



STUDENT EXPERIENCE AND FORMATION

AT BISHOP CHALLONER CATHOLIC COLLEGE





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OUR MISSION

The Student Experience At Bishop Challoner Catholic College

At Bishop Challoner Catholic College, our student experience is shaped by our deep-rooted identity as a Community of Faith. Guided by our mission statement:

“In our Community of Faith in Bishop Challoner Catholic College, we give glory to God by developing our full potential and in our service to others, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,”

We believe that every student is called to flourish through a journey of formation, growth, and purposeful living.



Our community is inspired daily by our school prayer:

*“Who am I, God?
Why am I here?
What do you want me to do?
You made me special to do
something wonderful in this
life of mine.
Show me what I might be,
what I might do,
who I might help,
and I will do it for you.”*

Our school prayer is a personal and collective mission, encouraging every student to seek meaning, serve others, and discover their God-given purpose.

At the heart of student life at Bishop Challoner is a deep commitment to the holistic development of every individual—spiritually, academically, emotionally, and socially. We place great importance on personal development, providing a wide range of opportunities that nurture character virtues such as compassion, resilience, integrity, and humility. Central to our ethos is the belief that every child—regardless of ability, need, or background—should have access to the same rich and rewarding experiences. Whether a student is disadvantaged, lives with additional needs, or faces personal challenges, we are committed to ensuring that no child goes without. We work proactively to guarantee equity in opportunity, support, and celebration for all.

Students are encouraged to take on roles of leadership and representation, contributing positively to the school community and beyond. Through activities such as the student council, chaplaincy teams, peer mentoring, and public speaking, young people grow in confidence and responsibility.

Our commitment to enrichment ensures that education extends far beyond the classroom. Students engage in a variety of school trips, retreats, cultural visits, and faith-based experiences that broaden their understanding of the world and strengthen their sense of community and belonging.

Sporting achievement is celebrated across all age groups, promoting teamwork, discipline, and perseverance. Students proudly represent the college in a wide range of sporting competitions, upholding the values of fair play and excellence.

Central to our Catholic ethos is the call to give to others, particularly those in greater need. Throughout the year, students lead and take part in charity fundraising and outreach initiatives, living out the Gospel values through service, compassion, and action. These acts of kindness not only support our local and global communities but also form the moral compass by which our students live.

Through this rich and diverse experience, students leave Bishop Challoner not only with academic qualifications but with a strong sense of identity, purpose, and a lifelong commitment to faith, service, and justice.

We truly 'give glory to God—by developing our full potential and in our service to others'.



CATHOLIC LIFE AND FORMATION

Faith. Service. Community

At Bishop Challoner Catholic College, Catholic life and formation are at the heart of who we are, shaping not only what students learn but who they become. Rooted in the teachings of the Church and inspired by the greatest commandment, to love God and love our neighbour, we offer rich opportunities for students to grow in faith, character, compassion and purpose. Our goal is to help every young person understand the faith that gives our school its identity, worship God in spirit and truth, and live lives of goodness, justice and integrity modelled on Christ.

Our Mission Statement comes to life through prayer, worship, service, dialogue and academic excellence, ensuring students experience Catholic Social Teaching in action. Collective prayer unites our community in hope and compassion, while chaplaincy and diocesan links deepen their sense of belonging to the wider Church. Religious Education complements this lived faith, challenging students to think deeply, speak confidently and act with integrity.



These experiences form young people who are prayerful yet practical, reflective yet resilient, and grounded in faith while ready to engage with the modern world. Catholic life at Bishop Challoner is not an add-on; it is a transformative journey that nurtures hope, inspires service and prepares students to live out their faith with confidence and joy.



KS3 & KS4 CHAPLAINCY

Faith. Service. Leadership.

Students in Years 7–10 can play an active role in Chaplaincy, developing their faith, leadership skills and commitment to serving others. From prayer, liturgy and retreats to fundraising and community outreach, there are many ways to get involved.

Opportunities include:

- Serving the homeless at the Bramwell Centre Soup Kitchen
- Supporting Foodbank and clothing appeals for families in greater need
- Organising and participating in the SVP Summer Football Fundraiser
- Supporting CAFOD Family Fast Days and ACN Red Wednesday
- Working with Tolkien Primary Schools to develop Faith workshops to Year 5
- Creating and leading prayer resources for weekly mass and Faith days
- Supporting school Masses and liturgies
- Taking part in retreats, the Chaplaincy Commissioning Mass and spiritual development opportunities

Through Chaplaincy, students are encouraged to become positive role models and compassionate leaders who make a difference within our school and wider community.

"I really enjoyed doing the primary school visits for the Tolkien workshops – it was so much fun!"

KS3 Student

I love being a part of chaplaincy. I get to serve school Masses, pray everyday in the chapel, and go on trips that help build the faith."

KS4 Student



EXTRA CURRICULAR PROVISION

Discover. Develop. Achieve.

At Bishop Challoner, learning goes beyond the classroom. Our extensive extra-curricular programme gives every student the opportunity to discover new interests, develop their talents, build confidence and create lasting friendships.

With clubs and activities across Sport, Music, Drama, STEM, Creative Writing and Homework, there is something for everyone. Students can take part in regular clubs, competitions, fixtures and performances, as well as exciting opportunities such as Ball Crewing at the Lexus Birmingham Open Tennis Tournament and other international tennis events.

Our enrichment programme also includes a wide range of trips and experiences, from spiritual retreats and outdoor adventures to university, science and sporting visits.

Whether you want to perform, compete, create, explore or lead, our extra-curricular opportunities help students discover their potential and make the most of their time at Bishop Challoner.

There is something for everyone.

EXAMPLES OF EXTRA-CURRICULAR OFFER

 DAY	 ACTIVITY	 TIME
MONDAY	Breakfast Club	07:30 – 8:30
	Y9 & 10 Football	08:00 – 8:30
	Team Training	3:20 – 4:30
	Choir	3:20 – 4:10
	Study Session – BTEC Sport (wk1)	3:20 – 4:30
	Study Session – GCSE PE (wk2)	3:20 – 4:30
TUESDAY	Racket Sports	07:45 – 8:30
	Darts (Changing Rooms)	07:45 – 8:30
	Volleyball	3:20 – 4:30
	Chess Club	3:30 – 4:00
WEDNESDAY	Netball	07:45 – 8:30
	Girls Football	3:20 – 4:30
	Drama Club	3:20 – 4:00
	Cyber Girls	3:20 – 4:15
	Study Session – BTEC Sport (wk2)	3:20 – 4:30
	Study Session – Health & Social Care (wk2)	3:20 – 4:30
THURSDAY	Basketball	07:45 – 8:30
	Rugby	3:20 – 4:30
	Tech Innovators (Computing)	3:20 – 4:15
	Quiz Club (week 2) yr 9 & 10	3:30 – 4:00
	Study Session – Health & Social Care (wk1)	3:20 – 4:30
FRIDAY	Breakfast Club	07:30 – 8:30

KS3 SCIENCE CLUB *Explore. Experiment. Discover.*

KS3 Science Club gives students the opportunity to explore science beyond the classroom through fun, practical and hands-on activities. From exciting experiments and engineering challenges to STEM projects and investigations, students are encouraged to be curious, ask questions and apply their knowledge to real-world challenges.

Activities can include making slime and lava lamps, building rockets and electrical circuits, extracting DNA, creating water filters, forensic investigations and engineering challenges.

Students also have opportunities to take part in competitions, themed events and collaborative projects, developing valuable skills in teamwork, creativity, problem-solving, critical thinking and scientific investigation.

Science Club inspires curiosity, builds confidence and helps students discover a lifelong passion for science.

"I like Science Club because it's fun and practical. We've done lots of different challenges, and it's helped me become more confident when carrying out investigations."

Year 7 student

"Science Club has made me more interested in science. I enjoyed working with my friends to solve problems and learning about topics like space, engineering, and chemistry in a hands-on way."

Year 8 student



KS3 & KS4 CHESS CLUB

Think. Plan. Outsmart

Chess Club provides KS3 and KS4 students with a relaxed and welcoming environment to develop strategic thinking, concentration and problem-solving skills while enjoying the challenge of a game of chess.

Whether your child is new to chess or already an experienced player, they can play against friends, develop their skills and build confidence in a supportive setting. Students also have the opportunity to represent Bishop Challoner in inter-school competitions.

A great way to think creatively, challenge yourself and have fun along the way.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Lead. Serve. Inspire.

At Bishop Challoner, students have many opportunities to lead, contribute and make a positive difference across our school community. Through a range of leadership pathways, students develop confidence, responsibility and valuable skills that will support them beyond school.

All leadership opportunities are rooted in our **FAITHFUL** values, encouraging students to:

F – Show Faith
A – Demonstrate Aspiration
I – Lead with Integrity
T – Work Together
H – Show Humility
F – Be Fair
U – Show Understanding
L – Lead with Love

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Prefect Team

Year 11 students lead key areas of school life, supporting whole school events such as open evenings and act as positive role models.

School Council

Students have a genuine voice in shaping school life, with elected representatives discussing ideas and leading projects that create positive change in the school. They sit and discuss school life with the Principal and Senior Leaders.

Eco & Sports Reps

Students champion environmental action, physical activity, House competitions and sporting opportunities to improve the school environment, increase awareness on protecting our environment and to improve our health and wellbeing.

Peer Mentoring

Sixth Form students support Year 7 students settle into secondary school and provide encouragement and guidance, this includes Peer Reading groups.

Through leadership, students learn to serve others, embrace responsibility and live out our FAITHFUL values.

Sixth Form

sixth form students have the opportunity to apply for sports centre technicians and duty mangers, ECO workers, and IT Technicians where they are employed by the school.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS AND TRIPS

Experience, Explore, Learn

Our extensive programme of educational visits brings learning beyond the classroom, enriching students academically, spiritually and socially through real-world experiences. From sporting fixtures, Catholic retreats and competitions, visits to primary schools and community projects, to cultural experiences at museums, Bletchley Park, CERN and battlefields, our students are encouraged to broaden their horizons and develop leadership, compassion and global awareness. Adventure and challenge are central, with opportunities including Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, skiing, geography fieldwork and international sporting, cultural and leadership experiences across Europe, the USA, Australia and South Africa. Our Sixth Form students also have the opportunity to make a meaningful difference through international projects such as our Cambodia mission, supporting disadvantaged primary schools through teaching and community work. These experiences inspire curiosity, build confidence and resilience, and prepare our students to embrace the opportunities and challenges of the wider world.

EDUCATIONAL TRIPS EXEMPLAR ROAD MAP

Our educational trips Road Map is designed to help students and families discover the wide range of opportunities available beyond the classroom. From sport, music and the arts to clubs, leadership, enrichment and community activities, there is something for every student to explore. The road map provides a clear journey through the different year groups, helping students to build confidence, develop new skills, discover their passions and make lasting memories along the way. We encourage every student to get involved, try something new and make the most of all that school life has to offer.



KS3 FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT TRIP: VILLARREAL, SPAIN



TRAIN LIKE A PRO. PLAY LIKE A TEAM. COME HOME A BETTER FOOTBALLER.

Each year, Key Stage 3 students have the opportunity to take our Football Development Trip to one of Europe's leading football destinations. In 2024 we went to Villarreal, Spain, home of the famous "Yellow Submarine" and a renowned player-development academy.

Students take part in daily coaching sessions with qualified Spanish coaches, developing technical and tactical skills including close control, passing, movement and playing out from the back. They also test their skills in competitive fixtures against local Spanish teams, experiencing a different footballing culture.

The trip goes beyond football, with opportunities to tour the Estadio de la Cerámica, explore the local area and enjoy cultural and leisure activities. Travelling and competing together also helps students develop independence, confidence and strong friendships.



The trip is open to both boys and girls, with all students supported equally by our PE staff.

Students return as more confident, technically capable layers, with stronger teamwork, resilience and respect for others — values that sit at the heart of Bishop Challoner.



KS4 COMPUTING SAN FRANCISCO TRIP

The San Francisco International Trip offers KS4 students an exciting opportunity to experience the heart of technology, innovation and entrepreneurship while exploring one of the world's most iconic cities.

Students discover the world of Silicon Valley, with visits to leading technology environments including Stanford University, Googleplex, Apple Park Visitor Center and The Tech Interactive Museum. These experiences bring Computing and technology to life, helping students broaden their aspirations and explore future opportunities.

The trip also provides an unforgettable cultural experience, with highlights including:

- Exploring San Francisco by historic cable car
- Visiting Alcatraz Island and Pier 39
- Experiencing Fisherman's Wharf and Union Square
- Attending a San Francisco Giants baseball game at Oracle Park
- Enjoying a full day at Six Flags Discovery Kingdom
- Discovering the landmarks and innovation of Silicon Valley
- Experiencing American culture through a range of restaurants and local attractions

Beyond the itinerary, students develop independence, confidence, teamwork and cultural awareness, while gaining valuable experience of international travel.

An inspiring international adventure that connects classroom learning with the world of technology, business and innovation.



"This trip opened my eyes to what is possible in the world of technology. Visiting places like Silicon Valley and seeing companies such as Google and Apple made computing feel real and inspiring. It has motivated me to aim higher in my studies and think about future careers in tech."

KS4 Student

KS4 GEOGRAPHY ICELAND TRIP

Our Iceland expedition offers Year 10 and Year 11 students an unforgettable opportunity to bring Geography to life in one of the world's most fascinating natural environments.

Across four days, students explore Iceland's spectacular volcanoes, glaciers, waterfalls, geothermal areas and dramatic coastlines, developing their understanding of geographical processes through first-hand experiences and fieldwork.

Highlights include:

- Exploring the Reykjanes Peninsula and the Bridge Between Continents
- Experiencing the Blue Lagoon and Iceland's geothermal environment
- Visiting Seljalandsfoss, Skógafoss and Sólheimajökull Glacier
- Exploring Reynisfjara Black Sand Beach and the Lava Centre
- Discovering the Golden Circle, including Geysir, Gullfoss and Þingvellir National Park
- Learning about Icelandic farming and sustainability at Efstidalur Dairy Farm
- Whale watching and exploring the vibrant city of Reykjavík
- The opportunity to experience the Northern Lights, weather permitting

Throughout the expedition, students develop their understanding of plate tectonics, volcanic activity, glacial processes, climate change, coastal erosion, geothermal energy and sustainability, while also experiencing Icelandic culture and history.

An unforgettable educational adventure that takes learning beyond the classroom and turns geographical theory into real-world experience.

"Best trip in the school, a huge variety of exciting activities, couldn't have asked for better. The northern lights were beautiful and the glaciers were incredible to see up close and climb up. The trip taught me a lot about nature and the environment."



SPORT AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Belong. Believe. Achieve

At Bishop Challoner, we are proud to offer a rich and inclusive programme of PE and sport, giving every student opportunities to be active, challenge themselves and discover their strengths. Alongside a broad range of extra-curricular clubs, fixtures and competitions, students can take part in HAF programmes, Sports Day, leadership opportunities and a wide variety of sporting activities throughout the year. Whether developing skills, representing the school, supporting younger students or simply discovering a new passion, sport plays an important role in building confidence, teamwork, resilience and leadership. Our aim is to inspire every student to enjoy being active and develop a lifelong appreciation of sport and physical wellbeing.



PE EXTRA-CURRICULAR PROGRAMME

Participate. Develop. Thrive

Our PE extra-curricular programme provides a wide range of opportunities for students to stay active, discover new interests and develop their sporting abilities. With lunchtime and after-school clubs running throughout the academic year, there is something for every student, whatever their experience or ability.

The programme changes with the seasons, offering a balance of team sports, individual activities, fitness and recreational opportunities. Students can simply enjoy being active, develop their skills or progress towards representing Bishop Challoner in competitive fixtures.

Our facilities, including the sports hall, fitness suite and outdoor pitches, allow students to take part in a diverse programme alongside experienced PE staff and student sports leaders. Participation also supports students studying A Level PE and vocational Sport courses, while helping identify and develop talented students who may progress to district and county representation.

What's on offer

- Autumn: Football, netball, rugby, cross-country and fitness
- Spring: Basketball, badminton, table tennis, indoor training and fitness
- Summer: Athletics, cricket, rounders, tennis and outdoor games
- Year-round fitness and conditioning sessions
- Lunchtime and after-school clubs throughout the week
- Recreational activities alongside performance squads
- A clear pathway from club participation to school teams and competitive fixtures

Whether students want to compete, improve or simply enjoy being active, our programme gives everyone the opportunity to get involved and thrive.

HAF TRANSITION PROGRAMME

The HAF Transition Programme provides a supportive and exciting introduction to secondary school for students moving from Year 6 into Year 7. Taking place during the first week of the summer holidays, the programme helps students become familiar with Bishop Challoner, build friendships and develop confidence before starting in September.

Through a week of sport, team-building and activities, students explore the school site, meet PE and pastoral staff and get to know other students who will be joining them in Year 7.

What's on offer:

- A full week of transition-focused activities
- Familiarisation with the school site and sports facilities
- Multi-sport and team-building activities
- Opportunities to make new friends
- Early connections with PE and pastoral staff
- A hot meal each day
- Close partnership with feeder primary schools

A positive first step into secondary school, helping students arrive in September feeling confident, connected and ready to belong.

"I was nervous about starting here because it's so big. By the end of the week I knew where everything was and I'd already made friends, so the first day wasn't scary at all."

KS3 Student



HAF SUMMER AND WINTER PROGRAMMES

Bishop Challoner delivers free Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programmes for children eligible for benefits-related free school meals, providing a safe, welcoming and active environment during the school holidays.

Funded through Birmingham City Council, our summer and winter programmes combine sport, enrichment, healthy eating and a nutritious hot meal, giving children the opportunity to stay active, make friends and experience activities they may not otherwise access.

Led by our PE staff and trusted partner coaches, activities include football, basketball, dodgeball, athletics, team games, creative activities and fitness, using our sports hall, fitness suite and 3G and grass pitches.

We are committed to making the programme inclusive and accessible, with adapted sessions supporting SEND students and less confident participants.

What's on offer:

- Full-day summer camps and a winter camp
- Daily multi-sport and team activities
- Creative and enrichment sessions
- Healthy-eating education and a hot meal each day
- Inclusive provision for SEND and all abilities
- Use of high-quality sports facilities

"I didn't want to just sit at home all summer. Coming here meant I got to play loads of sport with my mates, and there was always a proper meal – it actually made the holidays good."

KS3 Student

"I came as a helper and ended up leading warm-ups for the younger ones. It's given me real experience for my coaching and my UCAS application."

KS5 Student

SPORTS DAY

Sports Day is a much-anticipated highlight of the school year, bringing students together to compete, represent their House and celebrate being active. Held across the summer term, with separate events for each key stage, there are opportunities for every student to take part, whatever their ability or experience.

Students can participate in sprints, distance races, relays, jumps, throws and team challenges, with every performance contributing to the House points total. Inclusive and adapted events ensure that all students can participate, build confidence and contribute to their House.

Sports Day also provides valuable leadership opportunities for KS4 and KS5 students, who officiate, marshal events, record results and support younger students.

A day of competition, teamwork and celebration that builds confidence, House spirit and a strong sense of belonging.



FIXTURES

Throughout the academic year, students have the opportunity to represent Bishop Challoner in competitive fixtures against other schools across a wide range of sports and age groups.

Our fixture programme brings together the skills developed through PE lessons, clubs and training, giving students the chance to compete, challenge themselves and experience the pride of representing their school. Fixtures also develop resilience, teamwork, sportsmanship and confidence, teaching students how to win with humility and respond positively to setbacks.

We compete in local leagues, cup competitions and School Games events, with opportunities for students across KS3, KS4 and KS5.

What's on offer:

- Autumn: Football, netball and rugby
- Spring: Basketball, badminton and indoor competitions
- Summer: Athletics, cricket, rounders and tennis
- Local leagues and cup competitions
- School Games qualifying events
- Teams across a wide range of age groups
- Opportunities to travel, compete and represent the school
- Results and team achievements celebrated across the school community

Every fixture is an opportunity to compete with pride, grow in confidence and be part of the Bishop Challoner team.

ENRICHMENT, COMPETITIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Discover. Challenge. Succeed

NATIONAL CYBERFIRST GIRLS COMPETITION

At Bishop Challoner, we are proud to give our students opportunities to discover and develop their talents beyond the classroom. Our Year 8 girls have reached the National CyberFirst Girls Competition finals for five consecutive years, with 23 students taking part this year. Recognised as national finalists by the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), our students have developed valuable skills in problem-solving, teamwork and confidence while exploring exciting opportunities in computing and technology.

Following their success, our students will become Computing Champions, sharing their knowledge through workshops for younger students and mentoring Year 7 students. Their achievement reflects our commitment to inspiring every young person to discover their potential, build their skills and aspire to be more.



FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

YEAR 10 MUNICH TRIP

At Bishop Challoner, we believe learning extends far beyond the classroom. Our planned Year 10 trip to Munich, Germany, in July will give students the opportunity to explore a new culture, broaden their horizons and create lasting memories. By planning well in advance, we aim to make this exciting experience accessible and affordable for families, with the option to spread the cost through manageable instalments.

PRIMARY GIRLS COMPUTING WORKSHOPS

At Bishop Challoner, we are passionate about inspiring the next generation of girls to explore the exciting world of computing and technology. Working in partnership with local primary schools, our CyberFirst Girls Champions will lead engaging Year 5 workshops in robotics, virtual reality, drones, cyber security and coding, giving younger students the opportunity to learn from inspiring female role models. This initiative builds confidence, challenges stereotypes and encourages girls to see themselves as future leaders in technology.

STEM

Think. Create. Solve

THE BIG BANG FAIR

At Bishop Challoner, we inspire students to explore the exciting possibilities of STEM beyond the classroom. Students have the opportunity to attend The Big Bang Fair at the NEC, where they engage with leading organisations, universities and employers through interactive exhibits, hands-on activities and career-focused workshops. These experiences broaden horizons, build confidence and inspire students to consider future pathways in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, while developing valuable skills in resilience, creativity, communication and problem-solving.

STEM FAIR

Each summer term, we welcome Year 5 students from our eleven primary feeder schools to our STEM Fair at Bishop. Key Stage 3 STEM leaders mentor younger students as they take on a range of exciting practical challenges.

The event develops leadership, confidence, communication and teamwork, while inspiring students to explore STEM, embrace challenges and develop problem-solving skills. It also gives our primary students an exciting introduction to life at Bishop.

LICKEY HILLS

Each year, our Year 7 students take part in a STEM in the Outdoors activity day at Lickey Hills Country Park. Through activities including soil sampling, map reading and designing and testing aerodynamic prototypes, students apply their learning in a real-world environment.

The experience develops STEM knowledge alongside leadership, teamwork,



MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE

Experience. Create. Perform.

At Bishop Challoner, music is an experience that extends far beyond the classroom. Students have opportunities to experience world-class performances, develop their own musical talents and perform at significant events within our local community.

EXPERIENCE WORLD-CLASS MUSIC

Our Year 7 students have the opportunity to visit Symphony Hall to experience performances by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. These concerts introduce students to a wide range of orchestral music, from classical favourites such as Swan Lake to much-loved film themes including Star Wars, Harry Potter and Pirates of the Caribbean. Hearing a live orchestra brings the music students study in the classroom to life and gives them an unforgettable experience of the power of live performance

DEVELOP YOUR MUSICAL TALENT

Students can access individual instrumental tuition in school, with specialist teachers supporting them to develop their skills, prepare for instrumental examinations and perform with confidence. Tuition is available across a wide range of instruments, including piano, guitar, brass, woodwind, strings, drums, recorder and steel pan.

PERFORM AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Our students are also given opportunities to use their musical talents to make a difference. Following the 50th anniversary of the Birmingham pub bombings, students from across the school worked with musicians and the BBC to create A Song of Hope. They developed the lyrics, melody and instrumentation before performing the song at a prestigious commemorative event in Birmingham city centre.

These experiences help students develop creativity, confidence, teamwork and resilience, while creating memories and opportunities that stay with them long beyond their time in the classroom.



CELEBRATING OUR CULTURE

Discover. Celebrate. Belong.

At Bishop Challoner, our diverse community is something we are proud to celebrate. Our annual Culture Day transforms the school into a vibrant journey around the world, giving students the opportunity to discover, share and celebrate different cultures and traditions.

Students and staff bring the school to life through cultural displays, traditional dress, music, dance and performances, creating a colourful celebration of the many backgrounds represented within our community.

From an international fashion show to our BC's Got Talent showcase, students have the opportunity to perform, express themselves and share their heritage with others. The day celebrates everything from African dance and Bollywood to traditional music and songs from around the world.

More than a celebration, Culture Day strengthens our sense of respect, inclusion and belonging. Students learn from one another, celebrate what makes us different and recognise the shared values that bring us together as one Bishop Challoner community.



ART BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Imagine. Create. Express

At Bishop Challoner, students are encouraged to explore art beyond the classroom through exciting projects, specialist workshops, exhibitions, trips and opportunities to work with professional artists

Students work with partners such as the Barber Institute to explore poetry, collage, mark making and collaborative art, developing new techniques and creative ways to respond to artworks. Our students also work with the School of Jewellery, designing and creating unique pieces inspired by issues affecting young people today.



Throughout the year, students can also take part in:

- South Area Network Annual Exhibition – showcasing student artwork alongside work from other schools.
- London Gallery Trips – experiencing leading galleries and exhibitions first-hand.
- Artist Workshops – working with visiting artists and exploring a range of media and techniques.
- Christmas Card and Art Competitions – opportunities to develop ideas, enter competitions and see students' creativity celebrated.
- Hi-Vis Graffiti Festival – seeing student artwork transformed into large-scale public art by professional graffiti artists.

These experiences help students develop their creative voice, artistic skills and confidence, while inspiring them to discover where art can take them beyond school.



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Discover. Develop. Thrive.

At Bishop Challoner, our Personal Development Days provide dedicated opportunities for students to develop the knowledge, skills, character and confidence they need to flourish both within school and beyond.

Throughout the year, students will engage in a carefully planned programme that complements their academic curriculum and our Standards for Learning Curriculum and Faithful Virtues. The days give us the opportunity to explore important aspects of personal development in greater depth and to respond to the changing needs of our young people.

Our programme includes key areas such as:

- Relationships, RSE and health education
- Mental and emotional wellbeing
- Online safety and responsible digital citizenship
- Financial education and preparing for life beyond school
- Careers, employability and future pathways
- Citizenship and understanding our responsibilities to others
- Safeguarding and personal safety
- Character development and our Faithful Virtues
- Healthy choices and positive lifestyles
- Preparation for life beyond Bishop Challoner

The days are designed to be interactive and purposeful, giving students opportunities to discuss, reflect, challenge ideas, practise decision-making and develop practical skills. Where appropriate, we also work with specialist visitors and organisations to bring particular areas of learning to life.

DEVELOPING CHARACTER ALONGSIDE KNOWLEDGE

A key feature of our Personal Development Days is the connection between what students learn and who they are becoming.

Students are encouraged to consider how our Faithful Virtues can guide their choices and relationships. Whether they are thinking about financial decisions, relationships, their future career or their responsibilities within society, we want them to develop the confidence to make thoughtful, informed and responsible choices.

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE FUTURE

Our aim is that students leave each Personal Development Day with something they can understand, use or put into practice.

Personal Development is not an additional subject that sits separately from school life. It is part of our commitment to developing the whole person — academically, spiritually, socially, emotionally and personally.

Through our Personal Development programme, we want every student to develop the knowledge, skills and character to flourish as a young person and contribute positively to the world around them.



SIXTH FORM SERVICE TO OTHERS

Lead. Serve. Empower



Enrichment

Our Sixth Form offers a rich and varied enrichment programme designed to broaden horizons and develop student experience. From fantastic leadership opportunities and community service, to sport, creative arts, and academic societies, students are encouraged to pursue their passions and try new experiences. Enrichment supports personal growth, builds confidence, and equips students with the skills and character needed for success at university, in the workplace, and beyond.

SERVICE TO OTHERS

Service is at the heart of our Sixth Form, and students are encouraged to put their faith and values into action through a wide range of charitable and community initiatives. From organising a Senior Tea Party and supporting at a local dementia café, to fundraising for St Chad's Sanctuary and taking part in the Rudolf Run for Birmingham Hospice, our students give generously of their time and talents. These experiences foster compassion, responsibility, and a deep sense of social justice, helping our young people to make a real difference in the lives of others.



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is one of our most popular enrichment opportunities, with students in KS4 able to take part in the Bronze Award before progressing to Silver in the Sixth Form. The programme challenges students to develop resilience, independence and confidence through volunteering, learning new skills, physical activity and completing expeditions. These experiences build character, develop valuable life skills and provide meaningful experiences that strengthen university and future career applications. Many of our Sixth Form students go on to achieve the Silver Award, helping them stand out as well-rounded and committed young adults.



EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

The Extended Project Qualification allows students to explore a topic of their choice in depth, developing independence, critical thinking, and research skills highly valued by universities and employers. Whether writing a dissertation, producing an artefact, or conducting an investigation, students gain the confidence to manage a substantial project from start to finish. Many Sixth Formers find that the EPQ not only enhances their academic profile but also provides an excellent focus for university applications and interviews.



CHALLENGES ABROAD

Explore. Serve. Inspire.

Students in Year 12 have the opportunity to apply for this unique international enrichment experience and join the International Student Committee.

Challenges Abroad combines overseas travel, volunteering and leadership, with opportunities to support communities and projects focused on areas such as education, community development, climate action, wildlife and health. Previous Bishop Challoner students have travelled to Cambodia and Peru, creating unforgettable memories and developing skills that will support their future.

"Thank you for the life changing and amazing opportunity of going to Peru.

We will never forget the memories made, the friendships gained and the skills learned."

"A once in a lifetime experience that I am proud to have been part of."



Students can:

- Join the International Student Committee
- Apply for a subsidised overseas trip
- Take part in community development initiatives
- Develop leadership, teamwork and independence
- Explore the importance of global citizenship
- Reflect on their role in creating a positive future

An opportunity to step beyond the familiar, make a difference and develop the skills, confidence and global perspective to thrive in the future.

CAREERS AND ASPIRATIONS

Dream. Believe. Achieve

Vision Statement

All students will develop their full potential and become effective managers of their own career development, make well informed decisions and be career ready for a rapidly evolving labour market.

Contact: Miss Darby

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Milestones and Learning Outcomes

Year 13

Consolidate Post 18 plans and make competitive applications.

Year 12

Explore and prepare for Post 18 pathways. Understanding how to stand out.

Year 11

Learners use their knowledge of themselves, careers and pathways to make well informed and appropriate choices about their futures.

Year 10

Learners focus on employability to prepare for and experience the work of work

Year 9

Learners consider their Post 16 options and begin their planning for their future

Year 8

Learners explore all possible pathways and recognize and develop skills.

Year 7

Learners become more careers aware and begin reflective journey of self discovery,

Key Events and Experiences

Year 13

Apprenticeship talks and workshops
University talks
Application workshops
UCAS support
One-to-one guidance meetings

Year 12

University open day visit
Mock assessment day
Beyond 18 workshops
Work experience
UCAS workshops
Form time careers programme

Year 11

KS5 Insight event
One-to-one guidance meetings
Alumni assembly
Careers talks
Group work sessions
Linking Post 16 choices to careers

Year 10

CV and application form sessions
Mock interviews
Careers Fair
Work Experience programme
Industry day
University of Birmingham Insight day

Year 9

Careers Fair
KS4 Insight event
Pathways assemblies
PSHE lessons: careers focused
Unifrog workshops
Careers talks

Year 8

Guess my job careers event
PSHE Careers focused lessons
Form time programme
Unifrog workshops
Careers talks
Alumni assembly

Year 7

Form time programme
PSHE careers focussed lessons
Unifrog launch
Careers talks
Alumni assembly

CAREERS AT BISHOP CHALLONER

At Bishop Challoner, we are committed to helping every student discover their strengths, explore their ambitions and make confident decisions about their future. Our careers programme begins in Year 7 and develops progressively through to Year 13, providing students with meaningful experiences, expert guidance and opportunities to connect their learning with the world beyond school.

WHAT WE OFFER

PERSONALISED CAREERS GUIDANCE

One-to-one meetings with our qualified Careers Adviser help students explore their interests, strengths and future pathways.

CAREERS TALKS & EMPLOYER ENCOUNTERS

Students meet employers and professionals from a range of industries, gaining real-world insight into different careers and progression routes.

UNIVERSITY & APPRENTICESHIP VISITS

Visits and open days help students explore higher education, apprenticeships and a wide range of future opportunities.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Students gain first-hand experience of the workplace in Years 10 and 12, developing confidence, independence and employability skills.

CAREERS EVENTS & FAIRS

Careers fairs, industry days, mock interviews and interactive events broaden horizons and raise aspirations.

ALUMNI INSPIRATION

Former students return to share their experiences, providing relatable role models and demonstrating the possibilities beyond Bishop.

INSIGHT & PATHWAY EVENTS

Students receive guidance at key decision points, helping them make informed choices about subjects, qualifications and future pathways.

UNIFROG

From Years 7–13, students use Unifrog to explore careers, identify their strengths and interests, and research university, apprenticeship and employment opportunities.

PSHE & CAREERS EDUCATION

Careers-focused lessons develop self-awareness, employability skills and an understanding of the opportunities available after school.

APPLICATION & INTERVIEW SUPPORT

Students receive practical guidance with applications, CVs, personal statements and interview preparation, building confidence for their next steps.

Our aim is simple: to ensure every student leaves Bishop Challoner with the knowledge, skills, confidence and ambition to take their next step successfully.



