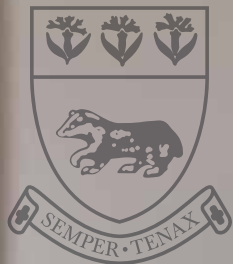


BENNETT MEMORIAL DIOCESAN SCHOOL
SIXTH FORM

EXCELLENCE, CHARACTER, SERVICE







Welcome to the Bennett SIXTH FORM



Jon Sparke
Headteacher

WE OFFER AN EXCELLENT EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE FOR SIXTH FORM STUDENTS IN A CHALLENGING AND CARING ENVIRONMENT WHILST ALSO PROVIDING MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR THEM TO HONE THEIR INTERPERSONAL SKILLS AND DEVELOP SELF-EFFICACY.

The world for which young people are preparing is a fast-changing and highly competitive environment. It is right that young people consider their options carefully before embarking on post 16 study or training. At Bennett we provide a wide range of A Level courses, alongside other programmes, taught by highly qualified and experienced teachers with a strong record of success.

Hard work and commitment to study brings success, and we ensure that students are supported in every way possible to achieve their best. Good communication with parents enables them, too, to play an important role as students embark on advanced study.

The Bennett sixth form is a stepping stone to the next stage, and our expert advice and guidance enable students to gain places at the most sought-after universities in the UK or abroad, including Oxbridge and Russell Group, or to secure internships or places on competitive apprenticeship schemes.

Above all, we build on the success that we achieve at GCSE as students move into the Sixth Form. Students who have taken their GCSEs at Bennett can be confident that we will continue to ensure that they achieve their best as they move into the next phase. New students are warmly welcomed into our community, and quickly integrate as they too benefit from our outstanding teaching and wide range of opportunities.

Building AMBITION

CHOOSING A PROGRAMME OF STUDY FOR THE SIXTH FORM REQUIRES CAREFUL THOUGHT. A LEVELS REMAIN THE MOST WIDELY RECOGNISED QUALIFICATION FOR 16-18 YEAR OLDS AND THE VAST MAJORITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACES ARE GAINED THROUGH THIS ROUTE. WE OFFER A WIDE RANGE OF A LEVEL COURSES IN THE BENNETT SIXTH FORM TO SECURE PROGRESS TO SOUGHT AFTER DESTINATIONS ON LEAVING SCHOOL.

We advise prospective students to select courses based on their ambitions for further study or work. In selecting courses for study in the sixth form it is important to consider the entry requirements for degree or school-leaver pathways. That is why all students planning their sixth form courses are offered a bespoke guidance meeting to ensure they are making the right decisions. We are on hand to advise you about combinations of subjects which have a record of working well together.

An important way of making a study programme broader and of enriching study in the sixth form is in the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). This is highly prized by many universities and can complement A Levels very well.

We encourage and support students in undertaking this qualification, usually in year 12, and can cater for a very wide range of research choices.

For students who seek a specialist programme in the sixth form, Bennett offers Technical Diplomas which can be free-standing or combine with one A Level to make a full-time course.





ANNA SACKS, YR 13

"I have relished my time in the Bennett sixth form studying German, history and philosophy. The sixth form team and subject teachers have been both supportive and caring, preparing us well for the challenge of A levels. It has been great to be able to develop independence with the increased responsibility given to sixth formers. For me, one of the most important things when choosing a sixth form was for it to have a good support network for the students, which is just one of the areas where the Bennett sixth form has gone above and beyond."





Excellent TEACHING

AS IN THE EARLIER YEARS OF SCHOOL, EXCELLENT TEACHING IS CLOSELY LINKED WITH EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT PROGRESS, BUT PERHAPS THIS IS EVEN MORE SO IN THE SIXTH FORM. THIS IS BECAUSE COURSES ARE HIGHLY SPECIALISED AND REQUIRE TEACHERS TO HAVE OUTSTANDING KNOWLEDGE OF THEIR SUBJECTS, AS WELL AS A PASSION FOR SHARING IT. AT BENNETT WE ENSURE THAT ALL TEACHERS OF SIXTH FORM COURSES ARE SELECTED FOR THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE OF TEACHING AT THIS LEVEL.



Students are encouraged to work hard as well, and for this reason Bennett sixth formers benefit from two state-of-the art study suites, fully equipped with modern technology and staffed at all times to ensure that all are able to make best possible use of study time. We make no apology for this: students thank us for helping them to resist the temptation not to make best use of this time.

Part of being a successful sixth former is learning constantly to revise and practise the large amount of new knowledge each A Level requires. Mastery of new material calls for hard work at home as well as in study periods at school. Our teachers understand this, and so we both encourage students to undertake this additional work and also monitor and assess them regularly so that we can flag up problems and find ways to address them promptly. No student at Bennett is left to drift.

Next STEPS

FOR MANY STUDENTS, THE SIXTH FORM WILL BE A WAY TO GAIN THE QUALIFICATIONS NEEDED FOR ACCESS TO UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OR TO HIGH LEVEL TRAINING PROGRAMMES SUCH AS DEGREE LEVEL APPRENTICESHIPS. THE OPPORTUNITIES ARE EVER MORE DIVERSE, AND AN IMPORTANT BENEFIT FOR STUDENTS FROM BEING PART OF A LARGE AND SUCCESSFUL SIXTH FORM IS ACCESS TO THE ENORMOUS RANGE AND DEPTH OF EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE IN SCHOOL TO HELP STUDENTS FIND THE BEST POSSIBLE ROUTES FOR THEM.

Most Bennett students choose to move on to university. A well-chosen degree from a highly regarded university is a pre-requisite for a successful career in many fields. In the UK we have some of the most sought-after universities in the world, including Oxbridge and Russell Group universities, and we enable students to gain access to degree courses there. Increasingly, universities abroad offer excellent and well-regarded degree programmes which attract students globally, and we support access to these also.

Other students will be seeking high-level apprenticeships or internships as their next phase, and again Bennett's expert team has successfully supported students in gaining these often very competitive opportunities as well.

The application processes for all these options can be complex, and our support for each individual extends to the practicalities of making the best of each student's achievements and ambitions in each application. We also offer a wide range of information for parents too so that they are fully involved in and supportive of the decision making process.





JACK BILLIN , YR 12

“Studying maths in the Bennett sixth form has been a great decision because I enjoy being challenged and I like to persevere with difficult tasks. It also teaches me to understand how to solve problems and make informed decisions and predictions. I am planning to study Mechanical Engineering at University. Maths A Level is not only an essential subject for this pathway, but my additional subject of Further Maths will also prove useful with the more complex aspects of studying engineering when I have completed my A levels.”

Forming Your CHARACTER

IN OUR COMPETITIVE WORLD, THOSE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE MOST SUCCESSFUL ARE THOSE WHO NOT ONLY HAVE OUTSTANDING AND RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS BUT CAN ALSO COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY, SOLVE PROBLEMS, WORK WITH OTHERS, AND HAVE THE RESILIENCE AND CREATIVITY TO MAKE A UNIQUE CONTRIBUTION TO THEIR WORKING ENVIRONMENT. WE CONTINUE TO OFFER A RANGE OF OPPORTUNITIES AT BENNETT FOR SIXTH FORMERS TO DEVELOP THESE PERSONAL QUALITIES WHICH ARE SO HIGHLY VALUED.

Many students wish to continue with their Duke of Edinburgh Award at Silver or Gold level, and for new sixth formers there is the option of direct entry onto those programmes. Music, drama and sport are exceptionally strong, and many sixth form students develop their skills in these areas to a high level outside their formal curriculum.

Debating and public speaking are ways of gaining in confidence and honing one's powers of expression, and there are active and highly successful societies which sixth formers are encouraged to join.

Relevant educational visits take place throughout the school year to support learning in particular subjects, and popular sporting and cultural residential visits take place annually, including ski trips, visits to Italy, and the chance to take part in expeditions further afield to visit partners in Africa or undertake challenge expeditions in Asia or South America, for example.

We aim to prepare Bennett students to be the leaders of tomorrow. The Bennett sixth form encourages students to practise and develop their leadership. The head students are chosen from the sixth form, as are the range of prefects with special responsibilities both within the sixth form and across the school. As senior students in the school, sixth formers are expected to observe high standards of behaviour and personal presentation. This helps them to grow in confidence and adapt easily to professional expectations beyond school.







Bennett Memorial Diocesan School
Culverden Down
Tunbridge Wells
Kent TN4 9SH

T: 01892 521595
E: enquiries@bennett.kent.sch.uk
www.bennett.kent.sch.uk

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