

Outreach and Partnership Programme





Bishop Vesey's Grammar School

Pupil Premium

'The Pupil Premium is additional funding for publicly funded schools in England to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils of all abilities and to close the gaps between them and their peers'

DfE website

The Outreach and Partnership Programme is aimed at increasing access to Bishop Vesey's Grammar School for students eligible for Pupil Premium, raising aspirations and encouraging gifted students to take the entrance test, to join the school at Year 7 or to joining our Sixth Form after Year 11.

Inspiring Minds Programme

Outreach work with primary schools



We currently work with primary schools with high numbers of disadvantaged students to familiarise them with 11+ materials, as well as supporting them with their English and Maths learning and providing them with inspiring extra-curricular opportunities such as Science experiments, Art, Music and PE.

This scheme was introduced to increase awareness of the opportunities available at Bishop Vesey's Grammar School for gifted children.

Sessions are held focussing on support in English and Maths prior to 11+ examinations and includes a mock test and assistance with the application process.



We have also established a close relationship with Court Farm School (which has high levels of disadvantaged students) in Erdington. For the last three years, we have provided weekly support for their students in Mathematics.



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We also offer primary schools our award Design Technology day and coaching for debating



This year, 2019, we are intensifying our approach building even stronger relationships, offering an 'Inspiring Minds' programme to the following nine local primary schools, all with high levels of disadvantage (30%+ Pupil Premium) and within a 5 mile radius of our grammar school.

- Banners Gate Primary School
- Court Farm Primary School
- Kingsland Primary School
- Kings Rise Primary School
- Kingsthorpe Primary School
- New Hall Primary School
- Topcliff Primary School
- Twickenham Primary school
- Yenton Primary School



Dependent on SSEF funding, we would like to increase our Outreach to work with more primary schools.



Bishop Vesey's Grammar School

Our Outreach Partnership offers primary schools:

- A 15 hour Test Familiarisation Course. This has been running since 2015.
- 'Language Leaders' and 'Sports Leadership'

We act as a Hub and host for the Wilson Stuart Sports Partnership, which is a community of 27 primary and special schools. We provide young leaders and staffing for events held during the year.





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Partnership work with secondary schools

As a School, BVGS is committed to social mobility. We have had a fairer admissions policy in place for Year 7 (since 2017) and Sixth Form (since 2016).

BVGS have been working with Washwood Heath Academy and St John Wall

The School was featured recently in a BBC2 programme 'Growing up Gifted' (February 2019) who were following a student from St John Wall secondary school in Handsworth who would like to attend Bishop Vesey's Grammar School Sixth Form.



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m0002td6/ad/growing-up-gifted-year-2-episode-2>



Recent testimonial about our work from Washwood Heath School

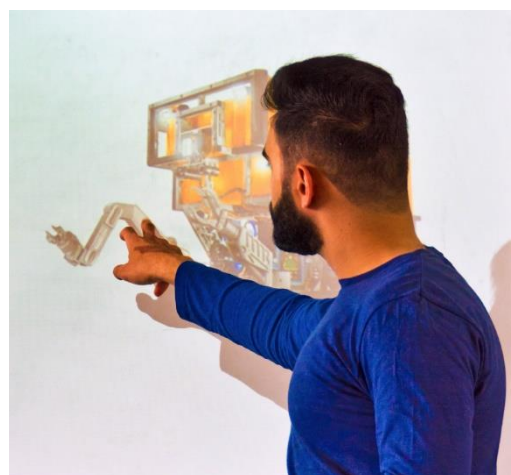
"I wanted to say a huge thank you to both yourself and the pupils for coming over to see us yesterday. They were absolutely fantastic and a real credit to your school. I was impressed by their confidence, not just in the presentation but also when they then talked to our pupils in the smaller groups, especially as some of ours were very shy at that stage.

Our pupils found it extremely useful and wanted me to pass on their thanks and their appreciation. Two of the year 11 boys at the end came up to me and thanked me for arranging it and said it was one of the best things we have done with the year 11s which is very high praise indeed considering the study companies and motivational speakers that we have had in this year so please can you let your pupils know. Myself and Ms Bowen, one of our academic mentors, also found many of the things they said really helpful and I found myself repeating parts during the Year 11 Parents evening so thank you. I especially liked that they talked about smart use of time and still giving yourself time for the things you enjoy, something that many of our better pupils don't really understand. We find that some get very stressed and burnt out towards the end, so I was really pleased that they heard these messages from pupils who had just gone through the process and achieved fantastic grades. They also talked about the importance of being consistent and making sure they were doing something every day, which again is good advice for our pupils, who often do work in large chunks rather than cutting it down. A couple of other pupils have applied to you for Sixth Form and were particularly appreciative of the opportunity to hear from your students and then to speak to them."

Going forward

Dependant on SSEF Funding we hope to offer three secondary partners (Cardinal Wiseman, Kingstanding; St John Wall, Handsworth; Washwood Heath Academy):

- KS4 student access to our annual careers and jobs fair (we have some big names attending like Google, HS2, HSBC, PWC, KPMG, Rolls Royce), who could be inspirational for the students.





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- KS4 student access to aspirations raising work, which our students have access to from Oxbridge and medical schools.



- Support for KS4 staff with access to revision sources for the more able.
- Access for KS4 staff, where appropriate, to subject specific training in teaching the more able.

