



Beacon Academy Trust

A COMPELLING VISION FOR SUCCESS



Beal High School

Year 9 Progression Evening



Welcome

Mr Vaghela – Head of Year 9

Ms Burrard-Lucas – Assistant
Principal KS4

Mr Raja – Assistant Principal KS4



Success at KS4

- ▶ Progress and attainment at KS4 put Beal High School significantly above national average year on year.

In 2023:

- ▶ Progress 8 score = + 0.5
- ▶ Attainment 8 score = 53.88
- ▶ Added Value of +3.57
- ▶ Beal High School students performed significantly **above** national benchmarks and in the **highest** 20% of all schools in 2023.



What is the key to success?

- ▶ The right subject choice
- ▶ English – literacy and oracy
- ▶ Attendance, conduct and attitude
- ▶ Listening to advice and guidance
 - we are experienced education professionals

What is the key to success?

- ▶ Students being reflective and finding their element
- ▶ Students knowing their strengths – building on them
- ▶ Students knowing their weaker points

KS4 Curriculum

We want our curriculum to support and challenge students to be...

- ▶ Successful learners
- ▶ Confident individuals
- ▶ Responsible citizens



The non-negotiable elements of our curriculum offer...

- ▶ Breadth and balance
- ▶ Equality of opportunity
- ▶ That our students leave with desirable skills for their future:
 - ▶ Creativity
 - ▶ Problem solving skills
 - ▶ Teamwork skills
 - ▶ Good communication
 - ▶ Resilience
 - ▶ Effective time management
 - ▶ Emotional intelligence & literacy
 - ▶ Digital Literacy



What do students have to study in Year 10 and Year 11?

- ▶ English Language (GCSE exam)
- ▶ English Literature (GCSE exam)
- ▶ Maths (GCSE exam)
- ▶ Science (GCSE exam)
- ▶ Core Philosophy (No exam)
- ▶ Core PE (No exam)
- ▶ PSHE (No exam)

What should students study in Year 10 and Year 11?

- ▶ History or Geography
- ▶ A Modern Foreign Language
- ▶ A Practical/ Creative subject

This will give students a balanced range of subjects

OPTIONS

40%

OF THE KS4 TIMETABLE



What courses are being offered?

Subjects students
should
take:

French, German or
Spanish

Geography or History

Ebacc subjects

Specialist Subjects:

Art and Design – Fine Art

Art and Design – Photography

3D Design

Business Studies

Computer Science

Creative iMedia

Drama

Economics

Food Preparation and Nutrition

Media Studies

Music

Music Technology

Religious Studies

Sociology

Sport



How to pick options subjects

How should students pick their options subjects?

- ▶ Should not base decisions on friends/ teachers
- ▶ Students should pick a subject because it is right for them
- ▶ Teachers might change next year
- ▶ Friends may be in a different class

How should students pick their options subjects?

- ▶ Consider their strengths
- ▶ Think about what they are good at
- ▶ Look at their report – which subjects have the highest BMAT levels?
- ▶ Asking subject teachers about each subject at parents' evening
- ▶ Thinking about the subject(s) they enjoy
- ▶ Thinking about what they need to study to improve their skill set

How should students pick their options subjects?

- ▶ All subjects have hard bits in at KS4
- ▶ Fine Art, 3D Design and Photography have lots of coursework
- ▶ Music and Drama have pressures of performance
- ▶ Humanities subjects involve lots of essay writing
- ▶ Geography and Drama involve trips

How should students pick their options subjects?

- ▶ All subjects get harder
- ▶ The harder students work in KS3, the easier it will be in KS4

Keep it balanced

Subject combinations students will not be able to take:

- ▶ Business and Economics
- ▶ RS and Sociology
- ▶ Art and Photography

Think into the future – progression after Year 11?



Look at the information provided on the Beal website about the Sixth Form:

<https://www.bealhighschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Sixth-form-Prospectus-2023-24-1.pdf>

Additional Subject – Community Modern Foreign Languages

- ▶ If students are able to speak, read and write one of the languages on the following slide they can take the GCSE in that subject and it will count as the modern foreign language component of the English Baccalaureate.
- ▶ The Tamil qualification is an IGCSE and does not contribute towards the English Baccalaureate.
- ▶ The school will support and prepare students for these exams in sessions that will take place after school.

Community Modern Foreign Languages

- ☐ Arabic (EDEXCEL)
- ☐ Bangla (AQA)
- ☐ Chinese (AQA)
- ☐ French (AQA)
- ☐ German (AQA)
- ☐ Greek (EDEXCEL)
- ☐ Gujarati (EDEXCEL)
- ☐ Hebrew - modern (AQA)
- ☐ Italian (AQA)
- ☐ Persian (EDEXCEL)
- ☐ Polish (AQA)
- ☐ Portuguese (EDEXCEL)
- ☐ Punjabi (AQA)
- ☐ Russian (EDEXCEL)
- ☐ Spanish (AQA)
- ☐ Turkish (EDEXCEL)
- ☐ Urdu (AQA)
- ☐ Tamil (IGCSE)

Year 9 Opportunity: Higher Project Qualification – AQA

The Higher Project Qualification (HPQ) is a *2,000 word research report or a creation/artefact with a shorter written research report of 500 words*

- ▶ *Something that **you** decide it to be on. Therefore you should undertake the HPQ based on a topic that you have a genuine interest and curiosity about.*

60 hours

Transferable skills: independent research, critical thinking, verbal and written communication skills and innovation

- ▶ It is a pre-cursor to the EPQ an additional qualification we offer at Beal Sixth Form
- ▶ It is a level 2 qualification which is an equivalent to an additional GCSE



HPQ example titles

- ▶ *“Should societies use ‘nudges’ to achieve economic prosperity?”*
- ▶ *“How did the deaf community develop British Sign Language?”*

Myth busting: 'Universities prefer A-levels to BTECs'.

Beal BTEC students have progressed to study at:

Kings College, London, Queen Mary, University of London, Westminster, City, Greenwich, Sheffield Hallam, University of Kent, University of Essex, Nottingham University, Hertfordshire University, Loughborough University and more ...

You should look at your combination of subjects and RESEARCH what 6th form colleges and universities require.

Rely on careful research and not on popular media myths!

What will top universities look at?

- ▶ 8 top grades at GCSE (including English & Maths)
- ▶ Languages and History or Geography qualifications are valued amongst admissions tutors
- ▶ Medical courses may ask for 5 GCSEs at grades 8/9
- ▶ Universities will expect to students to pass both English and Maths.
- ▶ Some degree courses will ask for higher than this
- ▶ Top grades (A/A*) at A-level
- ▶ Extra-curricular activities

Ebacc

What is the EBacc?

- ▶ English Language and English Literature
- ▶ Maths
- ▶ Two best qualifications in Science
- ▶ A Modern Foreign Language
- ▶ History or Geography

Why study Ebacc subjects?

- ▶ The EBacc is made up of the subjects which the **Russell Group** says, at A Level, open doors to a greater choice of degrees.
- ▶ Research shows that a pupil's socio-economic background impacts on the subjects they choose at GCSE, and that this determines their opportunities beyond school.
- ▶ A study by the UCL, Institute of Education shows that studying subjects included in the EBacc provides students with **greater opportunities in further education** and increases the likelihood that a pupil will stay on in full-time education.
- ▶ Sutton Trust research reveals that studying the EBacc can help improve a young person's performance in English and Maths.



How will we
help
students
make their
GCSE options
choices?



Information, Advice and Guidance Sessions (IAG)

This will occur between now and the end of Year 9

- ▶ Students will be offered information, advice and guidance from form tutors and Year Team.
- ▶ If they have not done so already, subject staff in each subject will talk during lesson time about their subject at KS4.
- ▶ 27th February is Yr 9 Parents' Evening
- ▶ Updated options information available on the school website



IAG Sessions with Tutors

Spring Term January to March

- ▶ Discussion of BMAT levels on spring term reports.
- ▶ Discussion of aims post-KS4? *E.g. if you would like to go to university – which qualifications are needed?*
- ▶ Discussion of the courses where students can be most successful and ensure breadth of choice
- ▶ Discussion around the myths about subjects and qualifications (e.g. BTECs)
- ▶ **Additional IAG in April/May/June/July for students who require it**

What are our aims through IAG – Information Advice and Guidance?

- ▶ **Interest**
- ▶ **Progression to a range of study and employment opportunities**
- ▶ **Balance**

Parents' Evening

Tuesday 27th February

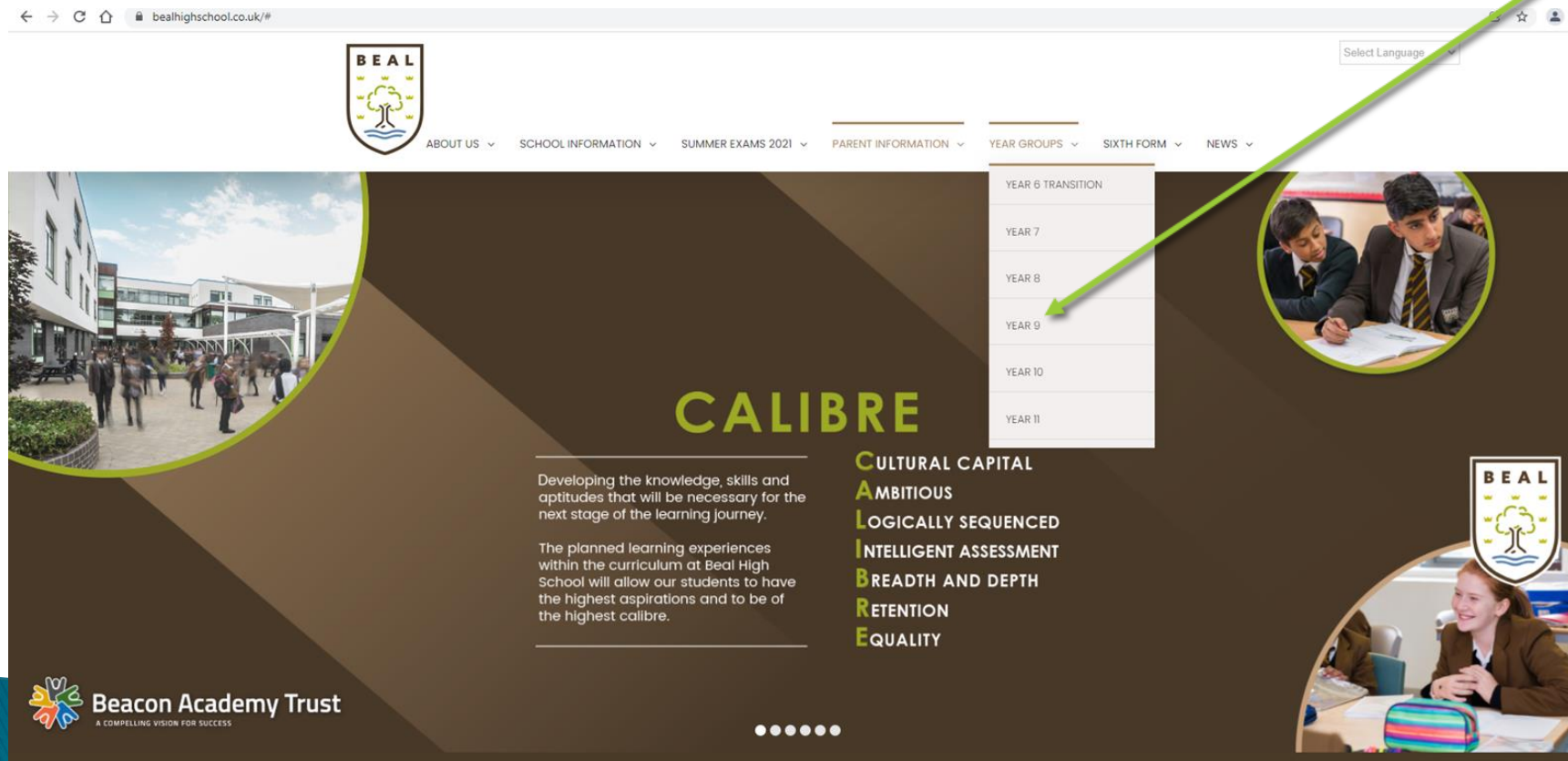
This will be held in the lower school and will provide more detailed information about your progress and achievement.

This will help students to make appropriate choices for further study at GCSE



GCSE options handbook and subject information on the Beal High School website.

Click on 'Year Groups' and then Year 9



The screenshot shows the Beal High School website. At the top, the URL is bealhighschool.co.uk/#. The navigation bar includes links for ABOUT US, SCHOOL INFORMATION, SUMMER EXAMS 2021, PARENT INFORMATION, YEAR GROUPS, SIXTH FORM, and NEWS. A 'Select Language' dropdown is also present. The 'YEAR GROUPS' dropdown menu is open, showing options from YEAR 6 TRANSITION to YEAR 11. A green arrow points to the 'YEAR 9' option. The main content area features a large image of the school building on the left and a circular inset of two students working on the right. The word 'CALIBRE' is prominently displayed in the center. Below it, two columns of text describe the school's approach to learning. The Beacon Academy Trust logo is in the bottom left corner.

BEAL

ABOUT US SCHOOL INFORMATION SUMMER EXAMS 2021 PARENT INFORMATION YEAR GROUPS SIXTH FORM NEWS

Select Language

YEAR 6 TRANSITION
YEAR 7
YEAR 8
YEAR 9
YEAR 10
YEAR 11

CALIBRE

Developing the knowledge, skills and aptitudes that will be necessary for the next stage of the learning journey.

The planned learning experiences within the curriculum at Beal High School will allow our students to have the highest aspirations and to be of the highest calibre.

CULTURAL CAPITAL
AMBITIOUS
LOGICALLY SEQUENCED
INTELLIGENT ASSESSMENT
BREADTH AND DEPTH
RETENTION
EQUALITY

Beacon Academy Trust
A COMPELLING VISION FOR SUCCESS

YEAR 9 TEAM

Head of Year

Mr Vaghela

admin@bealhighschool.co.uk

Deputy Head of Year

Ms Wallace

admin@bealhighschool.co.uk

SEN Deputy Head of Year

Ms Koide

admin@bealhighschool.co.uk

Options
information in
the Yr 9
section of the
Beal website

LATEST NEWS

MDV Virtual Event

Beal Sixth Form hosted a dynamic and informative medical event, tailored exclusively...

UCAS progress – December 2023

The UCAS season is well under way and the current Year 13s have been simply magnificent...

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award – class of 2023

After at least three months in each of volunteering, developing a skill...

Year 10 Arup Design Trip

As part of our Artsmark Partnerships, On Thursday 23rd November, Art and DT...

CURRICULUM

KS4 Options Handbook 2024

[Click here to view](#)

KS4 Options Subject
Information 2024

[Click here to view](#)

Beal Sixth Form Prospectus

[Click here to view](#)

NOTICE BOARD

MOODLE

[MOODLE daily tasks](#)

Key dates 2023-24

[Click here to read](#)

Beal High School Term Dates

[Click here to view](#)



Year 9 GCSE Options Form

Wednesday 28th February

Following Year 9 Parents' Evening on 27th February the Year 9 GCSE Options Form will go live.

This is an MS Form where students can select their GCSE options choices.

A link will be emailed to parents

The deadline for completion is Monday 18th March.



KS3–KS4 Progression Key Dates

- ▶ 23rd January: KS3–4 Progression Evening
- ▶ GCSE Options information on school website
- ▶ 27th February: Yr 9 Parents Evening
- ▶ 28th February Link to GCSE Options MS form emailed to parents
- ▶ 18th March: Deadline for GCSE options form to be submitted



Further Questions

Email : year9optionssupport@bealhighschool.co.uk

