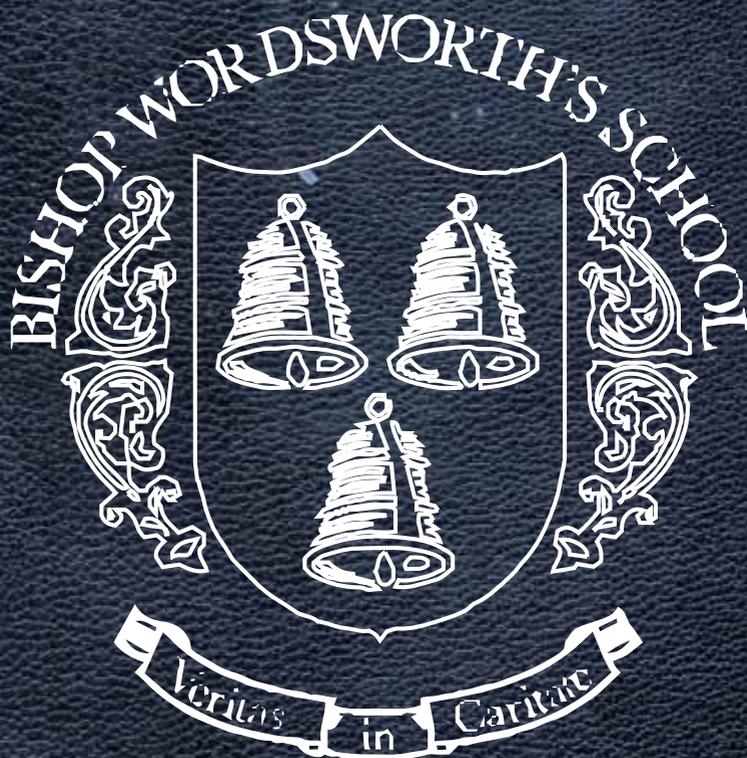


BWS 6TH FORM



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WELCOME

HENRY DIX | HEAD BOY 2019-2020



As Head Boy at Bishop Wordsworth's School, I would like to take this opportunity to extend a very warm welcome to all current and prospective students wishing to join us in the coming year. Here, in the shadow of Salisbury Cathedral, we offer a wide range of subjects to students (including an Extended Project Qualification) which, in conjunction with the professional teaching delivered by our staff, results in our students gaining all they can from their A Level courses. Bishop's offers a realistic intermediate stage between life at secondary

school and life at university, with the students allowed increasing amounts of freedom as they progress through Sixth Form, both in terms of their academic studies and their social time in and around school. By combining a high calibre of teaching with the unique lifestyle that the school offers, Bishop's helps the majority of students end up with the career they want or at the university they aspired to.

At Bishop's we offer an abundance of opportunities to our students in the form of co-curricular, super-curricular and extra-curricular activities. The school has a highly dedicated sports department that results in Team BWS being represented and recognised at both regional and national level! Academic clubs run throughout the year, including book clubs, STEM talks and, specifically in Sixth Form, subject specific student-led societies such as Young Medics. In many ways, the environment is similar to that of a university, and allows the students to construct a social network within a friendly and supportive community that we pride ourselves on.

Being Head Boy, I am in a position to fully appreciate the opportunities that the school offers to all of its incoming students. When studying at Bishop's, students will develop both academic and life skills, which are invaluable for that large jump to university. One of the most outstanding attributes that Bishop's Sixth Form can offer is the Careers and Enrichment programme. The Enrichment programme consists of the students experiencing a series of courses, from cooking to car maintenance, that teach beyond the curriculum. This is alongside the excellent Careers programme offered at Bishop's, giving students the opportunity to pin down what they may be interested in or what could be open to them post-A Levels. Having had in depth experience of how BWS operates, it is clear that students get out what they put into their schooling experience. As well as the Careers and Enrichment programme, the school's support staff and pastoral care are aspects of BWS I would rank highly. With trained mentors available during school hours, a friendly and approachable environment is created. I

know many students who have valuable experience with this.

When I joined in Year 7, a role such as Head Boy did not feature in my mind, but as I progressed and grew as a person, due to my experiences within this school, I developed the confidence to strive for it. I am honoured to have the opportunity to give back to the community that got me here, both staff and pupils alike, so all those joining can continue to truly take advantage of the vast opportunities that are in front of them.

We hope you enjoy this short, student-made prospectus and find it a useful insight into Sixth Form life at Bishop's from the Sixth Formers themselves!



“ My experience of joining the Bishop's Sixth Form, even having been at BWS since Year 7, was that there was a complete and somewhat unexpected change of pace and environment. The Sixth Form respects the students a lot more and trusts us to study hard in our own time, allowing us to choose where, when and who we work with. We are also all encouraged to take part in, and lead, extracurricular activities such as debating, sports, and philosophy. I'm sure I speak for most of the students here when I say that these are some of the best parts of the school. ”

Robert Croager, Deputy Head Boy 2019-2020

JOINING BISHOP'S

NOAH MAIN | SENIOR PREFECT



I joined Bishop Wordsworth's Sixth Form from the Stonehenge School in 2018. Stonehenge is a smaller secondary school than Bishop's, which comprises both secondary years and the Sixth Form. This was a major advantage when transitioning from Stonehenge as Bishop's still maintains a friendly environment along with its dedicated Sixth Form, resulting in a less intimidating introduction to A Level study.

Upon joining Bishop's, my first impression was of how friendly and welcoming the staff and students were. Everyone is more than happy to help or point you in the right direction, making you feel valued from the moment you start. I was assigned a mentor, who arranged regular meetings to discuss anything from school work to life at home. Having this mentor has really helped me to develop as a person and has allowed me to explore what I would like to do in the near future, helping me to focus in the right areas and pushing me in the right direction to ensure that I fulfil my aspirations.

Sport at Bishop's has also proven to be a massive part of my school life. I joined the school football team, a mix of year 12 and 13 students, training twice a week with many games spread throughout the year. One of the benefits of this was the ability to interact with people whom I may not have had the chance to had I not been part of this club. Bishop's has many different clubs and societies, all of which host a mix of people. These can truly help anyone to settle in to their new environment and become more confident.

Bishop's provides many great opportunities for students to get involved within different areas of the school, ranging from volunteering for the monthly cathedral services, to helping out at parents' evenings and in the school canteen. These opportunities were a great way for me to feel valued and get to know more people in my year. Furthermore, my involvement helped me get recognised by the school, to the point that I was appointed a senior prefect at the end of the Easter term.

BISHOP'S AND THE CATHEDRAL

JACK TRAVERS | CATHEDRAL PREFECT 2019-2020



One of the great things about the Sixth Form is that it backs right onto the beautiful Cathedral Close, providing the perfect space for both taking time out and for socialising with friends during the day. We take advantage of it especially during lunch, when many of us make the most of the nice weather (when possible!).

The Cathedral and Close also play host to numerous events and functions, which Bishop's students are often invited to attend. These range from intriguing talks in the Cathedral to lectures and volunteering opportunities from many of the organisations based within the close.

Central to this is the relationship which Bishop's has with the Cathedral, which I am privileged to contribute to. This relationship allows us the use of the Cathedral throughout the year where we meet as a school for assemblies and special services. These include Founder's Day and the annual school Eucharist which provide a great opportunity to reflect and to develop greater self-awareness, regardless of faith.

Jack joined BWS Sixth Form from St Joesph's School, Laverstock in September 2018.



ACADEMIC LIFE

WILL ARMSTRONG | MATHS PREFECT



Bishop's provides a structured learning system for students: each subject has a little under four hours of contact time, split between two teachers per week as well as a supervised study session, in which work set by the teachers is completed. All students take a core three subjects alongside either Further Maths, Core Maths, or an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). Between these subjects, students have between 15 and 20 hours of academic lessons each week. There is also the understanding that students will complete work outside of school, either set by the teacher, or more general reading around their subject. For example, a student taking Politics would be expected to stay abreast of the news.



There is always ample opportunity for struggling students to seek help by meeting with a teacher, sending them an email, or attending help groups and clubs. The Sixth Form office is always open for other queries or concerns. In addition, each student has a teacher assigned at the start of the year as a mentor, with whom they will have regular meetings to monitor academic progress. However, the mentor can also provide support in other ways, be that offering personal advice, recommending summer schools or discussing future careers.

While much of this is the same in any school, it is important to understand what sets Bishop's apart from other schools: the sense of community and warmth. In part, this comes from the small size, but it also arises from the general culture of students and teachers that creates an amicable atmosphere. This provides a solid foundation for academic life. It is important to learn in an environment that feels comfortable and secure, and I believe Bishop's more than fulfills both these criteria.

But let us not forget the very reason for being in a school. It is a stepping

stone into the future, whether that's a gap year or an apprenticeship, a place at university or a comedy career. We are fortunate to have an incredible Careers Advisor, Sally Armstrong, who provides outstanding support for every student at any time of the school year. There is also a Higher Education fair in the spring term, as well as a university open day visit to help students learn the types of questions to be asking.

Sixth Form is a step up, both in terms of the difficulty of the subjects, and the responsibility required to make decisions which could shape the next few years. Bishop's provides both a solid foundation for a secure future and plenty of opportunities to challenge and stretch yourself.



SIXTH FORM LIFE

JACK BEAVER | CHAIR OF THE SIXTH FORM COUNCIL

It is often said that your school years are the best years of your life, and the Bishop's Sixth Form certainly lives up to this. For me, it is set apart from other sixth forms by the fantastic learning environment, with teachers who truly care about your personal achievements and success, whatever form that takes, as well as the true camaraderie between all.

Whether you are a keen sportsman, musician or debater, Bishop's offers the opportunity to explore your interests outside the classroom. For me, sports come in the form of rugby and tennis. Bishop's is well known for its rugby, and this comes to a head in the Sixth Form, with opportunities to play rugby at 1st XV, 2nd XV and 3rd XV level. However, if rugby isn't your thing, there are many other sports to pursue, whether that be football, cricket, athletics or even lacrosse and tag NFL. Summer 2019 saw the senior sports tour to Japan. Footballers, basketball players and rugby players will test their skills against some of the best high schools in Japan. Previous tours have been to Australia, Hong Kong and Argentina, so, no doubt, the next tour will be something equally special.

For keen musicians, there is a Sixth Form jazz band, as well as senior string and brass ensembles, not to mention our fantastic BWS choir, who have toured through Belgium and the Netherlands in the last few years. In addition to this, there is the opportunity to pursue individual music tuition through the brilliant array of music teachers.

There are also a plethora of societies and clubs for almost all areas of

interest, and if your particular interest is not covered by the existing groups, the opportunity for setting up a new one is very real. An example of this is the Lawn Sports Society, set up this year to run events and competitions, from petanque and boules, to croquet.

Furthermore, the Sixth Form offers the invaluable experience of becoming a prefect, taking on more responsibility than ever before and truly testing yourself. Whether you become Head Boy, Maths Prefect or a House Prefect; the opportunities available to further your own leadership and organisational skills are simply vast.

Outside of school, many subjects organise trips to expand our knowledge of key areas, with Geology trips to the Jurassic Coast and history trips to the Victoria and Albert Museum, in addition to university visits for either general interest days, Oxbridge taster visits, or course specific activities.

For me, Sixth Form at Bishop's has been, without doubt, the best period of my school career, offering more individual freedom and responsibility than ever before, whilst aiding my personal development in all areas. Bishop's Sixth Form has given me so much, and I have only experienced the tip of the iceberg; I can't wait to see what the next year holds.

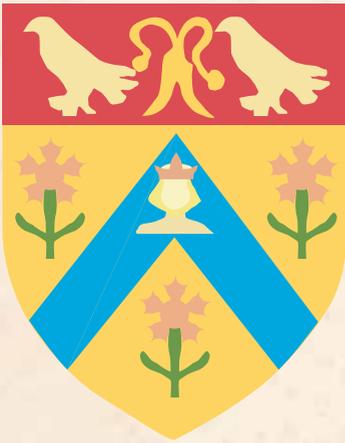


THE HOUSE SYSTEM

TOM AVANT | HEAD OF WARD HOUSE 2019-2020



The house system at Bishops is an integral and simple system that puts every student into one of five houses, each named after a bishop of Salisbury: Jewell, Martival, Osmund, Poore and Ward. Each house strives to encourage students to partake in, compete with, and most importantly belong to their respective house. These houses are entrenched in history and symbolise the good spirit and competitiveness of the students that attend our school, as well as the hard work and endeavour that forms a significant part of life at our school.



JEWELL:

Being in Jewell House is about being part of something that is more than a House. It's a part of a caring family which not only looks out for all its members but also supports each of them and allows them to thrive in a school where everyone is an individual. Even though we haven't won the house cup in a number of years, we always put on a good show and through the enthusiasm of pupils in the house we will continue to be a constant contender, with members that are proud to wear the gold.

*- Joe Paden, Head of Jewell House
2019/2020*





MARTIVAL:

M House is a truly well-rounded house, finishing at the top end of the house table year after year and with students excelling in all aspects of school life. Students in M house show great endeavour, determination and teamwork, supporting each other to the final hurdle. And with a strong winning record of 8 Sports Day triumphs in the last decade, other houses long to be as consistently excellent.

*- Matt Smith, Head of Martival
House 2019/2020*





OSMUND:

Throughout Bishop's, within the many forms representing Osmund, there are lots of shared values, portrayed in all aspects of school, whether it is during academic and sporting competitions or general school life. These values include commitment, courage, respect, determination and, arising from this, an undeniable pride in being a part of this house, and I strongly believe that there is a common desire to finally win the house cup. Bishop Osmund was a crucial part of Salisbury's development, and we look to continue his push for progress within our house.

*- Chris Chaddock, Head of
Osmund House 2019/2020*





Poore:

Being placed in Poore house is like winning the lottery: whilst completely based on luck, your life instantly improves and all of your worries cease to exist. Named after Richard Poore, the founder of Salisbury Cathedral, our house bases itself on his values, with a strong sense of camaraderie that turns boys into men as they experience the sixth form. Along with the friendly atmosphere, Poore continues to regularly come top of the house standings. Floreat Poore!

*- Joe Feest, Head of Poore House
2019/2020*





WARD:

Ward House continues to flourish as it enters its third year of existence, taking advantage of its smaller number of students to create a sincerely homely and welcoming house where each and every student matters. This year, the house looks to secure its first win in the House Cup (the coveted and prestigious competition that runs each year), which would be a truly staggering and inspiring underdog story. We've overachieved every single year and it's my aim, as House Captain, to deliver the victory that this fantastic house deserves once and for all.

*- Tom Avant, Head of Ward House
2019/2020*



THE PREFECT SYSTEM

SAM PIKE | SENIOR PREFECT



Prefects assist in the daily running of school life at Bishop's, from setting up assemblies to organising large scale events such as Founder's Day and Prize Giving. This opportunity is open to any student, even if they only joined the school at the beginning of Year 12. Our current Cathedral Prefect, Jack Travers, joined the Sixth Form from St Joseph's, and in recent years we had a Head Boy, Jacob Adams, who joined from Ringwood at the beginning of Year 12.

There are a wide range of roles available, from specific subject prefects, to other roles such as Chapel Prefects, who assist in setting up chapel assemblies, and Library Prefects, who help to run the library. There

are also senior prefects. This section includes the 'Top 3', roles that have extra responsibilities and regular meetings with the Head. These are currently the Head Boy, the Deputy Head Boy and the Cathedral Prefect. Furthermore, there is a head of each house, five canteen prefects, the Wordsworth Editor, the Chair of the Charity Committee and the Head of the Sixth Form Council.

A prefect's aim is to make Bishop's a better place for all those involved. Furthermore, being a prefect can develop skills for use in later life, not to mention UCAS applications. There are a vast range of roles available - so there is one to suit anybody that wishes to help both the school and themselves.



SPORTS AND BWS

DAN MARTIN | PREFECT

Integral to the Bishop's identity, sports plays an important part in school life. Whether competitive or casual, you will find a huge variety of sports and activities to take part in. The Common Room is a fine example of this; both table tennis and table football are there for all sixth form students, allowing us to relax and take some time away from studies, as well as catch up with friends. But this is only a small part of the overall picture of sports at BWS.

Wednesday afternoon is filled with games for the Sixth Form. This is really important to BWS as it keeps the students healthy, gives them free time, and provides an opportunity to try something new. For those who are sports-oriented it helps to build and bolster their skills. Students have the freedom to pick which activity they take part in, and if the one you want to do isn't on offer, why not start it up yourself with the support of your friends and the PE department? That is the beauty of BWS sport: we are able to give ideas and suggestions on what sports we would like.

Rugby is a huge part of Bishop's and, with three teams, there is always a team suitable for your capabilities. The 1st XV are disciplined, confident and competitive with their matches, playing to the high standard that has come to be expected of the school. They train hard, do regular fitness and keep in shape so they can play at their best. Matches are tough and will be analysed by the team to see how they can improve. So if you are a sporty rugby player who loves the challenge, the 1st XV is for you. Want something more fun but still at a high standard of rugby? The 2nd XV is what you want. The training

is less focused on fitness and is good for those players who want the competitiveness on the pitch, but not the pressure off the pitch. And if you play for the fun and want to have a great time with your mates, the 3rd XV offers just that.

Football's popularity is ever increasing at BWS and so is the talent. As more are taking part, the amount of fixtures increases and the reputation of our team improves. Much the same as rugby, football has a few teams so any player can fit in. No matter what their capabilities, everyone is welcome.

Basketball is the third major sport available at BWS. Many talented players in the Sixth Form, and an increase in the pool of players means that fixtures can be played regularly, making basketball an important part of Team BWS.

Of course, there are many other sports available at the school, from squash to athletics, badminton to kick boxing. There is even a Lawn Sport Society, who run competitions in sports such as croquet. The school has a gym that any sixth form student can use for a very reasonable price - this money goes towards the upkeep of the equipment and investing into the overall sports department. So the more that you use it, the better the experience you'll get with sport.



SOCIETIES

DEBATING:

The Debating Society: a place where students young and old engage in both civilised, thought-provoking disputes, and comic, barely-controlled chaos. The society's weekly meetings allow members to explore issues in detail, whilst the school's regular success in nationwide debating



competitions provide the school with a national presence in the debating community. The last year has enhanced this reputation, with many successful students reaching high levels in such competitions. Furthermore, the internal meetings have seen record numbers of attendees and we aim to improve on both of these records in the coming year. Therefore, whatever your views and interests, there is a place waiting for you in the Debating Society.

- JJ McMahon, Vice-chair of Debating Society

MUSIC AND CHOIR:

Music is a very important part of the Sixth Form at BWS, and not only for those who take it as a subject. Members of the Choir form the A-Level singers, a smaller group, who perform at a number of concerts throughout the year, including at a joint choral concert with SWGS. The school is also supportive of student led groups, and the



Sixth Form alone currently boasts a Jazz band, and at least one Rock group. Music is annually brought to the masses in the house music festival, where soloists and groups from each house go head to head. Music at BWS is hugely social and an excellent way to grow as both a person and a performer.

- Adam Pinnock, Choir Prefect

WORDSWORTH MAGAZINE:

The annual publication of the school magazine, “The Wordsworth”, is truly one of Bishop’s greatest traditions. With articles written by students, designed by students, and photographs taken by students, it is truly a testament to the talent and professionalism of both the Sixth Form and the school as a whole. Whether you’re interested in writing, designing or producing, everybody’s contributions to the process are gratefully received.

- Ben Blackburn, Wordsworth Editor



BAYS (BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF YOUNG SCIENTISTS):

Students’ education in science at BWS is consolidated and expanded through frequent talks on a wide range of topics. BAYS is the society where this takes place. Over the past year we have welcomed speakers

from various university departments and enjoyed lectures on subjects such as acoustic engineering, cancer research and physical chemistry. These talks let students delve into their A Level subjects far beyond the curriculum and give them a clear impression of different career paths that they might want to look into more closely.

-Harry Brough, Science Prefect



YOUNG MEDIC'S SOCIETY:

Our medical society is student-run and organises talks which anyone can attend. It is aimed at students interested in doing medicine, nursing or other jobs in healthcare, as well as those interested in biomedical sciences. The talks are often highly engaging and can give young medics a chance to find out what it is really like to work in the medical field. This has recently included lectures and discussions about surgery, humanitarian response, neurology and emergency medicine. Last year, we even found out about exciting careers in medicine outside of the NHS with a lecture by a member of the Australian air ambulance service.

-Ethan Lee

CHARITY COMMITTEE:

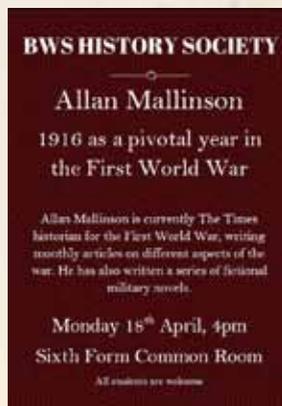
The school has always been charitable; you can even see it in our motto, “veritas in caritate”, truth through kindness. We in the Charity Committee organise events to support a wide variety of good causes, and we’re always looking for new charities to support and ideas for fundraising innovation. For example, this year we’re planning on launching a Year 8 charity competition. So if you’re creative, innovative, or, weirdly, a charitable person, we want you!

-Matt Gray, Chair of Charity Committee

HISTORY SOCIETY:

The History Society exists in order to offer BWS students the means of achieving a greater understanding and passion for history. We primarily arrange and host talks by leading historians on a variety of issues. These tend to be on topics studied in the classroom in order to develop students' understanding but can also be on a variety of other subjects, too. Away from our talks, you can read articles, posts on our blog or follow us on Twitter and Instagram. The committee and I aim to give students throughout the school this excellent opportunity to develop knowledge, understanding and interest in History, whether ancient or modern.

-Jack Doveton, Chair of History Society



POLITICS SOCIETY:



The Politics Society brings students together, even in the current political climate. This year alone, we have had a variety of talks from seasoned politicians, such as Lord Adonis, and many more from experienced university lecturers who bring the perfect combination of knowledge and experience to the Politics Society. Going forward, what is set to be an exciting year will propel the Politics Society to a new height where I hope we will see even more guest speakers from Parliament, maybe with some from the Government, too. Whatever your political orientation, you'll have the chance to explore issues with today's greatest political minds as part of the Politics Society.

-Billy Welfare, Secretary of Politics Society

LAWN SPORTS:

Though a recent addition to the activities available for the Sixth Form, the BWS Lawn Sports society is a rather enjoyable way to spend some afternoons. If Croquet, Boules or Pétanque take your interest, then come along to the Headmaster's lawn on a Wednesday to get a fix of possibly the most unique thing that Bishops has to offer.

-Tom Parrott, Chair of Lawn Sports Society



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