

Blessed Hugh Faringdon

Catholic School and Sixth Form Centre



'True Teaching'

Serving the Community in Reading since 1958

2020-2021

Prospectus

Headmaster

Dr Simon Uttley KCHS FRSA

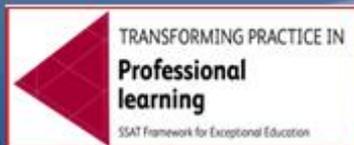
Chair of Governors

Mrs Maureen McCartney

Mrs Nicola Milsom-James



'Outstanding School' – Section 48 Inspection



Fawley Road, Reading RG30 3EP
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Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School and 6th Form Centre is Voluntary Aided, founded by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth and working in partnership with Reading Local Authority. There are 904 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.



Catholic Ethos

We will ensure that being part of this Catholic school means being on a journey of reflective self-discovery, based on the firm foundations of the teachings of the Catholic Church, where children grow spiritually, emotionally and to their full potential. We will ensure that RE is at the heart of our curriculum.

Our Catholic Community

We will ensure that every child understands that, as part of BHF, is to be part of the Reading family of Catholic schools and part of the wider Catholic community, evident in Church and parish life.

High Expectations of Achievement

We believe that every child should achieve beyond their level of capability. We will set exceptionally high expectations of achievement, commitment and behaviour for all our pupils, which we reinforce constantly as they go through school. We believe every child can realise their potential with the right teaching and support.

Outstanding Teaching

We will ensure that outstanding teaching is evident at BHF. We will ensure that lessons are carefully planned and that they contain a variety of activities which engage and motivate learners. We will use assessment data to improve teaching and the curriculum and to ensure that each child achieves their potential. We will use research evidence and experience of best practice, to achieve excellent outcomes for all of our children.

Exemplary Behaviour and Uniform

We will expect an exemplary standard of pupil behaviour and uniform, to allow teachers to focus on teaching and pupils on learning. We expect this to lead to high levels of achievement, consistent with our vision for our children.

Depth in Learning

We will provide more time for core subjects and to extend the curriculum through enrichment activities. Our curriculum will be planned to provide pathways from any level at entry to high achievement at the end of the child's time in the school.

Strength in the Core Subjects

We will ensure that pupils will achieve high standards in English, Mathematics, Science and RE as we believe these are vital for success in the whole curriculum and for later in life. We will use assessment data to ensure that we support each child so that the high expectation of our vision is realised.

Pastoral Support

We will ensure that the pastoral and spiritual support evident in our Christian school community will continue. All children will feel welcomed and valued and will experience Gods love in the school community.

The School Day

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

Admission to the School

Applications from Year 6 into Year 7

Procedure for making an application

The school is part of a scheme for co-ordinating admissions for all secondary schools in the Reading Local Authority (LA), and in the other neighbouring LAs. These co-ordinated arrangements are designed to work for the benefit of all parents and children in the area. The purpose of a co-ordinated scheme is to ensure that every parent/carer of a child living in Reading who has applied for a place by the closing date receives one offer of a secondary school place on the national offer date.

Reading Local Authority Application and the School's Supplementary Information Forms

Parents and carers are required to complete an LA Common Application Form, which must be submitted by 31st October 2020 to the LA. In addition, it is advisable to complete the school's Supplementary Information Form (SIF), as this and the supporting evidence (baptism certificate and/or supporting letter from Church/Minister) will be used to place your child in a category. Failure to submit the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) and the required documentation may prevent your child being put in the correct category and so jeopardise gaining a place at the school. The supplementary form can be obtained from the school office, our website (www.hughfaringdon.org) or by contacting the schools' Admissions Department at the Reading LA, and should be submitted to the Admissions Administrator to the Governing Body at Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School by 31st December 2020. Applications received after this deadline will only be considered after all on-time applications have been dealt with.

Notification of outcome

Parents/carers will be notified by email or letter of the outcome of their application by their Local Authority on 1st March 2021. The notification will inform parents/carers of the school to which their child has been allocated and whether their application to Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School has been successful. Parents/carers will have two weeks to accept or decline the offer of a place. These arrangements are subject to modification. Any modification will be dependent on the proposed scheme for Brighter Future for Children's Co-ordinated Scheme for Admission for Secondary Schools and will be agreed with the LA. Further information will be made available to parents by the primary school.

Late Applications

Late applications are those received after the Local Authority deadline of 31st October 2020 and may jeopardise your child's chance of a place at this school. Late applications will be considered after all on-time applications have been allocated. This procedure accords with the Local Authority's scheme for co-ordinating admissions.

Late Change of Preference

A late change of preference is one received after the Local Education Authority deadline of 31st October 2020 and may jeopardise your child's chance of a place at this school. A late change of preference will be considered after all on-time applications have been allocated. This procedure accords with the Local Authority's scheme for co-ordinating admissions.

Waiting List

In the case where a child has been refused a place, the Governors will operate a waiting list for September 2021 entry, in category order, to run until 31st December 2021. The Governors will take into account the outcomes of Brighter Future for Children's Co-ordinated Scheme for Admission for Secondary Schools.

Applications to Years 7 – 11 outside normal admission cycle

Procedure for making an application

'In-year' applications are also co-ordinated by the applicants home Local Authority. As well as completing the 'in-year' transfer application form for the Local Authority, it is recommended that parents also complete and submit a BHF Supplementary Information Form so that their application can be ranked correctly. Along with a completed application form, you will be required to provide supporting documentation, details of which are given within relevant categories on the application form, and this information will be used to place your child in a category. Failure to submit the required supporting documentation may prevent your child being put in the correct category and so may jeopardise gaining a place at this school. The Admissions Administrator will ask to see the student's original birth certificate or passport in order to establish identity and confirm date of birth.

Fair Access Protocol

The Governing Body subscribes to the 'In Year Fair Access Protocol' operated by Brighter Futures for Children. This protocol is designed to ensure that there is access to education for children who have no school place.

Right of Appeal

In accordance with the 1998 School Standards and Framework Act as amended by the 2006 Education and Inspections Act, parents of a child, who has been refused a place, have the right of appeal. If you wish to appeal against a refusal of admission, you should complete the admission appeals form, which can be obtained from the school. Within 10 working days of receipt of the letter of refusal, you should also contact:-

The Clerk to the Appeals Panel, Reading Borough Council, Civic Centre, Reading, RG1 7AE Telephone: 01189 372532

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	18
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 6th 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 SEN. 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 SEN 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 (BMWC) is a specialist resource at Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School (BHFC) providing support for students with a primary diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC). Students must have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) to be considered for a place in the resource. The BMWC 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 BMWC is a resourced building with specialist staff who deliver support in mainstream lessons and in the BMWC. Specialist support in the BMWC 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. 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 BMWC 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 BMWC 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 BMWC staff. We ensure that members of the BMWC 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 BMWC will be through a Brighter Futures for Children (BFFC) SEND panel. If appropriate and agreed by the SEND panel the BMWC will be named in a young person's EHCP. The resource caters for 4 students in each year group.

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

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 normally be to Children's Social Care Services and/or the Police. The school does not carry out investigations but acts as a means of communication with those agencies which are responsible. 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. A rucksack style bag worn across both shoulders is recommended to alleviate problems of back pain later in life.

PE Kit:

- 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
- No Hoodies
- No other colours
- No Sports Teams emblems
- Shin Pads for football lessons

OPTIONAL

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

School Uniform available from Valentino Schoolwear Ltd.

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.

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

1. 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. If this rule is not adhered to, the student will be placed temporarily in the focus room, pending an exclusion.

2. 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. Students are allowed to wear one ring and one pair of small metal stud earrings in the lower ear lobe only. Make-up is not permitted for years 7-11. No other piercings, including nose studs, eyebrow and tongue piercings are permitted. If this rule is not adhered to, the piercing will have to be removed or the student will remain in the focus room.

3. 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.

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 8.45am.

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. Any parents not having access to email/internet can request a hard copy.

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 Show My Homework
- ✓ Follow homework guidelines by spending at least ½ hour on each task in Lower School; 1 hour on each task in Upper School
- ✓ 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.