

Citizenship at The Bishop's Stortford High School

At The Bishop's Stortford High School, we aim to empower, inspire and nurture students to be caring, responsible, resilient, respectful global citizens who demonstrate the School values of commitment, aspiration, respect, integrity and community in their time at school and beyond.

Such values of service and selflessness are essential to "The Black and Gold Spirit" where students look after others. and their environment, as well as themselves.

This character and values education are seen in: lessons; extra-curricular activities; conduct around the School and in the Community.

This is further evidenced in: our assemblies, regularly featuring the school hymn "Jerusalem"; a daily moral message to all students and the community; an Act of Remembrance on, or on the nearest weekday to, 11th November; Christmas and Easter Services at Saint Michael's Church; the work of the school council, where every form group is represented; Citizenship and Religious Studies classes, where current moral and spiritual issues of are appropriately and respectfully discussed; year group visits to the Palace of Westminster, the U.K. Supreme Court, Westminster Abbey and different places of religious worship; Black History Month; Pride Month; International Women's Day; World Mental Health Day; various awareness-raising work; and a large number of community, environmental and sustainability projects and community volunteering.

Interact, a charity group, led by the students, and supported by The Rotary Club of Bishop's Stortford, and soon to commence its 35th year at the School, raises money for, and awareness of, good causes, locally, nationally and internationally.

The intent of Citizenship is to nurture and encourage students to be engaged, empathetic, good, kind, thoughtful and respectful citizens.

The Citizenship curriculum is holistic, dynamic, fluid and flexible to ensure it engages students. Current events and resources are utilized to explore social, moral, spiritual and cultural issues.

Sixth Form

For a number of years, the School has hosted high calibre speakers to share their values and experience with the Sixth Form.

Former students of T.B.S.H.S. also visit to share their story. This last academic year, the School hosted Andrew Lewin M.P. Andrew was elected at the 2024 General Election to serve the constituency of Welwyn and Hatfield. Andrew is a former student of the School.

Other guest speakers we have recently and regularly hosted include: Hannah Lewis M.B.E., a Holocaust survivor; Peter Tatchell; Natasha Devon M.B.E.; David Dein M.B.E. , Clare Balding C.B.E., Phoebe Schecter and Clive Tyldesley.

In the past academic year, we have hosted Sam Reardon, who won two bronze medals at the Olympics in Paris, and Bishop James Jones K.B.E., the former Bishop of Liverpool, Brendon Batson O.B.E., the pioneering black footballer, Amelia Reynolds from BBC East and a live broadcast of the “Radio Four” programme “Any Questions?”

Year 9, 10 and 11 Citizenship

A team of dedicated cross-curricular staff are supported with high quality, topical and engaging quality assured material with a range of suggested outcomes.

In these well-researched lessons, there are connections to awareness days, current affairs, charity events, local, national and international Citizenship and news stories, and timeless ethical and moral issues and the School’s values.

We lead a compulsory Year 10 visit to the Palace of Westminster, the U.K. Supreme Court, Westminster Abbey.

Key Stage 3 Citizenship

The Key Stage 3 Religious Studies curriculum connects to Citizenship with units on prejudice and discrimination, human rights, poverty, social justice, relationships, politics, the environment and the law.