

Blessed George Napier Catholic School and Sixth Form

God of our longing, hear our prayers, protect our dreams and listen to our silent hopes. Shed Your light where shadows are cast, that we may feel Your warmth and know Your presence. Give us courage to hold fast to our vision that we may build our world and create our future. Amen



Annabel Shilson-Thomas

Key Stage 5 Bulletin: 17th November 2025

News and Reminders

I would like to extend a HUGE thank you to all who attended our Sixth Form parents evening on 13 November. It was well attended by over 90% of students, allowing parents to gain an invaluable insight into students' day to day school life and their individual progress within their studies. This is integral to the success of each and every one of our Sixth Formers, keeping all involved focused on the outcomes and what is in place to achieve all that we wish for our students. This week Sixth Form commenced their tutor group lead Liturgies of the Word and assemblies, with Bakhita leading the way. The second half of our Yr13 cohort undertook a 3hr intensive workshop on "Public Speaking and Interview skills" arming them with the skills and insight to excel in university interviews that may be on the horizon and job interviews in the future.



This is just a snapshot of what is currently happening in our BGN Sixth Form, and that's not even the timetabled lessons, consistent revision and use of students study sessions. And there is more to come...As the days begin to shorten, the air chill and the nights draw in, we look ahead to the season of Christmas here at BGN. We have many events coming up, which the Lourdes group will be using as fundraising opportunities, and we know how grateful they are for the support of the whole BGN community.

Dates for your Diary

Friday 28th November – Christmas Bingo Night 6:30pm – 8:30pm
Friday 5th December – Year 13 Reconciliation
Monday 8th December – Exams Workshop
Wednesday 10th December – Christmas Dinner
Thursday 11th December – Christmas Concert
Friday 12th December – Year 11 Sixth Form Taster Day (Year 12 & 13 off timetable)
Tuesday 16th December – Carol Service at St Johns 7:00pm
Friday 19th December – Last day of term – 12:30pm finish
Tuesday 6th January – Return to School – Week B

Any past students interested in raising awareness of careers, pathways and the motivation of our current cohort should contact Mrs Rebecca Russell on RRussell@bgn.oxon.sch.uk or telephone BGN reception on 01295 264 216.

As always, please check your school email address regularly. A lot of important and useful information is sent out to you this way.



The Oxford Trauma Sixth Form Prize in Medicine invites UK sixth form students from Oxfordshire state schools to design and present an idea for a clinical study in the field of musculoskeletal diseases (orthopaedics, rheumatology, or trauma). The two winners will join us for a week of Work Experience at the University of Oxford.

Create a three minute video explaining your proposed study, and why it could make a difference for clinicians or patients.

[Find out more here](#)

Submission deadline: Monday 1 December 2025 (23:59 UK time)

Work experience placement: Tuesday 7 – Friday 10 April 2026 (Easter Holidays)



**STEM
LEARNING**

STEM Learning's research placements are engaging, real-life workplace experiences. They take place during the summer holidays after Year 12 and consist of one to three weeks on placement, along with pre-and-post activities including independent study. Placements take place in a variety of locations

including offices, museums, research centres, laboratories or fieldwork settings. Students can take part in a placement at no cost.

Read the [guide for student applicants](#) here.

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant Programme with a Degree in Primary or Secondary Education



The OTSA Undergraduate Teaching Assistant Programme is a new way to study for a Degree in Education whilst working as a Teaching Assistant (or similar role) in a local primary, secondary or special school.

Find out more information [here](#)



Ambition Nottingham

A free, two-year scheme for all year 12 students, supporting you throughout your journey to university. For more information, [click here](#) or see the flyer in the LRC. Deadline for applications 7th December.



OXFORD ACS SHADOWING DAY

Oxford ACS Year 12 Shadowing Day

Date: Thursday 19 February 2026 **Time:** 9:30am – 4:30pm

Venue: Trinity & Brasenose College, University of Oxford.

Join the Oxford ACS for a Shadowing Day in

collaboration with Trinity and Brasenose Colleges, University of Oxford. This day is aimed at Year 12 students from African and Caribbean backgrounds interested in applying to Oxford for undergraduate study. Students will have the opportunity to visit Oxford and shadow a current undergraduate who studies a subject they are interested in applying for as well as academic taster lectures.

Students should complete [Application Form](#) to request a place on this day by 5pm on the 13th of January 2026

University of Oxford Access Day for Young Women in YR12 with Bangladeshi and Pakistani heritage.

Date: 12 February 2026 **Time:** 09:30-16:00

Venue: Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies and the afternoon at Trinity College, University of Oxford.



TRINITY COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY of OXFORD

Trinity College is again collaborating with the

Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies (OCIS) and Jesus college to offer young women in Year 10-12 with Bangladeshi and Pakistani heritage an exciting access day. The aim of the day is to encourage students to consider Oxford as one of their future options. Students will have the opportunity to visit the Oxford Centre of Islamic studies, Trinity and Jesus College, experience an academic taster, gain guidance and information relating to courses and admissions and hear from current students with shared identities.

If you are interested in attending this event, please email Mrs Russell or Mrs Soiza to book a place.

Balliol College Access Programmes for Year 12 Students

The University of Oxford Balliol College offers a selection of year-long academic programmes: **Floreat**, **Frontier** and

Fibonacci. The courses are open to **Year 12 students** and

start in the Spring Term. Many participants have gone on to make successful applications to Oxford and other competitive universities. Floreat focuses on Humanities subjects, Frontier on the Life Sciences and Fibonacci on Mathematics (and related fields). Each programme is designed to academically challenge and stimulate those who are interested in applying to competitive universities.

Deadline to apply: **14th December**.



BALLIOL
COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Ashurst

Access Ashurst

Our Access Ashurst Programme has been designed to increase access to law for young people experiencing disadvantage. The programme provides you with the opportunity to take part in two weeks of paid work experience and skills workshops in the summer following your penultimate year of secondary school/college, while receiving mentor support throughout your final year of study.

Sutton Trust Pathways

Applications are closing soon for our employability programmes, Pathways to the Professions and Access Apprenticeships. These exciting programmes are for students in Year 12, interested in Banking & Finance, Engineering, Law, Medicine & Veterinary Medicine.



Sutton Trust Access Apprenticeships

The Sutton Trust Access Apprenticeships programme will allow students to meet leading employers and like-minded peers, and learn more about how to access top apprenticeships

Test drive our undergraduate degrees

Our taster days are a perfect intro to our degrees in Animation, Games, VFX, Concept Art and Motion Graphics.

DATE

Saturday 6th December 10:00am - 1:00pm

LOCATION

6 Mitre Passage, North Greenwich, London, SE10 0ER



SUPER CURRICULAR



**Super-Curriculars and Resources
from St Anne's College**



What Economists Really Do

The University of Oxford Department of Economics' What Economists Really Do series is a free series of talks designed to inspire the study of economics by exploring some of today's most pressing issues.



Recordings of past Mansfield Public Talks can be found on Mansfield's YouTube channel, [here](#)

[Great Britain? How we're getting our future back](#)

Torsten Bell MP - Friday, 28th November 2025, 5:30pm

Torsten Bell, MP for Swansea West, Minister for Work and Pensions and former Chief Executive of the Resolution Foundation (and Mansfield alum) gives his recipe for a 'practical patriotism', to raise living standards and to create a more equal country.



Explore our vast online collection which includes more than 3000 videos, featuring over 1200 speakers dissecting hundreds of topics.
<https://www.gresham.ac.uk/watch-now>



[The Later Years: Organisation, Independence and Peace of Mind](#)

Sir Peter Thornton KC
Monday, 17 Nov 2025 - 18:00

[Society Family](#)



[Becoming AI – Your Journey to Assimilation?](#)

Professor Matt Jones
Tuesday, 25 Nov 2025- 18:00

[Artificial Intelligence Technology Society](#)



[Hecate: Mistress of Magic](#)

Professor Ronald Hutton
Wednesday, 26 Nov 2025- 18:00

[Ancient History Religion](#)



[Photobiography | Gresham College](#)

Martin Parr CBE
Tuesday, 1 Dec 2025- 18:00

[Biography Visual art Art Society](#)



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The **universal** destinations platform.

Webinars:

- Monday 17 Nov 5:30pm - [Biomedical sciences taster: the power to change lives](#)
- Tuesday 18 Nov 4:30pm - [Finance taster: FOMO and finance - are you really missing out?](#)
- Tuesday 18 Nov 5:30pm - [Think you can catch a killer? Dive into offender profiling](#)
- Wednesday 19 Nov 4:30pm - [Catfishing and the law: fake profiles, real consequences](#)
- Wednesday 19 Nov 5:30pm - [Modern languages taster: studying cultural connections](#)
- Thursday 20 Nov 4:30pm - [Why do we say no to vaccines? The psychology behind our choices](#)
- Thursday 20 Nov 5:30pm - [Britain's covert empire: espionage, history, and archaeology](#)
- Thursday 20 Nov 6:30pm - [Psychology taster: how does TikTok impact our development?](#)
- Monday 24 Nov 4:30pm - [You be the judge: the real life challenges of sentencing](#)
- Monday 24 Nov 5:30pm - [Why does my brain glitch? The psychology of everyday mistakes](#)
- Monday 24 Nov 6:30pm - [Performing arts taster: gigs as theatre](#)
- Tuesday 25 Nov 4:30pm - [What actually is 'design'?](#)
- Tuesday 25 Nov 5:30pm - [AI and cybersecurity: the good, the bad, and the ugly](#)
- Wednesday 26 Nov 4:30pm - [From side hustle to CEO: how small ideas blow up](#)
- Wednesday 26 Nov 5:30pm - [English literature taster: making sense of poetry](#)
- Wednesday 26 Nov 6:30pm - [Hot, hungry, and breathless: how climate change affects the human body](#)
- Thursday 27 Nov 4:30pm - [Empowering leadership: traits that drive success in business](#)
- Thursday 27 Nov 5:30pm - [Biomedical science taster: how scientists diagnose illnesses](#)
- Thursday 27 Nov 6:30pm - [Computing taster: can machines really understand us? How large language models work](#)



Melvyn Bragg and his guests discuss the history of ideas - including topics drawn from philosophy, science, history, religion and culture.

WORK EXPERIENCE

NHS OUH Work Experience

Oxford University Hospitals NHS open application windows three times a year. If they receive a large number of applications, they may have to close applications early.

Placements **25 May to 28 August 2026** including **Half Term 25 to 29 May 2026** and Summer holiday **23 July to 28 August 2026**

The [application link](#) will be live 24 February to 5 March 2026

YEAR 12 - YOU WILL NEED TO APPLY FOR WORK EXPERIENCE FROM 24TH FEBRUARY FOR YOUR JUNE WORK EXPERIENCE WEEK.



Interested in STEM?

EDT delivers a range of programmes and tailored activities for companies supporting young people at every key decision-making point throughout their educational journey.

Industrial Cadets is a widely recognised, accredited awards scheme providing industry-based experiences on pathways through education to employment.

Together, with our partners we collaborate and unite, inspiring young people to discover the exciting world of STEM, creating a funnel of diverse early talent interested in entering the STEM industries, answering the needs of key growth areas.



Virtual Work Experience with Springpod

Get stuck in with immersive and informative virtual work experiences with leading employers such as the NHS, Barclays, and Airbus. These incorporate real workplace activities – from observing a live surgery to designing a lunar landing module – and the chance to speak with, and hear from, industry professionals.



Future Careers Experience

Future Careers Experience can be accessed at any time and at your own pace. This program is designed to provide you with an in-depth understanding of different roles and potential career pathways within Amazon whilst also helping you build employability skills. It includes activities related to the various career pathways and CV building.

MEDICAL VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITES

Gaining valuable work experience is a must-have for medical and dental applications, luckily, medical and dental schools have accepted Virtual Work Experience as a valuable alternative to in-person shadowing.

Our next Get Into Dentistry Conference is:
- Sunday 9th November from 9am - 1:30pm
[REGISTER FOR DENTISTRY HERE](#)



AFTER SIXTH FORM

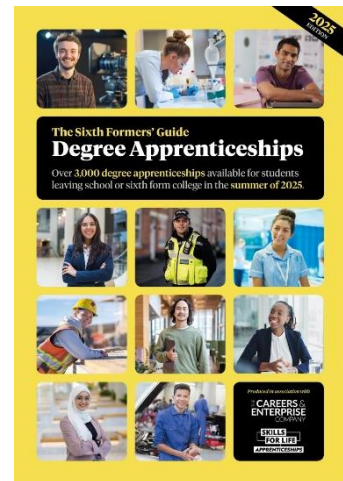


[University league tables](#)

New for 2026! Our league tables rank UK universities nationally, regionally, and in 74 subject areas.

The Degree Apprenticeship Guide

The Sixth Formers' Guide to Degree Apprenticeships is the new A-Z guide to degree apprenticeship employers in the UK. Produced in partnership with **The Careers & Enterprise Company** and the **Department for Education**, the guide explains how degree apprenticeships offer a work-led, debt-free route to a university degree and a graduate job. It features inspiring interviews with degree apprentices working in different industries & sectors, expert guidance from degree apprenticeship employers, and showcases many of the top degree apprenticeship programmes available in 2025.



YOUNG PROFESSIONALS **Apprenticeships.co.uk**
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Young Professionals connect students with thousands of companies that offer Apprenticeships and Virtual and In-Person Work Experiences through [apprenticeships.co.uk](https://www.apprenticeships.co.uk). Young Professionals also host [industry events](#) in STEM, Law, and Business & Accounting and [digital practice interviews](#).



Check out the [The Sunday Times Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers 2025 - YouTube](#)



Thinking of doing a Higher or Degree Apprenticeship

Explore 1,600+ Higher and Degree apprenticeship vacancies in the October 2025 edition of the Higher and Degree listing. These vacancies are to start in September 2026.

[Higher & Degree Apprenticeships | Amazing Apprenticeships](#)

Discover vacancy details from over 50 employers, including locations, salary information and direct application links.

aat Accountants
for the real world

University isn't for everyone; but a career in finance can be.

Accounting apprenticeships with AAT offer school leavers an ideal start to their career. They can work in finance while studying, gaining practical skills and recognised credentials that set the stage for a successful accounting career.

[Get AAT's apprenticeship guide >>](#)

Deloitte.

Applications are now open for Deloitte Apprenticeships

A wide range of apprenticeships across the UK for school and college leavers, with opportunities to work on exciting tech projects and make an impact on climate change goals.

OPEN DAY CALENDAR

[Search the Opendays.com calendar of university and college open days](#)



Check out The Uni Guide Podcast for an inside look at the student experience at university. In the latest episode,

Student discounts before and during university

Listen to this and all previous episodes [HERE](#).

Browse exciting events listed on UniTasterDays for students, with more being added daily. Including open days, subject taster days, information fairs on studying abroad...Your next university adventure awaits! Check them out [HERE](#)

Explore various university subjects through the dynamic [webinar platform](#), featuring the UK's first video subject guide. You can browse the videos, search by keyword, or filter by subject.

The Students' Guide to University is your all-in-one free brochure for essential university guidance. Packed with insights from university experts across the UK.

[Download it now](#) – no registration required.



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UNiDAYS

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