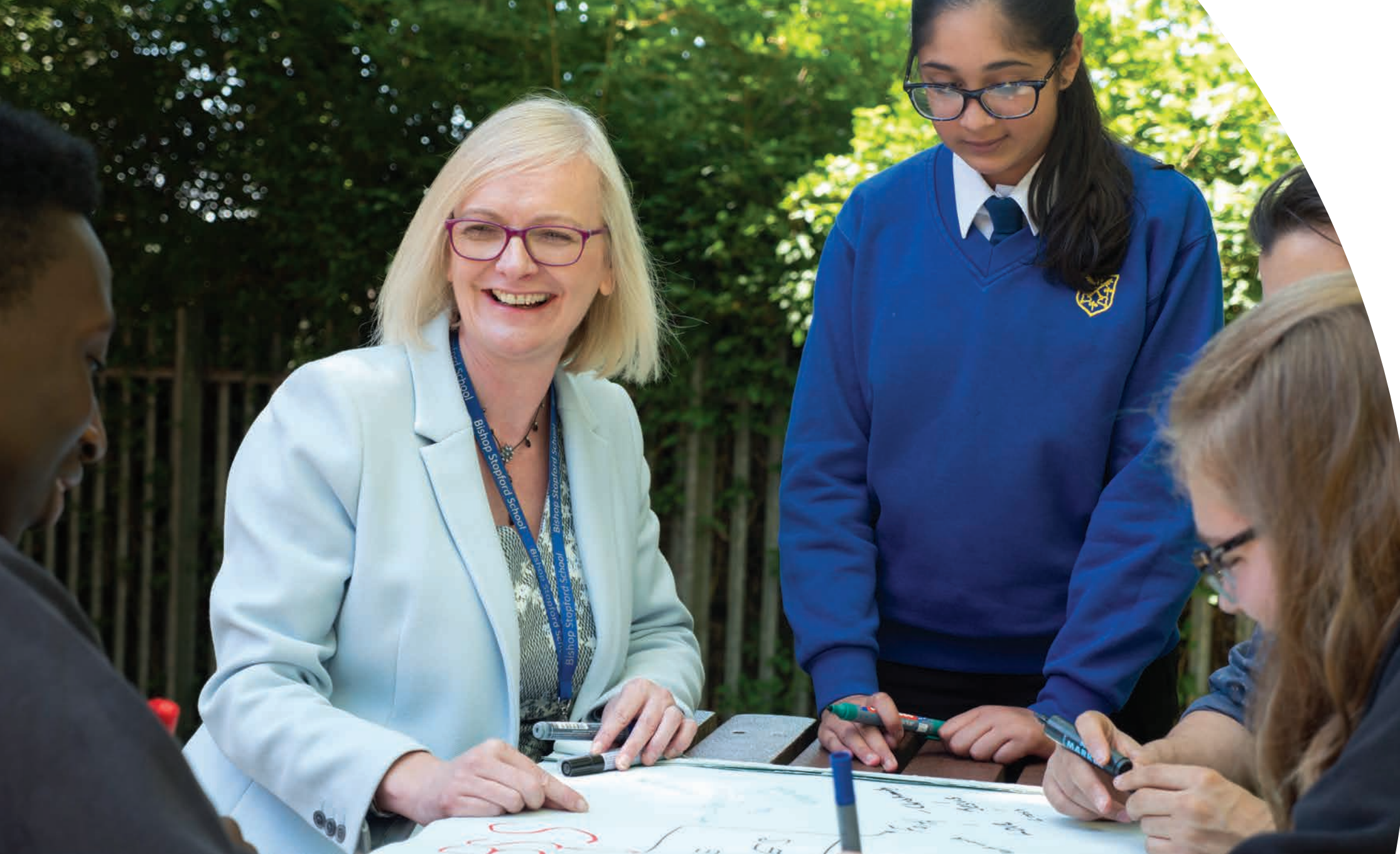




Bishop Stopford School

faith | justice | responsibility | truth | compassion



Welcome

Bishop Stopford School offers a unique educational experience, based on a long and well established tradition of excellence. At the heart of all we do, our Christian ethos and core values of Faith, Responsibility, Compassion, Truth and Justice provide stability in an ever-changing world. In the light of our ethos, our aim is simple: to provide the highest quality education for every student.

Whilst a great education is about academic excellence, we know that it is about so much more. Developing moral strength, emotional resilience and self-confidence are equally important to us – as is engendering that sheer love of learning for its own sake.

Throughout their time at Bishop Stopford School, each student is nurtured to flourish and challenged to grow. Everyone is encouraged to seek, identify and realise their unique potential, so that they can contribute meaningfully to society both now and in the future.

This prospectus gives an overview of life at Bishop Stopford School. More detail can be found on our website (www.bishopstopford.com), and you are very welcome to visit us at our 'Open' events in the autumn term.

Jill Silverthorne
Headteacher

"The whole staff team is committed to continuous improvement for the benefit of students." **Investors in People**





Faith

Our Christian foundation and heritage underpin every aspect of school life, creating 'an ethos in which harmonious and respectful relationships enable everyone to flourish' (SIAMS inspection). Inclusive, thought-provoking worship starts each school day. Students of all faiths and those with none are challenged to consider what it means to live in a diverse society where faith is valued and beliefs are respected.

St Matthew's Chapel provides a reflective space at the heart of the school, and the Chaplaincy provides excellent pastoral care to the whole Bishop Stopford community.

We have close links to the Diocese of Peterborough, and with the national Woodard Corporation of schools. Local churches and faith groups support our Chaplaincy by co-planning or leading acts of worship. They also make significant contributions to student-led faith groups and well-being activities - many of which are distinctive to a school with a Christian foundation.

"A consistent and high profile focus on five core Christian values...creates an ethos in which people's personal and religious beliefs, and their sense of identity are respected." SIAMS





Encouraging Responsibility

Standards of behaviour are extremely high at Bishop Stopford School. We place great value on good manners and appropriate relationships in all aspects of school life. Everyone is expected to exercise self-discipline, and there is a robust emphasis on ensuring that orderliness characterises our day to day interactions.

Our dedicated pastoral team leads on the development of self-discipline. Heads of Year, the Chaplain, form tutors and the Inclusion Team ensure that students are individually nurtured, and that, where necessary, appropriate support is provided to remove any barriers to learning.

We are very sensitive to the challenges of joining a large secondary school. Our transition arrangements are carefully planned to ensure students are effectively supported in making this significant move. From the outset, both the curriculum and pastoral care are designed to encourage students to take responsibility for their learning and to become increasingly self-reliant.

“We have been very happy with Bishop and our children have flourished during their time with you.” **Parent**





Teaching and Learning Specialists

We strive for excellence across our curriculum so that all students can flourish intellectually.

With a proven track record in delivering strong results at GCSE and A Level, our teaching provides challenge for individuals to develop their skills, knowledge and unique talents with expert support and intervention.

Students are expected to take control of their learning, and are taught how to develop resilience in their studies. They are engaged in high level thinking both in and beyond the classroom – knowing how to challenge themselves as well as being challenged by others in order to grow.

A key belief of ours is that students profit enormously from working together. It is perfectly normal within lessons, in year group activities or through peer mentoring, to see students supporting each other and learning from one other, as they rise to the challenge of achieving their personal best.

“The teaching is incredible and really well planned. Teachers make the lessons enjoyable – so much easier to remember.” **Student**





Leading in STEM

While academic excellence is seen across our curriculum, we have been at the leading edge of developments in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) for many years. We are a regional STEM hub school, and are actively involved in the training of teachers in the delivery of STEM provision.

As well as developing professional expertise regionally, our aim is also to make students aware of the inter-connectedness of the STEM subjects, nurturing their interest from the time they start at Bishop Stopford School. Through STEM discovery days, we challenge students to work in unique ways to explore the opportunities which are open to them. In addition, our partnership work with employers in the STEM sector enriches our provision.

Uptake of the STEM subjects at A Level is flourishing, as is progression to higher education studies and employment in STEM related subjects.

“Make the most of the excellent opportunities provided by an excellent school.” **Alumni Member**





Excellence in All Things

We develop student leadership through Year and School Councils, Ethos and Digital Ambassadors and the Charity Committee. Community Projects in Year 7, academic societies (managed by sixth form students), and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme all foster student leadership.

Students are challenged to grow in excellence as they develop personal interests. Aptitudes for film, photography and new technologies are nurtured, as well as those in more conventional fields.

The performing arts are at our cultural heart, with students of all ages encouraged to perform together. Sport is equally important, and students grow in resilience through team and individual pursuits. Those with talents in these areas are encouraged to pursue them - many representing the school and county in their chosen fields. We are very proud of those selected to represent their country or, in the competitive world of the arts, to perform at the highest levels.

"Any expectation that we had of the school were ill judged as it has far exceeded everything that we would want for our son." **Parent**





Personal Achievement

Nothing gives us greater pleasure than to see all students developing self-respect and respect for others, whilst preparing to make their contribution to society - locally, nationally or globally.

To that end, our programme of residentials, trips and visits is extensive. These activities enable students to realise their potential, nurturing them to flourish as they work with others to achieve common goals. The relationships built during these experiences often give rise to lifelong friendships. And these personal and mutual achievements in turn shape resilient learning which takes place back in school.

Through our taught and extended curriculum, we seek to develop happy and contented students who work hard, but who also know how to relax and enjoy time with family and friends. Our home-school partnership is critical, and we know that the strong relationships we build with parents lead to students achieving their personal best.

“Staff are committed to the success of the school and are proud of the students’ achievements.” **Investors in People**





Sixth Form

BSS6 - our Sixth Form - is a flourishing community of over 400 students, each playing a vital role in the life of Bishop Stopford School. During their time with us, students are expected to give of their best both in lessons and in independent study. The sixth form challenges students to grow academically, while forming life-long friendships and developing personal values and beliefs.

In line with our vision, our sixth form students take their studies seriously, but they also take their social responsibilities seriously too. They nurture others to follow their example, offering younger students pastoral and academic support. They act as inspirational role models in learning, sport, the arts and worship, guided by a highly effective Student Leadership Team.

For further information about BSS6, please contact the Sixth Form Centre, or download a copy of the Sixth Form prospectus from the website.

"I enjoyed my time at Bishop Stopford hugely and it helped develop who I am. There are too many memorable experiences to recall!" **Alumni Member**



Top reasons why parents choose Bishop Stopford School...

Nurture **Achievement** Good Behaviour
High Quality Teaching Values Care and Support
Opportunities Happiness Results
Christian Ethos High Standards
Excellent Reputation Rounded Individuals

Source: Parents' Survey (The most frequently stated reasons)

Learners' Entitlement

You can expect...	You are expected to...
To be respected	Respect others
Support to help you achieve	Aim High
Well planned, memorable learning	Make the most of learning opportunities
To learn how to learn	Use this knowledge to achieve your best
Assessments to help you to improve	Act on the advice you are given
Guidance when making important choices	Take part in discussions about your future
Opportunities to learn beyond your normal routine	Reflect on what you have learnt from these experiences
To be asked your views about school life	Share your views honestly
A safe and healthy environment	Keep yourself and others safe



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