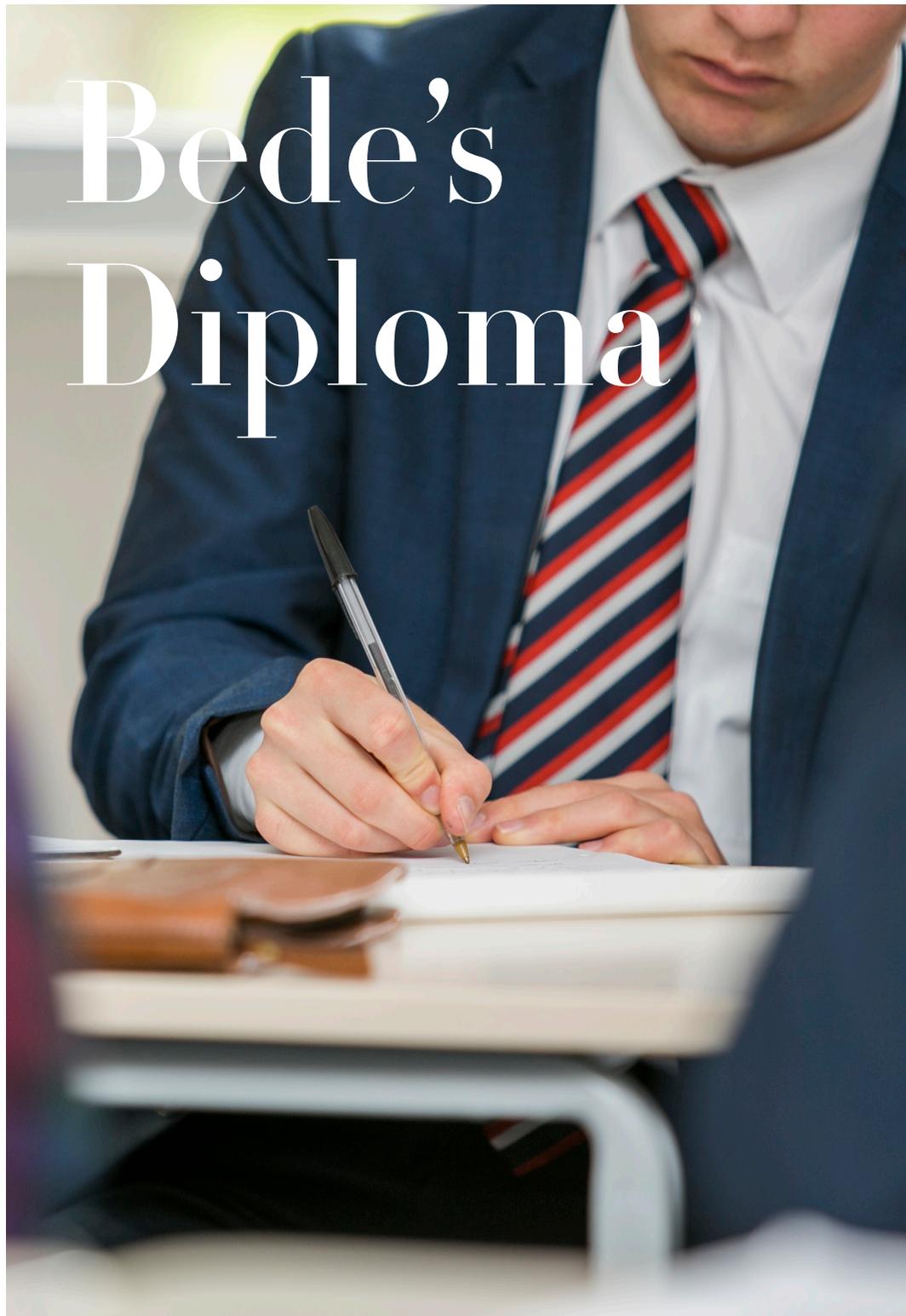


Bede's Diploma



Bede's Diploma

Building pupils' futures

Extend



Engage



Enlighten



Enhance



Introduction

The importance of so-called soft skills for young people is often highlighted by government ministers and is prevalent in the media. In 2016 a survey of employers on education and skills by the Confederation for Business Industry reinforced this message saying that “businesses are clear that first and foremost they want to recruit young people with attitudes and attributes such as resilience, enthusiasm and creativity. They are not selecting simply on the basis of academic ability”.

Research published by the Sutton Trust in 2017 suggested that, after graduation from university, privately educated pupils earned significantly more than similarly-qualified counterparts from maintained schools - a difference it concluded was due to greater “articulacy, assertiveness and other important soft skills” amongst those who had been privately educated.

At Bede’s, we firmly believe in providing our pupils with the very highest standard of all-round education that prepares them fully for life in the 21st Century. We want our Sixth Form curriculum to focus on the aspirations and ambitions of our pupils, both academically and to formally develop the skills, qualities and experiences that universities and employers want to see in their applicants. As such, all Sixth Formers will undertake the Bede’s Diploma, alongside their studies. Possibly most importantly, the Bede’s Diploma

encourages self-motivation and, as such, it enables our Sixth Formers to go above and beyond in all aspects of their academic and personal lives to ensure that they are able to succeed to the very best of their ability both at Bede’s and beyond.

Charlotte Sutton
Head of Sixth Form Engagement
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Bede's Diploma

What is it?

The diploma is a holistic qualification made up of four distinct sections: Extend, Engage, Enlighten and Enhance. Pupils must complete each section fully in order to be awarded the diploma at the end of Upper Sixth.

Who does it?

All pupils in the Sixth Form will undertake the Bede's Diploma over two years.

Why do it?

In an increasingly competitive world, it is important to develop the skills and qualities that go beyond simple academic achievement. The diploma enables pupils to develop the essential life skills and employability attributes that are recognised by employees and universities as being so crucial to their development. As part of the 'Extend' section of the diploma, pupils will also have the opportunity to extend

their knowledge and skills in an area of personal interest and through independent study, will gain a nationally accredited qualification.

The programme will draw on a great deal of that which we already do, allowing pupils to gain credit for the things that they are doing as part of their school lives, whilst also challenging them to take up opportunities that they may not otherwise have taken advantage of.

Pupils will engage in a variety of activities, workshops, lectures and trips, undertake community service and involve themselves in the house and school communities. In doing so, they will develop independence in learning, leadership and teamwork, commitment and planning, communication skills, employability and life skills, resilience, enthusiasm and passion.

Extend

Learning Independently

This section is an opportunity for pupils to extend their skills and knowledge in a particular area, gaining university and/or employment recognised qualifications, some of which will also carry additional UCAS points.

Pupils will complete one of the following qualifications: Extended Project Qualification, Level 2 Award in Sports Leadership, Level 2 Certificate in Financial Education, Arts Award Gold. Pupils who are taking Further Maths, Legat, EAL or Sport Academy programmes will be following this as their 'Extend' qualification. All pupils will be expected to reflect on how they have 'extended' their skills and knowledge in these respective programmes.

Extended Project Qualification

Exam Board: Edexcel

The EPQ is a Level 3 qualification on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF). It is recognised by universities and employers, carrying up to 28 UCAS points. Some leading universities make lower offers to pupils undertaking an EPQ.

The EPQ offers pupils an opportunity to undertake a project in a subject area of

personal interest. It provides a context for developing critical thinking and project management skills, which are widely transferable. It helps develop independent research skills and as well as a pupil's ability to plan, carry out, report on, present and evaluate a project.

The EPQ is a one-year course undertaken in Year 12 and pupils will have an EPQ supervisor for the duration of the course.

Arts Award - Gold Level

Awarding Body: Arts Award

Gold Arts Award is a Level 3 qualification on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF). The award has 16 points on the UCAS tariff.

To achieve a Gold Arts Award, pupils undertake two topics: Personal Arts Development, through extending their own arts practice, identifying development opportunities within the wider arts sector, researching advanced practitioners and reviewing arts events and forming and communicating a view on an arts issue. Pupils will also undertake Leadership of an Arts Project. In which they plan, organise and deliver an arts project, managing a public showing of the work, reviewing their leadership development.

This qualification is suitable for anyone with a keen interest in the Performing or Creative Arts.



Level 2 Award in Sports Leadership

Awarding Body: Sports Leaders UK

This qualification is a nationally recognised Sports Leaders Level 2 qualification. Within this course, pupils will learn and develop the skills to lead, organise and plan sessions. They will be expected to demonstrate these skills in over 10 hours of practical sports activity leadership sessions.

This course allows pupils to develop their leadership skills and hone their abilities to plan, lead and evaluate sessions. It increases their responsibility whilst developing their confidence and self-esteem.

LIBF Level 2 Certificate in Financial Education

Awarding Body: The London Institute of Banking and Finance

As a technical award, this qualification provides an introduction to, and preparation for, further study through developing an understanding of the economy, financial management skills, employability and enterprise. CeFE introduces the pupil to the impact of finance on the economy and encourages them to consider how this can affect business and the individual. It develops knowledge and a valuable range of applied and transferable skills, providing

a foundation for further study in business and finance-related disciplines, as well as a wide range of other fields relating to social enterprise and vocational professional development.

Further Maths

Exam Board: CAIE

Further Maths is a full A Level subject in its own right and is studied alongside A Level Maths. Further Maths is a demanding but satisfying course and is recommended for any potential engineer, scientist or anyone thinking of reading mathematics at university. Anyone who is considering reading STEM subjects at Cambridge or Oxford is strongly recommended to take Further Maths. The entry requirement for Further Maths is grade 8 or above at GCSE.

Legat

Pupils who are in the Legat School of Dance programme for Sixth Form, will follow this option.

Sport Academies

This is an invite only programme for selected pupils following the Elite Sports programme in either Football, Hockey, Tennis or Cricket.



English as an Additional Language

This is a programme for international pupils to both improve their English and to gain an English qualification to meet university entry requirements.

Engage



Community Volunteering

A Bede's education is about developing the pupils holistically rather than just in one narrow, academic field. Dovetailing in with this ethos is the belief that playing a role in the community around us is important in developing happy, caring, confident, empathetic young people.

In this section, pupils will develop their sense of personal and social responsibility through their involvement in the school and wider communities. They are expected to actively engage in the following three areas: house community, school community and the wider community.

For the wider community aspect, pupils are expected to carry out 20 hours of volunteering/community service work over the two years. This can involve anything from sports coaching, local charity work, working in primary schools, volunteering at an animal unit or volunteering in a charity shop.

Pupils are encouraged to develop independence by organising their own community service, however there are some community links that the school have set up to help with this.

Why do it?

The benefits of undertaking service work are - for the recipients - well documented, but perhaps less well known for the volunteer. Studies have revealed some remarkable findings:

- Pupils learn that they can actually make a difference with what they do.
- Volunteering leads to more self-confidence and a can-do attitude.
- Young people can learn how to better solve problems, and enjoy the satisfaction of overcoming hurdles.
- Research has shown that individuals who participate in volunteering have better physical and mental health.
- Taking part in community service teaches pupils important employability skills.

School Community Links Activities

<p>Knit and Natter in The Village Shop</p>	<p>This takes place on Tuesdays during activities. Pupils spend time with members of our local community, getting to know them in a social setting, all the while knitting items to sell for charity.</p>
<p>Park Mead Reading and Maths</p>	<p>Pupils visit Park Mead Primary School on a weekly basis to help and support children with their reading and maths.</p>
<p>Park Mead Science</p>	<p>This is a weekly activity in which pupils will work with a small group of Year 5 and 6 children from Park Mead Primary School in our science labs, teaching and directing them in a series of science activities. Pupils will help with experiments, create worksheets and teach basic concepts to the pupils, developing a positive learning relationship throughout the year.</p>
<p>Care in the Community</p>	<p>This activity takes place on Thursdays. Pupils have the chance to help senior citizens in a local care home. The residents love interacting with young people. We hope to do this in Eastbourne and Brighton.</p>
<p>Transforming the Cuckoo Trail</p>	<p>This is an opportunity for any creative students to get involved in a very exciting project within a five mile radius of Bede's. Wealden County Council would like to revamp the Cuckoo trail, including Media students to create a new promotional video; Business students to carry out surveys on what the local community envisage how the cuckoo trail could be best used; Art students/Ceramics or DT students to create a themed structure or furniture to make the trail more user friendly or any animal management students to bring knowledge about the surrounding habitat and the animals that make The Cuckoo Trail their home. This activity can also include an environmental element involving litter picking from time to time.</p>

Lions Charity Fundraising	This is an annual event held on a Sunday. Pupils can volunteer to do a variety of things from running the 'It's A Knockout' competition, to assisting competitors. It's an exciting way to give back to the local community.
BEden Project	This takes place once a week. The BEden Project is a social and environmental, horticultural initiative which aims to bring members of Bede's community together to create a sustainable, organic, healing garden at zero financial cost, through recycling and free cycling.
Senior Citizens Afternoon Tea	This is a one-off event held in June, in conjunction with the Music department. Pupils will help to serve tea/coffee and cake to visiting guests and spend time talking with them.
Hailsham Food Bank	As a school we collect food parcels four times a year to deliver to the food bank. Students are heavily involved in the collection, sorting and delivery of these supplies. It is hoped that the food bank activity will be up and running again soon.
Warming up the Homeless	This is an opportunity once a week to help out in their charity shop in Bexhill. There is also the possibility of helping to make up meals distributed during the winter months to the homeless in the local area.
Beach Cleans	These happen twice a year and anyone can come along and help clean a section of the beach for a day.

As a result of COVID 19 unfortunately many the activities listed above will not run until the Spring term. For further information on the School Community Links Activities please contact Mary Leggett, the Head of Partnerships and Social Responsibility

mary.leggett@bedes.org

Enlighten



Broadening Minds

It is all too easy to forget the rest of the world is out there when you are studying hard for your next steps, but at Bede's we are determined to make the most out of being part of one of the most exciting and diverse communities in East Sussex.



The 'Enlighten series' is a programme of lectures and talks given by prominent figures from the local, national and international communities, on topics such as personal journeys and achievements,

current affairs, leadership, charity awareness, career pathways, life skills and healthy living. This will allow pupils to develop a greater awareness of themselves, others and the world they live in, as well as enlightening themselves further in areas of interest.

Pupils are expected to attend a total of five compulsory talks and five optional talks, cultural/subject trips or workshops.

'In order to aid pupils in thinking about their next steps and to help them engage with the world of work, all pupils are expected to research and arrange work experience lasting at least one week in a field they are passionate about. We recommend that this takes place during the summer break between Lower and Upper Sixth. In order to help pupils arrange this and explore the world of careers further they should engage at least once with the Sixth Form Careers Service about their next steps.

Compulsory Talks

Wednesday 7 October	Research Skills: from bibliographies to referencing by George Wainwright This presentation will focus on how to conduct research for coursework and extended essays. It will explain to pupils the different types of referencing systems which can be used, give a step by step guide on how to compile a bibliography and reference works. It will also explain how to conduct research and narrow down a topic of study.
Wednesday 14 October	Patrick Foster- Gambling and Me Patrick is a former Northamptonshire cricketer, who seemed to have it all until he started gambling at university. Due to his addictive personality he was unable to stop and soon had debts spiralling out of control. Patrick lost his job and his cricketing career, hitting rock bottom and ready to end his own life. However through the help of family and friends, he was able to get help and now wants to tell his story to as many people as possible, pointing out the dangers that exist around gambling. A thoroughly thought provoking and engaging talk.
Wednesday 25 November	Laura Bates- Everyday sexism Laura Bates founded the every day sexism project after suffering some pretty horrid sexual abuse in her job as an actress and a nanny. She felt passionate about ensuring equality amongst the sexes and she has written some very successful books on the topic. Her talk is informative, empowering will encourage us to become the catalysts for change.

Compulsory Talks

<p>Thursday 12 November</p>	<p>East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service ‘Safe Drive, Stay Alive’ The presentation explores the consequences of being involved in a road crash using DVD reconstruction and live testimonies from emergency services staff and guest speakers who have lost someone or been involved themselves. The presentation is hard-hitting and emphasises the dangers inexperienced, young drivers may encounter.</p>
<p>Wednesday 20 January</p>	<p>Prizes to Prison John was a successful golfer and although was pretty much teetotal, accepted a drink from a friend at the club before driving home. On his way home, he hit and killed a cyclist and spent three years in prison. He talks about the lessons he learnt in prison, the forgiveness that the widow showed him and how he rebuilt his life. A very humble story from a man that made one mistake and took the life of another.</p>
<p>Wednesday 4 March</p>	<p>Emma Lawton- Dropping the P bomb Three years ago, when the digital agency Emma works for was redesigning the Parkinson’s UK website, she was diagnosed with young onset Parkinson’s disease herself. She was 29. Emma has gone on to make raising awareness about the condition, and funds for Parkinson’s UK her mission. This journey has taken her from an unexpected diagnosis to winning awards and being featured in ‘Cosmopolitan’, where she reached out to other young women. This year, Emma published her first book ‘Dropping the P Bomb’, which shares her experiences of receiving the bombshell that was her Parkinson’s diagnosis.</p>

For more information on the optional talks and other enrichment opportunities, trips and visits available to you, please see the Sixth Form Enlighten Programme booklet.

Enhance



Competencies

In this section we want pupils to develop skills, behaviours and attributes that are essential for the workplace and adulthood. Pupils will engage in activities that allow them to undertake and develop the following competencies:

Leadership

Activities such as leading something in House, Prefectship, organising a charity event, running an activity, taking a rehearsal or coaching session, captaining a team are all ways to demonstrate and develop leadership qualities.



Teamwork and collaboration

The extensive Activities Programme provides opportunities for pupils to work as part of a team, such as being in a school play, playing in a sports team, participating in the UK Space Design Challenge. In addition pupils will be expected to fully participate in House Competitions.

Communication

We believe pupils must be able to use coherent and persuasive language, adjusting their communication to audience and purpose. Pupils will undertake Viva-style interviews with SMT, Year Heads and Head of Careers to prepare them for university and employment interviews. There will be opportunities for debate and public speaking, both in smaller and larger groups. Pupils are also encouraged to speak in house and school assemblies. All pupils taking the EPQ will do a final presentation to a small group. Pupils will also learn about how to communicate online professionally, with a growing

awareness of how they can use their online profile to network and promote themselves to prospective employers.

Critical reasoning, problem-solving and decision-making

Pupils will participate in a series of workshops which will require them to use their critical thinking, problem-solving and decision-making skills. All pupils will participate in the Lower Sixth teambuilding day in September.

Resilience

As they face the changes and challenges that Sixth Form brings and an ever increasing sense of independence, pupils will develop the strategies and techniques needed to persevere and overcome barriers, which will lead to greater resilience. Pupils will be encouraged to reflect on the times they have overcome setbacks, and learn from these experiences.

Self management and independent living skills

As part of the PSHE and Wellbeing programmes, pupils will learn how to manage themselves independently and develop important skills such as money

management, how to rent a house, how to fill in a form, doing the laundry and cooking and eating healthily.

In summary, the Diploma will be a holistic qualification, assessed in a variety of ways over the two years of the Sixth Form. Pupils will be expected to complete all elements of the Diploma and to reflect on their work and achievements as part of the qualification. In doing so, they will develop:

- Independence in learning and achievement
- Leadership and teamwork
- Commitment and planning
- Enthusiasm and passion
- Resilience and life skills



What do we expect of the pupils?

Extend

Pupils will complete one of the following: EPQ or Level 2 Award in Sports Leadership, Level 2 Certificate in Financial Education, Arts Award Gold, LAMDA/Dance examination, EAL, Further Maths or another recognised qualification.

Engage

Every pupil will be expected to do something for their House and School community such as take a tour, help out at Open Day or take part in a House charity event. Pupils will also carry out 20 hours of community service over the two years, which they are to arrange.

Enlighten

Attend a series of talks, trips, masterclasses and/or workshops (a total of five compulsory and five optional). Research and arrange work experience lasting at least one week in a field they are passionate about. Pupils should arrange to meet at least once with the Sixth Form Careers Service for advice on their next steps.

Enhance

Engage in activities and events that allow them to develop the competencies of leadership, teamwork, critical reasoning, problem-solving, decision-making, independence, self-management and resilience. Develop communication skills through: undertaking some form of public speaking, having a viva-style interview, developing their professional online profile and communication skills.



Lower Sixth Team Building Day



Futures Week Workshop



Sixth Form Futures Week



Plastic Free Eastbourne Talk

BEDE'S

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