



BEECHEN CLIFF SIXTH FORM

A vibrant, academic mixed Sixth Form

NEW STUDENT'S GUIDE &
WELCOME PACK

2026 - 2027



Aspiration ♦ Compassion ♦ Independence ♦ Respect



Welcome

Welcome to Beechen Cliff Sixth Form from Miss Mather, Head of Sixth Form

Whether you leave Beechen Cliff after seven years or two, our vision is that you leave us happy, healthy, able to thrive as an individual and ready to make a positive contribution to society.

We are a large Sixth Form where you will be expected to work hard both independently and in lessons, and take as many opportunities as you can, but while also enjoying yourself and forming lasting bonds of friendship.

Everything that we do in the Sixth Form (and wider school) works towards our four **Core Values**:



Aspiration



Compassion



Independence



Respect



Through the tutoring and teaching you receive, the extra-curricular and super-curricular experiences you take up and opportunities you create for yourself, we want you to develop as an individual and as part of our community.

Beechen Cliff is a place where you will feel that you belong, but it will also belong to you; it is ultimately your school and it is you, the students, who will help define these next two years for all.

I look forward to getting to know you, your best hopes, aspirations and individual stories.



Contact Us

Sixth Form Leadership Team: please contact via the PA
Miss K Mather, **Head of Sixth Form**
Ms P Netto, **Deputy Head of Sixth Form**

Head of Sixth PA: Mrs M Watts
01225 480466 - Option 3

Attendance Officer: Mrs A Jones
01225 480466 - Option 2
(All absences must be reported by a parent/carer)

Pastoral Team: Mrs L Price (Year 12) and Mrs M Watts (Year 13)

Sixth Form Admissions Officer: Mrs J Hulett
01225 480466 - Option 3

Career Guidance and Development: Miss J Daniels

SEND Team: Mrs J Blair, SEND Lead and Mrs K Gallagher, Sixth Form SEND Lead Teacher

UCAS Coordinator: Miss N Blaskiewicz

Exams Officer: Mrs J Cotterell



Term Dates 26-27

TERM 1	
Thursday 3 September	INSET DAY
Friday 4 September	INSET DAY
Monday 7 September	Start of Term 1 (Week A)
Wednesday 21 October	End of Term 1
Thursday 22 October	INSET DAY
Friday 23 October	INSET DAY
TERM 2	
Monday 2 November	Start of Term 2 (Week B)
Wednesday 25 November	INSET DAY
Friday 18 December	End of Term 2
TERM 3	
Monday 4 January 2027	INSET DAY
Tuesday 5 January	Start of Term 3 (Week A)
Friday 12 February	End of Term 3
TERM 4	
Monday 22 February	Start of Term 4 (Week A)
Thursday 25 March	End of Term 4
TERM 5	
Monday 12 April	Start of Term 5 (Week B)
Friday 28 May	End of Term 5
TERM 6	
Monday 7 June	Start of Term 6 (Week A)
Friday 23 July	End of Term 6



Routine

Through the tutoring and teaching you receive, the Extra-curricular and Super-curricular experiences you take up and opportunities you create for yourself, we want you to develop as an individual and as part of our community.

TUTOR & ASSEMBLY			
Day	Time	Activity	Location
Monday	8.25am	Assembly	Main Hall
Tuesday	No tutor or assembly		
Wednesday	8.30am	Tutor Time	Tutor Room
Thursday	8.30am	Tutor Time	Tutor Room
Friday	No tutor or assembly - intervention groups only		

LESSONS	
Time	Activity
8.30am	Registration
9.00am - 10.00am	Period 1
10.00am - 11.00am	Period 2
11.05am - 11.30am	Break
11.30am - 12.30pm	Period 3
12.30pm - 1.30pm	Period 4
1.30pm - 2.15pm	Lunch
2.15pm - 3.15pm	Period 5

Sixth Form Games takes place from 2.15pm on Thursdays, although many extra-curricular activities run throughout the week at lunchtime or after school. Games Lessons are non-compulsory but encouraged.



Tutor & Pastoral

At Beechen Cliff, the pastoral care extended throughout the school is very important to us. Relationships between students and staff are strong, and a caring, friendly atmosphere pervades. Year 12 students are assigned a Sixth Form tutor, the contact details for whom can be found below. Sixth Form tutors should be the first point of contact for pastoral issues or wider academic queries. **Mrs Price and Mrs Watts** are the **Sixth Form Pastoral Managers** and are based in the Sixth Form Office, and of course, **Miss Mather, Head of Sixth Form** and **Ms Netto, Deputy Head of Sixth Form** are also available to students and parents at any time. We are also lucky enough to have a **KS5 Lead Teacher for SEND, Mrs Gallagher** who will support students on our SEND register.

HOUSE & GROUP	TUTOR(s)
BYRON A	Mrs K Gallagher
BYRON B	Ms P Netto
KIPLING A	Miss R Sampson
KIPLING B	Ms L Jarvis and Mrs R Thorn
MILTON A	Miss N Blaskiewicz
MILTON B	Mrs B Pretorius
SHAKESPEARE A	Mr A Hall
SHAKESPEARE B	Mr W Saunders



Tutor Schedule

Tutors will provide guidance and monitor progress in the following areas:

Academic Achievement

- Providing support and mentoring for students with their studies
- Targeting and reviews after each report

Sixth Form Standards

- Dress Code
- Attendance and punctuality
- Personal organisation

Pastoral Support

- Checking in with students regularly to ensure good mental and physical health
- Providing advice for students on all areas of Sixth Form life
- Providing a contact point for parents to talk to the school

Belonging to the House, Sixth Form and School

- Getting to know fellow Sixth Formers and Lower School pupils
- Representing the House, Sixth Form and School
- Participating in Sixth Form events

Careers

- Planning for destinations after leaving school
- University (UCAS), apprenticeship and job applications
- Careers Information and guidance

Extra-Curricular and Super-Curricular Opportunities

- Making the most of sport, art, music, drama, outdoor and other opportunities
- Stretching beyond the A Level Curriculum
- Advertising events in school and externally



Subject Information

We have a wide variety of subjects available to study in Sixth Form. To find out more information about each subject, please follow the links below to our Curriculum pages on the school website. There will be information about textbooks, course overviews and assessments.

- [Art](#)
- [Biology](#)
- [Business Studies](#)
- [Chemistry](#)
- [Classical Civilisation](#)
- [Computer Science](#)
- [Core Maths](#)
- [Economics](#)
- [English Literature](#)
- [EPQ](#)
- [French](#)
- [Further Maths](#)
- [Geography](#)
- [German](#)
- [History](#)
- [Law](#)
- [Level 3 Sport](#)
- [Mathematics](#)
- [Music](#)
- [Music Technology](#)
- [Photography](#)
- [Physical Education](#)
- [Physics](#)
- [Politics](#)
- [Product Design](#)
- [Psychology](#)
- [Religion, Philosophy & Ethics](#)
- [Spanish](#)



Equipment

Please see below a list of equipment students are expected to bring to school:

- **Folders:** students are expected to bring into school their 'day folders' into school every day. You will be provided with essentials booklets, key documents and advice on how to file your work. We will also provide a large A4 lever arch folder for each student.
- **Basic stationery**, i.e. pencil case with pens, highlighters, etc.
- A4 lined **notepads**.
- **Specialist equipment**, i.e. calculators, compasses, art supplies, etc.
- You are encouraged to use a **planner**.
- You may find it useful to bring a **laptop** into school but we also have some chromebooks available for students to borrow during the school day.

Some subjects may recommend that you purchase textbooks and revision guides. More information will be provided to you by your individual teachers. You will also have access to spare textbooks and revision guides in the Independent Study Room located in the Sixth Form block.

Please check the Google Classrooms for your individual subjects every day for homework and notices from your teachers.

If you are eligible for the 16-19 Bursary Fund, please speak to Mrs Watts in the Sixth Form office about how to order stationery essentials or loan a chromebook using your Fund.





Code of Conduct

Our vision is to enable our students to achieve their aspirations and become well-rounded, confident and compassionate individuals who go on to live fulfilled lives and make a positive contribution to society. As a student at Beechen Cliff, you will be expected to meet the minimum expectations as set out in the [Code of Conduct](#) and [Home School Agreement](#). Please read these documents carefully.

Computers, Email and Mobile Phones

Students can use their own laptops in all classrooms, study areas and the Sixth Form Centre as these are WiFi enabled. In addition, there are a limited number of fixed computers in both the Library and Independent Study Area and chromebooks are also available to borrow throughout the school day. Staff may confiscate phones if they are not being used appropriately and held in the Sixth Form office until the end of the school day.

Email

All students who are new to the school will receive a school email login in September. Students should aim to check their school emails regularly throughout the school day as this is the main way teachers and school staff will communicate with you.

Mobile Phones

We expect Sixth Form students to be respectful with their use of mobile phones. Students in the rest of the school are not permitted to use their phones during the school day. We ask that Sixth Form students restrict their mobile phone use to the dedicated Sixth Form areas only. We expect all Sixth Form students to keep their mobile phones on silent and in their bags during lessons, as per our [Standards Policy](#).

Changing a Subject

Students who decide to change their subject choices may do so **during the first Term of Year 12** (subject to availability). They will need to submit an ‘**A Level Course Change Request**’ form to Miss Mather. This Form must be signed by the relevant Head of Subject and parents before a new timetable will be issued. Forms are available from the Sixth Form Office. We do not permit course changes after this point unless there are exceptional circumstances due to the significant pressure it places on students to catch up.



Assessments

Throughout the year there are reports and parents’ evenings when teachers provide feedback on academic progress. the provisional dates for these are:

Year 12

- Year 12 Progress Reports – November 2026 and January 2027
- Year 12 Winter Assessment Week – January 2027
- Year 12 Parents’ Evening – Thursday 22nd April 2027
- Year 12 End of Year Exams – June 2027
- Year 12 Full Reports – June/July 2027

Year 13

- Year 13 Progress Reports – October 2027
- Year 13 Parents’ Evening – tbc
- Year 13 Mock Exam Week 1 – November/December 2027
- Year 13 Mock Exam Week 2 – March 2028
- Year 13 Mock Exam Results – January and March 2028
- Year 13 Full Reports – April 2028
- Year 13 Examinations – May 2028 onwards

Reports will be available electronically on the school ‘Arbor’ system. For those new to Beechen Cliff, access arrangements and logins will be provided in September. Please consult the [school website](#) at the start of Term when actual dates will be confirmed. If you need a new ‘Arbor’ login or forget your details, please contact the school.



Attendance

Planned Absence

Parents/Carers must contact the Attendance Officer by phone or email to report an absence from school, for any reason.
If you need to be absent for part of the school day due to an appointment, parents/carers must contact the Attendance Officer.

If you need to request an absence from school for more than one day, that isn't sickness/medical related, your parent/carer must complete a [Student Absence Request Form](#) which is available on the school website.

Holiday and Work Experience

All holidays should be booked during the school holidays (please refer to the Term Dates). There is a designated Work Experience week during the last week of the term in July and students should aim to have their placement during this time, however Work Experience requests will be considered by the Head of Sixth Form during other times of the year also.

Illness

Parents/Carers must contact the Attendance Officer by telephone or email to report an absence due to illness or any other unforeseen circumstances.

Part-time Employment

Students should **not** commit to any employment during the hours of the school day.

Driving Lessons

Students are not permitted to take time off school for driving lessons. Only driving tests will be authorised.

If you would like to discuss a planned absence, please contact the Attendance Officer, Mrs Jones on **01225 480466 - Option 2** or sixthattendance@beechencliff.mnsp.org.uk.



Intervention

The purpose of the Student Monitoring Report system is to allow students sufficient support and intervention in order to improve their conduct and attainment with clear actions and outcomes.

Stage	Overview	Criteria	Action
1	Cause for Concern	Multiple separate concerns logged	Stage 1 communication to parent/carer outlining concerns. Verbal warning and conversation with the student by their tutor.
2	Ongoing Concern (or significant first concern)	No improvement in conduct	Stage 2 communication to parent/carer. Report card for 2 weeks ('extended timetable' - free periods in ISR*) before review by Head of Sixth Form
3	Serious Concern	No improvement in conduct	Stage 3 communication to parent/carer. Report card for a term ('extended timetable' - free periods in ISR and/or additional lessons). Parent review meeting
4	Final Warning	No improvement in conduct	Final warning communicated to parent/carer. Indefinite 'extended timetable' - free periods in ISR with accompanying report card. Parent review meeting (termly) Withdrawal of opportunities, e.g. prom, sports teams, school trips.
Exam entries and/or Sixth Form place withdrawn			

**Independent Study Room*



Dress Code

Sixth Form students are required to dress smartly and have a duty to set a good example to pupils in the lower school. A good test for 'smartness' is for students to ask themselves whether they would wear their choice of clothes to a job interview.

Students must wear **formal office attire** and a visible **lanyard around the neck**. This means:

- A two or three-piece suit
- Smart trousers, dress or skirt

The above items must be accompanied by: a smart shirt/blouse, tucked in

- A jumper (without large branding or logos), quarter-zip or cardigan
- If skirt or dresses are above the knee, black opaque tights must be worn
- Boys are expected to wear a tie (girls are also welcome to do so)
- Shoes should be smart black or brown leather or leather-style material

Therefore, the following items are not permitted:

- Corduroy, leather, denim, cargo or jean-style trousers or jackets
- Shorts
- Leggings
- Vest tops, strappy tops, sheer tops or crop tops
- Hoodies or sweatshirts
- Trainers, Uggs or Ugg-style boots/shoes or Converse-style shoes

Extreme hairstyles or hair colours are not permitted

All decisions relating to dress code ultimately lie with the Head of Sixth Form.



Sports Kit

Beechen Cliff branded sports kit is available to purchase from [**Kukri Sports**](#). If students have a practical sport lesson or fixture that day, students may wear Beechen Cliff kit (no other commercial sports brands). Changing rooms are available for kit change prior to and after a sporting fixture or training session. Students should **not** wear sports kit (including Beechen Cliff branded kit) at any other time.



If students are not dressed appropriately, parents will be notified via the Arbor Parent App, and this will contribute towards a general picture of their standards and behaviour, as outlined in the Sixth Form Code of Conduct Policy.



Mental Health

At Beechen Cliff we recognise the importance of good mental health and wellbeing, without it you are unlikely to achieve your aspirations. We are also acutely aware of the stigma that there is when it comes to talking about mental health. Our aim therefore, is to ensure that everybody is comfortable asking for help and understands how to support good mental health.

Whole School Strategy

We follow a whole school approach to mental health and wellbeing at Beechen Cliff, which is centred around the Solution Focused Approach. This strategy demonstrates our commitment to increasing awareness and understanding of good mental health and wellbeing, and supporting all members of our school community.

Boys in Mind (Girls Mind Too)

Beechen Cliff are extremely proud to collaborate with and be a lead school with local charity and suicide prevention strategic alliance, **Boys in Mind (Girls Mind Too)**. Some of our students, past and present have become Youth Advisors.

Solution Focused Counselling

We are also very proud to be able to offer all of our students free in-house Solution Focused Counselling with accredited school counsellors. If you think you may benefit from having counselling, please contact your **Year 12 Pastoral Manager, Mrs Price** who can talk you through what the SF approach involves and how it can benefit you.

Please also look out for students and staff around the school who are wearing green coloured lanyards which means they have been trained in holding Solution Focused conversations so can support you if you require immediate assistance.

If you are interested in becoming trained in the Solution Focused approach and/or joining the Sixth Form Mental Health team, please contact **Ms Netto**.



PSHE

During the two years in the Sixth Form, students participate in a diverse PSHE curriculum through fortnightly lessons along with assemblies and speakers. The PSHE programme is designed to promote self-esteem and emotional wellbeing, to help the formation and maintenance of positive relationships and to encourage healthy, informed and safer lifestyles.

Subjects covered include:

- Mental Health Awareness
- Drugs
- Alcohol Abuse
- Meningitis Awareness
- Teenage Cancer Awareness
- Managing stress during exams
- Leadership
- Self Confidence
- Healthy Relationships (including LGBTQ+)
- PREVENT Duty
- eSafety
- STIs, Freshers' Flu and other common health issues at University
- Finance
- Water Safety
- Religious Education





Careers

Choosing a University course, apprenticeship or career is a very exciting part of being in the Sixth Form but involves important decisions that require a lot of careful thought and planning. The aims of the Post-18 destinations programme are to:

- **Inspire and educate students to be aspirational about their future**
- **Help students understand their choices when they leave the Sixth Form**
- **Explain the steps students need to take to realise their aspirations**

Over the course of the two years, all school leaving options are explored, including university, college, apprenticeships and employment opportunities. Whilst some 80% of our Year 13 students go straight to university, we know others will prefer a different route and we will ensure they are well supported with their transition.

Headline Events

Across the two years of Sixth Form, we have a number of headline events to look forward to:

- **University Information Morning**
- **UCAS Exhibition Trip**
- **Careers Ignite Day**
- **Oxbridge & Medicine Mock Interview Morning and Conference**

Work Experience

All Year 12 students are strongly encouraged to undertake work experience. Research shows that only 5% of employers consider themselves 'very likely' to employ a graduate with no work experience and it is an important part of developing students' independence and maturity.

If you would like advice, please email our Careers Coordinator, Miss Daniels who will book you an appointment with the Careers Adviser:

careers@beechencliff.mnsp.org.uk.



Key Dates

Key Milestones for University Applicants

January - April (Year 12)

- Research universities, courses and graduate careers and book University open days
- CV creation, interview practice, research and apply for apprenticeships/full-time employment
- UCAS information evening for parents/carers

June - July (Year 12)

- Draft personal statements, attend university open days, complete the initial sections of UCAS application

September - October (Year 13)

- Finalise personal statements, complete applications and submit to school
- Deadline for Oxbridge & Medicine applications (October) with an internal deadline of September for submission to school

November - December (Year 13)

- References added by school and completed applications sent to UCAS by school

Once students hoping to attend university have submitted their application and begin to receive offers, there is a programme of advice and guidance covering student finance, student accommodation and selecting their final two university choices. This support carries on into the summer when students receive their A Level results and take up their places.

If you would like specific advice about university applications, please email our **UCAS Coordinator, [Miss Blaskiewicz](#)**.



Oxbridge & Medicine

The Sixth Form has a strong track record of sending students to Oxford and Cambridge and into all branches of medicine. All those who show the academic potential and interest are provided opportunities and support to prepare them for an application and interview. Many current Beechen Cliff students will have already benefited from visiting the universities or attending talks by Oxbridge/Medicine staff and Alumni by the time they reach the Sixth Form and new students to the school are quickly brought up to speed.

Students are given access to a broad range of experiences to develop their understanding of the institutions and courses and how to apply. These include:

- A visit to Oxford University
- Oxbridge/Medicine Alumni links
- BANES Oxbridge Conference in association with other local schools
- Oxbridge/Medicine Admissions Staff visits
- Specific Oxbridge/Medicine personal statement guidance
- Interview skills and Mock Interview morning
- UCAT guidance
- MMI Medicine Interview Workshop
- Bath Hub Healthcare Conference

Successful Oxbridge & Medicine applicants include:

- Architecture at Cambridge
 - Law at Cambridge
 - Geography at Oxford
 - Maths at Oxford
 - History of Art at Oxford
 - Medicine at Bristol
 - Medicine at St Andrews
 - Medicine at Sheffield
 - Veterinary Medicine at the Royal Veterinary College
- and many more



MedSoc

MedSoc enables our aspiring medics to learn from each other year on year, building and passing on experience of work placements, interviews and exam techniques ensuring that all applicants are as prepared as possible.

As well as providing practical help, students can support each other through what could be a stressful process. Working with the Head of Sixth Form, MedSoc students explore key characteristics essential in a medicine application such as communication skills, ethical discussions and starting their own medical research with each other. We also have strong connections with the RUH, a fantastic group of mock interviewers from the local community an active alumni network.





Physical Activity

A big part of success at Beechen Cliff is becoming a balanced individual who can manage their own time to meet their academic demands whilst maintaining other interests. Extra Curricular activities can also help to develop teamwork and leadership skills that are transferable and widely sought by both universities and employers. To help students make the most of their time at Beechen Cliff, there are a wide range of Extra Curricular activities on offer in which we encourage students to take as active a role as possible.

Sports you can participate in:

- Badminton
- Football
- Hockey
- Netball
- Rowing
- Rugby
- Strength & Conditioning
- Tennis

Outdoor Education activities:

- Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Ten Tors
- Three Peaks Challenge
- Coast to Coast Cycle Challenge
- Centurion Charity Walk



Extra Curricular

Student Leadership

The Student Leadership Team is made up of members of Year 13 and comprises the Head Students, their deputies and a group of Senior Prefects. Their purpose is to lead the school, promoting particular causes or organise events, embodying Beechen Cliff's Core Values and acting as role models for the student body.

We encourage all students to apply for these positions, as well as to form new clubs or groups within Sixth Form in subjects or areas they feel passionate about to develop their repertoire of skills and to inspire and mentor lower school students.

Clubs and Activities:

- ACE Rugby Programme
- Bands Night
- Beechen's Got Talent
- Bar Mock Trial Competition
- Bath Student Parliament
- Bath Theatre School
- Bee Keeping
- Charity Events
- Christian Union
- Debating Club
- Eco-Team
- Equalities Team
- First Aid
- Geology Competition
- Mental Health Ambassadors
- Model United Nations
- Oxbridge Club
- Peer Mentoring
- Reading Buddies
- Warhammer Club





16-19 Bursary Fund

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is available to students who need assistance with the costs associated with studying in Sixth Form.

There are two types of Bursary Fund available:

Discretionary Bursary

Eligibility is based on your annual household income (£29,000 or lower) and/or eligibility for Free School Meals. The Trust Director of Sixth Form also has the ability to use their discretion to award Bursary Funds in the case of exceptional circumstances.

Vulnerable Bursary

Eligibility is based on your personal circumstances, e.g. if you are in or recently left Local Authority care; if you get your own income support, Universal Credit, Personal Independent Payment (PiP) or Disability Allowance.

All students, irrespective of their eligibility, must apply for the Bursary Fund via [Applicaa](#).

The Bursary Fund can be used to pay for things like:

- School uniform and PE kit (required uniform only)
- Revision guides and Text Books
- Travel to school (bus or train pass)
- Stationery and school equipment (required equipment only)
- School trips (curriculum trips only) and travel to university open days and interviews
- UCAS application fees
- Duke of Edinburgh Award and Ten Tors
- Chromebook Loan

Please note, the Bursary Fund cannot be used to purchase general clothing, leavers' hoodies or prom tickets. Students who do not maintain attendance of 90% or above or do not comply with the Sixth Form Code of Conduct, may have their Bursary Fund withdrawn.



How to Apply

If you would like to apply for the 16-19 Bursary Fund, please visit <https://mnspbursary.applicaa.com/> and create a new account. Please contact [Mrs Watts](#) if you need any advice or assistance with your application.

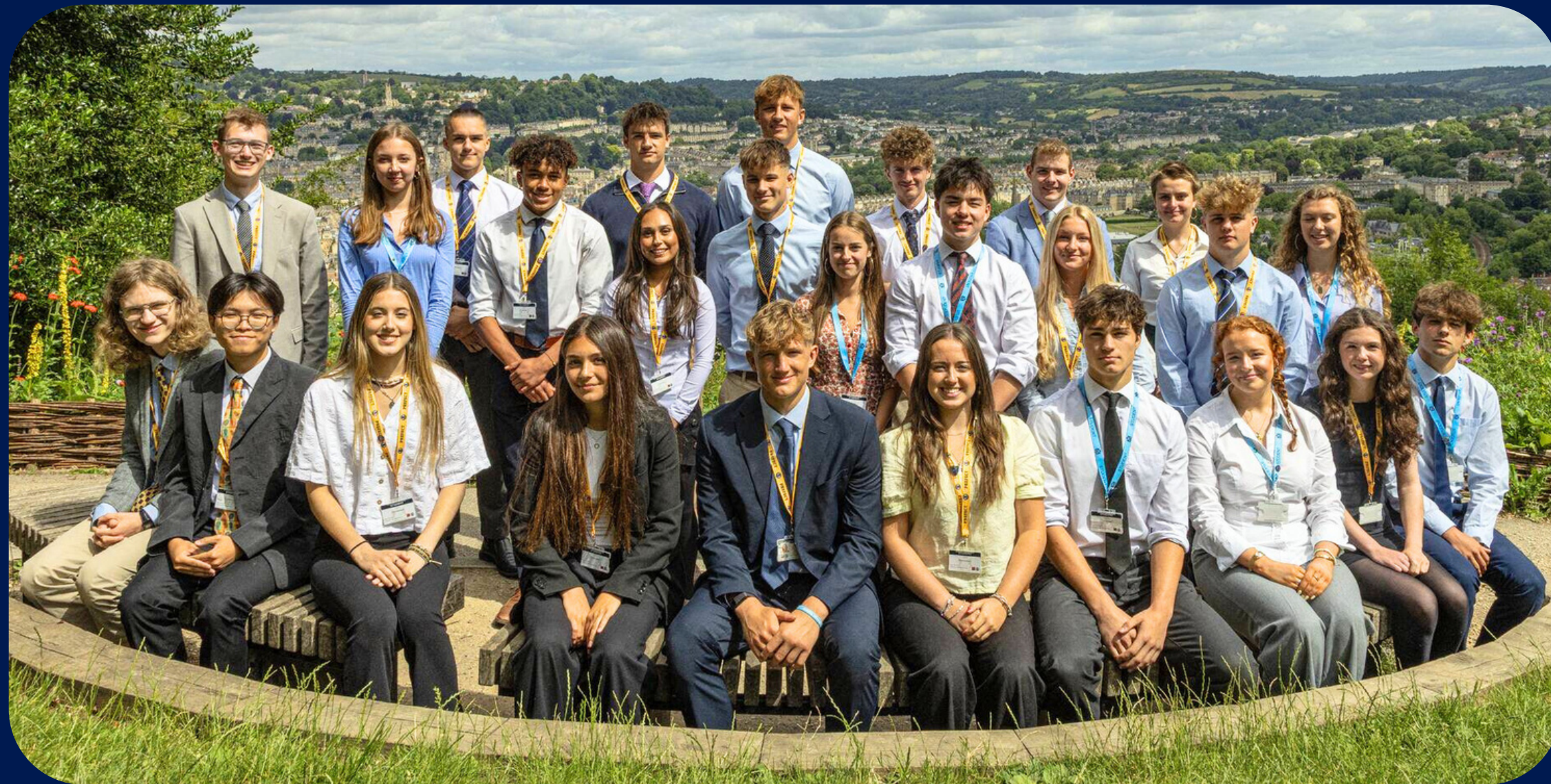
How your Bursary is Paid

Students are not given any money directly in advance. If you have made a purchase, you can claim for a reimbursement via Applicaa. All reimbursement claims must be evidenced with proof of purchase, i.e. photo of a receipt and/or bank statement.

If you do not have the funds to purchase items with your own money, you can make a claim for purchase via Applicaa. Items will be ordered on your behalf and delivered to Mrs Watts for you to collect.

For more guidance about the 16-19 Bursary Fund, please visit www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund





Senior Prefect Team 2025

Aspiration ♦ Compassion ♦ Independence ♦ Respect

