

Beaminster School



Ambition · Service · Kindness

Originally founded in 1685



Parent Handbook and Prospectus 2024-25

A guide to all you need to know about Beaminster School

**Please keep this booklet handy for
future reference throughout the year**

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Welcome to our School

Welcome to our School

We are proud of our school and its achievements across the whole curriculum. We believe that this is a special place to learn, where students flourish and develop into ambitious young people with a kindness to others and a sense of service to themselves and their community.

We are optimistic about the future for our students and seek to develop their abilities in a happy, secure, stimulating and purposeful environment. The courses and extra-curricular experiences we offer are selected to allow our students to develop as individuals, and to make the most of their time with us.

The quality of our work depends upon the partnerships that we have between staff, parents, students and the wider community. We are fortunate to have good facilities, high standards of teaching, and supportive, caring staff. We hope that you will play an active part in your child's education and we look forward to working with you to ensure the best outcomes for your child.

As a Christian Community school (founded in 1685) we use our strong foundations to look towards the future and to build upon the good work of our primary partners.

**"Beaminster School is a community that pupils, parents, staff and
Governors are proud to be a part of"**
Ofsted 2023

OUR SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Mr David Withers
Deputy Headteacher



Mr Keith Hales
Headteacher



Mr Richard Barnes
Deputy Headteacher



OUR DIRECTORS OF LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT (DoLAs)



Ms Charlotte Jones
Years 7, 8 and 9
(Key Stage 3)



Mr James See
Years 10 and 11
(Key Stage 4)



Mrs Sarah Walters
Years 12 and 13
(Key Stage 5)

Our School Aims

Beaminster School aims to:

- Promote all round excellence
- Achieve high academic standards through quality teaching and learning
- Develop self-discipline, enterprise, responsibility and independent learning
- Value, encourage and support all students according to their needs
- Prepare students to succeed in a changing world
- Make sure students are aware of and respond to the needs of others
- Work in partnership with the wider community to the benefit of both



As a Christian foundation school we promote:

- Moral strength and spiritual depth to hold a course in the face of difficulties
- Have knowledge that family life and love of one's neighbours is more important than economic values
- Reverence for the beauty of creation
- Discussion of the great questions of life, death, meaning and truth

“Pupils shine at Beaminster School because of the rich education they are given. They are served by a talented staff team committed to the school’s Christian vision for a flourishing community“

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Beaminster School is a Christian designated 11–18 Co-Educational school, with Christian affiliations, accepting students of all faiths and religious inclinations. With origins dating back to the 17th Century, the present school opened in purpose built accommodation in 1963.

The main school stands on the edge of Beaminster in a designated area of outstanding natural beauty close to the Jurassic Coast, and provides education for students drawn from a wide rural area.



The town itself, with a population of about 3,000, is renowned for its charm and historic interest. Our current school roll is 660 students with nearly 100 members of staff.

Most students come to us from one of the Beaminster Pyramid or West Dorset Collaboration of primary schools:

- St Mary’s Academy Beaminster
- Broadwindsor School
- Salway Ash School
- Greenford School, Maiden Newton
- Parrett and Axe School, Mosterton
- Sticklands School, Evershot



BEAMINSTER PYRAMID

“It’s been a really positive start to secondary school, she’s settled in well and enjoys lots of subjects”
Parent Survey

A considerable number of out-of-catchment students also join us each year from several different partner primary schools, including: Ashlands, St Mary’s Bridport, Chard, Powerstock, East Coker, West Chinnock, Haselbury Plucknett, Hinton St George, Holy Trinity, Marshwood, Merriott, Powerstock, Sherborne, South Petherton, Yetminster, St Bartholomew’s. St John’s, Symondsburry, Thorncombe.

Our School Vision - ASK

Ambition

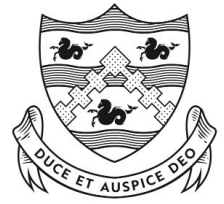
Demonstrate courage and determination

Strive for excellence and challenge yourself daily.

Be curious and creative.

Take risks.

Be proud of your achievements and recognise the endeavours, perseverance and success of others.



Ambition · Service · Kindness

Have high aspirations for yourself and others

Take responsibility for your own learning.

Commit to being the very best you can be in all areas of your life and encourage others to do the same.

Be resourceful, resilient and optimistic

Look for opportunities to be positive about your achievements and potential.

Work enthusiastically and relentlessly to the highest possible standards.

Be diligent.



**“My child is happy to come to school every day and enjoys learning”
Parent Survey**

Service

Demonstrate stewardship

Protect, promote, enrich, appreciate and care for yourself, others and the environment. Only when you demonstrate self-care and resilience can you effectively tend to the well-being and needs of others.

Help develop a sense of community

Be tolerant and accepting of others. Value, empower and support those around you. Build meaningful and selfless relationships and create a sense of family, fellowship, harmony and hope. Treat others as you would wish to be treated.

Share your time, knowledge and wisdom

Engage, encourage and challenge yourself so that you may guide others.

Contribute positively to making those around you feel safe and secure. Take satisfaction and enjoyment from all that we collectively do and achieve together.

Lead by example.



**“Instils a good sense of right and wrong and a wider awareness of this in relation to world issues”
Parent Survey**

Kindness

Demonstrate moral strength

Through integrity, dignity, respect and reverence, make the right choices. Be thankful, humble and balanced in all that you think, say and do. Be honest and open, but when your words may be difficult for someone to hear, be sensitive and compassionate.

Be patient, kind and caring to others

Take responsibility for your attitudes and behaviour. Show warmth, empathy, generosity and love. In demonstrating these daily acts you will also contribute to your own happiness and well-being.

Be kind to yourself

Invest in the health of your own body, mind and spirit. Foster meaningful relationships and find time to be quiet, still, mindful and reflective each day.



Who to Contact

We are aware that sometimes things don't always run as smoothly for our young people as we would all like, so we have very clear procedures in place to help parents get any issues resolved as quickly as possible. Staff will always try and get back to you as soon as possible, but please do bear in mind that staff may be teaching or have other commitments. Do advise us if it is something urgent.

The Tutor – ALWAYS YOUR FIRST POINT OF CONTACT

Your child's Tutor is always your **first** point of call for any student enquiries.

The Subject Teacher

For any academic issues relating to a particular subject.

Head of Year (HoY)

Heads of Year should **only** become involved **after** the Tutor has been contacted, to help resolve any other issues. Heads of Year deal with your child's learning and achievement at school, as well as with more serious or confidential concerns about school work or welfare.

Directors of Learning and Achievement (DoLAs) for KS3, 4, and 5

DoLAs oversee the strategic development and teaching and learning of their Key Stage. They should **only** become involved **after** both the Tutor **and** Head of Year have been contacted and been unable to resolve an issue, for more serious discipline issues or for overall development and progress.

Deputy Head: Mr David Withers

Has overall responsibility for student support.

DoLAs

Director of Learning KS5 (Years 12 and 13) Mrs S Walters

Director of Learning KS4 (Years 10 and 11) Mr J See

Director of Learning KS3 (Years 7, 8 and 9) Ms C Jones

Heads of Year

Head of Year 11 Mr K Donovan

Head of Year 10 Mr P Prendergast

Head of Year 9 Ms B Smith

Head of Year 8 Mrs M Stone

Head of Year 7 Mr R Hobby

Student Support and Guidance Centre Manager Mrs D Berry

Student Support Officers (SSO) Mrs H Challis
Mr K Donovan

Careers/Work Related Learning Mr K Donovan

6th Form Progression Officer Mrs L Baker

"Following a meeting with the Tutor I felt very happy and confident issues discussed would be addressed"
Parent Survey

"Pastoral care has proved to be of a very high standard"
Parent Survey

"My son has a superb tutor and I love the system in place where they keep the same tutor throughout"
Parent Survey

"Pastoral support is very strong, emotional/social support is essential before any learning can take place"
Parent Survey

"Pupils feel listened to and safe in school"
Ofsted 2023

Office Contacts and Website

Who Should I Speak To ...?

Our experienced office staff are your first point of contact and are always very happy to help and advise you. They are also best placed to advise about who you may need to speak to should you have a particular query. Please bear in mind that staff do have to make calls around their existing commitments but will always call back as soon as possible.

"I find conversations very helpful and friendly"
Parent Survey

School Telephone: 01308 862633 Email: office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk

Please note our lines are **very busy first thing in the morning**, so unless it is an emergency or to report an absence (the dedicated Absence Line is 01308 861917 and available 24 hours), it is really helpful if you are able to leave your call until a little later in the day if possible, ideally **after 9.15am**.

"Communication between staff and parents has always been excellent and we have felt the whole school has been open and accessible to us as parents in terms of contact with teachers"
Parent Survey

Head's PA / Office Manager / Admissions
Exams Manager
Finance Manager
Finance Officer
Student Admin Officer
Reception / Buses / Lockers / Lost Property
Trips and Visits
Work Experience / Careers Admin / First Aid
SSGC / Student Attendance and Absences
SEN Admin Officer

Mrs N Chalkley
Mrs H Emmett
Ms K Poole
Miss M Morrissey
Mrs S Channing
Mrs H Thorne
Mrs M Stone
Mrs L Van Niekerk
Mrs D Berry / Mrs H Challis
Mrs D Bennett

School information, forms, letters

The vast majority of information is now sent out electronically via ParentMail but copies of school information can always be obtained from Reception and/or found on the school website. Please remember to update the office of any change of address or contact details as soon as possible.

Beaminster School Website: www.beaminster.dorset.sch.uk

Our website has lots of useful school information and is regularly updated. Term dates, exam dates, copies of important letters and information sent home can all be found here.

In the case of extreme weather information is posted as early as possible on the website to alert parents should the school have to close at short notice. Urgent information is displayed on the home page. Do have a look at the website and let us know what you think.

Beaminster School Social Media Sites

Our social media sites are another great way for us to promote our school and celebrate our students' successes with parents and the wider community. It is also a great way for us to build links with other organisations.

We have a popular Facebook page and you can also follow us on X (formerly Twitter) @BeaminsterSch) to see lots of photos and other information about what's going on in school.

Quick links to our social media sites can be found on the front page of the school website.



Primary Transition

Good pastoral support enables our students to feel confident and secure and we take pride in the high quality of our pastoral provision. When students arrive at Beaminster they are allocated to a mixed ability Tutor Group. We have five Tutor Groups in each year, one for each house: Eggardon, Lewesdon, Pilsdon, Waddon and Mapperton, all named after local landmarks.

For tutoring purposes students remain within these groups from Year 7 through to Year 11 (although teaching groups will vary). On entry to the Sixth Form, students are then allocated a specialist Sixth Form Tutor.



Heads of Year have oversight of all students in their care, and, along with Directors of Learning and Achievement, focus on all forms of progress, teaching and learning. This allows us to effectively monitor both academic progress and student welfare. The Heads of Year, Tutors and Co-Tutors work together to monitor academic progress and personal development, taking an interest in each individual student.

"I have nothing but praise for Beaminster, my daughter has grown in confidence and her results are going well"
Parent Survey

"The support and encouragement our daughter received having changed school was fantastic"
Parent Survey

Where individual students may need help and support our pastoral staff work closely with outside agencies including the Medical Service, Educational Psychological Service, Behaviour Support Service, the West Dorset Locality Team and an independent careers service. Before the start of the new academic year, the Head of Year and Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) visit each primary school to meet staff and all the students who will be transferring to Beaminster. This ensures that the move from primary to secondary school is as smooth and as free as possible from anxiety.

Students spend two full induction days at Beaminster in the summer term prior to transfer as part of the transition process, and there are also a variety of fun and exciting link activities arranged with the primary schools.



Tutor groups are arranged so that on arrival every child should have at least one friend in the group. On their first day in September, only Year 7 are in school to give our new students plenty of time to find their way around school in a less busy environment.

The progress and wellbeing of individual students is discussed weekly by the Key Stage teams and Directors of Learning, and half termly by all staff. Letters home or requests for meetings with parents follow these meetings if necessary.



We have a dedicated page for Transition information on our school website:

<http://www.beaminster.dorset.sch.uk/year-6-transition-information>

Attendance

Attendance Regulations

All student absences should always be reported as early as possible, ideally before 8am.

Attendance at school is very important because any time away from school can have a significant impact on a student's educational attainment, success in later life and their longer term health and well being. DfE research shows that when attendance falls to 85% a pupil will have dropped a grade in their GCSE results. **80% attendance = missing 1 day of school per week.** The Government changed the law with regard to granting term time leave of absence which states:



Schools may NOT grant ANY leave of absence during term time unless there are EXCEPTIONAL circumstances.

This replaces the previous regulation that allowed schools to grant up to 10 days leave of absence at their discretion. Dorset Council supports all schools in ensuring the law is upheld. In law, parents and carers are committing an offence if they fail to ensure the regular and punctual attendance of their child at school.

Therefore, **any** unauthorised absence, such as taking holidays in term time, can result in the issuing of a Fixed Term Penalty Notice. Failure to pay a Fixed Term Penalty Notice may result in a criminal conviction and a fine in the magistrates court of up to £1000. Parents/carers wishing to request time off school must complete the online "**Exceptional Leave of Absence**" form on the school website: [Forms, Policies and Key Information \(beaminster.dorset.sch.uk\)](https://beaminster.dorset.sch.uk)

"For the first time in his life, our son is happy to go to school. He likes all his teachers and has made lots of friends. He is always encouraged, supported and listened to"
Parent Survey

Students arriving late or leaving the site during the school day

We need to know where our students are at all times, e.g. should there be a fire alarm, so if a student arrives late into school they **must sign in at Reception**. Parents must ensure that the student has an explanatory note or that they have telephoned the school to explain the reason for lateness (Absence Line 01308 861917).

Students may, occasionally, need to leave the school premises during the day, for example, to attend medical or other such appointments. Students must NOT use their mobiles to phone home and ask to be collected. Parents should either telephone the school office, or write, in advance, to inform their child's tutor of the date and time of any such appointments and when the child will need to leave the school site, and all students **must sign out at Reception**.



Appointments should be made at the **beginning or end** of the school day to minimise absence from school wherever possible, and students are expected to return to school promptly following appointments.

Please note that students should not miss a whole day of school for routine medical or dental appointments, which should be made outside of the school day wherever possible.



"The school encourages and supports pupils and students to attend well"
Ofsted 2023

School Information

Health and Medical Conditions

Please make us aware of any medical condition that may affect a student's attendance at or performance in school. This includes any special care or medication that may be required during school hours.

**"Overall a good school"
Parent Survey**

We ask all parents/carers of new students to fully complete the student registration form, which includes a medical section, and for parents/carers to notify us of any changes as soon as possible.

Our First Aiders can only deal with minor injuries or illnesses, so parents/carers must ensure their child is well enough to attend school and take part in all activities before they leave home in the morning.

Please note, **we do not hold and cannot administer paracetamol.**

In the event of more serious illness or injuries parents/carers may be contacted and the student may have to go home. Every effort is made to contact parents/carers should specialist advice be necessary from local doctors or the hospital.

It is therefore essential that emergency contact numbers can receive "Caller Withheld" numbers and that you advise us of any change of emergency contacts as soon as possible.

Please note that students are NOT required to remain at home for 48hrs following sickness

As long as they are not infectious, it is up to you, as parents/carers, to decide when your child is fit enough to return to school after illness

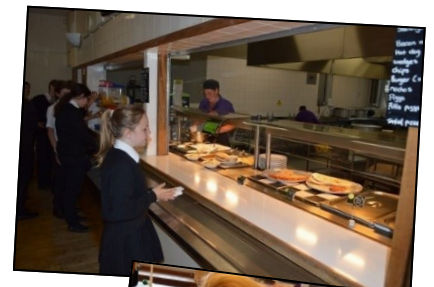
School Meals and Cashless Catering

We have a large and well supervised canteen and dining room area with a healthy range of food provided at breakfast, breaks and lunchtimes. There are tables and seating areas both indoors and outdoors which has made this a really pleasant environment for both staff and students to be able to relax and enjoy their food.

**"It's great to be able to see what your child is eating on ParentMail"
Parent Survey**

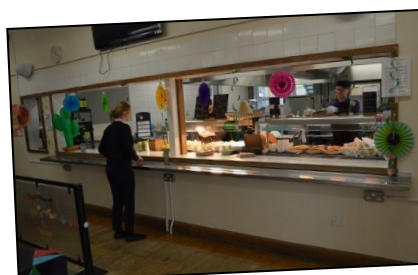
Our caterers, Aspens, offer high quality at reasonable prices. Those not wanting a full meal can buy rolls, sandwiches or hot snacks, and those who prefer to bring their own food from home are most welcome to do so.

We have an efficient and completely cashless catering system which has proved popular with students, parents/carers and staff. All new students are shown how to use the system and parents/carers are then able to top-up lunch accounts online via ParentMail.



Lockers

We recognise that students need adequate provision to store their property safely during the day, and to ensure that schoolbags are not too heavy to be carried safely, so student lockers are available to hire from Reception.



School Information

The well established House system supports competitive sport and a wide range of inter-house activities.

Senior Prefects are attached to Year groups and Houses.

The House colours are:

Dark Blue	Eggardon
Red	Lewesdon
Light Blue	Mapperton
Purple	Pilsdon
Green	Waddon



Lost property

All named items that are found and handed in will be returned directly to the student.

Please ensure all items are clearly and indelibly marked with your child's name – it is almost impossible to reunite students with their belongings if they are not named.

Free School Meals

It is quick and easy to check if your child may be eligible for free school meals by going to:

<https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

The school gets additional funding related to Free School Meals so by making a claim you will also be helping the school.

Free school meals students are issued with an annual discount code (currently £35) to use against the cost of school uniform.



“Very pleased with our choice of Beaminster School!”
Parent Survey



ParentMail +Pay

We try very hard to keep parents regularly informed about what is going on at the school. However, sending paper letters home can be rather 'hit and miss' with letters often going astray in the bottom of school bags.

We are a cashless school so all payments for lunch money, trips and visits etc are made electronically.

We are also increasingly aware of the substantial cost and environmental impact associated with the amount of paper, photocopying and postage involved, so we use a service called ParentMail in conjunction with +Pay. This is beneficial because:

- Important school information gets to you reliably
- Messages and/or texts go straight to your inbox or 'phone via the **free** ParentMail app
- We can tell you more about what is going on at the school quickly and easily
- You can make electronic payments, including lunch money top-ups, and track them online
- You can easily see what information you have been sent.

ParentMail fully complies with GDPR and guarantees that all information you provide will be kept private and will not be passed on to any other organisation.

The email address **info@parentmail.co.uk** should be added to your contacts/address book/safe senders list to ensure that ParentMail emails do not go into junk/spam folders.



"Very good communication to the parents, informative newsletter every Friday is very good"
Parent Survey

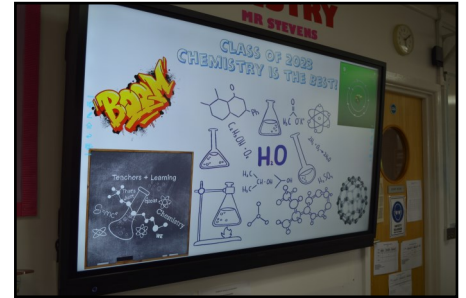
"Online access to sort payments is very easy to use"
Parent Survey

"The school has great teachers"
Parent Survey



Our Facilities

- Solar panels on many of our school buildings
- 3 Court Sports Hall
- Fitness Suite
- Tennis courts
- 3G all-weather pitch
- Fully equipped gymnasium
- Upgraded toilets and gym changing rooms
- Extensive playing fields with athletics facilities
- Cricket pitch and pavilion, new cricket strip
- Specialist rooms for all subjects
- Modern Science block with six laboratories
- Art studio and Textiles room
- Food Technology room
- Design and Technology areas
- Drama studio
- Music Technology Suite with Apple Mac computers
- Music recording Studio with practice rooms
- Two dedicated ICT suites
- Photography Suite with Apple Mac computers
- Library including computer suite
- Careers Library
- Assembly hall with recently resurfaced floor, which also serves as a performance area for plays and concerts and is fitted with state of the art sound and lighting equipment
- Fully equipped Sixth Form study centre with computer suite and common room
- Lifts and ramp facilities for wheelchair access
- Teaching rooms adapted for visual and hearing impairment
- Dining room and outdoor eating area
- Cashless catering system



“The school has always been supportive of additional sporting activities and we are grateful for this”
Parent Survey

Sporting facilities can be used by the local community, and can be booked by contacting the school office

Access to School Site
 We have an Accessibility Plan for disabled access which is regularly reviewed by Governors.
 Access considerations are always borne in mind at the early stages of planning for any new buildings, such as the Sports Hall.



Our Facilities

Science Block

Science is taught in a purpose built block, which was formally opened by Dr David Bellamy, and which has a suite of six laboratories. The large atrium provides additional space and also allows for individual study and computer access. A dedicated preparation room and staff area ensures that students are well provided for from Year 7 right through to A level practical examinations.

"A wonderful school"
Parent Survey



Music Suite

Our Music Suite has four dedicated practice rooms, a recording studio and a large, airy and well-equipped teaching space.



Technology Block

We have six dedicated teaching areas in our Technology block. One of these uses computers to design and manufacture products using both traditional and laser cutting tools including a 3D printer and a laser cutter.

Other areas ensure that a wide range of materials can be investigated and manufactured through a variety of medium that include textiles, food, resistant materials and graphics. These are all enhanced through links with Further Education providers.



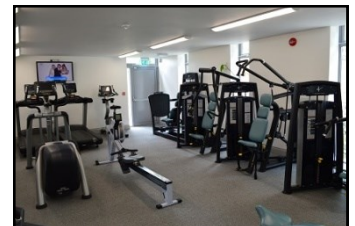
Photography Suite

We have a dedicated Photography Suite, including a dark room, which is well-equipped with Apple Macs.



Computer Suites

We have a number of well equipped computer suites located around the school in addition to computers in classrooms that are regularly used by students. The 6th Form have their own suite of computers.



We have our own minibus for transporting students to sporting fixtures and other extra curricular activities



Library

Our Library offers spacious accommodation for both individual private study and research or whole-class work.

It is fully equipped with 15 computer desks and a mezzanine floor. Alongside the Library are a separate computer suite, careers library, reprographics base and integrated learning room.

The Library operates a computerised cataloguing and search system and has thousands of books – fiction, non fiction and reference – with stocks regularly updated.

Every Year 7 student is shown how to use the Library and is issued with a booklet outlining key points for future reference. Library staff are available throughout the day to help students and make sure that they gain maximum benefit from this first-class facility.



**“The school has the ambition for pupils to become committed readers who understand the value of reading”
Ofsted 2023**

**“I am generally very impressed with Beaminster and its teachers, thank you”
Parent Survey**

**“Particularly impressed by the every day lunchtime support”
Parent Survey**

Literacy, Reading Weeks and Bedrock Learning

Reading is very important to children’s achievement across the curriculum.

We have a focus on reading across the school, including regular Reading Weeks throughout the school year, and we ask all parents and carers to also encourage and support your child with their reading at home.

All students in Years 7 and 8 use a digital literacy programme called Bedrock Learning. All parents and carers will have personal login details to Bedrock and we would encourage you to log on to see how well your child is doing.

Bedrock encourages independent learning, helps students with comprehension and grammar, and broadens their vocabulary, all essential elements for being able to access the curriculum.

As parents and carers, you can help your child become a better reader by encouraging them to read at home for at least 20 minutes daily, discussing what books they are reading and asking them questions about what they have read, and visiting your local library.



Rewarding Achievement

Rewarding Achievement

All young people respond to praise and encouragement and the school sees great value in praising and rewarding achievement OF ALL KINDS.

Parents are able to log in to ClassCharts and see their child's conduct, attendance and achievement record.

Students can purchase items from the reward shop using their achievement points, including vouchers, raffle tickets for the termly draw and a range of other practical items.

Celebration assemblies are held each half term to recognise achievement at every level.

Academic, sporting and many other achievements, at all levels, are marked on these important occasions, with items of entertainment provided by the students.

The achievements of students in Years 10-13 are celebrated with a range of awards at the annual Presentation Evening which is held in the Autumn Term.

We are very proud of our students and keen to promote and celebrate their many and varied achievements out of school. Mrs Chalkley is always happy to receive details of anything your son or daughter may do that we can share and celebrate with others.

Please email your photos and information to:
NChalkley@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk



"I am delighted with the school in almost every respect"
Parent Survey



Supporting Success

Supporting Success

As a school, we have a school-wide system of teaching, monitoring, supporting and rewarding positive behaviours, in order to create a disruption-free environment. This allows students to learn to their maximum potential, and allows teachers the time to complete their education programmes without wasting time dealing with unacceptable behaviour.

**“Pupils get the help and support they need”
Ofsted 2023**

Positive recognition of achievement is the main feature of the system.

Teachers set out to praise and reward students who show and maintain positive attitudes towards learning and behaviour. This is reflected in achievement evenings and student awards. Our rewards system works very well across the whole school.

Primarily the words *sanctions* and *punishment* are replaced by the word *consequence*. We believe that practically all our students know how to behave in an acceptable manner, because you as parents have taught them to do so. Therefore, when they are being disruptive, they are choosing to do so. That choice will result in an appropriate consequence. Again this will have been clearly explained to all students.

We are also mindful that for some students, poor behaviour can be a communication of need.



Key Rules for the Classroom

1. Preparation: Arrive at the lesson ready to learn, with correct books, equipment and kit
2. Work: Complete all classwork and submit homework on time
3. Listen: Be silent when your teacher is talking and show you are paying attention
4. Manners: Follow instructions; do not argue or answer back.

Rewards (Positive Recognition)

1. Verbal praise
2. Achievement points (which can be used in the reward shop)
3. Letters or emails of commendation
4. Praise postcards from a Head of Department, Year Head or Director of Learning and Achievement
5. Headteacher's Certificates.

**“I have nothing but positive things to say about Beaminster School, they have been brilliant with my daughter since day 1”
Parent Survey**

Consequences

1. Verbal warning, formal warning, detention
2. Isolation within room
3. Removal by Student Support Officer or Senior Teacher
4. Internal isolation
5. Suspension or exclusion (fixed term or permanent).

Parents will be made aware of these actions, depending upon the level.



Student Support

Academic Support

Teaching and learning are at the heart of any school and Beaminster places great emphasis on ensuring the quality of both.

They provide the particular focus for most of the staff training days, since the aim is always to improve the quality of academic provision in the school still further. As a comprehensive school, we welcome children of all abilities.

We are ambitious for **all** our learners.

There is excellent support for those with learning difficulties and an emphasis also on how to best challenge our more able students. Between these two extremes, of course, lie the majority of students and the intention is that each one of them will be given every assistance to reach their full academic potential.



**“Very impressed with the help my son has received from his core subject teachers this year”
Parent Survey**

Homework / Directed Study

Homework develops study skills and children’s ability to work independently, as well as providing opportunities to complete work, reflect on what has been learned in school and revise for exams. When a subject sets homework it is a very important part of that subject’s learning.

At Beaminster, teachers set homework on ClassCharts. This allows students, and parents and carers, to keep track of what homework has been set and when it is due. Students can plan their homework across their evenings and free time, ensuring it is completed by the required deadline while still allowing for participation in clubs and activities etc. Where appropriate, students can also upload homework to their teachers via ClassCharts and receive feedback for work completed.



Where students regularly fail to complete or hand in tasks set, we have a range of support strategies to help them develop their organisational and time-management skills so they become confident independent learners.

A system of warnings, directed support sessions and detentions can also be used which are communicated via ClassCharts. If accumulated, these can lead to further contact with home.

Academic targets are decided on and monitored in discussion with tutors.



**“The Head of Year is an excellent support to the students and takes any parental concerns seriously”
Parent Survey**

**“#Not-okay is a student council-inspired campaign that encourages pupils to share concerns with adults”
Ofsted 2023**

Guide to Success

What do I need to do well at school?

- Attend school every day
- Arrive at school on time and be punctual to all lessons
- Come to school properly dressed, equipped and prepared
- Be polite, positive, pro-active, courteous, willing and helpful
- Follow the school Code of Conduct and core values (ASK)
- Complete your work to the best of your ability and on time
- Listen carefully and follow all instructions first time
- Get involved and make the most of your opportunities.

“Our son is very happy and settled and progressing, thank you”
Parent Survey

“Overall the school has impressed us and all students come across as confident and well-mannered”
Parent Survey



What happens if I do all of the above?

- **Praise.** Staff will let you know that they are impressed with your efforts
- **Achievement Points.** Staff will reward you for positive responses or outcomes with Achievement points. You can monitor your Achievement points online
- **Praise Postcards.** Sent home to the top 3 students in each class for every subject (half termly) based on effort, behaviour and level of attainment
- **Letters of Congratulation.** Following pupil reviews and reports
- **Certificates.** For attendance or subject related achievements – usually awarded in assemblies
- **Celebration Assemblies.** Year assemblies give weekly opportunities for public praise. End of term assemblies are more formal occasions for significant achievements to get school wide recognition
- **Academic Mentoring Days.** These allow you, your parents and tutor to meet and share positive aspects of performance in all subjects and outside school
- **Reports.** Regular reports sent home to parents will highlight your efforts. A letter of commendation will be sent home for consistently good effort and behaviour across all subjects
- **Parent Consultation Evenings.** These allow you and your parents to meet with your subject teachers to hear all about your achievements in individual subjects
- **Awards.** These are presented at celebration assemblies to recognise attendance, effort, attainment, general conduct and service to the school and wider community.



Remember – you are an important part of what makes this school what it is!

“Beaminster School has been a happy place for my daughter. The staff have helped her grow in confidence and achieve academically. She has been offered many wonderful extra-curricular opportunities which she has been lucky enough to take up. She has always felt cared for at school and part of a community which included both staff and pupils. Thank you!”
Parent Survey

Challenge for All

Through our school-wide approach of Responsive Teaching, we aim to provide all pupils with academic challenge and a range of opportunities to help them fulfil their potential and secure the highest possible levels of achievement.

Challenge in lessons linked to Responsive Teaching has been shown to raise the achievement levels of all pupils and we are committed to ensuring that all students, regardless of circumstance, are exposed to rich, challenging and thought-provoking classroom learning and wider opportunities.

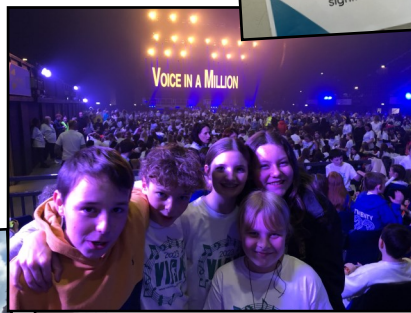
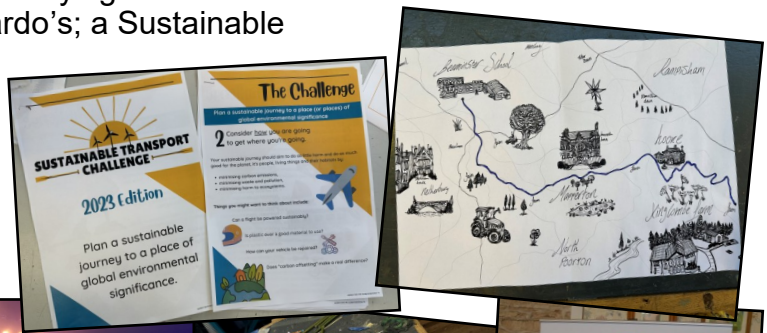
“I am very positive about the school. It feels like it is going upwards in its aspirations for pupils and in its systems and support for pupils. Well done!”
Parent Survey

“The school has planned an ambitious curriculum for pupils”
Ofsted 2023

At Beaminster, subject areas also identify and work to support students who display talent in certain areas, for example, Sport, Drama, Music, Art. We want all students, including the most able, to be fully immersed in their environment.

Subject areas will support our young people through a range of extension or enrichment opportunities and projects. Just some of the things our students have been involved in are the F1 in Schools Challenge, winning the “Future Stars” award; the “Flying Start” engineering challenge in partnership with Leonardo’s; a Sustainable Transport Challenge; the Voice in a Million event in London and the Bank of Dreams and Nightmares creative writing project.

“We are very pleased with our experience of Beaminster School, it has/is bringing out the best in our daughter”
Parent Survey



Transport Safety

All students are reminded that whenever they are in school uniform they are acting as ambassadors and representatives of the school in the wider community, and should therefore behave in a manner that reflects positively on the good name and reputation of the school.

Students using Buses, Coaches, Minibuses, Taxis

- While waiting for their vehicle students should stay on the pavement (if there is one) or as far as possible off the road
- Students should wait until the bus has fully stopped before they try to board or alight. Boarding should be done in a calm and sensible way
- Students should take great care when crossing the road to reach their vehicle, and follow basic road and general safety principles at all times
- Students should make way for other pedestrians while they are waiting, and behave in a way which would not be seen as anti-social to those who live or work next to the boarding points

“Beaminster continues to be a school we are pleased to send our children to. We are out of catchment so it was not the school they should have gone to”
Parent Survey

If transport does not arrive at 3.30 students **MUST NOT** try to walk home or make their own arrangements but should report to the teachers on bus duty who will assist in making arrangements to get home.

“The bus transport service to the school from Crewkerne is brilliant”
Parent Survey

Bus / Transport Behaviour Rules

- If a bus is fitted with seat belts students must use them.
- Students must sit in their allocated seat.
- Students must not get out of their seat while the bus is moving.
- Students must not use bad language, or behave in a way that might cause distraction, concern or offence to the drivers, others on the bus, or to the general public.
- If prefects tell students to stop misbehaving, they must do as they say. Prefects will report any students who refuse to comply and there will be consequences.
- If the bus is involved in an accident, or breaks down, students should stay on the bus. They may only leave the bus if specifically told to do so by the driver (this is unlikely, and would only happen if it were safer to leave the bus than stay on board).
- If students leave the bus they should find a safe place to wait at the roadside. Sixth formers and prefects are expected to help the driver to keep other students calm and orderly on the bus or at the roadside until assistance arrives. If the driver is hurt and cannot take control of the situation, then Sixth formers and prefects will take charge, ring school and emergency services (999) and deal with the situation as calmly and efficiently as possible until help arrives.
- If there is an accident, a student carrying a mobile phone should inform the school (01308 862633). We would need to know where the accident happened, and whether anybody had been injured. If the driver does not have a mobile, students should be prepared to lend theirs to the driver to ring for help or emergency services etc. (the cost of any calls will be reimbursed).
- Students should not call parents unless the school advises you to, as this can cause unnecessary worry and could block access to emergency vehicles if attempts are made to collect their children.



“Recommended by other parents”
Parent Survey

Transport Safety

Students whose behaviour is unacceptable on the bus can expect to be sanctioned in school, and their parents informed. If their behaviour threatens safety on the bus, or if they fail to comply with the rules, they may be banned from using the vehicle for a period of time, and parents will be responsible for getting their children to and from school.



If a Bus is Late

- Students are expected to wait at the bus stop for up to 30 minutes.
- Students are expected to wait at the stop for at least 15 minutes if the weather is bad – “bad” weather means **VERY HEAVY** rain or snow.
- If told a replacement bus is on its way students are expected to wait until the bus arrives.
- In the event of absence from school due to buses parents/carers must ring the school.
- **Dorset School Transport contact number is 01305 221704.**

Pedestrians

- Students must be considerate to other pedestrians at all times, especially when using narrow pavements in the town. (This means giving way to elderly people, people with young children, pushchairs, wheelchairs etc).
- Students must NOT walk up or down Fleet Street unless they live there. The only pedestrian routes to and from the town are via the footpath through the Memorial Playing Fields, or the footpath through Monmouth Gardens to Tunnel Road.
- Students should cross Hogshill Street at the zebra crossing, and Tunnel Road using the refuge near the Beeches junction. If it is necessary to cross in any other location students should apply road safety principles.
- Students should use pavements wherever they exist and not walk out onto the highway. They should be particularly careful in those places where pavements are very narrow or non-existent (e.g. North Street).
- On dark winter days you are strongly encouraged to wear additional reflective strips on your school coats.

**“My son enjoys being at his school
and enjoys learning”
Parent Survey**

Cyclists

- It is the responsibility of students who cycle to school to make sure their cycles are roadworthy (brakes, bell etc).
- All students who cycle to school must wear a safety helmet.
- In winter, when needed, cycles must have lights in working order.
- During the day cycles must be padlocked to the racks outside Sandhurst until the journey home.
- Cyclists should use Fleet Street to access the town (not the footpath) and should exercise great care along the narrow and congested roads in the town centre.
- In winter hi-vis vests are recommended to be worn over school coats and reflective strips on bikes.

Students Brought to School by Car

- Students must be **dropped and collected in town or in the Tunnel Road lay-by** next to Monmouth Gardens and walk into school via these side streets.
- For safety reasons, Tunnel Road bus park is for school transport only and should **NOT be used by parents/carers at the start and end of the school day**
- In exceptional circumstances students can be dropped off at the Tunnel Road car park entrance before 8.30am, after 3.50pm only.
- All drivers must obey the 20mph restrictions in the town and 10mph on the school drive way.

Students Driving Themselves

- Students should use the Fleet Street car park.
- No student may drive to/from school without seeking prior permission from the KS5 Director of Learning and Achievement and providing their registration number and proof of valid insurance.

Structure of the School Day

Pattern of the School Day, Lesson Times

Morning	
8.35am	Staff Briefing
8.45am	Registration/Assembly
(9.05am)	<i>Movement to Lesson 1</i>
9.10am	LESSON 1
(10.10am)	<i>Movement to Lesson 2</i>
10.15am	LESSON 2
11.15-11.30	<i>Break</i>
11.35am	LESSON 3
Afternoon	
12.35pm	<i>Lunch Break</i>
1.20pm	<i>End of Lunch</i>
1.25pm	LESSON 4
(2.25pm)	<i>Movement to Lesson 5</i>
2.30pm	LESSON 5
3.30pm	<i>End of School</i>
3.40pm	<i>Buses Depart</i>

Should you wish to speak to a member of staff, please leave any non-urgent calls until **after 9.15am** where possible please



“Pupils behave well in lessons and around the school site”
Ofsted

“Overall we love Beaminstor, it has passed all our expectations and our son is thriving”
Parent Survey

Equipment List
All pupils will need a suitable school bag in which to carry their belongings. They will need a black and green pen, pencil, rubber, highlighter, ruler, protractor, pair of compasses, calculator, notebook, reading book (KS3)

WE OPERATE A NO MOBILE PHONE POLICY IN SCHOOL

Any mobiles/electronic devices **WILL be confiscated** if seen and/or used during school hours and will **NOT** be returned to the student - **a parent or carer will be required to come and collect any confiscated mobiles.** Mobile ‘phones are for personal use and security **out of school hours and off the school site only** (when boarding a bus students are permitted to show their bus pass to the driver if it is held electronically on their phone).

Students should **NOT** be contacted by parents/carers directly on mobiles during school hours. If parents/carers need to get a message to their child you should contact the school office who will get a message to them (in emergencies only please, not to make domestic or social arrangements).

Should a student need to contact home during the school day (for essential or emergency reasons only) they can do so at Reception.

Mobiles must be switched off and left securely in Reception at the start of the day and collected again at the end of the day, or kept switched off and out of sight in bags (not in pockets). If seen during the school day they **will** be



The School Day

Equipment List

Suitable school bag in which to carry belongings, pencil case, drink (and lunch if applicable).

PE kit when required.

Pencil case should include:

- A black pen and a green pen
- Pencil and rubber
- Highlighter
- Ruler
- Protractor
- Pair of compasses
- Calculator
- Notebook
- Reading book (KS3).



Start of the Day

- To ensure safe queuing, no parking is allowed in the playground.
- Heads of Year supervise their students. On wet days:

Year 7 and 8 students should go to the Hall

Year 9 to the Tech foyer

Year 10 to the Science foyer

Year 11 to the Music foyer.

“Very pleased with the school and teaching. Daughter is very happy, inspired and interested”
Parent Survey

“Teachers all seem very caring and kind”
Parent Survey

- Heads of Year will supervise students in their area.
- After briefing, Tutors collect their tutor groups from outside and escort them to tutor rooms.
- Uniform will be inspected by Tutors at the start of each day .

Morning Registration

- Tutor reps will collect any items which may need handing out to students from the tutor pigeonholes in Reception. Once students enter tutor rooms, they should hang up coats and PE kit and stand quietly behind chairs until told to sit.
- Tutors should insist on silence during registration and that students answer clearly and politely when their name is called.
- The register "closes" at 9am. Students arriving after 9am will be marked late unless we know that this is due to a late-arriving bus.
- One tutor session a week is for literacy related activities or silent reading.
- A “Weekly Wisdom” sheet is used and discussed when there is no assembly with time available for prayer or reflection.
- A pattern for the week is followed by all tutors – assembly, silent reading, topical debate etc.

Assembly

- As a Christian community school we believe this is an important part of the day for students of all or no faith.
- Students arrive quietly as a tutor group, in a line, coats removed and uniform correctly worn.
- Once inside students must remain silent and settle quickly.
- At the start or end of every assembly students may be asked to bow their heads for a few moments (for silent prayer, reflection or thought).
- At the end of the assembly they will be instructed to leave row by row through front and rear entrances. This should be done quietly, sensibly and in single file.
- Students should go directly to their lesson. They must not wait in corridors or outside for friends.

The School Day

Before and During Lessons

- Students should go directly to their lessons.
- Lateness is recorded with sanctions for repeated lateness.
- Students must line up quietly outside the room or in the courtyard as directed, ensuring they are fully prepared for the lesson.
- The building/corridor/room should be entered quietly and sensibly (single file) and students must stand behind their chairs.
- Students only sit when invited to do so by the member of staff.
- Students should remain silent but get equipment out quickly and quietly and complete the 'do now' task.
- The register should be answered with 'Yes Sir/Miss' or in a manner directed by the teacher.
- Students should follow instructions first time and complete all class/homework tasks set.
- All communication should be directed by the teacher (hand up etc).
- The register will be taken within the first ten minutes and is compulsory for all lessons.
- Students will not ordinarily be allowed out of lessons without a note or exit card; the following are valid reasons to leave the room during lessons: to go to the library for research; to go to the reprographics room; to take a message to the office; to see the First Aider if unwell (significant illness only); access to ICT.



Student Movement Around the School

Students should:

- Keep to the left in corridors carrying bags appropriately
- Move sensibly, calmly and considerately; no running or jostling, shouting or making excessive noise
- Give way to, and show good manners towards, all staff and adults
- Use the one-way system in B block and side entrance and exit in A Block
- Use the loo or have a drink should they wish, but arrive to lessons on time.

Staff should:

- Enforce school rules and procedures in and outside of lessons
- Not release students before the bell

“Thank you to all the staff for their efforts in providing a good and nurturing environment for our daughter”
Parent Survey



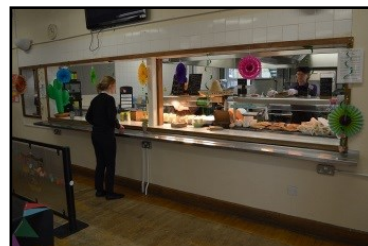
“My son has settled in well to school life at Beaminster”
Parent Survey



The School Day

Breaks and Lunchtime

- Students must line up sensibly for the canteen and follow the instructions of staff, Midday supervisor and prefects.
- Bags/coats should be left on the racks or in lockers.
- Students may eat in the canteen or anywhere outside.
- Break and lunchtime duty staff are supported by senior prefects.
- The school building should not be used to cut through to outdoor areas, students must go around.
- Everyone must respect each others' space/privacy, environment and belongings.
- Students must remain in bounds and keep our site litter free by using the bins provided.
- Ball games must take place on the field (summer) or courts, not in the courtyard or near buildings.
- Outdoor water points should be used to fill bottles. Only water should be consumed in lessons.
- In wet weather only the rooms/areas allocated to the year group should be used.
- Prefects and staff will supervise wet weather rooms.
- Everyone must keep off the grass between October half term and Easter unless directed otherwise
- The lower path by the canteen and surrounding area must not be used.
- In summer, looking at the field from the school, Years 7, 8 and 9 should use the left hand (Fleet Street) side of the field and Years 10 and 11 should use the right hand (pavilion side). All students should be school side of the red line painted on the grass and stay away from the dividing hedge, unless seeking shade.
- Trainers may only be worn when actually on the field or courts playing sport and must be removed before leaving these areas.
- Smoking/vaping, being associated with smokers/vapers or carrying any equipment used for smoking/vaping will result in a 1 day suspension in the first instance and loss of holiday on subsequent occasions.
- Mobile phones are for personal use/security out of school hours only. During school hours they must be deposited at Reception on arrival in school and collected at the end of the school day, or kept switched off and out of sight in bags. If caught with a mobile phone out, visible, or on the person, it will be confiscated.
- No portable electronic devices/cameras/phones are allowed in school.



End of the Day

- Students must leave lessons calmly and make their way sensibly home or to the bus park.
- Students must not collect products from technology or Reception before 3:30pm.
- If the bus is waiting, students may board.
- Students who do not catch a bus should not use the bus park to socialise.
- All students must wait behind the painted white line for their bus to arrive and not board buses without staff permission. Orderly queuing and boarding of buses is expected.
- Year 7 and then the most senior students will board first. Students must have their pass ready (students are permitted to show their bus pass to the driver if it is held electronically on their phone when boarding a bus).
- For service buses, those entitled to travel, i.e. have a bus pass, will board first, then those with return tickets, then those paying for a ticket.
- Once on the bus students are expected to sit quietly in their allocated seat and behave sensibly. They must remain in their seat and wear seat belts if provided. Inappropriate behaviour or language that distracts the driver or upsets others will be met with significant consequences that might include suspension from travel or an outright ban.
- Mobile phones should not be visible or in use until students are on the bus.
- Taxi pickups are from the rear of the bus park or the courtyard for students with SEN. EVERYONE should use the paths and NOT walk across the bus park.
- Parental pickups should be outside the school site, or from the bus park after 3.50pm.



General Principles

Behaviour

Through the overall school aims and core values we strive to develop a trusting and caring environment, based upon mutual respect and understanding where all people are treated fairly. The school ethos is based on these aims and around the qualities of care, courtesy, consideration and common sense.

“Thank you for all the good things that you do”
Parent Survey

Responsibilities

Students are expected to:

Behave in an orderly, purposeful and sensible manner at all times.
Show courtesy and respect to all members of the school community and visitors to the school.
Be thoughtful, helpful and understanding of each other at all times.

Parents are expected to:

Be aware of the school's Behaviour Policy (available on the school website) and actively support it, discussing any problems with the staff, Headteacher or Chair of Governors if necessary.

Staff are expected to:

Set high standards of social behaviour, be polite, well-disciplined and consistent. Listen to students, making it clear through their response that students' comments and reactions matter. Recognise that good classroom behaviour follows good practice in teaching and learning. Seek every opportunity to explain and reinforce the code of acceptable behaviour, dealing fairly and firmly with those who do not maintain the high standards expected of them.

Governors are expected to:

Refer all matters regarding discipline to the Headteacher or Chair of Governors who will discuss these matters together and with the staff if necessary. Be familiar with school policy and actively support it.

School Trips and Visits

The agreed rules apply to all students. Staff will deal firmly and fairly with misbehaviour wherever it occurs. A record of incidents will be kept and will inform future participation. Incidents of serious misbehaviour on school visits will always be reported to parents, and may result in permission to take part in future trips being withdrawn.



Transport To and From School

The school will always support providers and DC in dealing with transport-related behaviour incidents. If a student is behaving poorly, the company has the right to remove that child, with notice, for a fixed period.

“Both my son and daughter enjoy school which is the most important thing”
Parent Survey

The Headteacher

Incidents reported to the Headteacher are considered serious. The Headteacher will consider appropriate sanctions in consultation with colleagues and further investigation if necessary. The Head reserves the right to place a student in an after school detention, with appropriate notice if this is considered necessary.

Suspension

Wherever possible the Student Support and Guidance Centre (SSGC) is used for student withdrawal / internal suspensions before the Headteacher considers a formal suspension. In very serious cases, and in accordance with local and national policies, it may be necessary to suspend a student. The suspension will either be for a fixed period, or permanently, with parents' right of appeal to the Governing Body.

Code of Conduct

Behave in a positive, courteous and respectful manner and live out our core values (ASK)

Expectations of you are high. Ensure you try your very best to meet them.

All requests by staff must be respected. Listen and respond positively.

Monitor your own performance and set yourself challenging and realistic targets.

Individuals count, so try to understand other people's point of view.

Never forget the safety and well being of others – keep to the left and move quietly and courteously around school.

Start and finish each term positively, building on your successes and addressing your weaknesses.

Take pride in our school – keep it clean and tidy, don't drop litter or eat in classrooms or corridors.

Extend yourself – make the most of your opportunities at school and rise to challenges.

Respect the rights of others to learn and of your teacher to teach.

“Prefects act as role models for younger pupils to understand the “Beaminster Way””
Ofsted 2023

“The management team always appear to be great role models running a good, safe ship”
Parent Survey



“I greatly appreciate the caring community nature of the school”
Parent Survey

“Very pleased and impressed with the school overall”
Parent Survey

School Rules

Adhere to the expectations, guidance and rules displayed in classrooms

Beaminster Code of Conduct and rules:

- Our school values
- 4 classroom rules
- Uniform and appearance expectations
- Daily routine, rules and expectations
- Student guides.

You should always:

- Come equipped for all lessons ready to learn
- Meet all deadlines and be punctual
- Be polite and positive
- Set a good example
- Fulfil your potential and strive for excellence.



Move around the school sensibly and with consideration:

- Remove outdoor clothing on entering the building
- Keep to the left in corridors and on stairs
- Walk don't run and keep entrances and exits clear
- Allow staff, school visitors and senior students 'right of way'
- Respect your environment – keep it clean and litter free
- Eat in the Canteen, or outside, not in classrooms or corridors.
- Do not shout/scream or make unnecessary noise.

“The school listens to me when I have queries about my child and/or her happiness”
Parent Survey

“Pupils behave well in lessons and around the school site”
Ofsted 2023

The following items must not be brought into school:

- Mobile phones (unless deposited in secure box in Reception)
- Hand held music or other electronic devices and cameras
- Controlled substances and/or associated items (excluding personal medication which should be handed in to the First Aid Officer. Inhalers may be carried)
- Gum
- Tippex
- Knives or other items considered a weapon
- Fiddle toys (unless issued by a member of staff).

All students must remain on the school site.

The following areas are out of bounds:

1. Off site – unless a supporting note is shown or you are a Year 11 Prefect (all Prefects must sign in and out at Reception)
2. Fleet Street as a route to and from school (unless your house is on it)
3. The Sports Hall, the area around it and the 3G pitch and Mountjoy School site
4. The car parks and paths leading to them
5. Areas around the Fitness Suite and gym (thoroughfare only)
6. Top fields by the bus park and area behind the Technology block
7. Area surrounding the cricket pavilion, stores, long jump pits and cricket strip
8. Area around the Science block, around the tennis courts and the tennis hut
9. The school field (October half term to start of Summer Term)
10. Beyond the red line half way down the field (Summer)

NB: No student should be on the school site before 8.30am or after 3.40pm (unless part of a supervised extra-curricular activity).



“My child is very happy at Beaminster and really loves most teachers”
Parent Survey

School Rules

Drugs and Alcohol

The possession or use of controlled drugs, and possession or consumption of alcohol is strictly forbidden in school, on school premises, during school activities or on the journey to and from school. Contravention of this rule will automatically lead to a fixed period of suspension, and could lead to permanent exclusion.

**“Discipline levels are good and the school has a safe and friendly atmosphere”
Parent Survey**

Smoking/Vaping

All school premises are no smoking/vaping zones. Smoking/vaping, being in possession of cigarettes/vapes, matches, lighters or any other smoking/vaping related items is strictly forbidden in school, on school premises, during school activities or on the journey to and from school. Contravention of this rule, including association with those who are smoking/vaping, will automatically lead to a fixed period of suspension.

Truancy

Registers are taken at the start of the day and the beginning of every lesson. In the event of a fire we must be able to ensure that we can properly account for all the students, staff and visitors who may be on site.

On the rare occasions when it is thought that a student may be truanting from school, parents will be informed as soon as possible that their child has gone missing from the school premises without permission, and the Police will be contacted if we are unable to contact the student.



Personal Property

The school can take no responsibility for any loss, damage or theft of valuables or personal property brought into school.

“In general communication between school and parents is good”

Valuables should not be brought into school.

Mobile phones, cameras or other electronic devices **will** be confiscated if seen during school hours and a parent/carer required to come into school for the item to be returned.

ALL items that are brought into school must be **clearly and permanently marked** with the student's name. Named items that are handed in can be swiftly returned to the owner. Students must take responsibility for looking after their own belongings, lockers are available if required.

Dangerous items must not be brought in to school under any circumstances. Such items include laser torches, penknives, guns, air pistols and replica weapons. Contravention of this rule will automatically lead to a fixed period of suspension and police involvement.

Any accidental breakages or damage to school property must be reported to a member of staff immediately. In cases of non-accidental damage or breakages, parents/carers of the student(s) involved will be expected to contribute towards the cost of any repair or replacement. This includes any damage to fire alarms and/or fire extinguishers.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

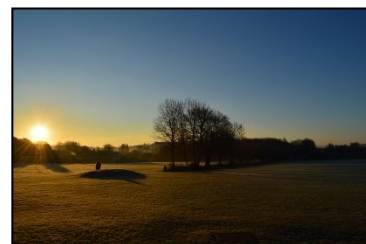
**We expect all students to comply with the uniform and appearance information on pages 35-37, and all parents/carers to support the school in this.
Any requests to temporarily vary uniform must be accompanied by a Doctor's note.
We reserve the right to provide alternative uniform, isolate, or send a student home if they do not comply with this policy and our expectations.**

What Happens If ...?

WHAT HAPPENS IF I ...

Arrive late to school?

You need to sign in at Reception on arrival and must provide a note to explain why you are late (on the day). If you are late to registration and/or a lesson on 2 occasions in a week you will receive a detention.



Arrive late to lessons?

You are expected to go sensibly and quietly from one lesson to the other in the 5 minutes allocated for this purpose. You should not use this time to socialise. There are therefore very few excuses for arriving late to a lesson. If you do arrive late, apologise and give a reason (supported by a note). Lates are recorded and you will be asked to make up the time lost in a detention. If you are consistently late your Head of Year will send a letter home to your parents.

Come to school out of uniform?

Your Teacher/Tutor/Head of Year will need a note of explanation from your parents. You will then be sent to the SSGC to get an alternative or may be given a uniform pass lanyard which must be clearly visible and worn around your neck.

My appearance is not acceptable?

Your Tutor/Teacher will ask you to remove/rectify the problem and confiscate items as necessary. You will receive a detention for this. If you are unable to, or refuse to comply, you will be sent to your Head of Year who will contact home and/or isolate you until such time as you meet our expectations. If you have more than one item confiscated you will not have it returned at the end of the day. Your parents will be asked to come in to school to collect it. Further confiscated items will result in further detentions as well as loss of privileges.

Don't do my homework?

You will be asked to attend a departmental homework support session at lunchtime. If you do not attend, you will be given a lunchtime detention. Non-completion of homework on a regular basis will result in us contacting your parents and making arrangements for you to catch up after school.

Forget my equipment, books or other kit?

You will be given a detention. If a pattern of poor organisation becomes evident, we will direct you to attend lunchtime catch-up clubs and contact your parents.

Bring in contraband items?

Mobile phones and other electronic devices are not allowed during school hours. If brought in for travel safety they should be deposited in Reception at the start of the day for safety. If seen during school hours you will have the item confiscated and your parents will have to collect it. All other contraband items will be confiscated and returned to you or your parents at the school's discretion.

Go out of bounds?

You will be given a detention and your parents will receive a letter informing them that you were somewhere you were not supposed to be.

Smoke/Vape

If you are caught smoking/vaping, with smokers/vapers, or are in the possession of any items associated with smoking/vaping e.g. tobacco/lighter/vape oil etc. you will be suspended for a day. If you repeat the offence it will result in the loss of a day's holiday, then a disciplinary hearing with the Governors.

"I have nothing but positive things to say about Beaminster School"
Parent Survey

What Happens If ...?

WHAT HAPPENS IF I ...

Miss lessons/truant?

You will be formally recorded as a truant and your attendance will be closely monitored. Your parents will be contacted and your name will be passed to the Attendance Team.

Am rude to a member of staff?

This will depend on the circumstances and what you do or say. It can mean isolation and may ultimately lead to a formal suspension. Whatever the circumstances your parents will be contacted.

Misbehave in lessons?

You will be given a detention. If you continue you will be moved to another class or removed by a Student Support Officer (SSO) and we will write to your parents. You may also lose some of your free time.

Misbehave out of lessons?

You may receive a detention. You may also lose some of your free time or could be suspended depending on the seriousness of your poor behaviour.

"I always find visiting Beaminster School a good experience and the teachers are warm and approachable!"
Parent Survey

Use my mobile, or it goes off during school hours?

In line with school policy your phone will be confiscated and a parent/carer will need to come and collect it. Should you need to contact home urgently during the day (not to make social or domestic arrangements) you can do so from a school phone, just come to Reception.

WHEN MIGHT I BE ...

Isolated

If you behave very poorly outside of lessons, or in a lesson and are removed by our Student Support Officer or a senior member of staff.

Suspended

For smoking/vaping (or with smokers/vapers), for consistently poor behaviour or for a single dangerous or unacceptable act (e.g. fighting or swearing at a member of staff).

Brought in front of the Governors

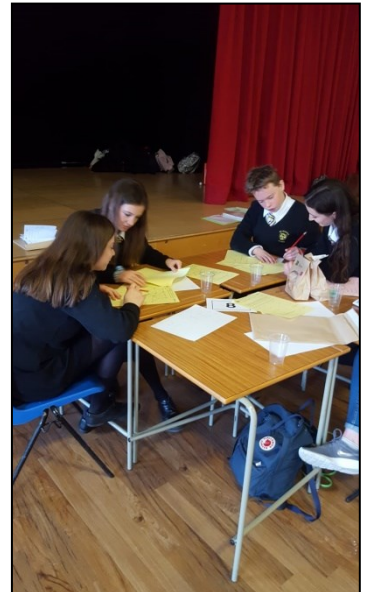
For persistent, poor behaviour over a period of time or a single act involving controlled substances.

Permanently excluded

For consistent, unacceptable behaviour over a sustained period of time or for a single act involving the supply of controlled substances.

REMEMBER – YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR OWN BEHAVIOUR.

HELP MAKE BEAMINSTER SCHOOL A POSITIVE PLACE TO LEARN!



"I feel very positive about Beaminster School today"
Parent Survey

Mobile Phone Policy

Beaminster School is a place of learning, where all students and adults should feel free to carry out their business without fear of bullying, of being photographed or filmed without their permission, and without fear of having their learning disrupted.

Therefore, we do not allow students to use mobile phones in our school

This includes at break times, lunch time and while on school premises at the start and end of the school day

If seen during school hours mobiles WILL be confiscated

If a **student chooses** to use a mobile during the school day, or have it visible in any way, they are **choosing to have it confiscated** by any adult in the school. If a phone is confiscated it will not be returned to the student. A parent or carer will be required to collect it from Reception.

If a **student needs to contact home during the day**, or in case of emergency, they may come to Reception and use a school telephone. (Please note, calls should only be for essential, school-related purposes, not to make social arrangements or for other personal reasons).

Students must never contact parents or carers by mobile during the school day.

If a student is unwell they should tell their teacher who will send them to one of our First Aiders. The decision about whether or not to contact home will then, and always, be made by **an adult**.

Parents/carers must not contact or text students on their mobiles during the school day.

If, during the school day, a student chooses to contact parents/carers or anyone else via a text message or phone call, or if a photograph has been taken using a phone, they will risk a fixed term suspension.

Under no circumstances is it permissible to take a photograph of any member of the school community, adult or student, without permission. This is a serious infringement of another person's rights and there may be serious consequences for such an action.

We do recognise that some parents/carers may wish students to have a mobile or other electronic equipment for use on their journey to and/or from school. Any electronic devices must be **turned off from 8.30am-3.45pm** and handed in to Reception, or switched off and kept out of sight in bags.

Mobiles should be handed in to Reception for safekeeping during the day, and collected again at 3.30pm. Phones must **not** be used on the school site (the only exception is to show a bus pass when a student is about to board their bus).

Please note that the school accepts **no responsibility** for loss/damage to any electronic device. If students choose to bring electronic equipment onto the premises it is entirely at their own risk. If lost or damaged, the school will not be held liable for any replacement or repair.



Mobile phones are banned from the classroom



Camera phones prohibited



Uniform and Appearance

Why do we have school uniform?

We believe that a smart, practical school uniform serves a number of important functions:

- it develops a feeling of community and self esteem
- it does much to eliminate feelings of inequality
- it projects a positive image of the school.

Our school uniform combines practicality and affordability with both traditional and contemporary style. It is simple and helps minimise some potential health and safety problems, as well as promoting inclusion and equal opportunities.

The guidance we give on appearance and uniform ensures that parents, students and staff are clear about how all students should present themselves. We believe this clarity of expectation saves time and reduces conflict and arguments for both parents and teachers.

If you have some temporary problem with uniform a written note from you will help Year Heads and staff in the SSGC to provide an alternative at school. However, the school reserves the right to send students home to change if they do not meet our uniform and appearance code and expectations and will hold a number of clean uniform items for students to wear if they arrive out of the appropriate school dress.

All items of school uniform must be clearly and permanently marked with the owner's name.



We are proud of our school. Our school uniform helps to project this positive image both in school and in the wider community

**“Lovely family feel when we visited”
Parent Survey**

Other than our school crest no motifs on any garment will be accepted. If purchasing uniform items from high street retailers, please check that the style and cut is the same as those available from our school supplier. **These are the only style/cut that we will accept.**

Some second hand items may sometimes be available but we do not hold any uniform in stock. The school has a clear policy for assisting parents who may have difficulty in purchasing the required items. For confidential advice about help with uniform costs please contact the school office.

Uniform Supplier

Reminder: Free school meals students will be issued with an annual discount code (currently £35) against the cost of school uniform. All uniform should be purchased direct from Kitz UK Ltd: <http://kitzuk.co.uk>

Sixth Form

There are other arrangements for older students that are set out in the notes we publish for them.



Full details and more photos of what is and what is not acceptable uniform can be found in our **Uniform and Appearance Policy** available on the school website: [School Uniform | beaminsterschool](#)

Uniform and Appearance

Please remember to **clearly and permanently mark all items** with the owner's name. All items of uniform are available from our on-line supplier www.kitz.co.uk

Shirt and Tie

Plain white long sleeved shirt with stiff pointed collar and house tie

- Shirt to be 'formal', standard/school, cotton/polyester (not flannel or linen etc). Top button must be done up, tails/bottom tucked into trousers/skirt **at all times**, sleeves rolled down
- Clip-on tie to be worn **at all times** (top button done up) and at the appropriate length/style. Its fixed construction/design should not be altered in any way
- Undergarments should not be visible beneath shirt (i.e. plain white T-shirt vest with no logos to provide additional warmth/protection is acceptable as long as the V-neck jumper is also worn).
- Tailored short sleeve shirts are optional for the Summer Term only.

"Beaminster is a friendly and good school"
Parent Survey

V-neck jumper with school crest

Black, school V-neck jumper with crest (only available from school supplier)

- Must be worn at all times (apart from during the Summer Term)
- Must **not** be tucked in or rolled up to look like it is tucked in
- Sleeves must be rolled down at all times
- No other jumpers or alternative tops allowed (e.g. hoodies, sweatshirts or cardigans etc).



Standard School Trousers/Skirt

Plain black full length school trousers or black pleated skirt (to be purchased from Kitz)

- The standard pleated school skirt is the only skirt accepted. No other style is permitted. Must be **knee length** i.e. no shorter than 2 inches above the top of the knee, no longer than mid-calf length.
- Standard school trousers must not be excessively flared, long/short tight/skinny or considered extreme in fashion. Bottom of trouser to be long enough to rest on the top of the shoe when standing.
- No jeans or denim-type material, cords, chinos, leggings, shorts, $\frac{3}{4}$ length, multi-pocketed, or tracksuit style is permitted
- Tailored shorts are an optional items for boys in the Summer Term only
- Belts are to be black and a max of 5cm wide with a small, discreet buckle.

"I do like the school very much"
Parent Survey

Shoes/Socks/Tights

Black leather, polishable, formal/traditional style shoe of a safe and supportive style. No hybrid or non-formal shoe is permitted

- Trainers/'trainer style' or skate shoes (Nike/Vans etc), suede shoes, boots, canvas/ballet style, sling back or open toed shoes are not appropriate for school and **not** be worn
- Lace-up shoes are preferred over Velcro straps or slip-on shoes
- Heel height should not exceed 3cm, sensible sole appropriate for all indoor/outdoor floor surfaces
- Socks should be plain black (not patterned) of standard length (base of calf), not worn over tights
- Tights to be plain black, not patterned or textured. No form or style of legging is permitted
- Trainers may only be worn when taking part in a sporting activity

"Thank you"
Parent Survey

Coat and outdoor garments (scarves, hats, gloves, bags etc)

The school crested, reversible coat/fleece only

- **No other coat /jacket is permitted** – All students are expected to have a school coat as it will be required for going on any school trip or visit, to and from school (only available from school supplier)
- Non-school gloves/hat/scarf should be plain, dark in colour (preferably black). Scarves straight 'college' style only (no large pashmina types permitted). School bags: dark in colour, and suitable for school use (e.g. rucksack style, no 'fashion' handbags).

Uniform and Appearance

PE Kit

All items of PE clothing are available from our on-line school supplier (school crested items are only available through the school supplier).

- White (boys) crested PE tops
- Black (girls) crested PE tops
- Black school crested hoodie
- Black shorts (loose fit only) or skort
- White trainer socks
- Trainers – suitable for indoors (non-marking soles) and outdoor use (court/track/field)
- Reversible black and white rugby shirt
- Black and white hooped sports socks
- Boots – with aluminium studs for rugby
- Gum shield
- Shin pads

Optional PE items (All)

- Plain dark tracksuit bottoms (no zips)
- Black cycling shorts (worn under shorts)
- Boot bag / kit bag
- 3/4 leggings

Jewellery

One pair of plain studs or sleepers (one in each ear)

A plain wrist watch only

Nothing to be worn on fingers, wrists or neck

- Studs or sleepers to be worn in the ear lobe only (not in the upper or inner part of the ear).
- Sleepers to be no larger in size than a 5p coin. No 'dangly' earrings, stretchers or bars allowed
- No other rings, bands, necklaces, bracelets, visible piercings (e.g. nose/lip/eyebrow/tongue studs or rings) or 'decoration' permitted (and may not simply be covered with a plaster). 'Hidden' piercings may need to be removed for PE
- All new piercings are to take place in the summer holidays only (to allow the necessary healing to take place) so they can be safely removed for PE lessons.

Hair and Make-up

- **Hair is to be tidy, of 'business-like' appearance and natural in colour – not dyed**
- **Discreet natural looking make-up for Years 9, 10 and 11 only**
- **Make up is not permitted for Years 7 and 8**
- **Nail varnish and false nails are not allowed**
- **False eyelashes and fake tan are not permitted**
- Hair must not be extreme in style / length / decoration or contain patterns or lines
- No shaved lines in eyebrows
- Boys must remain clean shaven
- Hair bands / ties / scrunchies are to be black and plain

Full details and more photos of what is and what is not acceptable uniform can be found in our **Uniform and Appearance Policy** available on the school website: [School Uniform | beaminsterschool](#)



Sixth Form

We operate a very successful and well-established combined Sixth Form with the Sir John Colfox Academy in Bridport. Our students are high achievers and progress on to some of the top universities in the country, including Oxford and Cambridge and a broad range of courses including medicine and veterinary medicine.



The Sixth Form

We work in partnership with other agencies, schools and universities to ensure that our students have wide ranging opportunities. Our aim is that all our students make the very most of their abilities and are well prepared for the journey ahead.

We have a dedicated Student Progression Officer who successfully supports students in gaining apprenticeships - including highly coveted places at Leonardo Helicopters - employment or embarking on gap year travels, although the majority of our students go on to university, including Russell Group universities. The latest range of official statistics show that our students make excellent progress when compared to other students nationally.

**“Sixth Form students learn the academic language needed to prepare them for higher education. This includes reading academic journals”
Ofsted 2023**

While A levels are demanding, we also seek to challenge and extend our students, for example, through our very successful Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). This provides excellent evidence for students when they make university applications, and is cited by many top universities as being a deciding factor in a student’s application. We also offer Core Maths and have excellent links with Bournemouth, Plymouth, Falmouth, Cambridge and Exeter Universities.



We strongly believe that our students benefit from the personalised approach that a small Sixth Form can offer, combined with the widening of experiences, opportunity and horizons that our partnership brings.

We know all our students well, and this in-depth knowledge about individual students, gained over 5 years, ensures that we can continue to support them and ensure that they get the best possible outcomes.



Students joining us from outside integrate well into the friendly environment. Students are assigned specialist Sixth Form Tutors who act as mentors to guide and support them throughout their Sixth Form experience.

**“Students in the Sixth Form value the individual mentoring with their Tutors”
Ofsted 2023**



Sixth Form

We operate a Joint Sixth Form with our partner school in Bridport, The Sir John Colfox Academy, offering a range of A Level subjects and some BTEC courses.

Involvement in the school and wider community is very important to us and students have opportunities to become involved through schemes such as paired reading (working with our younger students to help them improve their reading) and “give back” time which, for example, sees Sixth Formers helping out in classes and sports clubs.



The Sixth Form

Our Art and Photography students benefit from residential trips to Falmouth and St Ives, and our Biology and Geography students participate in field trips.

For full details about courses, specific entry requirements and more information about our Sixth Form, please see the Sixth Form Prospectus which is available on the school website, or contact the Head of Sixth Form.

**“Sixth Form students are well prepared for adult life”
Ofsted 2023**

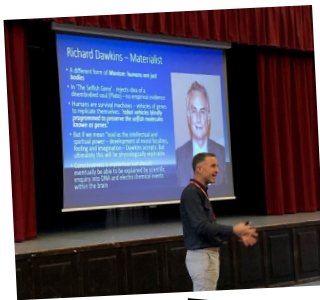
**“Pupils and students in the Sixth Form have good relationships with adults, built on mutual respect and trust”
Ofsted 2023**



**“Sixth Form has a great atmosphere along with a hard working ethic. The link with Colfox is great, and it’s hard to imagine not being integrated now”
Year 13 Beaminster 6th Form Student**



**“It is quite important my child attends university if that is what she wishes to do”
Parent Survey**



Sixth Form Trips and Events

Just some of the things that have happened in our 6th Form:

- New Sixth Form Parent information evening
- National Chemistry Conference
- New York trip
- Poetry and Art workshops
- Applying to University information evening
- NCS volunteering opportunities
- Hampton Court History trip
- Student Finance visit for students and parents
- Employability Fair
- RAG week and talent show
- World Book Day
- A Level Art and Photography Exhibition
- Holocaust Ambassadors visit Auschwitz
- Bryanston Careers Conference
- Art residential to St Ives
- Iceland trip
- UCAS conference, Exeter
- Biology field trip to Leeson House
- Spectroscopy visit to Bath University
- Art trips to Bath
- Geography field trips
- Theatre trips
- A range of invited speakers for tutorial sessions
- Summer Ball
- School play
- Music and Drama
- Amnesty International events and workshops
- Rome and Pompeii



The Sixth Form

**“The personal, social and health education programme continues in the Sixth Form”
Ofsted 2023**



Visits by specialist providers plus a huge number of cake sales and other fund-raising events to raise money for various charities supported by the school.

**“We like the school and are pleased with the choice of Sixth Form”
Parent Survey**



Inclusion

Beaminster School has a well-deserved reputation for the quality of the support offered to all our students on an individual basis.

Our aim is to ensure that every student can attain realistic and challenging goals, whatever barriers to learning they may have.

“Extremely impressed by SEN support provided during discussion at parents’ evening and the approach of SEN staff and of teachers in tailoring lessons to the way the child works ”
Parent Survey

By focussing on and developing our responsive teaching we aim to meet the needs of all students, including those deemed to need stretch and challenge, and those who may need additional support with their learning.

Provision for those students with additional needs includes an excellent team of teaching assistants for both class and individual support, a 1-to-1 specialist literacy teacher, paired reading, small specialised groups for handwriting or speech and language work.

In addition to our Student Support and Guidance Centre (SSGC), we also have a fully staffed Wellbeing room available to help support students with their learning. ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistants) trained staff are able to provide emotional and social skills support for students, and we also work closely with the Prout Bridge Project in Beaminster. There is well-structured and targeted support for those students eligible for the Pupil Premium.



“The school supports the weakest readers to build their confidence and fluency with reading”
Ofsted 2023

“There is a sense of “one big family” and staff seem to really know the students”
Parent Survey

External support from the local authority and other services includes the Child Health Service (CAMHs), Looked After Children’s Service, West Dorset Locality Team, the Police, Drug and Alcohol Advisory Service, Safeguarding and Social Care, Children’s Services and integrated Family Partnership services.

Their advice and input enables us to provide tailored support to a wide range of pupils to help them achieve their full potential.

“My son has ADHD tendencies and he has had excellent support”
Parent Survey

“The school accurately identifies the needs of pupils special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)”
Ofsted 2023

Student Services

Our Student Services provision ensures that we can provide a central service to respond to the broadest range of student need at Beaminster.

This includes a Wellbeing area to support attendance, medical or SEND issues, an inclusion Learning Hub for planned small group or 1:1 teaching, and the Student Support and Guidance Centre (SSGC).

The SSGC also offers 2nd hand uniform for sale (as available), and can loan uniform and equipment to students if required.



One of our Deputy DSLs (who is also a mental health First Aider) is based in the SSGC.

“The student services hub supports pupils with their individual needs, helping them to be ready to learn when they join lessons”
Ofsted 2023

Student needs fall into 7 broad areas, each led by a named colleague with a clear referral route to the many external agencies we work with.

- Attendance
- Safeguarding
- Learning Support
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH)
- Behaviour Support
- Medical Support
- Family Support.

To resource this school-wide service we draw on expertise from staff in the following areas:

- SSGC
- Learning Hub
- SEND Team (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities)
- Heads of Year and Directors of Learning and Achievement.

This central provision has a number of specialist areas to provide the required interventions:

- Literacy Support Room
- First Aid Room
- Wellbeing Room
- Learning Hub
- Sensory Room
- ELSA Room(s)
- Multi-Agency Room
- Isolation Room
- Nurture Room.



“My child is generally very happy at the school”
Parent Survey

Extra-Curricular

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

We see the provision of extra-curricular opportunities as an essential and invaluable part of our work.

Whether they are to do with learning, travel, sport or culture and the arts, new and varied experiences benefit all students and help educate them in the widest sense.



**“Pupils take part in a range of extra-curricular clubs such as beekeeping, sports and the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award.
Ofsted 2023**

A broader outlook on life, an enjoyment of healthy competition (e.g. on the sports field) increased confidence and co-operation with a tolerance of others are all desirable qualities in young people.

Extra curricular life helps develop all these – as well as being plain good fun!

In addition to offering subject support sessions and revision clinics, the range of lunchtime and after school clubs and activities offered is broad and diverse and all students should be able to find something that interests them!

Our clubs change termly and up to date details can be found on the school website.

**“Overall we are very pleased with the school. Children are happy and secure”
Parent Survey**



Duke of Edinburgh Award

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

The school runs a very successful Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, with students participating in both Bronze and Silver Awards.

This is a programme of personal and social development that is widely recognised by employers and those in education. It builds self-confidence and self-reliance, and students gain a real sense of achievement from completing it. Students discover new skills, interests and talents, and develop their leadership skills and abilities.

There are physical recreation, volunteering and skills sections that students must have completed by February in order to continue on to the Expedition phase which is carried out during the Summer.

**“Great opportunities to do extra activities
Parent Survey**



Trips and Visits

International Links, Visits and Exchanges

Our links with Europe and other parts of the world help to enrich the school and extend the opportunities and educational experiences open to our students.

**“Stop the Clock” days and
“Activities Week” give pupils the
opportunity to enjoy trips and visits”
Ofsted 2023**

We have another Ski Trip heading off to the slopes of Austria again in February, a planned football trip to Barcelona, a History trip to Berlin, and our Sixth Formers, who have enjoyed previous trips to New York, will be visiting Iceland later in the year.

Students have also previously gone on extended trips to India, Borneo, Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands, Tanzania and Costa Rica.

The Modern Foreign Languages Department arranges a trip to France every year, and other residential visits have included trips to Jersey, Cornwall, London, the battlefields of France, Slapton Ley, St Ives and Nettlecombe.

In addition to all this, we also have regular trips out of school on Stop the Clock days.



Sporting Opportunities

Students at Beaminster have access to a wide and diverse range of sporting activities, and we have had several Olympic athletes come and talk to students about their experiences.

Some of the many sporting opportunities available to students include: rugby, basketball, football, tennis, cricket, hockey, rounders, netball, gymnastics, Fun Run, trampolining, yoga, badminton, athletics, table tennis, cross country and Sports Leaders awards. Our student leaders also regularly support primary sporting events, strengthening our links with our primary partners.

“Since joining Beaminster my daughter has been happy, well looked after and is doing brilliantly! Thank you”
Parent Survey



The Arts

Music, Drama and The Arts

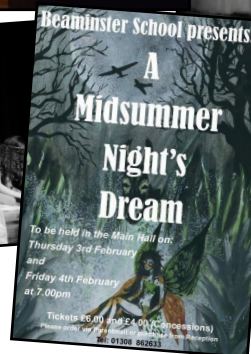
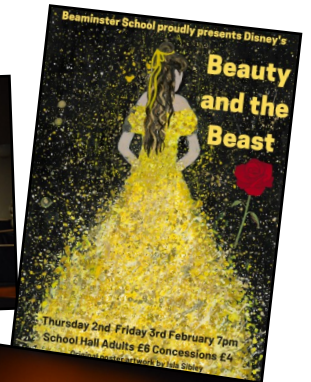
The school offers a wide range of music groups to suit all tastes including the orchestra, saxophone and flute groups, student bands and choirs, with regular concerts and performances held throughout the year.

Other clubs include Drama, Art, Photography, subject drop-in sessions, yoga, dance, science, Cooking Club, Lego Club. Students are encouraged to let staff know if there is a particular club they would like to see run.

Recent whole school shows have included fantastic productions of "Bugsy," "A Midsummer Night's Dream," "Beauty and the Beast", and most recently "Treasure Island." We are all very excited about our next production which is going to be "Oliver!"



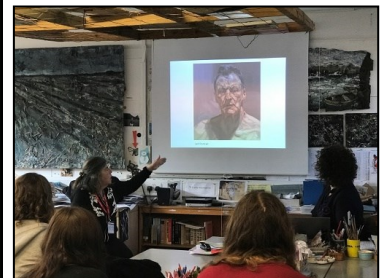
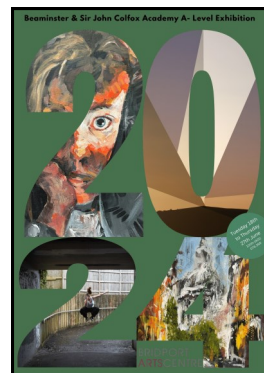
**"Drama and Music performances showcase pupils' talents"
Ofsted 2023**



**"Particularly impressive Music and Drama departments, which have become outstanding in recent years"
Parent Survey**

A Level Art and Photography

We have regular guest speakers, and the annual A Level Art and Photography Exhibition held at Bridport Arts Centre, which showcases the fantastic creative talents of our 6th Form students, is always well worth a visit! Our students' work is also displayed during Beaminster Festival and Year 9 work has been displayed in Symondsburry.



Charity and Fundraising

Each year group has a charity day each year, and picks a charity the students would like to support and raise money for. Over the years, the school has raised thousands of pounds for various charities including Cancer Research, Red Nose Day, Sport Relief, Comic Relief, Jeans for Genes, Wrong Trousers, Save the Children and Children in Need.



Activities Week

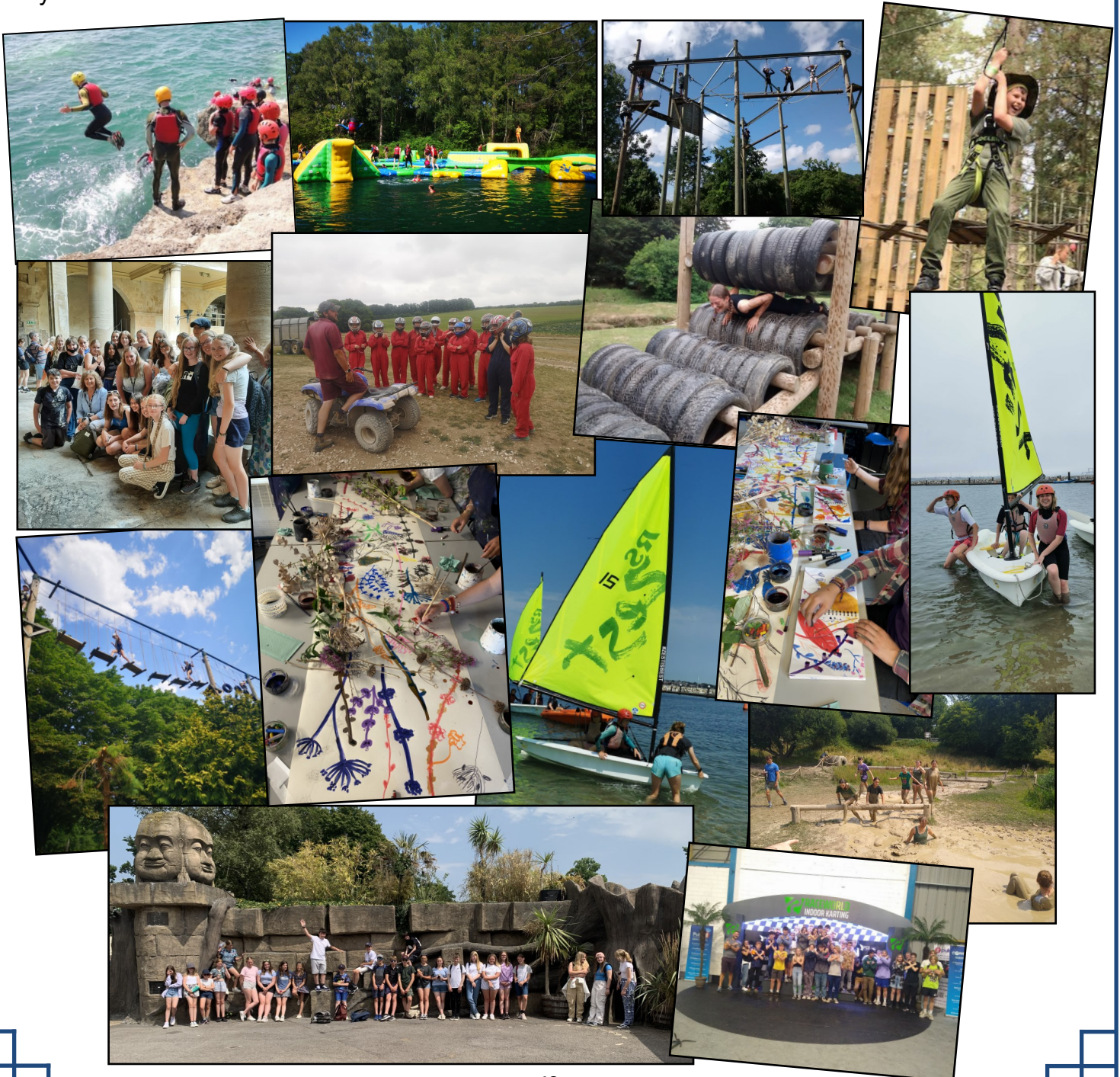
Activities Week

Each year the school suspends its formal teaching timetable for one week at the end of summer term and staff organise a wide variety of activities for all students in Year 7-10, some of which are residential.

Activities Week brings a new dimension to the experiences of all students as many activities work across year groups, which does a great deal to further develop positive relationships between staff and students. Detailed information about what is offered is issued during the Autumn Term.

Examples of activities offered in the past include residential trips to France, London, Wales, Cornwall, Spain, Jersey and the Scilly Isles, day trips to a wide range of venues and places, along with sailing, golf, football, jewellery making, extreme sports, cookery and creating a school magazine! With a wide range of activities and costs to suit all budgets, including free activities, there really is something for everyone!

“Beaminster School has a caring, friendly environment and we are really pleased with the different opportunities our daughter is receiving there”
Parent Survey



Stop the Clock Days

Alongside the statutory programmes of study set out by the Government, we think that successful learners need wider experiences and opportunities to develop their skills, as well as knowledge.

Therefore, in addition to Activities Week, we set aside 2 days in the year where the daily timetable is suspended to give students greater time and independence to investigate broader aspects of the curriculum.

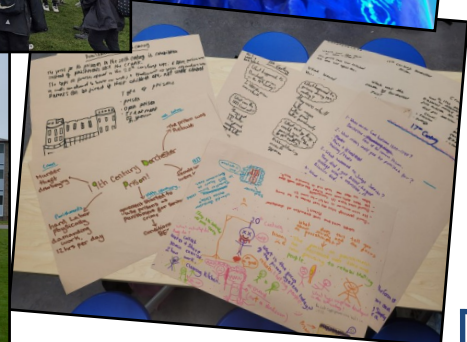
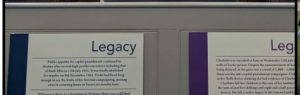
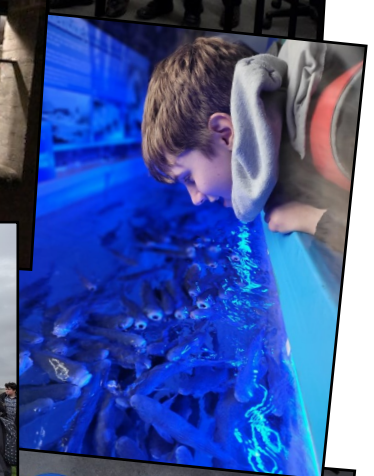
The range of learning varies depending on the year group and may be part of the subject curriculum, a one-off project or skills development such as the Year 10 and 11 revision skills days.

Recent days have seen students at Cheddar Gorge, Corfe Castle, Bristol Zoo, Lyme Regis, Dorchester and Bovington Tank Museum, with "hands on" visits in school from the exciting Wonderstruck with their flames and rockets and students building and racing their own little vehicles.

Year 10 and 11 students have had workshops with nationally renowned speaker, Peter Radford, focussing on Human Rights, equality and diversity, extremism and online influences. Year 11 students spend time finishing off their coursework.



"We are particularly pleased by how excited and keen to learn our daughter is about her favourite subjects - it is a joy to listen to how animated she is after these lessons!"
Parent Survey



Responsible Use of ICT

Rules for Responsible Use of ICT

Access to the Internet will only be permitted if you are happy to support this and your parental consent has been given via the consent form page of the blue student registration form. All students receive a copy of our Privacy Notice, outlining how we comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which can also be found on the school website.

Beaminster School offers pupils supervised access to the Internet and email. We strongly believe in the educational benefits of the Internet and email to enable students to explore a wide range of information sources, and to enable them to communicate and collaborate with other learners throughout the world. Although there can be concerns about young people having access to inappropriate material via the Internet, the school takes a range of measures to minimise these risks and we would also ask parents to help, support and guide students with these issues at home.

A filtering system is in operation which restricts access to inappropriate materials, supplemented by an Internet safety programme for all pupils which teaches safe and appropriate behaviours to adopt when using the Internet, email and other digital technologies.

School internet use is supervised and filtered, but families should be aware that some students may find ways to access material that is inaccurate, defamatory, illegal or potentially offensive to some people. As with any other area, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. The school therefore supports and respects each family's rights to decide whether or not to apply for access.

In school, teachers will guide students towards appropriate material. At home, families bear the same responsibility for guidance as they exercise with other information sources such as television, telephones and radio. **For further help and advice about keeping students safe online, we highly recommend parents access the CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) website at www.thinkuknow.co.uk** A link to this site can also be found on the school website. The provisions of this agreement are listed below. If any student violates these provisions, access to the Internet and/or email will be denied and the student will be subject to disciplinary action following the school's Positive Behaviour Management system.

1. Personal Responsibility

Any misuse of the network must be reported to a staff member. Misuse may come in many forms, but is commonly viewed as any message(s) sent or received that indicate or suggest pornography, unethical or illegal requests, racism, sexism, inappropriate language, any use which may be likely to cause offence and other issues described below. Photos stored on school sites must not be copied or shared without the prior, written permission of those in them.

2. Acceptable Use

The use of electronic services must be in support of education and research in accordance with the educational goals and objectives of Beaminster School at all times.

Use of other networks or computing resources must comply with rules appropriate to that network. Transmission of any material in violation of any United Kingdom or other national laws is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material or material protected by trade laws. Use of commercial activities by for-profit organisations is generally not acceptable.

3. Privileges

The use of the Internet and other electronic services is a privilege and inappropriate use will result in that privilege being withdrawn. Students with access to the Internet will be advised by school staff as to proper behaviour and use of the facilities. Beaminster School staff will rule upon inappropriate use and may deny, revoke or suspend usage. All users are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. There is a requirement to monitor all emails sent using the school address.

Responsible Use of ICT

4. Services

Beaminster School offers Internet access and makes no warranties of any kind whether expressed or implied, for the network service it is providing. Beaminster School will not be responsible for any damages suffered whilst on this system. These damages include loss of data as a result of delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries or service interruptions caused by the system or elements of the system, or your errors or omissions.

Use of any information obtained via the network or other information systems is at your own risk. Beaminster School specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy of information obtained via its Internet services. Do not use the network in any way that would disrupt use of the services by others.

5. Security

- Never disclose any personal information (home address/contact details), or those of other students.
- Passwords should not be shared or revealed to anyone else.
- Anyone caught disclosing passwords may have their access denied and may be subject to disciplinary action.
- If a student thinks someone has obtained their password they must contact the IT department immediately.

Security on any computer system is a high priority because there are so many users. If a security problem is identified, a member of the IT staff should be notified at once. A problem should never be demonstrated to another student. All use of the system must be under a student's own username and password unless specifically directed by a member of staff. Any user identified as a security risk may be denied access to the system and be subject to disciplinary action.

6. Vandalism

Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy any equipment or data of another user or of any other networks that are connected to the system. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses, the wilful damage of computer hardware, whether connected to the network or not, the deletion of data from its place of storage.

7. Online Ordering systems

Students should not use the school Internet for ordering goods or services, or subscribe to any newsletter, catalogue or other form of correspondence via the school Internet, regardless of its nature.

8. Email

- Use appropriate language.
- Be brief - few people will bother to read a long message.
- Proofread your message to ensure it is error free and easy to understand.
- Remember that humour and satire are very often misinterpreted.
- Never send or encourage others to send abusive messages.
- Respect the rights and beliefs of others.
- You may be alone with your computer, but what you say and do can be viewed by others.
- Never swear, use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language
- Illegal activities of any kind are strictly forbidden.
- Email is not guaranteed to be private.

Students are expected to use this facility in a responsible manner. Messages relating to, or in support of, illegal activities may be reported to the authorities. The sending or receiving of any email which contains any inappropriate material is strictly forbidden. This material includes, but is not limited to, pornography, unethical or illegal requests, racism, sexism, inappropriate language, any use which may be likely to cause offence. Disciplinary action will be taken in all cases. It is forbidden to send large volume emails (spamming).

9. Social Media / Chat Services

- **Always remember that you are a representative of the school on a global, public system.**
- All the guidelines and advice given above should always be considered before and when posting.
- **Students are not permitted to use social media (Facebook, Twitter etc) during school hours.**
- Students are not permitted to use the chat services available on the Internet during school hours.
- Students caught doing this will have disciplinary action taken against them.

Other Information

Anti-bullying Policy

We believe that all our students should be free to enjoy their learning and leisure time free from humiliation, oppression, abuse or the threat of it. Bullying, in any form, will not be tolerated. All students should feel safe to report any incidents of bullying and feel confident of support. As well as speaking to their Tutor, or any member of staff, they can use any of the **#Not-Okay** boxes around the school to report any issues. Parents, staff and students all work together to deal with bullying.

Please contact the school if you suspect there may be a problem — **if we don't know about it, we can't help to resolve it.**

Equality Policy

Our Equality Policy relates to the nine protected characteristics: Disability, Race, Age, Sex, Sexual orientation (homophobia), Gender re-assignment, Marriage and civil partnership, Pregnancy and maternity, Religion or belief. We give careful consideration to equality issues in everything that we do in school, working towards eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct that is prohibited by the Equality Act. We are committed to working for the equality of all our staff, children and parents and to meet our duties under the Equality Act 2010.

Equality Objectives

1. Improve student attendance
2. Promote cultural understanding and awareness of different beliefs
3. Actively close gaps in achievement
4. Eliminate homophobic, sexist and racist language in school
5. Support pupils with gender identity.

Please contact the school office for details of other school policies.

BSPTA (Beaminster School Parent Teacher Association)

Our Parents' Association (the BSPTA) organises and runs fund-raising activities (ideas always welcome!) to help provide additional facilities for students that the school might not otherwise have the budget to be able to buy, such as our outdoor table tennis tables (enjoyed by staff and students alike!), and to provide parents with a link to the school.

They also help at many school events, including providing refreshments at parents' evening, concerts and school performances. Everyone understands that we are all busy people and there just aren't enough hours in the day, but if you can help - even just once a year or every other month - or whatever time you can give, it really will be useful! Please come along to meetings, or just support the events - **ALL ARE WELCOME** - grandparents and other relatives too!

If lots of people are able to give just a little bit of time then all our children will benefit.

The Beaminster School Christmas Fair has been organised by the Parents' Association for many years and is very well attended. In recent years, the big christmas raffle has been a huge success. Ideas for good value local Christmas products, stall ideas, support with organising the fair and help setting up and/or running stalls on the day are always welcome. The aim is to keep raising money for extras that will benefit all students during their time at Beaminster School. Contact details and meeting dates for the Parents' Association can be found on the school website.



“She has always felt cared for at school and part of a community which includes both staff and pupils”
Parent Survey



“A fantastic school”
Parent Survey

Safeguarding

Ensuring students are safe, happy, achieving and actively participating in the life of the school, the family and community are key aims of every parent and school. At Beaminster we pride ourselves on how well we look after our students whilst they are with us and beyond!

**“Bullying does happen occasionally, but pupils report it. They are confident that adults will help them”
Ofsted 2023**

In addition to their tutor, Head of Year, SSGC staff and, indeed, every other member of staff that students will come into contact with whilst they are at school, there are also specifically designated staff who are fully trained in Child Protection matters. These members of staff are there to ensure all children feel safe both at school and at home:



Mr Withers
Designated Senior Lead
Lead for Child Protection



Mrs Berry
(DSL) Senior Deputy Designated
for Child Protection



Mrs Dodge
Deputy Designated Lead



Mrs Amy Monks
Safeguarding Governor

If a student is worried about their safety or wellbeing, or that of a friend or classmate, then they should speak to any member of staff, or better still find one of the staff named above.

Staff will be able to offer support **no matter what the problem is**. Students (or parents) can always reach the staff named above by contacting school Reception.

**“We couldn’t be happier with how Beaminster has allowed our son to settle in, in the best possible way”
Parent Survey**

The Safeguarding Team at Beaminster

- Leads high quality practice in safeguarding
- Develops excellent quality assurance and risk assessment systems
- Works effectively in partnership with parents
- Ensures exemplary practice when collaborating with key agencies to safeguard children.

Site Security and ID Badges

All visitors to the school are required to sign in and out at Reception. All staff, both teaching and non-teaching, and all 6th Form students have photographic badges which they are required to wear at all times when on the school site. This is to ensure that only authorised personnel are on the school site.

Anyone not wearing an ID badge will be asked to report to Reception to sign in, be formally welcomed to the school and given an ID badge. All staff are required have enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) clearance.

Teaching Staff



Mr Richard Barnes	Deputy Headteacher / RS Teacher
Miss Georgia Borries	English Teacher
Mrs Katie Brent	Art Teacher
Mrs Amy Carlile	2nd in English
Mrs Emma Chubb	Science Teacher
Mr Ed Clements	SEN Teacher
Miss Alice Clifford	SEN Teacher
Miss Barbara Coleman	Head of Maths
Mr John Crossland	Head of Science
Mrs Wendy Da Costa	Head of Technology (Joint)
Mrs Siobhan Dinsmore	SENCO
Mrs Karen Dodge	Instructor (Maths)
Mr Kevin Donovan	Careers/Work Related Learning, Student Support, Head of Year 11
Mrs Sam Edwards	Lead in Music
Ms Jill Forster	Head of MFL
Mrs Sian Gibbs	Head of Technology (Joint)
Mr Keith Hales	Headteacher
Mr Paul Haigh	Head of Photography / 6th Form Mentor
Mrs Helen Harding	Maths Teacher / 6th Form Mentor
Miss Lucy Hawkins	Head of Art
Mr Ryan Hobby	PE Teacher / Head of Year 7
Mrs Rachel Holmes	2nd in Humanities
Mr Sean Hyde	Art Teacher
Mr Phil Jeffs	Technology Teacher / Technician
Mrs Jess Jennings	MFL Teacher
Ms Charlotte Jones	DoLA* KS3 (Years 7,8&9)
Mr Martin Langford	History Teacher
Mrs Elizabeth Lees	PE Teacher
Miss Jen Lewis	PE Teacher
Mrs Fenella Martin	Science Teacher
Miss Sarah Marzougui	MFL Teacher
Miss Rhiannon McConnell	English Teacher
Miss Katherine Patten	Head of Humanities
Ms Sophie Perkins	Psychology Teacher / 6th Form
Mr Paul Prendergast	Head of Year 10 / SEN Teacher
Miss Susie Rollick	Head of English / Literacy Lead
Mrs Rosemary Rychnovsky	Science Teacher
Mr James See	DoLA* KS4 (Years 9 & 10)
Ms Bryony Smith	Head of Year 9 / Lead Drama Teacher
Mrs Laura Spencer-White	English Teacher
Mr Marcus Stevens	Science / Computer Science Teacher
Mrs Lizzie Streatfeild	Apprentice Teacher
Mr Gareth Taylor	2nd in Maths
Miss Pippa Tyler	Maths Teacher / 6th Form Mentor
Mr James Wagstaff	Head of PE
Mrs Nina Wagstaff	SEN Teacher
Mr Colin Wales	Science Teacher
Mrs Sarah Walters	DoLA* KS5 (6th Form)
Mrs Lisa Walton	Technology Teacher
Mr David Withers	Deputy Headteacher / Safeguarding Lead / Head of Life Studies

**“The school is considerate of the workload and wellbeing of staff”
Ofsted 2023**

**“The face to face feedback from teachers has been encouraging, perceptive and affirming”
Parent Survey**

**“At the parents’ evening I really felt that they knew my child and cared, and there were some really lovely connections with her teachers”
Parent Survey**

**“Staff appreciate the opportunities provided for professional development”
Ofsted 2023**

*DoLA = Director of Learning and Achievement

**“I appreciate the calls from teachers when there are issues to discuss”
Parent Survey**

Support Staff

Miss Amy Allen	Data Officer
Mrs Anna Appleby	Teaching Assistant (Wellbeing)
Mrs Lorraine Baker	Student Progression Officer
Mrs Gayle Beare	Transition TA
Mrs Denise Bennett	SEN Admin
Mrs Donna Berry	Student Support and Guidance Centre (SSGC) Manager
Mrs Kathy Carter	Technology Technician
Mrs Nicola Chalkley	Office Manager, PA to Head & Head of 6th Form / HR
Mrs Helen Challis	Student Support Officer
Mrs Sharon Channing	Admin Officer / First Aid
Miss Kelly Coombes	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Kathy Coward	Teaching Assistant
Mr Darrin Donaldson	Caretaker
Miss Eloise Dumper	Science Technician
Mrs Helen Emmett	Exams Manager
Mrs Jo Fox	Departmental Teaching Assistant (Science)
Mrs Belinda Frizell	Departmental Teaching Assistant (English)
Miss Rebecca Hughes	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Abbi Irving-Bell	Supervisory Teaching Assistant
Mrs Jackie Hyde	Departmental Teaching Assistant (Technology)
Mr Ian James	IT Technician
Miss Eliza Morrissey	Finance Officer
Mrs Lisa Neill	Teaching Assistant
Mr Wilford Parker	Janitor
Ms Kellie Poole	Finance and Business Manager
Mr Thomas Price	Reprographics / First Aid
Miss Karen Richards	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Marilyn Stone	Head of Year 8 / Cover Supervisor / Trips and Visits Administrator
Mrs Heather Thorne	Admin Officer (Reception)
Mrs Lisa Van Niekerk	First Aid / Work Experience Administrator / Library
Miss Wendy Wallbridge	Midday Supervisor
Mr Charles Woodward	Senior IT Technician
Mrs Annie Wyatt	Senior Science Technician



“Beaminster is a friendly and happy school”
Parent Survey

“Generally we are very happy with the school and are very pleased we moved to it from her previous school”

“We love Beaminster School from the Ladies in the office to the face that teachers know the children even when they are not in their classes”
Parent Survey

Please be aware that phone lines (and staff) do get very busy first thing in the morning

Please leave your call until later in the day if at all possible

School Governors

Chair of Governors
Vice Chair of Governors

Ms Bridget Millwood
Ms Sally Ann Palmer

“Governors and the leadership of the school work together to identify priorities for the school’s future development”
Ofsted 2023



“My son is happy at school and doing well”
Parent Survey

Governors

Rev David Baldwin
Mrs Nicola Chalkley
Mr David Ennals
Mr Patrick Fleming
Mr Keith Hales
Mrs Helen Harding
Mr Trevor Harris
Ms Bridget Millwood
Mrs Amy Monks
Mr Gerald Montague
Ms Sally Ann Palmer
Miss Katherine Patten
Ms Philippa Richardson
Mrs Carolyn Shead-Jones
Mr Matthew Sims
Mr Rollo Tanner
Mrs Amy Taylor

Foundation (Ex Officio)
Co-opted (Support Staff)
Foundation
Parent Governor
Headteacher (Ex Officio)
Teacher Governor
Co-opted
Co-opted (Parent)
Parent Governor
Co-opted (Parent)
Co-opted (Parent)
Co-opted (Staff)
Co-opted
Co-opted
Co-opted (Foundation)
Co-opted
Co-opted

“The majority of lessons seem to be engaging and have a positive impact on learning”
Parent Survey

Associate Governors

Mr David Withers
Mr Richard Barnes

Deputy Headteacher
Deputy Headteacher

Clerk to Governors

Ms Tanya Harley. The Clerk to Governors can be contacted via the school.

The Frances Tucker Trust

Frances Tucker was born in 1648 and she established a Trust Fund for the benefit of pupils from Beaminster and Netherbury over 300 years ago. That fund is still going strong today, with students still able to benefit from her generosity hundreds of years later!

A proportion of the fund is available to award grants in accordance with the charitable objectives of the Trust, which are set out on the Charity Commission’s website and on Beaminster School’s website, and over the years the Trust has given support in a wide variety of ways.

Beneficiaries must be under 25 and allowances can be made to enable beneficiaries to travel abroad, to pursue their education beyond the curriculum or to enter a trade or profession. For more details about how to apply, see the Frances Tucker Trust page of the school website.





Beaminster School Term Dates 2024-2025



2024	September							October							November							December								
	A1	B1	A2	B2	A3	B3	A4	B4	A5	B5	A6	B6	A7	B7	A8	B8	A9	B9	A10	B10	A11	B11	A12	B12	A13	B13	A14	B14	A15	B15
Week	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	4	11	18	25
Mon	3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	5	12	19	26
Tues	4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25		7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26	6	13	20	27
Weds	5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26		8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	7	14	21	28
Thurs	6	13	20	27		4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	6	13	20	27		2	9	16	23	7	14	21	28	3	10	17	24
Fri										2	9	16	23	7	14	21	28		3	10	17	24	8	15	22	29	4	11	18	25

Autumn Term 2024

2025	January							February							March							April													
	B8	A9	B9	A10	B10	A11	B11	A12	B12	A13	B13	A14	B14	A15	B15	B16	A17	B17	A18	B18	A19	B19	A20	B20	A21	B21	A22	B22	A23	B23	A24	B24	A25	B25	
Week	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	
Mon	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	4	11	18	25	5	12	19	26	6	13	20	27	2	9	16	23	3	10	17	24	21	28	5	12	19	26	
Tues	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	5	12	19	26	6	13	20	27	7	14	21	28	3	10	17	24	4	11	18	25	22	29	6	13	20	27	
Weds	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	6	13	20	27	7	14	21	28	8	15	22	29	4	11	18	25	5	12	19	26	1	8	15	22	29		
Thurs	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	7	14	21	28	8	15	22	29	9	16	23	30	5	12	19	26	6	13	20	27	2	9	16	23	30		
Fri																																			

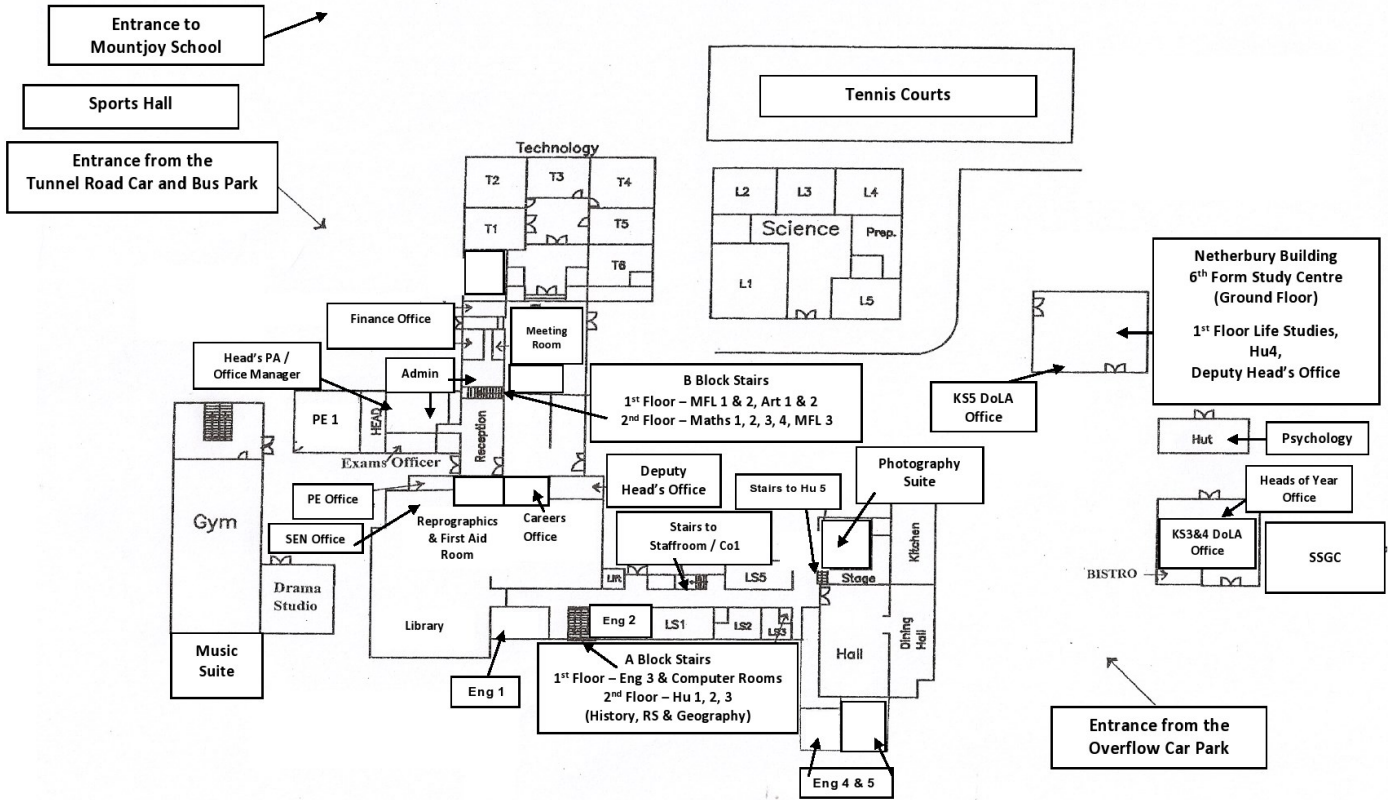
Spring Term 2025

2025	May							June							July							August																			
	A15	B15	A16	B16	A17	B17	A18	B18	A19	B19	A20	B20	A21	B21	A22	B22	A23	B23	A24	B24	A25	B25	A26	B26	A27	B27	A28	B28	A29	B29	A30	B30	A31	B31							
Week	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31				
Mon	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	3	10	17	24	4	11	18	25	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	3	10	17	24	4	11	18	25	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	
Tues	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	4	11	18	25	5	12	19	26	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	3	10	17	24	5	12	19	26	
Weds	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	5	12	19	26	6	13	20	27	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	4	11	18	25	6	13	20	27	
Thurs	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	6	13	20	27	7	14	21	28	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	5	12	19	26	7	14	21	28	
Fri																																									

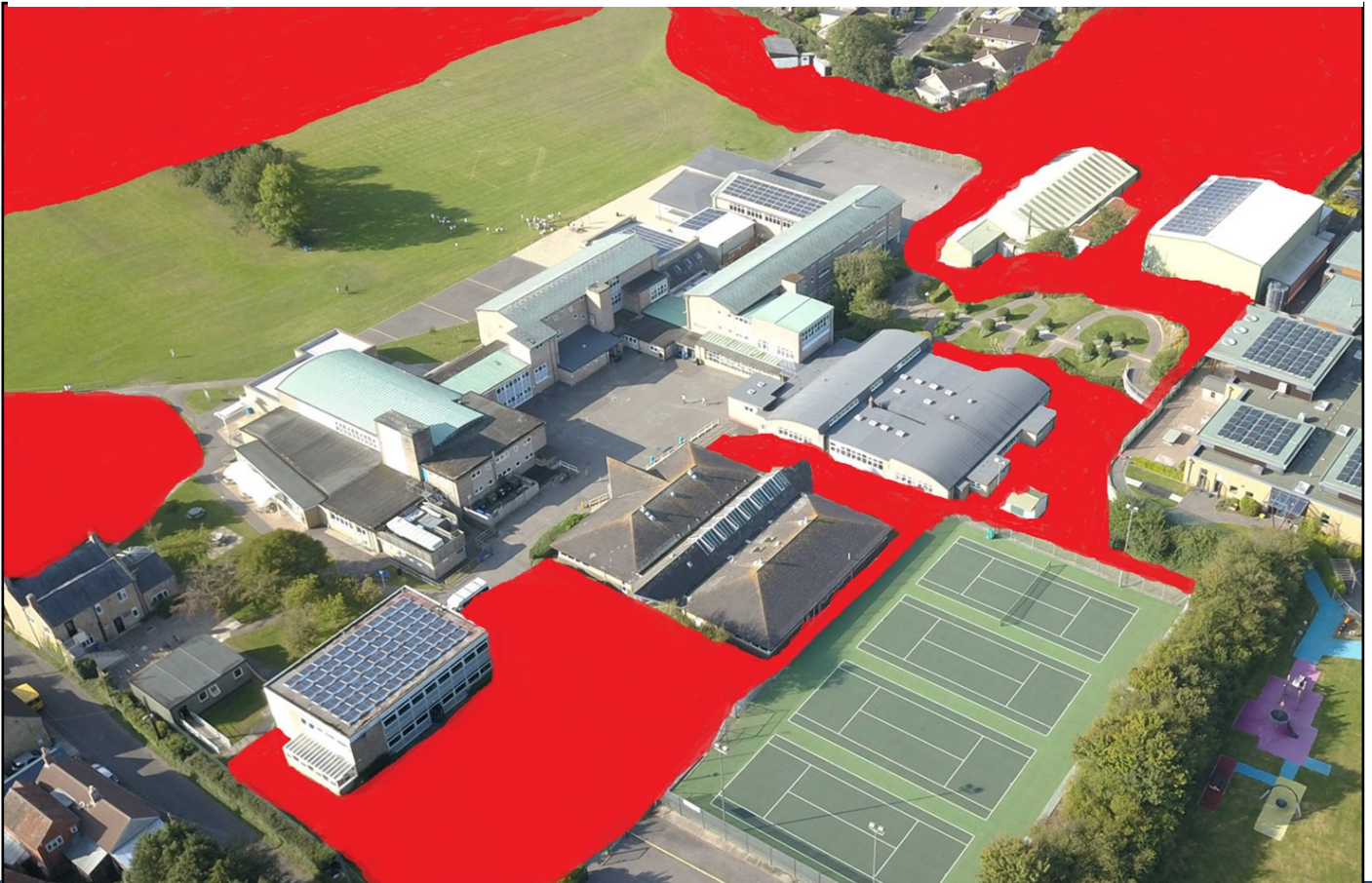
Summer Term 2025

- = Non-pupil days
- = School Holidays
- = Bank Holidays
- = Academic Monitoring Day
- = Staggered start, only identified Year groups in school (see Term Dates list for full details)

School Map



Out of Bounds Areas



Contact Information



Office hours: 8.30am-4.30pm (4pm Friday)

Tel: 01308 862633

Beaminster School, Beaminster, Dorset DT8 3EP

Email: office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk

Website: www.beaminster.dorset.sch.uk

Facebook: Beaminster School

X (Twitter): @BeaminsterSch



Absence Line 01308 861917 (available 24hrs)

Please call the Absence Line **as early as possible** to report an absence (and by 10am at the latest) **Briefly and clearly** state the student's **name**, **tutor group** and the **reason for absence**.

The Absence Line is available **24hrs a day** but can get busy at peak times so please do try again!

You need to call in for **each day of absence**.

A call home will be made if no reason for absence has been given.

Please note that students are NOT required to remain at home for 48hrs following an illness

As long as students are **not infectious**, it is up to you, as parents/carers, to decide when your child is fit enough to return to school after illness

School Transport Contact Numbers

Please note that we have NO responsibility for school transport. All queries regarding school transport should be directed to the relevant provider.

Dorset County Transport: 01305 224537

Email: dt@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/web/guest/-/school-bus-passes>

First Wessex Bus: 01305 783645

Wessex (Mobile): 07866 979781

IMPORTANT NOTE

The school's Caller ID is withheld ("Caller Withheld").

This is because we are unable to deal with the volume of calls where the 1471 function is used to return a missed call as it is impossible for the office to trace who might have made a particular call.

In case of emergency the school **MUST** be able to contact you quickly, so **please ensure that you have provided us with a contact number that will accept incoming "Caller Withheld" calls.**

"Beaminster School is fabulous, you encourage children to be themselves and don't force them to fit into stereotypes"
Parent Survey

"The praise postcards sent home are a lovely idea and mean a lot to parents when they arrive"
Parent Survey

