

# Blessed Hugh Faringdon

## Catholic School and Sixth Form Centre



*'True Teaching'*

*Serving the Community in Reading since 1958*

# 2021-2022

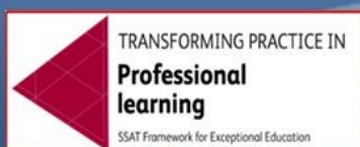
# Prospectus

**Headmaster**  
**Dr Simon Uttley KCHS FRSA**

**Chair of Governors**  
Mrs Maureen McCartney and  
Mrs Nicola Milsom- James



## 'Outstanding School' – Section 48 Inspection



Fawley Road, Reading RG30 3EP  
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Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School and 6<sup>th</sup> Form Centre is Voluntary Aided, founded by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth and working in partnership with Reading Local Authority. There are over 900 students on roll.

### Our Vision

Our vision is to create a Catholic school where Christ is at the centre of all we say and do. We want our children to grow in their faith and be equipped to become leaders and change-makers, as well as people of exceptional character. We want to help form young people who see faith, work, relationships, hobbies and careers as integrated, not separated. We believe that our students should experience life as joyful and be well-prepared to tackle its challenges as they come along. We believe, with the Bishops of England and Wales, that a Catholic education is an exceptional education. It does focus on the whole person, on developing their moral compass and bearing the hallmark of their unique dignity as sons and daughters of God, each with a unique vocation.

### School Mission Statement

The students and staff have developed an easy-to-recall statement based on the letters of the school's name. This has been launched across all year groups.



## The School Day

<b>Free breakfast for all students in the School Canteen</b>	08:00-08.30am
<b>Tutor period</b>	08:40-09:00am
<b>Period 1</b>	09:00-10:00am
<b>Period 2</b>	10:00-11:00am
<b>Break</b>	11:00-11:20am
<b>Period 3</b>	11:20-12:20pm
<b>Period 4</b>	12:20-13:20pm
<b>Lunch</b>	13:20-14:00pm
<b>Period 5</b>	14:00-15:00pm

3pm - after school clubs/revision classes/activities start.

## Collective Worship

The spiritual life of the students and the staff is a priority. We enter into prayer at the start of each day. Prayer takes place within the tutor group. There are year assemblies each week. These assemblies are led by the Tutor, Head of Year or a member of the Leadership Team. These assemblies celebrate the liturgical seasons of the year. Community celebration and maximum participation are always our aim in acts of worship. All students of whatever background or ability are required to attend morning worship and other liturgies. Those students who are not Roman Catholics are included fully in the RE curriculum, assemblies and worship, which are founded on the teachings of the Catholic Church. Parents and students understand from the outset that this will be so.

In June 2018 the school was inspected by the Diocese of Portsmouth and was described as “An Outstanding School”. The recognition that every child matters is well embedded in the school and we are committed to provide every student with a good all round education.

## Curriculum

The curriculum at Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic school is based around the best interests of the student's human formation, built upon our Catholic ethos and with a range of pathways to provide a happy, stimulating and demanding experience.

### **Years 7, 8 and 9**

Pupils follow a broad and balanced curriculum organised to reflect the requirements of the National Curriculum, complemented with time for Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE). This balanced combination of subjects will equip them for all possible careers and prepare them for life in the modern world. All school departments have well-qualified and experienced staff and are generously resourced.

% of curriculum time spent on each subject

Subject	Year 7, 8 &9
Religious Education	10
English	16
Mathematics	14
Science	14
Art	4
Computer Science	4
Design and Technology/Food & Nutrition	6
Drama	4
Geography	6
History	6
Modern Foreign Languages	6
Music	4
Physical Education	6

Pupils are taught in mixed ability sets in all subjects, with the exception of English and Maths where a light setting structure is in place.

### **Years 10 and 11**

% of time spent on each subject

Subject	Year 10&11
Religious Education	10
English Language and Literature	14
Mathematics	14
Science	18
Physical Education (Non-Exam)	4

In addition to the above, students' option subjects in Years 10&11 GCSE are based on their designated pathway:

**Pathway 1** - Students study a modern foreign language and a humanities subject (Geography or History). Students study a further 2 option subjects.

**Pathway 2** - Students study a humanities subject (Geography or History) **or a modern foreign language.** Students study a further 3 option subjects.

**Pathway 3** - Students study 1-2 options subjects and/or an ASDAN course.

MFL, Humanities, Business, Social Science, ASDAN and option subjects each have 10% curriculum time.

# Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School Curriculum

**Key Stage 3  
(Year 7-9)**

**Key Stage 4  
(Year 10-11)**

**Key Stage 5  
(Year 12-13)**

**Destination**



RE	Core	Humanities	MFL	Creative Arts and Technology	Intervention
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Pathway 1 (EBacc) GCSE	RE	Core	Humanities	MFL	Options	Intervention
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Pathway 2 Core & Options GCSE	RE	Core	Humanities or MFL (EBacc)	Options	Intervention
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Pathway 3 Alternative GCSE / ELC / ASDAN	RE	Core	Options	Intervention
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Pathway 1 Level 3	Religious Exploration	Extended Project	A Level
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Pathway 2 Level 3	Religious Exploration	Extended Project	Vocational
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University	College	Apprenticeship	Employment
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*"A curriculum based around the best interests of the student's human formation, built upon our Catholic ethos and with a range of pathways to provide a happy, stimulating and demanding experience".*



Enrichment, Student Leadership, Extra-Curricular

## **Sixth Form - Years 12 and 13**

In the 6<sup>th</sup> Form at Blessed Hugh Faringdon you will be able to study a range of courses in a variety of combinations. We offer both A Level and Level 3 BTEC, and Sixth Formers can study all A Level courses, all BTEC courses or do a combination of both.

### **The following A levels are on offer:**

Mathematics	English Literature
Physics	RE: Philosophy and Ethics
French	Geography
History	Further Mathematics
DT: Product Design	Psychology
Music	Drama
Sociology	Politics
Business	Art
Biology	Media Studies
Chemistry	Polish

### **The following Level 3 BTEC Courses are on offer:**

Health and Social Care	Sport
Travel and Tourism	Applied Science

In addition to their chosen subjects, all Sixth Form students take the Extended Project Qualification at the start of Year 12 and we work with scholars from the University of Reading to provide supervision and guidance. This qualification is equivalent to half an A Level in UCAS points that students can put towards their University applications.

Students also follow an enrichment programme, with options including Peer Mentoring, Adopt a Teacher, Reading Scholars and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme up to Gold Award. We also work with Berkshire EBP to provide regular work experience or voluntary work which can be fitted in to students' individual timetables.

## **Special Educational Needs**

Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School has a 'whole school' approach to SEND. Therefore, the focus is integrating students into lessons as far as possible (often supported by our team of teaching assistants). Where appropriate students are extracted from lessons to boost their skills and confidence in reading and writing. The aim is to enable students with SEND to make progress by ensuring their access to a full and relevant curriculum with support. This is achieved through a thoughtful and caring approach in line with the School's Mission Statement.

## **Blessed Mary Ward Centre**

The Blessed Mary Ward Centre (BMW Centre) is a specialist resource at Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School (BHFCs) providing support for students with a primary diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Students must have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) to be considered for a place in the resource. The BMW Centre facilitates students' access to mainstream education – it is not a special school nor an isolated resource; it is a resource within a mainstream school.

The BMW Centre is a resourced building with specialist staff who deliver support in mainstream lessons and in the BMW Centre. Specialist support in the BMW Centre might include planned interventions, emotional literacy, managing anxiety, life skills and horticulture as well as supporting students to stay safe when they are overwhelmed and/or particularly anxious. Subject learning takes place in normal lessons rather than in the Centre. Support is designed to remove barriers to learning by reducing sensory overload and anxiety. Students are supported to recognise and communicate their feelings verbally to an adult; they are then supported to plan how to face the anxiety/worry without spiralling into a cycle of avoidance.

Students in the BMW Centre may also have support from external services such as occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, educational psychology and massage therapy. Our aim is for all BMW Centre students to be fully integrated and part of the whole school. All students are members of a tutor group and as such take part in tutor events, PSHE lessons and PSHE days, mass and assemblies. All students have a timetable of mainstream lessons that they access with and without additional support from BMW Centre staff. We ensure that members of the BMW Centre are supported to take part in educational visits and special events.

## **Applications**

There is an eligibility criteria for the resource provision. All applications for the BMW Centre will be through a Brighter Futures for Children (BFfC) SEND panel, rather than direct to the school. If appropriate and agreed by the SEND panel the BMW Centre will be named in a young person's EHCP.

With regret, students who do not have the BMWC named on their EHCP will not have access to this specialist provision.

If you have any questions regarding the resource please don't hesitate to contact the Head of the Resource Base, Miss Boorman, on 0118 918 3804 or [l.boorman@hughfaringdon.org](mailto:l.boorman@hughfaringdon.org)

## **Safeguarding (Child Protection)**

At all times the school has a legal duty to work with other agencies to protect children from harm and respond to allegations of abuse. Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School is an open and accepting place in which staff are prepared to listen to students' worries and fears and takes seriously its duty to refer any case which gives cause for concern. Such a referral would be dealt with as appropriate in conjunction with Children's Social Care Services and/or the Police where required. In line with Department for Education guidelines, staff never promise confidentiality to students but make it clear from the outset that any disclosure, indicating that the student may be at risk, will have to be referred to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputies for consideration and appropriate action.

## Pastoral Support

Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School is a highly inclusive school, committed to supporting all of our students as they benefit from their secondary education with us. If students are experiencing particular difficulties, we will support them. Form tutors develop very positive professional relationships with the students in their care and are the first person a student should speak with. Where more specialist help is needed students may be referred to the Pastoral Area where Year Leaders and KS3/KS4 Pastoral and Achievement Coordinators are available to help.

## School Uniform

### Boys

- Trousers: Plain Grey school trousers (no jeans, chinos or other fashion trousers)
- Shirt: Plain White school shirt
- Tie: School Tie
- Shoes: Plain Black (no boots, trainers, canvas shoes, pumps or fashion shoes e.g. Vans etc)
- Jumper: V-Necked Maroon with School Badge (optional under blazer)
- Socks: Black or Grey
- Blazer: Maroon with school logo (compulsory for all years 7-11 inclusive).

### Girls

- Trousers: Plain grey tailored. School wear and not fashion trousers eg skinny trousers – not black
- Shirt: Plain White school shirt
- Tie: School tie
- Socks/Tights: Plain White, Grey or Black with no decoration, Patterned tights are not allowed
- Jumper: V-Necked Maroon with School Badge (optional under blazer)
- Shoes: Plain Black (no trainers, boots, canvas or fashion shoes e.g. Vans etc.). Heels should be no higher than 2 inches
- Blazer: Maroon with school logo (compulsory for all years 7-11 inclusive)
- Skirt – Banded school skirt

Top Coats should be plain and dark in colour. No Leather/PVC/Denim top coats or hooded sweatshirts are permitted. Bags must be plain and dark in colour. A rucksack style bag worn across both shoulders is recommended to alleviate problems of back pain later in life.

### PE Kit:

#### COMPULSORY

- Blessed Hugh Faringdon Polo Top
- Blessed Hugh Faringdon Rugby Top
- Black Shorts (Blessed Hugh Faringdon Shorts or black shorts with a small branded logo)
- Black Tracksuit bottoms (only allowed with a sports brand logo)
- Socks – Black or White
- All Black Sport Leggings only – shorts must be worn over the top if wearing leggings. Normal leggings are **not allowed**
- Shin Pads for football
- Gum shields for Rugby



Please note, the following items are **not permitted** as part of the PE Kit:

- No hoodies
- No other colours
- No sports teams emblems
- Normal leggings

## **OPTIONAL**

- School crested black tracksuit jumper
- School crested black tracksuit pants
- White thermal skin
- Kit bag

Please note that training shoes for indoor use in the Sports Hall should have clear, non-coloured soles and can be purchased through sports shops or other stores.

School Uniform available from Valentino Schoolwear Ltd.

## **HAIR, MAKE- UP & JEWELLERY**

Make-up, nail varnish and conspicuous hairdressings are NOT permitted because they are not suitable for school and can pose hazards in some of the specialised activities that take place within the school.

- Hair must be kept clean, tidy and of reasonable length.
- Students should have their natural hair colour whilst in school, unusual, exaggerated and coloured hairstyles are NOT permitted; this includes hairstyles which are deemed by the Head teacher to be excessively long or short, patterned corn rows and other patterned haircuts are not permitted.
- Students are not permitted to wear nail varnish, including gel, acrylic or artificial nails and nail extensions in any form.
- Students are allowed to wear one ring and one pair of small metal stud earrings in the lower ear lobe only.
- Bracelets are not allowed and necklaces should be out of sight.
- Make-up is not permitted for Years 7-11.
- No other piercings, including nose studs, eyebrow and tongue piercings are permitted.
- Tattoos or body art are not permitted.

If the above rules are not adhered to, the students will be placed temporarily in the Focus Room, pending an exclusion.

Please note: It is illegal to tattoo young people under the age of 18. A person in the UK must be at least 18 years before they can have a tattoo; it is illegal for anyone to have a tattoo under 18 even with parental consent. A visible tattoo is one which cannot be covered by properly worn school clothing, including during PE, sport and practical activities. A breach of this policy will be dealt with in the same way as a breach of uniform and the student will have to remove the item before returning to school. As tattooing a minor is illegal, all such cases will be referred to the relevant authorities.

Notes of Guidance for Parents – if you are in doubt, please contact the school.

## **Attendance**

Students should attend school unless they are unwell or have the Headmaster's permission to be absent. Absence (for reasons other than medical) during term time will only be authorised at the discretion of the Headmaster due to exceptional family circumstances (for example: family bereavement, issues concerning absent parents, exceptional and unique opportunity for students). If there is an exceptional circumstance, parents should write to the Headmaster directly to request authorisation for the absence in advance of the time requested. Students are expected to attend school, this ensures continuity of work and strong, reliable relationships with peers. When a student is unavoidably absent the office must be informed by telephone by 8.30am.

## **Behaviour for Learning**

The school has adopted the Behaviour for Learning approach to support high quality teaching and learning. We use a centralised method whereby all detentions are managed at whole school level with all teachers expected to supervise one detention on a rota basis.

The system enables teachers to set clear boundaries in their classroom and around the school which are shared and known by all, with a series of clear and explicit boundaries that all pupils are expected to follow. We adopt a choices and consequences approach, whereby pupils are made aware of the consequences of poor choices and rewarded for good behaviour.

## **Boundaries and Consequences**

At the heart of the system is that each child is responsible for the actions they chose to undertake. Thus, if a child breaks a rule in the school they can expect to receive a consequence. The responsibility for avoiding the consequence lies with the child. Equally, the rewards system should lead to good decisions being made and celebrated in assemblies and year group trips we hold at the end of each academic year. Additionally, we have student of the month and an Attendance and Punctuality Rewards day. Achievement assemblies occur at the end of each term.

## **Group Call**

Group Call is the schools text messaging service to parents. We are able to send short messages to parents, but this requires us to have accurate and up to date records of mobile telephone numbers/email addresses.

## **'Head's Up' Newsletter**

The Headmaster communicates with parents each week through the 'Head's Up' Newsletter which is also published on the school website.

## **Homework**

We believe that homework supports the learning that takes place in class and enables students to make progress by developing their skills independently offering opportunities for personalised learning.

### **Homework Expectations**

- ✓ Follow homework set on Teams
- ✓ Follow homework guidelines by spending at least ½ hour on each task in KS3;

1 hour on each task in KS4. KS5 homework is set in accordance with the course work requirements.

- ✓ Complete homework to the best of their ability and to a good quality
- ✓ Complete homework by the date set by the teacher
- ✓ Hand in homework at the required time

### **The BHF Anti – Bullying Policy**

Aims: We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our pupils so that they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable in our school.

### **The BHF School Building Fund**

Sending your child to a Roman Catholic School involves a greater commitment from parents compared to other neighbourhood schools. Generations of Catholic parents have accepted that their schools are not fully funded by the State so that the balance of funding required is met by the school community. At present this balance is 10% of the cost of school building projects.

The School Building Fund has been a common feature of the life of the Catholic community and the parents of children in Catholic schools. In this respect, our parents are continuing a tradition of contributing, established over many generations of parents with children at Catholic schools.

Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School Building Fund is supported by the Portsmouth Diocese. In the past few years, the Diocese has supported us with a range of building projects that have transformed our school. This support has been gained by the school paying into the Diocesan Building Fund. We have been substantial beneficiaries of this fund. We are keen to continue to make our contribution to a fund which so clearly benefits our school community and the wider cause of education in Catholic schools.

The school must continue to improve its facilities and needs your continued support for the building fund which has served us so well up to now. To achieve this goal, we need every family to support us. That support amounts to £10.00 per family per term. Details of how to make a contribution to the fund will be sent out in the term before your child starts school. We are grateful for your support.