



BEXLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

SPECIALISMS IN LANGUAGES, SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS
IB WORLD SCHOOL

INTELLECT, EMPATHY, COURAGE



BGS AT A GLANCE

RATED **'OUTSTANDING'** BY OFSTED FOR MORE THAN A DECADE
2 OF OUR GCSE STUDENTS WERE IN THE TOP 10 GCSE ACHIEVERS IN ENGLAND IN 2019
THE ONLY FULLY IB SIXTH FORM IN A SOUTH EAST LONDON BOROUGH

SUMMER 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- **63%** 9-7 (A*/A) in GCSE Mathematics.
- **96 students (53%)** achieved 8 or more 9-7 (A*/A) grades at GCSE.
- **7.0** average point score (the old A grade).
- **Over 40% of students** gained places at Russell Group universities.
- **Over 90% of students** gained their first or second choice of university.
- Many students secured prestigious apprenticeships including the **'Big Four'**.

National statistics for 2020 not published due to the pandemic.

NATIONAL RATINGS (ENGLAND)

- **2 of the top 10 GCSE students in England** – perfect set of grade 9s in 12 subjects! (2019).
- 2017-2019 three-year averages:
 - **Top 5%** GCSE value-added in Languages.
 - **Top 25%** GCSE value-added in Sciences.
- One of the top schools for the quality of university destinations.

WHY CHOOSE BEXLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL?

- For the warmth of the relationships between students and staff
- For the richest possible educational experience - a challenging curriculum
- For the creative subjects and the extra-curricular experiences
- For our care of individual students
- For our ethos: Intellect, Empathy, Courage
- For a rounded, co-educational (mixed) experience
- For the IB (International Baccalaureate) in the Sixth Form

PICTURE OUR ETHOS...

...in terms of a sports team or a music band or the cast and crew of a play:

- 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

Ofsted
Outstanding



WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

“I want to provide our children with the richest possible educational experience to give them the opportunity to become some of the most successful students in the world.”



Everyone who visits BGS notices the warmth of the relationships between students and staff in a vibrant community.

We have been rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted for over a decade, our excellent academic record speaks for itself and we are heavily oversubscribed. We will stretch your child with a challenging curriculum including two foreign languages and all three separate sciences at GCSE. We raise aspirations, grow confidence and develop young people into compassionate leaders. Our school motto translates as "to strive for excellence".

We all learn best when we are happy, safe, busy, inspired and valued as individuals; every student is encouraged to choose from a stunning array of extra-curricular activities, many of them rooted in our vibrant and

competitive house system. Most students continue into our thriving, fully IB Sixth Form, which plays a key role in leading the rest of the student body.

A booklet will never capture what makes one school different from another nor will it answer all your questions as a parent or a prospective student. Our website is packed with information, including past weekly newsletters, and will give you a better flavour of the vibrancy of our school. This year, in light of the frustrating restrictions of the pandemic, I hope our online 'Open Experience' gives you a flavour of who we are and how we work; we are sorry you cannot visit and speak with us. Having been a parent in your position three times, I appreciate the number of factors you will be trying to balance as you and your child finally make

your choices.

I invite you to join us in a partnership in which, together, we commit to supporting your child to grow into a young person fully prepared for the challenges of our rapidly changing society.

Stephen Elphick – 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	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.
SIXTH FORM	<p>Students in the Sixth Form follow the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP).</p> <p>The IBDP (usually abbreviated to the IB) 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 set of qualifications which prepare 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>



PTI (Prince's Teaching Institute) Mark in 4 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.

All students study two languages and all three separate sciences.

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



A SENSE OF COMMUNITY

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



“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 clocks up 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.

We participate in World Challenge (the next one is to Namibia), Young Enterprise, the Jack Petchey Award and numerous other initiatives; our Language Leaders and Sports Leaders work with primary school children; there are clubs for everything from cheerleading to chess or from STEM club to Archery and if something is missing, students are encouraged and supported to introduce 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

There were 21 overseas trips in the year previous to the pandemic, including to Spain, Japan, Greece, Italy, USA, China, Russia, France, Iceland, Germany, Sardinia, Holland. Our next World Challenge trip is to Namibia.

OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

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



“Our over-arching aim is to support students in their personal pursuit of excellence.”

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 are 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, as required, one-to-one support, a homework club, and booster lessons. Our enthusiastic librarian runs our recently refurbished and impressively stocked library, which is equipped with a bank of computers.

Where appropriate, the Pastoral Team refer 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, LGBTQ and Debating Club.

At Bexley Grammar School we have effective teams of staff and students which work towards one over-arching 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



BGS is the only fully IB Sixth Form in a South East London Borough



Students moving into the Sixth Form enter an inspirational, high-achieving environment, where they are fully supported in their quest for academic and personal success.

All students follow the International Baccalaureate (IB) in the Sixth Form. The IB Diploma Programme (IBDP) is a full and well-balanced 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 gain places at top universities, including the highest rate of Oxford and Cambridge entry of any school in Bexley.

Most of our Year 11 students continue into the Sixth Form where they are joined by strong external 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 both challenged and fully supported in their quest for academic and personal success. Sixth Form students 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 Sixth Form Council members. 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.

“91% of our year 13 students went on to study in higher education, ranking our school seventh in England.”



“We are privileged to have such a fantastic school in our area.”

Parent



TO STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE

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Visit us at: www.bexleygs.co.uk