

The Bredonian





"Bredon gave me more than an education — it gave me belief in myself. From a place where my future once felt uncertain, I leave with confidence, resilience, and gratitude for the teachers, friends, and experiences that shaped who I have become."

Fran,
Outgoing Head Girl

From the Headmaster

As this edition of *The Bredonian* goes to print, I find myself reflecting not only on what we have achieved together this term but also on the exciting direction in which Bredon continues to travel.

There is much in these pages to celebrate. Our students have embraced opportunity with characteristic determination. Their willingness to step forward, try, adapt and persevere remains one of the defining strengths of our school community.

Yet education must always be evolving, particularly today when the march of artificial intelligence continues to change the workplace young people today will enter tomorrow. I am proud to be introducing innovative and ambitious developments to our curriculum.

From Year 10 onwards, our evolving Skills Pathway will provide even greater clarity and purpose, enabling pupils to build confidence through practical application while strengthening the core academic foundations that underpin long-term success.

In the Sixth Form, our enhanced pathway model - including Vocational + and a suite of Stand Alone Level 3 qualifications - reflects our commitment to flexibility, rigour and relevance.

These additions are not simply new courses; they represent a deeper belief that education should meet young people where they are and equip them with transferable skills for an ever-changing world.

Bredon has always valued individual journeys. As we look ahead, we do so with confidence - in our students, our staff and the distinctive education we continue to shape together.



A proud dyslexia specialist school since 1962



"The final report highlights the many strengths of Bredon. It is a testament to the dedication of our staff and the supportive environment we provide for our students."

NICK OLDHAM, HEADMASTER

Recognitio

Recognition & Awards

National acknowledgement of a school that puts students first

A school where students thrive: An excellent ISI report

In January 2025, we welcomed the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) for a full inspection under the new framework introduced in September 2023. The inspection examined five key areas:

- Leadership, management & governance
- Quality of education, training & recreation
- Students' physical and mental health & emotional wellbeing
- Social and economic education & contribution to society
- Safeguarding

We are delighted to share that Bredon School met all standards in every area inspected – a strong endorsement of the school's ethos, practice and people.

Leadership with students

at the centre

Inspectors highlighted strong leadership at all levels, with a clear focus on students feeling valued, supported and understood. Close monitoring of academic progress, learning needs and wellbeing ensures timely and effective support, particularly for students with SEND.

Self-evaluation was described as rigorous and purposeful, while initiatives such as the Bredon Lesson and Bredon Levels of Assessment improve consistency in teaching and learning.

Governance was praised for effective oversight and compliance.

A broad and ambitious curriculum

The breadth of qualifications offered at Bredon was recognised as a 'significant strength' – an accolade awarded to just 12% of independent schools under the new framework.

Students benefit from an ambitious, flexible curriculum tailored to individual needs, preparing them well for future pathways.

Teaching was described as engaging and adaptive, with mistakes welcomed as part of learning. Enrichment opportunities further support personal growth and teamwork.

Wellbeing, inclusion & boarding life

Inspectors noted that students' wellbeing sits at the heart of school life. An inclusive culture promotes openness, respect and confidence in individual identity.

Boarding provision was described as warm and supportive. Students feel safe, build strong friendships and know who to turn to for help.

Preparing students for life beyond school

Strong provision in social and economic education helps students develop financial

literacy, ethical understanding and essential skills through lessons and the Work Ready programme.

Careers guidance was found to be personalised and effective, with work experience and tailored UCAS support helping students plan confidently for their futures.

Safeguarding: a shared responsibility

Safeguarding was judged to be robust and effective, with well-trained staff, clear procedures and thorough checks. Students are taught how to stay safe online and off.



"Ultimately, the inspection recognised what makes Bredon special: its people. Ours is a nurturing, aspirational environment where young people can flourish. It's an outcome that should make us all feel real pride."

NICK OLDHAM, HEADMASTER

on Matters

Recognition & Awards

National acknowledgement of a school that puts students first



We were delighted to achieve national recognition at the prestigious TES Independent School Awards, where Bredon was shortlisted in two prestigious categories:

- Boarding School of the Year
- Excellence in Creative Arts

We were also shortlisted in the Boarding Schools' Association Support Excellence Awards in one key category:

- Boarding House Extension or Refurbishment

These shortlistings alone placed Bredon among the most respected independent schools in the country.

TES Boarding School of the Year

To be named TES Independent Boarding School of the Year 2025-26 is a landmark achievement recognising the exceptional work of our Boarding, Teaching, Support and Estates teams.

"I could not be happier with the support he receives and seeing how happy he is at Bredon is a comfort to me while he is away boarding. As a military family it is hard to have a consistent village but the Bredon staff and other Bredon parents are now our village."

WHO IS THIS QUOTE FROM?

From carefully structured routines to beautifully refurbished spaces designed with neurodiverse students in mind, every detail reflects a deep understanding of student needs.

Head of Boarding Rob Starr and his team were rightly celebrated for their dedication, care and commitment - recognition that resonates across the whole Bredon community. We are incredibly proud to see our values, our people and our students recognised on the national stage.



Recognition

Boarding House Extension or Refurbishment

We are also proud that Bredon's Estates Team was shortlisted for the Boarding Schools' Association (BSA) Support Excellence Award in the Boarding House Extension or Refurbishment category.

This recognition reflects the care and attention that went into the recent boarding house refurbishment, resulting in calm, comfortable and inclusive spaces that support student wellbeing. The team worked tirelessly to deliver environments that are practical, welcoming and thoughtfully designed to meet the needs of neurodiverse young people.



Excellence in Creative Arts

Being shortlisted for Excellence in Creative Arts is a significant achievement in its own right.

Competing against much larger schools across the country, this recognition reflects the exceptional quality of teaching, creativity and commitment within Bredon's Creative Arts department.

Led by Vicky Miles, the department continues to foster originality, confidence and expressive excellence, enabling students to thrive creatively and academically. This shortlisting is a powerful endorsement of the passion and expertise at the heart of the department.



on Matters

Recognition & Awards

National acknowledgement of a school that puts students first

Safeguarding Excellence

Bredon's commitment to safeguarding has been nationally recognised, with the school shortlisted as finalists by the Safeguarding and Child Protection Association (SACPA) in two highly respected categories:

- Safeguarding Inclusion Award
- Outstanding Commitment to Safeguarding

This recognition reflects far more than compliance. It celebrates a safeguarding culture that is woven into everyday life at Bredon - one built on comprehensive training, trust, awareness, compassion and shared responsibility.

Every member of staff plays a role in creating an environment where students feel safe, supported and understood, whether they are day students or boarders.

Deputy Head (Pastoral & Safeguarding), Charmain Eaton, described the achievement as a powerful reflection of the whole community:

"This achievement is a testament to the hard work and dedication of Bredon staff. I am incredibly proud of the safeguarding culture we have cultivated here, which is truly second to none."

That commitment was formally recognised when Bredon went on to win the SACPA Outstanding Commitment to Safeguarding Award - a significant national accolade that celebrates best practice, rigorous training and a proactive, student-centred approach.

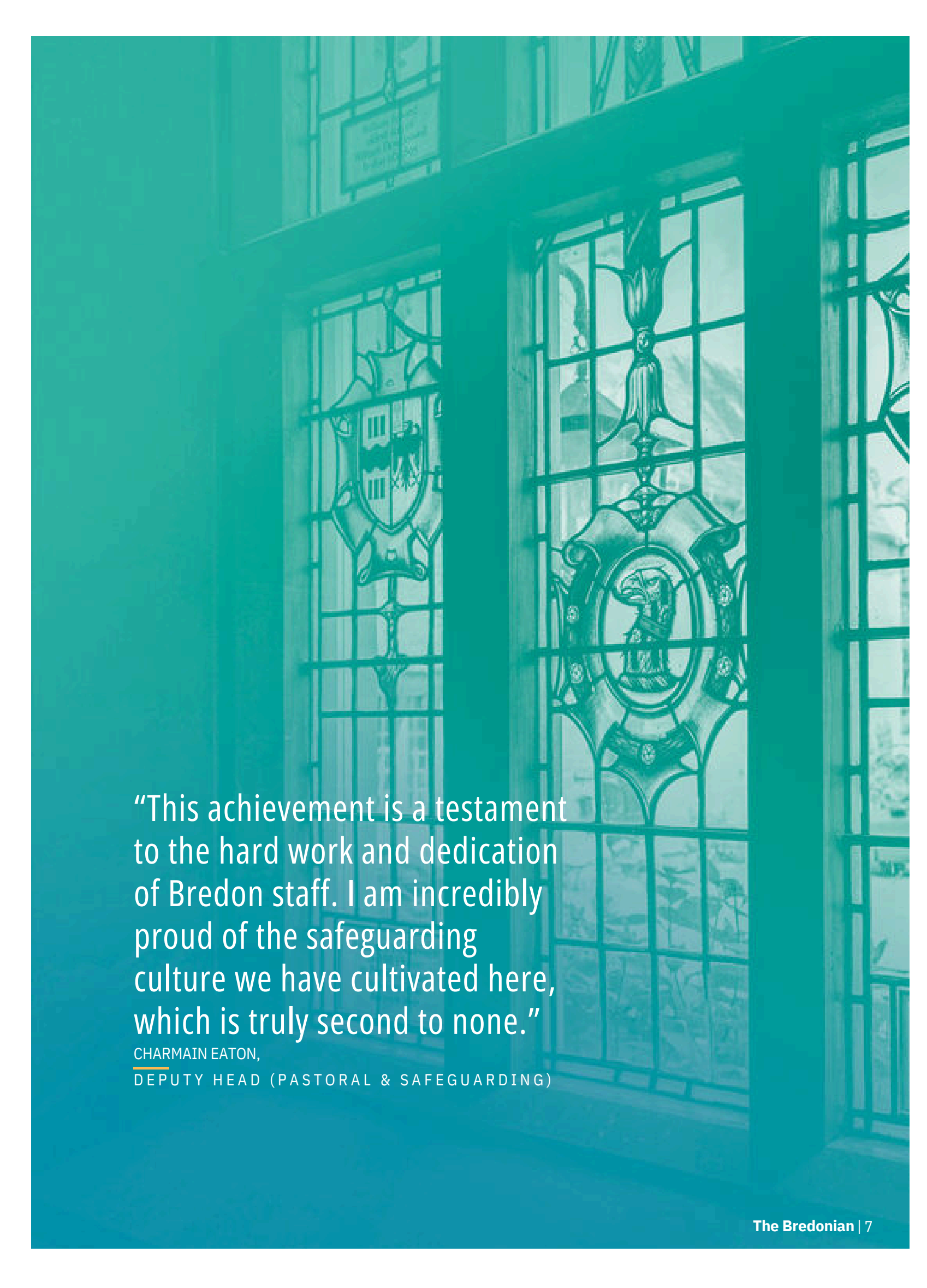


Excellence in Care & Professional Practice

Recent recognition has extended beyond safeguarding, highlighting the depth of care and professionalism across the wider school community.

Individual excellence was also celebrated when our School Nurse, Jill Blakeney, achieved the Advanced Certificate in Professional Practice for School Nurses, a demanding qualification requiring extensive study, presentations and a 3,000-word reflective essay.

Jill's chosen focus - 'The link between addiction and neurodiversity, particularly vaping and nicotine use' - reflects the relevance, depth and professionalism she brings to her role.



"This achievement is a testament to the hard work and dedication of Bredon staff. I am incredibly proud of the safeguarding culture we have cultivated here, which is truly second to none."

CHARMAIN EATON,

DEPUTY HEAD (PASTORAL & SAFEGUARDING)

Meet... ...Robert *Old Bredonian*

"Bredon gave me
the confidence and
foundation to pursue
my passion in IT"

ROBERT COLCOTT



From Year 7 to a Digital Trailblazer



Robert Colcott began his journey at Bredon in September 2004 as a curious and enthusiastic Year 7 in Louise Wood's tutor group, having moved from South West London near Hampton Court.

From the start, it was clear that Robert had a passion for all things digital. Hands-on, inquisitive and endlessly curious, his love for Computing and Information Technology quickly became his

driving force. By the time he graduated from Buckinghamshire New University in July 2011, Robert's skills, enthusiasm and dedication had laid the foundation for a career in IT.

Today, he works for a digital infrastructure company, providing second-line IT support to over 1,000 staff – from resolving everyday laptop issues to managing complex Microsoft 365 setups and cyber incidents.

Robert describes his role as 'a bit of everything', and this broad experience gives him a deep understanding of today's diverse IT systems and technologies.

Words of Wisdom for Future Bredonians

Reflecting on his journey, Robert shares two key tips for students:
Further your education

"Go to further education college or university to gain transferable skills. Bredon gave me the confidence and foundation to pursue my passion in IT – from hardware to multimedia computing to company infrastructures."

Get involved

"Explore activities outside your chosen courses. Networking and diverse experiences helped me take on roles like Microsoft Ambassador at university, participate in outreach programmes and work with charities such as Great Ormond Street. These experiences built my confidence and public speaking skills and prepared me for industry."

Smart Teaching | Creative Learning

Learning in Action Across the Year

Smart Teaching begins with understanding our students - in the classroom, beyond it and at every stage in between. Our approach is rooted in an unwavering focus on the individual, allowing teaching, support and pastoral care to be tailored to each student's strengths, needs and aspirations.

This personalised mindset turns the traditional classroom experience on its head, replacing one-size-fits-all lessons with creative, flexible and highly responsive learning.

Central to this is the expertise of our Specialist Learning Support (SLS) team, whose deep knowledge of neurodiversity and inclusive practice influences everything we do across the school. Their specialist insight doesn't sit alongside teaching - it shapes it, ensuring that every student is supported, challenged and empowered.

Our teaching approach combines expertise with innovation. Lessons blend structured language guidance with digital tools and interactive strategies. Our teachers

continually adapt, ensuring every student progresses at their own pace.

Creativity fuels our classrooms. From storytelling and role-play to project-based challenges, our staff craft engaging experiences that match every student's learning style. By turning language learning into an inspiring, hands-on adventure, we help students build English skills alongside confidence and curiosity.

The following pages give just a few examples of Smart Teaching and Creative Learning in practice.



"Where the curriculum is broad and adaptable, and pupils often flourish when traditional settings might have held them back."

GOOD SCHOOLS GUIDE

Learning in Action Across the Year



Science & Investigation in Action

In November 2024, the Mad Scientist Club turned theory into fun, creating an elephant's toothpaste, dropping eggs in parachutes and building spaghetti bridges - before erupting their own homemade volcanoes.

In June, Year 10 biologists brought learning to life by dissecting pig's eyes, exploring the lens, retina and optic nerve, and discovering first-hand how structure supports function. Meanwhile, Year 8 scientists investigated bubble mixtures, testing ratios and experimenting to see which combination produced the biggest or most stable bubbles. These activities combine creativity, observation, and problem-solving, making science tangible and unforgettable.

At the Cheltenham Science Festival, Year 7 students explored interactive exhibits, including drone flying, virtual escape rooms and rocket-powered vehicles - developing teamwork, curiosity and problem-solving skills in real-world contexts.

Exploring, Questioning, Discovering

In October, Year 10 and Sixth Form Animal Care students visited Crocodiles of the World, discovering the fascinating nuances of different species and the science behind their care - including the surprising fact that the gender of a crocodile depends on the temperature of its eggs!

Meanwhile, our geographers set out along the Devon coast, investigating erosion, flooding and coastal defences. From Hallsands to Beesands, students sketched coastlines, collected pi and quantitative data, and completed cost-benefit analyses. Their enthusiasm, questioning and engagement with locals were impressive - even a passing seal added a moment of fun.



Geography in Action

In January 2025, Year 9 students explored the River Churn, measuring velocity, width, and depth at multiple sites, even wading in knee-deep. They gathered data to test river models, building lasting understanding through hands-on fieldwork.

Year 10 geographers conducted GCSE fieldwork at Upton-Upon-Severn, evaluating flood defences, conducting cost-benefit analyses, and witnessing the New Street Flood Gate and a £4.5m underground pumping system in action. Students applied classroom knowledge in the real world, combining observation, measurement, and critical thinking skills.



Literacy, Communication & Digital Skills

In February 2025, the Extreme Reading Competition encouraged students to read in unusual locations, blending creativity with literacy. Junior students dressed as storybook characters for World Book Day, bringing books to life with performances and academic challenges.

Our Digital Leaders hosted a parent seminar on social media, sharing survey findings about student usage and offering advice on screen time, slang, and online safety. Students took on a leadership role, helping others navigate a digital world with awareness and confidence.

Skills for Life

In March 2025, Year 8 PSHCE students explored the effects of alcohol using obstacle courses with 'drunk goggles', while tutor activities focused on World Wildlife Day, creating seed papers and terrariums and exploring career opportunities in conservation.

Friendly competition encourages teamwork and knowledge, too. In the Academic Challenge, students and staff went head-to-head, testing recall, strategy, and collaboration in a light-hearted but competitive environment.



Enrichment, Culture & Personal Development

Bredon enrichment programmes offer opportunities to explore skills, careers and creativity. In February 2025, students visited Harry Potter Studios, Cadbury World and the Imperial War Museum, handling movie props, creating chocolate treats and learning history with a hands-on twist - from V2 rockets powered by potatoes to interactive storytelling challenges.

Year 9 and 10 students participated in webinars from HSBC on banking, fraud prevention and financial literacy, while Streetwise365 delivered personal safety workshops. Students developed confidence, resilience and practical life skills, all while enjoying learning in diverse environments.



History, Creativity & Storytelling

In December 2024, Year 8 students built stunning castle models for their Christmas project, demonstrating imagination, attention to detail and research skills. Year 8s also created intricate models of the Great Fire of London, combining craft, history and teamwork.

Junior students experienced history first-hand in April 2025, stepping into WWII as evacuees. They learned firefighting skills, took part in air raid drills and explored wartime artifacts - bringing the past vividly to life.

English classes embrace creativity, using the icon system, students navigate lessons with clear visual cues, allowing Year 7 to unpack Shakespeare confidently, explore dramatic irony, and link vocabulary to character analysis.

In June 2025, students combined imagination and learning when Year 8 English explored *The Tempest* with a visit to the school pigs, understanding the power of word choice in context. Creative science projects included FameLab presentations, rocket car design and bubble investigations - all demonstrating curiosity, communication and scientific thinking.

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Meet... ...Etienne

"Etienne is a powerful example of a student who chooses initiative over uncertainty, optimism over hesitation and teamwork over self-interest," he said. "He is a student any school would be proud of - and we just happen to be the lucky ones."

NICK OLDHAM, HEADMASTER

Some students look at a challenge and see only the problem; Etienne looks at one and starts finding solutions.

Etienne was the motivation and driving force behind the Solstice to Sunset fundraising walk - an ambitious, marathon-distance challenge that brought together students and staff in support of improving cancer care in Gloucestershire.

On the longest day of the year, 21 June, Etienne and 15 fellow Bredon walkers set out from Worcester Cathedral, walking 26 miles back to school via the full, rugged stretch of the Malvern Hills. Steep climbs, off-road terrain, sunshine and showers made it a demanding physical and mental challenge.

Every step raised money for Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. It is a designated Regional Cancer Centre but facilities are now more than 25 years old so a new, modern centre is urgently needed.

Before walking boots even hit the ground, Etienne had raised an impressive £800, setting his sights on £2,000 - and daring to reach a target of £3,000 by the finish line.

The route tested everyone but as the final miles took their toll, determination and encouragement carried them through to a triumphant finish.

Total raised: £2,883.93 + £616.50 Gift Aid = £3,500.43. An outstanding achievement.



That same attitude shines through in Etienne's everyday life. When he completed his work experience placement at Delapena Group, his professionalism and enthusiasm made a lasting impression. His placement team praised his clear communication, teamwork and reliability. Above all, they highlighted his can-do mindset, positivity and willingness to embrace every challenge.

Creativity in Action Across the Year

Why Creative Arts matter

Art, photography, graphics and technology give students exciting ways to express themselves and explore their creativity. From sketching and painting to capturing striking images or designing digital projects, these activities develop observation, problem-solving and attention to detail.

Technology opens doors to new skills, from coding and digital design to multimedia storytelling, complementing traditional creative work. Students gain confidence, experiment with ideas and take pride in their achievements, whether working on personal projects, collaborative exhibitions or tech challenges.

Together, these subjects foster imagination, innovation and a sense of accomplishment.



Creative Arts

Students build core skills through imaginative projects inspired by well-known artists. Year 7, for example, explored Van Gogh's self-portraits through a series of experimental activities, before working together on a large-scale collaborative piece that celebrates individual mark-making within a shared outcome.

Year 8 students took inspiration from the natural world, developing detailed and expressive work through projects such as Bugs and Beetles, using drawing, printmaking and mixed media.

As students move through the school, projects become more

specialised and ambitious. In Graphics, students designed and produced their own T-shirt concepts, exploring typography, imagery and composition while developing both digital and hand-rendered techniques.

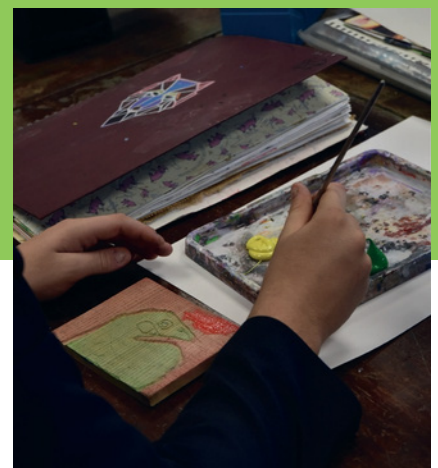
Photography students investigated themes such as pattern and light and dark, learning how to use composition, contrast and editing to create striking, atmospheric images drawn from everyday surroundings.

At GCSE and A Level, students take increasing ownership of their creative journey. Art students pushed boundaries through

sustained personal projects, while Graphics and Photography students developed professional-level outcomes in areas such as branding, packaging, editorial illustration, fashion and conceptual photography.

Along the way, students are encouraged to experiment boldly - sometimes inspired by artists such as Jackson Pollock - learning that creativity can be messy, unpredictable and deeply rewarding.

Classrooms are lively, supportive spaces where ideas are shared, challenged and refined.





Combined Cadet Force



Why the Combined Cadet Force Matters

The Combined Cadet Force (CCF) gives students the chance to develop skills, confidence and teamwork in a fun and challenging environment. Through activities such as field exercises, leadership training and practical skills sessions, cadets learn discipline, resilience and problem-solving.

It is a space where students can push themselves, discover their potential and take pride in their achievements. Beyond adventure, CCF fosters camaraderie, responsibility and a strong sense of belonging.



Standout Achievement

Kai P, Head of Corps, achieved national success by winning a national drill competition at HMS Raleigh with his Royal Marine Cadet Corps - an outstanding accomplishment reflecting precision, leadership and the strength of CCF training at Bredon.

"CCF is something very close to my heart... I know first-hand what leadership, teamwork, and discipline it develops. It's a phenomenal thing to have in a school."

Tradition, leadership and service

Through weekly training, camps and ceremonial occasions, students develop:

- Leadership and responsibility, from leading a section to mentoring younger cadets
- Resilience and self-belief through physical challenge and demanding scenarios
- Teamwork and communication, grounded in trust and cooperation
- Respect and service, reflecting Bredon's strong sense of history and community

A year of CCF in action

Across the year, CCF at Bredon was busy, varied and purposeful.

Remembrance and ceremonial duty

The Remembrance Service and parade in Tewkesbury were standout moments, with students demonstrating professionalism, pride and respect while representing Bredon with distinction.

Practical skills and applied learning

From CSI-style forensic investigations to fire control and reaction drills led by specialist instructors, students gained hands-on experience demanding focus and teamwork.

Leadership and progression

Promotions to Lance Corporal recognised students who led by example, while syllabus awards celebrated skill development and commitment.

Challenge and adventure

Field training and multi-day camps included living under bashas, tactical exercises and demanding drills at Longmoor Training Area, where cadets impressed instructors with their discipline and determination.

Shared traditions

The annual CCF NCOs Dinner brought together officers and guests to celebrate service, leadership and continuity.

Commemorating history

To mark VE Day, CCF students completed a challenging ascent of the Malvern Hills, blending remembrance with resilience and camaraderie.



A Proud Tradition

Founded to prepare young people for leadership and service, the Combined Cadet Force is rooted in military tradition. At Bredon, founded by Lt-Col Tony Sharp in 1962, this heritage remains meaningful. Today's CCF continues that tradition - modern, inclusive and focused on developing confident, capable young adults.

DofE In Action Across the Year

Why the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Matter

The Duke of Edinburgh Awards give students a chance to step outside the classroom and try something new. It's about getting active, learning practical skills, helping others and spending time outdoors.

Students build confidence, independence and resilience - often without even realising it. Whether it's volunteering in the community, learning a new skill or heading out on an expedition, DofE encourages students to challenge themselves at their own pace and take pride in what they achieve.



“Experiences like the DofE expedition give students a reference point for courage. When nerves hit in the exam hall, they can say, ‘I’ve done something harder than this.’”





Challenge, independence and confidence

The DofE Award is a defining part of life at Bredon. Year after year, a high proportion of our students choose to take on this demanding and rewarding challenge.

DofE at Bredon is about far more than completing an expedition. It is about learning to persevere, work together, solve problems independently and discover what you are capable of beyond your comfort zone.

A year of DofE at Bredon

Across the academic year, DofE activity is a constant presence.

In September, students completed their Gold DofE expedition in Wales, spending a week testing endurance and teamwork.

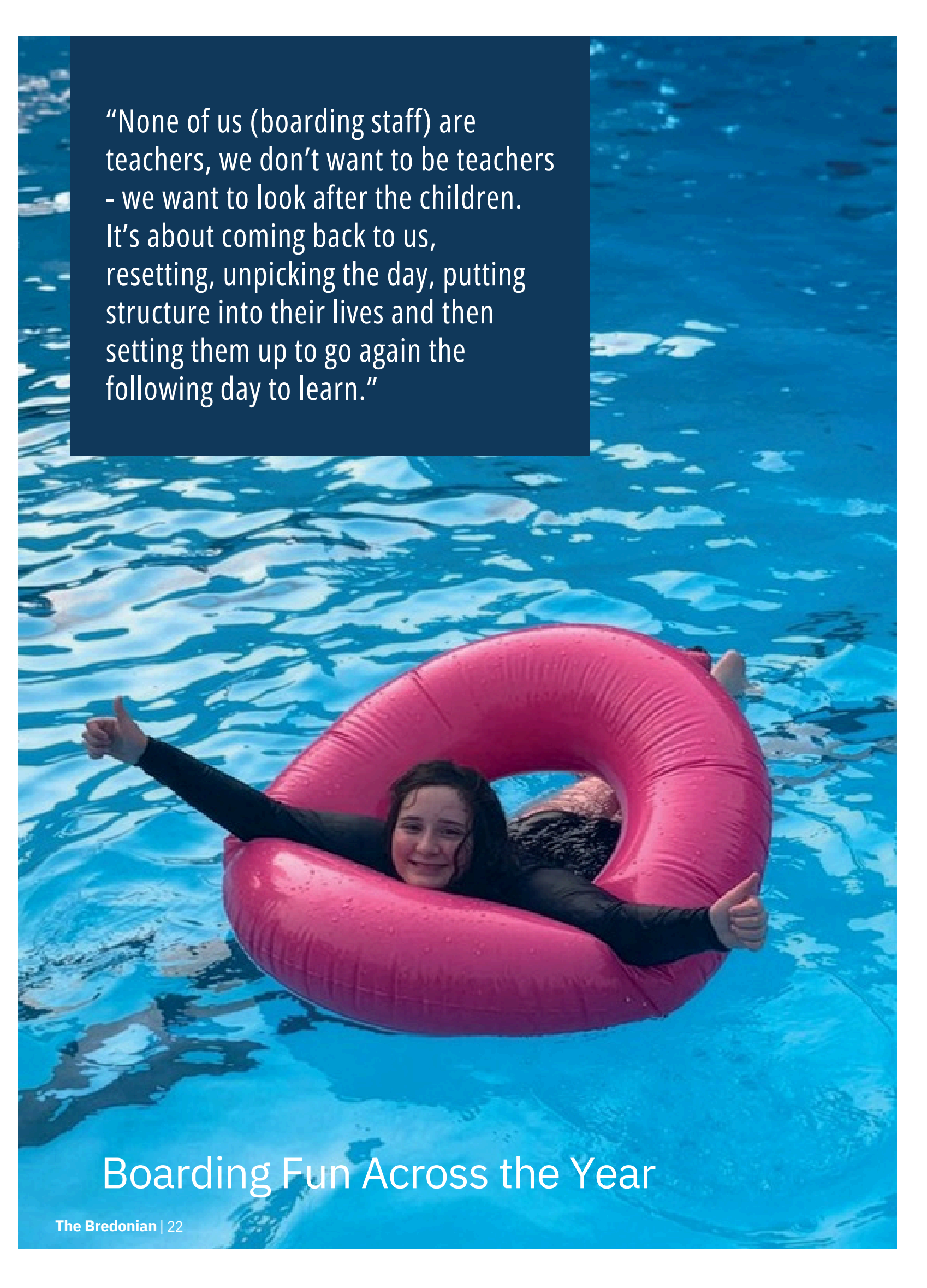
Younger participants built skills through practical training, including orienteering and navigation.

In May, 26 Year 10 students undertook their Silver DofE training expedition in the Forest of Dean, travelling on foot and by mountain bike. In June, the same cohort completed their assessed expedition in the Brecon Beacons, navigating challenging terrain with determination.

Throughout, calm problem-solving, mutual encouragement and responsibility stood out.

A school-wide commitment

DofE at Bredon is supported by dedicated staff who know students well and understand how to stretch them appropriately, enabling many to succeed - even those who may not initially see themselves as 'outdoor' or 'adventurous'.

A young woman with dark hair is floating in a bright pink inflatable ring in a swimming pool. She is wearing a black long-sleeved shirt and is giving a thumbs up with both hands. The water is clear blue with some ripples. In the background, another person's legs are visible in the water.

“None of us (boarding staff) are teachers, we don’t want to be teachers - we want to look after the children. It’s about coming back to us, resetting, unpicking the day, putting structure into their lives and then setting them up to go again the following day to learn.”

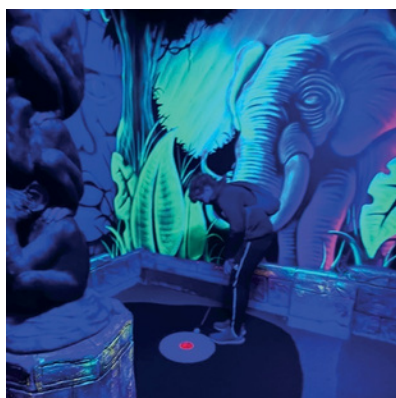
Boarding Fun Across the Year



Why boarding matters at Bredon

Boarding at Bredon offers students far more than a place to stay - it provides a supportive, lively community where friendships grow quickly and independence develops naturally. Living and spending time together helps students build confidence, resilience and strong social skills.

Day-to-day boarding life encourages responsibility and balance. Students learn to manage their time, try new activities and make choices about how they relax and recharge. Shared experiences - from creative evenings to weekend adventures - foster a strong sense of belonging and wellbeing.



year of boarding at Bredon

A typical year for Bredon boarders is full, varied and fun. Weekends and evenings balance activity, creativity and downtime, ensuring there is something for everyone. Seasonal celebrations such as pumpkin carving and themed social events bring students together and create a relaxed, family atmosphere.

Boarding staff provide a warm, supportive environment where students feel comfortable being

themselves, trying new things and building strong friendships.

Students enjoyed active challenges, from Ninja Warrior-style obstacle courses to bubble football, climbing parks and tubing trips, encouraging teamwork and shared achievement.

Creative activities also played a central role. Art clubs such as Kitch and Kaboodle offered opportunities to unwind through graffiti-inspired projects, freestyle

drawing, decoupage and hands-on crafts, from playful keepsakes to thoughtful seasonal designs.

Trips and outings were highlights of the boarding calendar, including theme parks, shopping trips, meals out and water-based activities such as paddle boarding and kayaking. On-site events were just as popular, with pool parties, inflatable water days and relaxed social evenings.

Charity & Community

Why Charity & Community Matters

Raising money for a wide range of charities gives students the chance to make a real difference in ways that matter to them.

Through fundraising, awareness campaigns and outreach, students connect classroom learning with the wider world - from understanding global issues to supporting local organisations. Many initiatives are inspired by causes close to the hearts of students and staff, making involvement meaningful and personal. Just as importantly, it builds a strong sense of community.





Supporting national causes across the year

Mental Health Awareness: Hello Yellow

Students wore yellow to mark World Mental Health Day and support YoungMinds, reminding everyone that mental health matters.

Childline - The Kindness Challenge

Students gathered sponsors for small acts of kindness, supporting Childline's vital work with children and young people.

Breast Cancer Awareness - Wear It Pink

Students wore pink to raise awareness, with an assembly highlighting early detection and medical care.

Testicular Cancer Awareness - Oddballs Foundation

Visiting speakers raised awareness of early detection during a Wainwright Enrichment session.

Anti-Bullying - Odd Socks Day

Assemblies and activities celebrated individuality and promoted kindness, empathy and inclusion.

Local fundraising and community events

We welcomed around 240 children to Pull Court for a Primary Schools Cross Country event.

Students also fundraised at the fireworks event, donating profits to a breast cancer charity.

Thanks to student and staff generosity, 114kg of food was donated to Tewkesbury Foodbank.

The school also supported Bushley Gardens with new equipment to help maintain this shared green space.

Seasonal and national initiatives

Students took part in Children's Mental Health Week, Neurodiversity Week, Comic Relief activities and the Year 9 Walk for Water, raising awareness and funds for causes including Place2Be, Daisy Chain, Comic Relief and Water Aid.

Over the academic year, students raised £3,199.09 for charity through school-based initiatives alone.



Meet... our Fundraising Staff

"It's all about giving back to a club that's given so much to my family and the local community."

NATHAN MONK

Our staff never fail to inspire, both on and off the field. Three incredible challenges really demonstrated their determination, generosity and sheer grit.

Nathan Monk - 224 Miles to Wimbledon

Head of Geography Nathan Monk cycled 224 miles from Chalford Sports and Social Club to Centre Court, Wimbledon, completing the round trip in 13 hours 39 minutes. Battling a bike computer malfunction in London, Nathan pushed on to raise £2,379 for Chalford Tennis and Pickleball Club, helping fund inclusive facilities like wheelchair tennis.



Laura Saunders & Charmain Eaton - Clapham to Brighton

Deputy Heads Laura Saunders and Charmain Eaton rode 54 miles from Clapham Common to Brighton seafront in 4 hours 45 minutes supporting the British Heart Foundation and Cancer Research.

Jill Blakeney - London Marathon

School Nurse Jill Blakeney ran her third London Marathon despite an injury, completing the full 26.2 miles and raising nearly £3,000 for Diabetes UK - a cause close to her heart. Staff, students and parents cheered her on, with one parent even dyeing their hair bright blue to help Jill spot them in the crowds.



Department Focus: Estates

The heartbeat behind our beautiful, busy campus

Behind every polished corridor, every perfectly trimmed hedge and every safe, welcoming space at Bredon is our incredible Estates team. From building works and maintenance to the care of our stunning grounds, they are central to life at school. Everyone knows them, everyone trusts them and nothing is ever too difficult.

“I’m delighted to see people using the space and to know it’s a happy environment for them. That’s what the grounds are for.”



A typical year of impact

Building Bredon’s ‘Beehive Wood Pile’

The team constructed a traditional Holzhausen on the school grounds, a self-draining circular stack for felled timber. Not only will the processed wood fuel Pull Court’s log fires but the stacks also create microhabitats for insects and small mammals - combining sustainability, education and biodiversity in one project.

The Holzhausen also reduces waste and provides an excellent opportunity to educate students about sustainable practices and the importance of responsible resource management.

New Boarding Kitchens

Boarding students returned to find two brand-new kitchens in the common rooms designed to make life easier and encourage life skills.

Swimming Pool Makeover

Over the mini heatwave, the Estates team gave the pool a full makeover: crystal-clear water thanks to a new UV filter, fresh epoxy-painted walls and two new jets for improved circulation.

Day Bathroom Renovations

During the summer break, the team undertook a major project to renovate two day bathrooms. Stripped to the bare walls and rebuilt with high-quality fittings, the new spaces are brighter, modern and fully accessible - a significant improvement.

“It’s great that every time we come back from a big holiday, we get to see new work that’s been completed.”

PARENT

Celebrating Dyslexia

It's not about being a dyslexic school -
it's about being a world-class school that
happens to educate dyslexic children."

Why Dyslexia Awareness Week Matters

Dyslexia Awareness Week is a significant moment in the Bredon calendar. With Specialist Learning Support (SLS) forming the largest department in the school, this week reflects who we are and what we believe: that difference is not a disadvantage and that understanding how we learn is as important as what we learn.

Dyslexia Awareness Week in Action

Each year, Dyslexia Awareness Week brings the school community together. For many students, the week is empowering, helping to:

- Build confidence
- Challenge misconceptions
- Encourage creativity and self-expression
- Reinforce a culture of openness

Whole-school activities

The school embraced the colour red, with Garden Cottage draped and Pull Court lit up, making awareness visible and celebratory. Activities included a Heads of House Spelling Bee, highlighting that spelling perfection is not a measure of intelligence, and a Book Hunt, where students solved riddles to locate hidden books across the site.

Learning without limits

A No Pens Day encouraged creative teaching and alternative ways to demonstrate understanding. Later, a Reading Café saw staff share passages from favourite books.

Sharing stories

The week culminated in a Book Swap, encouraging students to share stories and discover new ones.

‘What’s Your Story?’ competition

A creative competition invited students to tell their life story in any form. Entries included poetry, photography, performance, baking, writing and visual art.

Winners included Evlynn R (illustrated book), Harrison G (photo montage), Olivia S (story told through cake) and Etienne P (a reflective written piece).

When I was in primary school, nobody believed me about my dyslexia...I had one of my teachers directly tell my mum that I wasn't dyslexic. I was just thick."



Junior School Fun Across the Year





Our Farm Across the Year

Why the Farm Matters

The school farm is a hands-on space where students connect with nature, develop practical skills and see the results of their hard work. Students learn responsibility, patience and teamwork, while enjoying the outdoors. Some take particular pride in preparing animals for Country Shows, celebrating their dedication and the skills they have developed.

Life on the Bredon School farm follows a natural yearly rhythm. From autumn shows to spring lambing and summer hatching, students are immersed in genuine agricultural experiences that combine hard work, skill and respect for the land.

Hands-on learning

Year 10 and 11 Agriculture students visited a local dairy farm, gaining insight into calf and heifer rearing, silage quality, genetics, artificial insemination and modern farm technology. A highlight was the opportunity to milk cows, with students quickly building confidence and supporting one another. Their behaviour and teamwork were praised by the farm host.

Year 10 students also attended the LAMMA farm machinery showcase, exploring the latest innovations in agricultural equipment and technology.

New life and conservation

The arrival of piglets marked an important stage in the farm's conservation work, delivered in partnership with the British Pig Association Junior Pig Club and the Rare Breed Survival Trust. Students play an active role in preserving native Large White pig lines, learning the importance of sustainable breeding.

Spring brought lambing season, followed by shearing in May, where students developed safe animal-handling skills that balanced strength, care and precision.

Show success and achievement

Students achieved strong results at regional and national shows, including the Malvern Autumn Show and Essex Young Farmers Country Show. Awards recognised excellence in livestock handling, conservation, horticulture and presentation.

Exploring science and strategy

Year 12 Agriculture students explored animal science through projects on reproductive systems and sheep production models, combining classroom theory with daily practical experience on the farm.

"I've worked in concrete jungles on the side of a main road... and now I can teach Shakespeare outside with the view, or use the farm as inspiration for creative writing."





“Being involved in a working farm at school is a privilege that very few schools offer.”



"He's had the opportunity to enter the Three Counties Show and do a young farmer course with South Devons. Seeing him in the ring in his white smock—definitely a proud dad moment."



Meet... Fran

Taken from the Founder's Day leaving speech of our outgoing Head Girl

As I stand here today as the outgoing Head Girl after six years as a student at Bredon, I am filled with mixed emotions.

On the one hand, I am excited to see all our hard work and dedication come to life as the Year 13s prepare to bid farewell to our school. On the other, I am saddened by the thought of leaving behind the friends, teachers and experiences that have shaped us into the individuals we are today.

Our time at Bredon has been an unforgettable journey. We have made memories, learned valuable lessons and grown in ways we never thought possible. I have also learned the importance of encouragement, which has truly pushed me to my full potential.

The nurturing environment helped me find my focus in Sixth Form and allowed me to thrive. We have been blessed with amazing teachers and staff who have encouraged and supported us. Everyone has made such a significant impact.

As we prepare to move on to the next chapter of our lives, it is important to remember the opportunities we have been given here. We have all benefited from Bredon's approach to teaching and learning, and from the way the school strives to understand and support our individual needs.

Before Bredon, my experience of education was pretty bleak and somewhat doomed. Without Bredon, passing my GCSEs - let alone my A Levels - was in doubt. But I've somehow managed to achieve both. I'm sure we can all agree that as we take our next steps, along different paths and towards different outcomes, we will approach future challenges with determination and perseverance.



"We have been blessed with amazing teachers and staff who have encouraged and supported us"

"Without Bredon, passing my GCSEs - let alone my A Levels - was in doubt. But I've somehow managed to achieve both. "

A Thriving Sixth Form

Our Sixth Form students are more than just the eldest in the school - they are role models and trailblazers. From their first introduction to platforms like Unifrog and UCAS, they are encouraged to explore every pathway option - academic, creative or vocational - while being supported to make choices that suit their individual skills, interests and ambitions.

They take positions of trust and responsibility throughout the school, whether mentoring younger students, supporting events or helping shape the culture of life at Bredon.

Enrichment and Experiences Across the Year

- Breast Cancer Awareness & Movember: Students engaged with personal stories from staff, joined fundraising initiatives and explored awareness campaigns for mental and men's health.
- Burns Night: A highlight of our social calendar, the evening was filled with fun, tradition and a lively Cèilidh, expertly led by Alisdair Cradock, Head of Sixth Form and proud Scot.
- Mock Interviews: Students prepared for university and career applications through interview simulations, impressing volunteer interviewers with their confidence and communication skills.
 - Career Insights: Inspirational talks from Old Bredonians gave students an insight into careers, global business and degree apprenticeships.
- Prom: A wonderful celebration of the school journey, this year's Prom Committee decided on a rodeo-theme complete with a Western-style meal, dancing, axe-throwing and even a mechanical bull - see page 38.





“My role as Head of Sixth Form is getting each individual student to the best place for them. I’ve got no bias in any direction—and that’s quite unique.”

A Glittering Prom



Meet... Toferati

Taken from the Founder's Day leaving speech of our outgoing Head Boy

What makes Bredon unique?

There is a spirit here that sets it apart - something truly special - and that spirit of Bredon originates from the staff. They are the ones that make Bredon unique. I have never met, and sadly doubt I ever will meet, staff so dedicated to the collective aim of helping all students achieve their goals and ambitions.

For me personally, my houseparents have given me so much in terms of advice and opportunities; the SLS department have shown patience and a readiness to sacrifice their free time to allow me to achieve one of my greatest accomplishments to date - passing my GCSE Maths.

Then there's the teacher to whom I have neither the time nor space to express my gratitude. Simply put, his guidance and willingness to help me have had a profound impact on me to the point where I believe without him I would not be where I am today.

I have a few short final messages.

- To the staff - everything to Bredon is spirit. I implore you to remember this and do your utmost to safeguard it.
- To the CCF staff - my thanks to you all - your hard work makes it all possible.
- To the CCF cadets regardless of your rank remember and utilise the values of the CCF at all times.
- To my successor as Head Boy - the nature of the role is not about power or status; it is about service to the school community.
- To all students - remember that you alone are responsible for your actions and that there is always a choice to do the right thing. Do not allow fear or other emotions to persuade you otherwise. I implore you all to make the right decisions. If you don't, you will squander and fritter away the golden opportunities given to you here at Bredon.



"I have never met, and sadly doubt I ever will meet, staff so dedicated to the collective aim of helping all students achieve their goals and ambitions."

"I implore you all to make the right decisions. If you don't, you will squander and fritter away the golden opportunities given to you here at Bredon."



A Prestigious Anniversary: VE Day

VE Day brought the community together in a very special way.

Students, parents and grandparents enjoyed mini-sandwiches, cake, paper aeroplane building and a fascinating memorabilia stand.

The launch of Bredon Gold, our own school-produced honey, added a uniquely Bredon touch and was a huge success, selling out almost instantly.



Heading Outwards

Exploring, Challenging, Discovering

Each year, our students embark on a wide range of trips that combine adventure, cultural exploration and first-hand experiences. From the Forest of Dean to the streets of New York, these journeys inspire curiosity, resilience, teamwork and confidence.

Uniformed Services Outing: November

Year 10 & 11 Level 2 Uniform Protective Services students, alongside Year 13 Level 3 Certificate participants, visited Tewkesbury Fire Station. They explored the career pathways, equipment and challenges of the Fire Service - an experience enhanced by a live emergency call during the visit.

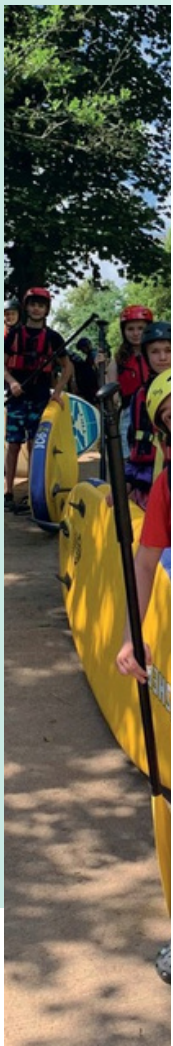
Ski Trip: February

Twenty-five students from Years 9 and 10 spent five days in the Southern Alps, enjoying expert ski tuition and group activities. Afternoons and evenings offered bowling, tobogganing and swimming, creating a perfect balance of skill-building and fun.

Biblins Camp: June & July

Year 7 and 8 students swapped classrooms for the great outdoors, taking part in archery, raft building, paddleboarding, caving and local walks. Staff guidance ensured students could challenge themselves safely, grow in confidence and learn to support one another.

The experience strengthened friendships, developed resilience, and created joyful memories that extended beyond the trip.







“Being a Bredonian means being more than just a page full of exam results. It means being free to learn and grow as a person.”

THE STUDENT

“Everything is very individualised here. That is super special.”

THE STUDENT

Department Focus: Hospitality & Catering – Vocational Plus Pathway

From September 2026, we are delighted to introduce an exciting new Vocational Plus pathway for our Sixth Form students, delivered in partnership with Leiths Education in Professional Cookery.

Through this programme, students will work towards the prestigious Leiths CTH Level 3 Extended Certificate in Professional Cookery, gaining both practical expertise and industry-recognised qualifications.

This hands-on course offers students the opportunity to develop a wide range of professional culinary skills, including:

- Butchery
- Patisserie
- Bakery
- Fish preparation
- Fine dining presentation

Learning is brought to life through collaboration with local butchers, acclaimed chefs, and artisan producers, ensuring students experience the very best of the industry.

Students will engage in practical menu creation, live demonstrations, portfolio development, and meaningful work placements. The programme is further enriched by guest chefs and visiting industry professionals, providing invaluable insight into real-world hospitality careers.

With specialist teaching, immersive experiences, and strong industry links, this pathway offers an inspiring and dynamic route into the world of professional cookery.

“Everything is very individualised here. That is super special.”

THE STUDENT



Sport All Year Long

Hockey, football, rugby and netball give students the chance to stay active, have fun and develop skills both on and off the pitch. They build teamwork, resilience and strategic thinking, while boosting fitness, coordination and confidence.

Team Sports Across the Year

Rugby & Hockey

Across rugby and hockey, students of all ages showed ambition and pride in representing their school.

The rugby season featured competitive fixtures and moments of real progress. The Senior Rugby team consistently punched above their weight, securing strong early wins and producing their most impressive performances later in the season under the leadership of captain Rhys E.



The U15s showed determination in tightly contested matches, while the U13s finished strongly with a triumphant triangular tournament, winning both fixtures and showcasing teamwork and skill development. Junior rugby also flourished, with U11 tag rugby bringing an added touch of fun.

Hockey teams competed across all age groups. The U15 girls produced standout performances, including convincing victories against Bowbrook House and Kingham Hill, while the senior squad demonstrated clear progress in consistency and teamwork.

U13 teams faced challenging opposition but showed resilience and growth, supported by strong commitment in training. Across all fixtures, Bredon players showed positivity and perseverance, regardless of results.



Meet... ...Lincoln

We were thrilled to share the news that Old Bredonian Lincoln was offered a contract to play football for National League side Aldershot Town. A natural striker with a fiercely competitive spirit, Lincoln's decade-long journey is a powerful story of determination, resilience and talent.

Lincoln's footballing journey began at grassroots level with Lakeside, where his ability was clear from an early age. By nine, he was training at Shane Duff's Football School and was soon spotted by Cheltenham Town scouts.

After just three trial games, he signed with Cheltenham, playing JPL football by 11. Alongside this, Lincoln joined Bridge Academy, scoring against teams including Coventry and Wolves. At 13, he earned a trial with Swindon Town and was soon signed.

Over the next three years, Lincoln impressed against top clubs including Arsenal, West Ham and Liverpool - with a hat-trick at Anfield a standout moment.

After being released by Swindon, Lincoln responded with resilience, attending FA exit trials and attracting multiple offers. His journey continued at Kidderminster Harriers, where his performances led to a move to Walsall FC. After successful trials and recent goals, Lincoln secured a two-year scholarship, moving closer to his ambition of Premiership football.

A lifelong Aston Villa fan, Lincoln remains grounded. He credits his success to his father's unwavering support, highlighting the dedication behind every achievement.

His story is a testament to perseverance, family support and belief. We are proud of all he has achieved and look forward to following his next steps.



Football & Netball

Football and netball remain central to our sporting programme, offering students the chance to compete, improve and enjoy high-quality fixtures.

In football, matches across all age groups were played in an excellent spirit. The U18 boys enjoyed closely fought games, while the U15s showed remarkable character, including an impressive comeback from three goals down to secure a dramatic draw. U13 fixtures were fast-paced and competitive, with players praised for energy and teamwork.

Netball saw strong representation across U11, U13, U15 and U18 squads. The senior girls secured a notable away win at Kingham Hill, while younger teams gained valuable experience in tightly contested matches. Across the season, netball players were recognised for their commitment, resilience and growing confidence.



Sports Day

Sports Day 2025

alive with energy as students from both Junior and Senior Schools competed proudly for their Houses, supported by families, staff and friends.

From the first event to the final race, the atmosphere was electric. Students demonstrated determination and outstanding house spirit, cheering one another on and celebrating every effort. The day was a true showcase of athletic talent, teamwork and perseverance - and even saw a number of school records broken.

After a day of thrilling competition, we were proud to announce Sharp House as the overall winners of Sports Day 2025.

A heartfelt thank you to all parents who joined us to support from the sidelines, to the Grounds team for their impeccable preparation and to David Hughes, Head of Sport, whose organisation ensured the day ran seamlessly. Above all, congratulations to our students, whose enthusiasm, effort and sportsmanship made Sports Day a truly unforgettable celebration of sport.



We were delighted to celebrate our individual award winners:

Victor Ludorum (Junior Boys, Years 7–8): Raphy P

Victrix Ludorum (Junior Girls): Rosie B

Victrix Ludorum (Senior Girls): Courtney S & Lily F

Victor Ludorum (Senior Boys, Years 11–13): Dillon S

Focus on: Clay Pigeon Shooting

Composure and excellence under pressure
Clay Pigeon Shooting (CPS) is one of Bredon's standout sports - distinctive, disciplined and quietly impressive. It gives students the opportunity to develop focus and self-control while competing at the highest level of school shooting.

Training and competition demand calm, consistency and personal responsibility. Every shot requires concentration, technical precision and the ability to reset quickly - skills that transfer strongly into academic study and everyday life. For many students, CPS becomes a defining part of their school experience.

The origins of Clay Pigeon Shooting

Clay Pigeon Shooting developed in the late 19th century as a safe alternative to live-bird shooting. Early competitors used glass balls filled with feathers or dust, giving rise to the term 'clay pigeon'. As the sport evolved, clay targets replaced glass and structured competitions emerged. Today, CPS combines tradition with modern precision, requiring discipline, technique and mental control.

Punching well above our weight

Bredon's success in Clay Pigeon Shooting is particularly impressive given the school's size. Students competed against much larger and more established shooting schools, often with bigger squads and longer competitive histories.

Despite this, Bredon students consistently performed strongly, finishing on the podium and earning individual honours at national and invitational events.

Developing for the future

Alongside formal competitions, friendly fixtures such as visits to Stover School gave younger students the chance to experience competition in a supportive environment, guided by experienced peers and coaches.





Highlights from the year

Millfield Invitational

Girls' Team - 2nd place, with Rose G top scoring (42)

Junior Team - 8th of 25 schools, led by Oliver G (40)

Cheltenham College

A competitive first match showing determination and sportsmanship

Top Gun honours shared by Rhys H, Felix G and Oliver G

CPS National Championships

Colts Team - 2nd place, with Ollie winning Top Gun (44/50)

Ladies' Team - 4th place, led by Rose G

ISANationalShootingChampionships (hosted at Bredon)

Winners of the ISA Mixed Category

Winners of the ISA Ladies' Category

More Sports...

What individual sports give our students

Our students also excel in a wide range of individual sports outside school, from showjumping to BMX biking. These pursuits allow them to explore personal passions, develop specialist skills and challenge themselves beyond traditional team sports.

Student highlights

Finn: Carp Fishing Champion

Finn demonstrated patience and environmental responsibility during half-term at Linear Fisheries, landing a 30lb carp. Noticing the fish spawning, he alerted staff and moved on, becoming the first angler to catch there in nine days.

Elissa: Rising Dance Star

Elissa performed at the Majestik Festival of Dance at Malvern St James, showcasing growing confidence and versatility across multiple dance styles after months of dedicated practice.

Rhys: Rugby in the Making

Rhys has been training with Cardiff Saracens' senior team. An ambitious inside centre, he hopes to progress to Premiership level while also pursuing coaching qualifications.

Ollie: Worcestershire Rugby Representative

Ollie was selected to represent Worcestershire in county rugby, reflecting four years of steady progress and commitment.

Dotti: Showjumping Sensation

Dotti impressed at Hickstead Showground with a clear round, earning a finals place in the main arena and building on strong performances at NSEA qualifiers.

Frankie: Arena Eventing Success

Frankie K represented Bredon at NSEA competitions, winning the Junior 70cm class at the Riding Clubs Arena Eventing Championships.

Bella: NSEA Showjumping

Bella delivered two strong rounds at an NSEA competition, showing focus and determination.

Marvin: Trials Champion

Marvin continued his winning form with first place at the Youth British Trials Championship.

Max: Team GB Mountain Biker

Old Bredonian Max was selected for Team GB downhill mountain biking, supported by the British Cycling National Gravity Academy.





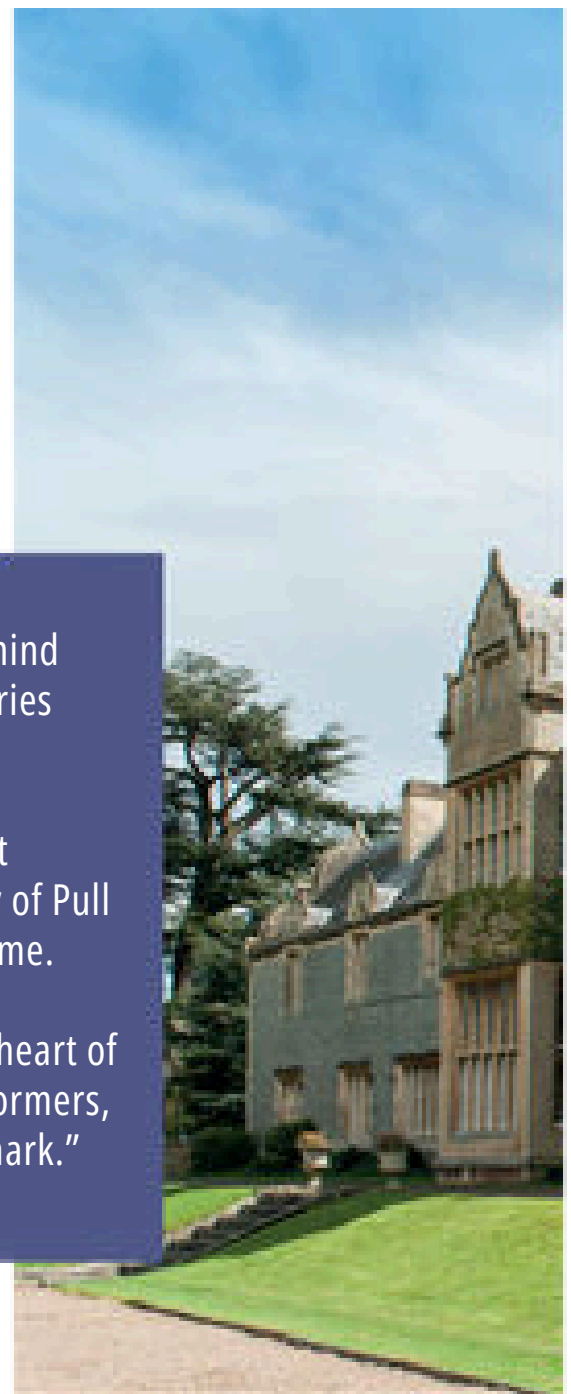
A brief glimpse of our timeline

"Time is one of the few things beyond our control. Through time, we create memories that shape who we are and remind us of the connections that give life meaning. These memories link past to present.

This is why I was delighted to conclude a year-long project capturing the passage of time through an in-depth history of Pull Court - its buildings and the people for whom this was home.

For more than nine centuries, Pull Court has stood at the heart of the English countryside. From Norman landholders to reformers, politicians and visionary educators, each era has left its mark."

NICK OLDHAM, HEADMASTER



12th century: Norman beginnings

Pull Court first appears in the 1100s, held by Simon de Columba as part of an early Norman settlement in Worcestershire.

1575: A royal transaction

Queen Elizabeth I sells the freehold, ushering Pull Court into private ownership.



1640s: Civil War loyalty

Richard Dowdeswell supports Charles I. The estate is confiscated and later restored.

1798: A Georgian

Thomas Dowdeswell the Georgian mans stands to

1531: The Tyndale connection

The estate is leased to Edward Tyndale, likely brother of William Tyndale, famous translator of the Bible into English and a Protestant martyr having been executed by King Henry VIII in 1536.

1628:

The Dowdeswell dynasty

Roger Dowdeswell purchases the estate. His family remains influential in Worcestershire for 300 years.

1765: A Chancellor at Pull Court

William Dowdeswell, Chancellor of the Exchequer, gains national respect by repealing the cider tax.



Discovering the History of Pull Court



orgian vision
swell commissions
mansion that still
ds today.

*1933-39:
Glamour and
tragedy*

Heiress Lilian
Beattie-Seaman
brings modernity
before the tragic death of her son,
racing driver Dick Seaman.



*1970s-80s:
Growth and innovation*

Bredon pioneers experiential
learning and specialist dyslexia
support .

2014: Into the future

Bredon joins Cavendish
Education, with Headmaster
Nick Oldham leading the
school into its next chapter.

*19th century:
Life below stairs*

Records reveal a thriving
household of servants serving
across generations.

1962: A school is born

Lt-Col Tony Sharp founds
Bredon School with just
26 pupils.

1979: On screen

Pull Court features in Tinker,
Tailor, Soldier, Spy.

A Place in Television History

The 1979 BBC adaptation of John Le Carré's *Tinker, Taylor, Soldier, Spy* is iconic and frequently cited as one of the greatest British television dramas ever made - and Bredon doubled as Thursgood Preparatory School.

It is here that spymaster George Smiley comes to debrief Prideaux about the fateful mission that led to his enforced retirement. Smiley is on the hunt for a Russian mole and it is in scenes filmed at Bredon School that the pieces of the puzzle start to fall into place.

Alec Guinness himself reportedly called Smiley one of his favourite roles - despite having played characters as iconic as Obi-Wan Kenobi.

The series aired in the Autumn of 1979, attracting a remarkable 10 and 12 million viewers. It was a major success at the 1980 BAFTA awards, winning:

- Best Drama Series
- Best Actor for Alec Guinness (George Smiley)
- Best Design
- Best Film Editor

We were therefore delighted to welcome Jonathan Moran, who runs the Guinness Is Smiley website. He was keen to take some 'that was then, this is now' photos to feature on the site - and was delighted that he and photographer John Rundle were able to capture all the original filming locations.



That was then...this is now! ©BBC 1979.



Jonathan Moran and John Rundle in Pull Court, which doubled as a school chapel in the series



Founder's Day

As ever, Founder's Day proved to be a wonderful event where we celebrated excellence, welcomed families and said farewell to our Upper Sixth students. The sun shone, the Catering team outdid themselves and the new school choir sang their hearts out.





Keeping our Community Strong

Our Houses

Being part of a school 'house' helps students feel connected, supported and part of something bigger.

Houses bring together students from different year groups, creating opportunities to make friends across ages and build a strong sense of community. Friendly competitions, events and challenges encourage teamwork, pride and healthy rivalry, giving everyone a chance to contribute and celebrate each other's achievements.

Beyond points and trophies, being in a house fosters belonging, camaraderie and school spirit, helping students feel included, valued and motivated while enjoying shared experiences that strengthen friendships and create lasting memories.



Celebrating the Year

The Crystal Maze Comes to Bredon

A Crystal-Clear Finale to the School Year
We ended the year on a high with an unforgettable Crystal Maze Challenge, transforming the campus into a world of adventure, teamwork and excitement. Students from across the school took part in a fast-paced, school-wide event, racing against the clock to collect as many crystals as possible for their teams.

Every challenge pushed students to collaborate, think creatively and show resilience, with each crystal earned bringing them closer to the thrilling finale in the Crystal Dome. It all created a brilliant atmosphere that brought students and staff together.

A huge thank you to Vicky Miles for organising such a fantastic event - a joyful, high-energy celebration of teamwork and the perfect way to round off the school year.



With three themed zones, 15 imaginative challenges and one epic showdown, the day was packed with energy and enthusiasm.

- **In the Medieval Zone**, students tackled riddles, survived the plague, searched for the Holy Grail and tested their skills in lively tavern games
- **The Egyptian Zone** demanded sharp thinking and teamwork as teams decoded hieroglyphs, crossed the Nile and unlocked the secrets of the pharaohs
- **The Industrial Zone** showcased creativity and problem-solving, with hands-on challenges including building machines in Wheels of Steel and experimenting with fluid dynamics



Exciting Additions to our Curriculum

An Innovative Curriculum for Every Stage of the Journey

At Bredon, education is not about fitting students into a fixed system. It is about building a pathway that reflects where they are individually - and where they are capable of going.

From Year 10 through to Sixth Form, our innovative curriculum is shaped around one central principle: developing transferable skills that unlock confidence, independence and progression.

Introducing our Foundation and Enrichment Programme

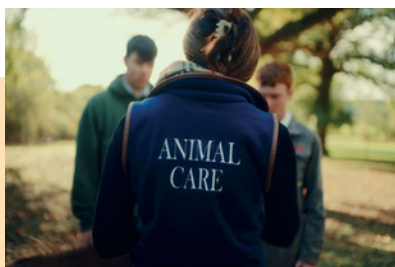
We already offer a rich Academic, Creative & Vocational Programme where students can pursue more traditional subjects. However, we recognise that some students are going to thrive through a more skills-based, hands-on Year 10 and 11 experience - hence we have introduced a separate, comprehensive and targeted Foundation & Enrichment Programme.

Here, students begin to shape their future direction through carefully designed programmes for Year 10 and Year 11, blending core academic learning with applied, practical learning reinforced by work experience. It's about exploration with purpose.

Through this programme, students are developing important skills in:

- Problem-solving
- Organisation and time management
- Teamwork and communication
- Technical competence
- Resilience through practical challenge

Crucially, the Foundation and Enrichment Programme offers students a pathway that reflects their interests and learning profiles.



Sixth Form: Two Routes, One Vision

By Sixth Form, students are ready to specialise further. Bredon's structure offers two distinctive but equally ambitious routes: Vocational + and Stand-Alone Courses.

Vocational+

Designed for students progressing into apprenticeships or employment, V+ combines industry-recognised Level 3 qualifications with work experience and enrichment.

Pathways include:

- Professional Cookery (Leith's CTH Level 3 Extended Certificate)
- Outdoor Education & Fitness Instructor (NCFE Level 3 Diploma and Gym Instruction)
- Land-Based Studies (City & Guilds Level 3 qualifications in Agriculture, Engineering or Countryside Management)

Students gain professional credibility alongside academic development - learning to operate with confidence in real working environments.

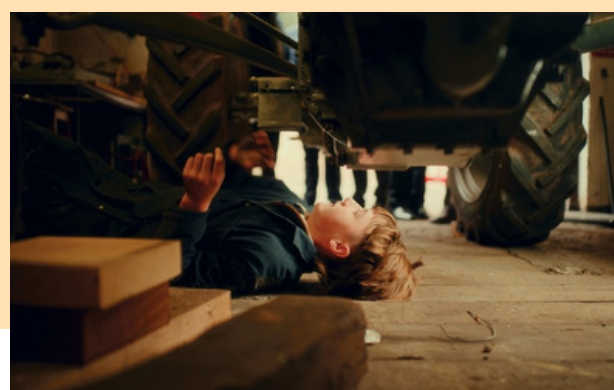
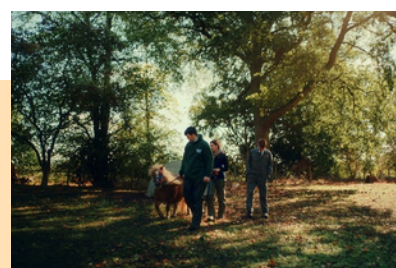
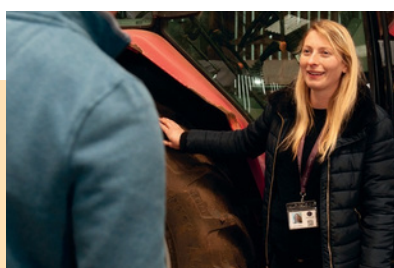
Stand Alone

For students who want a slightly more traditional path, the Stand Alone model offers flexibility and aspiration. Students select three Level 3 qualifications carrying UCAS points, choosing from A Levels, BTECs and specialist diplomas including Science, Maths, English, Business, ICT, Creative Arts, Animal Management, Agriculture, Engineering and Sport. Crucially, students can also prepare for retakes in Maths and/or English where necessary.

The focus is independence and intellectual growth but always grounded in practical application.

V+ Develops

- Workplace readiness
- Leadership through responsibility
- Technical mastery
- Professional communication
- Adaptability



A Continuum of Confidence

What makes Bredon distinctive is the continuity between Year 10 and Sixth Form. Students are not expected to suddenly 'be ready' at 16. Instead, skills are layered deliberately over time because we know that:

- Confidence leads to competence
- Competence leads to ambition
- Ambition leads to progression

By matching each student's learning journey - academically, practically and personally - Bredon is ensuring our young people are adaptable, self-aware and prepared for a rapidly changing world. Ours is much more than a standard curriculum - it's an innovative, ground-breaking offer built around each individual student - and built to last.

Transferable Skills Across Sixth Form

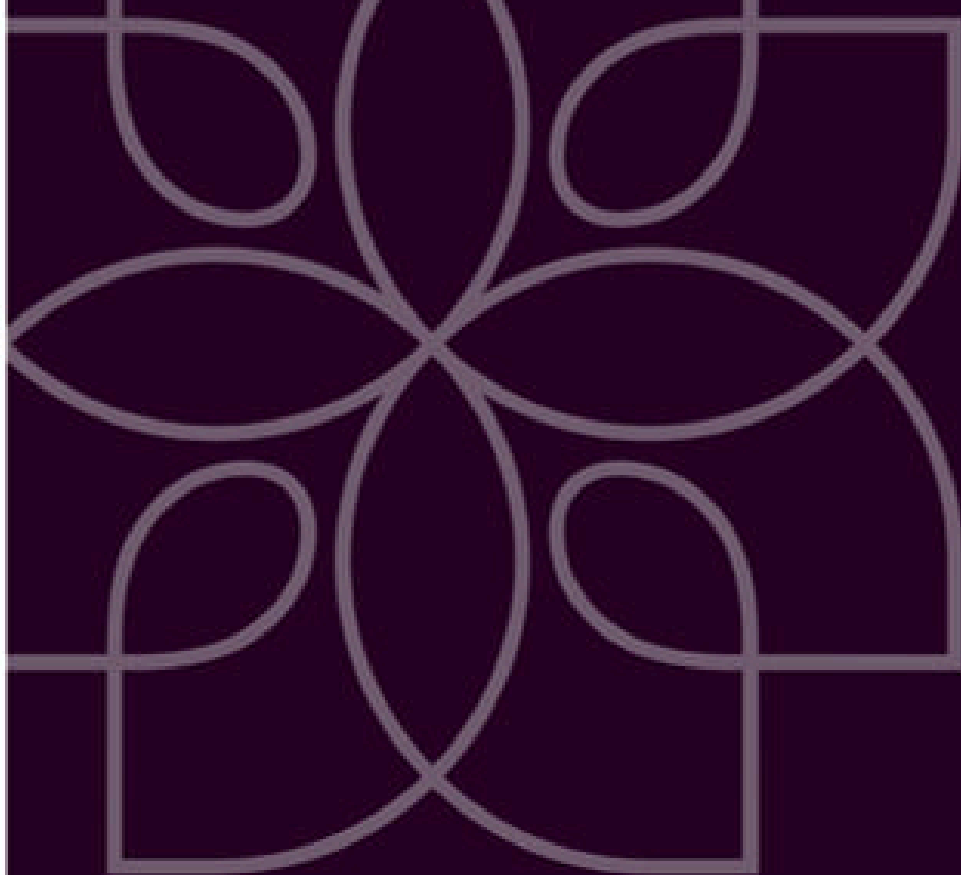
- Analytical and critical thinking
- Research and project management
- Digital literacy
- Presentation skills
- Independent study habits





"Bredon's true strength lies in its people — a community of staff whose dedication, patience, and belief in their students create something truly special. Their guidance turned challenges into achievements, and their unwavering support shaped not only our success but the people we are becoming. As we leave, we carry with us the responsibility to serve others, make the right choices, and honour the opportunities we have been given."

Toferati,
Outgoing Head Boy



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