

# Sixth Form Open Evening 2021





**ENJOYMENT**





# ACHIEVEMENT



**SUPPORT**

## A-level results 2018

- 40% A\*-A Grades
- 69% A\*-B Grades

## A-level results 2019

- 37% A\*-A Grades
- 71% A\*-B Grades

## A-level results 2020

- 43% A\*-A Grades
- 74% A\*-B Grades

Balcarras is consistently in the top 10% of Sixth Form providers adding value each academic year.

Each year 75%+ of our Year 13 students apply to go on to university, with over 50% securing places at Russell group universities, a number of whom secure places at Oxford and Cambridge.

Balcarras' consistent record of excellence, both academically and pastorally, was recognised this year as we were awarded the accolade of The Sunday Times Schools Guide Southwest State Secondary School of the Decade.

All post-18 destinations are important to us – so regardless if you are seeking to go to university, an apprenticeship or to go into employment, you will receive all our support.







## Our Aims:

- Academic excellence
- An enjoyable and enriching experience
- Outstanding pastoral support





***The sixth form is outstanding. The quality of teaching, leadership and what the school provides is exceptional. Students gain a very high standard in examinations.***

OFSTED May 2014

***Teachers are experts in their subjects.***

OFSTED May 2014

***Leadership and management of the sixth form are outstanding. Academic and pastoral support is woven into each day and students are consulted at regular intervals as to what would benefit their sixth form experience. Comprehensive procedures are in place to support students going on to university.***

OFSTED May 2014

## Our subjects



Art

Biology

Business Studies

Chemistry

Computer Science

Drama and theatre

Economics

English Literature

Environmental Science

**Food and nutrition science**

French

Further Mathematics

Geography

**Health and Social Care**

History

Mathematics

Music

Photography

Physical Education

Physics

Politics

Product Design

Psychology

Religious Studies  
(Philosophy and Ethics)

Russian

Spanish

Textiles

Subject in **red** are A-level-equivalent courses



# Our subjects

## STEM

Mathematics  
Further Mathematics

Biology  
Chemistry  
Environmental Science  
Physics

Computer Science

## Design & Technology

**Food & Nutrition**

Product Design



## Social Sciences

Business Studies  
Economics

**Health & Social Care**

Physical Education

Psychology

Subject in **red** are A-level-equivalent courses

# Our subjects

## Humanities

English Literature

Geography

Government and  
Politics

History

Religious Studies  
(Philosophy & Ethics)

## Modern Foreign Languages

French

Russian

Spanish



## Arts & Performing Arts

Art

Photography

Textiles

Drama

Music

Subject in **red** are A-level-equivalent courses



## Our subjects

### The rare and “new”

Drama

Environmental Science

Music

French

Photography

Politics

Psychology

Spanish

Russian

Textiles



## **Vocational**

Health and Social Care  
Food and nutrition science



## **All Y12 take 4 x A-level courses**

The combination of courses is up to you,  
though we will offer advice.

You can select one subject from each  
published option block.

Some students trial 5 subjects in  
September.

Most students continue 3 subject in Y13,  
though some continue with 4.



**In your application, indicate 4 'Firm' subject choices, and 2 'Reserve' subject choices**

<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>
Biology	Art	Applied Science	Biology	Art
Business	Business	Biology	Business	Biology
Chemistry	Computing	Chemistry	Chemistry	Drama
Drama	Geography	Economics	English	English
English	History	French	Food	Economics
Further Maths	Maths	Geography	Geography	Maths
History	Physics	Maths	Maths	Music
Health & Social Care	Product Design	Photography	Psychology	Physics
Physics	PE	Psychology	Russian	Politics
Product Design	Psychology		Phil & Ethics	
Psychology	Phil & Ethics		Textiles	
	Spanish			

**Your choices are indications, which allow us to construct our timetable.**

**All subject choices will be discussed in pre-admission interviews.**

**Please do select 6 subjects, and avoid repeating subjects.**

**(Please note - these Option Blocks are to illustrate how you will select your options – the 2021-22 blocks may differ.)**

## **Enrichment Curriculum includes:**

- **Games Afternoon**
- **Futures**
- **EPQ**
- **Speaker**





## Entry requirements

- A minimum of 2 grade 6s and 3 grade 5s (full course GCSE)
- At least a 5 in mathematics and English (Literature or Language)
- There is no requirement about your geographical location!
- Everyone studies 4 A-levels



Each year, many students apply from schools other than Balcarras. The benefit they bring to the sixth form, both socially and academically, is immensely valued. However, we are only able to accommodate 50 external students.

In the event that more than 50 students wish to take up a place in Year 12, students will be allocated places based on the over subscription criteria set out on the school's website.

# Private Study



**Our students do not have ‘free’ periods. If a student is not in a subject lesson, we timetable them into Study, where they are able to access fantastic resources to make progress in their subjects, complete homework, and establish effective study skills.**



# Extra curricular activities available:

Language classes – Italian,  
Mandarin

Engineering in Education Scheme  
World trips

House languages competition

Young Designer competition

Arkwright scholarships

MUNGA

Theatre visits

BOOST

Bristol University classes

University events

Ball Committee

Duke of Edinburgh

Young Enterprise

School productions

Paired Reading

Christmas Concert

Midsummer Music

House Music

Mentoring Year 7 student

Bar Mock Trial competition

Debating competition

5-a-Side Soccer

People and Planet

Amnesty International

Work shadowing

Senior Maths Challenge

House Music

Folk Band

Orchestra

Choir

String ensemble

Wind ensembles

Variety Show

Chamber choir

## Sports Teams & Games

- Athletics
- Rugby
- Swimming
- Hockey
- Netball
- Football
- Rounders
- Cross Country
- Skiing
- Kickboxing
- Basketball
- Tag Rugby
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Yoga/Pilates

# Extra curricular activities: The school production





# Extra curricular activities: **Dress-Up Day**





# Beyond Balcarras

## **Post-18 destinations beyond Balcarras**

Each academic year, over 75% of Balcarras' Year 13 cohort will complete UCAS applications and go on to study at university. Each year we see a number of our students make Early Entry applications to read courses at Oxbridge colleges, or to study courses in medicine, veterinary science or dentistry, and go on to successfully take up their places in the autumn. A significant number are also supported in their preparation for additional entrance exams for other courses, such as law.

At the same time, we fully support all prospective destinations, and regardless of whether you are seeking a university course, an apprenticeship or employment, or whether you are pursuing a STEM-related future, or one in the arts, you will receive our full support and guidance to help you achieve your goals.

- Download our prospectus
- Read it carefully
- Gets lots of advice
- Speak to teachers, parents, older brothers/sisters

## Course Consultation Meeting

There will be course consultation meetings following your application in March – April. These are designed to ensure that your option choices are the best possible selection for success, after which conditional offers of admission will be made.

These conditional offers will be confirmed after the release of GCSE results in the autumn.

## Applications

- Your application needs to reach us by **24th February 2021**
- We will do everything we can to give you your preferred four choices



# Any Questions?



**Email: [dl@balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:dl@balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk)**



# Sixth Form Team



**Mr Darren Leatherbarrow**  
**Mr Mark Constance**  
**Ms Alice O'Riordan**  
**Ms Lynda Taylor**



**Head of Sixth Form**  
**Head of Year 12**  
**Acting Head of Year 13**  
**Sixth form Administrator**



**We hope to hear from you!**

