



Beaumont School – generic information for applicants

Beaumont School is a mixed, 11-18 comprehensive school located on the east side of St Albans with 1,216 students on roll, including 308 in the Sixth Form. Each year, over 1,000 students apply for 180 places in Year 7, making it one of the most oversubscribed schools in St Albans and the county as a whole. Of 180 places in Year 7, between 80 and 104 are taken by siblings. From September 2018, the Pupil Admission Number (PAN) will increase from 180 to 210. The Sixth Form typically takes 140 students from Year 11 and 30 to 50 externals. Most students live within 1,600 metres of the school, making it a true community school, and 79.4% of students walk to school (15.4% come by car/taxi, 1.5% by bicycle, 1.5% motorcycle, 0.7% train and 1.6% by bus. There are no school buses.) There are significant numbers of staff who have chosen to send their own children to Beaumont.

Beaumont became a Language College in September 2003 and gained a second specialism, Maths and ICT, in April 2008, following recognition as a High Performing Specialist School. Although specialisms no longer have the same significance, breadth is still an important feature of the Beaumont curriculum with students benefitting from an international perspective as part of their education. We are also one of very few schools continuing to offer a choice of four options at GCSE. Beaumont became an Academy on 1 July 2012 and continues to follow HCC admission rules (with the addition of a 'Children of staff' rule from September 2014).

In March 2014, Beaumont was inspected by Ofsted and judged Outstanding in every category. Languages and English were both graded Outstanding in Ofsted themed inspections in 2008 and 2011 respectively. The 2014 Inspection Report can be read on the school website: www.beaumont.school.com

Beaumont occupies a compact site and now enjoys outstanding facilities. The older accommodation is generally in good order; the new accommodation has added immensely to the quality of the school environment. In Summer 2014, the newly expanded and refurbished Sixth Form Centre was opened. In 2014, work began on the largest school building project in the local area: the multi-million pound "Fields, Access and Building" (FAB) development. FAB project 1 (new and enlarged playing fields) was completed in 2015; FAB Project 2 (a new access road and new buildings, including a sports hall and additional classrooms) was completed in August 2016 (with the new access road to be added in due course); the next building project (new and refurbished science labs) is due to begin in Spring 2017.

We currently hold the following awards: Ofsted Outstanding 2013-14, National Support School and National Leader of Education, International Award, Artsmark Gold, Hertfordshire Creative Flame Award, Hertfordshire Advertiser Secondary School of the Year 2016, and District School Sports Department of the Year.

Our strapline, introduced in 2011, "*Enjoy and Excel*", is reflective of both students and staff. We are a strong community where staff and students respect one another and work purposefully together. Beaumont is a successful but not complacent school and the culture is one of hard work and mutual support. Staff morale is very good. Teaching and learning is led by an Assistant Headteacher and Lead Practitioner together with a teaching and learning team who lead and co-ordinate INSET. Mutual support, coaching and peer observations take place to ensure excellent practice is shared across the school. You might like to take visit our T & L blog (<http://beaumonttl.wordpress.com/about/>). Exemplary behaviour and attitudes to learning, combined with very high quality teaching and learning results in students in all groups making rapid and sustained progress.

The governing body works hard to fulfil its role of support and challenge to the school. Governors are committed to ensuring the very best for the students and use their considerable range of skills strategically to help maintain the excellent standards of the school and to assist with the provision of better facilities. In particular, they give a strong strategic lead on the facilities projects.



There is a very strong emphasis on developing a high level of personal responsibility in our students. Opportunities for student leadership are promoted throughout the school with House Captains in every tutor group, plus Subject and House Captains and a Student Council in the Sixth Form. Our *Beaumont Skills for Success* programme is designed to foster and develop independent learning skills. Students and staff involve themselves in a large number of fundraising activities; working for the community is a very strong and established part of school life. Students play a huge part in the review and development of the school through, for example, staff interview panels, student surveys and participation in subject reviews, all of which impact directly on decision-making and improvements in teaching and learning.

Our parents are both supportive and demanding; they share our high expectations and are supportive of our efforts to meet them. The Beaumont School Association (the PTA) is hard-working and effective on behalf of the school raising around £20,000 annually for the school. In 2016, our '80 in 18' fundraising campaign was launched to coincide with the school's 80th birthday year in 2018 with the particular aim of raising money for a new Beaumont Arts Centre.

The school is organised on a separate subject basis; there is no faculty structure. Students in Years 7 to 9 study the full range of subjects. They are allocated French or German in Year 7 and choose a second language (from French, German or Spanish) in Year 8. Setting by ability occurs in mathematics and foreign languages and, to a certain extent, in science and PE. In Years 10 and 11, all students follow a core programme including a Modern Foreign Language and then choose up to four additional subjects, one of which must be geography or history.

The Sixth Form at Beaumont has an excellent reputation in the local area and beyond for its extremely high academic standards, coupled with the strong development of independent learning skills. Between 30 and 50 students choose to move to Beaumont from other schools after Year 11 to pursue their studies. Sixth Form students can choose from a very wide range of A Level subjects and a smaller range of alternative courses. Beaumont's collaborative work with our two local partner schools (Sandringham and Verulam) is highly developed through the BeauSandVer Education Trust; there is a common timetable structure for the three schools to ensure excellent opportunities for all. We expect our students to enter wholeheartedly into their chosen studies and to take advantage of the many opportunities for enrichment. As a result of careful support and guidance, we have a superb 95% retention rate from Year 12 into Year 13, of which we are very proud. The majority of students leave to take up places in higher education and there is a consistent record of entry to Russell Group universities as well as Oxford and Cambridge.

A major strength of the school, and one that is commented upon frequently, is the imaginative and extensive programme of trips, visits and other curriculum-related activities; these, combined with superb provision and standards in extra-curricular Drama, Music and PE, provide exceptional opportunities for all students. The normal timetable is suspended on several Curriculum Enrichment Days (CEDs), including one week of CEDs in July; such a huge range of enrichment requires a high level of commitment from our dedicated staff. We attach great importance to these additional curriculum activities which we see as vitally important in building our school community and we run an exceptionally extensive programme of trips and visits, both nationally and internationally.

Candidates for posts are frequently impressed by the friendly and welcoming atmosphere of the school and the constructive relationships between staff, parents, students and governors. Many Beaumont staff have left the school for further promotion, having thrived within our hard-working but mutually supportive culture.



If, after reading these details, you feel that you would like to join our staff team, and that you have the skills and qualities required to make a contribution to our school community, then we would be delighted to hear from you. If you would like to talk to someone about the post please phone the school and ask to speak to Sue Parsons (HR Manager) or the Headteacher. Please also refer to our website <http://www.beaumontschool.com/pages/about-us/policies.html> for our CP and Safer Recruitment Policy.

Elizabeth Hitch
Headteacher

Further Information

St Albans is an attractive city some 20 miles north of London; the Thameslink line carries several trains per hour on the thirty-minute journey and there are good road links to the M1, M25 and A1(M). The city has a Roman heritage; the Verulamium Museum is a principal tourist attraction along with St Albans Abbey and other cultural facilities. Shopping and leisure facilities are excellent.

The salary payable for all posts will include the London Fringe Allowance.

In common with other schools, Beaumont has a Safer Recruitment Policy and regular training for all staff on safeguarding. All interviews for staff applications will include questions relating to the safeguarding of children. All staff will be subject to an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

The headline exam statistics from recent years can be seen below and further information is available on our website.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Attainment 8					58	59
Progress 8					+0.23	+0.39
e-bacc					60	55
% candidates Maths and English (Basics)					87	81
% candidates achieving 5+ A*-C inc Eng & Maths	80	78	86	84	82	77
16+ average points score per Beaumont entry	227	232	233	227	229 (B-)	228 (B-)
16+ average points score per Beaumont entry (new)					36 (B-)	35.5 (B-)
16+ % A*-B at A level				60	65	64

Destinations of Year 11 Leavers 2015 (source: 2015 Activity Survey)

Category	FT Ed Sch	FT Ed FE	HE	Gap / travel	Empl't / training	Volun'y	NEET	Other	Total
Number of Students	122	43	0	0	7	0	1	2	175
Percentage	69.7	24.6	n/a	n/a	4.0	n/a	0.6	1.1	100.0

Destinations of Year 13 Leavers 2015 (source: 2015 Activity Survey)

Category	FT Ed Sch	FT Ed FE	HE	Gap / travel	Empl't / training	Volun'y	NEET	Other	Total
Number of Students	6	7	85	21	18	5	0	6	148
Percentage	4.1	4.7	57.4	14.2	12.2	3.4	0.0	4.1	100.0