BEACONSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL'S



KS3-PROSPECTUS

2025 - 2026



At Becky High our focus is on the holistic well-being of all members of our community. There is a culture of inclusiveness, where emotional intelligence is prized and respect for self, for others, for learning and for our environment create an atmosphere where students feel secure, free to embrace the privilege of learning, and inspired by the huge breadth of opportunities available, both within the core and extra curriculum programmes, they *Dare to be Remarkable*!

Our staff work hard to nurture students, they know each student is individual and thus has individual needs, and they will help guide your child to develop, dream big and unlock their potential. The key to the success each student experiences at Becky High is ensuring they are happy and settled. We live our ethos of creating a 'happy, high achieving learning environment'. Our community - teachers, support staff, students, parents/carers and governors - work together to achieve this. A learning culture is at the heart of what we do, which of course means more than the study of curriculum subjects. It is about taking advantage of opportunity and challenge, developing a wide range of skills, working in and for a community and being part of a team. Being caring, taking responsibility and showing initiative are also vitally important.

We our very proud of our school and we think it is a special place to learn and grow, but do come and visit us so you can see for yourself!



As Head of Learning for Year 7, I would like to offer you a warm welcome to Beaconsfield High School. Leaving primary school is a big step in a child's educational journey. It can be a daunting experience for students and parents/carers, which is why it is important to us that this transition is a smooth and enjoyable one.

Our staff are experienced in creating a welcoming and nurturing atmosphere for all our new students, helping them to deal with issues like making friends, getting to grips with homework and even getting the right bus home! Before students join us in September, our transition programme gives them the opportunity to come into school, get used to the surroundings, meet current staff and students, and get a real feel for what life at Beaconsfield High is like. The aim of this being that students feel confident and prepared when they officially join us in September.

Life throws up many challenges, but I am dedicated to ensuring that my students feel happy and safe at school, which in turn will allow them to thrive in whatever path they choose to take.

Ms Charlotte lewis (Head of Year 7)



Entering Year 7 can sometimes feel like stepping into a whole new world, but however daunting it may seem, at Becky High you will find not only endless opportunities for growth but also a supportive and nurturing environment that will help you thrive.

This wonderful environment, both in classrooms and through our wide range of cocurricular activities, allows the transition from primary to secondary school to go smoothly, with all students being given plenty of support every step of the way! The school you choose to go on your journey with is important as its community has a part to play in who you are in the future, and the community at Becky High is one that is extremely encouraging, inclusive and uplifting.

Students are encouraged to collaborate with others and view mistakes as the perfect learning opportunity. This promotes problem-solving skills, resilience, and self-belief, all of which are vital skills for a future beyond our school. It also ensures that not only will you gain an excellent academic education, but also an education of character, as you are given all the tools needed to overcome every challenge you face.

Rithika (Head Girl)

About us

Since 1967, Beaconsfield High School has been a thriving community of happy, high achieving students.

We are proud to be a centre of excellence, demonstrated by our summer 2024 results on page 7. Our 1000+ pupils are challenged by remarkable teaching standards and benefit from the attention and proficient, of highly respect dedicated and conscientious staff. Staff are empowered to provide students with consistently inspiring experiences, backed by strong assessment and reporting, all of which ensure students have the tools to be motivated and driven learners.

Our students bring with them a melting pot of abilities, interests and outlooks, which is what makes our school community so exciting. Each year group is split into six form groups, named after one of our Houses – Blackman, Rambert, Parks, Hamilton, Bhutto and Holmes – themselves a nod to six exceptional and inspiring women.

Leadership, respect, humility and morality, creativity and physical activity are just some of the additional life skills and behaviours that are taught on a daily basis.





These and many other aspects of school life were recognised in December 2019 when we were Ofsted inspected by and subsequently rated 'Outstanding' in all areas. The report states that pupils "are fiercely proud of their school and of their own achievements" and in terms of leadership, the headteacher "passionate about pupils' entitlement to a well-rounded education... with the governing body and her senior leadership team, she has transformed the curriculum."

Inspectors noted that whilst learning is a priority, "leaders and governors rightly give a high priority to pupils' mental health" which has been and continues to be a clear priority for the future plans of the school and its students.

We are one of only 45 schools nationwide to be recognised as an *Exceptional School*, an award exemplifying the excellence and uniqueness of outstanding schools, including the quality and consistency of teaching that Ofsted now expects.

Our Governing Body has also been awarded the prestigious *Governor Mark*, a national award supported by the Department for Education and a recognised kite mark of good practice.

2024 BHS EXAM RESULTS

50%

9 - 8 grades at GCSE

73%

9 - 7 grades at GCSE

89%

9 - 6 grades at GCSE

100%

9 - 4 grades in English and maths

A* and A grades at A-Level

48%

A* - B grades at A-Level

77%

A* - C grades at A-Level

92%

Students who have accepted Oxbridge places

12

Students studying medicine and dentistry

17

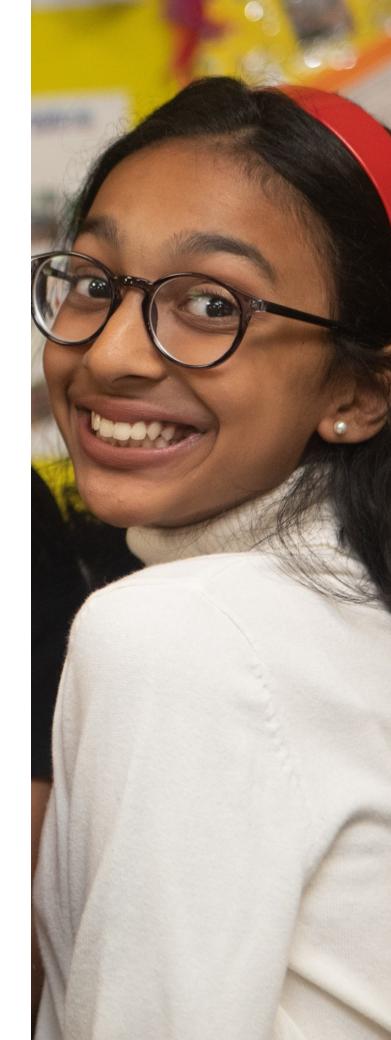


Our Vision & Values

Studying at Beaconsfield High School unlocks a child's future, providing the skills and aptitude to enable them to thrive in the competitive worlds of higher education and work.

Our curriculum intent is to support a happy, high achieving learning community enriched bv opportunity to discover talents and passions. We plan and build our curriculum that academic SO knowledge, enrichment and life skills match the high aspirations of our learners and allow them to make the strongest progress over time. This will prepare them to be the best they can be in school, as citizens in their community and in their future.

We understand the pressures of studying in a high achieving learning environment. The reason 'happy' is one of the first words in our Vision is because we try our hardest to help students and staff with strategies that allow them to understand why they feel pressured and in doing so, find the skills to manage this.



The Beaconsfield High journey



Year 7

Our caring, fun and supportive team of teachers and support staff are here to guide you through your first year of secondary school. Not only getting to grips with your classes and homework, but also helping you to adjust to a much bigger school. It's an exciting time!



Your final year of the Lower School and in February you'll be thinking about which GCSE options to take. Have no fear, staff will be there every step of the way to guide both you and your parents through the process.

Year 12 + 13

This is when you get to really focus on your chosen subjects with our highly qualified subject teachers. It's also time to start thinking about uni and life beyond Becky High. Our Sixth Form team has been nurturing students for many years, so you are in safe hands!



Year 8

No longer a newbie, you're a happy, high achieving student! You're enjoying all the exciting extra-curricular activities; maybe you're on one of the sports teams, in one of the music groups or looking forward to performing in the school play again.

Year 10 + 11

You've joined the Upper School, where determination and hard work really will pay off when you come to take those GCSEs at the end of Year 11. It's also the point where we look at your plans for further education.

Beyond Becky High!

You now have the life skills, education, confidence and experience to take your next step. If our alumnae is anything to go by, you'll have had a very special time with us and a fantastic future ahead of you.



Six reasons to study with us

Our tutors, heads of learning and teaching staff are experts in supporting and guiding students through the many stages of secondary school and growing up. From Induction Day in July, new students are welcomed into our community by current pupils. In September, we provide a student buddy system to connect our youngest students with older years, to help them learn the ropes – where to find the library, which reception to go to and how to sign up to clubs and societies.





Leadership, teamwork, creativity and independent thinking are skills we nurture and encourage in all our students from day one. As a school, and as individuals, we pride ourselves on being progressive and dynamic in everything we do. Our community is a diverse mix of cultures, religions and ethnicities, all of which further develops students' understanding of the society we live in, facilitating tolerance, respect and broad thinking.

Our teaching staff are specialists in their chosen subjects and bring with them an exceptional level of talent, and a variety of relevant backgrounds. From working in the corporate world, to gaining doctorates in their field, students enjoy all the benefits our remarkable staff bring. We offer students a portfolio of subjects that provide them with a strong, comprehensive grounding, delivered in engaging and progressive styles.



Our Getting Life Ready initiative not only helps our Year 7s make the move from primary to secondary school, it's also the foundation upon which we will build remarkable learners and future citizens. The GLR curriculum fosters creative and critical thinking and teaches methods to develop resilience and resourcefulness. These skills enable students to deal with problems both academically and socially, which in turn allows them to take academic risks.





As a girls' school, we are acutely aware of the need to educate our students in all the career options available to them, regardless of historical gender stereotypes. Our students are encouraged to strive for the remarkable in whichever field they are passionate about. Careers events, workshops and talks are arranged by our careers team which allow students to explore a wide range of careers options.

We seek to discover and develop the full potential of each individual, however, there will be some students whose needs are so individual that special provision must be made. Our experienced Learning Support Department has its own suite of rooms which cater for one-to-one or group work support, Braille modifications and specialist support sessions.





Our Lower School curriculum

From Year 7 to Year 9 our students study a broad curriculum that is designed to provide a rounded experience and the required preparation for their futures.

English | Maths | Science | History Geography | *French | *Latin *Spanish | Art | Dance | Drama Music | Design & Technology Computing | Physical Education Religion, Philosophy & Ethics Personal, Social, Health, and Economic Education (PSHE)

Many subjects are also supported by lunchtime clubs run by Sixth Form subject prefects.

*Students choose two of either French, Spanish and Latin in Year 8.



Beyond the classroom

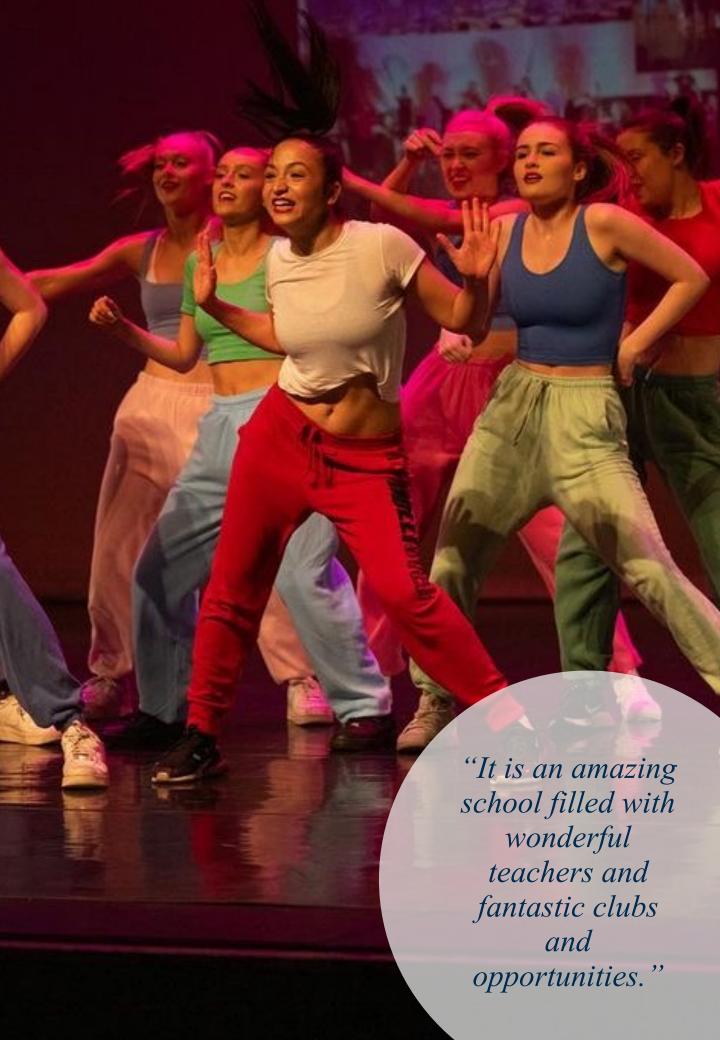
Education and development aren't limited to the classroom, which is why we offer an abundance of co-curricular, travel and creative experiences.

We have many orchestras, ensembles, and choirs, and staff, parents and students enjoy watching students perform at termly concerts, smaller recitals and music competitions. There are a range of sports clubs and teams open to all, many of which are the foundation step for some of our elite players. There are many dance groups, some are for everyone, others are by audition only.

Senior Prefects run Art, Drama, Pride, STEAM, Amnesty International and Debate Club, as well as career-focused societies like Model United Nations and MedSoc. Some of the more unique offers include Chess Club, Carnegie Book Club, D&D Club, Great British Bake-Off Bakes and Coding Club.

There are educational trips ranging from theatre productions and visits to museums and art galleries, to music, dance and sports tours to South Africa, America and Australia. Our sports teams compete across the country, as do our dance troupes and gymnastic and cheer teams. There's an annual ski trip, Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, and the Year 7 Bushcraft Experience as well as subject specific trips to countries like Iceland, Spain, France, Eswatini, Borneo and Italy.

Student talent is celebrated in our annual drama production, the dance show at a local theatre, music concerts, art exhibitions and the Sport and Dance Awards Dinner. You can also take part in the Mock Trial competition, the Shakespeare for Schools Festival, Poetry by Heart, Young Enterprise and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.



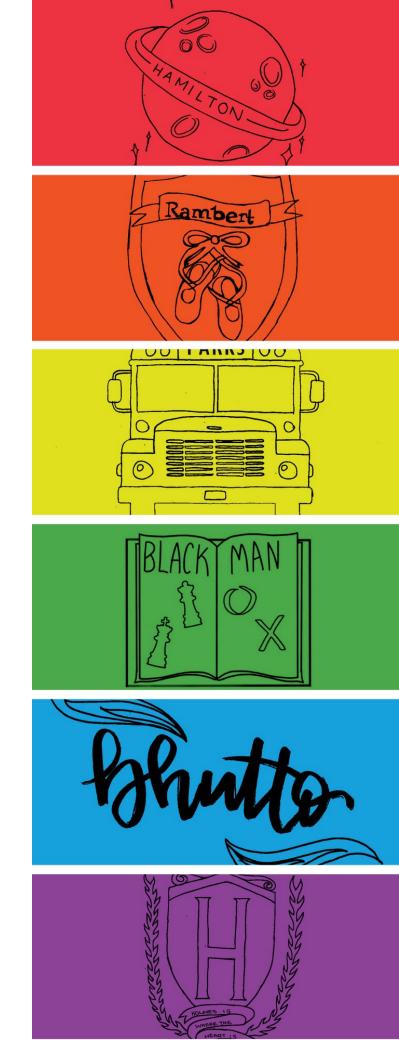
Our community

The Beaconsfield High community is an inclusive and welcoming one embracing staff, students and their families, and there are many ways you can play your part.

If you feel strongly about having a voice and helping to shape the direction of our school, there's our Student Council where inspiration, creativity, teamwork and debate come together to develop ideas that are actually implemented.

Senior Prefect Our Team carefully selected and plays an important part in school life. They head up our Houses, are the student leads for STEAM, charities and fundraising, communications, media, equality and diversity and Blossom and **Roots** our tutoring/mentoring programmes. Our Head Girl and her deputies work closely with staff to both raise the profile of the school and to represent the views of students. Prefects are always looking for students to support the work their committees societies and are doing.

Parents play their part in our community too, by joining <u>The Friends of BHS</u>, attending social events, volunteering their time or by becoming a Form Rep. You can do as much or as little as you like!







Studying for your GCSEs

In the Upper School (Year 10-11) you begin your two-year GCSE course. Alongside six compulsory subjects – three sciences, English language and literature, and maths – you will choose your preferred language (French, Spanish or Latin), a humanity or social science, and at least one creative course or PE.

Choosing your GCSEs in Year 9 is an important but exciting process, and we encourage our students to talk to subject teachers, form tutors, the Head of Learning, our Careers Leader, current Year 10 students and of course, their own parents/carers.

The process starts in February with a series of student assemblies, drop-in sessions with Subject Prefects and a parent information evening. We are there every step of the way to make sure our students are confident that their choices are the right ones for them. Our current GCSE curriculum is listed below. The current GCSE Options Booklet can be found here.

Compulsory Subjects

English Language |
English Literature | Mathematics |
Biology | Chemistry | Physics

Options

Art, Craft and Design |
Business Studies |
Computer Science | Dance |
Drama | Food Prep and Nutrition |
French | Geography | Graphics |
History | Latin | Music | Spanish |
Philosophy and Ethics |
Physical Education

Compulsory National Curriculum Core Subjects

Physical Education | Religion, Philosophy and Ethics | Personal, Social, Health and Education





Our Sixth Form welcomes 200 students into Year 12 and every student who joins us, whether an existing student, or from another school, enjoys focused one-to-one attention in an inclusive environment. We offer a unique and exceptional learning environment; joining us opens up an inclusive world of specialist support, fun, opportunity and a highly tuned programme of learning.

You'll experience team spirit, collaboration and endless support. We are consistently recognised for our remarkable academic environment and highly competitive results. In 2024, 23% of all A-Level grades were A* and 48% of grades were A* or A.

Whilst these grades are important, what sets us apart is our holistic approach to development and genuine investment in each student. Our job is to get to know you, to nurture you through your studies and guide you into the world of higher education and work. When the time comes, you might consider an Oxbridge college and we are adept at coaching our students through this very specific process. We'll help you to find the right degree course, whichever university you want to apply to, or you might want to apply for a degree-level apprenticeship. Whatever you decide, when the time comes we will be there to show you the way.

Studying for your A-levels

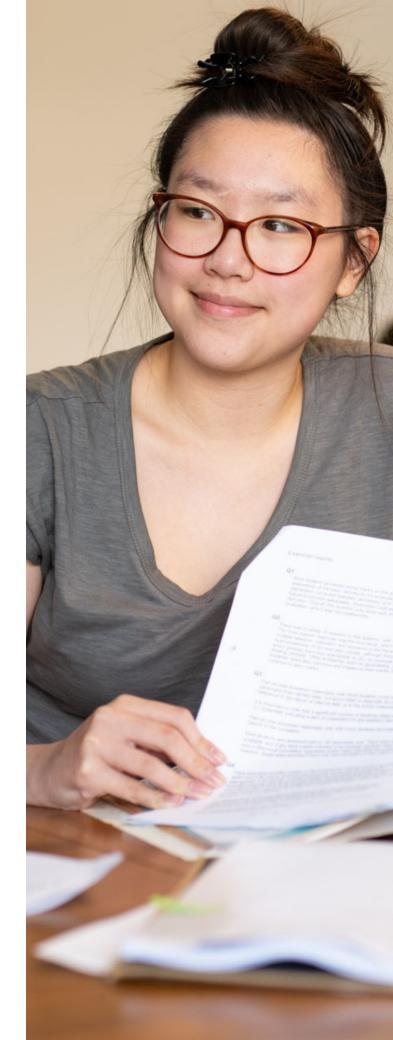
You can read our current A-Level options booklet <u>here</u>.

Our A-level Programme

Three A-Levels
Enrichment volunteering
Extended Project Qualification
Lecture series
Sports programme
Duke of Edinburgh (optional)
Fourth A-Level (optional)
AS Level (optional): Spanish and
French

Current A-level Subjects

Art, Craft and Design | Biology | Business Studies | Chemistry | Classical Civilisation | Computer Science | Dance | Drama and Theatre Studies | Economics | English Language and Literature | English Literature | French | Geography | Graphic Communication | History | Latin | Mathematics and Further Mathematics | Media Studies | Music | Physics | Politics | Spanish | Psychology | Religious Studies | Sociology | Spanish | Sport and Physical Education |





Our Alumnae

When students join us in Year 7, for most, their focus is which lunchtime club to join, trying out for one of our choirs, orchestras or sports teams, or making it to the front of the cafeteria line at lunchtime! Which career they might eventually embrace is something reserved for Year 9 or Year 11 when the time comes to choose their GCSEs and A-Levels.

alumnae For us, our are wonderful example of how Beaconsfield High prepares students for life after school and university. The paths our students choose are diverse, exciting and challenging. Every year, alumnae return to us to take part in careers talks, our Sixth Form Lecture Series, support our UCAS mock interviews or speak in assembly, and we couldn't be more proud of them.

The following alumnae profiles will give you a flavour of just some of our students' exciting career choices!

Dr Melanie Windridge

Dr Windridge left BHS to study physics at Bristol University, followed by a PhD in plasma physics from Imperial College London in 2009. She is a plasma physicist specialising in fusion energy and currently works as the Communications Consultant for Tokamak Energy. Melanie also loves the outdoors and summitted Mount Everest in 2018!



Heidi is a GB rower who left BHS in 2015 to (row and) study biology and cognitive science at the University of Virginia. After graduating she joined the GB team and won the European and World Championships in 2022, in the women's four. At the Paris 2024 Olympic Rowing Regatta, she won a bronze in the Women's eight.

Saliha Mahmood-Ahmed

After BHS, Saliha studied medicine at Kings College graduating in 2012. She is currently an NHS junior doctor training in gastroenterology. She has always had a passion for cooking and in 2017 won the BBC's MasterChef competition. She has since written her own cookbook winning Best New Cookbook in the 2019 Observer Food Monthly Awards!





Beth left BHS to study social and political science at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge where she graduated with a first. She continued her studies at the University of London where she gained a master's in Latin America.

She has worked as a journalist for the FT and The Times and is now the Political Editor for Sky News.

Bekah Cork

Bekah left us to study music at The University of Birmingham before joining the City Birmingham Symphony Orchestra as their Assistant She Planning Manager. became the Artistic Planning and Tours Manager at the Royal Scottish National Orchestra before moving to Philharmonia Orchestra as their Head of Residencies and Engagements.

Jessie (Baker) de la Merced

Jessie left us to study Biological Anthropology at The University of Cambridge followed by a one studentship at Harvard vear University studying political communications. She went on to intern at Google, spent three years at Brunswick Group before joining Facebook as the EMEA Communications Director. She is now Head of Group Strategy at Marks and Spencer.

Useful information

The school day - Morning registration is 08:50 until 09:10, followed by two one-hour periods (lessons). Break is 20 minutes, followed by two more periods, then lunch which is one hour (13:30-14:30). The final period finishes at 15:30.

Howework - We know homework can be a whole new experience for some of our Year 7s, which is why we provide a homework timetable showing the days homework for each subject needs to be completed and the length of time it should take. Students are expected to complete around one hour of homework a night, five days a week. We introduce homework gradually at the start of Year 7, so students can get used to the new expectations and routines.

Chartered Librarian. The LRC promotes reading for pleasure, provides resources to suit students' studies, develops students' information literacy skills, provides study space and computers, and manages textbook issues. Mrs Seal also offers the opportunity to take part in the Bucks Book Awards, the Carnegie Children's Book Award, book groups and many other competitions and author visits.

Biometric system - The school operates a no-cash policy. Instead, we have an online payment facility that parents/carers can top up in order for their child to buy food from the cafeteria. School trip payments are also made using this system. Students use the biometric system of a scanned thumb print to loan books from the Learning Resource Centre.

Device Scheme – Access to technology supports and empowers students to manage their learning, for example by being independent and having the ability to conduct their own research. For this reason, we require parents to sign up to our laptop scheme when their child joins us. The scheme allows for peace of mind as there is insurance available, and the school's safeguarding and monitoring software is loaded onto the laptops before we take delivery of them.

What next?

Thank you for taking the time to read our prospectus. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email us using the address on the next page.

Our website is a great place to find out more, as is our social media. Simply click on the logos below to follow us.

Good luck making your secondary school decision. We look forward to welcoming some of you when the new school year starts in September.











