

# 'Be Beechwood!'

## **Welcome**

*Welcome to our School. At Beechwood we have a single goal for all our students and staff alike. All day, every day we are determined to try our best to do our best to be the best that we can be. 'Doing our best to be the best' is our school motto and we are delighted that this is a daily reality within our school community.*

*We believe we are a unique learning community. We have a special set of 'Beechwood Values' which determine everything we do. These values lead to a unique ethos within our school. We are ambitious and dynamic. We are fulfilling our aspirations. Our young people are enjoying learning and achieving. Our staff expertise is exceptional and enables our young people to thrive academically, socially and personally.*

*Every day, because of our values, ethos and goal our young people achieve things they never thought they were capable of when they joined our school. We believe this is what makes Beechwood so special. Being part of the Beechwood community is life enhancing and therefore a life-long experience. Joining Beechwood School provides exceptional opportunity to secure academic success and the skills and aspiration necessary to progress to further and higher education and professional and personal fulfilment.*



*Kathleen Higgins*  
*Executive Headteacher*

## **Our Beechwood Values**

*We value all;  
we respect all;  
we believe in all;*

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*we see the good and potential in all;  
we have a strong sense of entitlement to experience excellence and success;  
we are all determined to do our best to be the best.*

## **The Schelwood Trust**

In 2016, Beechwood School became an Academy and a founding member of the ‘Schelwood Multi-Academy Trust’, alongside Herschel Grammar School.

The two schools now work in very close partnership with one another with the goal of providing a truly excellent educational experience in Slough for a very large number of young people.

The schools are committed to:

- enabling the highest of standards;
- enabling academic success for all;
- preparing young people for their future lives and to become active, engaged and positive citizens;
- nurturing our young people so they become capable, confident and have belief in self;
- inspiring young people.

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**Our Curriculum** enables our young people to have their learning needs met and high aspirations fulfilled.

**At Key Stage 3** - Years 7 & 8 we follow the National Curriculum. We believe it is important that young people really do have a broad experience. We also ensure that we are ‘leading edge’ with regards to embracing new initiatives and curriculum developments. We are determined to prepare our young people for their long-term futures. A future, in terms of technological, social & career developments & opportunities they will create! We are also clear that what will enable maximum progress and the highest levels of achievement is preparing students for their GCSE examinations from Year 7 and commencing formal programmes of GCSE study in Year 9. Our Key Stage 3 curriculum is therefore covered in Years 7 & 8. Students opt for GCSE subjects at the end of Year 8 and pursue these studies from the start of Year 9.

## **Key Stage 3 Subjects**

English

Maths

Science

P.E

Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education

Art

Drama

Geography

History

Music

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Computing

Modern Foreign Languages (French or Spanish)

Technology (Resistant Materials / Graphics / Food)

**At Key Stage 4** it is possible to pursue different pathways. Academic and applied routes exist. It is our expectation, however, that most students will study a balanced range of at least eight GCSE subjects. Some students also engage in vocational learning in partnership with local training providers. The support for learning and achievement at Key Stage 4 is second to none.

In order to accelerate the learning and achievement of Key Stage 4 students there exists an additional period each day. This complements the seminars, workshops and tutorials that take place after school, at weekends and during the holidays. Learning at Beechwood is not a 8.45am to 3.00pm activity. We are a community school open for learning for many more hours a week than is the norm. This is an example of how we aim to ensure we fulfil our goal of being the best!

## **Key Stage 4 subjects:**

*Core Subjects:*

English

Maths

Science

Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education

P.E.

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Philosophy & Ethics (non-exam).

*Option subjects:*

Art & Design

Business Studies

Computer Science

Design Technology

Drama

Food Preparation & Nutrition (Catering)

French or Spanish

Geography

Graphic Products

Health & Social Care

History

Media

Music

P.E.

Philosophy & Ethics

Science – Biology, Chemistry & Physics

Technology

## **PRESS RELEASE – Sixth Form Summer Results 2018**

Beechwood School is absolutely delighted to share yet another year of excellent A Level and BTEC Level 3 outcomes for our Year 13 students. We extend our huge congratulations to our 6<sup>th</sup> Form young men and women who secured a 97% A\* - E outcome with 73% of those passes being at the higher grades of A\* - C. This is an absolutely excellent outcome.

We are so thrilled that all of our Sixth Formers are now incredibly well positioned to go on to pursue their plans and fulfil their ambitions post their final examinations. All of our students who wish to go to university are now able to do so.

In the following subject areas a 100% pass rate was secured:

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English Literature  
Philosophy and Ethics  
Psychology  
Biology  
Art and Design  
Business Studies  
Design and Technology  
Mathematics  
Media  
Computing  
Health and Social Care  
Applied Science

This impressive performance is due to the hard work, commitment and determination of students and members of staff, and, of course, the excellent support provided by parents and families. There is a great deal to celebrate this summer and we are exceptionally proud of the Year 13 of Beechwood School who achieved so much and who have truly excellent futures ahead of them.

## **A Level and BTEC Provisional Results Summer 2018**

# **Headline Results 2018**

A\*-C

A\*-E

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<b>A Level Psychology</b>	82%	100%
<b>A Level English</b>	100%	100%
<b>A Level Philosophy &amp; Ethics</b>	75%	100%
<b>A Level Product Design</b>	67%	100%
<b>A Level Photography</b>	60%	100%
<b>A Level Maths</b>	100%	100%
<b>A Level Geography</b>	67%	67%
<b>A Level Media</b>	60%	100%
<b>A Level Biology</b>	50%	67%
<b>A Level Business Studies</b>	60%	100%
	Distinction*- Merit	Distinction* - Pass
<b>BTEC Art</b>	100%	100%
<b>BTEC Business</b>	100%	100%
<b>BTEC ICT</b>	78%	89%
<b>BTEC Performing Arts</b>	100%	100%
<b>BTEC Applied Science</b>	50%	100%
<b>BTEC Health &amp; Social Care</b>	75%	10%
<b>BTEC Sport</b>	71%	100%

N.B. Some remarks are pending

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## **GCSE RESULTS SUMMER PRESS RELEASE 2018**

Beechwood School is absolutely delighted to share the great success enjoyed by our Year 11 students this summer in their G.C.S.E. examinations. This year has been the strongest yet in terms of student achievements and therefore final results at GCSE level.

Highlights include :

74% of our young people gaining a higher level pass in English

53% gaining higher level passes in 5 or more subjects

Exceptionally strong performance against targets in English, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Geography, Philosophy and Ethics, Drama and Media Studies

One student achieving Grade 9 ( the highest grade denoting exceptional performance) in all subjects taken with many other students securing top grades in a number of subjects and others enjoying meeting/exceeding their targets.

We are so proud of our young people and all that they have achieved. There is a great deal to celebrate this summer. Our Year 11 students worked very hard, showed huge levels of commitment and must be congratulated for their endeavours which resulted in such positive outcomes. We also extend our thanks to members of staff who worked tirelessly alongside students to ensure

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excellent outcomes.

Finally, we thank parents and families for their significant support. Together, as a team, a great deal has been achieved and our Beechwood young people are now exceptionally well positioned to progress post G.C.S.E. and go on to higher and further study.

## **G.C.S.E. Provisional Results Summer 2018**

### **Headline Results 2018**

<b>Best English</b>	Level 4+	73.9%
	Level 5+	51.4%
<b>English Lang.</b>	Level 4+	64.5%
	Level 5+	41.3%

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<b>English Lit.</b>	Level 4+	65.2%
	Level 5+	44.9%
<b>Maths</b>	Level 4+	52.9%
	Level 5+	22.5%
<b>Securing both En &amp; Ma</b>	Level 4 +	50%
	Level 5 +	21.7%

N.B. Some remarks are pending

**Extra-Curricular and Enrichment Activities – the list below highlights the many and varied opportunities offered to our students.**

Art Club	Cricket	Girl's Football	Project 'Rainbow' Club
Chess	Debating	Dance	ALC Supporters Club
Athletics Squad	Breakfast Club	Rounders	Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme***

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Origami	Drama Club	Knitting Club	Football
Basketball	Local & National Charity Activities	STEM Club**	Netball
Badminton (Mixed)	‘Eco Warriors’ Leadership Programme	Languages Club	School Fundraising Committee
Netball	Study Support Club	Librarian Training	Table Tennis

\* *Robotics can lead to participation in the National Lego League competition*

\*\* *STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths – national scheme*

\*\*\* *DofE – an award scheme which is internationally recognised and respected by Universities / employers / apprenticeship schemes.*

Throughout the year, subjects will organise special events. Most recently, these have included:

- weekend expeditions for the Duke of Edinburgh Award;
- Mathematics Masterclass conferences;
- visits to London Art Galleries;
- visits to Russell Group / Oxbridge Universities;

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- University Study days;
- West End theatre trips;
- participation in a range of partnership activities with Eton College, e.g. attending conferences on ‘Tackling Diversity in Slough’ and the George Orwell Writing Project;
- residential activity trips e.g. Kingswood;
- residential study visits e.g. Paris for Art / Art History;
- STEM Project with Grundon Waste Management
- PWC workshop
- Pathways to Mars - Apprenticeship Awareness Day
- Women in Construction
- Build up your Business
- Yr 9 Aspire event
- Mosaic Enterprise Challenge
- Girls in STEM
- Kidzania



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## **Google Suite for Education – our Virtual Learning Environment**

At Beechwood we use the Google Suite for Education as our Virtual Learning Environment. It plays an important role in supporting the learning that takes place at Beechwood. There is a virtual Classroom for each subject taken. In this classroom the teacher can ask questions, post announcements and set homework. Students also have the option of submitting work online. Each student has an account that has unlimited storage and allows students access to resources and the ability to work on school tasks in school and at home. They have access to the Google versions of Word, Excel, Powerpoint and many more applications. All of which are free to download onto other devices. Parents are linked to each classroom and will receive notification of homework set by email. The students also have their own gmail account and calendar. The latter will regularly update with any timetable changes and notice of school events relevant to the student.

**Website** – you can keep up to date with all the activities / important dates on our website [www.beechwood.slough.sch.uk](http://www.beechwood.slough.sch.uk). Miss Higgins, our Headteacher publishes a **Weekly Bulletin** home to families and a copy can be found on our Home page.

## **Parent Partnership**

A top priority for our school is ensuring highly effective partnership working with parents and carers. A group of parents from across the Year groups meet regularly with Mr Gaffin, Assistant Headteacher. It is a working committee to share / receive feedback from parents on the educational experiences of their

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children, to take advice on planned initiatives and developments and to hear how, together, we can best support the learning and achievement of our young people.

We welcome all new parents who would like to join the ‘Parent Partnership’. Last academic year much took place involving our Parent Partnership initiative. Highlights were:

- an ‘Ensuring Success’ Curriculum Evening to enable parents to be fully informed and enabled to assist their child to succeed at GCSE.
- an evening to support parents to keep their children safe online
- an informal staff / parent Quiz Evening – testing general knowledge whilst enjoying Fish & Chips!

## Key Dates

Open Evening - Tuesday 18th September 6pm

Open Mornings - Wednesday 26th September and Thursday 4th October  
9.15am

Secondary School Application Form to be submitted to the Local Authority

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by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018

National Offer Day - 1st March 2019

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## **Student Council / Student Voice**

We believe it is so important that our young people have a real ‘voice’ in their school community. It is their school and this is their opportunity to secure everything they require to become happy, successful, fulfilled adults both professionally and personally. The work of the Student Council is an example of one of the many ways we enable our students’ views to be heard and responded to. Our young people have a key part to play in the planning process which enables our school to go from strength-to-strength. They work in partnership with members of staff. At Beechwood, each Tutor Group elects two representatives to share their views on School Issues. The 12 representatives for a Year group will then elect two students to represent them on the School Council. This group meets regularly and has a big influence on all aspects of life at Beechwood.

The Student Council spends much time focusing on academic, charity and community matters.

Much work has been undertaken in all areas. There are ongoing activities to raise money for charity. Following student consultation, the money was divided between local, national and international charities.

When the School is planning a change, such as altering the times of the day or uniform, the view of students are fully taken into account. The School Council also meets regularly to offer feedback / suggest ideas on all aspects of school life.

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The School Council works very closely with our local community. They have established a very popular link with the Britwell luncheon club for the over-55s called ‘The Recycled Teenagers’ and the ‘Poppy Appeal’ with the local Branch of the British Legion.

### **Academic Board**

Students from across the school meet regularly with a Senior Leader to provide feedback on teaching and learning, and to gain a student perspective on the curriculum that Beechwood offers. Their views and feedback will be used to ensure that our Student Progress Policy really does meet the needs of all our students. As the Board develops, their scope will move from feedback on specific aspects of the Student Progress Policy, to improving student engagement, motivation and learning.

### **Welcome to Beechwood – a message from our Head Prefects Year 11 Head Girl Shyanne Casais & Head Boy, Tyler Lee**

‘We both chose Beechwood because of the many opportunities it offers its students. There are great facilities, outstanding, supportive teachers, a wide variety of subjects to choose from and an amazing community spirit which you feel as soon as you walk through the doors. There are a wide range of opportunities available to everyone: socially, in sports and academically.

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Our caring school community enables every single student to ‘be the best we can be’ throughout our journey at Beechwood. Students will have as much support possible from teachers and their peers. Students can really have the best experience and have the best opportunities.

The ‘Beechwood Values’ underpin the foundations of our school. They remind us of the importance of being responsible, effective and productive members of our community. Our Learning Charter reinforces this. They provide the building blocks upon which we grow and become independent, motivated and successful young men and women. In doing so, you are rewarded for your excellent attainment, achievements, effort and participation.

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One of our greatest rewards has been to be selected as this year’s Head Prefects. We both look forward to continuing our contribution to the Beechwood community. We are excited and honoured to lead a fantastic team of diligent and hardworking Prefects to do so. Our aim for the year is to continue to strengthen and add to the community spirit we felt when we first arrived, leaving a lasting legacy for our fellow students to enjoy’.

### **Student President - Emily Riches**

‘From my first step into year 7, I knew Beechwood School was the right place for me to be. From the great facilities to the encouraging staff, it was clear I had the opportunities to be the best that I could be. Going into year 13, these opportunities are still available to me and all of my peers. The journey for all, no matter what year it began, has taught us very valuable lessons and has helped us to develop skills. We are reminded everyday of our potential and teachers are constantly encouraging and supporting us, making it clear that our aspirations are realistic if we work hard for them. Teamwork is a major factor for everyone at Beechwood, all years are encouraged to interact and many events are held to make this possible, for example; school trips, committees that are dedicated to helping younger students feel welcome and enrichment days. Striving and achieving excellence is always acknowledged and rewarded. This acknowledgement allows for many privileges and chances to further improve leaderships skills such as being awarded Lower School Leader, Prefect and Sixth Leader status. However, being a part of the Beechwood family is as much a privilege as anything else.

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## **Peer Mentors**

Year 10 Students act as Peer Mentors for the incoming Year 7 students. Three Peer Mentors are allocated to each tutor group and provide support during the primary to secondary transition process. They visit the tutor groups on a Monday morning where they answer questions, assist with any concern or just are a reassuring presence for our new students. The Peer Mentors are selected in Year 9 and also accompany the Primary to Secondary School ‘Transition Team’ on visits to primary schools.

## **Sixth Form Safeguarders**

The Sixth Form students who take on the role of Sixth Form Safeguarders are given Level 1 safeguarding training and are available throughout the school day as additional points of contact to discuss any concern a student may have. They provide a ‘drop-in’ service and will give advice or, if appropriate, refer the matter on to our Safeguarding Team.

## **Prefects**

Here at Beechwood we provide many leadership opportunities at Year 11. Our Prefects are involved in many aspects of school life but are predominantly focused on maintaining high standards themselves and therefore being exemplary students for younger students to model themselves on. Prefects are selected from Year 10 applicants who have shown excellence throughout their time at Beechwood. A Prefect must uphold the values of our school, but also be able to communicate, model positive behaviour and be able to work well with their Peers and Staff. Once a Prefect, students are given the opportunity to

## ‘Be Beechwood!’

have a say about what goes on around the school through participation in committees which help to organise various events that are both traditional and new. Prefects are expected to undertake a duty similar to staff which helps to develop their leadership potential and encourages them to work as a team. Being a Prefect is a great honour at Beechwood and something that all students can look forward to once they reach Year 11.

### **Sixth Leaders**

Once students have completed their Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 studies, they have the opportunity to continue their educational journey with us here at Beechwood School by joining our highly successful Sixth Form. As well as supporting the academic development of all, students are also able to apply for Sixth Leader status. Successful applicants will have demonstrated an exemplary attitude to their studies as well as the wider school community. Responsibilities include; supporting younger students with literacy and numeracy skills, mentoring pupils in Key Stage 3 and 4 and running Sixth Form committees. All of which provide students with the vital soft skills required to be successful in the working world.

### **Facilities**

Beechwood is a bright and contemporary community school, giving students the state of the art facilities they need to thrive, achieve and prepare for life beyond school.

Surrounding a courtyard with landscaped grounds and expansive social areas, the school has a wealth of facilities to enrich student education.

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Every classroom is equipped with interactive whiteboards and students benefit from state of the art Science Laboratories, light and airy teaching wings and well-resourced ICT facilities which are available throughout the school for students and staff alike.

Our Sports’ facilities are outstanding and students benefit from having a swimming pool to complement the Sports’ Hall, fitness room, Dance Studio & extensive external pitches and courts.

### **Equality**

Beechwood promotes equality of opportunity between disabled persons and other people and we have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination that is unlawful under the Equalities Act 2010;
- eliminate harassment of disabled persons that is related to their disabilities;
- promote positive attitudes towards disabled persons;
- encourage participation by disabled persons in public life;
- take steps to take account of disabled persons’ disabilities, even in instances that involve treating disabled persons more favourable than another person.

As a community our ‘Equality Policy’ also ensures that equality of opportunity is the reality for all. We ensure that no discriminatory action is permitted on the basis of age, race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, gender, sexual orientation,

## ‘Be Beechwood!’

disability or learning need. We celebrate the diverse and harmonious school community that we are.

### **SEND Provision**

At Beechwood School, we strive to offer an inclusive curriculum to all of our young people whatever their needs or abilities, in a supportive and positive environment. We are committed to the development of the whole-child, morally, socially, spiritually, culturally, intellectually and physically. We identify obstacles and recognise and value improvement to learning and behaviour. We provide our young people with opportunities to excel in all areas of their school life, and are aware that some of our young people may require more specialist provision for part of, or all of their school life.

The provision for a young person in our school with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) is a whole school responsibility requiring a whole school response, working in partnership and collaboration with young people and their parents, to provide quality provision and support for young people with SEND. We have a large Learning Support Department with a number of specialist staff. We support students with learning difficulties and social, emotional and mental health difficulties to achieve highly and fulfil their potential.

If you wish your child to be part of this exceptional learning community, please note the Admissions’ Guidance detailed below.

The Admissions and Access Team, Education and Children’s Services at Slough Borough Council, administers the allocation of school places.

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If you are interested in your child joining Beechwood please contact the Admissions and Access Team at Slough Borough Council or visit our website for the full Guide to Admissions 2018. Alternatively visit [www.slough.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.slough.gov.uk/admissions). For Year 7 applications the Admissions’ website will be open from 1 September 2018. Schools and local authorities will be sharing information on applications, to ensure the admissions process runs as smoothly as possible for you and your child.

We also welcome your contact if you would like any specific advice / guidance. Please contact us on [enquiries@beechwood.slough.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@beechwood.slough.sch.uk) or contact Mrs Walker, Admissions Officer at Beechwood.

Slough Borough Council on [admissionshelpline@slough.gov.uk](mailto:admissionshelpline@slough.gov.uk)

Telephoning: 01753 875728

Lines are open 10.00am - 5.30pm Wednesday and Friday

Visiting:

MyCouncil, Slough High Street - Tuesday and Thursday 10.00am - 5.30pm

Writing to: Admissions and Transport Team

Slough Borough Council, St Martins Place, 51 Bath Road, Slough, SL1 3UF

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## **‘My First Day at Beechwood’ by Emaan Fatimah Year 7 Student**

I was super thrilled at the thought of my first day at Beechwood, but at the same time, a little anxious. Throughout the summer holidays, I was so nervous, however as the time grew closer and closer, my excitement grew and grew. The night before school started, my happiness grew so much that I could not contain it. The first day was great! There are so many new lessons, which are very engaging and fun. I recommend you to come to Beechwood School because the school wants to inspire success in all of us. I enjoy every lesson, especially Maths.

## **‘My First Week at Beechwood’ by Harvey McMahan Year 7 student**

When I left Year 6 I was nervous throughout the summer. I was told it was scary in Secondary School, but when I got to school it was a great new experience. There were lots of changes, but they were easy to get used to. In Primary School, I didn't enjoy certain subjects, like Maths, but now I like them more than I ever imagined. I now love school, and I made new friends quickly which helped me. I help them too so we can all enjoy school. I'm looking forward to the rest of my time at Beechwood.

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## **Beechwood School**

### **Open Evening for 2019 Entry**

Tuesday 18th September 2018

6.00pm

Headteacher’s address at 6.30pm

### **Open Mornings for 2019 Entry**

**Wednesday 26th September**

**Thursday 4th October**

**‘Be Beechwood!’**

**9.15am – 10.45am**

**Long Readings Lane, Slough SL2 1QE** If you are unable to make any of these times, but would like to see our school, please contact us.

Telephone: 01753 520473 Email: [enquiries@beechwood.slough.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@beechwood.slough.sch.uk)