



# VERULAM SCHOOL

Excellence . Character . Respect

PROSPECTUS 2020-21

[www.verulamschool.co.uk](http://www.verulamschool.co.uk)

# MEET THE PUPILS

## YORK | YEAR 7

**Primary School:** Abbey Primary School

**Favourite Verulam Memory:** My favourite memory of Verulam was my UNHCR charity cake sale, that I did with a few of my friends.

**Favourite Subject:** My favourite subject is Maths because although it's difficult I love the subject and I love to learn how the numbers work.

**Verulam Hobbies & Interests:** I love sports, one of the main things I do is Tae Kwon Do - I'm a former England Champion in sparring.

**Greatest Achievements:** Getting a Headteacher's commendation for helping in the S.T.E.M. club project.

**Future Aspirations:** When I am older I want to be a doctor.

**I am Verulam because:** I'm learning really complex things and achieving my own goals for my Tae Kwon Do sport.

## JENNINGS | YEAR 9

**Primary School:** London Colney Primary School

**Favourite Verulam Memory:** Lake District with my friends, while canoeing, we tried to submerge and get each other wet as a joke!

**Favourite Subject:** Geography because we get to learn so much.

**Verulam Hobbies & Interests:** I love being active and outdoors. Two of my favourite sports are boxing and cricket.

**Greatest Achievements:** Maths Challenge and S.T.E.M. club. We won the Hertfordshire Award for best club.

**Future Aspirations:** Astronomer.

**I am Verulam because:** I am a representative for Verulam in and out of school doing sport, and, in the future I cannot wait to do Duke of Edinburgh Award.

## BRAMPTON | YEAR 8

**Primary School:** Bernards Heath

**Favourite Verulam Memory:** Beating Parmiters in the Maths Challenge. It was very exciting; it was a bit like a game show!

**Favourite Subject:** My favourite subject is History because I like discussions and learning how and why everything happened in the past.

**Verulam Hobbies & Interests:** S.T.E.M. club, rugby team Maths Challenge and the Ski Trip.

**Greatest Achievements:** City of St Albans Swimming Club - Regional Champions in the Relay.

**Future Aspirations:** Top university, study History, become an archaeologist.

**I am Verulam because:** I work hard, study hard and aspire to be the best possible for me and help that by doing lots of extra-curricular activities that not only do I enjoy, but also help my knowledge grow.

## CHURCHILL | YEAR 10

**Primary School:** Aboyne Lodge

**Favourite Verulam Memory:** Camping with my friends on the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award.

**Favourite Subject:** History, because I enjoy to learn about the past and warfare and why wars occurred in particular.

**Verulam Hobbies & Interests:** I enjoy cycling and playing badminton.

**Greatest Achievements:** Bronze DoE - I enjoyed getting lost then finding our way back to the campsite, just in time!

**Future Aspirations:** Traveling the world. Gold DofE. Studying Law at university.

**I am Verulam because:** I enjoy exploring and the opportunities it has given me.

## Welcome to the 2020-2021 Verulam School Prospectus

### Dear Boys and Parents

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to Verulam School and to invite your son to join us on a 7 Year Journey to develop the values of excellence, character and respect:

**Excellence:** Academic, Cultural and Sporting  
**Character:** Collaboration, Resilience and Kindness  
**Respect:** For Oneself and for Others

We are specialists in boys' education and design our curriculum and teaching to help students fulfil their potential. Our innovative programmes in Literacy and Bring Your Own Device enables blended learning that engages boys, enriches the curriculum and accelerates progress.

We recognise that boys succeed when they feel happy, safe and engage in the wide variety of extra-curricular activities provided by the school. The seven year journey enables your son to become a confident, articulate young man who can succeed in higher education, employment and his personal life. We joined the Alban Academies' Trust in September 2018 because we share the vision of "educational excellence for everyone".

We hope you enjoy reading our prospectus and feel inspired to find out more about Verulam - particularly by visiting us on either our Open Day or during the following Open Weeks.

The best adverts for Verulam School are the students - we hope your son wishes to become one.

Paul Ramsey BA (Hons), Headteacher

Excellence . Character . Respect



## BEHAVIOUR & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

**“The behaviour of pupils is good... around school, pupils maintain their positive behaviour. They are polite and show respect for others. They move purposefully and calmly around the site.”** OFSTED

We believe in supporting your son on his seven year journey from secondary school transfer to university, apprenticeship or job application. Our expectation is for him to behave well at all times, have respect for others and to be resilient in the face of challenges.

Our tailored pastoral induction programme ensures that students can start at Verulam secure and confident, having made new friends. They quickly become familiar with the daily routines of school life. Year 7 is based in the Bradshaw building and its playground as a special base which enables new students to quickly feel safe as their confidence grows.

Form Tutors offer effective care, support and guidance on both social and academic issues and the pastoral team is well supported by our Pastoral Worker, Matron, Pastoral Mentor and Counsellor.

Both the curriculum and enrichment opportunities develop students' characters and help them develop confidence and resilience. We also stress the importance of healthy lifestyles and ensure that every boy has a clear plan for the future. Safeguarding is central to all we do at Verulam. We ensure that students feel supported at all times and have the confidence and know-how to seek help when they need it.

The school has a zero-tolerance policy on all forms of discriminatory attitudes, behaviour or language and students report that they feel safe and know from whom to seek help if they experience difficulties.



## PARTNERSHIP IN SUCCESS

**We will work together with you to ensure your son succeeds and enjoys school. Good communication is vital to this which is why we write directly to parents by email and issue a weekly newsletter – “Verulam Voice”.**

Parents can view up to date details of attendance, rewards and consequences at any time via our parental portal and app - MyChildAtSchool. Homework is also easily accessible through Show My Homework and Google Classroom. The School has a very popular Facebook page and our website provides detailed information on all aspects of school life, please visit [www.verulamschool.co.uk](http://www.verulamschool.co.uk) or scan the QR Code on the back of this prospectus.

The Verulam Parent Teacher Association offers opportunities for parents to become involved in school life through fundraising and social activities such as quiz nights and the Annual Ball.



## THE VERULAM CURRICULUM

Verulam has a broad and balanced curriculum which is both flexible and demanding in order to meet the needs of all students. It empowers them to achieve excellence with personalised routes tailored to their needs, strengths and interests.

At Key Stage 3 students are taught in a mixture of sets and mixed-ability groups. We build key skills in Years 7 and 8 which help students to achieve across all areas of the school and build the crucial character traits of resilience, confidence and independence.

Teaching and learning is varied and exciting to meet the needs of all students. As well as the core subjects we take great pride in our Technology, Art, Music, Drama and Physical Education/Healthy lifestyles curriculum. A Modern Foreign language of either French or Spanish develops additional key skills at KS3.

Personal Health and Social Education along with Religious Studies really gets to the heart of debate, aids personal development and fosters student thinking about their future role in society. Computing and S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) are a key focus with plenty of opportunities to explore practical and academic experiences.

Google Classroom and Bring Your Own Device are used to enhance the learning for students by equipping them with the crucial I.T. skills needed for the changing world around us. We place a significant focus on literacy, reading, speaking and listening skills.

We also teach a clear process for learning in terms of: Thinking, Planning, Analysing, Reviewing and Writing.

Key Stage 4 builds on the skills and experiences from KS3. We provide students at G.C.S.E. with vocational routes as well as the more traditional pure academic routes to personalise the curriculum for every student.



## EDUCATING BOYS

### Why do boys thrive when educated together?

Single sex education offers boys the chance to be taught by teachers who understand how boys learn and to study a curriculum that is tailored to their needs.

Boys benefit from clear rules in the classroom and a consistent approach to learning. They succeed when given regular assessments and clear feedback on how to improve.

Verulam enables boys to compete and collaborate within an ordered and supportive environment whilst encouraging them to become confident and articulate young men.

Our mixed Sixth Form and collaboration with Beaumont and Sandringham Schools helps our boys to prepare for university through working in an adult environment.

**“Pupils come to lessons ready to learn. They readily follow routines and settle quickly to their work. They take pride in what they do and demonstrate consistently positive attitudes.”** OFSTED



# VERULAM JOURNEY



**“The teachers’ unique approach geared towards teaching boys, keeps them engaged and enthusiastic... it is abundantly clear that all your staff strive for excellence each and every day.”** PARENT, 2019

## ENRICHMENT AT VERULAM



**Enrichment at Verulam is one of our keys to success. Students who participate in the wide range of activities on offer enjoy school and thrive.**

Boys choose from a varied menu of activities, including Outdoor Adventure, Sport, Music, Drama, academic specialisms and Debating, to name just a few.

All students enjoy Curriculum Enrichment Days throughout the academic year, when the normal timetable is suspended and we take time to learn more about a variety of topics, such as careers, the Holocaust and maintaining good physical and emotional health.

School Visits are often the high point of boys’ school experience and we believe these to be essential to your son’s development.

From the Lakes in Year 7, to The Battlefields, Blue Peris and Auschwitz in the following years, along with the opportunity to take part in numerous sailing, ski trips and sporting fixtures, there really is something on offer for everyone. We also run a comprehensive Duke of Edinburgh Award programme and Sixth Form cultural visits to Iceland and New York.

Your son will complete his seven year journey as an outward looking and aware young man, ready to make a positive contribution to our society.



## THE CREATIVE ARTS



**Music, Art and Drama form an important part of school life and many students choose to pursue one of these subjects at GCSE or A Level where the school offers: Art, Drama, Photography, Media and Music. However, Drama and the Creative Arts are also central to the enrichment on offer to all students.**

Students are encouraged to take instrumental lessons and are welcomed into the choir in Year 7 with the incentive of performing in St Albans Abbey. The Year 7 pantomime is also a great opportunity to perform on the big stage! Music is especially popular and many students take part in instrumental groups, form bands or join the Big Band.

Musical and dramatic performances are scheduled throughout the year and the departments often collaborate to produce a musical spectacular.



**“Pupils are confident to speak in front of other pupils, such as when answering the teacher’s questions or reading aloud. Others listen carefully and do not interrupt.”** OFSTED



## BLEND LEARNING

Verulam’s ‘Bring Your Own Device’ programme ensures our students become technologically fluent and safe learners.

We use Blended Learning to combine the latest technology with traditional classroom practices. Tablets (in KS3 & KS4) and laptops (in the Sixth Form) are used to enhance learning, whilst ensuring that sufficient time remains devoted to skills such as handwriting and discussion. Students use their device to access SMHW and Google Classroom to link up with online home learning. To ensure that every student can access all of our learning opportunities, we offer financial support where appropriate.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION & SPORT

Physical Education and School Sport is an integral part of the learning journey for a Verulam student.

The broad and balanced curriculum introduces students to a wide range of activity, with the ultimate aim of developing a life-long appreciation of the importance of physical activity within a healthy lifestyle.

Many students will go on to represent the school in sport but all students are given opportunity to become involved in house sport opportunities throughout the academic year. Our flagship house sport event known as the “Verulympics” takes place each June and involves all students competing in a programme of over twenty different sporting activities to gain house points towards the Hawkes House Cup.

## LITERACY

As a reading community, our students embrace the saying: ‘today a reader, tomorrow a leader’.

Fluency, clarity and audience are key aspects of our written literacy focus. We develop students’ use of the spoken word through a wide range of subject based activities as well as collaborative Form Time Discussion and our annual ‘Icon Debate’.

Our Business Conference in Year 9 challenges the boys to: debate, problem-solve, business model and present. In the Sixth Form we hold a ‘United Nations Formal Negotiations’ challenge.



## S.T.E.M.



Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths (S.T.E.M.) form one of the cornerstones of the curriculum and students’ enrichment. The S.T.E.M. club and Verulab are the most popular clubs in the school, and over 150 boys a year enter the UK Maths Challenge.

The school now boasts a new S.T.E.M. lab which enables students across all years to benefit from an integrated approach to the sciences and technology. In 2018 Verulam was nominated for the National S.T.E.M. Club award and came Highly Commended. We work with companies including Affinity Water and Transport for London as part of our enrichment programme and students run fundraising campaigns for new initiatives.

Last academic year our S.T.E.M. club became the S.T.E.A.M. club to include Art and we focused on half termly projects. This included looking at hydrogels in nappies and the Mould Effect.

We also run a Science Club, called Verulab for Year 7 and 8 students that focuses on adventurous experiments we aren’t always able to do in our lessons. It is unsurprising that the number of 6th Form pursuing S.T.E.M. related degrees is very high.



## SIXTH FORM AT VERULAM

**“Sixth Form provision is good. Students benefit from strong teaching and helpful guidance on their futures. They make good progress and are well prepared for their next steps in education, employment or training.”** OFSTED

The co-educational Sixth Form aims not only to give students a first class academic education, but to ensure that they emerge as confident and articulate young people who can succeed at university and in the workplace.

Verulam offers a wide range of subjects including: Media, Photography, Psychology, Sport and Sociology as well as popular traditional subjects such as Maths, English, Technology and the Sciences. Students also undertake a wide range of enrichment activities such as the Extended Project Qualification, Young Enterprise and Financial Studies.

Outside of the classroom teaching is supported by a wide range of educational trips including Geography field trips to the Baltic region, Iceland and Social Science trips to New York.

Students are encouraged to take a leading role in the school by becoming prefects, training as reading or welfare mentors, undertaking work experience and attending our Engaging Minds lecture series.



## VERULAM SCHOOL TRANSPORT ROUTES

**Greenwood Bus** The school provides a private bus with stops which cover this area: Borehamwood, Shenley, Radlet, Bricket Wood, Park Street, How Wood, Chiswell Green and the Verulam Estate. Pick up is from 7:35 am, returning by 4:25 pm.



### 🕒 Times of travel to Verulam School

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1 HARPENDEN & LUTON 🚌 30 minutes   | 6 WATFORD 🚌 51 minutes                         |
| 2 SANDRIDGE 🚌 25 minutes           | 7 CHISWELL GREEN & ST STEPHENS 🚌 27-45 minutes |
| 3 HATFIELD 🚌 38 minutes            | 8 HEMEL HEMPSTEAD 🚌 43 minutes                 |
| 4 SHENLEY 🚌 32 minutes             | 9 REDBOURNE 🚌 36 minutes                       |
| 5 RADLETT/BOREHAMWOOD 🚌 22 minutes | 10 MARKYATE 🚌 44 minutes SLIP END 🚌 65 minutes |

Verulam School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



**VERULAM SCHOOL**  
Excellence . Character . Respect

For further information about Verulam School including the most recent results, staffing and student destinations, please scan this QR code or visit [www.verulamschool.co.uk/prospectus](http://www.verulamschool.co.uk/prospectus)



Brampton Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL1 4PR

**Telephone:** 01727 766 100  
**Fax:** 01727 766 256

Verulam School, a company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales No: 07690125