

Blue Coat

Church of England School
& Music College



**Blue Coat is the highest
ranked mixed-sex school
in Coventry by the Good
Schools Guide 2020**



WELCOME

I extend to you a warm welcome to Blue Coat CE School, the only Church of England secondary school in Coventry. We have a rich history dating back over 300 years and a reputation for excellence. Today we are an oversubscribed and vibrant multi-faith, multi-cultural 11 to 18 school serving students in Coventry and Warwickshire.

We are proud to be an Inspire Education Trust School working in collaboration with our partner primary schools to ensure success for all.

We value our Church of England status at Blue Coat and it forms the basis of our school ethos, vision and values. We have high expectations of all members of our community, both staff and students, which leads to an insistence upon high standards of self-discipline and behaviour.

We expect students to achieve the very best they can within a friendly and welcoming setting, underpinned by our ethos and family atmosphere. At Blue Coat we inspire our students to exceed expectations, no matter what their abilities or talents and we encourage them to be ambitious for their futures.

We believe we have some of the best facilities a school can offer including a purpose-built theatre, astro-turf sports pitches, a sports hall and gym, specialist art and photography classrooms, a recently re-furbished dining hall, specialist music rooms and recording studio, a dedicated Post-16 Centre, a large Learning Resource Centre, numerous IT suites and Chaplaincy.

'Living life in all its fullness' is our vision which encourages all members of the school community to reach their potential in everything they do. Our school is one which is fully inclusive, truly diverse and about the whole person. It is a challenge to all of us to make the most of every experience and opportunity.

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In short, Blue Coat is a place where all children, from all backgrounds and abilities, can be happy and inspired to achieve. I hope you enjoy looking through our prospectus, and would encourage you to visit our website and follow us on Twitter to keep abreast of all of the exciting things happening at Blue Coat School.

Canon V Shelley
Headteacher

"I have come that you might have life and have it to the full." John 10:10

LIVING LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS

OUR VISION, ETHOS AND VALUES

As a Church of England school we feel strongly that education is about more than just academic standards. Although they are important, in isolation they do not lead to a fulfilled and happy life.

Our vision at Blue Coat School is to equip our students to live life in all its fullness by providing excellent education which is distinctively Christian and inclusive of all. We do this by providing a caring family environment, via our House System, Chaplaincy and enrichment activities to support all of our students to flourish. We inspire our students to achieve and reach their potential and we celebrate ongoing and future successes.

As a community, we have high expectations of ourselves and one another in every area of school life.

We belong to a loving family which includes students, their parents, our staff and governors - of all faiths and none - which extends to our local community and places of worship.

Our school's CHRIST values underpin all we do at Blue Coat School and feature throughout all aspects of school life.



“The school, with its richly diverse community, lives and flourishes together harmoniously. Difference is celebrated and students and adults are embraced, whatever their background, way of living, ability or disability.”

SIAMS Inspection | May 2022

OUR VISION STATEMENT

To equip our students to live life in all its fullness by providing excellent education which is distinctively Christian and inclusive of all.

OUR VALUES

Care I am always growing in my understanding and awareness of myself and how my actions impact others. I demonstrate care for myself, for those around me and for the environment through the understanding of my impact upon them.

Hard Work I recognise the importance of working hard to realise my given potential. I do everything with diligence and resilience, with the full knowledge of why I am doing it. I know I am designed to work and to offer my unique gifts and talents, and so whatever I do I strive to do with excellence.

Respect I am responsible for the way I treat those around me and the way I care for the environment I live in. I understand that it is my responsibility to treat others the way I would want to be treated myself, and therefore I offer respect willingly. I respect that we are all made differently and that not everyone will think the same as I do. I am a responsible and respectful member of my school community, the nation I live in and our wider world.

Integrity I am a person of integrity; one who has been honed and developed through my experiences and through the lessons of those around me. I will stand up for what is right even when it is hard, standing firm on my beliefs even when others are choosing a different path.

Servanthood I know that my life matters and so I willingly serve others. I offer service to others with no desire for personal advantage or reward. In this way I can make a positive difference in the world.

Togetherness I know that all of us are needed and valued and each person is important to the whole. I have unique gifts and abilities and I am committed to being a positive impact on those around me and in the world. I recognise the common purpose I share with my school community: to enable all to thrive and achieve their potential academically, socially and spiritually.

TRANSITION FROM PRIMARY SCHOOL

We put a great deal of effort into transition from primary school into Blue Coat School.

We understand the Year 6 pupils and their parents will be excited and possibly a little anxious about the move to secondary school. To help ease these anxieties and to encourage enthusiasm, we invite all of the Year 6's who have been offered a place with us the opportunity to take part in taster sessions including Science, Music and Art lessons.

During the summer term, a dedicated team of staff visit all of the feeder primary schools, over 70 of them. They discuss each child in detail with the primary school staff, after all, they have known them for seven years and are best placed to help their Year 6's with the successful transition into the next phase of their education.

Parents and carers also have the opportunity to share information with us too – we appreciate their input as they know their children better than anyone else!

We speak to all of the Year 6 children and they have the chance to answer questions and share with us any concerns they might have.

In July, all of our next Year 7 intake spend a day with us, taking part in lessons and activities and this day is followed by a parents' evening where expectations will be set out as well as the opportunity to meet with key pastoral staff.

We believe that spending this time in the Summer Term helps to ensure that the Year 7's settle into life at their new school quickly in September and soon feel part of the Blue Coat family.

“I really enjoyed my first year at Blue Coat; it was fun as we all made new friends and learnt our way around the school.”

(Ananthalakshmi, Year 8)

“I was nervous going into Year 7, but soon made friends. The teachers are all supportive and friendly and I've enjoyed my first year at Blue Coat.”

(Lucy, Year 8)



“Love the Lord your God with all your heart...and love your neighbour as yourself.”

Mark 12:29-31



“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve.” Mark 10:45

OUR CURRICULUM

In Key Stage 3, we emphasise the importance of the core subjects of English, Maths and Science throughout a student's school life and the importance of literacy and numeracy skills within and outside of lessons. Our students also study Geography, History, a Modern Foreign Language and Computer Science. We also place great emphasis on the creative and physical subjects that comprise Music, Drama, Art, Physical Education as well as Design and Technology.

All Blue Coat students study Religious Education as well as Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE) as part of their core studies to give them the broadest possible experience during their first three years with us. During Year 9, our students have the opportunity to choose subjects they wish to study in Key Stage 4.

Students begin their Key Stage 4 journey in Year 10 when our students focus on their chosen options as well as continuing those core curriculum subjects of English, Maths and Science, as well as Religious Education, PSHCE and Physical Education. We offer a breadth of options such as Engineering, Photography, Music, Drama, Business Studies, Textiles, Food and Nutrition, Sports Studies as well as Humanities subjects and Languages.

We pride ourselves in preparing our students for life beyond school by focussing on the core curriculum and subjects that reflect the needs of the future workplace. Parents and students get impartial advice on GCSE and A level courses appropriate for each individual, with input from universities, higher education and prospective employers.

We offer a range of opportunities to help our students to prepare for life beyond GCSEs and they include experience of life in our sixth form as well as visiting universities, apprenticeship providers, and employers. Blue Coat students take part in work experience, work-related programmes, mock interviews and are offered careers guidance which ensures they are always aiming for excellence whilst offering every opportunity to help them to follow whichever path they choose as they enter adulthood.

"... teachers have high expectations of their pupils and work hard to help them to do their best. This leads to high levels of achievement in many subjects at Key Stages 4 and 5."

(Ofsted 2020)



PASTORAL CARE

At Blue Coat we operate a Year based House system whereby there are 10 tutor groups per year with two groups allocated to each of the Houses.

On arrival at Blue Coat students find out which House they are going to be in for their time with us.

We have five Houses - named after inspirational Christian figures - Edith Cavell, Thomas A Dorsey, C S Lewis, Rosa Parks and William Wilberforce.

We pride ourselves on our sense of 'family' and 'community' within the school, and the House system enables students to support one another, look out for younger students, share wisdom and ideas across the different ages.

It means that older students can take responsibility and leadership. It creates friendship across year groups, and healthy competition between the Houses!

We want all of our students to feel safe, valued and supported to achieve their very best whether that be academically, socially or spiritually.

In addition to the pastoral care within our House System, we pride ourselves on having a dedicated team of staff throughout the school to support students with their spiritual journey, mental health as well as socially and emotionally.

“If you need support, you can ask your Head of House because they will always do their best to help you.”

(Joe, Year 8)

“Blue Coat School has always been there for me and my child, and I believe my son is where he is and doing so well as a result.”

(Year 10 parent)



“Show proper respect to everyone.” Peter 2:17





Blue Coat is given a five star rating by the Good Schools Guide 2020 for Attainment, Attendance and Outcomes.

A CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

Our faith underpins all areas of school life at Blue Coat and is reflected in our vision and values.

This means at Blue Coat Christian worship is at the centre of the school day. Students of all faiths, and none, take part in assemblies, worship and reflection in school and during regular services at local churches and at Coventry Cathedral.

Religious Education is studied by everyone throughout their time at Blue Coat. The quality of provision, learning, student enjoyment and progress has been recognised by the National Gold Quality Mark for RE as well as the SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) Gold Accreditation.

At Blue Coat, our students learn about religious beliefs across all the major world faiths. Whilst we are a Church of England School, and our faith is very important to us, we also have a diverse community with many of our community being Muslim, Hindu and Sikh, as well as students of no faith – all are welcome at Blue Coat.

The key test of our faith is how well we nurture, respect and value one another here at Blue Coat. We are all different. We bring individual qualities and contributions to our school community; we are all equal and we are all special. Together we are a powerful force that makes us all far more than we could ever be or achieve alone.

“Character development is a major focus and priority for the school. Its impact is outstanding as this is seen as pivotal in transforming pupils’ lives. Encouraging a sense of hope, aspiration and equality, this enables pupils to become resilient and confident.”

SIAMS Inspection | May 2022



LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

At Blue Coat, we believe learning is not just a classroom activity. We are committed to offering the widest range of learning opportunities incorporating a diverse selection of activities, to help develop curiosity, build character and acquire life skills.

We have numerous enrichment activities including various bands and music groups, Science club, ICT and Computing club, Maths club, LGBT club, Drama clubs and the opportunity to take part in performances and shows. We also have activities taking part in the Library and Chaplaincy on a daily basis. There are no limits on the number of clubs students can join.

Blue Coat is well known for its trips and visits which range from day trips to theme parks to week-long visits overseas. We visit places an interest in the UK as part of the curriculum as well as trips abroad such as Ypres and Auschwitz.

As part of the religious education here at Blue Coat, we not only have regular visits to local churches and Coventry Cathedral but also to local mosques and temples as we aim to teach understanding of other religions within our community.

“The school offers an abundance of trips and visits to all year groups and places great value in offsite learning and learning outside the classroom – particularly in seeking those awe and wonder experiences.”

(SMSC Report, 2019)



OUR SIXTH FORM

Having a Sixth Form as part of our school is one of Blue Coat's strengths, with older students providing role models to younger ones and creating an aspirational environment within the school community.

As we offer the largest range of A' Level courses in Coventry, many students continue their Blue Coat journey into our very popular Sixth Form. In addition, students joining Blue Coat from other schools make up a significant proportion of each Year 12 cohort. Students integrate quickly on entry into the Sixth Form, which is a testament to the friendly nature of the school.

As with the main school, there is a strong pastoral team, which helps students with everything from personal problems to accessing scholarship funding. With an excellent range of extra-curricular activities, including student led societies, the Sixth Form provides a dynamic and vibrant experience.

Our Sixth Form has its own prospectus which is available on our website.

"I enjoy being part of the school community. I enjoy the different clubs. I've attended the computer science club and the drama club. I enjoyed most of the lessons especially when I learnt how to code some interesting things in computer science. My stay in Blue Coat was very enjoyable and I'm hoping to stay on into Sixth Form."

(Mikolaj, Year 11)



"The sixth form curriculum is well-planned. Teachers ensure that students learn with increasing levels of independence. As a result, sixth form students achieve well." (Ofsted 2020)

WHY CHOOSE BLUE COAT?

1. A happy, diverse, vibrant community.
2. Dedicated staff who are passionate and highly committed to providing the very best for our students.
3. Consistently high academic achievement.
4. Excellent opportunities within the classroom and beyond.
5. A culture of belief and opportunity for all, developing each student as a whole.


“Leaders have recently enhanced their model of care through the introduction of a ‘vertical tutoring system’, encouraging older pupils to guide and support younger pupils in a ‘family model’.” (Ofsted 2020)

“The school is an exciting and vibrant place to be where students are clearly valued as human beings first and foremost with their personal development at the heart of everything that is done at Blue Coat.”
(SMSC Report, 2019)

“I enjoy my time at Blue Coat and find the teachers to be very supportive and the lessons engaging.” (Matthew, Year 9)

“Students evidenced an ethos of respect, inclusivity and diversity throughout the school.”
(SMSC Report 2019)

“The school offers a wide range of drama, music and sporting extra-curricular activities which many pupils enjoy.” (Ofsted 2020)



Contact Information



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How to find us

