering Society	Model United Nations	Senior Prefect Team	TBSHS Music Festival
Board Games	Fitness	Music	Showcase - Our Student Variety Show	Tennis (off-site)
Chess	Football	Netball	Sixth Form Council	The Young Informer School Newspaper
Climbing (off-site)	Golf (off-site)	Paired Mentoring	Sixth Form Dinner and Dance Committee	Volunteering
Competitive Public Speaking	History Discussion Group	Paired Reading Scheme	Ski Trips	Weightlifting
Computing Society	Horse Riding (off-site)	Primary School Debating	Sports Tours	Whole School Production
Concert Band	Interact	Primary School Sports Competitions	Squash (off-site)	Yearbook Committee
Cricket	Karting (off-site)	Quiz Teams	Student Welfare Groups	Year 13 Varsity Match
Dance	Languages Support			
Choreography	Law Society			
Debating				







"I chose an apprenticeship in Construction and Project Management because I didn't see myself going to uni. I will complete my degree in 5 years and be earning at the same time.

Thank you for all your help at school - I especially enjoyed 6th form at TBSHS and can't believe it's all over!"

**Tom**  
Degree Apprenticeship,  
Mace Construction Group  
TBSHS 2014-2021



"TBSHS provided really helpful post 18 support, throughout the whole process, from helping identify any apprenticeships available, to supporting me through my applications during exam season. They really care and take interest in what you want to do after Sixth Form, and will always be there to help."

**Kira**  
Law Degree Apprenticeship,  
Mischon de Reya, London  
TBSHS 2019-2021

## Life Beyond TBSHS

Whether you choose to continue to study at university, enter the field of work or develop during a gap year, our experienced and dedicated Sixth Form team will provide you with comprehensive support to help you make the best post-18 choices. Our broad programme of advice and guidance includes visits, independent advisors and external speakers from all walks of life, complementing our strong academic and extra-curricular provision so that you develop your skills, interests and talents against a backdrop of study and career path knowledge. This means you can assess and review your potential and priorities throughout Sixth Form to maximise your chances of success on leaving TBSHS. The vast majority of our Sixth Formers

continue to degree study each year with a large proportion gaining places at the prestigious Russell Group universities. We provide specialised support to our candidates for elite universities and highly competitive subjects such as medicine, veterinary science and dentistry. Some have chosen to complete Foundation Arts courses or proactive gap years prior to further study, while others have commenced employment directly with companies such as GSK, EY, Deloitte, BAE, Dyson, Jaguar Land Rover, PwC and the Civil Service. Each one of you will be given the tailored support and help you need to aspire and reach your personal goals as you progress into adult life.



"We matriculated at Emmanuel College, Cambridge today! Thank you for all the help these last two years!"


**Amélie and Jenna**  
TBSHS 2019-2021



"Despite making a late decision to apply to the US, the Sixth Form Management Team went above and beyond in supporting me every step of the way, and helped me to manage my time with applications and exams very efficiently. I can't thank you all enough for the effort you put in to help me get to where I wanted."

**Nathaniel**  
TBSHS 2014-2021





**"The very strong programme of careers information, advice and guidance is highly effective in raising aspirations and promoting the range of progression opportunities beyond school, including apprenticeship routes. A high proportion of students go on to study at universities, including in some of the highestperforming higher education providers nationally." Ofsted 2017**



**"An outstanding school...with an outstanding Sixth Form." Ofsted 2017**



## **The Bishop's Stortford High School**

**Chairman of Governors: Mr A Fordham**

**London Road, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire CM23 3LU**

**T. 01279 869531 F. 01279 868687 E. [sixthform@tbshs.org](mailto:sixthform@tbshs.org) W. [www.tbshs.org](http://www.tbshs.org)**