



Becket Keys Church of England School

7th November 2025

IN THIS ISSUE

Mr Scott-Evans writes.....

Remembrance Service at Becket Keys – A Moment of Reflection and Unity

As we approach Remembrance Day, our school community has been deeply engaged in preparing for our annual service, which will take place on Tuesday 11th November. This week, students have been reflecting on the meaning of remembrance through collective worship, discussions in tutor time, and thoughtful activities designed to help them understand the significance of this national moment.

We've been incredibly proud of how maturely and respectfully our students have responded. From exploring the symbolism of

the poppy to considering the impact of conflict both past and present, they have shown great empathy and insight. Their engagement with the prayers, scripture, and historical context has been truly moving.

The service itself will be held outdoors, with the whole school gathered around the edge of the playground. Students will stand with their forms, wearing poppies and holding an order of service.

We will hear readings from Joshua (Head Boy) and Anna-Kaye (Head Girl), listen to the solemn notes of *The Last Post*, and observe a two-minute silence marked by the sound of the gun from the Brentwood War Memorial. Canon Darren Barlow will be joining us to offer a

.....contd. on page 2



BECKET KEYS
Church of England School

Club of the Week

This week we celebrate the Locomotive & Transport Society.
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Geography Field Trip

Year 13 students had their A level residential at Blencathra, find out more about their experience.
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Enrichment Day

All students were off timetable on Thursday for the first Enrichment Day of the academic year.
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Book of the Month

A great recommendation for November!
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blessing and a thoughtful reflection.



REMEMBRANCE DAY
Left We Forget

This is a powerful moment in our school calendar, and we warmly invite parents and friends of the school to join us. If you are able to attend, please arrive by 10:40am so that we can begin promptly at 10:45am. It is a small sacrifice to stand in the cold and remember those who gave so much for our freedom.

Thank you for your continued support as we honour the past and encourage our students to be peacemakers in the future. Poppies are available from Main Reception in exchange for a donation to the British Legion.

Best regards,

Mr Scott-Evans
Headteacher



Remembrance Day Service at the Brentwood War Memorial Friday 7th November 2025

Earlier today the following students represented the school at the Brentwood War Memorial for a short service to commemorate and commend all those who have died in the service of our country and its cause.

Teodora Petre - Year 7
Patrick Barden – Year 9
Joshua Witchalls – Head Boy
Anna Kaye-Fullerton – Head Girl



Club of the Week



Thursdays in J11,
3:20 to 4:00



The Locomotive and Transport society is about sharing people's passion for trains and other transport. It is a free space to discuss and chat with those of a similar mindset.

During club meetings we discuss different topics past and present, as well as the occasional model railway day.

We would encourage any student with an interest to come along to J11, after school on a Thursday in order to see if they enjoy the club.

Everyone who is interested is very welcome.

Samuel Nash
Year 12



Sixth Form Information Evening

We are delighted to be holding our annual Sixth Form Information Evening for students in Year 10 and 11. It will take place on **Wednesday 12th November**. It will start at 4.30pm and finish at 7.30pm. If you would like to attend, please register for one of the last few places remaining via Ticket Tailor:

[Buy tickets – Becket Keys Church of England School](#)

During the evening, you will hear from Mr Scott-Evans, Headteacher, and Mrs Course, Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form. They will inform you about:

- What the Sixth Form is like and our vision for the future.
- How to apply for a place in the Sixth Form and key steps and dates along the way.
- Which subjects will suit your skills and interests.
- Which combination of subjects will be possible.
- The entry requirements.
- How we will advise you when making difficult choices.
- The different ways in which you can discover more about the subjects you want to take.
- What an 'ordinary' day, week, term and year are like in the Sixth Form at Becket Keys.
- Extra-curricular opportunities in the Sixth Form.
- How we will support your preparation for the next steps after being in the Sixth Form.

The Sixth Form Prospectus and the Sixth Form Course Guide will be available for you to take home. You can then discuss the different options available with your son/daughter. There will also be an opportunity to take a tour of the Sixth Form area in the Justin Welby building.

We have limited space so kindly book a ticket for each person attending.

Any questions please email: sixthform@becketkeys.org

We look forward to welcoming you that evening!



Geography Department – Y13 Residential Blencathra



The A-Level Geographers have recently returned from the Lake District National park and the fabulous Blencathra mountain and field studies centre.

The annual Year 13 field trip is a chance for the students to witness firsthand the geography and splendour of the Fells whilst collecting their primary data for their NEA (Non-examined assessment). This piece of work accounts for 20% of our overall A-Level Geography grade and is a great stepping stone towards their next steps after Becket Keys. The students practise and apply a range of skills and presentation techniques in producing a 4,500+ word project on a topic of their choice.

As part of the fieldtrip the students enjoyed visiting and exploring: the human geography of Keswick, climbed Cat Bells, saw Scotland across the Soloway Firth, studied sand dunes and the heavily managed coastal settlement of Silloth. We were blessed with the weather and had a jolly good time as well as making new friends and learning new things. Thank you to all those involved and the staff who made this fieldtrip possible and a memorable experience.

If you are interested in what Blencathra is like there is currently a very interesting programme available on iPlayer [BBC Four - Life of a Mountain, A Year on Blencathra](#).

If you haven't got time to watch the full episode, at least devote 2 minutes to this [BBC Four - Life of a Mountain, A Year on Blencathra, Sharp edge](#) to get a feel for the place!

Mr Taylor-Smith
Head of Geography

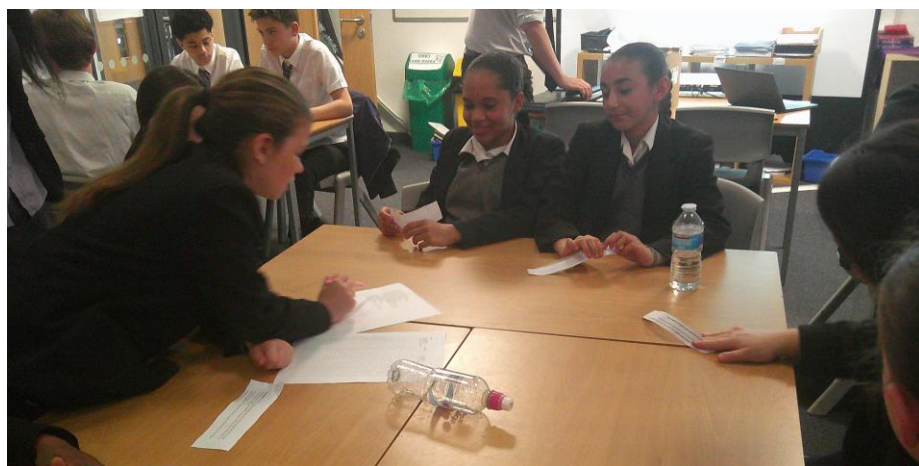
Enrichment Day – November 2025

Our recent Enrichment Day was a fantastic opportunity for students to broaden their experiences and develop skills beyond the classroom. Across the school, pupils took part in a wide range of engaging sessions designed to support their personal growth, teamwork, and future aspirations.

- Years 7–9 explored sessions in Mathematics, Science, Careers, Band, and House Sports, with a focus on Careers, collaboration and creativity.
- Year 10 enjoyed a performance of *A Christmas Carol*, a session based on Post-16 Options, and a motivational session with Elevate Education.
- Year 11 built valuable employability and study skills through the Transferable Skills workshop, watched *A Christmas Carol* performance, and learnt about study skills with Elevate Education.

A huge thank you to all staff and visitors who helped make the day run so smoothly, and to our students for their enthusiasm and engagement throughout. Days like this truly reflect the strength of our school community and the importance of learning beyond the classroom.

Ms North - Head of Careers



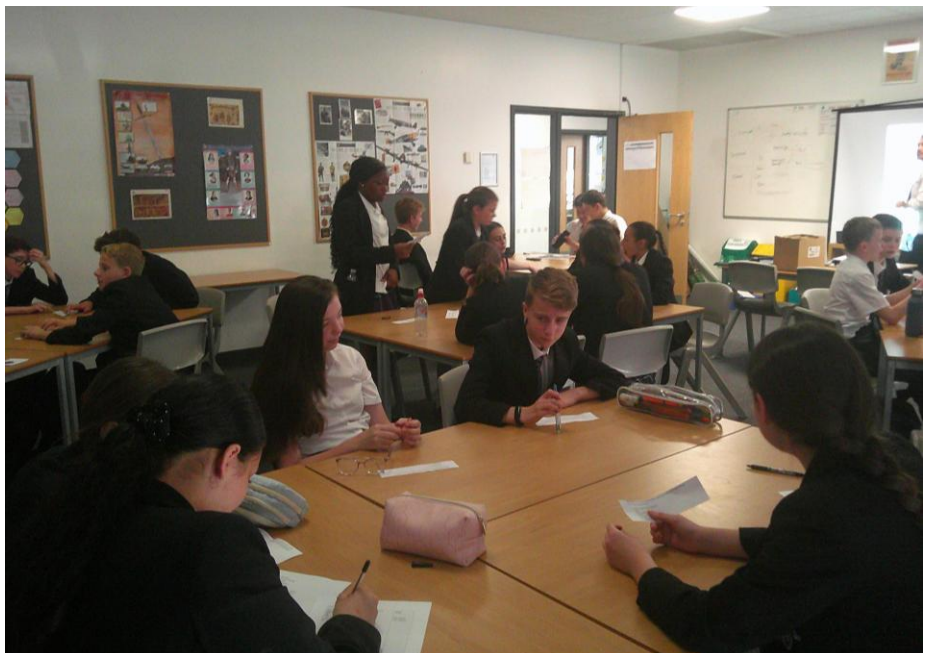
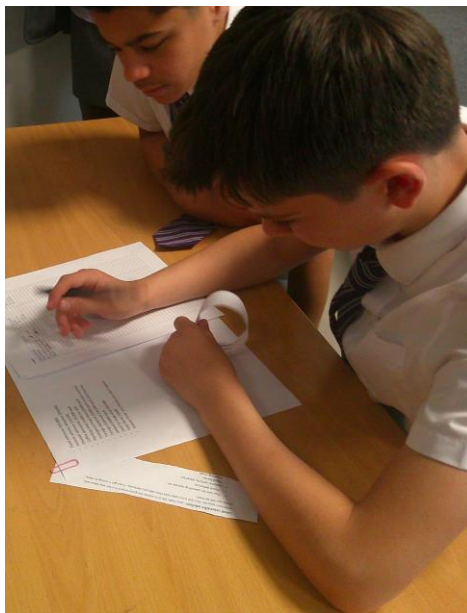
Many thanks to our Sixth Formers Ellie and Sophia for helping out during the day, here is what they had to say:

On Thursday, Becket Keys had an Enrichment Day which all years were involved in. The students were able to participate in many different sessions and sports, both educational and fun. This included an outstanding performance from singer songwriter 'Meek' and the 'A Christmas Carol' cast gave an engaging performance of the novella to the Year 10s and 11s.

On top of this, the staff from 'Elevate Education', gave the students a brilliant talk, discussing revision methods and preparation for exams. Years 9, 10 and 11 were given advice about post-16 options and different career pathways they could embark on. Year 7 were treated to a morning of Maths and Year 8 enjoyed an afternoon of team building experiments in the Science department.

Furthermore, the day was full of sports, including rugby and netball. Sixth form also got involved, with their exciting London Challenge. Years 12 and 13 spent the day sightseeing the iconic landmarks around the city and completing challenges and tasks in which contributed to the House Cup Competition. Overall, the day was influential and exciting for all!

**Sophia Tredgett & Ellie Grose
Year 12**



London Challenge

2025

The Sixth Form students were off timetable to take part in our first Enrichment Day of the academic year. These days are designed to focus on the wider personal development of students.

Year 12 and 13 travelled into London to complete our traditional London Challenge as part of our house events! This year the students had our infamous Monopoly board trail and had to visit some landmarks, find a celebrity, buy a tacky souvenir and make Mrs Knowles and me laugh! On top of this there were bonus points for those who could find Thomas Becket in London. There was some excitement when one group managed to find Queen Camilla! Mrs Knowles and I managed to wave at the King as he left Buckingham Palace.

We have included some of the photos; I hope they make you smile!

It was a fantastic day, and I am always amazed how many students tell me it is the first time they have visited the London sites! It is also good to see the students work together in their forms. Some Year 13 students also said they appreciated a decompression day before the mocks start next week. It was a great day, and we look forward to our next house events in the run up to Christmas!



Bold squirrels in London!



Queen Camilla!



Late Gate

*Early is on time,
On time is late,
And late is unacceptable!*

At Becket Keys, we look to ensure that we are preparing students for life beyond school. We encourage students to attend school regularly and on time.

Remember that the school gate closes at **8.25am**. This allows students enough time to be at their first lesson on time. Period 1 begins at 8.30am.

Brentwood can be tough to negotiate during rush hour, so we encourage students and parents to contact the school in the case of **genuine** lateness, such as delayed public transport.

Parents can call the main school line 01277 286600 or use the "Studybugs" app.

We thank you for your support.



Think you're up for the challenge? This term's task is called **Nasty Negatives** – give it a try!

Every time you finish a challenge you will have learned or practised something important. Not only that, but just for fun show **Mrs. Conway** and she will put your name into the prize draw.

That means the more times you complete, the more chances you have to **win a great prize!** The draw closes on Thursday 18th December 2025.

Click the following link to complete on any device.

[Nasty Negatives!](#)

So, get started, give it your best, learn lots and keep those entries coming!

Mrs Conway
Head of Mathematics



Reminder!

School Uniform

It is important to all of us that every one of the students who attend Becket Keys looks smart in their uniform at all times. All students are required to wear shoes and not trainers.

Girls in Year 7-9, should have their hair completely tied up. Year 10-11 – hair can be half up/ half down. Black, purple or neutral coloured hair ties please. If boys have long hair they too need to have it tied up.



Now that the weather is getting colder, please remember that all students will be in need of a **COAT** – Plain **BLACK** without coloured flashes, logos or slogans, no 'fashion items', no 'puffer' jackets. Please see the website, if you need more details about the school dress code.



School Eucharist

There is a Eucharist service held at school every Friday during term-time in the John Wraw Chapel. The service begins at 1.00pm and is open to everyone.

All students are welcome to attend these short services to pray and reflect.

BOOK SWAP

**“Read it. Love it.
Swap it!”**

- Bring a book you've read and are ready to pass on.
- Swap it for another book brought in by someone else.
- No money needed - just a love for reading!

We're looking for an organised, friendly and flexible

PARISH OFFICE MANAGER

to take on the responsibility for the weekday running of the Parish Office, situated at St Peter's Church, with oversight of administration, communications, and organisational management for the whole Parish.

- Office based: Cloughton Way, Hutton
- 25 hours per week Mon-Fri
- Salary: £27,138.87 per annum pro rata
◦ (£18,092.58 per annum actual)
- Application Deadline: 12noon: Wed 19th November
- Interview Date: Thursday 27th November



For a detailed Job Pack
Application Form and Further Details:
www.huttonparish.com/jobs

DON'T FORGET

If you wish to play football on the Astroturf at lunchtime you will need to bring in your trainers. The surface has been recently replaced and so only trainers are allowed on there and no food is to be consumed. Students are not permitted to play in their socks.

We are the Mental Health Support Team!

It's good to talk!

Talking to us can help stop difficulties from spiralling so you can enjoy school, time at home and time with friends and family.

Dealing with anxiety and low mood

Overcoming anxiety and low mood can be hard. But taking time to stop and learn how to manage anxious feelings, challenge unhelpful thinking and improve your mood can enhance your emotional wellbeing.

You are not alone

It's ok to not be ok. The MHST are specially-trained to help you with your emotional wellbeing. It is helpful to share your worries with someone you trust so you can work through your difficulties together.

Accepting that challenges are a part of life

Most people experience emotional difficulties at some point so it's important for you to acknowledge when this is happening and talk about it. This can help you understand how it affects your life.
Remember, these feelings will pass.



The Mental Health Support Team are here to provide support to all children, young people and their families with emotional wellbeing in schools and colleges. To find out more about the service, scan the QR code to visit our website or talk to school staff.
www.nelft.nhs.uk/essex-mental-health-support-teams

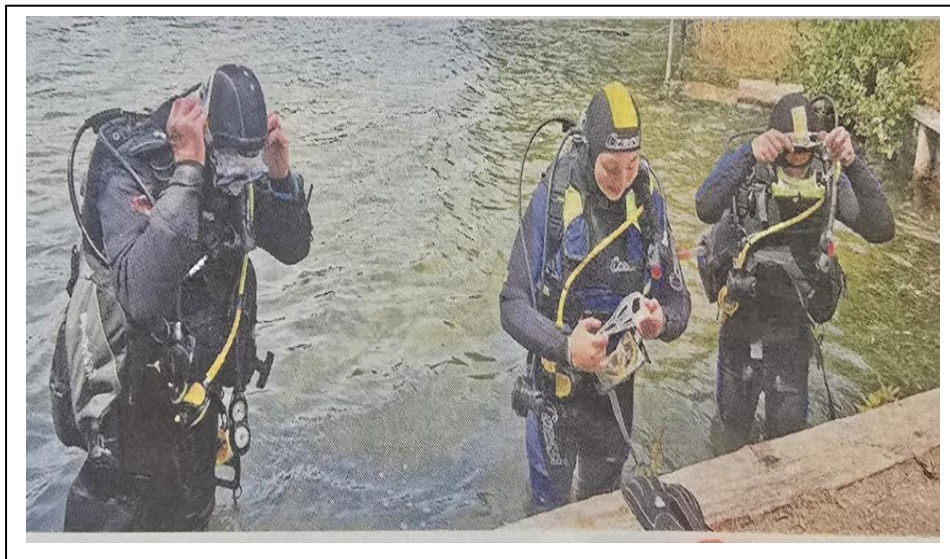
LOST PROPERTY

Please make sure that **EVERY** item of uniform, PE Kit and equipment is named. There are over a thousand students at the school all wearing the same uniform.

There are many items that we are unable to return as we do not know to whom they belong.

Lost Property can be collected from Reception.

Student Achievement



Skye Paulus Year 11

Did you know you can try Scuba Diving in Brentwood?

I began with a 'try dive', which took place at the Brentwood Centre.

Brentwood Selo sub aqua club gave me an amazing introduction to scuba diving and it encouraged me to continue.

Within a month I began training in the swimming pool and learning all the theory involved. After 12 weeks I had completed the pool training and took the theory test. This took a couple of tries but was worth it.

In March this year the club took its trainees to Leybourne Lake in Kent. We did two dives, and I passed the first stages of open water diving.

Our next dive was at Stoney Cove in Leicester. This was a big accomplishment and everyone at the club encouraged me. They were urging me on to become a sports diver and taking an instructor course.

I am enjoying diving all around the UK and I am considering a career in scuba diving.

If you want to find out more about the club, I recommend that you book a 'try dive'. I hope like it as much as I did.

Contact Brentwood Selo at:
[Home - Brentwood Selo 177](#)



Brentwood Selo 177
Sub Aqua Club

Is scuba diving for me?

If you're one of those people that love being in, by or on water and

love adventure and learning new things, then scuba diving could very well be for you. Learning to dive is an adventure of a lifetime. You can dive regularly at home or just dive on holiday, the choice is yours.

What actually is scuba diving?

Scuba diving is being able to move about and breathe underwater using self-contained underwater breathing equipment.

How will I feel when scuba diving and will I like it?

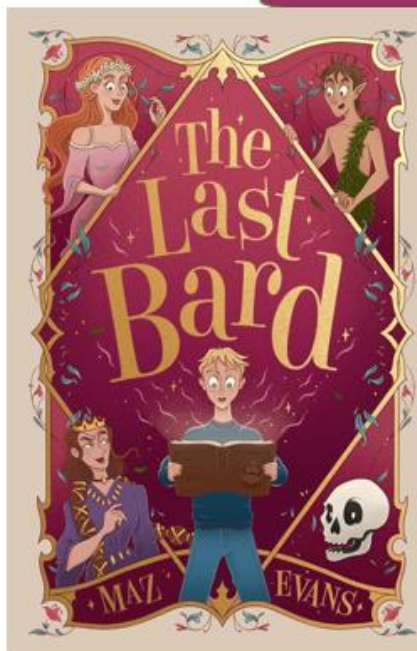
Scuba diving is amazing, it's like nothing you have ever experienced before. The first time you breathe underwater is an experience to remember. The feeling of weightlessness is incredible as you leave the stress of daily life behind.

Is scuba diving is safe?

Scuba diving has a really good safety record, and this is mainly due to the training before any participation in this adventurous sport. BSAC training is world-renowned for being extremely thorough. BSAC will teach you everything you need to know to be a competent safe diver.



Book of the Month - November



Will Davenant has known more tragedy than laughter. But there's a new twist in his family story when he inherits his grandfather's Complete Works of Shakespeare. As the last living relative of William Shakespeare himself, Will can summon the Bard's heroes from the pages, including the murderous Lady Macbeth, Juliet (without her Romeo), Yorick the mournful skull and a mischievous Puck. . . . and now he has some extraordinary new friends to help turn things in his life around.

With his late grandfather's home under threat, Will, his new friends and Ani from next door must fight for their future in a comedy of errors.

Can love's labours win? Or will it all be much ado about nothing?

RET

CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION 2025-6

Entries of prose fiction, non-fiction or poetry

Memento

Celebrate your writing across the six schools in the Russell Education Trust.

This year's challenge is to select a memento. Choose one as the starting point for your writing to feed your imagination.

Word limit: 1000 words.

Entries must be uploaded to [SatchelOne](#) by 9th January 2026.

Two school winners will be selected from each category: KS2-3, KS4 & Sixth Form.

All Trust-winning entries will be published in a book. The overall winner will gain a writer's visit for their school.



Your writing can take any form you would like. This is an opportunity to be as creative as you like.

A memento must feature somewhere in your writing. It should be the item which sparks the idea for your writing.

A memento is an object kept as a reminder of a person or event.

You can pick a memento that you have at home, or come and see an English teacher to see some of the examples that they have.

This writing must be typed on a word document.



St Thomas' of Canterbury, Brentwood



JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF POTTERY PAINTING

Monday 17th November 6.30–8.30pm



We've partnered with the lovely team at Kiln Wizard to bring you a creative evening of pottery painting!



Tickets will be £10pp Which will include one drink (wine, soft drinks, tea and coffee)





Did you know Art makes you feel good- it boosts your self-esteem!

Pottery will need to be purchased on the night. Prices start from £15. All paints and brushes are included in the price.





All pottery will be taken away, put through the kiln and delivered back to the church for collection

Raffle in aid of Church Funds

Tickets available from church office or Lesley Garwood
Tickets are non refundable but can transfer to another future date.

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Appeal for Donations

Wool & Craft Club

Wool and Craft Club has been a tremendous success and extremely well attended, and we are now appealing for any crafting supply donations to ensure that students can keep creating lots of wonderful crafts.

Do you have any crafting items that could be used for Wool and Craft Club? We are particularly looking for donations of any of the following:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Blank cards with envelopes | Plain and patterned craft paper pads |
| Pipe cleaners | Stick on gems |
| Crafting beads | Hot glue gun and glue sticks |
| Crafting scissors | Wool |
| Ribbon & coloured cord | Pine Cones |

OR anything else that would be suitable to craft with.

Donations can be left in Main Reception for the attention of Mrs Simmons

THANK YOU

Careers Information

Apprenticeships at the BBC



If you're thinking about what the next right step is for you – it could be an apprenticeship, maybe you're thinking about university, or perhaps you want to dive straight into your first 'proper job' – the 'GET IN' TASTER EXPERIENCES offer you the chance to explore the different career paths the BBC has to offer and to find out if this organisation is somewhere you'd like to work in the future.

Throughout 2025 and 2026 the BBC will be running 'GET IN' TASTER EXPERIENCES across BBC bases the length and breadth of the UK.

They would love to hear from you if a job in the media industry is something you think you might like, but just don't know how or where to start looking!

The 'GET IN' TASTER EXPERIENCES are designed to show you what opportunities are on offer and to support you with the next steps you need to take to 'GET IN' to the BBC.

There are many sessions for students aged 16-18. Please select this link to the [expression](#)

[of interest form](#) to register your interest for the BBC location that is nearest to you or most easily reached.

Once a date has been confirmed for your chosen base, you will be contacted and asked to complete a separate application form.

To avoid disappointment, please check the criteria below to make sure you are eligible.

At a 'GET IN' TASTER EXPERIENCE, you'll have the chance to:

- Learn about the media industry and a professional workplace environment
- Find out about the wide range of job roles the BBC have to offer
- Develop some hands-on skills
- Spend time in a BBC studio
- Have a closer look at the apprenticeship application process and get some tips for applying.

ELIGIBILITY FOR STUDENTS AGED 16-18

- 'GET IN' TASTER EXPERIENCES will be for groups of either 16 & 17-year-olds, or 17 & 18-year-olds.
- You will have to let your tutor know that you've applied (and provide the BBC with the name and contact details of the school i.e. office@becketkeys.org)
- You must have full permission and consent from your parent/carer to apply (The BBC will need to ask you for their contact details if you're selected to take part).
- For safeguarding reasons, if you are 16-18 and still in education, your home address must be within a 1-hour commute of the BBC location you have selected.

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TO ATTEND A 'GET IN' TASTER EXPERIENCE IN YOUR AREA

For more information visit the BBC Careers website here:

[BBC Careers](#)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

10.45AM TUESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

*

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENT

WEDNESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2025

STUDENT EARLY FINISH 2.20PM

*

STUDENT LATE START 10.30AM

THURSDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2025

*

FOBK AGM – 9.20AM

WEDNESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2025

*

WHOLE SCHOOL ADVENT EUCHARIST

TUESDAY 2ND DECEMBER 11.00AM

*

STUDENT CHRISTMAS DINNER

NON-UNIFORM DAY

WEDNESDAY 3RD DECEMBER 2025

*

LAST DAY OF TERM

STUDENT HALF DAY

THURSDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2025

*

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

FRIDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2025 –

FRIDAY 2ND JANUARY 2026

*

INSET DAY

(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)

MONDAY 5TH JANUARY 2026

Becket Keys Church of England School

Sawyers Hall Lane

Brentwood, Essex

CM15 9DA

01277 286600

www.becketkeys.org

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finance@becketkeys.org

X:

@BecketKeys

@MrScottEvans

@BecketKeys6th

@BecketKeysMusic

@BecketKeysPE

@BecketKeysArt

@BecketKeysSci

@BecketKeysDT

@BecketKeysExams

@BecketKeysTrips

[Facebook: Becket Keys Church School](https://www.facebook.com/BecketKeysChurchSchool)