

Blessed George Napier Catholic School and Sixth Form



During this sacred Eastertide, we are reminded that through difficult times, whether that's when we feel let down by our friends or we've not seen results from our hard work or when we are suffering and in pain, You, Lord, are with us, patiently guiding us to glory.

We give thanks and praise for the strength, blessing and joy that is Christ at our centre.

Key Stage 5 Bulletin: 27th March 2026

News and Reminders

As we stand on the cusp of the final stretch of the academic year, the completion of this term marks an important transition for both Year 13 and Year 12 students. For our Year 13 cohort, this is the beginning of your farewell phase—a time to reflect on the journey you have taken, the friendships you have built, and the resilience you have shown. While public examinations are fast approaching, this period is also about celebrating your growth and preparing to take your next steps with confidence and purpose.

For our Year 12 students, the focus now shifts firmly towards consolidation and preparation for your mock examinations. These assessments are an important opportunity to take stock of your progress, identify areas for development, and build the skills and discipline that will carry you into your final year. Consistent revision, effective time management, and seeking support when needed will be key in the weeks ahead.

As a Catholic community, this season is especially meaningful as we approach the celebration of Easter. It is a time of renewal, hope, and reflection—values that resonate strongly during this demanding period. Easter reminds us of the importance of perseverance, faith, and the promise of new beginnings. We encourage all students to take moments to pause, reflect, and draw strength from these themes.

While academic focus remains essential, it is equally important to maintain balance. Use the Easter break wisely: spend time with family and friends, rest and recharge, and engage in activities that support your wellbeing. Achieving your best is not only about hard work, but also about caring for your mental, emotional, and spiritual health.

As we enter this significant phase, let us continue to support one another as a community—striving for excellence while remaining grounded in our shared values. We wish all students a peaceful and restorative Easter, and every success in the weeks ahead.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 30th March – Friday 10th April - Easter Half Term

Monday 6th April – Online Shop for Leavers' Hoodies **CLOSES** – get your orders in now!

Monday 13th April – Return to school (Week A)

Wednesday 15th April - Year 12 UCAS Trip to Leicester University

Monday 27th April – Friday 1st May – Year 12 Mocks

Monday 4th May – Bank Holiday – School Closed

Thursday 7th May – Year 13 Leavers Mass

Friday 8th May – Year 13 Study Leave begins

Monday 11th May – First A Level Exam

Friday 22nd May – Last day of Term

Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May – Half Term

Monday 1st June – Return to school (Week A)

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 UK University & Apprenticeship Search](#) event will be returning to Oxford Brookes University on Wednesday 17th June.

The fair will offer students the chance to speak to an array of exhibitors including Russell Group, red brick and modern universities. There will also be a number of national and local apprenticeships representing the main key sectors.



[The Engineering Development Trust](#) are excited to let you know that **APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN** for our hugely popular [2026 Summer Virtual into University course](#).

This unique course is for students in **Years 11-13S6** and can be completed flexibly over the summer (approx. 30 hours of study). The course will allow students to explore STEM studies at **TOP UNIVERSITIES**, including degree apprenticeships, and the career opportunities that that these subjects lead to. It will provide access to information on student life, STEM projects and activities set up leading UK universities and global STEM companies, first year undergraduate lectures, live interactive sessions with academic, admission tutors, employers, and current students

In²STEM

**Applications now
OPEN**

[In2STEM](#) developed by In2scienceUK, is a fantastic opportunity for year 12 students passionate about STEM. Running from 20 July to 21 August 2026, the programme offers a blend of online and in-person activities, equipping students with the skills, knowledge and confidence needed to excel in STEM.

- The programme is for year 12 students from low socioeconomic backgrounds interested in exploring a career in STEM.
- The 2026 programme takes place between 20 July - 21 August and consists of work experience placements, online workshops, competitions and events.
- The placements take place over 1 or 2 weeks during the programme period at a volunteer host's STEM place of work.
- Students are matched to a placement based on their subject interest, availability and location.

[Apply here](#) - the **deadline is 5 April 2026**



Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

We have some positive news that we are planning to run the new level 2 health and social care foundation apprenticeship here at Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. This apprenticeship will start at the beginning of September 2026. This is an entry level apprenticeship specifically for 16-21-year-olds, so ideal for any of your students about to complete their exams wanting to start a career in health and social care. Successful applicants will be supported in a full-time healthcare support worker role in one of our clinical areas. Please see linked for more information on this apprenticeship: [Health and social care foundation apprenticeship / Skills England](#). We are hoping that the advert for this apprenticeship will go live on our [Working For Us](#) website around Monday the 13th of April



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.



Explore our niche courses in animation, games, VFX and more, get hands-on with industry-standard software, and experience a real studio environment, offering an alternative to a traditional university path.

UPCOMING OPEN DAYS

- **Thursday 9th April 2026**, 5:00pm - 6:30pm (BST), online via Zoom.
- **Saturday 18th April 2026**, 10:30am or 1:30pm (BST), on-campus (6 Mitre Passage, North Greenwich, London, SE10 0ER).



InvestIN's Summer Experience Programmes, delivered in London across July and August, aim to bridge the gap between school and the professional world, offering hands-on industry experience and exposure to top professionals.

Choose from 15 different careers

What is a Summer Experience Programme?

- A one or two-week introduction to an in-demand industry with up to 65 hours of hands-on experience
- Led by industry professionals with site visits and immersive career simulations
- Opportunity to meet like-minded students aged 15-18 while exploring your future career



Learn more about InvestIN's career programmes [here](#).

COMPETITIONS

[University of Oxford Big Think Competition](#)

Every year, the University of Oxford St Edmund Hall invites **Year 11 - 13 students** to tackle one of their academics' 'big' questions. These are designed to challenge students beyond the school curriculum and get them thinking 'big' about their subject and what it might be like to study it at university. To enter, simply record a video of 5 minutes or less presenting your arguments, research, evidence and opinions. Winners will be invited to visit Oxford on **18th June**, where they will have the opportunity to discuss their entries with subject tutors, take a tour of the college with current students and enjoy lunch in the dining hall.

Closing date: **12:00 on 27th April**.

[Geography Essay Competition](#)

The University of Oxford Christ Church is holding an essay competition on the subject of 'The Age of Humans', for **Year 12 students** interested in studying Geography at university. Students are invited to write a reflective essay of up to 800 words on the theme of 'The Age of Humans', in relation to whichever aspect of Geography they choose. Entrants are welcome to approach the subject in whatever way is most meaningful to them, as long as they provide a written essay-style response and demonstrate thinking geographically. Selected entrants will be invited to attend a Geography Study Day at Christ Church on **27th May** to celebrate their achievement and learn more about undergraduate study at Oxford.

Closing date: **17th April**.

SUBJECT TASTER DAYS & UNIVERSITY OPEN DAYS

[Brookes Undergraduate Open Days](#) & Taster Days

Oxford Brookes University are holding undergraduate open days on 19th and 20th June from 10:00 - 15:30 for prospective students and their families to attend subject-specific sessions and activities, meet staff and current students, attend talks on topics like finance and admissions and tour the campuses and accommodation options.

2026 Taster Day Programme

13th April - Humanities (English, Education, History, History of Art, Japanese)

15th April – Law

17th April - Business, Marketing and Management

20th April - Economics, Accounting and Finance

27th April - Social Sciences (Sociology, Criminology, Anthropology, Geography, International Relations)

Please use the Taster Days [Booking form](#) and read more on the [Taster Days webpage](#).



St John's inspire programme

Inspire Study Days are immersive, subject-specific events that take place at St John's College that enable you to experience what it's like to study your chosen subject at university. You will have a mixture of lectures and workshops and meet current Oxford students and tutors!

YEAR 12 STUDY DAYS

Free for YR 12 students from non-selective state schools.
 * Classics and English Subject Exploration Days are open to YR 12 students at any school.
 **Medicine & Biomedical Science is a virtual study day.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP
 Applications will close 7 weeks before each Study Day.

SCAN HERE

23 FEB	CHEMISTRY
02 MAR	HISTORY & HISTORY OF ART
20 MAR	GEOGRAPHY
28 MAR	MEDICINE & BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE**
22 APR	CLASSICS* EXPLORATION DAY
29 APR	MATHS & COMPUTER SCIENCE
08 MAY	PSYCHOLOGY
15 MAY	ENGLISH* EXPLORATION DAY
05 JUN	PPE

FREE
 For Year 12 Students from Non-Selective State Schools!



SPRING TERM SUBJECT TASTER DAYS

The following events take place on our campuses. Available for group and individual bookings. Suitable for Years 12-13 (or equivalent). Travel funding may be available.

- 15 April: Geography GIS Workshop Day
- 22 April: Criminology and Sociology Taster Day
- 23 April: Art and Design Taster Day
- 24 April: Psychology Taster Day
- 28 April: Humanities Taster Day

These events are open for individual and group booking. Book now or visit our website to view more details about each taster day.



- [Online subject taster sessions](#) provide a taste of what it is like to study specific subjects at the University of Sheffield. Taster titles are listed below.

- [Sheffield Live sessions](#) cover all different aspects of University life to help students as they go through their application journey with us, including a campus tour, student finance, and accommodation.
- [Undergraduate subject spotlight sessions](#) provide an overview of the course and the opportunity to ask current students and staff any questions your students may have

Arts and Humanities - Subject Tasters			
Department	Title	Date	Time
Music	Mozart's Requiem: Facts, Fiction and Legends	Monday 23rd April	17:00 - 18:30
Philosophy	Are we morally obligated to be poor?	Wednesday 29th April	17:00 - 18:30
Languages, Arts and Societies: East Asian Studies	The Rise of Game Survival Narratives in East Asian Cinema & Television	Wednesday 29th April	17:00 - 18:30
History	King of the United States? Monarchy and the American Republic	Wednesday 6th May	17:00 - 18:30
Engineering - Subject Tasters			
Department	Title	Date	Time
Computer Science	Machine Learning and Data Science	Tuesday 21st April	17:00 - 18:00
Materials Science & Engineering	From Engines to Atoms	Tuesday 28th April	17:00 - 18:30
Biomedical Engineering	What is Biomedical Engineering	Tuesday 5th May	17:00 - 18:00
Civil & Structural Engineering	Strengthening against Earthquakes	Wednesday 6th May	17:00 - 18:15
electrical & electronic, Mechatronic & Robotic and Computer System Engineering	From discrete coponents to intelligent systems	Wednesday 13th May	17:00 - 18:30
General Engineering	General Engineering: where all disciplines meet	Thursday 21st May	17:00 - 18:00
Health - Subject Tasters			
Department	Title	Date	Time
Speech & Laguage Therapy	Clinical Vocal Disorders	Wednesday 22nd April	17:00 - 18:15
Science - Subject Tasters			
Department	Title	Date	Time
On Campus: Physics	Physics Taster Day: Find a particle at the LHC	Wednesday 1st April	9:00 - 16:15
Physics	Quantum Computers	Wednesday 6th May	17:00 - 18:30
Bioscience	Cystic fibrosis and small molecule treatments	Tuesday 12th May	17:00 - 18:00
Social Science - Subject Tasters			
Department	Title	Date	Time
Journalism	What Would You Do? Ethical Dilemmas in Journalism	Wednesday 15th April	17:00 - 18:15
Landscape Architecture/Urban Studies and Planning/Geography	Creatin a Sustainable City	Tuesday 21st April	17:00 - 18:15
Economics	Environmental Economics: what is the right amount of pollution?	Wednesday 22nd April	17:00 - 18:15
Sociological Studies/Management/Data Science	How can we better understand and impact people's health and wellbeing?	Thursday 23rd April	17:00 - 18:15
Politics	What is capitalism?	Thursday 30th April	17:00 - 18:30
Architecture	Communicating architecture and design	Wednesday 6th May	17:00 - 18:15

SUPER CURRICULAR



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



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>



["Unsquaring" the Square Mile: Connecting People with Opportunity](#)

The Annual Lord Mayors Event

Monday, 13 Apr 2026 - 18:00

[City of London Society Business Education](#)



[Music of the Mind](#)

Professor Milton Mermikides

Wednesday, 15 Apr 2026 - 18:00

[Music Art Neuroscience](#)

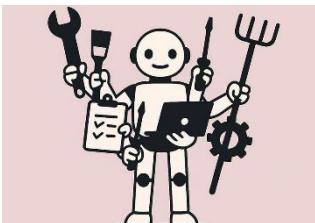


[The Dictionary City: Londoners and the Oxford English Dictionary](#)

Professor Sarah Ogilvie

Thursday, 16 Apr 2026 - 18:00

[Literature London History Invention](#)

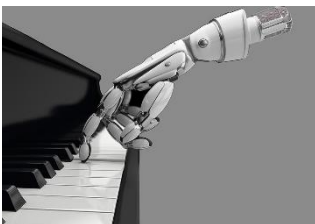


[A World Without Work](#)

Professor Daniel Susskind

Monday, 20 Apr 2026 - 18:00

[Artificial Intelligence Economics Business Society](#)



[Taming AI](#)

Professor Matt Jones

Tuesday, 21 Apr 2026 - 18:00

[Artificial Intelligence Technology Society](#)



[Why Do We Love? | Gresham College](#)

Professor Robin May

Wednesday, 22 Apr 2026 – 18:00

[Biology Psychology Neuroscience Science](#)



[The Science of Puppetry – How Real Can They Be?](#)

Professor robin May & Steve Allen

Thursday , 23 Apr 2026 – 18:00

[Visual art Biology Art Television](#)



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Webinars:

- **Monday 20 April 4:30pm** - [Let's explore: doing a degree, sustainably](#)
- **Monday 20 April 5:30pm** - [Let's explore: alternative courses to medicine](#)
- **Tuesday 21 April 4:30pm** - [Let's explore: degrees that get you career ready](#)
- **Tuesday 21 April 5:30pm** - [Parents and caregivers session: what else is out there? Post-18 options you might not have considered](#)

[Wadham Year 12 Book Club](#)

The University of Oxford Wadham College is excited to launch a free online book club for **Year 12 students** interested in studying a literature-based subject at Oxford. The Book Club will involve three online sessions, taking place online via Teams between **Monday 27th April and Monday 8th June**, as well as the chance to attend a final, in-person session and taster day at Wadham College on **22nd June**. Each session will involve a short lecture, breakout room discussion with current University of Oxford students and recommendations for further reading and support.

ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH UK FOR A CURE

HOW OUR LIVES SHAPE DEMENTIA RISK

Discover what decades of research reveal about **dementia risk, and how health, lifestyle and experiences** at different points in life contribute to brain health later on at our **free online public event**.

[Mrs Russell will be showing a recording of the online event at a suitable time for those students interested.](#)



[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.



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

WORK EXPERIENCE



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.

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.



CAREERS

[Future Careers Experience](#)

amazon

future >>
engineer

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.

AFTER SIXTH FORM

OPEN DAY CALENDAR

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



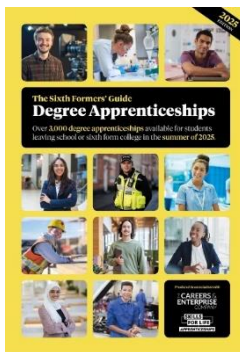
[Outlook Expeditions](#)

Learning experiences like no other – an all-encompassing preparation course for life.



[University league tables](#)

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



[The Degree Apprenticeship Guide](#)

New 2026 Edition

The essential guide to degree apprenticeships

Your free 120-page guide to how degree apprenticeships offer a debt-free alternative to a traditional university degree.



powered by **YOUNG PROFESSIONALS**

Young Professionals connect students with thousands of companies that offer Apprenticeships and Virtual and In-Person Work Experiences through [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](#)

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.



A leading organisation in the education sector, founded to tackle misconceptions about apprenticeships and promote the benefits.

Discover resources in the [student zone](#) and the [parent and carer zone](#)

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Online

Performance &

dance

Talks & debates

Tours & activities

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