



# The Bishop David Brown School

# Prospectus



*Enabling all to excel*

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**"Pupils are immensely proud to belong to this vibrant and inclusive school. They value the trusting relationships they build with staff and each other".**  
*Ofsted Report March 2024*

# The Bishop David Brown School

# Welcome

Dear Future BDB Students and Families,

A very warm welcome to The Bishop David Brown School, where we work together to enable all to excel.

We are an ambitious school; committed to the success of every student and dedicated to the ongoing development of our staff. Their passion, expertise, and unwavering dedication form the foundation on which our students thrive - both during their time at BDB and as they step confidently into futures filled with choice and opportunity. Every day, all our staff firmly commit to being the best we can be - because BDB students deserve the very best education within and beyond the classroom.

Our ambitious plans build on strong foundations of excellent learning opportunities, collaborating with others on exciting developments to foster an environment where everyone in our community can truly excel.

Our philosophy is centered on the knowledge that for students to flourish, they must feel safe, happy, known and valued as individuals. The unique qualities that every individual brings to our community are celebrated, generating a deep-rooted sense of belonging at BDB. I hope you enjoy your visit to us, where you will notice the palpable 'family' culture which is central to our success and will continue to pervade.

You will find that our learning environment is truly impressive, with outstanding specialist facilities across all curriculum areas. Our curriculum resources and teaching practices are always evolving as we consider the latest research and evidence about how to support students in the most impactful way.

With inclusive practice at the heart of our teaching, we ensure that all our young people are ambitious and active learners, with independent study skills and curious minds so that they are prepared for the diverse challenges of the future.

Beyond the classroom, we have engaging enrichment activities that enhance every child's breadth of interest, continuing to support their personal development, identities and passions.

Above all, my ambition is for BDB to be a happy school where staff and students alike eagerly anticipate each day, confident in the consistent support, appropriate challenges, and enriching experiences that empower everyone to develop and excel.

Whether you are a current or prospective family or staff member of BDB, I look forward to the opportunity to discuss further with you how our fantastic learning community enables all to excel.

Ms C Venter MA(Oxon), PGCE, MEd, NPQH  
Principal



“Pupils’ polite and respectful conduct creates a calm atmosphere in lessons.”

**Ofsted 2024**

# Teaching and Learning

At The Bishop David Brown School, we are committed to our core value of "enabling all to excel," which is embedded in everything we do, particularly in our lessons. We believe that high-quality teaching, delivered by dedicated staff, combined with focused, hardworking, and ambitious students, is key to ensuring strong progress for all. This approach leads to exceptional outcomes in tests and public examinations.

## **ENABLING**

Our lessons are carefully planned and delivered using a research-informed approach, ensuring the use of the most effective, up-to-date teaching strategies. This approach maximises learning time and guarantees that students receive the best possible provision across all subjects.

Lessons are designed with the students in mind, linking new content to prior knowledge and making real-world connections to spark a passion for learning. We encourage an enquiry-based approach, prompting students to think critically about the world around them. This develops their higher-order thinking skills, such as analysis and evaluation. At Bishop David Brown School, we aim to nurture students' ability not only to answer the 'big questions' but also to ask them.

## **ALL**

We believe every student should feel confident and capable in accessing their lessons. We achieve this by tailoring lessons with scaffolding, differentiation, and adaptive practice to meet the diverse needs of all students within the classroom.

Lessons are designed to be engaging, with regular checks for understanding to ensure all students actively participate in their learning. We encourage students to develop independence and take ownership of their academic progress.

## **EXCEL**

We take immense pride in our students at Bishop David Brown School. Through the education and support they receive, our students are capable of achieving excellence, both academically and personally. We have high aspirations for each student when they leave BDB, and our approach to curriculum and teaching reflects these ambitions.

Lessons are intentionally challenging, with high standards set for both the quality and quantity of work produced. While we maintain these expectations, we also work closely with individual students to meet their specific needs, ensuring they feel confident and supported in achieving their best.

We place great value on a strong, proactive work ethic. Students who apply themselves and consistently strive for excellence are regularly recognised and rewarded in accordance with our school policy.



“The personal, social and health education programme is thoughtfully considered.”  
**Ofsted 2024**

# Teaching and Learning

## Feedback and Marking

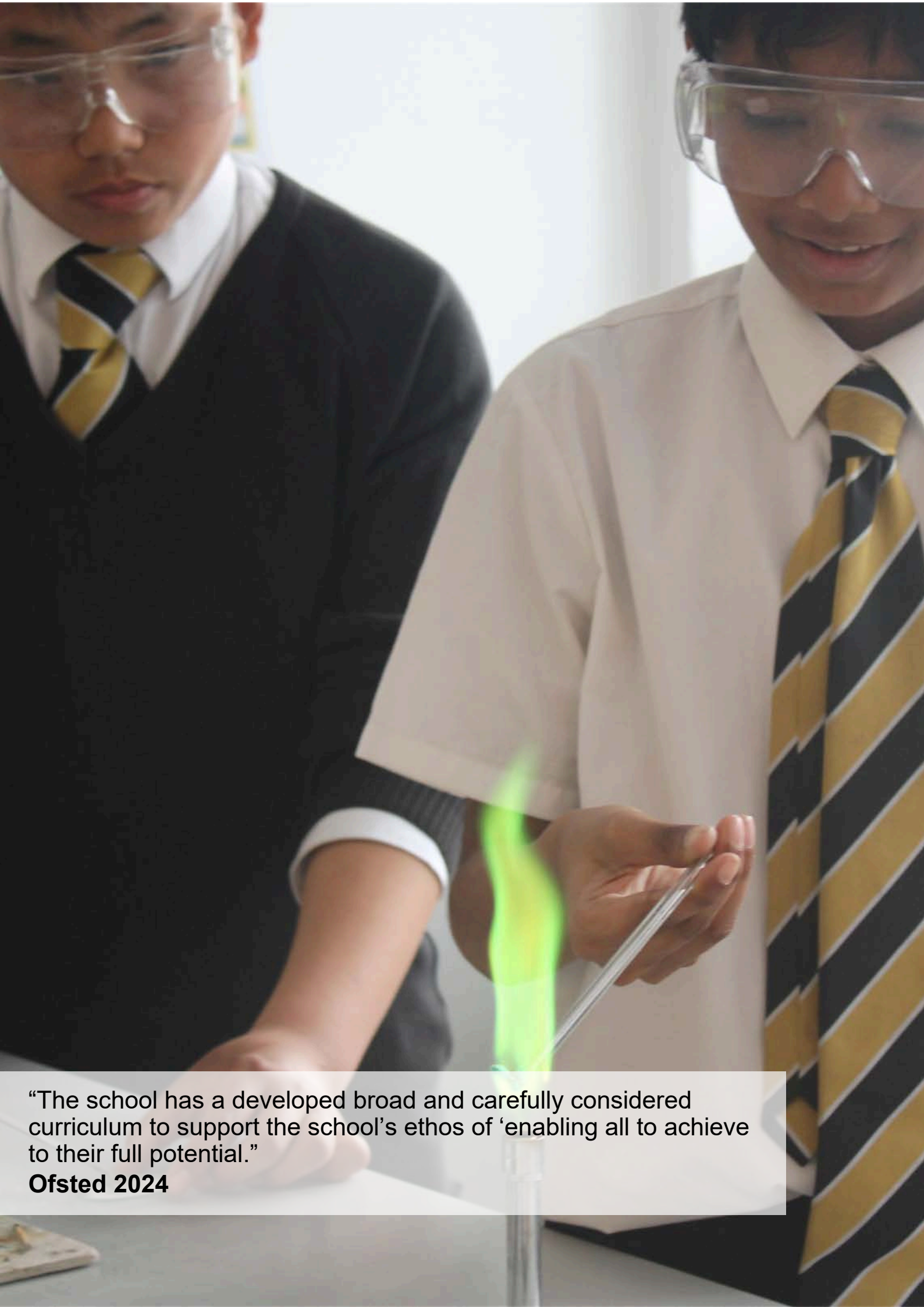
As part of the learning process, students undertake self-assessment as well as peer marking of their work. They also receive regular actionable feedback, including assessments marked in detail by teachers.

Close attention is paid to accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar. Students are then expected to re-work and further improve their responses during 'dedicated improvement and reflection time'. Through this process students will be clear about the grades they are achieving, the progress they are making and the next steps they need to make in their learning.

## Homework

Homework is a vital opportunity for students to practice, consolidate and extend work covered in class. At BDB homework enhances the study skills of planning, time management and self-discipline. At Key Stage 3, homework is set electronically for all subjects following a timetable, in addition to weekly literacy and numeracy tasks.





“The school has a developed broad and carefully considered curriculum to support the school’s ethos of ‘enabling all to achieve to their full potential.’”

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# Supporting your child

## **SEND**

The Bishop David Brown School has a dedicated support team called SPIRIT and NURTURE, focused on meeting the needs of SEND students, whether they face learning, emotional, social, medical, or physical challenges.

This support is provided both inside and outside the classroom. The SENDCo, deputy SENDCo, and Spirit and Nurture staff work to ensure all students are fully integrated into school life while making progress in their learning.

The team possesses extensive knowledge in supporting young people with additional needs and collaborates with external agencies when necessary. Additionally, there is a support base available for students to access during breaks or throughout the day for self-regulation or further assistance, depending on available resources.

## **Health and Wellbeing**

At The Bishop David Brown School, we aim to promote positive mental health and wellbeing for every member of our school community. We also recognise the link between physical activity and encourage our school to be an 'active school'.

The school is able to offer bespoke intervention on a one to one basis and through small group work. We have a team of people on hand who are able to work with our students to provide additional support.

East to West are a Surrey based charity at the forefront of 'bringing hope to young lives'. Our mission is to equip and support children, young people and families who are facing difficulties and challenges, whether spiritual, mental, emotional, and/or physical, to become the very best they can be.

We also have our own team of student wellbeing support workers, mental health leads and key staff who are able to offer support in the following areas:

**Concentration difficulties, Academic pressure, Motivation, Anxiety, Sadness, Attendance and Social skills.**

Alongside this we work with a number of external agencies to support students through secondary education in order to enable all to excel.

## **Behaviour**

We expect the highest standards of behaviour and uniform from our students. Students follow instructions first time every time and shape the learning environment through strong start and strong finishes to lessons.

Our students are Ready, Respectful and Safe when at School embodying our CLICK values in everything they do, enabling all to excel.

Challenge – Working hard and pushing myself

Learning Mindset – Making positive contributions to the learning environment

Independence – Making positive decisions and testing myself

Creativity – Finding ways to solve problems, thinking outside the box

Kindness – Treating staff and students with respect

All of our students are expected to showcase positive behaviours to shape the learning environment. Students who showcase good behaviours are rewarded within our house system.



“Pupils study a range of subjects which prepare them well for future education, and employment. Teachers ensure that pupils learn important knowledge and skills in a carefully ordered way.”

**Ofsted 2024**

# Highlights

Students at The Bishop David Brown School have received fantastic GCSE examination results this year.

Students averaged a Grade 4 (Good Pass) in all subjects.

Results continue to improve with students achieving the highest average grades this year.

	2024/2025	2023/24	2022/23	2018/19
Attainment 8	44.77	42.65	40.77	40.53

## 2025 Exam Highlights

- 15% of students achieved a Grade 8/9 in Physics, Chemistry and Biology (separate Science)
- 10% of students achieved a Grade 8/9 in Maths, this has increased by 2.5% from 2023/24
- The number of students achieving a Grade 8/9 in English Literature and English Language has increased by 1% from 2023/24
- 100% of students achieved Grade 4-9 in Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- 74% of students achieved Grade 4-9 in Maths, compared to the national average of 60%
- 68% of students achieved a 4-9 in English Language compared to the national average of 62%
- The average number of students achieving a Grade 4-9 in Maths and English has increased by 16% since 2023.



“Pupils study a range of subjects which prepare them well for future education, and employment. Teachers ensure that pupils learn important knowledge and skills in a carefully ordered way.”

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## Key Stage 3 Year 7 to Year 9

Years 7 and 8 are streamed by ability across two halves of the year group to enable staff to plan and prepare lessons in a way that challenges students. Students are able to access a full range of subjects no matter their group or starting point.

- ART AND DESIGN
- COMPUTING
- DRAMA
- DESIGN TECHNOLOGY
- FOOD TECHNOLOGY
- ENGLISH
- FRENCH
- GEOGRAPHY
- HISTORY
- COMPUTER SCIENCE
- MATHS
- MUSIC
- PE
- PSHE
- RELIGIOUS STUDIES
- SCIENCE
- SPANISH

Students can opt for individual or group instrumental music lesson at an additional cost.

## Key Stage 4 Year 10 to Year 11

All students follow a common curriculum in:

- GCSE ENGLISH
- GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE
- GCSE TRIPLE SCIENCE
- GCSE MATHS
- PSHE
- CORE PHYSICAL EDUCATION
- RELIGIOUS STUDIES

In addition to these compulsory subjects students can choose up to four subjects from the following:

- ART AND DESIGN
- BUSINESS STUDIES
- CHILD DEVELOPMENT
- COMPUTER SCIENCE
- DESIGN TECHNOLOGY
- DRAMA
- ENGINEERING
- FRENCH
- GEOGRAPHY
- HISTORY
- HOSPITALITY AND CATERING
- MEDIA STUDIES
- MUSIC
- PHYSICAL EDUCATION
- PSYCHOLOGY
- SPANISH
- SPORTS STUDIES



“Pupils from all backgrounds and ages get along well. They look out for each other and make sure that nobody feels isolated, regardless of when they join the school.”

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# The School Day

## Attendance

Good attendance and punctuality are essential at Bishop David Brown School. It is the legal responsibility of parent/carers to ensure that their child attends regularly and on time.

Parents/carers must contact the school immediately if their child is absent from school.

Students must arrive at school at least 10 minutes before school starts.

Parents/carers will be contacted by the attendance department at BDB, on a daily basis if their child fails to arrive at school and there is no known reason for their absence.

BDB aims to achieve maximum attendance for each individual student in order that they can gain maximum benefit from the education they receive.

Outstanding attendance to school has a positive impact on progress and attainment. At Bishop David Brown school we expect students' attendance to meet our target of 97%. We follow a clear programme of interventions as outlined in our Attendance Policy, accessible on the school website.

You must submit a request to the school before you arrange for your child to have time away. The Head of School will then consider whether to grant permission for the absence. Permission for absence will only be granted in very exceptional circumstances after a formal meeting.

## Uniform

We are proud to be a school that believes in the value of school uniform, which serves to give students a sense of identity and belonging to our community. Students in Year 7-11 are required to wear school uniform at all times and Form Tutors will make a daily inspection. Therefore, parents are asked for their full co-operation in ensuring that their child is properly equipped. A full copy of the school uniform policy can be found on the school website.

## Uniform Policy

Our Policy aims to achieve the following:

- A sense of pride, community and belonging.
- A feeling that students are all equal.
- Support positive Behaviour for Learning.
- Prepare students for dress codes in the world of work.
- Protect students from social pressures to dress in a particular way.
- Support effective teaching and learning

Registration	8.40am - 9.10am
Period 1	9.10am - 10.10am
Period 2	10.10am - 11.10am
Break 1	11.10am - 11.30am
Period 3	11.30am - 12.30pm
Period 4	12.30pm - 1.30pm
Break 2	1.30pm - 2.00pm
Period 5	2.00pm - 3.00pm
End of School Day	3.00pm
Enrichment	3.00pm - 5.00pm

Enrichment clubs, extension activities, home learning support, library, sports, band and other activities can run up to 5.00pm.



“The school has a developed broad and carefully considered curriculum to support the school’s ethos of ‘enabling all to achieve to their full potential.’”

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## Leisure Centre

The Eastwood Sports Centre is a fantastic addition to our school and provides a wide range of opportunities for our students including:

- 3G Sports Pitch
- Five Court Badminton Sports Hall
- 25m Swimming Pool
- Hydrotherapy Pool
- Rugby Pitch
- Two Full Size Grass Football Pitches

We are very fortunate to be able to provide swimming lessons for our students. They form an integral part of PE lessons for students at BDB, the lessons have been designed to build confidence in swimmers of all abilities.

The school changing rooms are entirely segregated and private cubicles are available. The swimming pools will not be open for public viewing, blinds will be closed, the only staff who will be there are the school PE teachers, swimming teachers and lifeguards.

## Food Technology Facilities

The Food Technology classroom provides a modern, well-equipped learning environment which enhances both the practical and theoretical aspects of food technology learning.

Students can effectively develop their culinary skills, experiment with new techniques and learn about nutrition and food safety in a hands-on environment. The facility also allows for engaging lessons, where students can collaborate and apply their knowledge in a real-world setting, fostering creativity and boosting their confidence in the kitchen.

## Theatre

The Performing Arts block is a state-of-the-art facility designed with excellence at its core. The theatre has an electronic retractable seating unit that can seat an audience of 150 people, with opportunities to hold further numbers using floor space if required.

The use of black drapes ensures the theatre is a true black box studio that supports flexibility for performances. Our stage consists of three sets of rostra blocks, which can be manipulated to fit different theatre dynamics ranging from traditional end-on staging to thrust and traverse.

Furthermore, our stage operates adaptable wing drapes allowing for maximum entrances and exits for performance. The theatre also boasts a large electronic screen for presentation with purpose built theatre lighting and sound connectivity.

In addition to the theatre, we have a fully sound proofed music block that allows students to express their true musical talents. We have our main teaching space, which comprises of 30 electronic keyboards and a wide range of instruments ranging from string and percussion.

Alongside the main teaching space, we have three practice rooms and a main recording studio that allows students to professionally record music of multiple genres. Music teaching at BDB encourages both traditional music composition and digital technologies to help shape students passion for the subject.



“The School prioritises reading through daily 'DEAR' sessions. Pupils are encouraged to read aloud in class to develop their oracy skills.”

**Ofsted 2024**

# Drop Everything And Read

## DEAR

At BDB we are aware of the need to educate young people not just in the curriculum subjects, but holistically as well.

All students should have the opportunity to develop their literacy and vocabulary skills, while accessing our shared literary heritage. Therefore we have an additional half hour timetabled into the school day, two days a week, for students in Year 7– Year 10 to read together as a Tutor group.

The BDB Canon has been carefully chosen with the aim to broaden horizons as well as vocabulary, and every student is provided with their own copy. DEAR sessions follow a set structure with regular opportunities for students to develop their comprehension and summarising skills which is now starting to be reflected in our outcomes from public exams.

When appropriate, time is set aside for students to explore the themes and ideas presented in the books in more depth, to foster the enjoyment of reading and to challenge their perspectives.

The books have been chosen to reflect our school's very own context, along with a range of British and international authors, with examples of recent and historical, fiction and non-fiction.

There is something for everybody.

DEAR Texts:

Year 7



Year 8



Year 9



Year 10



Students are currently reading



“The school’s house system creates a positive competitive environment among pupils. They enjoy taking part in creative and academic competitions.”  
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The House System at BDB creates a sense of pride and community within the school with a combination of rewards and competitions throughout the year.

Upon joining BDB, students are divided into six different houses. These houses will be a part of their school identity from Year 7 to Year 11.

Throughout the year dedicated staff run an array of competitions giving space for all students to display their expertise and interests, all in the aim of winning the house trophy at the end of the school year. The competitions will be varied within many areas of focus, including Music, Maths, Drama and Science.

In addition to competitions, students will help to raise money for charity and give back to the wider community in many different ways.

Our house system encourages students to try new things, to show off their skills and talents and to demonstrate our BDB CLICK values, helping our students to grow into successful young adults by the time they leave the school in Year 11.

All students and staff at The Bishop David Brown School believe that the five CLICK values will enable students to be successful and achieve their full potential.

These are values that will enable your learning to CLICK. House points are awarded for progress and success in using these values every day in lessons and around the school, with a host of records waiting to be won throughout the year.



# House System





“Teachers ensure that pupils learn important knowledge and skills in a carefully ordered way. Links with the school’s feeder primary schools mean that staff know what pupils have learned before so they can build on this once they have joined the school”

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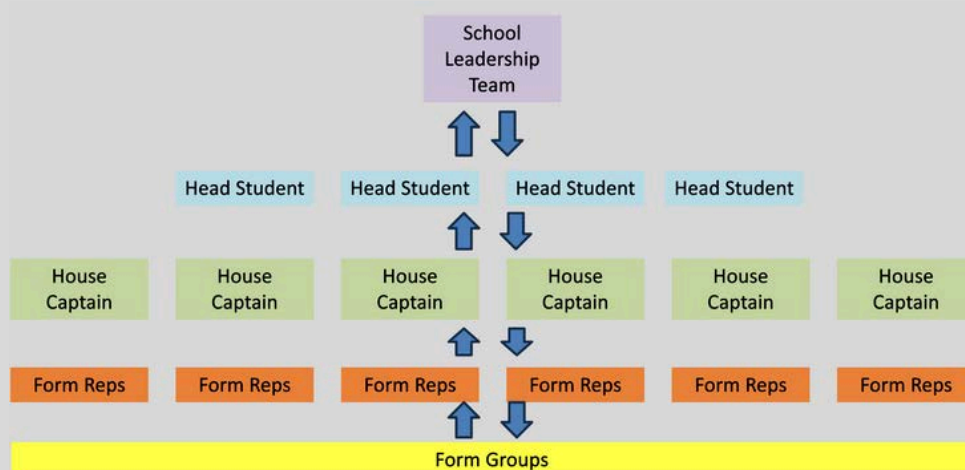
# Student Leadership

A number of Key Stage Four students are appointed each year as Prefects who take responsibility for supporting staff and students in class and represent the school at events such as Open Evening and Parents' Evening.

Once Prefects are appointed they enter a robust election process to be nominated as Head Students, presenting their ideas in assemblies and around school before our student and staff bodies vote as to who they would like to hold the position.

As part of the Head Students role they will represent the student voice during Senior Leadership Team meetings to ensure our students' voice is at the forefront of everything they do.

The school provides opportunities for students to show their leadership skills in a range of subjects with opportunities through outreach activities at local primary schools, student voice meetings, supporting the delivery of intervention programmes and representing the school in extra-curricular activities. This not only allows our students to develop their communication and organisational skills, but enables all to excel when they leave The Bishop David Brown School.



The Student Voice Committee will include:

- Well-Being
- Teaching and Learning
- Community
- Enrichment
- Charity and Fundraising
- Environment



“Pupils value these opportunities and the extensive clubs that are on offer to them.”

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## Learning Through Experience

At The Bishop David Brown School, we believe that education should be inspiring, memorable, and holistic. Our Enrichment Programme is designed to give every student access to meaningful experiences that extend learning beyond the classroom. A key part of this programme is our exciting calendar of **school trips**, which are carefully planned to support students throughout their time at BDB.

### Trips Offered Across the School Journey

All students will have the opportunity to take part in a variety of enriching trips, including:

- **Theatre Trips:** Visits to London's West End and regional theatres to experience live performances that bring English and Drama studies to life.
- **Museum and Gallery Visits:** Trips to world-class institutions such as the Science Museum, Natural History Museum, and Tate Modern, supporting subjects like Science, History, and Art.
- **Outdoor Residentials and Adventure Activities:** Team-building retreats and outdoor challenges that promote resilience, leadership, and collaboration in natural settings.
- **University and Careers Visits:** Inspiring trips to universities, career fairs, and industry workshops to help students explore future pathways and raise aspirations.
- **Overseas Trips:** Including European ski trips, language immersion experiences, and cultural exchanges that offer unforgettable learning and personal growth.

### Enrichment Activities

At BDB, we are proud to offer an enrichment experience that supports the development of well-rounded, confident, and curious learners. We encourage all students to take part in these opportunities and make the most of their journey with us.

Here are some of Enrichment Activities which are available on a weekly basis include:

- Football
- Journalism Club
- Jewellery Making
- Swimming
- Cooking
- Science
- Debating
- Young Interpreter
- Dodgeball
- Badminton
- Trampolining
- Basketball
- Chess



### The Duke of Edinburgh Award

What is the Duke of Edinburgh Award?

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, or DofE, is the world's leading youth achievement award, giving young people between the ages of 14 and 24 the most incredible opportunity to take part in a wonderfully diverse range of exciting activities. These all count towards an Award which is highly prized by colleges, universities and employers.

If students choose to take part, they really will discover that there's more to life than sitting on the sofa watching T.V, texting your friends and browsing the Internet! They can achieve Bronze and Silver Awards by taking part and completing a flexible, personalised programme of activities across four sections – Volunteering, Physical, Skills and Expedition.

We are pleased to be able to offer the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme to all students at BDB.

# Enrichment



“Staff celebrate their diverse school community through events like the Japanese and International Days. Pupils value these opportunities and the extensive clubs that are on offer to them.”

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“Pupils are immensely proud to belong to this vibrant and inclusive school. They value the trusting relationships they build with staff and each other.”

**Ofsted 2024**

## Entry for Year 7 students in September 2026

If your child will be aged 11 between 1 September 2025 and 31 August 2026, they will be due to start secondary school in September 2026. You must apply for your chosen secondary school place by visiting the Surrey County Council website and submitting your application: [www.surreycc.gov.uk](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk)

Deadline for Secondary School applications

**31st October 2025**

Outcome of Application

**2nd March 2026**

If you have any questions regarding Admissions please contact the school:

Telephone: **01932 349696**

Email: [bdbs@bdb-unity.co.uk](mailto:bdbs@bdb-unity.co.uk)

Our Admission policy is available to view on our schools website:

[www.bdb.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.bdb.surrey.sch.uk)

Applying for a place at BDB

For more information, updates and useful links  
please visit our school website

# [www.bdb-unity.co.uk](http://www.bdb-unity.co.uk)

The Bishop David Brown School  
Albert Drive  
Woking  
Surrey  
GU215RF



Telephone: 01932 349696  
Email: [bdbs@bdb-unity.co.uk](mailto:bdbs@bdb-unity.co.uk)



Founder Member of the Unity Schools Trust  
Founder Member of the 2015 Learning Partnership

Bishop David Brown School is operated by the Unity Schools Trust which is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with company number 07692130. The registered office is at Thorpe Road, Staines-Upon-Thames TW18 3HJ.

# Contact