



THE BEACON
FUTURE SPARKS



SPARKING EXCELLENCE

The Beacon Future Sparks Programme is designed to give our Middle School boys the tools to develop their interpersonal skills and encourage growth of communication and collaboration. It will enable boys to shine brightly beyond their Beacon journey.



WELCOME TO FUTURE SPARKS



"After a successful launch in 2022, I am thrilled to continue to run The Beacon Future Sparks Programme moving forward. It is an exciting initiative that has certainly proved to spark excellence in our Beacon boys." - Hannah Macdonald, Head of Middle School

At The Beacon, we pride ourselves on inspiring and nurturing our boys from an academic, social and emotional perspective, giving them the foundations to become well-rounded, remarkable young men.

In Middle School (Years 5 and 6), boys continue to grow in independence and responsibility at the school. It is in these vital years that we focus on personal development, ensuring our boys thrive in a happy and motivating environment.

The Beacon Future Sparks Programme is designed to give our boys the tools to develop their interpersonal skills, challenging them with tasks tailored to encourage growth of communication and collaboration, inside and outside of the classroom.

It has been developed to help prepare our boys fully for Upper School, senior schools and beyond. Underpinned by the core

values of The Beacon, it is a unique, bespoke programme of activities and experiences to enable Beacon boys to flourish armed with valuable life skills, personal qualities and attributes.

The range of tasks can be selected according to individual interests and strengths, each of which is categorised from independent learning and leadership challenges to sporting, social responsibility and creative tasks.

The Future Sparks Programme is a platform to empower and spark excellence in our Beacon boys, inspiring them to shine in to the future.

Hannah Macdonald
Head of Middle School

LIGHTING THE FUTURE FOR BEACON BOYS

Programme Overview

The Future Sparks Programme offers our Middle School boys the opportunity to embrace the wonderful opportunities available to them at The Beacon.

It inspires our boys to think about the wider community, enabling them to develop life skills outside of the curriculum.

The aim of the programme is to encourage use of their initiative and creativity. The majority of tasks are designed to be fun and informal, many of which can be done in partnership with peers or family. Efforts will be assessed by class teachers and tutors.



How It Works

To pass the Future Sparks Programme, Year 5 boys are required to successfully complete a minimum of 18 tasks from the task list. A Pass, Merit or Distinction will be awarded, subject to the number of successfully completed tasks each boy achieves over the year. Year 6 boys are required to complete project-based tasks from six sections. A Gold, Silver or Bronze accreditation will be awarded according to the number of sections completed.

The tracking and assessment of tasks will be the responsibility of each boy in collaboration with their class teacher or tutor. For tasks completed at home, photographic and/or video evidence accompanied with a short statement written by parents will need to be submitted by email directly to class teachers.

TASK CATEGORIES

There are 7 Sparks of Excellence categories in which tasks have been categorised. Boys are required to complete tasks successfully within each category to receive The Beacon Future Sparks #SparkingExcellence Diploma.



SPARKING EXCELLENCE

All boys in Years 5 and 6 have the opportunity to spark excellence and participate in The Beacon Future Sparks Programme.

Completed tasks will be assessed by class teachers and tutors throughout the academic year.

To receive our Future Sparks #SparkingExcellence Diploma, Year 5 boys are required to successfully complete a minimum of 18 tasks, as approved by their class teacher or tutor. Year 6 boys are required to complete larger project-based tasks. Accreditation will be awarded at the end of the Summer Term.

Achievements will be accredited accordingly:

YEAR 5	DISTINCTION	29-34 Tasks	YEAR 6	GOLD	5/6 Sections
	MERIT	24-28 Tasks		SILVER	4 Sections
	PASS	18-23 Tasks		BRONZE	3 Sections

BE INSPIRED

A diploma is awarded to all boys who spark excellence and successfully complete the programme.





BE CHALLENGED

Tasks must be successfully completed over the school academic year to complete The Beacon Future Sparks Programme.

YEAR 5 TASK LIST

INDEPENDENT LEARNING	
<i>The following tasks allow our boys to make informed choices and take responsibility for their own learning</i>	✓
1. Participate in a minimum of two clubs over the course of the academic year	
2. Learn how to solve a Rubik’s Cube	
3. Reach 3,000 words on the Accelerated Reader scheme	
4. Learn how to do the laundry (with adult supervision)	
5. Learn how to count to 20 in Italian	
6. Build a den (a really big den!!)	
7. Watch a sunrise or sunset, photograph it and show the class	
8. Read all of the following books: Wonder by RJ Palacio, The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Q. Raúf, The Hobbit by J.R.Tolkein	
9. Visit the theatre	
CONFIDENCE	
<i>The following tasks aim to build self-believe confidence in our boys, giving them the opportunity to practise challenges that may be deemed difficult to face</i>	✓
10. Create a PowerPoint on a topic of your choice and present to the class	
11. Memorise a poem of your choice and recite it in class (minimum of 2 verses)	
12. Camp overnight (in your garden or the countryside)	
13. Take the train to London for a day out - take a photo!	
PHYSICAL	
<i>The following tasks are challenges which require boys to develop their physical ability and strength</i>	✓
14. Represent The Beacon in a minimum of eight sports matches	
15. Try a new sport	
16. Learn to swim 100m	
CREATIVITY	
<i>The following tasks allow boys to expand their creative imagination giving them the power to showcase creative flair and inspire others</i>	✓
17. Create a photo montage to showcase a day out or holiday and show it to your class	
18. Create a poster about a famous female that you find inspirational	
19. Learn how to knit (keep your eyes peeled for the break-time club!)	
20. Watch all of the following movies: Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, Inside Out, E.T.	

Year 5 Task List Continued

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY	
<i>The following tasks aim to instil a sense of awareness of society well-being and the environment, encouraging boys to take responsibility in lessening the negative impacts</i>	✓
21. Have a spring clean and donate some clothes and/or toys to an appropriate charity	
22. Complete a 5K run	
23. Raise a sum of money for a charity of your choice	
24. Create a bug hotel and document the process	
25. Go for a walk everyday for a week (minimum 3km)	
LEADERSHIP	
<i>The following tasks empower our boys, offering them the opportunity to take the lead to be high achievers, influencing and guiding others in a positive manner</i>	✓
26. Show exemplary behaviour on a Beacon residential trip	
27. Be awarded a minimum of 2 commendations over the academic year	
28. Accumulate at least 90 house points in a year	
29. Read a story to a younger child	
KINDNESS	
<i>The following tasks encourage our boys to continue to show kindness - a Beacon School value that is embedded into school life on a daily basis</i>	✓
30. Hand-write a letter telling someone how much you appreciate them and post it	
31. Bake some cookies or a cake for your neighbour or friends	
32. Lay and clear the table for your family daily for a whole week	
33. Contribute to the Performing Arts department outside of the curriculum	
34. Take part in a litter pick in your local village or town	



YEAR 6 TASKS

In Year 6, boys are encouraged to complete larger projects rather than multiple individual small tasks. Each boy is required to complete three tasks from each section below and document the process from beginning to end.

Each project could be presented as a poster, on a PowerPoint presentation or as a talk in class, and photos or videos should be incorporated as evidence.

There are six sections – boys might want to concentrate on one section per half term, although this isn’t obligatory. Once they have completed a task, they should show or present this to their form tutor who will sign off completed work.

LEADERSHIP	
<i>Empowering boys, offering them the opportunity to take the lead to be high achievers, influencing and guiding others in a positive manner</i>	✓
- Lead a sports/music/drama session for younger children	
- Run a stall at a fair	
- Provide support within a Pre-Prep classroom, such as helping with reading or maths	
- Present a short educational talk about a subject of your choice in a Middle School Assembly	
- Own task (as approved by form tutor)	
SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY	
<i>Instilling a sense of awareness of society well-being and the environment, encouraging boys to take responsibility in lessening the negative impacts</i>	✓
- Raise money for a charity	
- Get involved in a local sustainability project	
- Complete a “Good Deeds” mission (e.g. baking a cake, sending cards, making a meal for someone who needs it, washing cars)	
- Write a letter to your local MP or someone you admire about a topic that is important to you	
- Own task (as approved by form tutor)	
HEALTH AND FITNESS	
<i>Developing physical ability and strength, considering ways to live healthily</i>	✓
- Train for and complete a 5km run	
- Try out a new sport	
- Create a programme to increase your fitness (such as building some regular exercise)	
- Design and make a healthy three course meal	
- Own task (as approved by form tutor)	

Year 6 Tasks Continued

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT	
<i>Taking responsibility for your own learning and working on challenges which may be deemed difficult to face</i>	✓
- Learn a new skill (for example juggling, magic tricks) and show it to your class	
- Create a comic or book for a young audience	
- Document how you overcame a fear and faced it head on	
- Visit a museum or cultural destination	
- Own task (as approved by form tutor)	
CREATIVITY	
<i>Expanding boys’ creative imagination, giving them power to showcase creative flair and inspire others</i>	✓
- Design a home movie or animation and showcase it to your class	
- Create a board game that tests people’s general knowledge	
- Cook an Indian meal from scratch	
- Complete a DT project outside of lesson time	
- Own task (as approved by form tutor)	
ENTREPRENEURSHIP	
<i>Developing the right mindset for setting up a business, thinking of innovative ideas and delivering goods or a service to the public</i>	✓
- Develop a business plan for an innovative idea	
- Develop a marketing plan to show how to reach your target audience	
- Make a product that can be sold to the public	
- Provide a service for the public (car washing, cleaning, dog walking)	
- Own task (as approved by form tutor)	



SHINE BRIGHTLY

Beacon boys are encouraged to select a variety of tasks that spark passion and drive whilst putting their existing skills to the test to enable them to shine brightly now and in to the future.

The programme offers our boys the tools to develop their interpersonal skills, encouraging growth of vital skills that will form a good foundation for their futures.

Kindness, leadership skills, social responsibility, creativity, physical development, growth of confidence, entrepreneurship and independent learning are the focal areas for development.



BE PREPARED

The Beacon Future Sparks Programme is designed to enable boys to shine brightly beyond their Beacon journey.





THE BEACON

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