



# Bishop Laney

## Sixth Form



2027 / 2028

# **STOP PRESS**

## **New for 2027 Entry**

## **Vocational Courses**



### **What are V-Levels?**

**V-Levels are new vocational qualifications that provide a flexible and practical approach to learning. Students can combine V Levels with other vocational qualifications and A Levels, allowing them to create a study programme that suits their interests, strengths and future career aspirations.**

**Level 3 V Level courses are two-year qualifications, each equivalent in size to one A Level. They have been developed to replace many existing vocational qualifications, such as BTEC courses, and are designed to provide students with the skills and knowledge needed for higher education, apprenticeships or employment.**

**Level 2 Foundation Certificate courses are one-year programmes that prepare students for progression to Level 3 study. They are ideal for learners who are not yet ready for a Level 3 qualification. These courses help students build their confidence, develop essential study skills and strengthen their subject knowledge, providing a solid foundation for future success.**

# **Our updated offering – Sept 2027**

**From September 2027 we will be offering the following courses:**

## **A Level English Language**

**This will replace the advertised A Level English Language & Literature course.**

**Entry requirements:** Five GCSE Grades 9 to 4 to include Maths, Grade 5 in English Language and Grade 5 in English Literature.

## **V-Level Accounting & Finance**

**This Level 3 course develops skills in accounting, budgeting and financial decision-making while building the analytical and numerical expertise needed for higher education, apprenticeships, and careers in accounting, finance and business.**

**Entry requirements:** At least five GCSE Grades 9 to 4 to include English and Maths.

## **V Level Digital Systems & Data**

**This Level 3 course develops the skills to understand digital systems, analyse data and create solutions that meet user needs. This course provides a strong foundation for progression to higher education, apprenticeships and careers in the growing digital sector.**

**Entry requirements:** At least five GCSE Grades 9 to 4 to include English and Maths.

## **Foundation Certificate in Education & Early Years**

**This one-year Level 2 course is designed for students who wish to progress to Level 3 study and include developing a strong foundation in English and Maths as well as subject**

**Entry requirements:** At least three GCSE Grades 9 to 3.

# Welcome to Bishop Laney Sixth Form

## *High Expectations, Relentless Care*

Choosing where to continue your education after Year 11 is one of the most important decisions you will make. At Bishop Laney Sixth Form, we are proud to offer an inspiring, supportive and ambitious environment where every student is encouraged to achieve their full potential and prepare confidently for the future.

Our Sixth Form combines academic excellence with exceptional pastoral care, creating a community where students are known, valued and challenged to succeed. We offer a broad and engaging curriculum, delivered by passionate subject specialists who are committed to helping students achieve outstanding outcomes and cultivate the skills and mindset needed for future success.

What makes Bishop Laney special is our commitment to developing the whole person. Alongside academic success, we encourage students to grow as leaders, contributors and responsible citizens through a programme of enrichment opportunities, work experience, volunteering, leadership roles and extracurricular activities. These experiences help our students build confidence, resilience and the skills needed to thrive in higher education, apprenticeships and employment.

We are particularly proud of our welcoming and inclusive community. Rooted in strong values and high expectations, Bishop Laney Sixth Form provides a culture where students support one another, celebrate diversity and develop lasting friendships. Our students leave us not only with excellent qualifications but also with the character, confidence and aspirations to make a positive difference in the world.

Whether your ambition is to attend university, pursue a professional career, undertake an apprenticeship or explore new opportunities, Bishop Laney Sixth Form will provide the guidance, support and opportunities to help you achieve your goals.

We look forward to welcoming you and helping you take the next exciting step in your educational journey.



## What to Expect at Bishop Laney Sixth Form

At Bishop Laney Sixth Form, we combine high expectations and relentless care. We believe that every student can achieve more than they may initially think possible, and we are committed to helping everyone realise their potential. We will challenge you to aim high, work hard and develop the confidence to succeed in your chosen pathway.

We are proud of our scholarly culture, where academic curiosity is encouraged and celebrated. Learning extends beyond the classroom, and students are expected to engage in wider reading, independent research and thoughtful discussion. We want our students to become confident, independent learners who take ownership of their education and are prepared for the demands of higher education, apprenticeships and employment.

As a Sixth Form student, you will be expected to participate actively in lessons, contribute positively to the learning environment and take responsibility for your progress. This includes arriving on time, being fully prepared for lessons, completing homework and preparatory tasks, and meeting coursework and assessment deadlines.

Excellent attendance is essential for success. Students are expected to maintain a minimum attendance rate of 95%, enabling them to make the most of every learning opportunity. Where attendance concerns arise, we work closely with students and families in a supportive and proactive way to identify any barriers and provide the help needed to improve attendance and engagement.

Above all, Bishop Laney Sixth Form is a community built on mutual respect, ambition and support. We will encourage you to challenge yourself, embrace new opportunities and become the very best version of yourself.

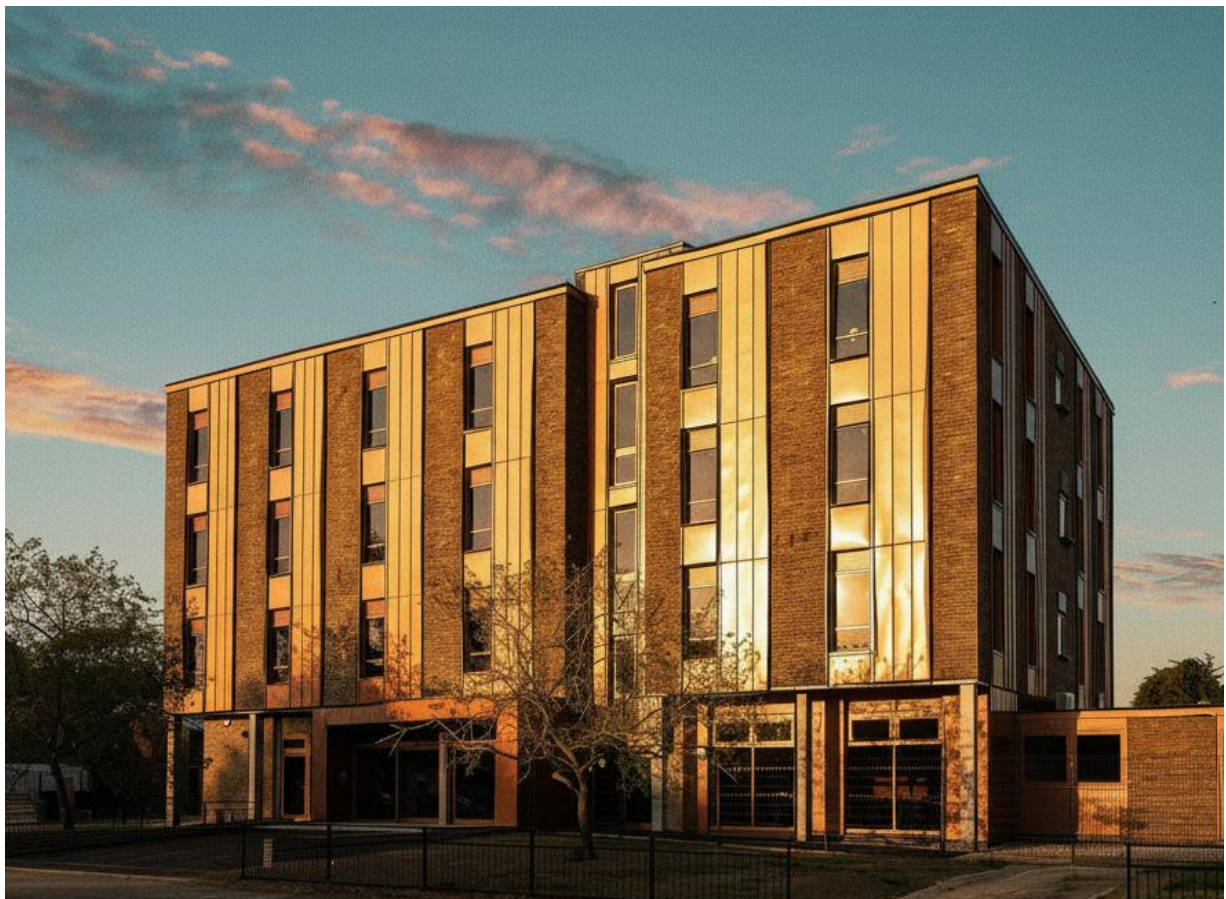


## Our Facilities

Opened in May 2025, our refurbished building provides a calm, welcoming and inspiring environment where students can focus, collaborate and feel part of a supportive community.

Specialist classrooms connect seamlessly with study and social spaces, centred around a café and communal hub that brings students and staff together in a shared space. Natural light, open layouts and a calm design create an atmosphere where students can work and relax with ease.

Students describe it as “welcoming, calming and conducive to both socialising and learning,” with others noting its inspiring design and strong impact on both study and creativity.



### **Support at Bishop Laney Sixth Form**

Student success is about more than academic achievement. We are proud of our caring and inclusive community, where every student is known, valued and supported to become the very best version of themselves.

At Bishop Laney Sixth Form, we are committed to ensuring that every student has the support they need to thrive academically, personally and professionally. Our dedicated staff work closely with students throughout their time with us, helping them overcome challenges, achieve their goals and prepare for a successful future.

### **Tutor Support**

Every student is assigned a Tutor who will be their first point of contact throughout their studies. Tutors provide guidance and support with academic progress, attendance, achievement and personal development. They also help students explore their future options, including university, apprenticeships and employment, ensuring they are well prepared for life beyond Sixth Form.

### **Wellbeing and Counselling Support**

We recognise that good wellbeing is essential for success. Students have access to a range of wellbeing services designed to support their mental, emotional and physical health. Our trained staff provide a safe and supportive environment, and professional counselling services are available for students who would benefit from additional support.

### **Careers and Employability Guidance**

Our Careers Co-ordinator provides impartial advice and guidance to help students make informed decisions about their future. Through our tutoring programme we also support career planning, university applications, apprenticeships, CV writing, interview preparation, work experience opportunities and employability skills development. We aim to ensure every student leaves Bishop Laney with a clear plan for their next steps.

### **Support for Children in Care and Care Leavers**

We are committed to providing a supportive and inclusive environment for Children in Care and Care Leavers. Staff work closely with students, carers and external agencies to ensure individual needs are met and that students receive the guidance, encouragement and practical support required to achieve their full potential.

### **Support for Young Carers**

We recognise the additional responsibilities that Young Carers may have outside of college. Our staff provide understanding, flexibility and tailored support to help

students balance their studies with their caring responsibilities. We work with students to ensure they can fully participate in college life and achieve their academic goals.

### Financial Support

We understand that financial circumstances should never be a barrier to education. Through the Post-16 Bursary Fund, eligible students may be able to access financial assistance to help them participate fully in their studies and Sixth Form life.

Support may be available to help with travel costs, essential course equipment, books, specialist clothing, educational visits and other learning-related expenses. Additional assistance may also be available for students facing financial hardship during their studies.

Students who meet the eligibility criteria may also continue to receive Free School Meals, helping to reduce the cost of attending college and supporting their wellbeing throughout their studies.

Our staff can provide advice on the different types of financial support available, as well as guidance on eligibility and the application process. We are committed to ensuring that all students have access to the support they need to succeed.

For more information contact [admissions@bishoplaney.org](mailto:admissions@bishoplaney.org)



## Employability and Careers at Bishop Laney Sixth Form

At Bishop Laney Sixth Form, careers education and employability skills are an important part of your journey, helping you prepare confidently for life beyond college.

Throughout the year, students take part in a range of activities including guest speaker sessions, university and apprenticeship events, mock interviews, and opportunities to meet employers and current apprentices. We also welcome former Bishop Laney students who return to share their career journeys and experiences, offering valuable insight and inspiration.

In Year 12, students complete a work experience placement, providing first-hand experience of the workplace and helping to develop essential skills such as communication, teamwork and professionalism.

Through this programme, we aim to ensure every student leaves Bishop Laney with the confidence, skills and direction needed for their next steps.



## Your Application Journey

Applying to Bishop Laney Sixth Form is the first step towards an exciting and successful future.

1 **Explore your options**

Visit the *My Choice at 16* website [www.mychoice16.co.uk](http://www.mychoice16.co.uk) to view detailed information about the courses we offer.

2 **Submit your application**

Apply through *My Choice at 16*. Your current school will usually support you with this process and will inform you of the application deadline. You can also use *My Choice at 16* if your current school is not in the local area.

3 **Receive your offer**

Once we have reviewed your application (normally by mid-February), we will contact you with one of the following:

- A conditional offer based on your application information, or
- An invitation to a Student Guidance Meeting, where we will discuss your choices, ambitions and ensure your programme is the right fit for you.

4 **Offer Holder Day**

In the summer term, you will be invited to attend our Offer Holder Day. This is a great opportunity to take part in taster sessions for your chosen subjects and experience Sixth Form life at Bishop Laney.

5 **Results Day**

On Results Day, you will need to contact us to confirm your results. We will then confirm your place and provide details about enrolment, transition activities and key dates for starting with us.

6 **Enrolment Day**

Our Enrolment Day takes place in the first week of September. You will be asked to come in to complete essential administrative tasks, receive your timetable and get everything ready for the start of your lessons.

# Understanding Qualification Levels

Qualifications are grouped into different levels to show how advanced they are. Each level helps you build your knowledge, skills and confidence, preparing you for the next stage of your education, training or career.

## Level 1

Level 1 courses are a great starting point if you need to strengthen your skills and knowledge before moving on to more advanced study. They help build confidence and provide a solid foundation for future learning.

### Where could it lead?

Level 2 qualifications, apprenticeships or further training.

## Level 2

Level 2 qualifications are similar in standard to GCSEs at grades 4–9. They allow you to develop subject-specific knowledge and practical skills while preparing for the next step in your educational journey.

### Where could it lead?

Level 3 courses, apprenticeships or employment with training.

## Level 3

Level 3 qualifications include A Levels and many vocational courses studied in Sixth Form. These courses help you gain the qualifications, skills and experience needed for university, apprenticeships and a wide range of careers.

### Where could it lead?

University, degree apprenticeships, higher apprenticeships or employment.

## Level 4

Level 4 qualifications are usually studied after Sixth Form and are equivalent to the first year of a university degree. They focus on developing specialist knowledge and career-related skills.

### Where could it lead?

Higher-level professional roles or progression to Level 5 and degree-level study.

## Level 5

Level 5 qualifications build on Level 4 learning and provide a deeper understanding of a subject or profession. They are often studied as part of higher education or advanced professional training.

### Where could it lead?

The final stages of a degree, higher-level apprenticeships or professional careers.

## Level 6

Level 6 qualifications are equivalent to a Bachelor's Degree with Honours. They represent a high level of achievement and prepare students for graduate careers, postgraduate study and professional qualifications.

### Where could it lead?

Graduate employment, postgraduate study or specialist professional training.

## Your Journey

There is no single route to success. Whether you choose an academic or vocational pathway, each qualification level helps you develop the knowledge, skills and experience needed to achieve your goals. At Bishop Laney Sixth Form, we will support you every step of the way as you plan your future and work towards your ambitions.



## Your Study Programme

At Bishop Laney, you have the freedom to design a Level 3 study programme that works for you. With over 30 subjects to choose from, you can select the combination that matches your interests and future goals. Your programme will need to total 180 credits, giving you the flexibility to choose the number of subjects you study while creating a pathway that is right for you.

You choose either:

### Route 1 – Three subjects

**Subject 1**  
A Level or Level 3  
(Certificate)  
60 credits

**Subject 2**  
A Level or Level 3  
(Certificate)  
60 credits

**Subject 3**  
A Level or Level 3  
(Certificate)  
60 credits

### Route 2 - Two Subjects

**Subject 1**  
A Level or Level 3  
(Certificate)  
60 credits

**Subject 2**  
Level 3 (Diploma)  
120 credits

### Route 3 – One subject

**Subject 1**  
Level 3 (Extended Diploma)  
180 credits

**A Level subjects (two-year course)** – all A Level subjects are worth 60 credits

|                                 |                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Accounting                      | Geography               |
| Art & Design – Fine Art         | Government and Politics |
| Art & Design – Photography      | History                 |
| Biology                         | Maths                   |
| Business                        | Music                   |
| Chemistry                       | Music Technology        |
| Computer Science                | Philosophy and Ethics   |
| Drama and Theatre               | Physics                 |
| Economics                       | Product Design          |
| English Language and Literature | Psychology              |
| English Literature              | Sociology               |
| Fashion and Textiles            |                         |
| Further Maths                   |                         |

**Level 3 (two-year course)**

|                              | Certificate<br>60 credits | Diploma<br>120 credits | Extended Diploma<br>180 credits |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Applied Science              | ✓                         |                        |                                 |
| Beauty Therapy**             |                           |                        |                                 |
| Business                     | ✓                         | ✓                      |                                 |
| Criminology                  | ✓                         |                        |                                 |
| Digital Media and Production | ✓                         |                        |                                 |
| Exercise & Sport Science     | ✓                         | ✓                      | ✓                               |
| Food and Nutrition           | ✓                         |                        |                                 |
| Hairdressing**               |                           |                        |                                 |
| Health and Social Care       | ✓                         |                        |                                 |
| Medical Science              | ✓                         |                        |                                 |

\*\* Our Beauty Therapy and Hairdressing pathways begin with students enrolling on the Level 2 course in their first year, developing the essential practical skills and industry knowledge required for success. On successful completion of the Level 2 qualification, students can progress to the Level 3 course in their second year, further enhancing their expertise and career opportunities within the industry.

## Level 2 Technicals

Our Level 2 Technical courses are one-year programmes designed to help you build the skills, knowledge and confidence needed for your next step. You will normally study these qualifications alongside GCSE English and/or Maths if you need to improve your grades.

These courses provide an excellent pathway to Level 3 study, allowing you to progress to more advanced qualifications the following year. They also help prepare you for employment, apprenticeships or further training, giving you valuable practical skills and industry-related experience.

|                     |
|---------------------|
| Beauty Therapy      |
| Business Enterprise |
| Hairdressing        |
| Sports Coaching     |

## Entry Requirements

To enrol on our A Level and Level 3 courses, you will normally need to achieve at least five GCSEs at Grade 4 or above, including English and Maths.

Some subjects also have specific entry requirements, particularly where prior knowledge or strong attainment in a related GCSE subject is important for success.

## A Level

|                                      |                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Accounting                           | At least five GCSEs grades 5 or above to include Maths and all English subjects studied                             |
| Art & Design<br>Fine Art/Photography | Grade 5 or above in Art (or similarly titled subject)                                                               |
| Biology                              | Grade 6 or above in Maths and Biology or Combined Science                                                           |
| Business                             | At least five GCSEs grades 5 or above to include Maths and English, and Grade 5 or above in Business where studied. |
| Chemistry                            | Grade 6 or above in Maths and Chemistry or Combined Science                                                         |
| Computer Science                     | Grade 6 or above in Maths and Computer Science or related subject                                                   |
| Drama and Theatre                    | Grade 5 or above in English Literature and Drama.                                                                   |
| Economics                            | Grade 5 or above in English and Grade 6 or above in Maths                                                           |

|                                 |                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| English Language and Literature | Grade 5 in all English subjects studied                                                                              |
| English Literature              | Grade 5 in all English subjects studied                                                                              |
| Fashion and Textiles            | Grade 5 or above in a Technology subject                                                                             |
| Further Maths                   | At least five GCSEs Grades 9 to 6 to include English and all Science subjects studied and Grade 8 or above in Maths. |
| Geography                       | Grade 5 or above in Geography                                                                                        |
| Government and Politics         | Grade 5 or above in all English subjects studied                                                                     |
| History                         | Grade 5 or above in English and History                                                                              |
| Maths                           | Grade 6 or above in Maths                                                                                            |
| Music                           | Grade 5 or above in Music or a Music related subject plus working at a Grade 4/5 standard on an instrument or voice  |
| Music Technology                | Grade 5 or above in Music or a Music related subject plus working at a Grade 4/5 standard on an instrument or voice  |
| Philosophy and Ethics           | Grade 5 or above in all English subjects studied                                                                     |
| Physics                         | Grade 6 or above in Maths and Physics or Combined Science                                                            |
| Product Design                  | Grade 5 or above in a Technology subject                                                                             |
| Psychology                      | Grade 5 or above in Maths and all English subjects studied                                                           |
| Sociology                       | Grade 5 or above in all English subjects studied                                                                     |

### Level 3

|                 |                                                              |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Applied Science | Grade 4 or above in two Science subjects or Combined Science |
| Medical Science | Grade 4 or above in two Science subjects or Combined Science |

### Level 2

|                                       |
|---------------------------------------|
| At least three GCSEs grade 3 or above |
|---------------------------------------|

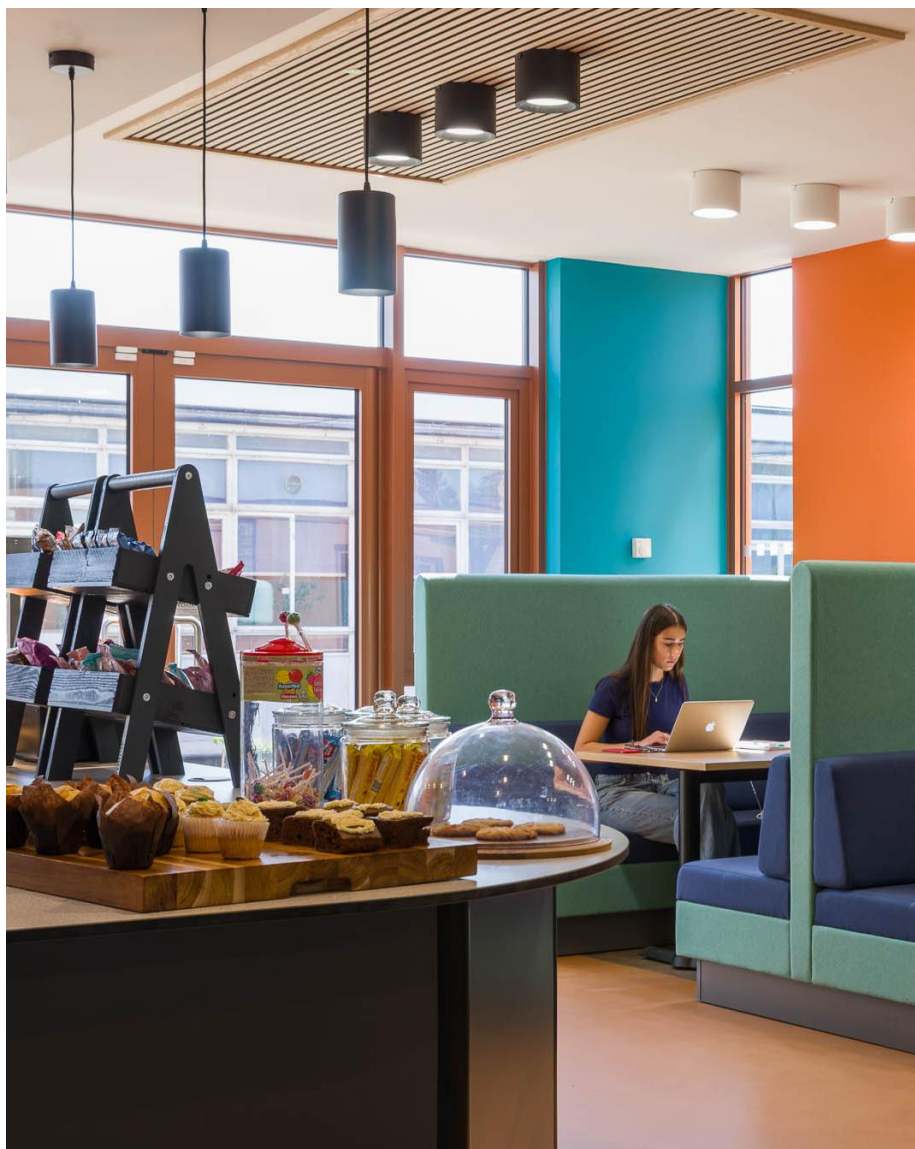
## Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

The EPQ is a 30-credit qualification that gives you the chance to explore a topic of your choice in depth, beyond your main subjects.

You will plan, research and complete an independent project with support from a supervisor. This could be a dissertation, investigation, artefact or other approved outcome, helping you develop key skills such as research, critical thinking, organisation and presentation.

The EPQ is highly valued by universities and employers as it shows independence, initiative and academic curiosity, and it can strengthen applications for higher education and competitive courses.

To study the EPQ, you will normally need at least five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above. As it is an independent qualification, you must be organised, motivated and able to manage your own workload, meeting agreed milestones and deadlines throughout the project.



## How to Get Here

We are based on the Ely College site in the Needham's Building at **Downham Road, Ely, CB6 2SH**.

### By Train

Ely Railway Station is well connected to Cambridge, London and Peterborough. From the station, Bishop Laney is approximately a 15–20 minute walk, or a short bus or taxi journey. Students can apply for the 16-25 Railcard for reduced fares – for more information go to [www.16-25railcard.co.uk](http://www.16-25railcard.co.uk)

### By Bus

Local bus services run into Ely from surrounding villages and towns. Most services stop in or near the city centre, with the Sixth Form a short onward journey or walk. Students can apply for the Tiger Bus Pass which offers bus fares for £1. Just do an internet search for Tiger Bus Pass for more information.

### By Car

Bishop Laney Sixth Form is easily accessible via main road links into Ely. Parking is available on site, although students and visitors are encouraged to use public transport where possible.

### On Foot or by Bike

Many students travel from within Ely on foot or by bicycle with safe walking and cycling routes available.



## **Norwich City FC Regional Development College Football Programme**

### ***In Partnership with Bishop Laney Sixth Form***

The Norwich City FC Regional Development Programme offers students aged 16–18 a unique opportunity to balance their academic studies with high-quality football development in a structured, supportive environment.

#### **A Balanced Approach to Development**

Our programme is designed to ensure students not only progress as footballers, but also succeed academically and grow into confident, responsible young adults. We place strong emphasis on discipline, commitment, and personal development.

#### **What You Can Expect**

- Three professional training sessions per week led by UEFA-licensed coaches
- 6–8 hours of structured football development weekly
- Competitive fixtures in recognised college leagues and cup competitions
- A full Norwich City FC training kit (subject to a contribution)

#### **Opportunities Beyond the Pitch**

Students will also benefit from a range of additional experiences designed to broaden their development:

- Coaching pathways through our Junior Coaches Club
- USA scholarship guidance for those considering university opportunities abroad
- Educational visits, including Carrow Road stadium experiences
- End-of-season tour, offering memorable football experiences

#### **A Safe and Supportive Environment**

We pride ourselves on creating a positive and professional setting where students are supported both academically and personally. Staff work closely with players to ensure they meet expectations in both their studies and football commitments.

For more information contact  
[pip.davis@canaries.co.uk](mailto:pip.davis@canaries.co.uk)



## The Bishop Laney Foundation

The Bishop Laney Foundation has been supporting young people in Ely and Soham for over 340 years. It provides grants to help apprentices and students aged under 25 who live in these communities with their training and further education.

The Foundation is committed to supporting individuals directly, rather than organisations, by helping with the costs of education and training. This may include funding for equipment, resources or other essential items needed to support learning and progression.

By offering this support, the Bishop Laney Foundation continues its long-standing mission to help young people overcome financial barriers and achieve their ambitions in education, training and employment.

For more information go to [www.bishoplaneyfoundation.org.uk](http://www.bishoplaneyfoundation.org.uk)



# The Bishop Laney Foundation

Founded 1674

'Renewed, Revived, Reimagined.'

**Visit our  
Open Evening**

**22nd Oct 2026**

**Register for this  
event via the QR**



**Bishop Laney**  
Sixth Form

**e:** [office@bishoplaney.org](mailto:office@bishoplaney.org) **t:** 01353 652818 **w:** [bishoplaney.org](http://bishoplaney.org)

**#yourlocalsixthform**