



BEXLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

SPECIALISMS IN SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS AND LANGUAGES
IB WORLD SCHOOL

INTELLECT, EMPATHY, COURAGE
DEVELOPING COMPASSIONATE LEADERS



BGS AT A GLANCE

RATED **'OUTSTANDING'** BY OFSTED IN OCTOBER 2022
68% OF ALL GCSE GRADES WERE 9-7 (A*/A)

SUMMER 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

GCSE

- 97% of grades were 9-5
- 44% of grades were 9-8
- 66% of grades were 9-7
- 55% of students have 9-7 in their best 8 subjects
- 7.1 average point score for all of our cohort
- 34 students gained all eleven of their GCSEs at grade 9-7

Sixth Form

- An average point score of 34 (the global average was 30 points)
- 80% of grades at 7-5 / A*-B
- 36% of students scored 38+ points
- 38+ points has a UCAS equivalent of 4 AAAAs or 3 A*
- The average point score of 34 is equivalent to UCAS points of AAB
- 88% of UCAS applicants gained a place in their 1st/2nd choice university
- 50% of those applicants joined Russell Group universities
- 9 students gained Oxbridge and / or Medicine places

WHY CHOOSE BEXLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL?

- For outstanding academic results at GCSE and IB
- For the richest possible educational experience - a challenging curriculum
- For the creative subjects and the co-curricular experiences
- For our care of individual students
- For the warmth of the relationships between students and staff
- For a rounded, co-educational (mixed) experience
- For the IB (International Baccalaureate) in the Sixth Form

OUR ETHOS...

Every school has its own ethos, or character, and the ethos of Bexley Grammar School is one of the most fundamentally important parts of everyday school life. Our ethos promotes respect, resilience and the ambition to achieve the very best that you can in whatever you do, inside or outside of the classroom. It is best articulated in the three words which you will see in our literature, on our website and feel in our classrooms;

- Intellect - learning to play, developing the skills, tactical knowledge
- Empathy - working together, sensitive to the team around you
- Courage - to practice, to persevere, to perform - resilience



WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

“Leaders’ expectations of pupils are very high in all aspects of school life. Pupils study a challenging curriculum and are very well prepared to become responsible citizens”
- Ofsted 2022



Welcome to our school, which I hope you will find is built upon strong relationships, high expectations and a caring environment. Every visitor who I have spoken to, from other Headteachers to OFSTED Inspectors to incidental passers-by, comments on the warmth that is so evident as you walk our corridors. Our staff invest a huge amount of time in our students and that in turn is reciprocated by our young people, whose behaviour and attitudes are exemplary. The older they get, the more they lead and instil such attitudes in their peers.

Since our school journey began in 1955, we have been able to add and evolve, both to our site and our traditions. We celebrate many of those traditions, such as our annual Speech Day and School Production Gala Night, however we have added to our calendar such inclusive events as the PA Summer Fayre and, most recently, Afro-Caribbean Society Gala Night. We're very proud to have strong, historical links in our staff, student body and Alumni, but also are outward looking in our approach - our history is evolving.

Joining Bexley Grammar School in Year 7 is the start of a seven year relationship between the school, the student and the parent / carer. This journey will ideally culminate in personal growth and academic success

through the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP), which will then take our children on to a prestigious university or excellent opportunity, such as an apprenticeship with a top company. Our track record is enviable - we consistently have very high acceptance rates to Oxbridge and Russell Group universities, and many of our students go on to work with companies such as Commerzbank or KPMG. That is not to sound elitist - our excellent Careers / Sixth Form team consistently finds the right path for the right person, and that path begins in Year 7. Throughout their school journey with us, our aim is to instil the values of Intellect, Empathy, and Courage in our young people.

Our curriculum, from day one of Year 7 until the final day of Year 13, is one continuous highlight. It offers breadth, depth, challenge and diversity. At Key Stage 3 our students study the fullest range of courses, from the core subjects to curriculum areas such as Latin, Music and Drama. At Key Stage 4, we proudly offer a strong and robust diet of two languages and three sciences, in addition to English, Maths and a range of optional subjects. With Music, Drama, Art and DT available on the options menu, we cater for students with diverse skills and interests. Finally, at

Key Stage 5, the IBDP is a world-class qualification which ensures learners have competitive literacy, numeracy and linguistic skills whilst also offering the opportunity to drill deep into the subjects that they specialise in at higher level. The IBDP encapsulates our school's curriculum offer and we are very proud of the opportunities and outcomes that this programme provides to our young people.

I appreciate that as parents / carers you will have many questions and considerations when choosing your child's next school. I hope that this booklet, and the school's open mornings, will help you to find many of those answers. As a school recently graded Outstanding by Ofsted, I can assure you that Bexley Grammar School can offer your child a first class education inside and outside of the classroom, and I invite you to join a community which is both nurturing and successful.

Hugh Gilmore - Headteacher

See www.bexleygs.co.uk for details.

A CHALLENGING CURRICULUM

The curriculum at Bexley Grammar School is designed to inspire and challenge our students.

Our curriculum helps students to prepare for higher education and beyond with a global perspective rooted in our ethos of intellect, empathy and courage.

YEAR 7	Year 7 students study the full range of traditional subjects, including Latin, in addition to either French or German.
YEAR 8	Year 8 students choose a second modern foreign language from a wide range including French, German, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Chinese and Japanese.
YEAR 9	Year 9 is a transition year in which the focus is split between preparation for GCSE, creative exploration and depth of study.
YEAR 10 & 11	Students in Years 10 and 11 take GCSEs in Mathematics, English Language, English Literature, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, two Language subjects plus three subjects chosen from a wide range including at least one Humanity. As a result, 100% of our students are measured against the national Key Performance Indicator; the English Baccalaureate.
SIXTH FORM	<p>Students in the Sixth Form follow the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP).</p> <p>The IBDP consists of three subjects taken at Higher level and three subjects at Standard level. Alongside an extended essay, study of the Theory of Knowledge (ToK) and elements of Creativity, Action and Service (CAS), the IB provides a world-renowned qualification which is widely acknowledged to be the best preparation for our young people to succeed at university and to flourish in our increasingly global society.</p> <p>Our IB success is at the root of our remarkable record of university and degree-level apprenticeship destinations.</p> <p>See www.bexleygs.co.uk for further details of the subjects we offer at each stage in the school.</p>



PTI (Prince's Teaching Institute) Mark in 6 subject areas - recognition of continuing training and research into effective pedagogy by our teachers.



ISM (Incorporated Society of Musicians) award in recognition of the school's commitment to music with particularly high levels of participation and success at GCSE Music.

See www.bexleygs.co.uk for further details of the subjects we offer at each stage in the school.

All students study two languages and all three separate sciences.



A SENSE OF COMMUNITY

Participation is celebrated at BGS. The supportive ethos of the school is driven by a wide range of co-curricular activities and an amazingly vibrant house system.



“This is a caring and supportive school. My three children are here because the sense of community matches the quality of the academic rigour.”

Parent

These activities help students develop as individuals and as members of teams; they also provide numerous opportunities for leadership. In addition to a busy sports programme, our House system encourages participation in a wide range of activities (over twenty for Year 7 students), which culminate in the hotly contested music, drama and dance competitions.

There is a full programme of concerts and plays during the year; an art exhibition and the annual musical production of near West End quality. A typical academic year generates about seventy day visits run by all subject areas in addition to a wide range of residential trips both in the UK and all over the world.

What's more, our specific student leadership bodies, which students can join from year 7, include the Student Council, the Academic Council, the Environmental Action Group, Peer Mentors (receiving training and recognition through the Diana Award,) House Captains, Subject Prefects, Senior Prefects and more. We encourage students to participate in shaping our school, having their voices heard and developing the strong and compassionate leadership skills that will lead them to be tomorrow's leaders in their chosen field.

We have recently seen a group of students take part in a life-changing visit to Malaysia, as part of a World Challenge Expedition. Alongside this impactful opportunity, we offer the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, Young Enterprise, the Jack Petchey Award and numerous other initiatives; our Language Prefects and Sports Leaders work with primary school children; there are clubs for everything from cheerleading to drama/dance or from the Afro-Caribbean Society to STEM club and if something is missing, students are encouraged and supported to start it.

The range of other community groups which contribute, including a strong Parents' Association, is impressive and it is a tribute to the strength of our community that so many past students return as speakers, teachers and governors; we enjoy a strong community bond in our alumni.



“Since I came to this school, I have been abroad several times, go to the theatre regularly and have just seen my first opera.” ”

Student

Our staff go above and beyond to offer a broad range of trips abroad to a huge range of destinations. A typical annual offer includes Spain, Japan, Greece, Italy, USA, China, Russia, France, Germany and Sardinia.

OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

Bexley Grammar School values every individual in its community and is constantly seeking to develop the talents of each student.



“Relationships between staff and pupils are extremely positive. Pupils value the pastoral support they receive. They appreciate that staff reach out to offer support before pupils ask for it.”
- Ofsted 2022

Our Pastoral Team of Form Tutors, Senior Academic Mentors and Directors of Studies, provide outstanding individual care - BGS is known locally for this excellent level of support. Our Year 7 transition programme includes allocating a trained sixth form peer mentor to each class and during the first term there is a range of events to support parents in their child's transition to secondary school.

Any student struggling for any reason is supported. Our fully qualified Higher Level Teaching Assistants work closely with teachers to accommodate special needs and they provide, according to need, one-to-one support, a homework club, and booster lessons. Our welcoming librarian runs our modern, impressively stocked library, which is equipped with a bank of computers.

Where appropriate, the Pastoral Team refers a student to our full-time School Counsellor. There is also a range of groups which meet to support specific needs or interests of students, such as a Carers Club and LGBT+ Alliance.

At Bexley Grammar School we have effective teams of staff and students which work towards one overarching aim – to support students in their personal pursuit of excellence.



“The school always caters to the strengths of individuals as well as striving for academic excellence.”

Parent

“Your place in our lives and effect on us as a family has been immeasurable.”

Parent

SIXTH FORM— AN INSPIRATIONAL ENVIRONMENT



The IB is now the preferred route to university or equivalent.



Our ultimate aim is to take pupils from primary school to university or equivalent - BGS is a 7-year commitment. The sixth form is the power-house of the school - an inspirational, vibrant, high-achieving environment, where students follow their quests for academic and personal success.

All students follow the International Baccalaureate (IB) in the Sixth Form. The IB Diploma Programme (IBDP) is a world-renowned course which develops independence and depth of learning while nurturing the personal qualities needed for success at university and in a career. Our IB students consistently gain places at top universities, including Oxford and Cambridge (4 students in 2023) and Russell Group destinations (88 students in 2023).

Most of our Year 11 students continue into the Sixth Form where they are joined by strong new students from local schools. Life as a member of the Sixth Form is full, active and rewarding. Students enter an inspirational environment, where they are given many opportunities to be leaders in our school. They can be senior, house, or subject prefects, peer mentors, sports leaders, leaders of the School Council, or members of the Environmental Action Group. The senior prefect team meets weekly with the Headteacher and each prefect represents a year group, providing the student body with a strong voice.

Key decisions about university subjects and potential future careers are supported by a large team of staff, including tutors, directors of studies, academic mentors, careers advisors and individual needs teachers.



“My child is very happy in this exciting, challenging, diverse school.”

Parent



TO STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE

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