



**CHELTENHAM
BOURNSIDE
SCHOOL**

**Welcome to
our school**



In this prospectus

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For more information on school life, please visit our website:
www.bournside.gloucs.sch.uk

To arrange a tour of the school, please call the school office
 on 01242 235555.

Our values

At Bournside, we are:

- ★ **Ambitious:** we aim for the very best in all we do
- ★ **Curious:** we have enquiring minds and are not afraid of challenge
- ★ **Proud:** we celebrate everyone's effort and achievement
- ★ **Purposeful:** we persevere to achieve our goals and aspirations
- ★ **Respectful:** we care about each other and believe in equality and kindness
- ★ **Supportive:** we make a positive difference in each other's lives

Welcome

Joining Bournside School means joining a community - one you will be part of throughout your seven-year journey from Year 7 to Year 13. It's a community which is, and has been for generations, central to Cheltenham. In 2022 we celebrated our 50th Anniversary year on this site. That sense of history, of pride, of "being a Bournsider" is what makes Bournside special.

Our school crest contains our historic motto: 'usque ad finem'. It means, 'until the end'. That is as true today as when it was first written. It means we will be with you every step of the way. It means to go to the utmost extreme in pursuit of excellence: to give your all, to travel as far as can be travelled, to do as much as can be done. That's what we promise for our learners. And that's what we expect from each member of our community: the pursuit of utmost excellence every step of the way.

This will be my fourth year leading Bournside. I have been a Headteacher for nine of my twenty-six years. I've worked in education, and I've chosen this career for the same reason as the team of inspiring and dedicated professionals I lead: to realise ambition, to open doors, and to build futures. We are, as our school motto says:

"Inspiring lives through learning." And that's what, in three busy, exciting years, I've seen: excellent teaching, compassionate pastoral care, and a programme of extra-curricular activities which is second to none.

But I've seen something else, too. Something surprising. Before joining Bournside, I'd been impressed by the size of the school. The surprise was that whilst Bournside's size brings undoubted strength, the sense of community is even stronger. Despite our size, our highly developed pastoral support means no one gets lost in the crowd.

I hope these pages, along with our website, will tell you what you'd like to know about our school but we'd also love you to take a look around to see it for yourself. We run regular open mornings throughout the year where a member of the Senior Leadership Team will be happy to give you a guided tour. However, you'd be welcome to visit our school at any time - we'd be delighted to see you.

I look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to your new school.

Steve Jefferies
 Headteacher

“ We inspire lives through learning every day. ”



One school, six house communities

At Bournside there are amazing staff members and support. Our school is a safe environment and develop all of the children to become even better than they could imagine.

LILY, FRANK HOUSE

Our house system

At Bournside, we focus on understanding every individual's strengths and challenges, so you can quickly and happily feel part of our school community. Key to this, and at the heart of our school is our house system. When joining our school, every child is placed and belongs to one of six houses:

-  Attenborough
-  Frank
-  Hawking
-  Owens
-  Park
-  Rowling

Every student and member of staff belongs to a house which nurtures a sense of family and community. Your school house is your family and brings students of all ages together to use their skills, talents and perseverance to earn house points. We have high expectations for your learning and for behaviour. We want you to try your hardest in lessons, and through our house points system, we'll reward you for outstanding 'attitude to learning' as well as great attendance, joining in, supporting others and your achievements in and outside of school.

Each house is led by a dedicated Head of House and Assistant Head of House (who is also a key point of contact for parents and carers) and students regularly compete in house events and challenges,

earning points for the house and celebrating its achievements, knowing that each individual plays a part in its success.

Our house tutor groups are made up of six students from each year group from year 7 to 11.

This means:

- Students in different year groups are able to build positive, healthy relationships with each other, building an enhanced sense of community
- Younger students are mentored by older students acting as positive role models
- Opportunities to further improve home/school communication.

On your first day with us you will be presented with your house tie. From then on, you will belong and contribute to its success.

You can find out more about our Head of Houses and our house system on our website, as well as keep track of the current house point tally!

Leaders put the welfare of pupils, as well as academic achievement, at the heart of everything they do.

OFSTED, 2022



Outstanding teaching and facilities

We teach over 45 subjects across our school – reflecting not only our teachers' wide expertise, but also our students' interests and curiosity to learn. Throughout your time at Bournside, our experienced teachers and staff will challenge and help you to make progress in line with your expectations and aspirations.

We develop and invest in outstanding facilities and resources to enable our students to be the best they can be. We opened the Alan Turing building in 2019, a state-of-the-art facility housing 12 classrooms with touch screen technologies and interactive white boards, enabling teachers and learners to enjoy maths in a modern inspiring environment.

Bournside is well known for great sporting achievements across Gloucestershire. From our high-specification AstroTurf and brand-new fitness suite to our tennis and badminton courts, athletics track and our sports halls and sports fields with fantastic views of Leckhampton Hill, we have the training facilities to support the next generation of sporting stars. We are pleased that these facilities are well utilised by teams and organisations from across the community we serve too.

Our well-equipped drama studio and music rooms provide all students with opportunities for creative expression, whilst our library is a popular bright, light and comfortable modern space used by students for reading, study and group work.



The school curriculum is ambitious [and provides] a broad education platform from which pupils can excel in subjects and aspects of their wider, cultural needs.

OFSTED, 2022



Curiosity and choice

We're one of the largest schools in Gloucestershire, which means we can invest in the teachers and facilities to expand your curiosity and learning.

You'll experience a broad and balanced education, which follows the National Curriculum, led by teachers who model excellence and inspire discussion and debate, independent learning, creativity and expression. The knowledge and commitment offered by so many people across the school – both staff and students – means you are encouraged to follow your passions, make discoveries and build your own experience. This could be within the classroom, the school leadership and support structures, at our clubs, on visits to shows, festivals and universities, or during residential trips.

As you progress to years 10 and 11 and embark

on your GCSE studies, we offer the most extensive variety of subjects locally (please visit our website for the full list of subjects). We introduce you to many courses that may be new to you and in which you could excel, such as sociology, business studies, photography, Mandarin and sports studies. Our thriving Sixth Form also benefits from the broad range of knowledge and expertise across our teaching staff, offering over 38 subjects.

Our aim is to help you develop the confidence, knowledge and skills to achieve excellent outcomes for your life in the modern world. Whatever your future aspirations and ambition, we will encourage and support your curiosity.

To find out more about our curriculum, please visit www.bournside.gloucs.sch.uk/school-life/our-curriculum



All Year 7 students will experience teaching of the four modern foreign languages taught at Bournside: French, German, Mandarin and Spanish.

MR BASS, HEAD OF MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES



Respect and wellbeing

People thrive when they are happy and well supported. That's why we have clear and high expectations for our students' behaviour in lessons, around the school site and in the wider area. We are mindful of the wellbeing of everyone in our school community.

Being respectful and supportive are at the heart of our school's values, and we are proud that our students show great commitment to living by these principles. We have an excellent team of dedicated staff who listen to and support children if they experience anxiety or stress, or have heightened emotional needs. The safety and security of each one of us is the school's priority.

Bournside was the first Gloucestershire secondary school to be awarded the anti-bullying quality mark (ABQM-UK). This award recognises the amazing work of our student 'anti-bullying ambassadors', and of our whole school, in upholding no-tolerance approach to bullying and a commitment to caring

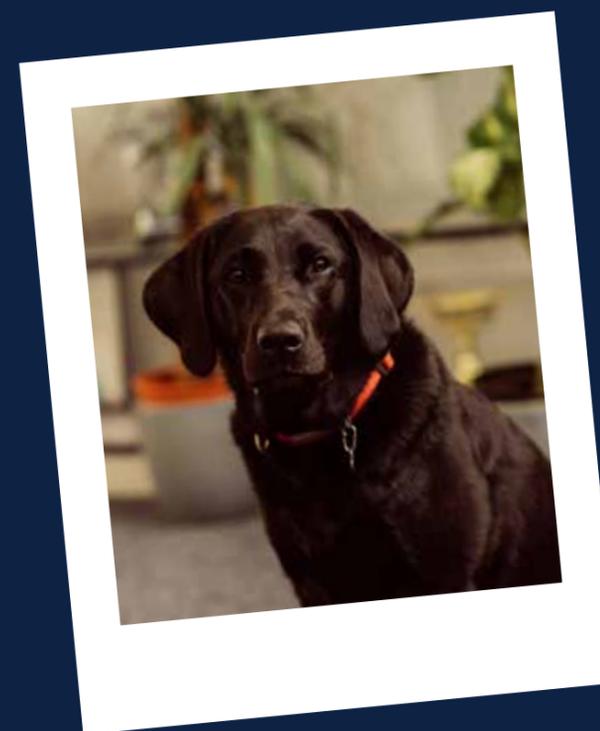
for each other.

We organise a range of awareness events and activities each year to enhance our sense of community across the school. Students have their own committees and elect representatives from every year group and house. They meet regularly to hear concerns and give young people a voice in the direction and development of the school.



Pupils enjoy school [and there is a] strong sense of community for both staff and pupils.

OFSTED, 2022



Our school dog

Lottie is our much-loved school dog who belongs to Assistant Headteacher, Mrs Groves. She is a friendly one-year-old black Labrador and joined the school when she was just 8 weeks old.

Lottie is a key member of our pastoral and culture team in the school. She is onsite daily and works with students on an individual basis as well as spending time with as many students as possible during social times.

We believe that animals can have a significant positive impact on mental health and wellbeing, and Lottie is brilliant at putting on a smile on the faces of everyone who meets her and helping us to be present in the moment.

Find out more about Lottie:
www.bournside.gloucs.sch.uk/school-life/our-school-dog

Every opportunity to grow

At Bournside, we encourage all our students to be curious and to try something new, so they can reach their full potential, both in and outside of the classroom.

A busy calendar of clubs, trips, events and visits is woven into each year's timetable. Students might attend one of Cheltenham's festivals, a carers and enterprise workshop or theatre trip, or benefit from an inspiring guest speaker visiting the school.

Music and the arts are an important part of school life and there are so many ways to get involved. Our thriving music and drama departments showcase the immense talent we have across the school at wonderful events and concerts throughout the year.

From rugby to rounders, handball and athletics, Bournside is well known across Gloucestershire from great sporting achievements. Our students are encouraged to take part, enjoy and compete, enabling them to support their own health and wellbeing, as well as raise some significant pieces of silverware.

Our committed staff organise a wide range of UK and overseas trips for students with enormous success, and we are excited to relaunch these experiences.

Activities Week

Students in all year groups are invited to take part in a wide range of trips, visits, and activities during our school-wide Activities Week in the summer term. Activities include a new Year 9 camping experience, theme parks, Geography field trips, water sports, arts, English and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) focussed events.

Duke of Edinburgh

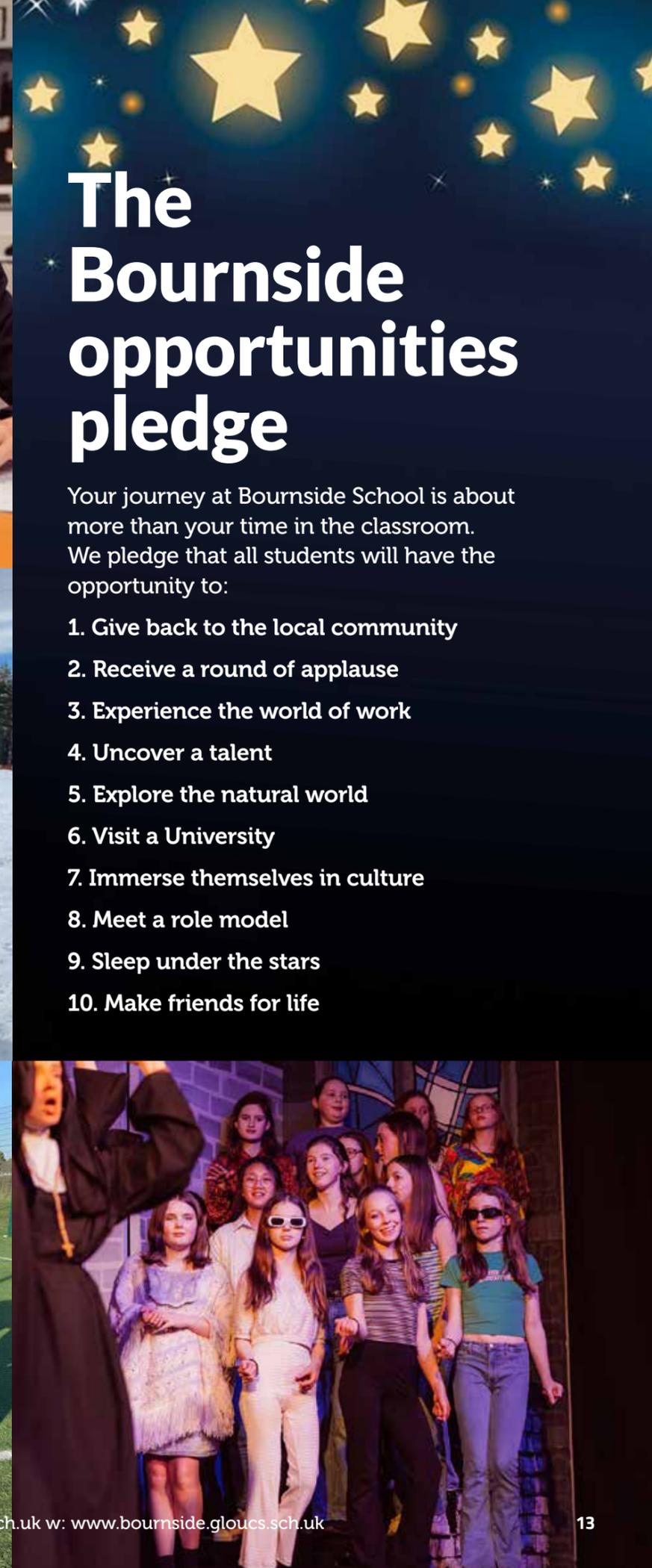
From Year 9, students are invited to take part in the popular Duke of Edinburgh Awards scheme. A transformative opportunity, where students are given the chance to explore new talents and develop critical skills that they will benefit from throughout their lives.

Extra-curricular clubs

We aim to provide the biggest, brightest, and best extra-curricular club offer in the county. From our extensive sports, arts, and music offer, to chess, crochet, debate, languages, maths, robotics, science and more, we are confident that every student can find a club they enjoy. New clubs include Languages Film Club, Climate Club and our Community Gardening Club.

Find out more about clubs, trips and visits:

www.bournside.gloucs.sch.uk/school-life/clubs-trips-and-visits



The Bournside opportunities pledge

Your journey at Bournside School is about more than your time in the classroom. We pledge that all students will have the opportunity to:

1. Give back to the local community
2. Receive a round of applause
3. Experience the world of work
4. Uncover a talent
5. Explore the natural world
6. Visit a University
7. Immerse themselves in culture
8. Meet a role model
9. Sleep under the stars
10. Make friends for life



Your future path

We'll prepare you to achieve your full potential at GCSE and ensure that you design your future in terms of careers, universities, apprenticeships and other training. Many of our students stay with us to study A levels and equivalent qualifications at our sixth form: in 2023 99% of university applicants secured a place (please visit our website for further detail on our excellent 2023 GCSE and A Level results)..

Throughout each year, all students are encouraged to consider their ongoing careers, skills and further study and are invited, with their parents and carers, to our sixth form and careers evenings. It's part of the rounded approach we take to make sure all students have the knowledge they need to make the best decisions about their future.

Local employers are very supportive of Bournside and our students. Our careers team have excellent connections with businesses and employment sectors across Gloucestershire and beyond, including in law, health, defence, engineering and education. Students can undertake work experience from year 10, and in year 11 representatives from local organisations and industry engage students in incisive interviews. Our annual 'Destinations Day' is an exciting opportunity for year 12 students to enjoy practical advice and experience with experts in their chosen pathway, be it apprenticeships, employment or university.

It's never too soon to be thinking about your future options. Whatever path is right for you, we will help you find it.



Reading for pleasure is a priority within the school. Pupils are ready for learning and engage well with teachers and other adults.

OFSTED, 2022



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www.twitter.com/bournsideschool



**Inspiring lives
through learning**

We are:

Ambitious

Curious

Proud

Purposeful

Respectful

Supportive

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