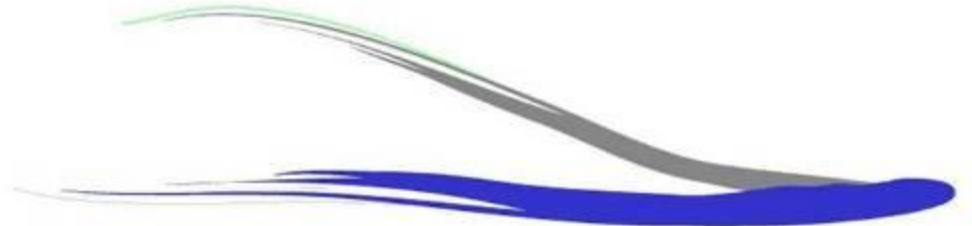


past present and future



past present and future

Bristnall Hall
Technology College

PROSPECTUS 2010 - 2011



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This prospectus is intended as an introduction to the college and as a reference booklet. If it is kept in a safe, convenient place it will answer many of your questions during your child's five-year course at Bristnall Hall Technology College.



WELCOME TO BRISTNALL HALL

Dear Parent/Carer,

When asking for or receiving this prospectus I expect you will want to find in its pages information that gives you hope, encouragement and a feeling that Bristnall Hall Technology College is the right school for your son or daughter.

Bristnall Hall is embarking on an exciting adventure as a Technology College and our "Mission Statement" clearly defines what we are about and what we intend to achieve:

- We offer high quality learning and teaching.
- We underpin this by the use of technologies that allow learning and teaching to occur within the broadest range of opportunities available to students, parents/carers and the community which best meet their needs and interests.
- We continue to raise and maintain standards of achievement, especially in Design Technology, Mathematics, Science and ICT and particularly by the application of target setting allied to a mentoring programme.
- We work in partnership to benefit the extended community by sharing our expertise and resources.
- We look to lead and provide an example to others in terms of learning and teaching in our specialist subjects.
- We look to learn from and with others. **Our future** here at Bristnall Hall is firmly rooted in the development and use of new technologies that will equip our students, parents/carers and community with knowledge and skills that will ensure success in a fast changing world.



In this college children come first. They are our reason for being and they deserve our every consideration. Our overall aim is to foster and develop talents we can already see and to provide a safe, secure but stimulating environment where talents they have, but do not yet use fully, can be encouraged and brought out into the open. All children have something to offer others in the way of talents. Putting these qualities to use will not only benefit those around them but will also add to the self confidence that is so important for your child to have.

This is a happy college, but one with a firm discipline code. The staff are friendly but professional and thoroughly committed to the education of your child. The building, though not as modern as some, provides a warm and comfortable environment in which we work together in partnership.

We want the best for your child and we fully intend that they get all they deserve. We hope you find the answers to most of your questions in the prospectus but if you don't please let us know and we will be only too willing to answer your queries.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Venross".

Mr Steve W Venross, MA, NPQH
Headteacher

Top:
Headteacher: Mr Steve W Venross

Middle:
PE

Below:
Bristnall Hall Technology College



COLLEGE SITE

POSITION

Bristnall Hall Technology College is surrounded by quiet residential roads and the college is positioned safely away from main roads and industry. Nearby there are several parks and playing fields, a sports centre and two swimming pools, all used by the college. The college occupies a central position between Oldbury, Bearwood, Smethwick, Langley and Rowley Regis and is reached quickly and easily from all these districts. This area is served by many bus routes, including: -

<u>Bus No.</u>	<u>Bus stop nearest school</u>
120 Bearwood	- St. Marks Church - Oldbury
128 Bearwood	- Bristnall Hall Road - Rowley
445 Brandhall	- The George - Stoney Lane
448 Bearwood	- Two Brewers, Queen's Road - Spon Lane

SITE

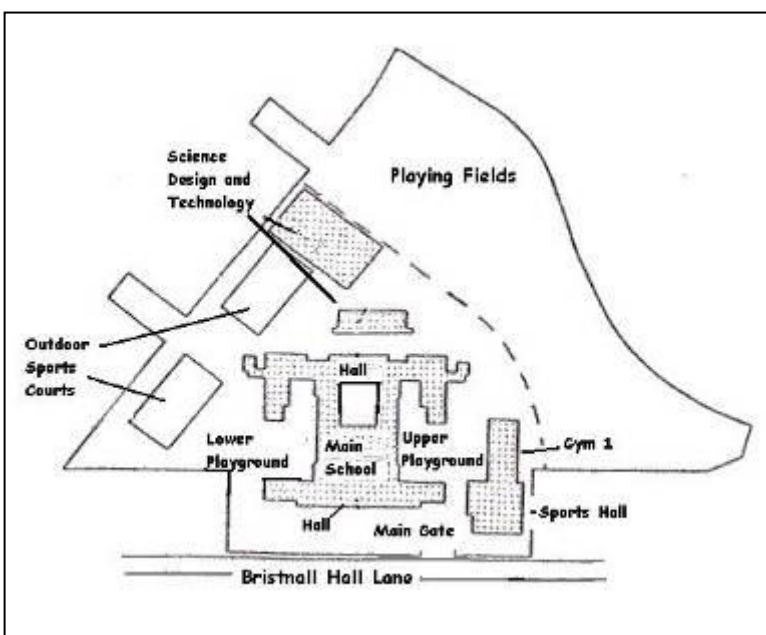
The college occupies a compact, terraced site, pleasantly screened on three sides by trees, the fourth side facing Bristnall Hall Lane and being the front of the school. The map below shows the main college entrance and car parks and the college sports facilities. Other sports facilities in the vicinity used by the college are described in full in the Sports Section of the prospectus. Additional recreational facilities on site include two large playgrounds and a landscaped area with seats where students can sit and relax.



Top:
Design and Technology block

Middle:
Sports field

Bottom:
College entrance



OUR STUDENTS



ATTENDANCE

At Bristnall Hall we expect students to attend at all times. Missed lessons for whatever reason, are disruptive to quality learning and teaching. Parents/carers are asked to ensure regular attendance and punctuality. For students to gain the most out of their time at Bristnall Hall it is vital that attendance is at a high level.

In order to build upon good practice, the college Attendance Policy offers constructive strategies. Your child should aim to have a high level of attendance, as their progress at college depends on it. Illness or family crisis should be the only reasons for their absence from college. On return to college, they must bring a note of explanation signed by a parent/carer. If they are likely to be away for a long period of time, college must be informed as soon as possible. **The college does not encourage holiday leave during term time as this affects your child's education.**

EXPECTATIONS

Bristnall Hall aims to provide an excellent College in which all students are of equal value and are seen as having unlimited potential for development. We aim to support all of our students and provide a framework within which individuals can flourish.

At Bristnall Hall, the expectation for our students in both achievement and behaviour is high. We expect all students to work to the best of their ability and to show respect to others, be polite and considerate.

We have a high standard of behaviour both in and out of the classroom. We need your support as a parent/carer to ensure that we work in partnership to support your child.

Whether your child is joining the college in Year 7 with many other new students or whether they are joining it on their own in a later year, we are pleased to welcome them and hope that their time with us will be happy and successful. Both teachers and older students will try very hard to make sure that they quickly settle down into a routine. If your child works hard and plays hard, their stay at Bristnall Hall will be busy, enjoyable and of great benefit to them.

MEDICAL

If your child is taken ill or has an accident, they will receive careful attention. They will be asked for the daytime telephone number of the adult responsible for them so that if it is necessary, you can be contacted. If a case is serious or if there is any doubt, they may be taken to hospital. If your child has had an accident, illness or suffers from any medical condition, which could affect college life, then the Headteacher must be informed. This information will be confidential. Sandwell Area Health Authority carries out medical inspections regularly. Parents/carers are always informed of these inspections and are invited to attend.

HOMEWORK

It is college policy that homework is set for all students. The amount required to be undertaken increases according to the year and the development of the student. Key Stage 3 students are set Independent Learning Challenges (ILC) in foundation subjects and 1-2 hours per week for English, Mathematics, Science and Modern Languages. Each ILC will consist of a task that will take at least six hours to complete.

Key Stage 4 students are set up to 3 hours per night. All textbooks are provided free of charge and students are responsible for their care and return.



Top:
Drama lesson

Middle:
History lesson

Bottom:
Art lesson

PARENTS/CARERS AND BRISTNALL HALL

VISITS TO BRISTNALL HALL

Parents/carers of students in their last year at Primary school are invited along to our Open Evening at Bristnall Hall during the Autumn Term. You will have the opportunity to meet all subject staff and participate in a tour, viewing all the different curriculum areas of the college.

A New Intake Parents/Carers meeting is held in the Summer Term for the parents/carers of students who will be joining the college in the following September. At this meeting there is the opportunity to meet the Year Leader and the Senior Leadership Team.

In addition, each Year 6 student visits Bristnall Hall on two occasions and is given a guided tour of the college, a chance to meet their new form tutor and classmates, and to work on the skills needed to make successful transfer to secondary school.

Teachers and students of Bristnall Hall visit our neighbouring Primary Schools on a regular basis, so that when students transfer to us in September they will already feel comfortable in the college and they will know what is expected of them. Organised activities with Primary Schools have included a Design and Technology competition, Food Technology and English events, a local History project, ICT projects and joint Dance and Music productions for public performance.

COMMUNITY

At Bristnall Hall we offer a varied programme of courses for adult and community learners. These include CISCO Academy (Computer Networking), European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL), Drawing with Computers, Step Aerobics Advanced, Freestyle Dance Class, Bristnall Dance Line Dancing and Bristnall Dance. More details and information on courses is available by contacting reception.

Students and staff at Bristnall Hall have supported many charities and helped to raise money through a variety of activities. These include selling ribbons for Breast Cancer, non-school dress days, the London Marathon, Run for Life and MacMillan coffee morning cake sales.



Above Left: Modern Languages

CONTACT WITH PARENTS/CARERS

At Bristnall Hall we encourage parents/carers to be interested and involved in college life. We are always keen to see parents/carers about any aspect of college life. In order to avoid unnecessary waiting, if you have an enquiry and wish to speak to a member of staff, it is vital that an appointment is made. You should contact the Year Leader through Reception and make a mutually convenient appointment.

PARENT/CARER EVENING

At Bristnall Hall, parents/carers are invited to meet their child's teachers and discuss progress. One Parent/Carer Evening is arranged for each year group during the college year. There is an additional evening in the Autumn Term for Year 7 when there will be a chance to discuss settlement issues. You will receive a letter of invitation and an appointment sheet, giving you the opportunity to meet with individual subject teachers. **It is expected that all parents/carers attend the relevant evening/s.**

REVIEWS AND REPORTS

Subject Reviews are sent home on a ½ termly basis and Reports on all aspects of a student's progress at college are sent home once a year.

HEADTEACHERS NEWSLETTER

These are sent home at the end of each term as a minimum, with the latest news regarding college life and activities. Student achievements, both in and out of college, are also recognised and celebrated. The newsletter is usually sent home via the students and contains important information and diary dates.

PARENTS/CARERS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION (PFA)

We have an active PFA who contribute their time at many College events and functions. We are always delighted to receive new members.

THE COLLEGE DAY

HOW OUR DAY IS ORGANISED

8:45 am	Arrive at College
8:55 am	Morning Registration and/or Assembly
9:10 am	Lesson 1
10:10 am	Lesson 2
11:15 am	Break time
11:25 am	Lesson 3
12:25 pm	Lunch Break
1:10 pm	Lesson 4
2:10 pm	Lesson 5
3:10 pm	End of College
3.10-4.10pm	Extra College Activities and Clubs

BREAK AND LUNCH ARRANGEMENT

During break time no students may leave the college grounds.

Lunch is from **12.25 pm to 1.10pm**.

During this time students can do one of the following: -

- 1) Stay at college and have a hot cooked lunch or purchase sandwiches and salads;
- 2) Stay at college and eat a packed lunch in one of the rooms set aside;
- 3) Go home for lunch.

Year 7 students stay on site during lunch. If students choose to leave the college ground at lunch time, parents/carers must complete and sign a form and return it to the relevant Year Leader.

Food and drink may only be consumed in the dining areas. It is not permitted in classrooms or on the corridors.

Bristnall Hall has achieved a Bronze Award for Healthy Schools and we believe that children benefit from Healthy Eating. We encourage all students to eat healthily and discourage a 'chips with everything' diet.

Left:
Ski trip to Austria

Right:
Students socialising



FACILITIES



Above: Corridor displays and surrounding buildings

Bristnall Hall has a mixture of traditional and more modern buildings, all contained on one site. This is a great advantage, since students never have to waste time on long journeys between different sites. The older building contains two Halls for student gatherings, assemblies and dining. The larger hall has a stage, which is used for drama and musical productions. Both halls are used at lunch time for students to eat their lunch. Many classrooms in this part of the school have been adapted to provide specialist facilities for the major subjects and only a few remain as general-purpose classrooms.

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

The Design and Technology area is made up of seven specialist rooms. Facilities for Design and Technology include rooms for Graphics, Resistant Materials, Food Technology, Textiles and two fully equipped areas dedicated to CAD/CAM (Computer Aided Design and Manufacture).

SCIENCE LABORATORIES

The college is fortunate in having five science laboratories. This provision means that most Science lessons can be timetabled in laboratories so that a modern approach, based on students' experiments, is possible. We also have an ICT facility designated for Science specifically, which provides one computer per student.

ICT FACILITIES

The college has extensive ICT (Information and Communication Technology) facilities. As well as five computer rooms dedicated to teaching ICT, extensive planned expenditure has ensured that students enjoy the best technology available. In addition to the specialist rooms we have further rooms in Design and Technology, Science, and Modern Foreign Languages. Significant ICT resources can be found in English, Mathematics, History, Geography, and Music.

We are also expanding the use of interactive whiteboards, currently 50, to make learning and teaching more exciting and stimulating. All teachers have a laptop and throughout the college are many 'banks' of laptops for students to use in lessons. All classrooms contain at least one computer and these support 'instant' electronic registration in every lesson.

Top:
Food Technology and Textiles lessons

Middle:
Science practical experiment lesson

Bottom:
ICT lesson



FACILITIES

LIBRARY

The Library is situated in the centre of college. It is open for all students Monday to Thursday lunch time 12.25-1.05 pm and Tuesday and Wednesday after school 3.10-4.00 pm for Study Support. A book group is held twice a month to discuss reading matter and consists of Year 7 students and staff. The library is accessible, with permission, to all students during lesson time with classes usually timetabled in for research and reading.

The Library contains fiction, non-fiction and non-book resources, such as CDs, slides, posters and video conferencing equipment. The careers library is also situated in a Reference Section enabling students to have access to information regarding CV's and advice on a range of careers and college courses. A member of the Connexions Service is often available to provide advice on careers.

ICT use is encouraged and there are computers available with Internet access. We are one of the first colleges in the country to use an ICT system called 'Identikit' for issuing and returning library resources. Students are encouraged to become Librarians and are helped to work towards gaining a 'Skills Award' certificate.

We aim to help raise achievement by providing good quality information relevant to the needs of students and fiction that encourages students to develop as readers regardless of age or ability.



Left:
Library facilities



MUSIC

Bristnall Hall has two large Music rooms, containing separate practice bays for individual practice and instruction and specialist computer recording equipment.

Instrumental lessons are given by specialist peripatetic staff on a wide variety of instruments provided by the college. When students have reached a good standard, they may join one of the many college instrumental groups to work towards our regular concert programmes and may be entered for Associated Board Examinations.

Below: Music lesson



ART

We have two large purpose built Art rooms at Bristnall Hall. In addition there is an area used for 3-dimensional work and sculpture on a larger scale.



Below and right:
GCSE Art work and lesson



CURRICULUM



The full range of National Curriculum subjects are in place at Bristnall Hall Technology College with many exciting and interesting aspects of study being covered.

KEY STAGE 3 Years 7, 8 and 9

During this year, regular assessments are carried out and tests are held at the beginning and at the end of the year.

Students in Key Stage 3 study the following subjects: -

English	Mathematics	Science
ICT	Modern Languages	Design and Technology
Geography	History	Religious Education
Art	Music	Physical Education
Learning 2 Learn	PSHEE and Citizenship	



In Year 9, Careers is taught through a PSHEE programme. Some students will begin GCSE courses in this year in some core subjects.



Top:
Geography lesson

Bottom:
Science experiments

SEX, DRUGS AND HEALTH EDUCATION

Health Education is part of the PSHEE (Personal, Social, Health and Enterprise Education Programme) as well as being cross curricular and seeks to encourage students to consider their personal responsibilities as well as those to the family and wider community.

The College Governors have decided that Sex Education **shall** take place in the college curriculum and consider it an important element in preparing students for adult life. This course is largely covered in the context of PSHEE, covering not only the mechanics involved but also moral attitudes, emotional and ethical dimensions and responsibilities. The physical aspects of sexual behaviour are covered within the teaching programme in Science and PSHEE.

Apart from trained college staff, further specialist help is made use of for certain topics. The Sandwell Health Authority also supports the programme, which includes health, related issues of Sex and Drugs Education.

Top:
Spanish lesson

Bottom:
Resistant Materials lesson



CURRICULUM

KEY STAGE 4 Years 10 and 11

Bristnall Hall operates a flexible Key Stage 4 Course system based on the student's ability and interests. During Year 9, teachers, parents/carers and students discuss the student's interests and their Year 9 internal college examination results. This discussion is used as the basis to compile a combination of subjects at levels appropriate to the student's interests and abilities. Each student is then offered a suitable combination of GCSE and vocational examinations from over 20 subjects.

Below:
BTEC Sports Studies lesson



All students continue with a broad-based educational programme and follow a wide range of courses in addition to the common core. As a designated Technology College all students are expected to study for a GCSE in Design and Technology.

COMMON CORE

Examination

English Mathematics Science ICT
Design and Technology (one specialist subject)
Modern Foreign Language (selected groups only)

Non-examination

Physical Education Religious Education/Citizenship
Personal, Social, Health Enterprise Education/Careers

Cross Curricular

Enterprise Work related Learning

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

Option subjects taken to examination level are in addition to the common core. Any of these subjects may change from time to time, depending on student choice and resource deployment, but are usually available at GCSE

Art	Business Studies	Child Development
Dance (BTEC)	French/Spanish	Geography
History	Media Studies	Music
Public Services (BTEC)	Religious Studies	Sport (BTEC)

Work Related Curriculum – ASDAN, Diploma and College Courses for example Hair and Beauty, Construction.

CROSS-CURRICULAR

All students deal with issues under the headings of Economic and Industrial Understanding, World of Work, Citizenship, Health Education, Careers and Environmental Education. Each subject area contributes to the student's understanding of these 'Themes' and 'Skills'. We aim to help children in their understanding of how the world of business works, how money is generated and used, economy and rights and responsibilities. PSHEE, Health Education and Equal Opportunities run through all aspects of learning and teaching at Bristnall Hall Technology College.

POST 16 EDUCATION

At Bristnall Hall we have and increasing number of students who wish to stay in college to study post 16 level qualifications, enabling us to deliver a broader based curriculum whilst concentrating on our specialist area of Design and Technology. We have a purpose built 6th form block with ICT facilities and personal study areas.

Our 6th form is part of a consortium with two local Academies. Students are based at Bristnall Hall for morning sessions and travel to other sites for their chosen subjects during afternoon sessions.

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS

Bristnall Hall students are expected to take public examinations in a broad range of subjects. In some subjects we may enter students early in Year 10. The college places a high priority on its students gaining examination qualifications and sets itself a high target figure of good grades. These targets are frequently bettered. While the examinations major upon the GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education), more specifically vocational and practical examinations are available.

PROVISION FOR SPORTS

At Bristnall Hall a wide range of sporting activities are offered through the curriculum to enhance fitness, health and the well being of every student. We aim to develop confidence, self-respect and sporting competence in every individual, giving them the skills to continue participating in sporting activities in later life.

INDOOR SPORTS

The college benefits from two separate gymnasia allowing the Physical Education programme to continue in all weathers. The larger is equipped for the following activities:-

Aerobics	Badminton	Basketball
Circuit training	Dance	5-a-side football
Health Related fitness		Indoor Hockey
Netball	Sports training	Volleyball

The smaller gymnasium is mainly used for gymnastics, sports acrobatics, trampolining, dance and health related fitness. Facilities provided by these buildings include girls' and boys' changing rooms and showers. Many of the sports mentioned are played on a class, house and inter-school league basis.



Left:
Trampoline lesson

Below:
PE lesson



Right:
Physical Education lessons

OUTDOOR SPORT

Bristnall Hall offers the following activities, according to the season: -

Athletics	Basketball	Cricket
Football	Rounders	Rugby

A further grassed training area is available for athletics training. Additional facilities used by the school at neighbouring sites include:-

Hadley Stadium	-	Athletics
Harry Mitchell Recreation Centre	-	Badminton, Squash
Thimblemill Centre	-	Cardiovascular Fitness and Swimming

PERFORMING ARTS STUDIO

Attached to the main PE facilities we have a performing arts studio. Here, Dance, Music and Fitness sessions are taught during the college day and as extra curricular activities. Community use of the studio has been successful and 'Bristnall Dance' is popular. Plans for the future include a recording studio.

PREPARING FOR WORKING LIFE

PROGRESS

At Bristnall Hall all students are involved in the process of recording their achievement. Target setting and Reviews are built into the curriculum and students record all grades, targets, reviews and achievements in their Student Planner. They will continue this process throughout their college career.

Students keep a record of all their achievements from their time at Bristnall Hall ready for post 16 opportunities.



WORK EXPERIENCE

All Year 10 students take part in a one week Work Experience. This is designed to improve their understanding of the world of work and to give them experience of working with adults others than their teachers at Bristnall Hall. They will experience an interview prior to joining the placement and will receive a report on completion of the work experience placement. We have many local and national business links who take placements and are involved in Enterprise Week.

There are legal restrictions placed on the type of work students can undertake and the college ensures all Health and Safety requirements are met.

Right:
Careers guidance
Careers Library



CAREERS EDUCATION

Careers Education and guidance is delivered as part of the PSHEE Programme. We consider it to be a significant subject for students particularly at Key Stage 4. All tutors are involved in delivering a varied programme that seeks to equip our students with the necessary skills and knowledge to enable them to make informed decisions about their future. We are also assisted by Personal Advisors from the national Connexions Service

In **Year 7 and 8** the general aim of the course is to look at the world of work in its widest sense and in **Year 9** students participate in a planned programme with an emphasis on developing decision-making skills and preparing Action Plans. These exercises help students consider carefully the subject options to be taken during Key Stage 4. Parents/carers are also encouraged to be involved in this process and a meeting is held to outline the procedure for option choices.

In **Year 10** all students participate in a computer assisted scheme designed to give students help in thinking about the kind of job they might like to take up in the future. Research work follows and a variety of methods are used, including the latest computer database systems ensuring up-to-date information.

In **Year 11** visits to local Further Education and Sixth Form Colleges, including our own, are organised and arrangements are made for students to go to places further a field wherever possible. Students are given the opportunity to be interviewed and assisted by staff from Connexions Careers Services and parents/carers are invited to attend these interviews.

Throughout the whole of the Careers Education programme links are made with the community and representatives of Industry, Commerce and the Careers Service are invited to participate wherever possible. Within the college a well-equipped Careers Library contains information for use by students and learners.

SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS

PASTORAL CARE

Students remain in Key Stage 3 for their first three years under the care of an Assistant Headteacher, Senior Pastoral Leader, Year Leaders and Form Tutors. These teachers all have wide experience of the needs of students of this age and are therefore well suited to help them. Considerable care is taken when arranging form groups and placing students, particularly those who are the only ones from their primary school. Forms of mixed abilities are organised to provide a stable social unit. Each form has a Form Tutor who is responsible for students' welfare.

The care of students in Key Stage 4 has a different emphasis, although it has a similar structure to that of Key Stage 3. An Assistant Headteacher, Year Leaders and Form Tutors guide Year 10 and 11 students. In addition to the usual monitoring of academic and personal progress, staff pay particular attention to giving vocational guidance and advice on further education opportunities.

Our Student Support Team of nine staff is dedicated to supporting students throughout the College.

HOUSE SYSTEM

At Bristnall Hall we run a House System and all students are allocated one of three houses - Brindley (yellow), Darby (green) and Telford (red).

There are increasing opportunities for students to participate in college and community House events. For example, Bristnall's Got Talent, Christmas Hampers, Sudoku competitions and many more.

Below:

Year 12 students at the Bristnall Hall



REWARDS

Rewarding students is an integral part of Learning and Teaching at Bristnall Hall Technology College and a way of promoting achievement. We hope to establish a climate where praise and encouragement far outweigh the frequency of sanctions and admonition. The development of a praise culture will reduce the number of incidents and improve Learning and Teaching. Students who receive regular praise for what they do will improve their own learning, behaviour and self-esteem.

House Points are used by staff to congratulate students, to celebrate achievement or success and when they set good examples or show improvement. House Points are recorded in the Student Planner and signed by the member of staff issuing the House Point. House Point totals for each student are recorded on the student's personal file. Students can achieve House Points for good attendance, participation in College events and extra-curricular activities.

Good News letters are issued to students throughout the college year to give instant recognition of positive achievements during a lesson. Throughout the year teachers nominate students who deserve recognition for special achievement and progress. These Headteachers Letters are sent home to parents/carers.

Attendance, House Point and Subject Certificates are awarded each term during Celebration Assemblies. Sporting Colours for outstanding performance in sport are also awarded annually.

DISCIPLINE

At Bristnall Hall the quality of the learning experience is paramount and a high standard of behaviour is expected from all students. We aim to give all our students the opportunity to concentrate in the classroom and enjoy the learning experience. This is encouraged primarily through self-discipline, but we will impose discipline if required.

Behaviour for Learning (BfL) is a transparent, focused, whole college discipline policy and lies at the heart of our college ethos. Our vision is of a system which allows all students to exercise their right to learn; protects and nurtures the learning environment for all learners and staff; and enables students to maximise their learning opportunities and realise their aspirations.

The system emphasises to learners the consequences of their actions. It highlights the vital role of praise and rewards as well as setting clear boundaries with four levels of consequences if rules are broken. It is a fair, clear and consistent approach to improve learning. Our aim is to set a relatively low threshold for entry into the discipline system that reflects our aspirations of good behaviour.

CARING FOR THE INDIVIDUAL

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS PROVISION

At Bristnall Hall we value the ability and achievements **of all our students**. We endeavour to provide the best learning environment for each child, promoting development in understanding and social maturity alongside his or her peers. Bristnall Hall does not see students with learning difficulties as being necessarily less able students. All students have the same entitlement to the full range of the school curriculum and we are committed to making this accessible to all our students.

All staff support a whole college approach and use a range of teaching strategies including small group work, in-class support, Reading Club, Computer Literacy Club, Start Right Club, Buddy Club and Homework Club. Gifted and Talented students are offered extra curriculum provision through a range of extension opportunities.

The College has a successful Learning Support Unit (LSU) which has transformed the delivery of education to those students who have specific challenges or barriers to overcome. Staff work with students in order to address their individual problems and needs and help reintegrate them into mainstream classes.

LEARNING MENTORS AND ACADEMIC COACHES

At Bristnall Hall, we have a team of Learning Mentors who work in both Key Stage 3 and 4. Learning Mentors are school-based staff who, together with teaching and pastoral staff, assess, identify and work with students who need extra help to overcome barriers to learning inside and outside school.

The aim of mentoring is to enable students of any ability to reach their full potential whilst at school and to succeed in their education. We offer guidance, support and encouragement through one to one meetings, group work and after school activities. The team is committed to helping students achieve their goals and feel successful in their learning, at the same time as making school an enjoyable experience.

At Bristnall Hall we are very pleased also to have up and running an Academic Coaching scheme. Our specialist English, Mathematics and Science Academic Coaches, work with targeted groups of students to maximise their success in learning and organising, particularly before exams.

In year 7 students are taught how to learn through our 'Learning 2 Learn' course.

LEARNING SUPPORT

Provision is made throughout the five years for those students with learning difficulties or additional needs by the Learning Support Team. Children who require extra help will be taught in smaller groups of up to 15 students. Support which is deemed necessary over and above that which can be provided directly by the subject teachers, is available to students within the classroom during normal lesson time using in-class support.

GIFTED AND TALENTED

Support and extra provision is also available for the most able students. Our gifted and talented students can attend extra morning sessions to extend their learning and often participate in national competitions. Some of our students have taken part in regional competitions and we currently have a very talented writer who won the Young Writers National Award.



Above:
Students teaching a class plenary

Above Left:
In class support

Below:
Students involved in gardening



EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

At Bristnall Hall students can be involved in a wide range of extra-curricular activities which are a vital ingredient in the development of our students. The voluntary giving of free time by both staff and students produces a friendly atmosphere of mutual respect. These valuable activities are available to all students and the only qualifications needed are enthusiasm and a willingness to contribute regularly. All students are encouraged to develop an interest and participate in the wide range of activities available.

We believe that all our students can become 'Super Learners'. We provide Study Support after school and all students are invited to help improve their overall performance and learning in and out of school. Online resources such as SAMLEARNING support 'anywhere/anytime' learning for students.

'Starters Club' operates five mornings a week. Staffed by a team of support staff, it provides breakfast, leisure and educational activities for students who arrive early, ensuring a positive and healthy start to the college day.

Revision and Holiday schools are offered to all students and give extra sessions for a variety of subjects in preparation for GCSE's.

Top:

Ski trip to Austria

Bottom:

ICT Residential trip to Osmington Bay, Dorset



VISITS AND RESIDENTIALS

An extensive programme of educational journeys, residential trips and visits, in Britain and abroad, are organised each year. Some of the recent trips include land skiing in the Austrian Alps, Disney World, Paris and P.G.L. Adventure Holiday in Dorset. Residential weekends are organised in Modern Languages to extend the learning of Spanish and French with Year 11 students.

Trips to places of interest are an important part of the curriculum in many subjects. The Geography, History, Science, Design and Technology, ICT and PE departments organise day and residential trips.

PE and the Performing Arts as well as the English Department have organised theatre visits. The PE department takes interested students to soccer and cricket internationals, as well as national league basketball finals. Most years, Year 7 students visit one or more of Sandwell's outdoor education centres and the Frank Chapman Centre near Bewdley.

SPORTING ACTIVITIES

Sports coaching, training and match-playing takes place after the college day as well as during the lunch break and school holidays. The main winter sports are soccer, rugby, basketball and netball. In an average season over 100 students represent the college, winning a number of league and cup honours. During the season, students from the college have usually represented the district football teams. Basketball is increasingly popular in the college and its 2 teams enjoy regular training sessions and take part in all available competitions.

Over the last few years Bristnall Hall students have become renowned for dance. Extra - Curricular dance clubs are very well supported. Here, staff and students choreograph dances of many different styles. For example, Line dancing, Rock and Roll, Modern, Freestyle, Tap, Acrobatics, Contemporary Jazz, Bhangra, Musical comedy and Lyrical. Visits are also arranged to the Dance Exchange in Birmingham where our students are taught by professional dancers. Besides dance artists from Netherton Performing Arts and British Gymnastic coaches combine to teach gymnastics and rhythmic gymnastics

The students work towards various dance performances throughout the year:

- Sandwell Dance Festival - a well-known and prestigious Dance Festival where Bristnall Hall have been acclaimed and respected for our contribution.
- College Summer Revue - the aim is to promote an appreciation of dance, music and drama in many forms.
- College Dance Extravaganza - without doubt the dance pinnacle of Bristnall Hall and always a big success.

Above:
Basketball lesson

Left:
Football coaching

Below:
Trampoline activities



The main summer sports are cricket, athletics, rounders and volleyball. Students from Bristnall Hall have represented the West Midlands in athletic events whilst our cricket teams enjoy success in the Sandwell Leagues.

The following Sports Clubs normally take place (often for all years):-

Badminton	Basketball
Circuit Training	Dance
Fitness and Aerobics	Football
Netball	Rugby
Trampolining	Volleyball
Yoga	

The self-respect of the whole school and all its members benefits greatly from these successful sporting activities and are available to any student irrespective of ability.

It is our policy to enable as many children as possible to enjoy sport. 'Sport for All' is a reality at Bristnall Hall Technology College and we firmly believe that physical activity positively benefits the growing child in many ways.



COLLEGE UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT

UNIFORM

ALL STUDENTS

- Navy blue college blazer with college badge
- White shirt with collar - not polo shirt or blouse
- Navy blue and college house tie
- Optional - Navy blue 'V' necked jumper (**not cardigans**)

BOYS

- Mid grey trousers
- Black shoes (**not trainers**)
- Dark socks

GIRLS

- Mid grey trousers or skirt (Lycra style, skin tight trousers or short length skirts are not acceptable)
- Black shoes (**not trainers**) - no pumps, platforms, sling backs or knee high boots
- Plain black or white socks or tights

PE KIT

BOYS

- House polo shirt (in house colour)
- Plain black shorts
- Navy blue hooded top
- Navy blue tracksuit trousers
- Navy blue football socks
- Pumps or trainers

GIRLS

- House polo shirt (in house colour)
- Navy blue hooded top
- Navy blue tracksuit trousers
- White sports socks
- Pumps or trainers

Uniform items may be purchased from any suitable supplier. Two local suppliers are A. Oakes, Rood End, Oldbury, and Clive Marks, Bearwood. All items of clothing and equipment should be marked or named to avoid problems when lost.

JEWELLERY

Only the following items of Jewellery are permitted:

- One watch
- One flat ring
- One fine necklace (Not on show)
- Small studs or sleepers (**in ears only**)
- One plain bracelet

Students are not permitted to wear a body piercing in their nose, face, mouth, tongue or on the upper part of the ear. Students will be asked to remove piercings in college.

EQUIPMENT

Students should bring the following equipment to college every day:

- A strong waterproof bag for transporting books, homework etc.
- Student Planner - provided by College
- A pen or biro
- A pencil
- A ruler, eraser, and pencil sharpener
- Colouring pencils

Protective clothing used in Design and Technology is provided by the college.



Above:
Uniform and protective clothing around college

OTHER INFORMATION

COLLEGE SECURITY

We aim to keep all our students safe when they are at college or on premises for extra curricular activities. There are CCTV cameras around the college. CCTV images may be used on occasions to ensure the safety of all students, learners, visitors and staff and the protection of the Bristnall hall Technology College's grounds and contents. The college has controlled entrances throughout the college and reception area.

Parents/carers are asked to contact the college first if they wish to make an appointment to see a member of staff. People who threaten, assault or become verbally abusive towards anyone in the college, will be asked to leave the premises and we may inform the police. The College follows the School Security Policy and Guidelines issued by Sandwell LA. Copies available from College reception.

COLLEGE CHARGES

The Governors of this school have adopted the Local Authority Charging and Remissions Policy as outlined in the Education Reform Act, 1988.

If a student fails to complete the examination requirements and college has incurred a fee, college will expect to recover the costs from parents/carers.

Students complete an ICT agreement on entry to the college.

EMERGENCY CONTACT

Please ensure that emergency telephone numbers (work number etc.) are kept up-to-date. Notify any changes of personal details, address, telephone, emergency contact numbers to the college reception immediately.

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Under the terms of the 1988 Education Act, should parents/carers wish to make a complaint about education provision at Bristnall Hall Technology College they should first direct their complaint to the Headteacher.



THOUGHTS AND IMPRESSIONS

"I chose Bristnall Hall for my 6th form and it has started really well. It helped that I already know the staff and I live close by so I don't have to travel like my friends. In the future I want to become a PE teacher and studying for my BTEC Sports Studies will help me. Teachers are helping me plan my career and the 6th form block allows me to study outside of college hours."

Year 12 student - 2009

"I would like to thank all the staff at Bristnall Hall for their help and support over the five years Ross has attended your school. Any issues have been dealt with quickly, effectively and professionally. As a result Ross has been happy at school. Thank you."

Parent letter - 2010

"I would like to thank you Mr Venross for the Headteachers letter for Kirsty, for her achievement in Maths. She has been moved up a set and was really pleased. I am glad to see that you recognise her hard work and that her work has paid off. Thank you

Proud Parent - 2010

"I just want to say a huge thank you to all the staff, parents and students at the school for their support for our Christmas hamper campaign. I was so very happy that you and some of your students found the time to come out with us and deliver the hampers to some of our most isolated and vulnerable clients. I personally cannot thank you enough for your continued support, it really is very much appreciated."

Age Concern - 2010

"On Thursday we received a parcel from your school via Age Concern. It really brightened mine and my husband's day to know that people still give a thought to those who are not able to get out and about. Please pass my thanks on to all those involved in the collection

Community thanks - 2010

"Thank you for your school's recent donation of £670.00 to the UNICEF's Haiti Earthquake Children's Appeal.

Fundraising thanks - 2010

"I would like to thank and congratulate everyone at your school for the commitment, hard work and persistence that has led to the positive and encouraging GCSE results that you achieved."

Diana Johnson, MP - 2010

TERM DATES

2010 – 2011

AUTUMN TERM 2010

Thursday 2nd September to Friday 17th December
Half Term: Friday 22nd October to Monday 1st November

SPRING TERM 2011

Tuesday 4th January to Friday 8th April
Half Term: Friday 18th to Monday 28th February

SUMMER TERM 2011

Tuesday 26th April to Thursday 21st July
Half Term: Friday 27th May to Monday 6th June

Below:
Main college Hall – ‘Let Former Glories Flourish’



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