



## Ambition Strategy & Ambition Scholars

*“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” – Nelson Mandela*

*“Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.” – Malcolm X*

### Reasons to aspire to study at University

- Students with high aspirations and expectations achieve, on average, 2 more GCSEs graded 9-4 than students with low aspirations and expectations. Khattab 2015.
- Graduates can command a higher salary in comparison with school and college leavers. According to 2016 research from the Institute for Fiscal Studies, graduates in their late thirties earn about 1.6 times as much per hour as those who left school at 16. A report by the job website, Adzuna, found that jobseekers without a degree could earn up to £12,000 a year less than their graduate peers entering the job market – the equivalent of more than £500,000 over an average working life.
- Not all school-leavers are certain about their goals in life. At university you're able to explore a range of possibilities within your subject area and discover the potential career options available – jobs you might not have considered or were even aware of.
- Besides the knowledge associated with the degree studied, university graduates also pick up useful transferable skills that employers are looking for such as time management and organisational skills.
- Last on the list, but probably most important, is how the university experience will shape you into who you will become and leads you to realising your ambitions. The experience at university is truly a unique one.

## Ambition Strategy & Ambition Scholars

### Strategic Objectives (INTENT)

The Ambition Strategy seeks to provide a pathway throughout Key Stages 3, 4 & 5 for every student to achieve their highest academic ambitions. Every student at St Bede's Catholic School and Byron Sixth Form shall benefit from the Ambition Strategy, with Key Stage 3 gaining increased exposure to and engagement with careers provision and higher education.

The Ambition Scholars Programme seeks to focus assets and resources on students aiming to gain entry to the UK's most prestigious institutions. Participants on the programme from Year 10 to Year 13 shall partake in additional seminars and opportunities aiming to develop

## Ambition Strategy & Ambition Scholars

their academic rigour and cultural capital reserves, often partaking across year groups in prospective fields.

### Ambition Programme

- Key Stage 3: To provide students with experiences, opportunities and insight involving higher education and a wide range of high quality career prospects
- Key Stage 4: To increase the proportion of (high attaining) students transitioning from St Bede's to Byron
- Key Stage 5: To increase the number of Byron students applying to the country's most prestigious, academically renowned institutions

### Ambition Scholars

- Key Stages 4 & 5: To provide students with the means, support, knowledge and confidence required to successfully apply to the UK's most robust academic institutions

## Strategic Plan (IMPLEMENTATION) – The Journey

Who?	When?	What?
Years 7 - 9	Sept - Jul	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• University outreach &amp; participation programmes</li><li>• Discussions surrounding HE within PSHE</li><li>• Explicit expectations of students continuing their education into Byron (increased visibility/exposure of St Bede's students to Byron students – mentoring, clubs/societies, YE)</li><li>• Provision of GCSE options programme</li><li>• Future Me programme delivery</li></ul>
Year 10	Oct  Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 15 students selected to partake in Ambition programme (given bespoke mentoring in differentiating and developing themselves, academic/super curricular challenge, HE experiences and seminars throughout year)</li><li>• Year group talk/Q&amp;A session on Byron from ambassadors/staff</li><li>• Future Me programme delivery</li></ul>
Year 11	Sept - Jul	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ambition Scholars partake in monthly workshops on study skills, academic rigour development, current affairs &amp; cultural capital discussions</li></ul>

## Ambition Strategy & Ambition Scholars

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students partake in mock interviews with staff</li> </ul>
Year 12	Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussions regarding extracurricular opportunities and importance</li> <li>• Students lead on their own interests and form clubs &amp; societies as appropriate</li> <li>• Ambition Scholars evaluated and updated as appropriate</li> <li>• Oxnet programme launched and offered to Ambition participants</li> </ul>
	Sept - Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students partake in weekly PSHE, learning basic employability skills; interviewing, CV writing, personality/skills testing, institution/discipline research as well as volunteering/leadership opportunities</li> </ul>
	April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UCAS profiles created; personal details &amp; information completed</li> </ul>
	Jun/Jul	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UCAS Day; Personal Statement workshop, staff carousel</li> <li>• Prospective medics complete UCAT</li> </ul>
	Jul/Aug	
Year 13	Sept – Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ambition Scholars given targeted support for (early) university applications</li> </ul>
	Sept - Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students go through a 7 stage UCAS process to ensure personal statements are of the highest quality</li> <li>• Ambition Scholars are supported through recruitment processes; interviews, scholarship applications</li> </ul>

### Strategic Evaluation (IMPACT)

The success of the Life After St Bede's programme shall be monitored through:

- Pupil voice; surveys, interviews & questionnaires
- Proportion of students retained from St Bede's to Byron
- Percentage of highest attainers retained from St Bede's to Byron
- Number of students applying to Oxbridge/top 5 universities
- Number of students receiving offers from Oxbridge/top 5 universities
- Number of successful applications per student