



# BOURNSIDE SIXTH FORM



**CHELTENHAM  
BOURNSIDE  
SCHOOL**

PROSPECTUS 2021-2022

# WELCOME TO OUR SIXTH FORM

To find out more or arrange a visit, please email  
[sixthformadmissions@bournside.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:sixthformadmissions@bournside.gloucs.sch.uk)

Visit [bournside.gloucs.sch.uk](http://bournside.gloucs.sch.uk)  
for course and admission details

## HEAD OF SIXTH FORM



At Bournside, we understand how challenging and rewarding the next two years of your life will be. In these pages, we'll introduce you to the Sixth Form experience at Bournside and encourage you to explore your aspirations with our knowledgeable and supportive staff, as well as with current and former students.

With over 30 A Level and BTEC courses on offer – as well as an exciting enrichment programme to sustain personal development, creativity and leadership – we strive to help you achieve your goals and to make your experience with us stimulating and fulfilling.

Whether you've fixed your sights on Oxbridge, focused on starting work, or are still considering your options, our talented teachers and careers leaders provide the direction and encouragement you need to fulfil your potential.

As well as benefitting from excellent teaching, you'll have the chance to develop your independent learning skills in our Sixth Form study spaces and Library, pursue positive individual academic communication with the Department Head for your courses, and enjoy strong friendships and memorable experiences that will stay with you forever.

I look forward to welcoming you to Bournside Sixth Form and, in the meantime, wish you every success with your studies.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. Warren".

**Kevin Warren**  
Assistant Headteacher  
Head of Sixth Form

# HEAD TEACHER



Choosing where to continue your education is a big decision. As Headteacher, it is my privilege to lead our school and I hope these pages will help give you an idea of what it is like to be part of our Sixth Form community. At Bournside we empower lives through learning every day and in every way – through excellent teaching, compassionate pastoral care, and a programme of extra-curricular activities which is second to none.

Our school crest contains our historic motto: 'usque ad finem'. It means, 'until the end'. It means we'll be with you every step of the way. And it means to go to the utmost extreme in pursuit of excellence: to give your all, to travel as far as can be travelled, to do as much as can be done. That's what we promise for our learners. That's what we expect from each member of our community. That's what it means to be part of Cheltenham Bournside Sixth Form: the pursuit of utmost excellence every step of the way.

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Steve Jefferies".

**Steve Jefferies**  
Headteacher



# WHY CHOOSE BOURNSIDE?

With more than 30 courses to choose from, the range and diversity of our post-16 options sets us apart from the rest.

From Mandarin to Media Studies, Psychology to Photography, studying at Bournside means you can pick the best combination of courses to suit your interests and aspirations.

Our teachers are experts in their fields, providing high-quality teaching and support to give you the academic focus you need to succeed. Our overall pass rate at A Level is 99% and in 2019, almost a fifth of our A Level grades were A\* to A.

**GRADES A\*-A: 18.6%**

**GRADES A\*-B: 40.4%**

**GRADES A\*-C: 69.8%**

For course information and entry requirements, see the Course Guide at the back of this prospectus and visit the Sixth Form area of our website!

*Bournside reserves the right not to run a course if student numbers are low.*

## OUR COURSES AT A GLANCE

Art Graphics  
Art Photography  
Fine Art  
Biology  
Business  
Chemistry  
Computer Science  
Design and Technology: Product Design  
Drama and Theatre Studies  
Economics  
English Language and Literature  
English Literature  
Film Studies  
French  
Geography  
Government and Politics  
Health and Social Care BTEC  
History  
Information Technology BTEC  
Mandarin  
Mathematics  
Further Mathematics  
Media Studies  
Music  
Physical Education  
Sport BTEC  
Physics  
Psychology  
Religious Studies (Philosophy & Ethics)  
Sociology  
Spanish

# CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

## What do you enjoy?

In Year 11 you'll be considering which subjects you enjoy the most, which you find stimulating and where you feel confident in your learning. You might already be interested in a certain career, or you might feel it's more suitable to choose a combination of courses which keeps your options open. Your teachers and careers leaders will provide opportunities to discuss your thoughts and this process needs careful consideration.

## Do your research

Certain university degrees or apprenticeships may specify course requirements, so you should research this to ensure you can fulfil them. Our experienced Careers Team is on hand to help you, but it is also worth speaking to Sixth Form students and others, such as undergraduates or those in employment, to gain perspective on your options. You could use online resources such as UniFrog and UCAS for guidance, as well as contacting universities and employers directly.

## Where do your strengths lie?

Consider your level of interest in certain subjects as well as your ability. What inspires your curiosity and can you take it to the next level? Will the combination of courses that you're keen on provide you with suitable qualifications to enter higher education or pursue your chosen career?



I loved my time at Bournside Sixth Form, and I have some great memories with good friends and teachers there and on some super trips. My teachers were always encouraging and very happy to see me when I wanted extra time with them. I am now studying medicine at Brighton and Sussex Medical School, which was made possible because of the fantastic support and teaching that Bournside offered me.

The Early Applicant Programme provided continual feedback on my personal statement and strengthened my higher education application. We also had great opportunities, such as talks from doctors and medical students which guided me to choose the right medical school for me.

**BEN STEWART**  
**BOURNSIDE ALUMNI**

# THE BOURNSIDE SIXTH FORM EXPERIENCE

Our Sixth Form has a vibrant character and, although distinct from our main school, its students bring amazing creative energy to events across the year, such as our concerts and fundraising days. As our most senior students, you are given a higher level of responsibility and greater flexibility to study in a way that suits you.

As a student in Year 12 or 13, this sense of autonomy empowers you to develop your skills of organisation, communication and research, and to use our modern and well-equipped facilities to your advantage. Having a close working relationship with our Sixth Form staff means you can always ask for support when you need it.

We are proud of our hardworking Sixth Form students who set a positive example across the school, demonstrating perseverance, leadership and commitment to learning. This is also the reason for our Sixth Form dress code which ensures a smart appearance is projected at all times.

## A rewarding house system

At the heart of our school ethos is our active and rewarding 6-house system which brings

students of all ages together to use their perseverance, skills and talents to earn house points. Every student and member of staff belongs to one of our houses to nurture and enhance a sense of family and community between our students. As a Sixth Former, you are a role model for our younger students, enabling them to have meaningful conversations about school life and their future aspirations.

## Excellent resources to help you learn

During private study time, students can use designated quiet areas in the Sixth Form Centre and in our light, modern Library. Both offer focused working environments and are well resourced with reference books, computers, and iPads. Our Dining Centres are contemporary and relaxed, and are available to Sixth Form students throughout the day.

For practical subjects and for non-contact time, we have a large Drama Studio, extensive art and music facilities, a gym and Astroturf, tennis and badminton courts, a sports field and two Sports Halls. There are so many opportunities to take part in beyond the school timetable including in sport, performance, and on trips.





Bournside Sixth Form is an excellent choice. I joined Bournside after a year out of education and found the staff and students to be very welcoming. Bournside offers a wide range of extracurricular activities so I took part in sports, debating clubs, and peer schemes, learning invaluable skills that I continue to use today. The role of Head Boy in Year 13 opened up a whole new range of responsibilities to me. I am very grateful to all of the staff who supported and taught me throughout my time at Bournside and I encourage you to apply.

**SCOTT HAYNES**  
**BOURNSIDE ALUMNI**



I look back on my experience at Bournside Sixth Form fondly. Staff always had an open door for any questions or guidance, however seemingly big or small. At Bournside I learnt how to manage my workload in my private study time and the services provided by the Sixth Form, such as CV building workshops, external talks from industry professionals, and one-to-one careers advice, set the foundations for me to go out into the wider world with confidence.

Since leaving Bournside, I've worked abroad in Paris and on the Mediterranean island of Corsica as a nanny. I've decided university isn't for me and having realised that I want to fulfil my sense of adventure and love for travel and keeping fit, I am about to start basic training for the Armed Forces. Bournside gave me the confidence to have faith in my ability and do what feels right.

**ROZALYN EDGE**  
**BOURNSIDE ALUMNI**



# LIFE IN THE SIXTH FORM

## SIXTH FORM STUDENTS FROM DIFFERENT HOUSES PROVIDE THE INSIGHTS...

**ff** We're lucky because our Careers Hub and help with future choices is so good. During Sixth Form you make some important decisions about your future and the help I've had in deciding which course to do at university and finding relevant work experience has been key.

**ALEX – ATTENBOROUGH HOUSE**

**ff** In Sixth Form there is a network of support which ensures we have the skills and knowledge to create a positive future for ourselves. The lessons are interesting and interactive, and allow you to explore a variety of different learning techniques to find which style suits you.

**GEORGIA – PARKS HOUSE**

**ff** I have been a student at Bournside since Year 7. The help and support I have had over the years has been amazing. If there has ever been a problem with homework, or a struggle understanding something in a lesson, the teachers are always approachable and helpful. All teachers are easily accessible via email if you can't find them in person and they always respond quickly.

**LUKE – HAWKING HOUSE**

**ff** What I like most about Bournside Sixth Form is how there is always a friendly member of staff around to help me any time of the day, whether it's with my UCAS application, personal statement or my subjects. Applying to university is a very stressful time, especially whilst trying to balance 3 A Levels, so having that constant support really helps.

**EMILY – OWENS HOUSE**

**ff** I am truly grateful to be studying somewhere with the option to take 3 foreign language A Levels. Many Sixth Forms don't offer this breadth of choice and I feel privileged to have the opportunity, as these languages will positively benefit me later on.

**JOE – ROWLING HOUSE**

**ff** The extra-curricular activities have allowed me to build a portfolio of information for my personal statement, which has been one of the most challenging things I've had to do. The advice and guidance from the Sixth Form team has been invaluable.

**JAMIE – FRANK HOUSE**



# MAPPING YOUR FUTURE

During your Sixth Form years you'll be making some of the most important choices of your life. Our experienced team will keep you on track with preparation for interviews, mock examinations, personal statements, and applications.

There will be opportunities to attend UCAS conventions, university open days, and to gain interview experience to help you with your next steps.

Local employers are very supportive of Bournside and our students. Our Careers Team has excellent connections with businesses in key sectors across Gloucestershire and beyond.

We hold a Careers Fair in the autumn, and our annual Destinations Day for Year 12 is an exciting opportunity to gain practical experience and advice with experts in your chosen pathway, be that an apprenticeship, employment, or university.

Whichever path is right for you, we will help you find it.



I had a great time at Bournside Sixth Form. In English I perfected my Italian-American drawl while studying *A View from the Bridge*, I presided over many experiments in Biology, and enjoyed lengthy arguments about the Vietnam War in History and Politics. I went on to read English at Oxford before joining Her Majesty's Treasury. Bournside is a great place, and the subjects – and friends – I chose have served me well.

**ADAM CROZIER**  
BOURNSIDE ALUMNI



What is most memorable about Bournside for me is that when it got close to exams, teachers put lots of extra time and effort into providing revision sessions and the materials which I needed to make sure I was fully prepared.

**GRACE WHALLEY**  
BOURNSIDE ALUMNI



# YOUR BESPOKE JOURNEY

Whether you have aspirations to go to university, seek an apprenticeship, or go directly into employment, while you're a member of our Sixth Form, you will also be preparing for your next steps and adult life ahead. We'll make sure that your Sixth Form experience is about you: your needs, your development, your choices, and your goals.

## **Aiming high**

Our staff at Bournside ensure that you settle into your courses and activities quickly and support you to reach your full potential across two years of study.

## **Early Applicant Programme**

We offer a bespoke programme for students who wish to apply for a course in medicine, veterinary science, Oxbridge, or a university abroad. You will have tailored support from experts within and outside Bournside to help you with an early application to these highly competitive destinations.

## **A supportive environment**

We pride ourselves on the outstanding support we offer to help you develop mature lines of communication with your tutors and teachers.

Sixth Form is both a distinct and integrated part of school: mentoring roles, extra-curricular events and positions of leadership in our School Parliament help you develop personally and make a difference in our school community.

You will receive 3 reports a year and undertake mock exams at the end of Year 12 and again in Year 13, ensuring you are fully prepared for your final examinations. We also hold parents' evenings in both years.

# ENRICHING YOUR FUTURE

We encourage all our students to get curious and try something new, so you can reach your full potential, both in and out of the classroom.

Alongside your studies, you'll take part in at least two 16-19 study programmes, known as our Enrichment Options. Our aim is to broaden your experiences and give you the opportunity to learn new skills that will help you reach your desired destination beyond our Sixth Form.

You may choose to participate in our community service programme; mentor younger students in school; become a subject ambassador; or support respect as an Anti-Bullying Ambassador.

We also offer competitive and non-competitive sport and fitness options, as well as a wide range of programmes to support your personal development, including the Young Enterprise scheme, Arts Award and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme.

Students can put themselves forward for one of the many positions of responsibility, including house captaincy positions and the opportunity to become council members – a great way to develop as a leader.

There's no limit to how far you can go. Bournside Sixth Formers have recently visited Paris' art galleries and toured New York; skied in the Austrian Alps, and explored the Great Wall of China. A sports tour to Canada and expeditions in Uganda and South Africa – which build in charitable work and opportunities to fundraise – have been a great success.



## EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

You can choose to complete an EPQ research project, focusing on a theme that you are passionate about. The EPQ experience enables you to further develop skills which complement both your studies and your future education or employment. Completing an EPQ is tremendously rewarding, attracts UCAS points, and looks great on a CV or personal statement.

## EDUCATION FOR LIFE (E4L)

Throughout Years 12 and 13, you will follow an E4L programme delivered by the Sixth Form leadership team and Careers staff to help you aspire high for life beyond Bournside. This varied programme of careers guidance, higher education planning, and life skills looks at all aspects of your future choices from university, to apprenticeships, gap years, and foundation learning programmes.

The timetabled bespoke sessions include presentations from guest speakers, CV preparation, mock job interviews and university interview practice, university skills conferences, visits to careers fairs, and online university sessions. You will also be encouraged to undertake super-curricular reading and work experience to broaden your horizons in preparation for making competitive applications.



My time at Sixth Form was brilliant. I had great fun, learned a huge amount, began to prepare for university life, and developed skills that helped me hugely throughout university and into my career since graduation.

After Sixth Form I studied at Warwick University, where I spent a year on exchange at the University of Toronto in Canada. On graduating I moved back to Canada to work in marketing, and I am now working at UCAS.

The teaching staff at Bournside supported me throughout the entire university applications process and encouraged me to be ambitious in my university choices. My time at Bournside also saw me develop many of the research, presentation and communication skills that have been so important both at university and in the workplace. The teaching staff and resources available were brilliant, and Bournside set me up for a successful next phase of my life at university and beyond.

**JACK TAYLOR**  
**BOURNSIDE ALUMNI**

**WEDNESDAY  
27 JANUARY  
2021**

Sixth Form Open Evening

Online application form goes live:  
[bournside.gloucs.sch.uk/  
sixth-form-how-to-apply](https://bournside.gloucs.sch.uk/sixth-form-how-to-apply)

**FRIDAY  
12 FEBRUARY  
2021**

Deadline for applications

**FEBRUARY  
TO MAY 2021**

Applicants are invited for tours  
and course discussions and  
offers are made for places on  
programmes of study

**JUNE/JULY  
2021**

Deadline for acceptance of offer.  
We will send you information  
about the start of term, and  
Induction Days for prospective  
new Year 12 students take place

**FRIDAY  
27 AUGUST  
2021**

The big day! Your GCSE results  
are published and we need to hear  
from you to confirm your place

**EARLY  
SEPTEMBER  
2021**

You begin your  
Sixth Form studies!

# THE APPLICATION TIMELINE

Visit our website for more information:  
[bournside.gloucs.sch.uk](https://bournside.gloucs.sch.uk)

We look forward to receiving your application.  
If you have any questions, please contact us:  
[sixthformadmissions@bournside.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:sixthformadmissions@bournside.gloucs.sch.uk)

# Our Values

## We are...

### **PURPOSEFUL**

We persevere to achieve our goals and aspirations

### **PROUD**

We celebrate everyone's effort and achievements

### **RESPECTFUL**

We care about each other and believe in equality and kindness

### **CURIOUS**

We have enquiring minds and are not afraid of challenge

### **SUPPORTIVE**

We make a positive difference to each other's lives

### **AMBITIOUS**

We aim for the very best in all we do

## CHELTENHAM BOURNSIDE SCHOOL

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