

Blessed George Napier Catholic School and Sixth Form

A Youth Sport Trust Lead School for Leadership, Coaching and Volunteering

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Compassion

Respect

Truth

Service

Forgiveness



November 2022

Welcome to Key Stage 5 at BGN

We are an inclusive Sixth form offering a range of academic and vocational Level 3 qualifications to enable students to follow a variety of pathways to suit their aspirations. Students are supported by a team of experienced tutors who lead our Careers, PSHE and RSE tutor programme. We are committed to the continued development of the spiritual life of our students, and all take a programme of non-examined Core Religious Education which focuses in year 12 on Poverty and Persecution and how we can respond to the challenges faced in the world today.

The Sixth form is an integral part of the school with Sixth formers leading our house system from year 7 upwards. We are very proud of our Pupil Leadership Team who represent the student and school body at events throughout the year. All students undertake the VESPA programme which helps them to evaluate and understand their mindset going into KS5, enabling them to embrace the challenge. The Sixth form pastoral system is strong, and Ofsted commented that *'leaders know each student's strengths, talents and personality in detail.'* We are also excited about our new buildings, part of which will be a dedicated learning space for the exclusive use of the Sixth Form.

Pathway 1 – Academic courses.

This is the traditional 'academic' pathway in which students choose three A Levels to study over two years. A Levels are 'linear' courses with external assessment at the end of Year 13 and student progress will be monitored by rigorous internal assessment throughout the year and mock exams at the end of Year 12 and mid-way through Year 13. We currently offer 20 A Level subjects.

The entry requirements for this pathway are at least 5 GCSEs at grade 5 or above and Maths and English at grade 4 or above. Please note that most subjects taken at A Level will require a grade 6 or above in that subject at GCSE. These requirements reflect the demanding nature of A Level examinations. Please see more detailed information in the 6th Form prospectus which is available to download from the school website.

Pathway 2 – Vocational courses.

We also offer three Vocational qualifications. These courses are the equivalent of an A Level and are recognised by universities. A Distinction * is the equivalent of A* at A Level. They offer the advantage of having a vocational focus and are drawn up in consultation with industry bodies. Entry requirements for Level 3 vocation courses are an average GCSE point score of Grade 5 or above. This pathway also offers the chance to re-sit Maths and/or English GCSE if you do not achieve grade 4 in Year 11. Please see more detailed information in the 6th Form prospectus which is available to download from the school website.

Principal: **Ms Niamh Dolan, BSc (Hons)** headteacher@bgn.oxon.sch.uk

An academy within The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company which is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity registered in England and Wales with company number 9113542 and registered address Addison Road, Banbury, Oxon, OX16 9DG.

"The school's contribution to pupils' personal, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is exemplary. Pupils go out of their way to do good things. They act as positive role models for younger children." **Ofsted, June 2017**

Pathway 3 – Blended courses.

It is also possible to study a blended mix of Academic A Levels and Vocational Level 3 qualification. These qualifications have parity for UCAS applications.

Please note: It is a statutory requirement that students who do not achieve grade 4 or above in English and/or Maths must continue to study these subjects until they achieve grade 4 or above.

We also offer students who did achieve grade 4 in Year 11 the chance to re-sit the exam to improve their grade. Many students choose to do this as they understand some universities require above a 'standard pass' in English and/or Maths.

Next steps

1) Make an Informed Choice

What you study at Sixth form can affect your future career options. We recommend that you use eclips [eCLIPS \(eclips-online.co.uk\)](http://eclips-online.co.uk) a resource provided by Adiza a charity supplying careers advice and guidance and / or <http://informedchoices.ac.uk> to help you understand which subjects are required for particular careers and courses.

2) Attend Key Stage 5 Taster Day 2022

This will be held on Friday 16th December 2022 and is a chance for you to sample our wide range of A Level and BTEC courses for yourselves. Prospective external applicants are welcome, and it is expected that all BGN students attend.

3) Complete an Expression of Interest form

If you are interested in joining us at BGN for your Key Stage 5, please complete an Expression of Interest form by Friday 6th January 2023 and return it to Mrs Russell in the LRC or via rrussell@bgn.oxon.sch.uk This will enable us to begin to construct subject option blocks around your preferences.

Yours sincerely



Sarah O'Donnell

Assistant Head teacher

Raising Standards Leader Key Stage 5

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