

School Synopsis

The Bemrose School is a very different school from the vast majority of schools in this country. These differences are very difficult to sum up in a few words and nothing beats a visit. If you are interested in working within a context which is stimulating and also hugely rewarding with a great team of adults and some wonderful children and young people then please read on.....

The Bemrose School is a thriving foundation, mixed comprehensive school. We became a 3 – 19 school from September 2014. We are situated about 1 mile west of Derby City Centre. We have a growing primary phase with an admission limit of 60 places. We are filling rapidly in all years and will be full in 2018. There are currently over 280 children in our primary phase, 800 students in Years 7 to 11 who are all organised into 4 houses and we have a growing and very successful sixth form of 100.

Our primary phase opened in September 2014 and in January 2015 we moved into our new fantastic £4 million purpose built building. In April 2015 we opened our Nursery facility which continues to grow and thrive as part of our Early Years Foundation Stage unit. These buildings were extended in 2017 by 4 additional classrooms. It truly is a very exciting time to be part of our growing Bemrose family. The school is also about to embark on a refurbishment program to improve the main building further, with a proposed 20+ classroom building extension for 2018-19.

The Sixth form provision is friendly, personal and based on wanting the very best, whatever a student's academic ability. We ask (in fact insist on) that students are ambitious for them self, are prepared to work hard and are willing to support the continuing improvement of the school in the way that they work and behave. Last year, 90% achieved A*- E and average grade per entry was D+. Results at A level, put us fifth in the city. Our post 16 students are the role models for the rest of the school – they have to be willing to get involved in the life of the school and to provide a good example for the younger pupils. We have been rarely disappointed in recent years and we are always delighted when a Bemrose student achieves their goals. 100% of students applying gained a place in their 1st choice university last year.

The majority of our secondary aged students come from primary schools in west and south-west Derby and are representative of a wide range of ethnic groupings. In our all through school 53% of our students speak English as an additional language and our pupil premium percentage stands at 60%.

Not surprisingly we work daily with a significant minority of students who require a varied enhanced provision including an excellent Inclusion and Language Support Unit. We are also proud to have an Enhanced Resource facility and a linked unit 'Elmtree' for children with communication difficulties and autism.

Our examination results are rising overall. Over 75% of students made expected progress in English! Our benchmarking and tracking of student performance reveals further promising signs of improving attainment at KS5. Our expected and above expected progress measures are higher than many other Derby schools. This is supported by effective teaching and learning, positive behaviour management and an appropriate relevant curriculum framework. We set and expect high standards.

Following inspections in 2012 and an English subject inspection in 2013 which were both 'good', we were inspected in December 2015. This inspection judged us as requiring improvement. This was the correct judgement in this framework for the school. Work with mathematics and a little on some elements of teaching will move the school forward and I expect us to be at least 'good' in the next few years.