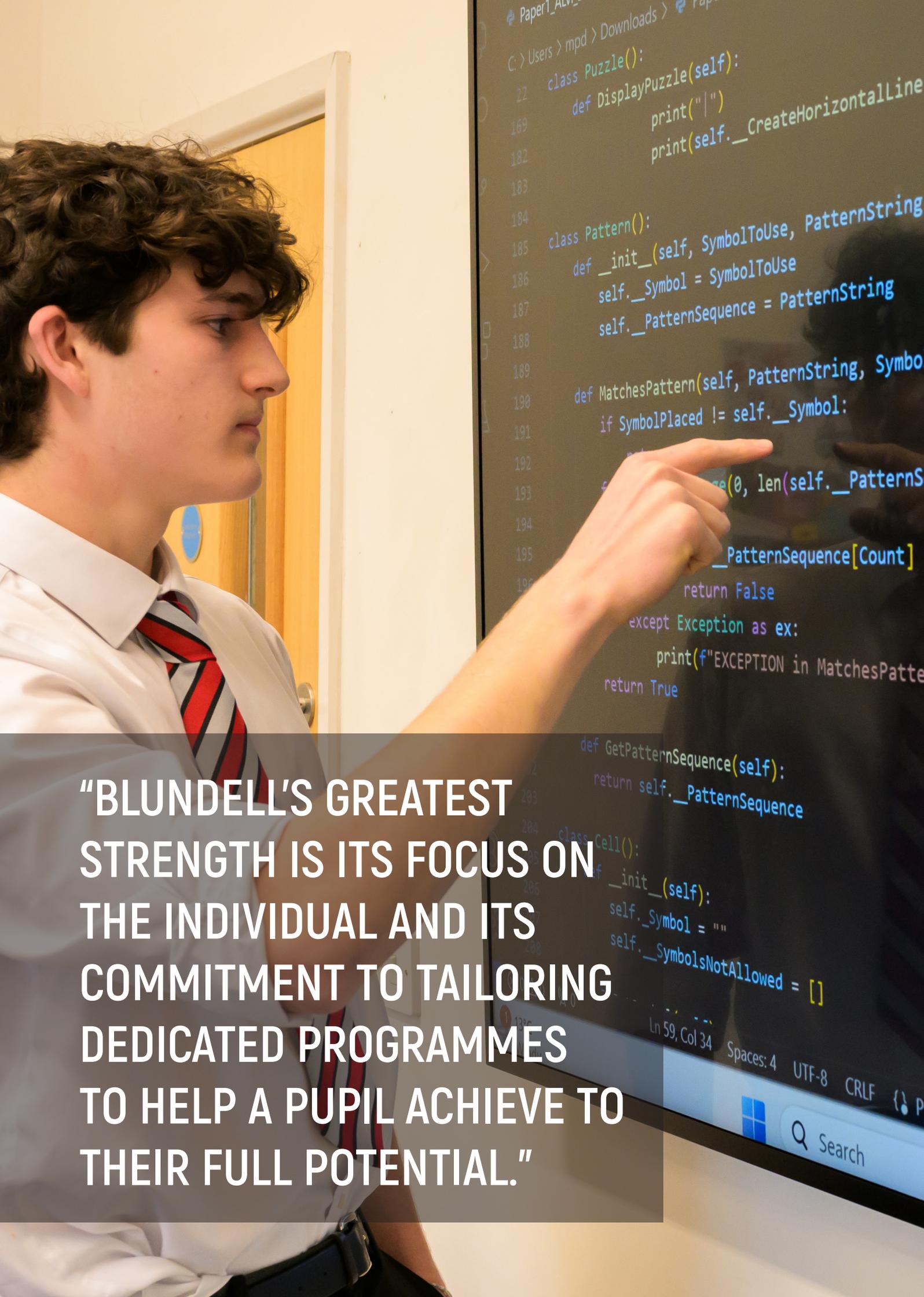


# Excellence *in* ACADEMICS





**“BLUNDELL’S GREATEST STRENGTH IS ITS FOCUS ON THE INDIVIDUAL AND ITS COMMITMENT TO TAILORING DEDICATED PROGRAMMES TO HELP A PUPIL ACHIEVE TO THEIR FULL POTENTIAL.”**

# Introduction

I am excited to share with you our school's approach to academic excellence. Our results are consistently impressive, and over 90% of our students leave us to the University of their choice. This does not happen by chance, and we welcome academically ambitious students who are willing to work hard and to commit to be the best version of themselves. Our talented and experienced teaching staff are skilled in working with students to allow them to reach the highest of academic goals.

At the heart of the school's rigorous academic ethos is the key principle that students must engage fully in their own learning and that, when they do this, anything is possible. Blundell's academic enrichment program is structured to ensure that we can fulfil this aim whatever the age of the student. Alongside this, we keep our class sizes as small as possible to allow each student to get the individual attention they need to thrive

All the way through the school, enrichment and collaborative working is the lifeblood of our curriculum, opening students' eyes to the fact that not everyone sees the world in the same way. This not only prepares our young people for higher education and the workplace beyond, but also ensures that a Blundell's education is considered, nuanced, challenging, and provides the perfect delivery of academic enrichment for your child at each stage of their journey.



Mr C H List BSc Durham, PGCE (Chemistry)  
SENIOR DEPUTY HEAD (ACADEMIC)



## Profile

Charles List has taught in a wide variety of schools; state and independent, selective and non-selective, in the UK, Australia and New Zealand. He has worked with pupils who have represented their countries in academic competition in all 3 of these countries. He is fascinated by educational research and data, and uses this lens to view what is working in a school, and what needs improving. He has been at Blundell's for 7 years, and is confident that our academic provision is second to none.

# Pursuing Excellence

The Blundell's Senior School academic journey starts in Year 7; in their first year at Blundell's Senior School our youngest students benefit from the same specialist teachers, facilities and rigorous approach as their older peers. In Year 7 and 8 our curriculum is broad, so that students are given as wide an appreciation as possible of what Blundell's has to offer, covering every strand of subject learning. From the beginning of Year 7, we start encouraging our most able students to enter national academic competitions, both at their age group and beyond, to build the experience they will need to compete with the very best from around the country now and in the future. Alongside this, our weekly Roots and Wings program exposes all students to a wide range of academic enrichment opportunities as they start to explore what might ignite their future passions.

Year 9 sees a significant intake from other schools; new students are given the same opportunities as those who are already known to us and the same chances to excel. During Years 9 to 11, we ensure that each student employs a range of learning and studying methods in order to see what works for them, sometimes quiet reflection and research is required, sometimes debate, discussion and group work. We continue to prepare students for an ever-widening array of academic competitions, and future Oxbridge or Medic/ Vet students are identified by interest and encouraged to start to build the portfolio of skills necessary to pursue these very challenging pathways. Our Academic Scholars, and other high-performing students, are invited to challenging evenings of academic competition, Scholars' lunches with quizzes and interesting lectures, and their progress is closely monitored by regular reviews by specialist staff. Our Phoenix Society for the academically curious runs regular trips to broaden minds and explore and deepen existing interests.

The Sixth Form years allow students to focus on their academic passions as they choose from the 27 subjects on offer and, in the final year of school, they move into their own Year 13 House; perfect preparation for University. It is a time of excitement and discovery as the independence of learning fostered further down the school comes to the fore. Students are encouraged to undertake super-curricular activities, which take their learning to a new level.

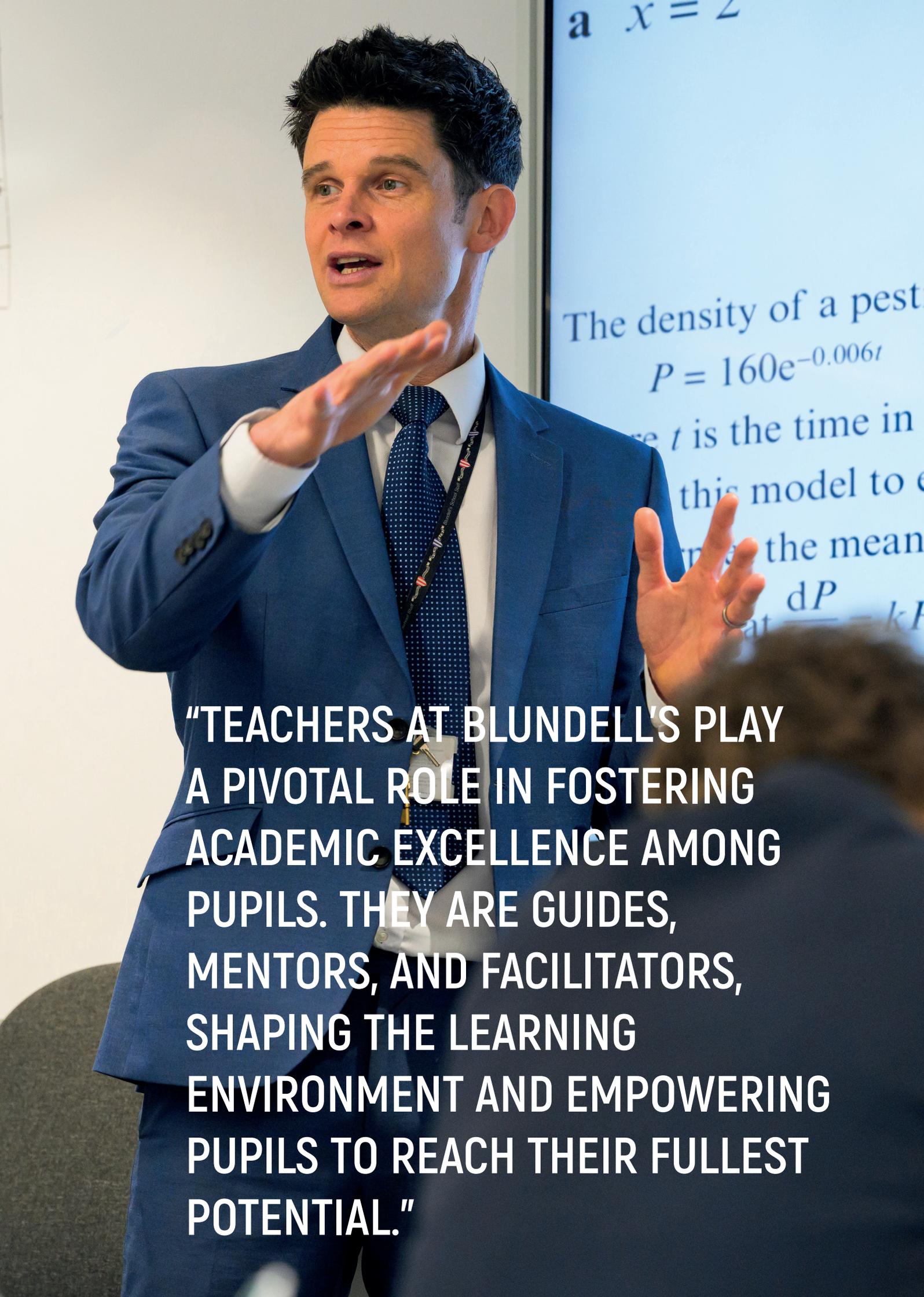
**“I joined Blundell's in Year 12 specifically for the Medic program. I could not have been better supported, from getting help with work experience, to 1-on-1 support for the UCAT entrance test, and loads of interview practice. Medic is so competitive, but both of us who were applying that year got places. I could not thank the school enough for their support!”**

ANYA  
ACADEMIC SCHOLAR

## **MEDICS, DENTISTS AND VETS (MDV)**

Our specialist Oxbridge and Medics/ Vet students are given the individual attention they need to give them the best chance to succeed, and our regular Friday enrichment sessions continue to excite interest and thought with a wide range of expert speakers and forums.

We have had significant success over the last five years in pupils gaining places to read Medicine or Veterinary Science at top UK universities. Our MDV Society invites pupils to join and the pupils, right from this early age, are provided with a wide variety of opportunities to engage with the wider medical community. As pupils progress through the school these opportunities broaden further, and we have many contacts to help with work experience as well as preparing for BMAT, UCAT, MMIs and interviews.

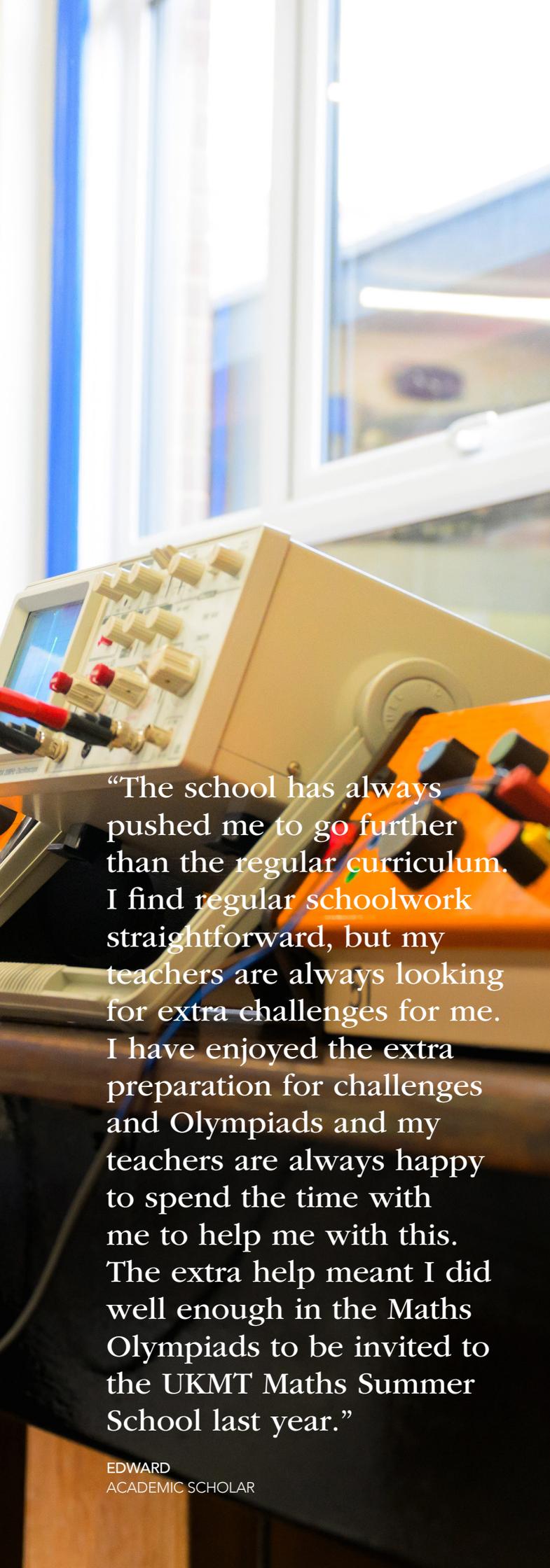
A man with dark hair, wearing a blue suit, white shirt, and blue patterned tie, is speaking and gesturing with his hands. He is standing in front of a projection screen. The screen displays mathematical text and a formula. The text on the screen includes "a x = z", "The density of a pest", " $P = 160e^{-0.006t}$ ", "e t is the time in", "this model to c", "the mean", and " $\frac{dP}{dt} = kP$ ".

**"TEACHERS AT BLUNDELL'S PLAY A PIVOTAL ROLE IN FOSTERING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AMONG PUPILS. THEY ARE GUIDES, MENTORS, AND FACILITATORS, SHAPING THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT AND EMPOWERING PUPILS TO REACH THEIR FULLEST POTENTIAL."**

# Olympiads & Academic success

A photograph of two young men in white lab coats working in a laboratory. They are looking at an oscilloscope screen which displays a blue waveform. The student in the foreground is adjusting a knob on the device. The background shows a typical lab setting with various equipment and a bulletin board.

**"AT ITS CORE, ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IS ABOUT SETTING HIGH STANDARDS FOR ONESELF AND STRIVING TO SURPASS THEM. IT REQUIRES DISCIPLINE, DEDICATION, AND A RELENTLESS PURSUIT OF MASTERY IN CHOSEN FIELDS OF STUDY."**



“The school has always pushed me to go further than the regular curriculum. I find regular schoolwork straightforward, but my teachers are always looking for extra challenges for me. I have enjoyed the extra preparation for challenges and Olympiads and my teachers are always happy to spend the time with me to help me with this. The extra help meant I did well enough in the Maths Olympiads to be invited to the UKMT Maths Summer School last year.”

EDWARD  
ACADEMIC SCHOLAR

We have had significant success over the last five years in academic Olympiads. Our pupils regularly gain Gold awards, and more, in the Maths and Sciences. We have had a pupil in the top 20 in the UK in the Intermediate Maths Olympiad for the last five years running, and for the last three years running we have had a pupil gain a Roentgenium Award (top 50 in UK) in the Cambridge 16th Chemistry Challenge, and thus be invited to a residential camp at Cambridge University over the summer. For the last three years we have had at least one pupil through to the second round of the Chemistry Olympiad; this is reserved for the top 30 or so scorers in Round One of the UK Chemistry Olympiad. The second round is a residential camp held at a UK university to choose the final UK Chemistry Olympiad team. Last year we were one of only a very few schools in the country to have 2 pupils at the camp.

We have also had success at the very highest level recently with a pupil representing the UK in the International Astronomy Olympiad (a branch of the Physics Olympiad) and a pupil representing the UK in the International Chemistry Olympiad, who was eventually placed in the top 30 in the world and gained a Gold Medal.

We encourage our most able pupils to enter Olympiad competitions from a young age, as the more experience they have in these competitions the better. It is often a challenge for our most able pupils to finally sit a paper they cannot complete straight away! Alongside this we have specialist staff, and former pupils who have been through the process themselves, to help with training, seminars and tutorials.

“I really enjoyed the opportunity to stretch myself beyond the usual school curriculum in an area of science in which I am interested. It was a great challenge, and I was really well supported by the school in encouraging me to fulfil my dream of representing the UK in two different academic competitions.”

HARRY  
ACADEMIC SCHOLAR



# Oxbridge

**OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE ARE TWO OF THE WORLD'S LEADING UNIVERSITIES AND, AS SUCH, HOLD A SPECIAL CACHET IN THE BRITISH EDUCATION SYSTEM. WE HAVE HAD SIGNIFICANT SUCCESS OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS IN GAINING PLACES AT THESE TWO UNIVERSITIES.**

Oxford and Cambridge Universities will tell potential applicants that they need to start thinking about how they will apply to them as early as Year 10 to enable them to start building the skills they will need to be successful. As part of our regular Academic Scholars review, Oxbridge is an area we explore with interested pupils, providing them with opportunities for specific extension where needed. The focus here is very much on pupils reading around the subject(s) they may be interested in and pushing themselves to enter different competitions; Olympiads, essay writing, the Independent Project in Elective lessons, for example, to start building up their portfolio of success.

The Oxbridge application process begins in earnest during Year 12. Pupils are encouraged to invest in themselves in terms of super-curricular activities and the school has a wide range of specialist staff to offer support. There is a regular Oxbridge activity, tutorial sessions and other opportunities for extension are provided.

We are very lucky to have a wide network of Old Blundellians who are either currently at or recent graduates of Oxford and Cambridge, and, having benefited from the process themselves always willing to give back in terms of advice and practice interviews.

# Oxbridge Scholars

JAMES (2023)

**STUDYING: MATERIALS SCIENCE AT ST CATHARINE'S COLLEGE, OXFORD**

James was awarded Sixth Form Academic Status after achieving all 9s at GCSE and received Full Academic Colours in Year 13. Whilst still in Year 12, he gained a Distinction in the Senior Maths Olympiad, placing him in the top 250 of all Sixth Form pupils and he gained Gold in the Physics Challenge, making him one of the top 5 Year 12 pupils in the country. Following his Gold award in Round 1 of the Chemistry Olympiad, he was one of just 35 pupils in the UK invited to compete in Round 2 where he placed in the top 4 amongst Year 12 students and he went on to achieve the Roentgenium Award in the Lower Sixth Chemistry Challenge, gaining the highest score in the UK. James played prop in our very successful 1st XV and was captain of the Swimming Team.

OLIVER (2023)

**STUDYING: CHEMICAL ENGINEERING AT WADHAM COLLEGE, OXFORD**

Oliver joined the school in Year 7 on an Academic Scholarship and was later awarded a further Scholarship and Academic Status in the Sixth Form; awards he justified through his intellectual ability and curiosity backed, by a prodigious and independent work ethic. Oliver took every opportunity to extend his education beyond the classroom, undertaking computational physics seminars outside school among numerous other online courses. He also undertook a voluntary EPQ on simulating fluid dynamics.

SHIRLEY (2023)

**STUDYING: MATHEMATICS WITH PHYSICS AT NEWNHAM COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE**

Shirley joined the school in Year 12 as an international pupil and quickly established herself as a brilliant academic. She performed highly in external academic competitions and impressed her teachers with the tenacity of her learning and her thoughtful approach to her work. Shirley was committed to the wider life of the school; she was co-Head of the International Pupil Committee and was awarded with the 2023 Ondaatje Hall Medal for her efforts in this regard. Her work ethic was envied by all, and she will go on to achieve anything she puts her mind to in the future.

JOSHUA (2023)

**STUDYING: CHEMISTRY AT ST EDMUND HALL, OXFORD**

Joshua joined Blundell's in Year 7 from the Prep School as an Academic Scholar and quickly established himself as one of the top three scientists in a very able year. He won a further Academic Scholarship in Year 9 and this was justified by an excellent set of GCSEs. In the Sixth Form he was awarded Academic Status. Outside the classroom, Joshua was an able Rugby player and represented the school in the semi-final of the Champions Cup, playing Trinity Croydon, the number one ranked team in the country.

ANNA (2022)

**STUDYING: LAW AT JESUS COLLEGE, OXFORD.**

Anna joined the school in the Prep and was awarded Sports and Academic Scholarships in both Year 7 and Year 9. She showed an incredible aptitude for all her subjects, gaining all 9s at GCSE. Never satisfied to turn in work any less than her best, Anna was rigorous and disciplined in her approach, gaining a distinction in her HPQ and an A\* in her EPQ independent research projects. Anna's interest in law led her to initiate a Law Society which was well received by her peers. A true all-rounder, Anna played 1st XI Hockey, shone as an athlete and was sports captain in Gorton House.

MOLLY (2022)

**STUDYING: LAW AT EMMANUEL COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE**

Molly joined the school in Year 12 as an Academic Scholar, quickly embracing everything a Blundell's education can offer. A highly compassionate individual, Molly's ability to find time for others whilst maintaining her own high academic standards was admirable. She gave much time to the Charity Committee and did not shy away from the more challenging events such as sleeping in a cardboard box! Molly was committed to training and competing for the senior swimming squad and was a key contributor to a successful season.

**JAMES (2021)**

**STUDYING CLASSICS AT DOWNING COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE**

James joined the school in Year 9 as our top A.V. Hill Scholar. He showed an incredible aptitude for all his school subjects, achieving all 9s at GSCE, demonstrating a particular gift for languages and sciences. James was an exceptional athlete and competed for the school at hurdling and long jump. James also completed the 35 mile Ten Tors event and trekked through Morocco as part of his Gold Duke of Edinburgh award.

**HARRY (2021)**

**STUDYING NATURAL SCIENCE (PHYSICAL) AT ST CATHARINE'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE**

After arriving in Year 9, Harry quickly established himself as one of the best academics Blundell's has ever produced, winning a place in the UK Astronomy and Astrophysics team while in Year 12, where he achieved a silver medal. While in Year 13 he won a place in the UK Chemistry Olympiad and the UK Physics Olympiad teams. He chose to compete in the Chemistry competition, where he won a gold medal for the UK. A talented sportsman, he won the Russell in Year 12 and was awarded Full Colours for swimming.

**MISHA (2021)**

**STUDYING PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS AND ECONOMICS AT EXETER COLLEGE, OXFORD**

Misha joined the school in Year 9 and it was evident very quickly the passion he showed for learning and for tackling wider social issues. He showed great passion for Politics and opened a debate in the National Conference for the Liberal Democrats, he was also the Youth representative for the party in Devon. Misha's skills are numerous; not only did he excel in the academic subjects, he also showed great ability in public speaking and won the school General Knowledge quiz for 4 years running!

**THOMAS (2021)**

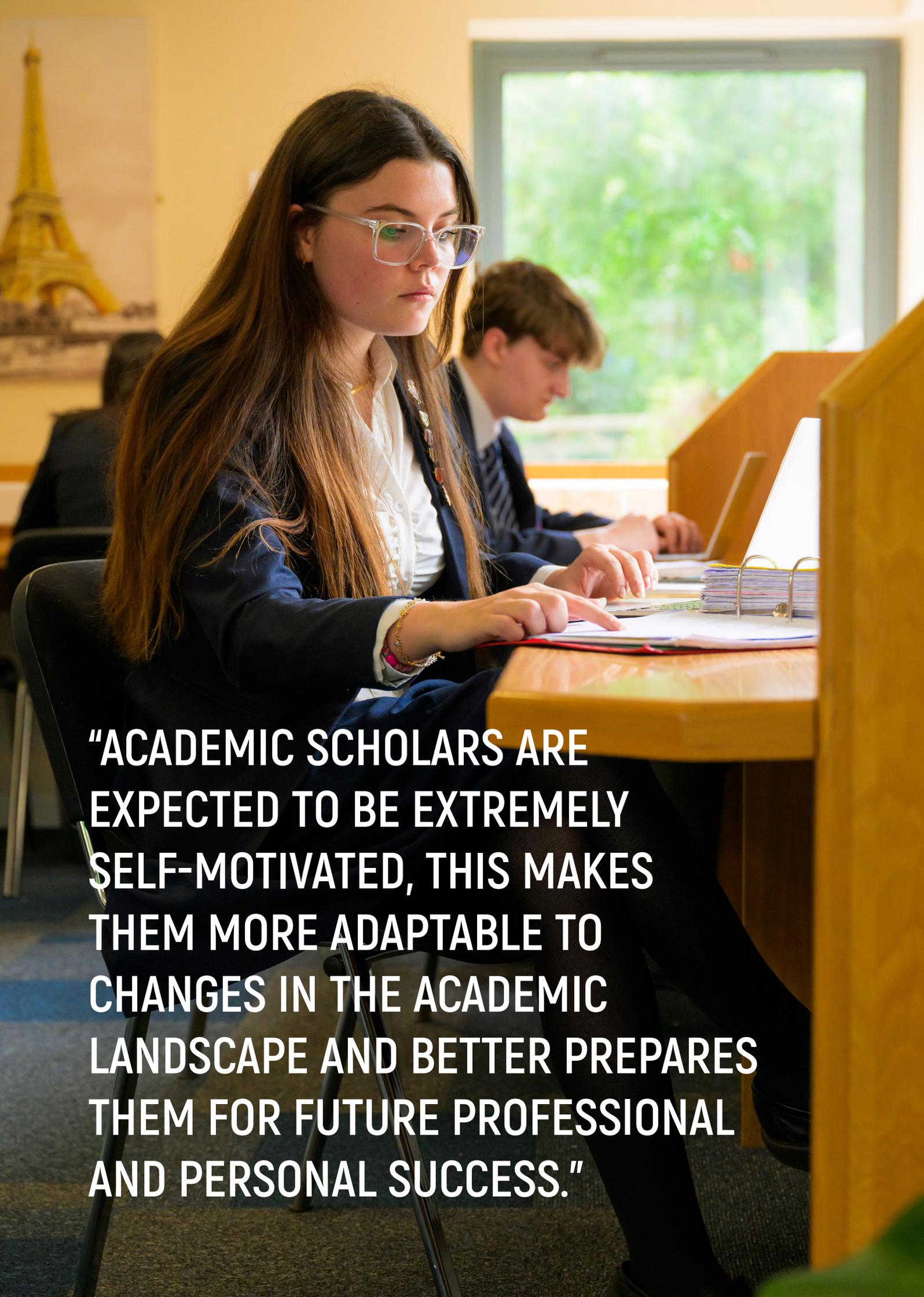
**STUDYING BIOCHEMISTRY (MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR) AT UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, OXFORD**

Tom was one of the most talented academics we had seen in recent years, he joined the school in Year 8 and immediately demonstrated his academic versatility and prowess, turning his hand to any academic subject. Tom achieved twelve 9s at GSCE in subjects from Chemistry to Latin and Ancient Greek to Mandarin. Tom combined academic excellence with being a music scholar, playing two instruments, as well as singing in the school choirs. A talented debater and public speaker, he won best speaker on many occasions.

**“The school has always encouraged me to take on academic challenges outside the classroom, and as a result I have achieved top scores in Maths, Physics, and Computing Olympiads, led engineering projects for STEM challenges, and explored languages through translation and flash fiction competitions, and Linguistics Olympiads. My teachers are constantly searching for new opportunities like these, and the support they have given me to prepare for them has been invaluable. In particular, my experiences of Maths Olympiads provided me with the passion, problem-solving skills, and flexibility of thought that secured me an offer to read Mathematics at Oxford University”**

**FREYA**

ACADEMIC SCHOLAR



**"ACADEMIC SCHOLARS ARE EXPECTED TO BE EXTREMELY SELF-MOTIVATED, THIS MAKES THEM MORE ADAPTABLE TO CHANGES IN THE ACADEMIC LANDSCAPE AND BETTER PREPARES THEM FOR FUTURE PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL SUCCESS."**

# Medics, Dentists & Vets

**ELIZABETH (2023)**

**STUDYING: MEDICINE AT CARDIFF UNIVERSITY**

Elizabeth was one of Blundell's most multi-talented students. Her impressive litany of 9s in her GCSEs earned her Sixth Form Academic Status. Elizabeth also has an utterly impressive music CV. She played key roles in the Choir and Chamber Choir, achieved Grade 8 in Piano and Singing, and Grade 7 in Violin and she was deserving of being awarded Full Colours for Music during her final year at Blundell's. In addition to this Elizabeth was also a hockey player and displayed outstanding leadership on Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, achieving her Gold Award.

**ANYA (2022)**

**STUDYING: MEDICINE AT PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY**

From the outset, Anya was single-minded about her career aspirations and utterly dedicated to getting into medical school. Her impressive litany of 9s in her GCSEs earned her an Academic Scholarship and Sixth Form Academic Status. She took every opportunity to extend her knowledge and skill, through MOOCs, attending talks, giving presentations to the Medical Society and through work experience. Anya was also a keen netball player; and displayed outstanding leadership on Duke of Edinburgh expeditions.

**LOTTIE (2022)**

**STUDYING: MEDICINE AT CARDIFF UNIVERSITY**

One of the strongest all-round pupils ever to attend Blundell's receiving all 9s at GSCE, Lottie received the coveted 'White Jacket' for receiving Colours for excelling in 3 different disciplines: Choral Music, Drama and Netball. This was coupled with her undoubted academic ability, being an Academic Scholar and holding Sixth Form Academic Status, she also was awarded numerous all-rounder and subject prizes throughout her time at the school. She also played 1st XI Hockey, 1st VII Netball, was in every school production from Year 7, including taking the lead in more than one, received her Grade 8 Musical Theatre with Distinction, won 'Performer of the Year' and was Deputy Head of School.

**HEBE (2022)**

**STUDYING: MEDICINE AT ST ANDREW'S UNIVERSITY**

An Academic Scholar and holder of Sixth Form Academic Status, Hebe's outstanding academic prowess was coupled with an equally impressive extra-curricular profile. Hebe received the coveted 'White Jacket' for achieving Colours for excelling in 3 different disciplines: Instrumental and Choral Music, Hockey and Netball. She was an integral member of both the 1st XI Hockey and 1st VII Netball teams, achieving success in national competitions. Hebe was key member of the Senior Choir, Chamber Choir and Blundell's 8 Choir and is an exceptionally talented flautist; her Diploma on Flute with Distinction being equivalent to an undergraduate level qualification.

**LARA (2021)**

**STUDYING: VETERINARY MEDICINE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH**

A hugely conscientious and hardworking young lady, Lara showed real passion and dedication in pursuing her goal to be a Vet. A skilful horse rider, she competed in the National Equestrian Championships and was awarded Full Colours for Equestrian; a rare achievement at school.

**BEN (2021)**

**STUDYING: MEDICINE AT BARTS, PART OF QUEEN MARY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON**

While at school Ben showed a real interest in broadening his studies beyond the classroom, undertaking an EPQ which examined how a bacterial infection might be treated with a virus in order to reduce the use of antibiotics using phage theory in its place. He made the most of his opportunities outside the classroom, being a member of the choir, singing in numerous concerts, including in Carnegie Hall in New York. He was a fine Cross Country runner as well as participating in Ten Tors.

# American Universities

In recognition of the importance of having an international outlook, we ensure that pupils are aware of the myriad opportunities for higher education beyond the UK. Working as part of our Careers Department, our International Universities Coordinator is dedicated to helping pupils make successful applications to world-class international universities. Drawing on our extensive range of contacts in the international admissions sector, alongside our own expertise, we give pupils bespoke advice to ensure their international ambitions are realised. Pupils are introduced to a wide range of opportunities at our programme of events hosting visiting speakers from across the globe, and we offer a complete support service for pupils and their families, helping them with every step of the application process, including research, preparing for testing and interviews and producing impressive applications. We have been delighted to support pupils to achieve a range of offers, from fully funded sports scholarships to places at Ivy League Universities.

**GEMMA (2024)**

## **STUDYING AT CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**

Gemma joined Blundell's in Year 12 an academic and sports scholar. A once in a generation talent, Gemma qualified for three events in the British Swimming Championship April this year; rubbing shoulders with Olympians on their way to Paris in the summer. She is Devon County Champion in the 400 freestyle and the South West Regional champion in the 400 Individual Medley. She was selected for a Diploma in Sporting Excellence (DiSE) program by Swim England Talent and as part of this she competed for Team England in Sweden earlier in the year. Gemma also won the Senior Girls Russell 2 years in a row and went to Buckingham Palace to receive her Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award

An exceptional academic she achieved a Gold Award in the UK Biology Olympiad, and Silver Awards in the UK Chemistry Olympiad and the Senior Maths Challenge. As a reflection of her swimming and academic achievements, she has secured a full scholarship to Indiana State University, an NCAA Division 1 swimming university in the USA.

**EREN (2023)**

## **STUDYING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA**

Eren joined the school in Year 10 and swiftly made a positive impression on everyone he met. Self-assured but unassuming, his natural charm and sense of humour was a wonderful mix with his intelligent and thoughtful approach to life. His abilities in the classroom were beyond doubt, achieving a Gold Award in the Senior Biology Olympiad, and he contributed fully to the wider life of the school, playing for the 1st Team Basketball and as co-Head of the International Pupil Committee.

**KABIR (2022)**

## **STUDYING AT DARTMOUTH COLLEGE**

Kabir won a full academic scholarship to Dartmouth College, receiving an unconditional offer. Joining the school in Year 10, Kabir demonstrated an exemplary academic record. Very much an allrounder, Dartmouth were impressed with his contribution to sport, drama and music to a very high level throughout his time at Blundell's. Passionate about the wellbeing of others he formed 'Community Harmony', a student-led music teaching initiative for children with special needs that played at schools all around Devon.

**ALICE (2021)**

## **STUDYING AT CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**

After joining the school in Year 12 as a Sports Scholar, Alice combined a conscientious approach to her studies alongside a very demanding hockey training program for school and ISCA. After representing the 1st XI for 2 years, she achieved 4 A\*s at A-Level and will be studying at Central Michigan University, where she was awarded the prestigious President's Scholarship Award for Hockey.

# Blundell's Scholars' programme

“Joining the school from China in Year 11, teachers quickly found out I was always looking for extra challenges and interesting work. I was given extra lessons to help me prepare for the Chemistry Olympiad and I qualified for round 2, which put me in the top 30 pupils in the country and meant a residential training camp at Nottingham University. After this I fulfilled my dream of being accepted to study Chemistry at Imperial University.”

**RAINER**  
ACADEMIC SCHOLAR

Blundell's gives academic awards at 11+ and academic scholarships at 13+ and 16+. Pupils who are awarded a scholarship are given access to the Scholars programme. This programme sits alongside, and as an adjunct to, the regular extension and enrichment that happens in lessons. We expect our Scholars to work hard in each and every lesson, to take the extension opportunities offered to them, and to be high up on our regularly published Honour Rolls.

As a Scholar, pupils are invited to our regular enrichment evenings; these are generally run as cross-year group events where the Year 9 and 10 Scholars, say, may be invited to the same event. Pupils are put into mixed teams and then challenged in a variety of different academic rounds from creating a poem to go with a piece of art, to building problem solving structures, to breaking codes. They are always very popular and well attended, as well as being mentally exhausting! Scholars are also invited to our regular Scholars lunches, where they spend time together as a specific community, as well as hear from interesting academic speakers.

Scholars benefit from one-on-one academic mentoring; they can choose their own mentor that fits their interest and personality from the academic staff and this member of staff meets with them regularly to check on their progress and suggest other ways in which they could enrich their learning.

Scholars are expected to volunteer to attend various trips and external enrichment throughout the year via our Phoenix Society for the intellectually curious. Recent trips have included the Houses of Parliament, Hinckley Point and the Jaguar Land Rover factory. We also expect our Scholars to enter some of the many external academic competitions and Olympiads on offer, and our older Scholars to be willing to give back to help with the events that benefit the wider Scholars community.

## **SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES**

Successful candidates will be those who score highly overall, although some variation in the different elements is to be expected. The interview is an extremely important part of the selection procedure and candidates are expected to possess good general knowledge, an appreciation and understanding of current affairs and a high level of intellectual curiosity. Blundell's is looking for individuals with energy, an enthusiasm for learning, and the drive to be an example to others in the school.

## **PETER BLUNDELL FOUNDATION BURSARIES**

We are fortunate to be able to offer means tested Foundation Bursaries to successful Scholarship applicants, whose parents need financial assistance to send their son or daughter to Blundell's. With these bursaries, the Governors wish to reflect the spirit of Peter Blundell's vision. These applications will require an online bursary application form to be submitted prior to the scholarship process, which will be made available on application.

## 11+ Junior Awardss

Applicants new to Blundell's (i.e. not joining through our Prep School) may choose one of two entrance routes for their child.

### 1. ENTRANCE TEST

- National Curriculum level papers in Maths and English (1 hour each)
- New Group online reading test (NGRT)
- No practice papers are available
- Participants are not eligible to be considered for an Award

### 2. JUNIOR AWARDS - ACADEMIC

- A more challenging set of Maths and English papers (1 hour each)
- New Group online reading test (NGRT)
- Appropriate for pupils who are exceeding National Curriculum age targets
- Forms the basis for our Award competition
- Practice papers are available

A small number of Junior Awards will be offered to those who excel in the papers and may result in a concession of up to 20% off our Junior Tuition fees. These are valid for Years 7 and 8 and pupil performance is reviewed annually. All pupils may then compete for the 13+ Scholarships, which can give up to 30% concession.

Both sets of papers are sat on the same day, at Blundell's.

Results will be used to help us identify any learning support needs, knowledge gaps and for class setting on arrival.

## 13+ Academic Scholarships

Blundell's accepts a significant intake into Year 9 and the 13+ Scholarships can be competed for by both internal and external candidates.

### ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

These are awarded to candidates who display an all-round high level of academic prowess across the disciplines. The value of these awards is up to 30% of the chosen designation.

### THE A.V. HILL ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP

Hill attended Blundell's in the late 1800s and went on to have a very distinguished career in physiology and operations research. He is regarded as one of the founders of biophysics and went on to win a Nobel Prize in 1922 for his work on mechanical work in muscles.

The A.V. Hill award is made to an individual who is outstanding in any of the scientific disciplines. The value of this award is up to 30% of the chosen entry designation.

### SELECTION PROCEDURE

Candidates will be selected based on their results in a series of examinations. External candidates will be interviewed by the Head. Internal candidates will be interviewed by Senior Academic Staff. Examinations will be in the following subjects:

- English
- Mathematics
- Humanities (History, Geography)
- Science
- French, German or Spanish
- Critical Thinking
- Second Language (Latin) optional
- Practice papers are available

Candidates will be expected to attend the full school day at Blundell's on both selection days; they will not be required to board, unless travelling from afar.

## 16+ Academic Scholarships

The Blundell's Sixth Form is very popular and there are a number of 16+ Scholarships available.

### ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

These are awarded to candidates who display an all-round high level of academic prowess across the disciplines. The value of these awards is up to 30% of the chosen designation.

### SELECTION PROCEDURE

Academic scholarship candidates will be selected based on their results in a series of examinations. All candidates will also be interviewed, with external candidates being seen by the Head. The scholarship assessment will consist of the following:

- Cognitive Ability Test
- Maths Paper
- English Paper
- Specialist Paper
- Interview

All candidates sit the cognitive ability test as part of the scholarship process. In addition, academic scholarship applicants sit a General Paper consisting of two sections to assess a candidate's capability in English and Mathematics. Candidates are expected to achieve at least GCSE grade 6 equivalent in this paper.

Candidates also declare a specialist subject of their choice from the following subjects: Mathematics, English, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, History, Geography, Religious Studies, French, German, Spanish, Latin, Music. This must be a subject they are interested in studying at A Level.

Candidates for the Sixth Form will ideally be expected to have a minimum of five GCSEs at Grade 6 or above. Sixth Form entrants should send a report from their present school with their predicted grades.

# Excellence

*“the quality of being excellent”*

Blundell's School  
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