

6th Form
Prospectus

Baines School





Baines Sixth is a friendly Sixth Form offering a high quality education and a primarily A Level route to university and the work place. Indeed Baines is often described by our students as being an ideal mid-way step between school and university education. We recognise the fact that moving into Sixth Form and completing A Levels can be one of the most exciting and challenging periods in a student's career. As a result we have designed a Sixth Form experience that not only gives careful thought to the transition between Year 11 and post-16 education, but also seeks to push the potential of all of our students – both socially and academically.

As a relatively small establishment, we pride ourselves on our ability to treat each of our students as an individual and to recognise each of his or her individual needs and talents. Academic achievement is high on our agenda but we are fully appreciative of the development our students wish to make on a personal level. Consequently we lay great importance on ensuring a broad range of extra-curricular and enrichment activities in order that our students fulfil their potential on every level. We firmly believe that the more students participate in the life of Sixth Form, the more they enjoy their time with us and the more they develop into responsible and hard-working young adults.

We also believe that students achieve their best when they feel safe, happy and encouraged and for this reason we strive to ensure that our support and guidance systems are second to none.

When eventually Baines Sixth Formers move onto pastures new it is with a real sense of achievement that they have reached their goals but also, we hope, a sense that they have thoroughly enjoyed a well-rounded and satisfying learning experience resulting in many fond memories for the future.

*Mrs Louise Oliver
Head of Sixth Form*

Welcome to Baines Sixth





Support and Guidance

One of our outstanding strengths is the support and guidance we offer to students through our programme of monitoring and mentoring, as well as the day to day support we give as and when a student feels the need to discuss any worries. We aim to be adaptable and flexible with regard to each student's individual needs and the curriculum that best suits them. Equally we offer a range of learning environments from classrooms and the ILC to the more relaxed atmosphere of the Common Room where leisurely study can take place alongside relaxation and socialising.

Recently we have introduced a number of additional academic opportunities to help create a more flexible curriculum. The most significant perhaps are the Extended Project and the AQA Bacc which involve much one to one tutoring and are highly recognised by universities nationwide.

The Sixth Form Social Committee organises events which cater for all tastes from parties and quiz nights to paintballing and charity fun days. No two years' events are the same as each group of students puts its own personalised touch into their organisation of activities.

At the beginning of the year however all students participate in an inter-form charity project and many thousands of pounds have been raised through charitable events such as the now longstanding Coast-to-Coast Bikeathon.

Sport and music are also an integral part of our Sixth Form life and Wednesday afternoons are dedicated to a wide range of leisure and sporting activities. Indeed, Baines has recently set up an inter-college sporting league with other establishments in the area and this is proving to be a great success. Students are encouraged to get involved in drama productions as well as the variety of committees. There are also many opportunities to enjoy foreign visits to places such as Paris, Iceland, Nepal and Japan.

Social and Extra-Curricular Activities



Baines Sixth Form

At Baines we have an excellent record of supporting our students through to successful university entrance. We begin advising our students relatively early in year 12 and build up their knowledge and experience as the months progress. The most important time with regard to this process is in the summer of year 12 where a number of days are dedicated to careers and the university application procedure. This involves a variety of activities including university visits, in house conferences, and workshops with tailored guidance from Form Tutors. Our staff also lay great importance on the production of highly individual and thorough references so that our students have the best chance possible of attaining a place at their university or workplace of choice.

Careers guidance and University



6 *Baines provides excellent opportunities for students to travel and broaden their horizons. There are many fantastic trips to European destinations but also to more distant places such as Iceland, Nepal and Japan. I have recently visited Japan and spoken at the 10th Annual International Senior High School Students' Forum in Kurayoshi. It was an incredible opportunity and one which wouldn't have presented itself without the hard work and support from the staff at Baines.*

Johanna Rutherford, Senior Head Girl



Mr RJM McCowan
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