

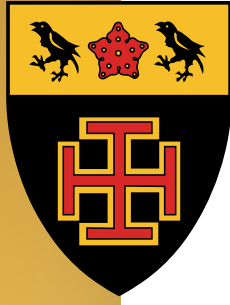


ST BENEDICT'S SCHOOL

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Recruitment
Pack 2020



The School

St Benedict's is London's leading independent, Catholic, co-educational school. The school is a successful blend of the traditional and the progressive; proud of its heritage but also forward thinking and innovative. Within a caring, happy community, our pupils thrive, benefiting from a seamless education which can begin at the age of 3 and continue through to the Sixth Form.

This has been another very successful year for St Benedict's, which continues to go from strength to strength.

Examination results

A level results at St Benedict's, published in August 2019, were very strong: 42% of results were the top A*-A grades, which makes these the best set of top A level grades achieved at the school for the last 6 years. 71.3% of examinations this year were graded A*-B.

GCSE results this year were also very good. Our candidates scored the grades 9-7, equivalent to A*-A, in 58.3% of exams and top grades 9-8, equivalent to A*, in 36.9% of exams. Nine of our students achieved straight 9/8 grades (equivalent to straight A* grades), and 27 of them, almost a quarter of the year group, achieved straight 9-7 grades (equivalent to straight A*/A grades). These are among the best GCSE results ever achieved at St Benedict's.



Academic opportunities and successes

Six St Benedict's students received Oxbridge offers this year, 3 for Oxford and 3 for Cambridge. Moreover, government league tables published in February 2019 ranked St Benedict's in the top 5% of all schools in the country for 'value added' at A level. This is better than any other state or independent school in West London.

The academic curriculum at St Benedict's is designed above all to promote a love of learning, and to encouraging intellectual curiosity and openness to new ideas. The Helikon Centre for Academic Challenge continues to be an inspiring, lively hub for pupils at the school, where talks, discussions and workshops take place every week.

As part of its work, Middle and Upper School pupils have this year conducted research projects as diverse as the Trojan War, ancient China, and the nature of memory. The school's Thinking Forum has considered a wide range of topics this year, including: "Giving to Charity at Christmas should be compulsory", "Does Prison work?" and "Is anything worth dying for?"



St Benedict's pupils have continued to have access to a wide range of talks and presentations. These have included talks by Professor Averil McDonald, who spoke about electric cars, recyclable plastics and careers in STEM, Lord Duncan of Springbank, who gave an insight into the workings of the EU and the House of Lords, and Professor Francis Campbell, who gave a sobering talk about UK-Irish relations in the wake of Brexit.

Particularly well-known speakers at St Benedict's this year have included the historian and broadcaster Michael Wood on Why the Anglo-Saxons matter, and the Art Historian, Andrew Graham-Dixon, on Classical art.

The offer of Project Qualifications is also an important part of our strategy to develop research skills and intellectual curiosity. Many in the Lower 6th undertake the EPQ, and this year a number in the Upper 4th have also presented very impressive EPQ projects.

Opportunities for personal development

St Benedict's offers its students a very wide range of co-curricular opportunities, which develop talent and promote confidence and resilience. For the second year in a row, the Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme at St Benedict's has enjoyed record participation and achievement. During 2018/19, St Benedict's pupils qualified for a total of 189 Gold, Silver and Bronze awards.

The St Benedict's combined cadet force (CCF), which also welcomes a number of pupils from neighbouring Cardinal Wiseman Catholic High School, had a record number of 62 new recruits during 2018/19.

The performing arts at St Benedict's have seen a number of impressive productions during the year. In February 2019, the school put on the musical *Les Miserables*, which was appreciated for its particularly powerful individual vocal performances and for the strength of the chorus singing. In June 2019, the Middle School school production of *Grimm's Tales* was also very well-received.

The school choirs and orchestra have put on a range of concerts this year. Of particular note was the impressive concert of Mozart's music at St John's Smith Square in March 2019, when the programme included Mozart's Haffner Symphony, his Requiem and his Clarinet Concerto. More than sixty St Benedict's musicians also took part in a very successful tour to Sorrento in southern Italy in July 2019. Individual and team sports continue to be a strong feature of life at St Benedict's. As well as the range of fixtures played against other schools, 2018/19 has seen the introduction of a wider range of lunchtime sporting opportunities, including house leagues in five-a-side football, basketball, handball and badminton.



Outreach and voluntary service

Central to our Catholic ethos is a desire to be of service to each other at school and also in the wider community.

This year, the school's extensive voluntary service programme has included:

- the pupil mentoring programme has been developed significantly this year, so that older pupils offer support and advice to their younger peers
- Members of the SVP have hosted parties each term for elderly people, and have helped out in a homeless shelter at weekends
- The Lourdes Pilgrimage took 20 of our students to France at Easter, where they helped disabled pilgrims of all ages
- House charity days have raised funds for St Mungo's, Young Minds, and the Foundation of Goodness in Sri Lanka
- On the school's patronal feast day, St Benedict's Day, pupils undertook fundraising activities and raised significant sums for four charities: The Passage, Mary's Meals, Aid to the Church in Need and Papyrus



Junior School and Nursery



Junior School children engaged in stimulating creative curriculum topics, including Tap Tap Bang Bang! (Construction); Fire Fire! (The Great Fire of London); We'll Meet Again (The Second World War); Ice Worlds (Antarctica); Animal Magic (learning about animals and how to care for them); Tales of the Riverbank (Life along canals and rivers); Out of the Egg (Dinosaurs; & growth and change); and Out of Africa (African History), to name but a few of the topics that were studied. Acceleration, challenge and enrichment have also been provided through learning activities such as SCQ (School Challenge Quest), the annual SATIPS General Knowledge Quiz, a Science Competition at Aldenham School, and the Delancey UK Chess Challenge. The Art Exhibition, Book Week and Mathematics Week activities were once again highly successful. For a second consecutive year, a video showcasing the art work of Junior School pupils was included in the Take One Picture art exhibition hosted by The National Gallery,



focusing upon the inspiration provided by Joseph Wright of Derby's *An Experiment on a Bird in the Air Pump*.

The number of co-curricular activities open to Junior School pupils is extensive. Hobbies range from Badminton to the Current Affairs Club to Dance to Debating to Fencing to Football to the Chinese Dragons Club to Groovy Greeks & Rotten Romans to Skateboarding and beyond. The children have also had many opportunities to engage in dance (e.g. the annual St Benedict's Dance Show), drama (e.g. the Form 2 production of *Bugsy Malone*), music concerts (including the annual Music Festival Finalists' Concert) and sports fixtures (athletics; cricket; fencing; hockey; netball; rugby; and swimming). St Benedict's hosted an U10 Hockey tournament (for girls), an U11 Cricket tournament and an U10 High 5 netball tournament (for girls). Alas, the U11 Rugby Sevens Tournament (U11 Boys) was cancelled due to poor weather and waterlogged pitches. The boys' senior swimming squad competed in the National Swimming Championship (English Schools' Swimming Association) held in Sheffield. Upper Key Stage 2 pupils benefited hugely from cookery classes provided by the Royal Academy of Culinary Arts as part of their Adopt a School programme.



Activities, such as the WiseUp Leadership and Teambuilding Day (Form 2 and Form 1), the PGL trip (Upper Prep), the French trip to Normandy (Form 1), the Outward Bound activities in the Lake District (Form 2) and the Ski Trip (Form 2) complement the termly school trips to enrich the learning experience of the children. Charity fundraising was organised for Aid to the Church in Need; Caritas, Mary's Meals; Teenage Cancer Trust; and The Sick Children's Trust.

We were also privileged to welcome Joe Simpson (Wasps, Gloucester and England Rugby Union Scrum Half) to the Junior School Prize Giving, who gave an uplifting address about the importance of community and being empathetic.

St Bernard's

On 1st January 2019 St Benedict's School also took on responsibility for St Bernard's Preparatory School, Slough. The Governors of St Benedict's are now therefore also the proprietors and charitable trustees of St Bernard's. There are significant opportunities for the sharing of good educational practice between St Benedict's Junior School and St Bernard's Preparatory School. This acquisition also offers opportunities for economies of scale.

Buildings and Facilities

We continue to refurbish and upgrade facilities for the benefit of our students. Over the past year, eight further classrooms have been renovated, landscaping work has been carried out to the side of the main playground, and the student café has been significantly enhanced by a beautiful new skylight. We have also completed the second stage of important drainage work to prevent flooding at our Perivale sports ground. Future plans include further renovations, including classrooms and communal areas, and the clubhouse at our Perivale sports ground. We will also install floodlights to the all-weather pitch at our sports ground.



Future strategy

We are currently implementing the three year strategic plan agreed by the Governors in 2017. The school's aim is to become the independent and Catholic school of choice in West London. We will achieve this by supporting all pupils to achieve their academic potential, and to enjoy a full co-curricular life, in a school which develops individual gifts and strengths. Significant steps have been taken in implementing this agreed strategy.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AJ' followed by a stylized flourish.

Andrew Johnson
Headmaster

Staff Development

The School is committed to professional development for all staff, in accordance with the School Improvement Plan and within the confines of the budget.

The School allocates a generous budget to staff training and development and all staff are responsible for keeping their own training log, which is reviewed as part of their appraisal process.

Train to teach with us

St Benedict's School is a Strategic Partner School within the West London Teaching School Alliance (WLTSA). The WLTSA will be recruiting candidates for over 160 Schools Direct teacher training places (both primary and secondary) for 2018-19, of which four will be based at St Benedict's School. Further details can be found on our website.

Newly Qualified Teachers and Unqualified Graduates

A support programme is established for those in their first year teaching. The Director of Teaching and Learning will monitor, along with the appropriate Head of Department, their professional development via classroom observation and regular discussion. Other Senior Leaders are available for support and advice; they will meet with the teachers at the start of the academic year. A programme of further meetings will be arranged to complete the Induction Programme. The timetable for NQTs and unqualified graduates is reduced to allow them to adjust to the demands of the profession.

New teachers who do not hold a PGCE will be encouraged and, where possible, supported to achieve QTS. The School will contribute to the costs of this, provided the teacher agrees to serve the School for a minimum period of one year beyond qualification.

Support for New Staff

A comprehensive programme of induction and support is arranged for all new members of staff, and new colleagues will usually receive specific details of this before they commence work at the school. New teaching staff receive a comprehensive induction, including:

- An induction day and series of twilight INSETs to provide guidance and support
- Regular meetings with a Senior Leader to support teachers in their new school
- Support with attendance at external INSET

Benefits

Accommodation at a reduced rental may be available.

Fee remission, for staff children attending St Benedict's.

Pension

For Teaching Staff: the School is an accepted school for the purposes of Teachers' Pensions and the School will automatically enrol you.

For Support Staff: the School will automatically enrol you to its non-teaching staff pension scheme. If you do not wish to be a member of the Scheme you may choose to opt-out.

Gym

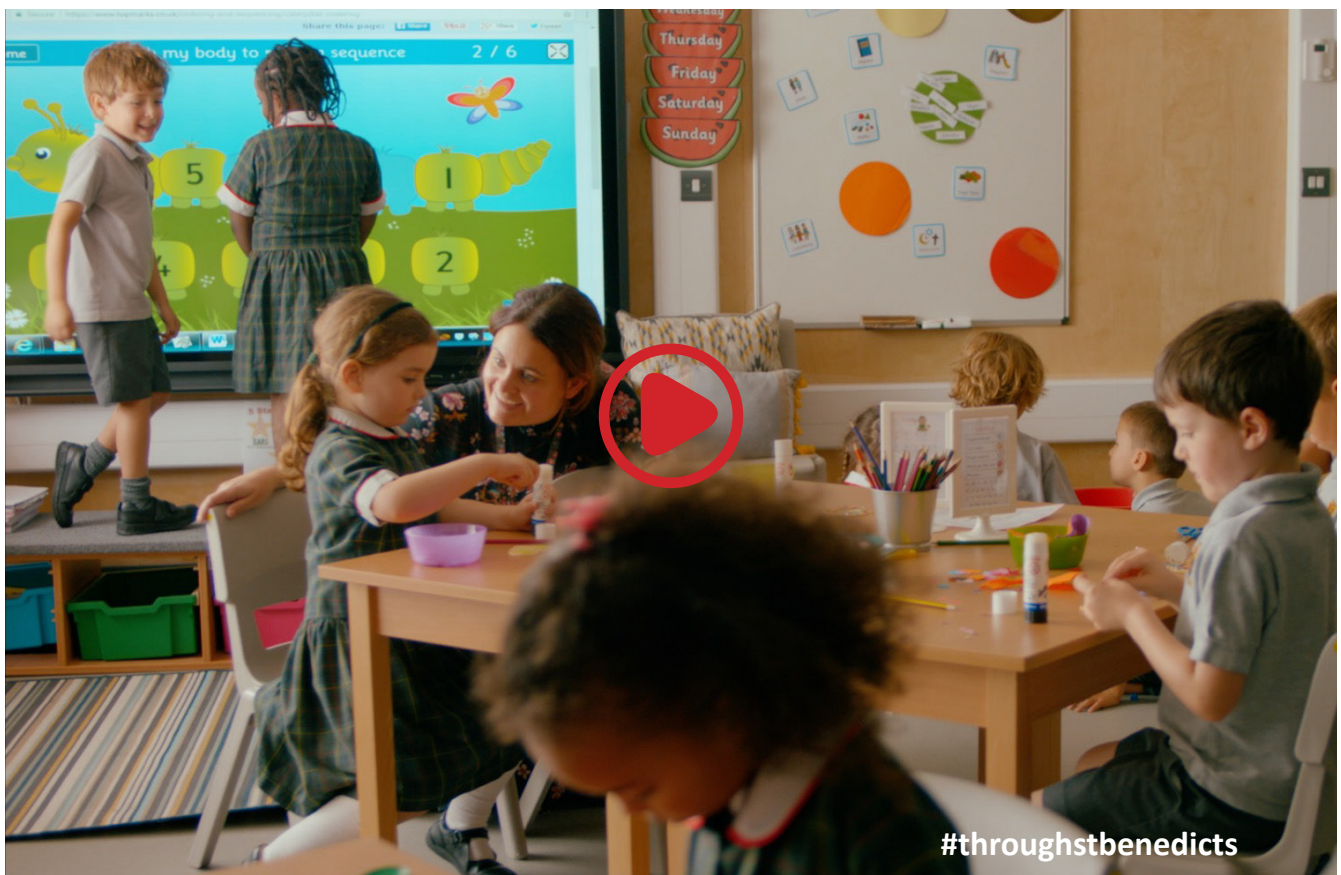
Free use of the School's Gym Facilities.

Lunch

Free lunch served in the School Dining Hall during Term Time.

Cycle to Work Scheme

Childcare Voucher Scheme



https://youtu.be/gu8-_7Eee6Y

Visit us

A visit to the School is welcome either before or after application and can be arranged by contacting:

Mrs Ruth Wynne (Senior School)
Headmaster's PA
Tel: 0208 862 2010
Email: rwynne@stbenedicts.org.uk

or

Miss Lucy Hodge (Junior School)
Headmaster's PA
Tel: 0208 862 2054
Email: lhodge@stbenedicts.org.uk

The Area

At the turn of the 20th century, Ealing was the epitome of modern, “green” Victorian and Edwardian London living. It was known as the “Queen of the Suburbs”, for its street lighting, easy transport into central London, fashionable dining and entertainment venues, elegant family houses and large green open spaces.

Much of the elegant Edwardian architecture remains, with beautiful Ealing Abbey at its centre. There are many handsome parks, independent shops and a real sense of community. Crossrail is driving property and commercial interest up across the local area, and Ealing is seeing a surge in creative, commercial and cultural developments.



How to Find Us

St Benedict's School
54 Eaton Rise
Ealing
London
W5 2ES

By Train

St Benedict's School is a short, 10 minute walk from Ealing Broadway train station (Central and District Lines)

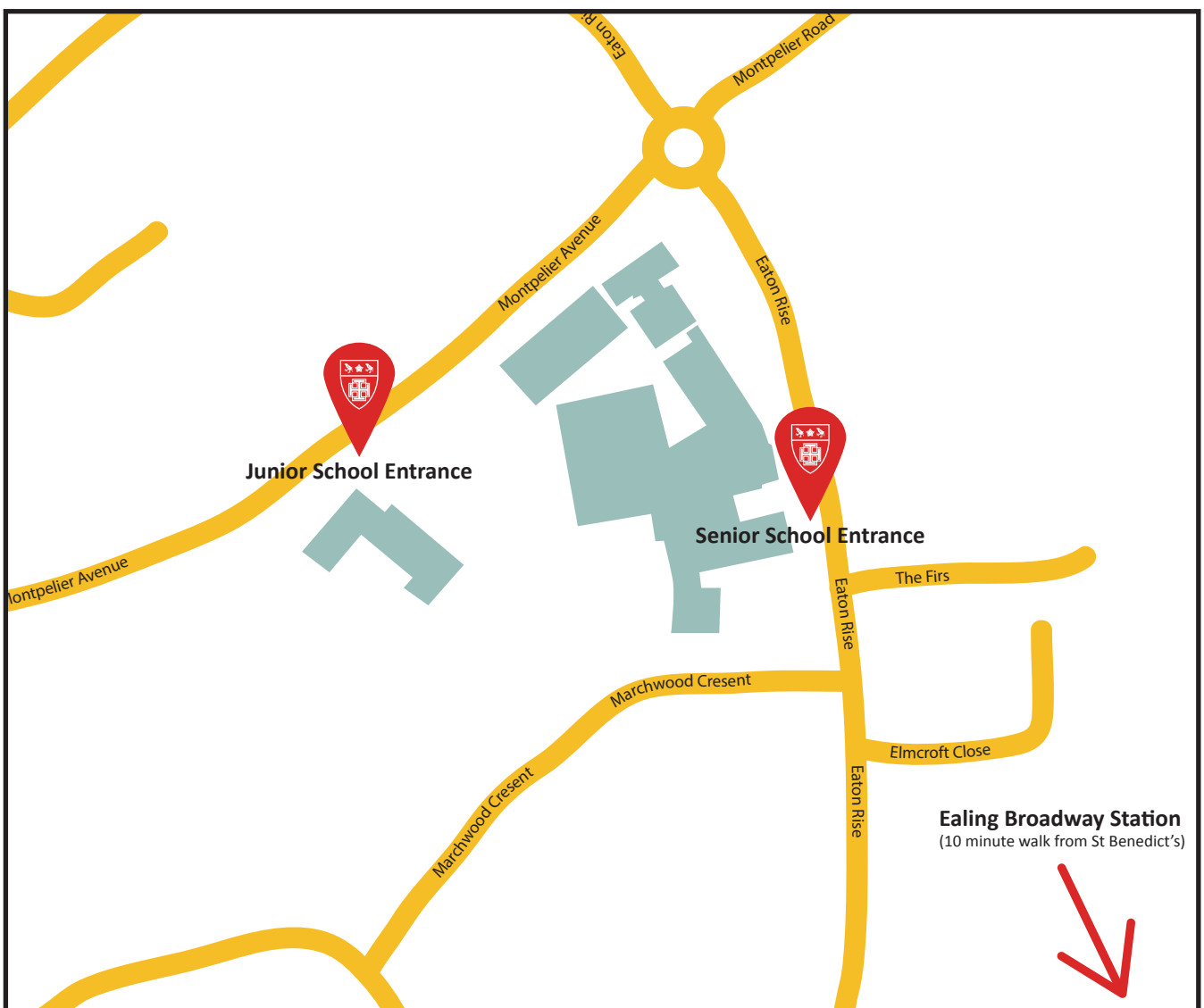
By Bus

St Benedict's School is serviced by bus routes: 226, E2 and E9

Parking

Many of the roads surrounding the School are subject to parking restrictions, however, free on road parking is available a short walk away.

There is a staff car park which operates on a first come first served basis.



How to Apply

Candidates must apply by completing the St Benedict's School application form and include the names, addresses, e-mails and phone numbers of TWO referees, one of whom must be their current Head/ Employer.

The successful candidate will be required to sign a St Benedict's Contract. He/she will also be subject to the Disclosure and Barring Regulations.







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✉ enquiries@stbenedicts.org.uk

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