

— Autumn 1 —

Sixth Form Newsletter

Belper School and Sixth Form Centre



INSIDE, WE ALSO TALK ABOUT:

*Botswana Expedition
Opportunity*
Page 2

Year 13 Advice
Page 3

Year 12 News
Page 4

Student Ambassadors
Page 5

2025 Post-18 Destinations
Page 8

Upcoming Events
Page 9

Message from the Head of Sixth Form *Paul Brumby*

Welcome to the first of our Sixth Form newsletters of 2025 which provides us with an opportunity to extend a warm welcome to the parents and guardians of all Year 12 and the returning Year 13 students to the Sixth Form. A special welcome to all the students who have joined us from other schools this year. As a considerable proportion of the year group, it has been wonderful to see how you have seamlessly integrated into the Sixth Form and become familiar with the school and now in a strong position to make the most of the next two years.

As we return from a well-deserved break following a hectic first half term, it is nice to be able to take a moment and reflect on how much has been achieved by all in such a short time.



We are sure next half term and no doubt the rest of the year will continue with the same busy schedule of work and activities. We would like to reiterate that at times things may get too much, but this happens to the best of us and is not cause for concern. Do remember to ask for help or support from any member of the sixth form team if you need to. We are all only human, so also take time to enjoy yourself and relax. And make sure you take as many of the opportunities presented to you so that by the end you will have 'no regrets.

With the long summer holidays behind us we went full steam ahead into the first term.

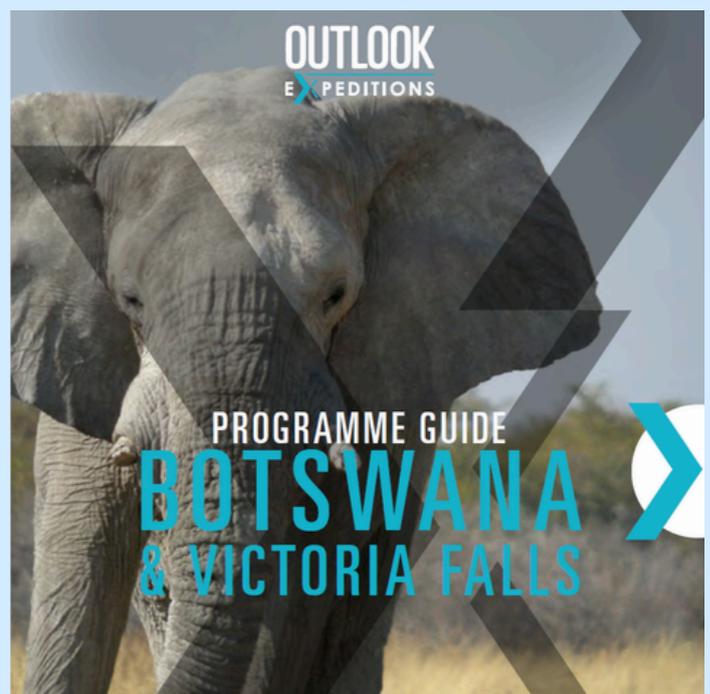
"It has been wonderful to see how you have seamlessly integrated into the Sixth Form."

Botswana Expedition

Victoria Falls 2027

An exciting opportunity is now available for our Year 10 and Year 12 students through Outlook Expeditions. Find out more about this incredible experience by visiting: [Outlook Expeditions – Belper School & Sixth Form Centre 2027.](#)

A Parent and Student Information Evening will take place on Tuesday 18th November 2025 at 6:30 p.m. To learn more and register your interest, please use the link above.



Year 13

Year 13 students have recently had the opportunity to reflect on their mock exam results and identify key areas for improvement as they prepare for the final stage of their courses. This period of reflection has been invaluable in helping students put targeted plans in place to ensure they are ready to hit their courses running in the coming months.

Planning for life after Sixth Form continues to be a core focus for Year 13. Students are now well underway with their UCAS applications, apprenticeship searches, and job opportunities. To support them in making informed choices about their next steps, students have access to one-to-one guidance from our dedicated Careers Team, ongoing support from their tutors, and the wealth of advice and tools available through the Unifrog platform.

Parents and carers who wish to explore Unifrog and gain a better understanding of how it can support their young person's planning can sign up using the following link: www.unifrog.org/parent.

A reminder that the UCAS deadline for equal consideration is January 14th at 6 p.m. We strongly encourage students to submit their applications well before this date, as some of those who have already applied have begun to receive offers – an exciting and motivating milestone for many.

Finally, to help students stay organised and make the most of the support available, we've created an overview of Year 13 revision sessions, resources, deadlines, and additional subject support. You can access this information using the following link: [Year 13 Support Overview](#).

We are incredibly proud of the maturity and focus our Year 13 students are demonstrating at this important time and look forward to seeing their continued progress throughout the term.

UCAS Application Timeline

Key dates for applying to
university – for 2026 entry

15
OCT
2025

Deadline for applications to Oxford and Cambridge universities and for most medicine, veterinary, and dentistry courses (6pm UK time).

14
JAN
2026

Deadline for most other undergraduate university applications (6pm UK time).

26
FEB
2026

UCAS Extra opens for any applicants who received no offers, or who rejected all their offers.

3
JUNE
2026

Final date to reply to offers if you received all your decisions by 13 May.

30
JUNE
2026

Applications received after 6pm will automatically be entered into Clearing.

1
JULY
2026

Last date to add a UCAS Extra choice.

2
JULY
2026

Clearing 2026 opens.

22
JULY
2026

Final date to reply to offers if you get all your decisions by 15 July.

24
SEP
2026

Final date for 2026 UCAS undergraduate applications.

19
OCT
2026

Clearing 2026 closes.

Year 12

The same positive approach has been evident in Year 12, whose success at GCSE has given them a strong foundation for the challenges of Level 3 study. Alongside their academic courses, students have quickly settled into their core enrichment choices, including the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Young Enterprise, Arts and Sports Leaders Awards, and, new for this year, the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). We look forward to building on last year's achievements in these areas, including becoming Regional Champions and National Finalists in the Young Enterprise Company Programme.

There has also been excellent uptake for our Sixth Form Ambassador roles, which make a valuable contribution to school life while developing students' leadership and social action skills. These experiences help students build and evidence the employability qualities that strengthen future applications beyond their academic results.

As a school, we also value the additional support our Sixth Formers provide across the community. Students are now assisting neurodiverse learners, supporting in Modern Languages lessons and the Enhanced Learning Support Centre, and taking part in Buddy Reading with Year 7 pupils, among many other activities. A full list of opportunities can be found here: [Life in the Sixth Form](#).

Now that students are fully underway with their courses, we are encouraging them to engage in learning beyond the curriculum to enhance their subject knowledge. The Super-Curriculum, linked above, provides access to supporting materials, podcasts, articles, journals, and recommended viewing to help deepen understanding and extend learning.

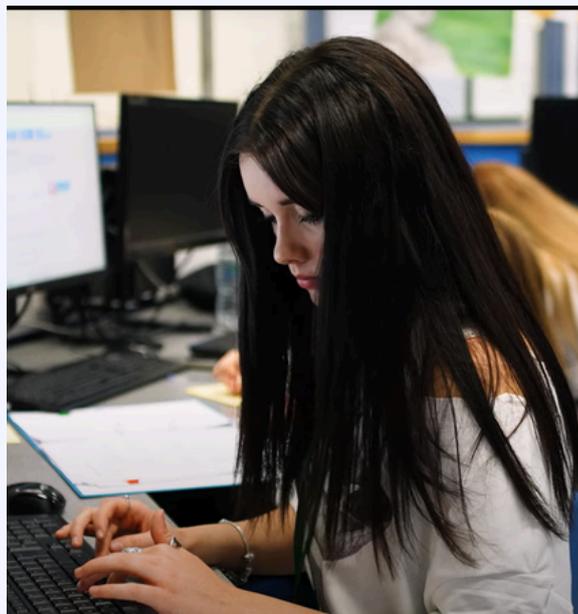


"At Belper, we value the additional support our Sixth Formers provide across the community."



Student Experiences

Zoe in Year 13 told us about her experience as a Sixth Form Ambassador.



Sixth Form Opportunities within Ambassador Roles

Within our Sixth Form there are many different extra-curricular opportunities to be involved in outside of subject lessons. The Ambassador roles are one of the many opportunities that you can be involved in within the Sixth Form. These opportunities are a brilliant way to engage in new experiences and gain and develop new skills and knowledge. These roles include Diversity Ambassadors, assisting in lessons or mentoring younger students, and many more.

As well as being a Social Media Ambassador and running the Sixth Form TikTok with another student, I assist twice a week in two different Year 7 lessons which I absolutely love and is a brilliant opportunity for me to be involved in as well as it being a break from revision and lessons whilst still being productive. With my future aspirations in a career in teaching, it provides incredible first-hand experience of working with younger children in a classroom setting as well as learning about how lessons are planned, delivered, and the different resources used. I also get the chance to work with children with learning difficulties and help students who may need additional support in lessons. The younger students really enjoy having someone to help them in lessons and to show their work to, and the teachers are always grateful and welcoming to the support in the classroom. It is an extremely rewarding, inspiring and exciting role that I fully enjoy and would recommend to any student in the Sixth Form.

"It is an extremely rewarding, inspiring and exciting role that I fully enjoy and would recommend to any student in the Sixth Form."



Amazing performance from our Sixth Form Band!

Elephant in the Room 🐘

Geology Trip to the Isle of Arran

by Isi, Year 13



‘A common misconception about geology is that you just study boring rocks in a lab and write essays about them but it can take you to some incredible places, you can witness and study the forces that shape our landscapes.

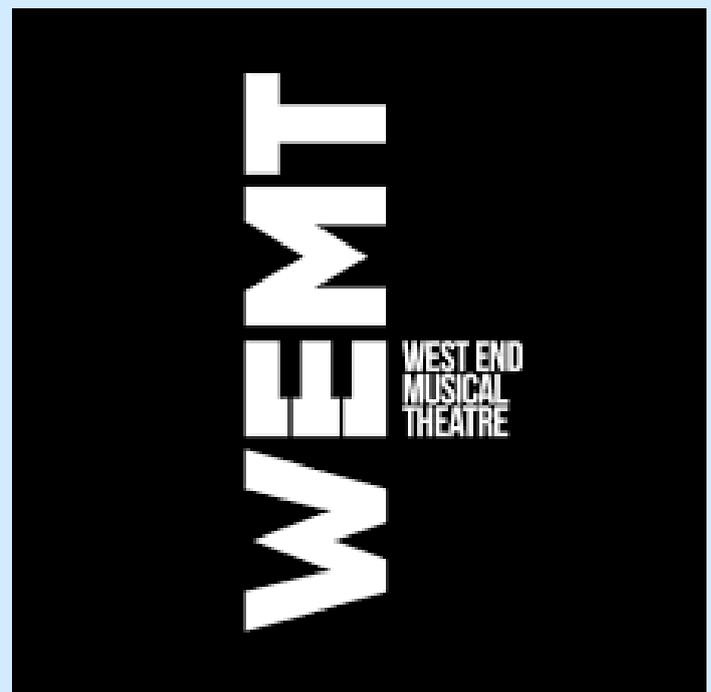
For our coursework we travelled to the Isle of Arran which is composed of materials from 540 million years ago to now, it has seen Triassic dinosaurs and volcanoes. We studied ancient deserts, studied and drew fossils, walked through caves and past dinosaur footprints while also enjoying the wilderness of the island watching the birds and seals.’

“We walked past dinosaur footprints.”

West End Success!

Year 13 student Abi has been awarded a place at the West End Musical Theatre Company in London where she attends every Sunday. This is what Abi told us:

‘Going to London every Sunday certainly is exhausting but it is so worth it! I’m having the most amazing time at West End Musical Theatre having intensive training and I truly am learning so much. This doesn’t feel like a dream anymore; it feels like the start of my career!’





Belpersixth
@belpersixthform

Copy link

Share link

Connect and have fun with friends on TikTok

Follow us on TikTok!

We're excited to share that our Sixth Form TikTok – @belpersixthform – is now up and running! Managed by our enthusiastic Social Media Ambassadors, the channel offers a genuine insight into daily life at Belper Sixth Form. From study sessions and enrichment activities to student interviews, events, and behind-the-scenes clips, it's a great way to see what being part of our vibrant Sixth Form community is really like.

Follow us to stay up to date with the latest news, opportunities, and highlights from across the Sixth Form!

@belpersixthform

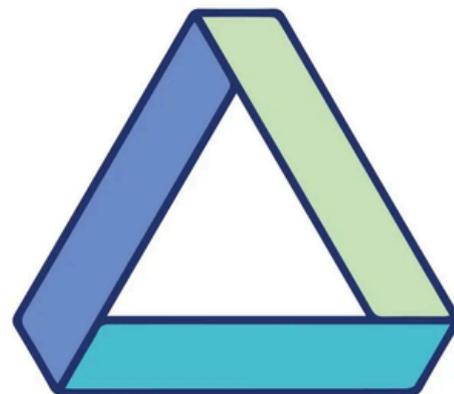
UKMT Senior Maths Challenge

This October, twenty nine Year 12 and 13 students undertook the UKMT Senior Math's Challenge.

Sam in Year 13 achieved a Gold Award and Best in School; He has now been invited to undertake the prestigious Senior Kangaroo.

Rose in Year 12 achieved the Silver Award and Best in Year along with four other Silver Award winners.

Ten additional students across the Sixth Form achieved the Bronze Award.



UK Maths Trust

Post-18 Success in 2025

*Congratulations to all
our departing students*

Our departing Year 13 has all moved onto positive destinations, with over 65% moving onto Higher Education. This year saw an increasing number of them move into public services, especially the Police Force, and degree level apprenticeships in the Derbyshire region.

This year's chosen university destinations have included:

Aberystwyth University, BIMM University, Cardiff University, Health Sciences University (formerly AECC University College), King's College London, University of London, Lancaster University, Loughborough University, Newcastle University, Nottingham Trent University, Royal Veterinary College, University of London, Sheffield Hallam University, The University of Law, University of Birmingham, University of Brighton, University of Chester, University of Derby, University of Gloucestershire, University of Leeds, University of Leicester, University of Nottingham, University of Sheffield, University of Southampton, University of York, York St John University.



Important Notices

Please remember we need a parent / guardian to inform us of a student's absence. This can be done using the school absence line on 01773 825281 or email sixthform@belperschool.co.uk

Planned Events for the Future

- Thursday 6th November 5.30-7.30 - Sixth Form Open Evening for Prospective Students in 2026.
- 3rd November Y13 students visit to the Beth Shalom Holocaust Centre
- 5th November – BBC Children in Need 3-Legged Race
- 13th November Year 13 Psychology and Criminology students will be visiting Think Forensic, which provides a unique and realistic experience of a crime scene investigation.
- 20th November Year 12 and 13 Parents Meeting 15.45-18.45.
- 24th November Year 12/13 Politics students visit Houses of Parliament.
- 28th November – School Inset Day (School closed)
- 3rd December Y12 Psychology Experience Day at Derby University
- 15th December Year 12 /13 Media Studies Students visit the Bradford Science and Media Museum
- 19th December School finishes for Xmas
- 5th-16th January Year 13 Mock period
- Year 13 Prom Wednesday 24th June – details to follow in the New Year.

Trips so far:

Year 12/13 Geography students spent the day at Flamborough Head on the Holderness Coast. The day was spent looking firsthand at the processes and features along Europe's fastest eroding coastline.



Year 12 / 13 English Literature students went to Derby Theatre to watch the Great Gatsby.

Thank you for reading

As we move forward into the term, we'd like to thank our students, staff, and families for their continued support and commitment. It's been a fantastic start to the year, and we're excited to see what the coming months bring. We look forward to seeing everyone continue to thrive and make the most of all the opportunities Sixth Form life has to offer.