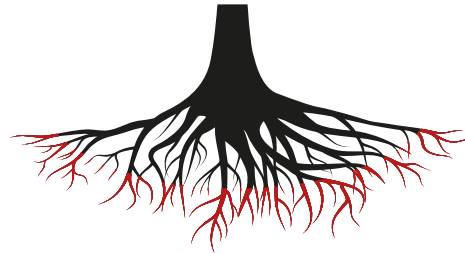




LEARNING COMMUNITY



HOME LEARNING @ BLUNDELL'S

SUMMER TERM 2020



Blundell's

FOUNDED 1604

“...when we return to school
in the future we will be wiser
and more self-aware than we
were before...”





Blundell's

FOUNDED 1604

I take tremendous pride in bringing you this brochure: the product of the innovative and creative staff at Blundell's. In these pages you will get a sense of what has been prepared for your children and families during this time of unprecedented uncertainty.

The curriculum that we have designed extends to far more than academic exercises to keep up with the scheme of work. It is created to inspire pupils to become better at learning. When we launched the Blundell's 2025 vision a few months ago we made it clear that it is our ambition to help pupils to become good at learning and that our educational philosophy is that pupils can only become good at learning when they are fully engaged in the process. When this curriculum for on-line learning was created, we did it with that in mind.

There are two key strands to this programme, the first is an Academic one and the second focuses on Enrichment and Engagement; not just academic and cultural enrichment, but fun and interaction for the whole family; from inter-family quiz nights, to 'grow your own' workshops, to collaborative cooking recipes. We hope that this programme not only helps you in your day-to-day routines at home but that it also keeps you connected with other Blundell's families and with us at school.

A social disruption of the nature we are currently experiencing is not something we would ever wish for and we remain alert to the reality that some families will be in need of a caring and supportive community around them. It is however also an opportunity to do things differently. So many families tell me that our lives have become too frantic and frenetic yet few of us know how to slow down. This is our opportunity to do just that. We need to pay attention and we need to learn lessons so that when we return to school in the future we will be wiser and more self-aware than we were before this all started. That is what being part of a learning community is all about.

Bart Wielenga
The Head

OVERVIEW:

Home Learning @ Blundell's has two clear and distinct aims:

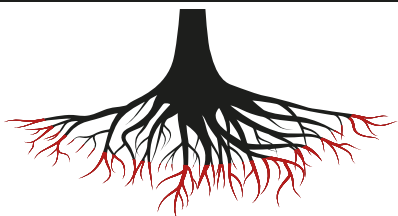
- 1 To provide engaging, accessible remote teaching to enable your child to make ongoing academic progress.
- 2 To provide interaction, enrichment and engagement outside the virtual classroom for the whole Blundell's community.

Accordingly, the curriculum for the Summer Term is split into two distinct parts:

- 1 **The Academic Curriculum:** the teaching of the curriculum, in line with the normal academic requirements for each year group.
- 2 **Engagement and Enrichment:** to provide intellectual stimulation, engagement, and interaction with others outside the household, as well as a sense of community and belonging.



LEARNING COMMUNITY



ACADEMIC CURRICULUM

The academic curriculum is broken down into individual programmes for all year groups. Years 7, 8, 9, 10 & 12 will broadly continue to follow their normal syllabuses, while Years 11 & 13 have new, bespoke programmes that will prepare them for their next stage of education in September.

ENGAGEMENT AND ENRICHMENT

Supporting the academic curriculum will be a wide variety of programmes and activities, which will provide intellectual stimulation, enjoyment and interaction for pupils, and also the wider Blundell's community. This programme is split into five different areas: :

- Academic Enrichment
- Cultural Enrichment
- Family Engagement
- Sport, Exercise and Wellbeing
- Life Skills and PSHE

SCHOOL ROUTINE

In addition to this extensive curriculum, we will look to maintain the routine of school as much as possible. In particular:

- Latin Prayer will continue each Monday morning, and will be made available online for the whole community.
- On Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings there will be a 'Thought for the Day' led by our chaplain, Rev'd Hunt, followed by a time of prayer.
- House Meetings will continue as normal, through Teams, providing an opportunity for your child's Houseparent to speak to the House, give out notices and commendations, and maintain the sense of belonging and engagement with the Boarding House.
- Tutor meetings will still take place weekly (on Tuesday mornings at 9am), providing pupils with an opportunity to catch-up with their tutor and also their friends in their tutor group. Tutor meetings in the summer term will also focus on the engagement and enrichment programme, with tutors encouraging, supporting and celebrating pupil achievements in these areas.

THE LEARNING COMMUNITY

YEARS 7-10 & 12

An innovative and different school timetable

Providing structured and appropriate support to enable pupils to make sustained academic progress

7-10
& 12

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT

Providing intellectual stimulation and challenge



CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

Maintaining the benefits that engagement and involvement with culture brings



FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Offering fun, interesting and engaging activities and programmes for the whole family



SPORT, EXERCISE AND WELLBEING

Ensuring we remain fit and healthy, in mind and body



LIFE SKILLS AND PSHE

Taking the opportunity to develop and consolidate crucial skills for the next stage of life



YEAR 11

'Preparing for Sixth Form' programme

Delivering for pupils an early insight into life in the Sixth Form, and fostering the key skills that will help them to succeed in the coming two years

11

YEAR 13

'Preparing for University' programme

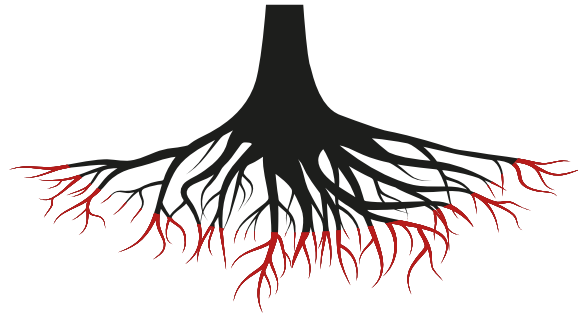
Giving pupils the best possible preparation as they prepare to make the leap to university, and imparting the essential academic and life skills they will need for this exciting next stage of their lives

13





THE ACADEMIC CURRICULUM



YEARS 7-10 & 12 | YEAR 11 | YEAR 13

YEARS 7-10 & 12: NON-EXAM GROUPS

For our non-exam groups, we are delighted to introduce an innovative and different school timetable, which will allow us to achieve the following:

- The delivery of interesting, engaging and curriculum-driven content
- The provision of small-group feedback sessions, giving pupils bespoke advice and guidance to ensure they make continued progress in their subject
- The creation of time in the week for pupils to focus on wider enrichment, as well as time with their family

The week will be structured as follows:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pupils engage with online lectures and seminars delivered by their teachers on specific topics. Tasks and follow-up work is set in each subject.	<p>Tuesday morning: pupils 'meet' their tutor to discuss their plans for the week, and their wider enrichment activities.</p> <p>Pupils work on tasks set on Monday. Their teachers are available remotely for support and guidance.</p>		<p>Pupils meet their teachers online in small groups for feedback on work, guidance and advice.</p> <p>Pupils continue to work on tasks set by their teachers.</p>	

YEAR 11: THE 'PREPARING FOR SIXTH FORM' PROGRAMME

"WHAT DID YOU DO WHILE YOU WERE IN LOCKDOWN?"

This will be the interview question in the next few years, as well as a great starting point for all personal statements, CVs and University application forms.

The Sixth Form is about looking ahead and so, even though this outbreak has affected the current Year 11s' exam series this summer, Blundell's will help its pupils move beyond this and to prepare them for their A Levels. In order to support our pupils' academic development next term, the subject departments will guide them on a stimulating and exciting journey, as they embark on our pre-A Level programme, based around their A Level choices.

While fostering their intellectual curiosity and creativity, they will enjoy the opportunity of studying their chosen subjects at A Level and, in the process, begin to mould their medium and long-term futures. Teaching and learning will build on the skills developed at GCSE. A-Levels are academically stretching and so this will be a wonderful opportunity for the pupils to begin to understand that success requires a willingness to be scholarly and imaginative, inquisitive and critical, determined and ambitious and to develop ideas of their own.

The pre-A Level course will be inspirational, transformative and fun, and pupils will be ready and motivated to embrace the challenges that lie ahead in the Sixth Form.

Finally, pupils will all be introduced to Unifrog, our post-18 qualification platform, where they can access MOOCs and a wide variety of other resources. Unifrog has a built in tool where pupils can log their self-reflection as they balance their activities and extract as much learning as they can over the 12 weeks.



YEAR 13: THE 'PREPARING FOR UNIVERSITY' PROGRAMME

Despite the disruption, many of our Year 13 pupils will be heading to university in the Autumn, and we have devised a programme that will keep the brain cells firing, and enable our pupils to start thinking in a more advanced way. The programme is also an excellent opportunity for pupils not heading to university to keep engaged with their areas of interest; something that could be invaluable for that 'first' job they apply for, and something very positive to talk about at an interview.

Pupils will be assigned a specialist teacher who will guide them and set interesting and stimulating activities each week that centre around their chosen course or interests. Pupils will have the opportunity to engage with their assigned teacher to discuss their completed work, and how to make further progress. This is very similar to how they will work at university, and the teachers involved are looking forward to offering relevant, diverse and engaging content, aimed at the pupils' chosen area of interest. Mrs Jones and Mrs Bucknell will also be sending out weekly ideas and activities to consider about broader issues related to moving on from school.

In addition, there will be a huge range of whole-year activities, helping our pupils develop wider skills that will be a real help to them in the next stage of their lives.

WHOLE YEAR ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

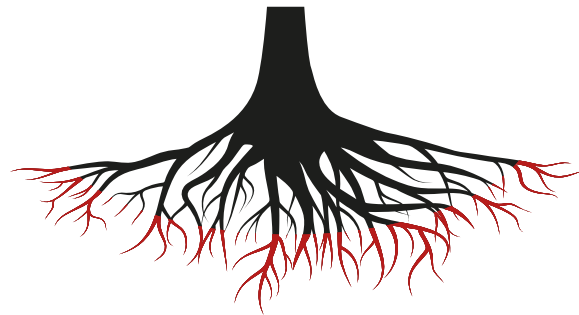
Banking and budgeting
Critical thinking skills
Dealing with pressure
How to reference in academic writing
Healthy living and cooking
Induction and Freshers week
Intercultural skills and awareness
Mental health
Note-taking
Placement years
Reflective writing and critical reviews
Societies
Sports teams
Staying safe
Study abroad
That first 'proper' job
Time management at university
Using libraries

SUBJECT-SPECIFIC WORK GROUPS

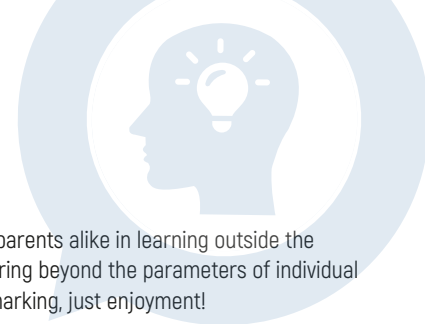
Business, Finance & Economics	Business and event Management, Business Economics, Economics & Finance, Fashion Business
Business, Finance & Economics	Finance
Creative Arts	Film & Media
Creative Arts	Art & Design, Fashion design
Creative Arts	Drama & Theatre, Music
Education	
Healthcare	Medicine, Physiotherapy, Pharmacology, Health Science
Humanities & Social Sciences	Philosophy, Politics and Economics
Humanities & Social Sciences	Geography
Humanities & Social Sciences	Psychology & Criminology
Humanities & Social Sciences	English
Humanities & Social Sciences	History & Politics, History & Chinese Studies, Archaeology, History
Languages	Modern Foreign Languages
Planning & Land Management	Land Management
STEM & Earth Sciences	Biochemistry, Biology, Zoology, Chemistry
STEM & Earth Sciences	Earth Sciences, Engineering, Physics
STEM & Earth Sciences	Mathematics



ENGAGEMENT AND ENRICHMENT



PUPILS | PARENTS | FAMILY



ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT

The rationale:

To give pupils, and their families, the opportunity to engage in learning and development outside the taught curriculum.

The aim:

We aim to engage pupils and parents alike in learning outside the classroom together and exploring beyond the parameters of individual subjects. No compulsion, no marking, just enjoyment!

THE PROGRAMME		
MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses)	Touch Typing Club	Recitation Competition
Family Maths Problem of the Week	Skill Sharing	Learn a new language each week!
Shell STEM Projects	Create your CV/Portfolio	The Crest Awards
Blundell's Creative Writing Competition	Virtual Museum Tours	Challenge Weeks
Book Clubs (Junior and Senior)	STEM Home Learning Activities	Enrichment Lectures
Chemistry experiments with Household Items	Sustainability Project	Astrophysics Short Video Competition
Oxbridge Extension	One Egg is Un Oeuf (Physics challenges)	Elevate Study Skills for Years 9 & 10
Dyb Dyb Dyb (Scouts Challenges)	The Blundellian: Diary Challenge for the next edition	

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

The rationale:

To maintain the benefit that culture brings to society at a time when our worlds have become significantly smaller, we will design a programme which:

- Develops skills in the Arts
- Creates original work
- And is ultimately.... FUN!

The aim:

- To celebrate all aspects of the creative process in ways which support and enhance learning.
- To deliver a strong online programme of community engagement activities.
- To build and stabilise relationships and the communities within Blundell's
- To develop new skills and broaden horizons

STRAND ONE: VIRTUAL-CULTURAL	STRAND TWO: CREATIVE-SHARE	STRAND THREE: CREATIVE-FLAIR
Read/Watch Listen recommendations BBC Culture in Quarantine Festival Digital Theatre Plus National Theatre Collection Virtual Orchestras Online Museum Tours National Galleries Online	Create a short home movie Perform a radio play Social script reading Create a song: a Perfect Day at Blundell's Live-streamed concerts by Music Teachers Virtual Choir Draw-in-a-day: art competitions 300+ individual music lessons each week	BBC Writers' Room Script Challenge Task Master #homechallenges Kneehigh Theatre's 'Windows to the World' challenge Royal Academy 'Young Artists' Summer Show

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

The rationale:

To build engagement with the school on the part of both pupils and parents, so that they have something to 'belong to' even while alone at home.

The programme:

ACTIVITIES	
Weekly 'pub quiz'	Test your family's trivia knowledge against the rest of the Blundell's community!
'Grow Your Own' Guidance, Advice and Challenges!	Tips, online videos, and growing challenges – fun for all the family
Recipe of the Week	A new recipe set each week, with the children cooking for the adults and sharing their results with the community!
'Trick Shot' of the week	Each week, pupils are set the challenge of completing the most outrageous 'trick shot' with a specified ball or item. A prize goes to the best each week, chosen by The Head!
The Blundell's 'Positivity Board'	An ongoing stream of good news stories, unsung heroes and positivity from across the whole Blundell's community, collected and shared online.
Pupil Support for Isolated Old Blundellians	Current Blundell's pupils make contact with vulnerable and isolated Old Blundellians to talk about life at school, and share memories of Blundell's, as well as give human interaction and support.

The aim:

- To create fun and interesting activities and challenges for families to undertake together.
- To create a strong sense of community and togetherness at a time when social isolation may be very strong.

SPORT, EXERCISE AND WELLBEING

The rationale:

Maintaining a physically active life is a fundamental aspect of life at Blundell's, and we so no reason for this to change just because pupils are not in school.

The aim:

To provide a programme that enables pupils, parents and families to remain fit and healthy – in body and in mind – during this period of lockdown.

In these challenging times, the ability to stay physically fit, will have benefits to our body and maintaining physical fitness will ensure pupils are equipped to return to competitive sporting activities, when they resume. Physical activity releases endorphins, relieves stress and will ensure pupils sleep better, all of which will contribute enormously to their mental health and well-being.

Being able to adopt good home routines for physical activity now, will also equip our pupils as they move onto the next phase of their lives, when they are no longer being made to take part in compulsory exercise.

DAILY ROUTINES

Activities that pupils can try and do every day, during the next term and beyond: videos and online resources will guide pupils and parents alike in exercises that they can do in the comfort of their own home.

WEEKLY CHALLENGES

Physical activity challenges that will be set by current members of staff and former pupils. Can you reach the targets set especially for us by illustrious former pupils such as the Maunder boys and Dom Bess??

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

Using social media and a range of online videos and guides, we will raise awareness of this crucial area during a time of isolation, linking balanced diets and healthy eating to exercise and positive mental wellbeing.

MINDFULNESS AND WELLBEING

Daily mindfulness meditations and weekly yoga and pilates sessions, live-streamed by our own qualified practitioners, exclusively for the Blundell's community.

LIFE SKILLS & PSHE

The rationale:

Now is the time to complement academic qualifications with tangible skills, valued by employers and University admissions teams, to develop independence, leadership and social responsibility. Our students have their Roots. This is their opportunity to use their Wings, and to become valued active citizens taking responsibility within their communities.

THE PROGRAMME

Complex problem solving

People management

Coordination

Cognitive flexibility

Risk management

Communications - negotiation, presentation, persuasion

Active listening

Moral courage

Decision making and judgment

Emotional intelligence

Creativity

Time management

Critical thinking

Diversity

Team work

Loyalty

Quality

IT Skills

Conflict management

Leadership

Social responsibility

The aim:

To use this unique time as an opportunity to build skills required for life beyond Blundell's, and to prepare for the next chapter of life.

Pupils will be given the opportunity to develop and practice a wide array of essential life skills, including the following:

In addition, pupils will be given the opportunity to engage with a wide variety of programmes designed to enhance their understanding of the world around them:

- 'From Farm to Fork'
- Global Issues and Empathy in Action
- 'What is Leadership?'
- Sustainability and Charity programmes

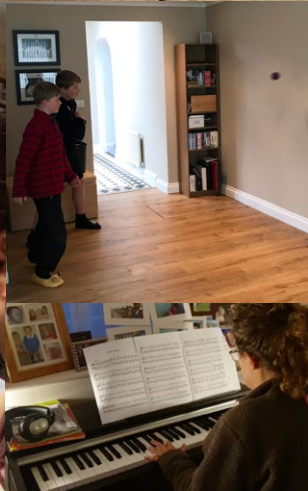
Finally, pupils will also be able to sign up for, and work towards practical qualifications in areas such as:

- Driving Theory tests
- Online First Aid
- Touch Typing





Children and staff are already adjusting to their Home Learning environments. Please let us know what you are up to via shareyourstory@blundells.org





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