

ENRICHMENT

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## **BEWDLEY SIXTH FORM**

We fly with our own wings



# CONTENTS

WE ARE PROUD .....	3
SCHOLARS .....	4 - 5
LANGUAGE & CULTURE .....	6 - 7
ENTERPRISE & STEM .....	8 - 9
SCIENCE, STEM & TECHNOLOGY ....	10 - 11
HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES ....	12 - 13
THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD ..	14
SERVICE .....	15
SPRINGPOD .....	16
COMMUNICATION & ACADEMIC SUPPORT .....	17
EPQ, THE DISCOVERY SOCIETY & OPERATION WALLACEA .....	18 - 19

**WE ARE PROUD OF OUR COMPREHENSIVE**  
ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME HERE AT BEWDLEY SIXTH FORM.  
**OUR PROVISION FORMS THE CORE OF**  
STUDENTS' EXPERIENCE WITH US PROVIDING  
**OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW FRIENDSHIPS.**  
A CHANCE TO DEVELOP NEW SKILLS AND  
**SECURE EXPERIENCES WHICH WILL BE INTEGRAL TO**  
**FUTURE POST-18 STEPS. BY PARTICIPATING FULLY WITH OUR**  
ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES STUDENTS WILL BE WELL PLACED  
**TO COPE WITH THE EVER-CHANGING WORLD**  
**OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT.**

THIS BROCHURE WILL GUIDE YOU THROUGH THE RANGE OF OPPORTUNITIES WE HAVE, WHICH CONTINUES TO GROW TO SUPPORT APPLICATIONS TO COMPETITIVE UNIVERSITIES AND APPRENTICESHIPS. OUR CAREER PATHWAYS HELP PREPARE STUDENTS FOR CAREERS IN MEDICINE, ENGINEERING AND THE ARTS, AND OUR SUPER-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES OFFERED BY ALL SUBJECTS, ENSURE THAT ALL STUDENTS EXPLORE WELL BEYOND THE PRESCRIBED CURRICULUM. FURTHERMORE, OUR TERMLY ENRICHMENT MAGAZINE ENSURES THAT ALL STUDENT PARTICIPATION IS CELEBRATED AND GIVES STUDENTS A PLATFORM TO RELATE THEIR EXPERIENCES TO ASPIRING SIXTH FORMERS.

ONE NOTABLE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US AND MANY OTHER FURTHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS IS OUR BESPOKE FRIDAY NEWSLETTER FEATURING ALL THINGS EXTRA AND SUPER-CURRICULAR, AS WELL AS VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES, ENGAGEMENT WITH EMPLOYERS, SECTOR INSIGHT OPPORTUNITIES AND A WELLBEING THEME OF THE WEEK. PARENTS WILL FIND MANY EVENTS USEFUL FOR THEIR OWN CONTEXTUAL UNDERSTANDING OF HIGHER EDUCATION, APPRENTICESHIPS AND EMPLOYMENT. MANY OF OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTERS INCLUDE PARENTAL GUIDES TO HIGHER EDUCATION, STUDENT FINANCE, OPEN DAYS AND DETAILS OF APPRENTICESHIPS.

MANY OF THE ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES WE OFFER TAKE PLACE AT THE END OF THE DAY AS WELL AS DURING THE DAY. STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THEIR ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES AND FOR RECORDING THEIR EXPERIENCES WITH THEIR FORM TUTORS. OUR LINKS WITH INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS AND UNIVERSITIES ENABLE US TO OFFER FLEXIBLE ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES ALLOWING STUDENTS TO BUILD THEIR OWN BESPOKE PROGRAMME. THIS ENSURES THEIR POST-18 REFERENCES AND PERSONAL STATEMENTS ARE AS FULL AND DIVERSE AS POSSIBLE.

WE WELCOME ANY QUESTIONS OR QUERIES REGARDING OUR ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME AND ARE ALWAYS OPEN TO NEW VENTURES WHICH MEET THE NEEDS OF OUR STUDENTS.

# SCHOLARS

**OUR SCHOLARS PROGRAMME IS** relevant for any student who wishes to apply to a competitive university, a competitive course or a much sought-after higher or degree level apprenticeship. These universities will include Oxford and Cambridge and 'Russell Group' universities and competitive courses include medicine or medicine-based courses, and veterinary medicine. These courses generally require GCSE grades of 7/8/9 and Advanced Level grades of A/A\*. These sessions take place at the end of the day as well as during the day and include visitors from top universities to discuss the skills needed to obtain a place.

This enrichment course is not subject specific and so works well with any course combination. Although this course is designed to help students gain places at competitive universities and courses, any student is welcome to join to help build key higher education knowledge and skills.

## WHAT KIND OF SKILLS DOES THE SCHOLARS PROGRAMME HELP TO DEVELOP?

- Research skills needed for undergraduate study – find the exciting challenges available.
- Critical reading and thinking skills – reach substantiated and evaluative conclusions.
- Constructing and debating arguments – learn to articulate your ideas with a creative flair.
- Presentation skills – key opportunities are given so students become confident sharing their views and opinions.
- Interview skills – this knowledge and information is gathered by staff from university admissions tutors and training events.
- Interview techniques for both online and in-person interviews. Staff attend training from Oxbridge universities and Oxbridge alumni also provide mock interviews.
- Personal statement guidance – gain an insight into the structure and make-up of a leading application.

## HOW DOES THE SCHOLARS PROGRAMME HELP STUDENTS TO INVESTIGATE UNIVERSITY CHOICES?

- Sessions from top universities and Sixth Form staff to inspire students research to competitive universities and courses.
- Information about Masterclasses, Summer Schools and subject days and how to apply for them.
- Open Day and Subject Taster Day visits to Russell Group universities.
- Contact with admissions tutors.
- We are a partnership school with Birmingham University and students can apply for their A2B programme. Advice on Oxbridge colleges from former college students.
- Our annual Next Steps Conference will guide students through the UCAS process and begin their applications.

## BUILD KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

## THE PROGRAMME



## HOW WILL THE SCHOLARS PROGRAMME HELP STUDENTS GAIN AN APPRENTICESHIP OR FURTHER CAREERS ADVICE?

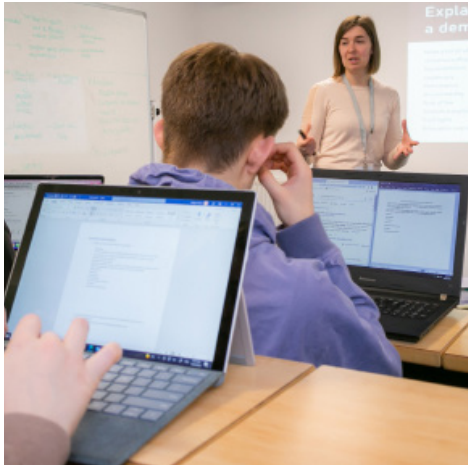
- Sessions providing information about top apprenticeship companies.
- Talks from past students who are currently undertaking a competitive apprenticeship.
- Visits from past students who are currently in employment such as the Holocaust Educational Trust.
- Support for application submission.
- Weekly opportunities are highlighted to students.
- Interview preparation and skills.
- Mock interviews.



## PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL WITH BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY

We are proud to be a partnership school with Birmingham University and some students will have the opportunity to apply for:

- Academic Enrichment Programme – this is an immersive five-day residential where students will participate in taster lectures and the university experience.
- Inspired@Birmingham – this programme is available for students seeking guidance from student mentors and graduates to apply to Russell Group Universities.
- Masterclasses – these are interactive insights into what its like to study at university.



## PROMOTE INDEPENDENCE

The Scholars Programme is designed to promote independent learning skills and encourage students who have a zest for knowledge to explore beyond the specifications of their Advanced Levels. We strive to enable students to be confident when tackling new academic challenges and to be resilient in their learning.





## ENGLISH

A thriving subject area with platforms for journalism, media production and creative writing. The Enrichment opportunities we offer are:

- Contributing to our termly 'Enrichment' magazine, writing reviews and creative pieces for both internal and external readership.
- Podcasting, opportunities to experiment with broadcast journalism.
- Access to the 'National Theatre Collection', an archive of productions which complements set Literature texts.
- Live theatre and visit to arts venues.
- Close links with Oxbridge, preparing students for the ELAT (The English Literature Admissions Test) and submissions.
- Experience Russell Group summer schools via the 'Sutton Trust' social mobility organisation.
- A comprehensive work experience programme.
- Weekly signposts to Coursera, FutureLearn, MOOC, The Guardian Review, The English Review and access to live masterclasses, webinars and interviews.

## CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

An ancient subject that is new and thriving at Bewdley. Students are developing a real passion for Classical Civilisation and 75% of our first Year 13 cohort have been offered places to study Classical courses at university (including Oxbridge) this Autumn.

We have attended a range of online events, from Stephen Fry discussing Troy to lectures on ancient comedy. We are very much looking forward to our forthcoming visits to Birmingham University & Art Gallery and The British Museum. We have ambitions to make it to Greece...

## MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

A Level Spanish and French courses will give students the opportunity to explore areas of interest (Art, Literature, History, Poetry, Sociology, Music, Film, Politics, etc...) and apply key skills such as analysis, evaluation and critical thinking into a range of enrichment activities such as:

- Offering students studying Spanish a trip to Spain which alternates between Barcelona and Madrid, and students studying French a trip to France.
- Exciting activities, working with Routes into Languages, managed by the University Council of Modern Languages, are offered to students studying Spanish and French. These include creative writing competitions, fun challenges, and educational visits.
- Opportunities offered to develop pedagogical skills, by supporting younger students in their lessons.
- Students studying French are encouraged to take part in the national French Video Pop Competition (London French Institute), which allows students to collaborate in a creative and competitive project every year.

## THEATRE STUDIES

Students are encouraged to seek live theatre to watch whilst also going on trips organised by Bewdley Sixth Form, other enrichment opportunities include:

- The National Student Drama Festival and our summer residential trip to 'The Big Smoke'.
- Working with the Swan Theatre in Worcester, offering students their skills, facilities and expertise.
- Drama is performed across year groups and A Level students will be given the opportunity to work with the younger year groups.
- We encourage our students to seek their own style of learning, applying and adapting differing styles of drama to their own work. This includes workshops with leading practitioners both onsite and across the local area.

## STUDENT PROFILE

Eddie Millichip



## THE CREATIVE ARTS PATHWAY

Taking a course in Music Technology opens up many opportunities to you, both inside and outside of the music industry. Potential jobs inside the industry include working as a session musician, which entails being hired by another artist to record a part in their song (such as playing bass, or guitar, etc.), or a studio engineer, which consists of working in a studio recording other artists and managing studio equipment, or maybe an independent artist, in which you create your own music without the help of a record label. In all of these fields, especially the latter two, the knowledge of modern recording technologies and how to use them is indispensable. If you want a job outside of the industry, you could work as an audio-visual (AV) engineer, which involves setting up audio and video equipment, or you could work in the field of video game sound design, especially if you also have an interest in computer science. Regardless of which of these fields you wish to pursue, an A Level in Music Technology will help to no end!

## MUSIC

Students are invited to take part in Sixth Form and local performance opportunities such as Hopfest (Family Music Festival), Wyre Forest Young Musician of the Year, performance slots and St. George's Hall, Bewdley as well as wider authority events such as Youth Makes Music, Rush Hour Recitals and, for the first time this year, a music tour abroad to Germany. Students are encouraged to form their own bands and will have priority rehearsal facilities.

Music Technology students have full use of the music studio and are encouraged to support Key Stage 4 technical set ups and live recordings. Music Technology students are given the opportunity to oversee technical set ups for school concerts and are encouraged to take part in National and International Remix Competitions. All students are encouraged to develop their own SoundCloud accounts to celebrate and share their music.

## FILM STUDIES

The range of Film Studies enrichment activities on offer will allow students to apply the skills that are acquired in studies. Our filming equipment is made available to students for all projects. Students studying Film become the Sixth Form's filming crew and are responsible for covering a range of school and Sixth Form events (drama performances, projects and events). Students produce the monthly video for our 200 Club draws, which is published on our social media. They are also given the opportunity to shadow, and work with, professional film-makers, as we have developed strong links with local filming companies (DRPG, Mockingbird studios).

DRPG FILM WORKSHOPS

MANY OPPORTUNITIES IN MUSIC

## FINE ART, TEXTILE DESIGN & PHOTOGRAPHY

The Art Department is a hub of creativity that takes pride in providing opportunities to follow unique creative journeys. Students are encouraged to experiment with a wide variety of media, choosing processes and techniques that suit their personal style and ideas. These include opportunities working with paint, mixed media, textiles, fashion, graphics, digital media, photography, and installation art. The well-equipped Art, Textiles and Photography spaces can be used outside lesson times. Extra workshops are facilitated to extend students learning experiences and offer personalised support when needed.

- A Level students are offered extracurricular Life Drawing lessons, taught by tutors from the Royal Academy of Arts.
- We work with the local community to offer the opportunity to make connections with local Artists and societies.
- We have a strong connection with the Bewdley Rotary Club who offer the opportunity to take part in the National Young Photographer of the Year competition.



## MATHEMATICS

Mathematics is at the heart of modern technology and is essential for further study in STEM subjects. As such, we recognise the importance of getting a good grade at A Level, even if you are not planning to go on to study Mathematics at degree level. We therefore provide extra support, over and above that provided in lessons. These include:

- A dedicated group on TEAMS which contains all lesson resources.
- An electronic copy of the main course textbook.
- Small groups so there is individual attention and help and support is always available.
- Membership of the premier maths website – Integral.
- Access to Complete Maths' TUTOR program. Access to this program negates the need for a private tutor.
- An extra session per week where support is available for entry to both the UKMT Senior Challenge and the Mathematical Olympiad for Girls (MOG). We also offer support for MAT and STEP as well as bursary entry examinations for universities.
- Other enrichment activities such as trips to Maths talks, links to interesting articles, current developments in the world of mathematics, and university visits are consistently offered.

We offer the Level 3 Certificate in Mathematical Studies (Core Maths) to support the mathematics essential for other subjects, in particular Biology, Geography and Psychology, and the AS in Further Mathematics. This course introduces concepts usually first met at university and will help students to stand out from the crowd when applying to the most prestigious universities.

## STUDENT PROFILE

Ellie Beynon



## SCHOLARS & MATHS OPPORTUNITIES

The Scholars Programme is a biweekly program that teaches the 'soft' skills that aren't taught in your A Levels. For example, at the moment were learning critical thinking and reading skills that I've found particularly helpful for my History A Level.

There are many maths-related enrichment opportunities available to do alongside your A levels at Bewdley Sixth Form. For example, I did the Senior UKMT Maths Challenge at the beginning of the year and I've also attended an online webinar series with Gresham College on "Geometry: the Mathematics of Art".

I'm planning to go to university after Sixth Form to study either history or physics. I haven't decided which university I would like to go to yet, but so far I've been looking at Exeter, Edinburgh or Nottingham. I also don't have any specific future career plans decided but I have been exploring the idea of doing a graduate entry programme with MI5 or going into either business or law.

## DIGITAL MEDIA

Digital Media enables students to develop their knowledge of the world of media. To enrich the learning experience, students will:

- Plan and film coffee adverts using industry standard equipment, working with specialist lecturers.
- Work with Worcester University Journalism staff to understand how to write and create effective journalistic pieces of work.
- Visit Manchester's Media City where students will tour BBC and ITV studios to see how media is created, practice presenting the weather and visit the Match of the Day studio.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

Computer Science is an ever changing and intriguing subject relevant to many parts of the modern workplace. At A Level there is a focus on practical computing. To aid this, students:

- Are encouraged and supported to build a gaming computer to gain a deeper understanding of the physical parts of a computer.
- Use an OhBot and Raspberry Pi for small-scale projects in lessons.
- We offer trips to EGX amongst others, to add to the journalistic side of Computer Science and the games industry.
- Students are encouraged and supported to enter national competitions.
- Support is available for revision before exams.



**PRODUCT DESIGN**

Our curriculum extends beyond the national curriculum and includes any number of experiences and opportunities both within and beyond the Sixth Form day. We offer subject specific enrichment where students have the opportunity to work with our specialist staff and use the specialist equipment to develop their work and get subject specific support. We work closely with local industries to support our curriculum needs and to enhance the experience of students in DT generally. House competitions are embedded into schemes of work to offer added incentives for students to work creatively and co-operatively with their peers.

**SCIENCE ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Our state of the art science block has 7 fully serviced science laboratories and a classroom, as well as laptops and iPads to use in your lessons.

Whether you are interested in applying for a place at a highly competitive university, or simply wish to broaden your science background, there are many and varied enrichment opportunities in the Science Department.

**BIOLOGY FIELDWORK (WITH THE FIELD STUDIES COUNCIL)**

For Biology students in Year 13 we link up with the field studies council at Bishop's Wood to provide opportunity to practice fieldwork techniques learned in the classroom. Students use various sampling techniques to assess the variation in a diverse range of habitats, as well as discovering the stages of ecological succession in a developing ecosystem.

**GOLD CREST AWARD**

During the summer term of Year 12 there is an opportunity for Biology students to complete a project that makes an original contribution to a STEM field of study, gaining a CREST Gold Award. We have developed strong links with Birmingham University School of Medicine who have been generous enough to provide access to their labs to enable students to assist in cutting edge research while gaining an insight into life as a university student. CREST Gold can be used by students to enhance their UCAS personal statements. The award is recognised and respected by universities and employers.

**A LEVEL SCIENCE LIVE!**

Our annual trip to A Level Science Live! in Birmingham provides our students with the chance to hear some of the best scientists who are working at the cutting edge of their specialisms. The scientists are carefully chosen for their ability to communicate with students in a direct and exciting way. This experience helps improve Science A Level results with sessions from the Chief Examiner.

**CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD**

High achieving Chemistry students will be invited to take part in the Chemistry Challenge in Year 12 and the Chemistry Olympiad in Year 13. These competitions are run by Cambridge University and the top competitors nationally are invited to a summer school in Cambridge and could go on to take part in the International Chemistry Olympiad.

**STUDENT PROFILE**

Shay Davies

**THE STEM PATHWAY**

Being faced with the daunting mountain that the STEM pathway requires is always a difficult path. However, at Bewdley Sixth Form, this journey is made less impossible. The Medical Pathway, which you may have been introduced to in year 10, is continued at a much more proactive level. Numerous lectures and practical work experience are provided to you by the Medical Pathway team, creating a perfect application for medical school. There is a great academic atmosphere in the Medical Pathway as ideas are bounced from student to teacher and vice versa, making it seem less like a solo mission and more like a group effort.

Furthermore, in the STEM pathway you are provided with many opportunities, allowing you to choose what suits you best; a personal journey for you.

**THE MEDICAL PATHWAY**

The Medical Pathway is offered to aspiring medics and for any students interested in a medically related career. These careers are extremely competitive so the programme will enable our students to stand out from the crowd. We have a close relationship with lots of medical organisations who support our programme including The Bewdley Medical Centre, Kidderminster Treatment Centre and the Air Ambulance. We have regular guest speakers in from a range of different areas in the NHS and workshops providing hands on experience of medical procedures. The programme also helps students to understand the types of work experience required and find suitable placements. All of these opportunities enable students to make an informed decision about whether this is the career path they wish to follow as well as enabling them to produce an excellent application for their chosen career. We also provide students with support and guidance for preparing for their UCAT and BMAT together with interview preparation if they are successful.

**OXFORD PHYSICS APTITUDE TEST (PAT) AND CAMBRIDGE ENGINEERING ADMISSIONS ASSESSMENT (ENGAA)**

There are weekly sessions to support students in Year 12 and 13 who are applying for Physics or Engineering courses at Oxbridge. Students will be able to practise the sort of questions that appear in the assessments and prepare for their interviews in these sessions.

**THE PHYSICS OF ROLLERCOASTERS**

An ever-popular trip is the annual Year 12 visit to Alton Towers to investigate the energies, speeds and forces involved in rollercoasters.

## ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

### HISTORY

- The chance to hear from leading lecturers and historians from around the world at an academic conference run by Sovereign Education.
- We have links with the Holocaust Educational Trust where students have the opportunity to hear from survivors and become involved in the Lessons from Auschwitz project; where students have the chance to be ambassadors and are given an opportunity to disseminate their learning as part of the Next Steps project.
- Students are also encouraged to enter competitions such as the Rex Nettleford Prize for Year 12 as part of the Oriel College University of Oxford.

### POLITICS

- A virtual tour of Parliament from an expert in the field uncovering the inner most workings of the institution.
- Students are given an access all areas tour finding out everything they need to know about the history of the building and running of Parliament.
- Questions asked, ranging from 'how is a bill passed through parliament?', to 'why there are two swords' lengths between the two front benches in the House of Commons?', no subject is off limits!
- Attend a webinar with employees from the UK Parliament, to dissect 'How Parliament Works'.

### SOCIOLOGY

- Lectures and interactive seminars with Professor Elizabeth Yardley from Birmingham City University on how race and gender impact someone's views and interactions with our criminal justice system.
- Alongside this, West Mercia Police will come in to discuss what policing is like with real life examples referencing race and gender again.
- We have links with Birmingham City University and University of Worcester alongside more guest speakers from professionals.
- Both Sociology and the newly added Criminology (starting September 2022) students will often attend sessions together to encourage cross curricular working.

### CRIMINOLOGY

- Birmingham City University and University of Worcester will work closely with the criminology department, offering sessions on relevant topic areas.
- As life returns to 'normal' there will be lectures from the CPS and the Ministry of Justice.
- If possible, criminology students will attend Worcester Crown Court to see live court proceedings.
- Finally, there will be fake crime scene where students will be able to safely experience how a crime scene should really be dealt with!

### PSYCHOLOGY

- Lectures from a variety of people such as neurologist Dr Scanlon (Birmingham City University) about ways of investigating the brain.
- Students learn about historical methods such as lesioning studies to different brain scanning techniques such as FMRI scans to see how blood flow changes in the brain allow us to better understand the inner workings of the brain.
- Connections with Worcester University enable us to attend relevant lectures such as offender profiling, both British and American approaches are compared to assess how accurate they are.

## STUDENT PROFILE

Ruby Brown



### CONSERVATION OR SUSTAINABILITY?

I previously attended The Earls High School before leaving at the end of Year 11 to go to Bewdley Sixth Form. I take Biology, Geography and Chemistry at A Level.

Since joining Bewdley Sixth Form I have been looking at future pathways and higher education opportunities and which ones particularly interest me. Upon looking, I have become drawn to either a Plant Science degree or a Geography degree with hopes to move on to work in conservation or sustainability. Knowing these are competitive fields I started looking for possible work experience and opportunities that would deepen my understanding of each course and help me gain much needed experience. After contacting a family friend who works at Severn Trent, he then got in contact with a member of the Innovation Team about potential work experience. Since then, I have been in contact him and am now waiting to hear if a work experience place can be confirmed, an opportunity I will be excited to undertake.

To give me more knowledge about university life and what a Geography degree entails I have also applied for a summer school with the University of Nottingham to do Geography, which I will hear if I have gained a place in May.

### GEOGRAPHY

Alongside fieldwork we also offer students:

- Opportunities for students to engage with global issues and extend their academic study beyond the A level course.
- We have links with several universities, including Aberystwyth and Birmingham, and we recommend that students attend their online lectures, and talks with guest speakers.
- We also work with UNHCR to raise money and awareness for refugees globally.
- Students are encouraged to enter competitions organised by the Royal Geographical Society; recent themes have included digital mapping and conservation issues.

ENGAGE WITH GLOBAL ISSUES

LOOKING AT FUTURE PATHWAYS



## GOING GOLD

'THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD' is the world's leading youth achievement award, giving millions of 14 - 24 year olds the opportunity to be the very best they can be'  
DofE Website



We are proud to offer students the opportunity to complete the prestigious Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award. The opportunity is taken up by an increasing number of students with more than 30 students currently in our Gold cohort.

As well as being a fun and exciting opportunity with the chance to experience true adventure during the two 'wild country' expeditions in some of the most rugged and remote areas of the UK. The award promotes the development of a more rounded Sixth Form experience by encouraging students to volunteer, learn a skill, keep physically active and step out of their comfort zone with people you do not know. It is also viewed very highly by universities and employers as it paints a much better picture of student's abilities than simply A levels alone.

Students who complete their Gold expeditions will be sure to make memories which last a lifetime, and we hope that it ignites within them a passion for the outdoors and the importance of protecting what incredible countryside we are lucky enough to have in the UK. We are keen to ensure that as many students as possible have this opportunity so the price is considerably subsidised to reduce costs to participants of undertaking the Gold award.



### HERE IS WHAT THE STUDENTS SAID ABOUT ONE OF OUR GOLD EXPEDITIONS

"109,628 steps later and all 9 students have completed Gold DofE! With days starting at 4am and finishing at 7pm in 27 degree heat I think it's fair to say it was a challenge, both mentally and physically! However, we have to say it was definitely worth it. We saw all kinds of animals from sheep, to wild pigs and even a wild Mr Baxter! I don't think any of us will ever do anything so challenging in our lives, it was a real experience! I think it was probably our favourite DofE we have completed, even if it was the hardest. We wouldn't have been able to complete it without all the teachers helping, supporting and pushing us along the way though. The sun made a few of us deluded, even making one of us think that the Welsh currency was Euros. We walked up some huge mountains, making big hills feel like speed bumps. However, we all smiled and laughed the whole way even when we were sunburnt, sweaty and bitten to death. I think the biggest secret to being able to complete gold DofE is team work and travelling unbelievably light!"

## SERVICE

### WORK EXPERIENCE & CHARITY

SECTOR INSIGHTS ARE INVALUABLE EXPERIENCES FOR EVERYONE PLANNING THEIR POST-18 CAREER ROUTE. FURTHERMORE, THIS IS A REQUIREMENT FOR SOME UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE APPLICATIONS AND WE ARE ABLE TO SUPPORT STUDENTS ACCESSING THIS WITH OUR INDUSTRY CONTACTS. WE OFFER BOTH PRACTICAL AND VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE THROUGHOUT YEARS 12 AND 13 WHICH STUDENTS CAN ACCESS DURING THE TIMETABLED DAY, IN NON-CONTACT TIMES. OUR PLACEMENTS ARE HEALTH AND SAFETY CHECKED AND WE ARE CONTINUING TO FORM NEW PARTNERSHIPS; (MOST RECENTLY SEVERN TRENT) WHERE STUDENTS SOURCE THEIR OWN WEX (WORK EXPERIENCE) PLACEMENTS, WE WORK WITH THE ORGANISATION TO ENSURE THAT THEY MEET THE WYRE FOREST HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATIONS. OUR SUBSCRIPTION TO SPRINGPOD ENABLES STUDENTS TO ACCESS VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE AND WE ALSO SEND OUT LIVE WEX PLACEMENTS, EVERY FRIDAY, FROM SPEAKERS FOR SCHOOLS AND YOUNG PROFESSIONALS.

**DONATING TO CHARITY CAUSES IS NOT ONLY DEEPLY REWARDING FOR THE ORGANISATION BUT ALSO FOR YOU TOO. YOU CAN VOLUNTEER TO JOIN OUR FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE AND SUPPORT IN THE ORGANISATION OF WHOLE SMALLER SIXTH FORM INITIATIVES. OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FANCY DRESS DAY IS A HUGE HIT FOR EVERYONE**

**RAISING MUCH NEEDED MONEY FOR THE CHARITY CHOSEN BY YOU! THE SCHOOL'S IPAYMENT SYSTEM ENSURES THAT MONEY IS COLLECTED SAFELY AND IS THEN SEAMLESSLY TRANSFERRED TO THE SIXTH FORM'S NOMINATED CHARITY. SIXTH FORM STUDENTS ARE INTEGRAL TO THE ORGANISATION OF OUR ANNUAL FOOD BANK DONATION SCHEME, FROM PUBLICISING KEY INFORMATION AND RALLYING LOWER SCHOOL STUDENT DONATIONS TO DELIVERING THE FINAL GOODS. VOLUNTEERING IS WIDELY PROMOTED WITHIN OUR SIXTH FORM AND YOU CAN OPT TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL VOLUNTEERING SHOW AT KIDDERMINSTER OR STOURPORT TOWN HALLS.**



# SPRINGPOD

Working closely with Springpod has enabled Bewdley Sixth Form to build an outstanding careers guidance package, which provides support for students, whatever their post-18 pathway. We are committed to providing as many opportunities as possible for students to increase their knowledge of courses, apprenticeships, employment and the different sectors they may choose to enter into.

## SECTOR INSIGHT EXPERIENCES

Some sectors, such as social work, can be especially challenging to find work experiences. To help with this, we have purchased a Springpod Licence and students will be able to access sector insight experiences. The sector insight experiences take place across the academic year and students can choose from 15 different sectors involving national employers. Students gain an insight into the sector including how varied the roles can be, the other sectors that students may have to liaise with, and the work involved. Students are given an assignment and can receive employer feedback from this.

## VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Springpod hosts a range of virtual work experiences in a very diverse range of sectors, from construction and sustainability to journalism. Having access to work experience allows students to explore a sector, gain an insight into the type of work usually associated with it and help students gain confidence.

## DEGREE TASTER OPPORTUNITIES

With many students choosing to complete degree courses, Springpod provides a variety of taster degree opportunities. Here students can try sample lectures, assignments and reading which is associated with the degree. This helps to ensure students choose the right degree for them.



## EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

Whether students wish to pursue a university course, apprenticeship or employment, having a range of demonstrable employability skills is now a 'must'. Students can access up to 15 hours worth of an employability programme, where they can build a digital portfolio, covering topics such as staying safe online, digital skills, money management and gaining a successful place in employment.

## NATIONAL AND REGIONAL EMPLOYER TALKS

Students will be able to take part in national and regional employer talks. They will participate in live webinars with local employers and gain an insight into the regional employer market. Students can also ask questions and engage directly with employers. Talks cover everything from helping young minds grow to problem solving on an industrial scale.

# COMMUNICATION & ACADEMIC SUPPORT

## ENRICHMENT MAGAZINE



Our termly Enrichment magazine is a professionally printed and edited 'in house' publication providing Sixth Form students with a platform to showcase their varied super-curricular and extra curricular trips, on site masterclasses and promote their successes. Students with a flair for creative writing, journalism and/or photography are able to have their work published; an unique asset to discuss at any post-18 interview. Whether it's a double page spread about recent and forthcoming 'BPC' (Bewdley Podcasting Corporation) releases, an interview with an alumni or our recent charity event – it gives parents and students alike, an insight into the busy lives of our latest cohort.



## STUDENT VOICE IS HEARD & ACTIONED

### STUDENT VOICE

Termly meetings ensure that the student voice is heard and actioned. Volunteers are recruited from our three Year 12 form groups and our three Year 13 form groups to meet with senior staff and influence improvements or initiatives from an agenda. Leadership experience, managing the voice of the student body and working within the parameters of a budget are all valuable skills to illustrate on your CV and/or UCAS personal statement.

### ACADEMIC SUPPORT

In addition to your teaching staff we are able to signpost you to further academic support. Peer work is valuable for everyday organisation and the sharing of notes or recently taught key concepts. Mid-term assessments may highlight the need for a re-test, which we accommodate during student non-contact sessions, in a private area in our study room. Our fulltime study room mentor is able to provide interim one-to-one support with folder organisation, note taking, time management, revision strategies and liaise with your subject staff for upcoming assessments. We also have a number of alumni's academic folders and annotated texts for current students to reference at their convenience. Everyone is encouraged to use their non-contact time to seek out subject staff if they need clarification.

# EPQ

## EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

### STUDENTS WILL LEARN A RANGE OF ADVANCED STUDY SKILLS

The Extended Project Qualification is an extra qualification that students can engage with mid-way through Year 12 and finish in Year 13. It is very exciting as students can base their report or artefact around any subject they choose and so can explore topics not included in their Advanced Level specifications. Students will learn a range of more advanced study skills which can help them ease into the transition between Sixth Form and university. These skills include, evaluating sources, planning how to research to provide evidence for an essay based around a question they have chosen, presentation skills, time management and reflection.

### RECOGNISED BY UNIVERSITIES

This extra award is recognised by universities and thus carries UCAS points. A variety of universities and apprenticeship providers look favourable upon students who complete an EPQ as these students have been proven to successfully manage a large-scale project in addition to their Advanced Level studies.

### BASED ON INDIVIDUAL CHOICE OF TOPIC

An Extended Project is based around a student's individual choice of topic. It can be a report of around 5,000 words, or an artefact with a research report. Students must decide a topic, plan a question, find resources, gather data, produce the report, complete a production log and give a presentation.

Previous students have explained how this experience has enabled them to make the transition from Sixth Form to university. One student said, that the EPQ had helped him manage his time more effectively at university and he was able to successfully plan his assignments with little support.



TIME MANAGEMENT SKILLS

# DISCOVER

### THE DISCOVERY SOCIETY

The Bewdley School sits in luscious countryside next to the River Severn, which is reflected by the richness and breadth of opportunities offered.

Large numbers pursue Duke of Edinburgh Awards following outdoor opportunities in lower school, with a wide range of overseas opportunities such as Icelandic geology and skiing in Italy available. The Discovery Society, was established in 2019 to build on these opportunities, with a charitable focus on encouraging 'exploration and research'.

The global pandemic has slowed progress, with our lecture series offered by local universities sadly cancelled in spring 2020. We are now starting to rebuild, with our first expedition to Dominica in the Caribbean in July 2022. Duke of Edinburgh activities also resume, with bronze, silver and gold awards on offer in 2022, following on from Year 9's visit to the Arete Outdoor Education Centre in Llanrug.

We have a wide range of partnership projects currently unfolding. We have supported Worcestershire County Council's planting of ultimately 8,000 trees at Netherton Lane near school. We are partnering Worcestershire Wildlife Trust in their Dropping Well Farm re-wilding project. As Abberley and Malvern Hills Geopark Forum members, we are exploring ideas to showcase our wonderful local geology. We are always seeking new projects, current developments including evaluating flood risks with drones and monitoring equipment, and archaeological test digs.



### OPERATION WALLACEA

Operation Wallacea is a biodiversity and climate research organisation. For 25 years it has run biodiversity field expeditions to support the research of hundreds of academics and funded from tuition fees paid by students who then gain experience of working with publishing scientists. Nearly 600 papers in peer reviewed journals have been published from these research programmes, with 54 new species discovered and 4 're-discovered'.

Field research centres include The Bay Islands, Borneo, Croatia, Dominica, Ecuador, Fiji, Galapagos Islands, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mexico, Peru, Portugal, South Africa and Transylvania. All of these are in sensitive habitats remote from human habitation, and the research helps us understand the impact of human activity globally and protect these environments for future generations.

The Bewdley School's first Opwall expedition to Dominica in the Caribbean was planned for July 2021, but is now scheduled one year on, from 4 to 16 July 2022. Students will initially spend 5 days on ecological surveys of tropical rainforest species. After 2 volcano and whale watching days, they will then spend a further 5 days studying the ecology of the coral reefs. This offers the potential for PADI dive training or a reef ecology course, either snorkelling or SCUBA for qualified divers.





[www.bewdley.worcs.sch.uk](http://www.bewdley.worcs.sch.uk)



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<https://www.youtube.com/c/TheBewdleySchools>

THRIVE & DISCOVER

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