



The Royal Belfast Academical Institution

Sixth Form Aims and Objectives

Our Mission

Our mission is to offer exceptional learning and enrichment, which enables every boy to flourish academically, physically and socially, and to make a positive contribution to society.





Our Purpose

Our Sixth Form programme is designed to help students reach their full academic and personal potential as they prepare for life beyond school—whether that be university, apprenticeships, or direct entry into employment. In today's world, success is about more than strong A-level grades. Universities and employers seek well-rounded, forward-thinking individuals with leadership qualities, communication skills, and a genuine commitment to lifelong learning.

We aim to provide an engaging and supportive environment where students become independent thinkers, confident communicators, and active contributors to both school life and the wider community.



Our Sixth Form Experience

Students in Sixth Form are expected to take increasing ownership of their learning and development. Through a culture of high expectations, self-reflection, and goal setting, students build the habits of mind and personal responsibility essential for adult life.

As senior members of the school community, Sixth Form students act as role models and leaders—mentoring younger pupils, participating in the house system, leading co-curricular activities, and helping to shape school culture through student voice initiatives.

In addition to strong academic provision, we offer a rich extra-curricular programme that enables students to explore interests in music, sport, drama, debating, volunteering, entrepreneurship and more. These experiences build character and support personal growth.

Key Development Areas

By the end of Upper Sixth, students are encouraged to demonstrate progress across the following development areas:





A. Maximise Your Academic Potential

- Take increasing responsibility for your own learning and progress.
- Engage in regular target-setting and review discussions with subject teachers and tutors.
- Manage time effectively, making productive use of private study periods and home study.
- Seek additional support where needed, such as scholar classes or peer tutoring.
- Know your target grades and understand what is required to achieve them.



B. Explore and Plan for Your Future

- Research higher education, apprenticeships, and career options using up-to-date online resources and the school's careers platform.
 - Attend Open Days, careers fairs, and higher education information sessions.
 - Participate in one-to-one guidance interviews with careers staff and UCAS advisers.
 - Take part in talks delivered by external speakers from universities, businesses, and professional fields.
 - Complete a meaningful period of work experience in a relevant field.
 - Engage in discussions with parents/carers and trusted adults about your next steps.
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C. Prepare for Life Beyond School

- Take part in a mock interview with staff or external professionals.
 - Learn how to create effective CVs, cover letters, and personal statements.
 - Submit UCAS applications or employment/apprenticeship applications on time.
 - Attend interviews and assessment centres with confidence and professionalism.
 - Take advantage of alumni connections and partnerships with local employers and universities.
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D. Develop Leadership, Teamwork and Social Skills

- Apply for leadership roles such as Prefect, Mentors or roles within chosen clubs and societies.
 - Join and contribute to school clubs, societies, and house competitions.
 - Represent the school through sport, music, debating, public speaking, drama or charity events.
 - Support younger pupils through the school mentoring scheme .
 - Participate in initiatives such as Duke of Edinburgh, Young Enterprise, or peer tutoring.
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E. Engage in Cultural, Creative and Recreational Activities

- Take part in music ensembles, choirs, or drama productions.
 - Join school societies that explore global issues, languages, politics, or STEM.
 - Maintain an active lifestyle through participation in sport, fitness, and wellness programmes.
 - Develop personal interests outside school.
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F. Make a Positive Contribution to the School and Wider Community

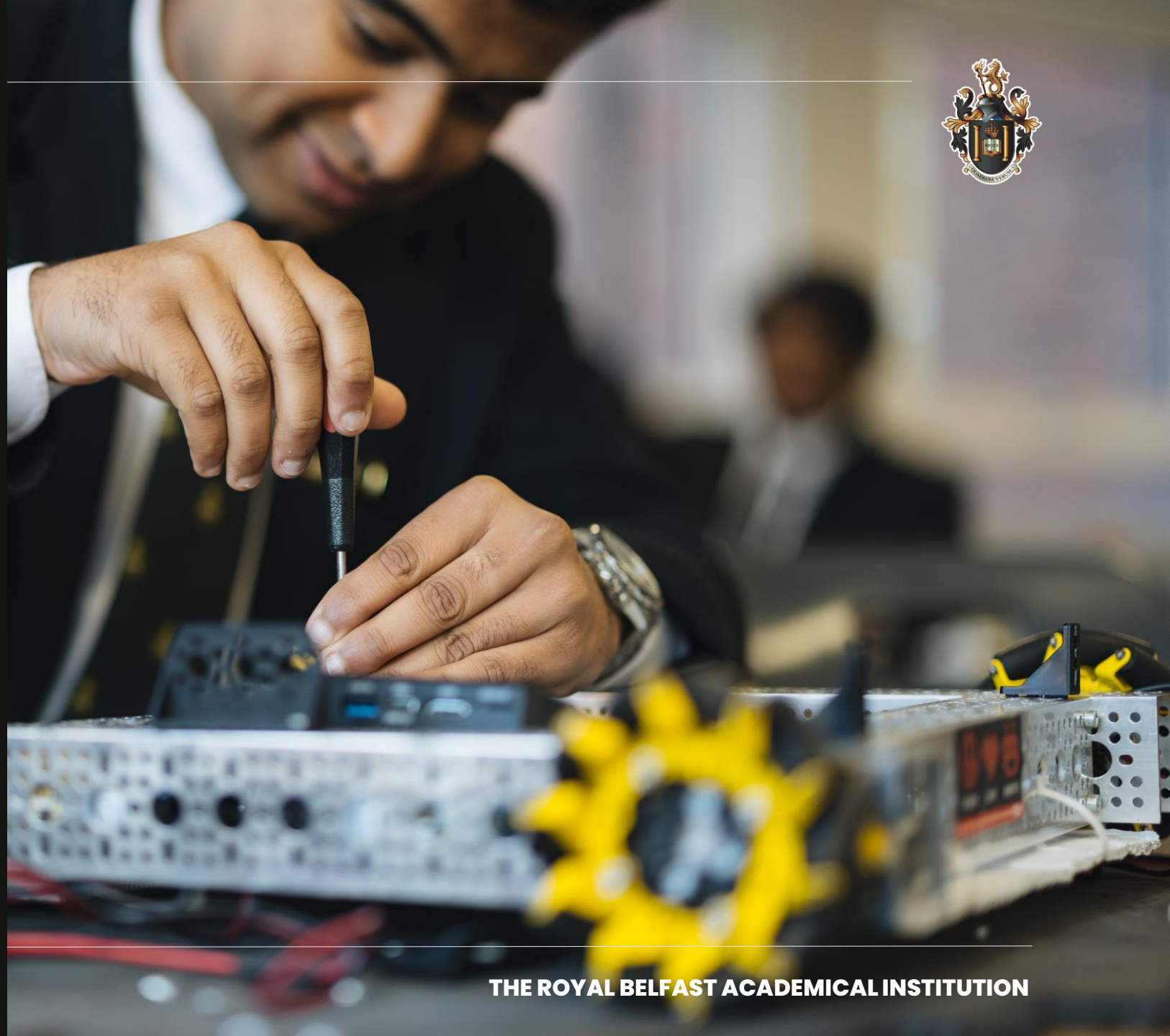
- Play an active role in school life through Student Council or Sixth Form committees.
 - Mentor younger pupils.
 - Volunteer in local charities, primary schools, or care organisations as part of the school's community outreach.
 - Take part in national or international projects such as Habitat for Humanity, World Challenge.
 - Respect and care for the school environment and promote a culture of kindness and inclusion.
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G. Build Key Skills for the Future

- Strengthen skills in literacy, numeracy, digital literacy and presentation.
 - Develop personal capabilities such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving and decision-making.
 - Take part in public speaking, lead assemblies, or present at society events.
 - Use the Sixth Form Centre's Scholar Rooms and online tools to support collaboration and creativity.
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Summary

Our Sixth Form aims to offer a transformative experience—equipping you with the academic qualifications, personal qualities, and life skills needed to thrive in the modern world. We expect you to contribute fully, grow with purpose, and leave school with confidence in your next steps.

