



The Sixth Form



Becket Keys

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

FAITH IN LEARNING



By the time you read this, most of you will have been in full time education since you were four or five years old. Back then, someone else made the decision about your choice of school and you just had to concentrate on settling in and doing your best.

When you transferred to secondary school, you were probably consulted rather more and taken round a few different schools, so you could make an informed choice.

You are now on the cusp of becoming an independent adult and it is your opinion that matters. Most of you will celebrate your 18th birthday before you leave the Sixth Form - and after that, many of you will choose to leave Brentwood, to attend courses at universities miles away.



At Becket Keys, we understand how daunting the future might seem and how important it is to ensure that you are equipped with the confidence and qualifications to make the most of your opportunities. The Sixth Form at Becket Keys aims to provide you with the support you need to succeed, the expert tuition for you to flourish in your courses and opportunities to make the most of your unique, God-given talents.

We want you to feel that the Becket Keys Sixth Form is the best place for you to become the adult you want to be. As you will know, Becket Keys is a fairly new school. You therefore have the chance to continue to shape traditions for future generations of students to enjoy. You will be our leaders, the role models for younger students, the lead singers, expert athletes, the star debaters. But you will also need to work hard, both in and, most importantly, outside lessons.

For this reason, we want you to select your courses wisely. Do not just pick the subjects your friends are opting for; think about the courses or careers you want to pursue next. Would these subjects be suitable? Do you enjoy them? Are you likely to succeed in them? We are here to help you make the right choices and then to support you through Year 12 and Year 13.

We have high expectations of all students entering the Sixth Form. We expect you to use your study lessons profitably, to meet deadlines and to contribute to your learning by challenging ideas, being respectful of the views of others, reading relevant material to inform your opinions and persevering when the work is difficult.

We also hope that you will join in school life enthusiastically, making the most of the extra-curricular activities and the other exciting opportunities on offer.

I look forward to welcoming you into the Sixth Form in September and wish you every success in your GCSE exams in June.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Andy Scott-Evans'.

Andy Scott-Evans
Headteacher

“The extra time and effort all the teachers put into me not only helped me get the best grades I could, but also made me feel valued as a character.”

Archie

A young man in a dark suit and tie is sitting at a desk, looking thoughtfully to the left. The background is blurred, showing other people in a school setting.

Welcome

Becket Keys opened in 2012 as a result of a local campaign led by Andy Scott-Evans and his colleague Iain Gunn. At the time, both were headteachers of Outstanding local Church of England primary schools and aware that there was no Outstanding Church of England secondary school for families in Brentwood.

They approached Russell Education Trust (RET), a charitable education trust, to open Becket Keys. RET was built on the expertise of the school improvement specialists, Education London. Being part of the RET helped Becket Keys to be judged Outstanding by OfSTED in 2014. Two years later the school was also judged Outstanding by SIAMS - the Church of England's inspection service. Its first cohort of students sat their GCSE exams in 2017 achieving some of the best results in Essex. This success has combined with year on year improvement in GCSE exam results and our first year of A Level results in 2019.

Our Ethos

The motto of Becket Keys, "Faith in Learning", is rooted in its Church of England background and is a firmly held view. In the broadest sense, we have faith in learning: it opens doors, changes lives and is the most wonderful thing we can do. Albert Einstein said: "I have no special talent, I am only passionately curious". We want to share our own passion about learning with you and trust that, in turn, you will share your passion with others. Most importantly, Becket Keys is a friendly, welcoming, Church school in which achievement in all its guises is recognised and respected.

“ **Becket keys sixth form provided a supportive and friendly environment that allowed me to strive. Being part of the Becket keys community makes you feel as if you are a part of a family, the teachers work so hard to help you achieve the best for YOU as an Individual, whether that's working towards something in the future or something that can be done in the present. It gave me confidence in myself and the motivation to work hard, without my studies at BK sixth form I would never be in the position I am now.** ”

Evie



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“Applying to university was made so much easier with clear advice and support from Mrs Course, i knew exactly what i had to do and when i had to do it by.”

Will T.

Courses

Choosing the right courses is clearly crucial to success in the Sixth Form. For some of you, this will be easy, as your talents lie in a particular area of the curriculum. But for others there could be a range of subjects, all of which appeal to you.

When you choose Becket Keys Sixth Form, or at least consider it, a member of staff will talk with you about your higher education and/or employment aspirations, then advise you about suitable courses in the Sixth Form. Nevertheless, this task is a shared one: if you have a particular university course in mind, then look at the entry requirements for a number of universities. Anyone wanting to study medicine, for example, will need A Levels in subjects like chemistry, biology and mathematics. If the course is less prescriptive - law, for example - then consider the sort of subjects in which you can demonstrate logical thinking, good communication skills or the ability to evaluate evidence.

Remember too that some courses are so over-subscribed that even having three A grades might not be enough to secure a place - so choosing a subject which you like, but do not usually score very highly in, could damage your chances of getting in. These are exactly the kind of issues and options we will discuss with you before you make your final choice.

The course offer

The A Level courses we are offering next year are:

- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Economics
- English Literature
- Fine Art
- Geography
- History
- Mandarin
- Mathematics
- Further Mathematics
- Media Studies
- Music
- Physical Education Physics
- Politics
- Product Design
- Psychology
- Religion and Philosophy
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Textiles
- Theatre Studies

There will also be BTEC courses, equivalent to 1 A Level in Food Science and Nutrition.

Additional course
Extended project qualification (EPQ)

Entry Requirements
The standard minimum entry requirements for A Level study at Becket Keys are 8 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above including English and mathematics. Individual subjects have specific requirements outlined in our prospectus.

AT THE 6TH FORM

“Becket Keys has been more than a school for me over the last 7 years of my life; it has been a place for me to feel at home, excel and prosper as well as create memories and friends. Deciding to come to Becket Keys for Sixth Form was one of the best decisions I have made. At Becket Keys there is not only a focus on accomplishing full academic potential but also teaching students to be the best versions of themselves. The teachers enthusiasm in our success is constant and unwavering. I can surely say I would not be heading in the direction I am today without the constant guidance and support from this school.”

Will S.

“Coming to Becket Keys Sixth Form as an external student gave me the best opportunity to develop as an individual in many different ways, and form many new lasting friendships that I will take into the next step of my journey.”

Emily

Facilities

Our new Sixth Form facilities will provide you with a comfortable working environment. You will have a silent study room, with study booths, and an area for focused collaborative learning; both will give access to superfast Wi-Fi and mobile device charging for your continuous use. You will have your own Deli Bar, and a garden and decking area for relaxing in during your free time.

Responsibilities

Sixth formers are the student leaders within our school. As such, we expect you not only to take responsibility for your own learning and development, but also to share with staff some of the responsibility for our thriving Christian community. We will expect you to choose a responsible role or post that serves the school as a whole and undertake training for that role during our Sixth Form induction. For example: playing a regular role in running assemblies and collective worship for the junior years; acting as a reading partner or mentor for a younger student; sharing with the staff the leadership of a club or society or school event. A good number of you will be appointed prefects. You will have the opportunity to take responsibility for shaping the Becket Keys' Sixth Form through participation in social and charitable activities and, if selected, as a representative on the Sixth Form Social Committee, Charity Committee or Academic Board.

Support and Guidance

There will be a team of people available to support you through your two years of study in the Sixth Form. Your Academic Tutor, Head of Sixth Form and Deputy Head of Sixth Form will all be there to help you deal with both the routine daily activities and any unexpected challenges that occur. They will work as a team to ensure you receive the best possible guidance and support, including how to organise your time to meet a range of academic deadlines and how to understand the best university courses and employment options for the future. You will have access to counsellors, chaplains and clergy, should you wish to consult them. There is also a quiet chapel and prayer spaces, for all faiths.

Academic mentoring

Your subject teachers take the main responsibility, with you, for subject learning. But each student will also be part of an Academic Tutor group. Academic Tutors will have an overview of your progress in all subjects and support you with any issues that arise. Academic Tutors are an integral part of Becket Keys' support and guidance - and your progress to university, training or employment.

Daily Life in the Sixth Form

You should combine your studies with a range of extra-curricular activities. Some of which include:

- Volunteering opportunities
- Mentoring younger students
- Serving as a prefect and senior prefect
- Ski trip
- Freedom to organise your own trips to places that interest you
- Sports clubs
- Student-led societies - you are welcome to suggest new ones if you have a particular passion

We are also running:

- The Scholars' Programme to support students into Russell Group Universities
- A structured tutorial programme covering areas such as employment, CV writing, interview techniques and apprenticeship opportunities
- Trips to university open days and employer and business apprenticeship events

Dress code

You will be allocated a lanyard and will wear our smart and business-like grey Sixth Form suit, with a white shirt or lilac blouse, black shoes and, for the boys, a purple tie.



“For 7 years Becket Keys has been an amazing place for me. All the teachers have been so supportive and created a fantastic learning environment for students to grow and develop. I will never forget my time here as I know I’ve made some life long friends.”

Alice

Extra Curricular Opportunities



RUSSELL EDUCATION TRUST

The Russell Education Trust (RET) is made up of five high-performing 11-18 secondary schools in the south of England. Member schools work together and with RET expert advisers to deliver the very highest standards of teaching and learning; and to support the achievement and happiness of every student across the Trust. The success of the Trust's schools has been recognised by Ofsted, the Department for Education, and by the communities they serve.

The RET family of schools includes:



Leaders have created a culture characterised by good behaviour and respect and consideration for each other. Staff at all levels give strong support to pupils' safety and wellbeing.

Ofsted 2018



The school has many strengths. Leaders have established an open culture at the school where there is a clear sense of teamwork and community across staff and pupils alike. Everyone takes pride in the school. It is a welcoming and vibrant place.

Ofsted 2018



The religious ethos in the school provides a strong base for the support of pupils' personal development and welfare. Pupils speak with pride about their school and relationships in the school.

Ofsted 2018



Pupils from a range of backgrounds thrive in this highly successful and inclusive school. Leaders are dedicated, determined and ambitious. Their actions ensure a very strong sense of community, where individuals really matter. A clearly understood set of values underpins the work of the school.

Ofsted 2018

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Contact Information & How to Apply

For more information about Becket Keys Sixth Form, please contact our Admissions team:

01277 286600

or

email sixthform@becketkeys.org

A number of Sixth Form open events will be held.

Please look at our website for more details:

www.becketkeys6th.org



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