



ST JOHN'S BEAUMONT

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

St John's Beaumont School
Priest Hill
Old Windsor
Berks SL3 8NJ

www.sjb.community
Tel: 01784 432428





Summer 2017

Dear Colleague

Thank you very much indeed for your interest in St John's Beaumont and in particular for your interest in applying to work at the School. This is a very exciting time at St John's and we are looking forward to welcoming outstanding candidates into our community.

I hope that the following pages will give you a flavour of the School and all of the information you require in order to decide whether to pursue an application. Whilst we enjoy enviable academic, artistic and sporting facilities, it is the learning environment, the excellent staff, the sense of independence, responsibility and enjoyment that I believe characterise both St John's and our boys.

If there is anything you would like to discuss further please do not hesitate to contact me.

In the meantime, I look forward to receiving your application.

With kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Delaney', is positioned above the printed name.

Giles Delaney
Headmaster



ABOUT ST JOHN'S BEAUMONT SCHOOL

MISSION STATEMENT

We pursue excellence in teaching and learning through the development and care of the whole child. We promote Christ as the model for life where students and teachers may grow in the discernment needed to live each day with courage and compassion.

HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL



The plans for St John's Beaumont were drawn up by the famous Architect, J F Bentley, who later went on to design Westminster Cathedral. Unlike so many preparatory schools, it was purpose-built, originally for 60 boarders, and was opened in 1888. Its name is taken from St John Berchmans, a young Jesuit who was canonised in that year.

St John's Beaumont was opened and operated as the junior school for the college called Beaumont College (where Beaumont House Hotel, part of the Principal Hayley Group, is now housed) until Beaumont College amalgamated with Stonyhurst College and moved north in 1967. Numbers in the School are at 325 and the School still maintains its original boarding numbers of 60. The School is a member of IAPS (Independent Association of Preparatory Schools), ISIS (Independent Schools Information Service) and the CISC (Catholic Independent Schools' Conference).

St John's Beaumont is a Jesuit school. The Jesuits are one of the most famous religious orders within the Catholic Church. The School and property is owned by the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) and is governed by a Governing body made up of Jesuits, old pupils of the School, former parents and others who bring expertise to the running of a school in the twenty-first century. At present, St John's Beaumont is served by the Jesuit Community at Farm Street in Mayfair.

The crest of the School is taken from the family of St Stanislaus Kostka who was canonised in 1726. The motto of the School *Aeterna Non Caduca* which comes from the Kostka crest, means *Heavenly Matters Over Earthly Matters* and is a call for us all to follow an exemplary life in the service of others.

LOCATION AND FACILITIES

The School is located in Old Windsor close to Windsor Great Park and is set in 70 acres of grounds, surrounded by fields. Although only 35 minutes from London, and a mile from the M25, the School offers an educational experience far removed from the constraints of central London.

The School enjoys excellent facilities, which includes:

- The Dermot Gogarty Sports Centre (built in 2009) which consists of a fully equipped sports hall, fitness suite (available to staff each evening), climbing wall, cricket nets.
- An indoor, heated 25m swimming pool
- 4 flood-lit all-weather tennis courts
- The Hoy Theatre
- Art Studio



- Music School
- A separate modern and well equipped Pre-Prep (the Nicholas Owen Block) with fenced in outdoor play area
- A very well stocked, modern Library at the heart of the School
- State of the art ICT facilities with networked provision across the school and a dedicated ICT suite
- 50 acres of sports fields for rugby, football, athletics, cricket and cricket nets.
- Forest School
- Woodland BBQ area (for boarders)
- Outdoor Theatre (Summer 2017)
- Golf putting green and driving range (Summer 2017)

THE BOARDING HOUSES

St John's was built as a boarding school for 60 boys and continues to have 60 boys in the Boarding House. The senior dormitory is called 'Southwell' and the junior dormitory is called 'Morse'.

Boarding at a Prep School should be a memorable and special experience, and this is certainly the case at St John's where the boarders are an important part of life at St John's. They are looked after by our Head of Boarding, two Dormitory Masters and a team of Matrons and Assistant Teachers.

Many of our boarders live either in the immediate local area or within 25 miles of St John's, although we also have a number of boys from overseas. Around half of our boarders are full boarders.

CLASSES/TUTORS

The pastoral development of a young man up to Year 5 is promoted more successfully through a class teacher structure. It is important that boys experience consistency and continuity in the relationships that they build with their teachers and the expectations set upon them. This is why at St John's we maintain this essential element up to Year 5 where class teachers are responsible for teaching their classes for the majority of time. In addition to this teaching, boys receive specialist teaching in Music, Sport, Art, Drama, French and some Humanities subjects.

For boys in Years 6 to 8 the demands of the curriculum require that lessons are taught by staff who specialise in their chosen subject. Boys are therefore supported pastorally through a personal tutor programme whereby boys meet twice weekly with their tutors on a regular basis to offer pastoral support and guidance.

CURRICULUM

Early age boys are taught by a range of teachers to support their ability to interact confidently with different adults. Additional subjects are introduced at important stages to offer breadth and stimulation to their learning. It is important to recognise that boys come to us with a range of abilities and talents and an important role of our curriculum is to recognise and support these talents.

The curriculum at St John's Beaumont is designed to achieve a sound intellectual basis in the context of fostering all-round human excellence. Studies in a Jesuit School are in preparation



for a life in which boys will use their talents in the service of others. The design of our curriculum recognises the individual needs of boys as learners: what motivates them and how they learn effectively. The Jesuit ideal of a “liberal education” is one that counts all spheres of human interest, study and endeavour as pathways to the discovery of a God who is alive and at work in Creation.



The curriculum is structured to ensure breadth, balance and coherence of studies. Of particular interest and importance is the aspect of boys’ motivation and we feel strongly that one of the most significant factors in motivating boys is to ensure that their learning is relevant to the outside world and has a broad context that will assist them in consolidating their learning.

The School aims to provide a stimulating and carefully structured environment for learning in which all boys are given solid grounding in the important skills of literacy and numeracy and a stimulating and thought provoking Humanities curriculum (Geography and History), Sciences, the expressive Arts (Music, Art and Drama), Foreign Language, Physical Education and Games. Religious Education integrates all of these studies, giving a sense of purpose of value in the Jesuit tradition which seeks “to find God in all things”.

An overview of the curriculum can be seen below:

Nursery & Reception - Early Years Foundation Stage:

- Weekly swimming lessons are introduced in Nursery
- Music is taught by a subject specialist
- Drama is introduced into Reception
- After school activities are available from Reception
- Short ‘Homework’ activities are introduced in Nursery
- Individual music tuition is available to boys (usually from Year 1)
- Forest School



Year 1:

English, Mathematics, Science, Geography, History, Music, Art, DT, ICT, Drama, PE, Swimming, Religious Education.

Year 2:

- Touch rugby (Games) is introduced to the above list.
- French is introduced to the above list

Year 3:

- The day is further extended from 8.20am until 4.00pm (+ optional activities)

Years 4 & 5:

- A comprehensive range of activities is now available
- Latin is added to the above list in Year 5

Year 6 to 8:

- Current Affairs and Verbal Reasoning are taught in Year 6
- Early preparation is begun for Common Entrance / Scholarship
- The school does not participate in Key Stage 2 testing in Year 6
- Each pupil is allocated a personal tutor



- An academic scholarship stream is introduced into Year 7 for boys who demonstrate the necessary academic ability and commitment

IMPORTANT CHANGES FOR SEPTEMBER 2017

We have, over recent months, looked closely at the boys' experience of the school day and week, at the effectiveness of their learning time, and at the way in which the many other aspects and activities of the St John's week (such as studies, sport, Formation Time, Magis, tutor time and breaks) impact on them.

Our aim at St John's has always been to provide a busy and challenging environment in which the boys will thrive and grow in all kinds of ways. But there can be a danger that all this good activity sometimes becomes too busy and boys can become over tired and their capacity to work consistently can decline, especially at the end of the week and towards the end of term.

Over recent years we have seen a significant change in the boys' social environment: how they interact with each other, access information and consequently learn as well as chose to spend their free time. Family life has also changed and we see many more parents working full-time and weekends are becoming busier, increasingly filled with either sporting, creative or academic activities or tutoring. There is a wealth of credible research pointing to the speed at which children live their lives and the rate at which they process information of all kinds. There is increasingly very little time for them to pause, reflect and recharge their batteries.

These points have been at the forefront of our mind as we have considered the future of St John's and how we can continue to provide a curriculum that offers the boys the very best of educational advancement at the same time as allowing them to develop into resilient, compassionate, generous and articulate young men who will be well placed to take a leading role in the world in years to come. In short, our priorities are to create a learning environment that retains at its core a continued focus on academic excellence but also one in which boys could develop independently, the personal and leadership skills necessary to leverage this ability later in their lives.

Whilst our current curriculum and structure has undoubtedly been responsible for a considerable degree of success in the past, we feel that we can achieve even better results, academically and personally, for a wider group of boys with the following changes to the structure of the day and the curriculum in general.

Therefore, having looked very closely at the whole school day and week, we are proposing some important changes for next year which we believe will provide the same busy and challenging environment but in a calmer and more constructive way, as follows:

Structure of the School Day

From September 2017, the school day will change to the following:

Nicholas Owen Block (Nursery to Year 2) 8.20 to 3.15pm (Optional activity to 4.00pm) *

Middle School (Years 3 to 5) 8.20 to 4.00pm (Optional activity to 5.00pm) *

Upper School (Years 6 to 8) 8.20 to 5.00pm (Optional activity to 6.00pm) **

* After-School Care is available to boys from Nursery to Year 5 until 6.00pm.

** Boys in Upper School may remain for supper (until 7.00pm)



These changes will allow a better rhythm to the day: one in which boys can work hard but also benefit from sufficient time to socialise with their friends. We will also be providing boys with a wider range of locations and resources to use during play time.

Lunch and Play time

By restructuring the school day, we have increased the amount of playtime from 30 to 60 minutes per day. Whilst the 20 minute morning break will remain unchanged, we will increase the current 10 minute break after lunch to 40 minutes. We feel that the boys will benefit significantly from having a more substantial period of free-time before they return to afternoon lessons. This additional time will allow us to make more effective use of the school grounds but also allow the boys to choose how they will use this time: either to read, play sport or play creatively, for example in the woods or on the play fort or forest school area.

Thirty minutes have been set aside for lunch which will also allow boys to eat comfortably without rushing and importantly without disruption, as we intend that boys may not be called for meetings, rehearsals or other reasons but rather eat lunch in a civilised and unhurried manner.

Academic support, progress and Studies (Homework)

Compelling research supports our own view that there are important changes we can make to the setting of 'studies' (homework). We believe the purpose of homework is two-fold: firstly, it plays an important role in helping pupils to consolidate their learning by developing things they 'know' into something they 'understand'. Secondly, it plays an invaluable role as they get older by helping them to develop the independence and organisation that is so important when they move to their senior schools and also later in life.

Homework or 'studies' for boys in the Middle School will therefore be replaced by independent work in lessons which can be more effectively supported by individual subject teachers. Taught lesson time has been increased by nearly 2 hours in order to accommodate this and will be further supported by the subject clinic system which is part of Formation Time.

Boys in the Upper School will be increasingly set work as they move from years 6 to 8 which we will expect them to complete independently. They may if they wish remain at school to do this independent study between 5.00 and 6.00pm under the supervision of a member of staff in place of an activity, or they may wish to do it at home. The purpose of setting work in this manner is to encourage boys to plan and use their time effectively and develop independent study and revision habits and the level of organisation expected of them at senior school.

The new structure of the school day allows an additional 1 hour and 40 minutes of teaching time per week so that independent learning within lesson time can be well accommodated.

Formation Time and the Activities Programme

We intend to maintain the current Friday Formation Time which currently offers boys from Year 4 the opportunity to attend subject clinics. The Monday Formation Time will be amalgamated into a new revised and improved activity programme. All activities currently offered on a 'scholars only invitation' basis will be made available to all boys wishing to attend.



PSHE Curriculum

The school will introduce a formal Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum from Year 4 in September. Whilst we currently address many important social and cultural issues within the Magis or Assembly structure or by way of the Jesuit Pupil Profile, a formal PSHE curriculum will also allow us to discuss potentially sensitive issues in smaller groups and further develop a sense of trust and openness between the boys and their teachers.

Sport

From September 2017, all sport in the Middle School will be coached by experienced and qualified coaches in each individual sport. Sport for Upper School boys will continue to be coached to the same high level by current teaching staff. We will no longer assess the boys' progress in PE: we will instead spend this time extending the range of skills that we teach to the boys, including cross-country running and athletics.

We will increase the amount of football we play in the Easter term whilst also retaining a formal rugby sevens training programme for those boys who are selected to represent the school. Both football and rugby will work alongside each other and boys, if selected for rugby, will have the same opportunity to play football and represent the school as all other boys. The cricket season will remain unchanged.

11+ Testing

The recent addition of the ISEB pre-assessment test at 11+ (Year 6) has increased the pressure on boys at this stage of their schooling. To alleviate some of this pressure and to ensure that each boy is given the best possible chance of success at this time, we plan to increase the amount of English and Maths taught in Years 4 and 5 from September.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



The extra-curricular programme at St John's Beaumont is an essential part of the all-round education we provide to our boys.

The importance of this programme is emphasised by the fact that it is an optional element that can be pursued outside of the normal school day and curriculum. By allowing boys to make their own choices we can encourage them to pursue interests in which they excel, as well as those that interest them. However, it is through encouraging the boys to choose activities that might initially present a particular challenge that we can bring about the greatest change in their resilience and open-mindedness.

The wide range of activities on offer for boys of all ages are carefully chosen for their breadth and challenge. Every area of interest is represented, from the visual and expressive arts through to sport and science and there really is something for everyone!

Current Activities include: Tennis, Football, Gymnastics, Judo, Art, Choir, Orchestra, Lego, Self Defence, Puzzle Club, Jolf (Junior Golf), Mandarin, Construction Club, Ball Skills, Board Games, Kick Boxing, Current Affairs, Chess, Junior Choir, Computer Coding, Practical Science, Bug Club, Ultimate Frisbee, Cycling, Weight Training, Cricket, Polo, Board Games, Drama, Debating, Aerobic Training, English Club, Practical Science, Water Polo, Fencing, Rowing, Maths Scholars, Skiing, Cricket Nets, Classical Civilisation.



THE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Headmaster, Mr Giles Delaney, is a member of IAPS, an ISI Inspector and a Governor at two other schools.

Mr Delaney has been Headmaster since 2005 and is very ably supported on the School Leadership Team:

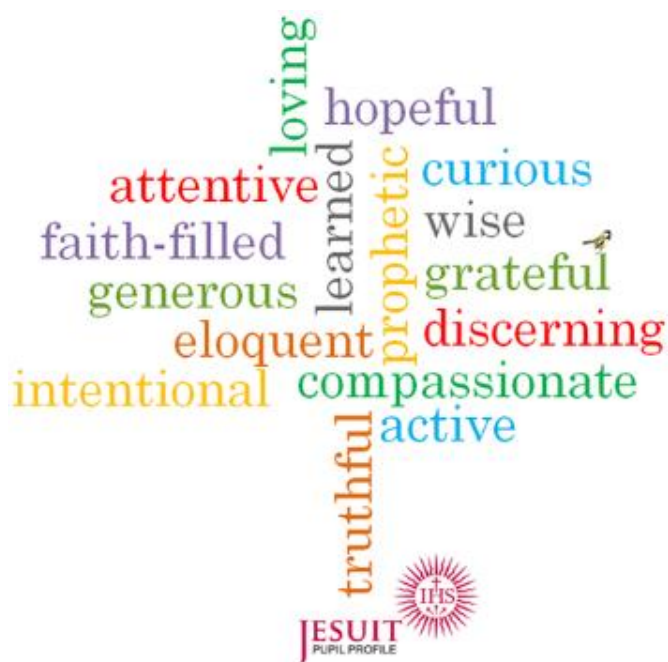
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|--|-------------------------|
| • Deputy Headmaster & Head of Boarding | Mr Phil Barr |
| • Director of Studies | Mr Geoff Williams |
| • Head of Pre-Prep | Mrs Pippa Powell-Harper |
| • Head of Middle School | Miss Aimee Theodore |
| • Head of Upper School | Mr Charles Lamprecht |
| • Bursar | Mrs Paola Bright |

ETHOS



Staff are expected to play a full and active role in the pastoral and spiritual life of the school. Whilst staff and boys from all religions are positively welcomed at St John's, the strength of the school is drawn from the fact that it offers a strong and consistent Christian message which is supported by staff, who in turn act as excellent role models for our pupils.

Alongside our religious ethos, the school aims to offer the highest standard of education that understands and meets fully the emotional, physical and educational needs of boys. Staff are encouraged to reflect on their teaching practices and in doing so to teach lessons that show a clear grasp of how boys learn and as importantly, how they are motivated successfully.



APPLICATION PROCESS

All candidates are required to complete an Application Form to be returned by 10am on the closing date to Mrs E Wisden, Headmaster's PA (hmooffice@sjb.email). CVs will not be accepted.

After the closing date a shortlist will be drawn up and candidates will be contacted by phone and/or email to attend for interview. Overseas candidates will be interviewed by telephone, preferably by Skype.

Candidates applying for teaching posts will be asked to teach a lesson (which will be observed), complete an 'in box' exercise, they will be interviewed by the Headmaster (and any other appropriate staff) and they will have a tour of the School.

A full programme for the day will be sent to each candidate well in advance of the interview so that they know what to prepare.

All candidates are requested to bring proof of I.D. and qualifications to their interview.

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

St John's is committed to the safeguarding of children in its care and candidates who wish to apply for a post at the School you must be prepared to undertake investigation by the Disclosure and Barring Service.

The Governing Council and Staff of St John's Beaumont School take seriously their responsibility under section 175 of the Education Act 2002 to safeguard and promote the welfare of Children; and to work together with other agencies to ensure adequate arrangements within the School to identify, assess, and support those Children who are suffering harm. We recognise that all adults, including temporary Staff, volunteers and governors, have a full and active part to play in protecting our pupils from harm, and that the Child's welfare is our paramount concern.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

You will find more information about the School on the website: www.sjb.community. If you have any queries regarding the application process please do not hesitate to contact Ms Elaine Wisden, Headmaster's PA hmooffice@sjb.email.

