



ST JOSEPHS RC  
COMPREHENSIVE  
SCHOOL

St Joseph's  
Catholic Academy  
Sixth Form

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Catholic Academy  
Sixth Form

*Proud to be part of*

## **St. Joseph's**

Catholic Academy & Applied Learning College

*'The love of Christ spurs us on'*

**Sixth Form Prospectus 2021/22**

# Welcome

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At St. Joseph's Sixth Form College our aim has always been to provide a welcoming learning environment providing academic and vocational courses and enrichment opportunities which support students to realise their full potential, their hopes and dreams.

We have a strong work ethic and work hard to support students to challenge themselves both academically and as a member of society. Our ethos is at the route of what we do.

We have an excellent range of courses to suit different pathways making sure that students can find the subjects to get them where they want to be. St Joseph's is full of opportunities to enhance subject learning including links to universities and local business to help individuals to reach their goals and full potential.

The pastoral team at St Joseph's have many years of experience. Students are supported by an understanding and experienced tutor, Pastoral Leaders and the Head of Sixth Form. We have systems to ensure that problems are recognised quickly and action is taken to put things right before it is too late. Everyone is provided with every chance to succeed.

We are extremely proud of our Sixth Form here at St Joseph's and are excited to be moving forward to realise what we can achieve working together.



**Mr P. Mitchell**  
Headteacher



**Mrs G. Kilgour**  
Chair of Governors

Results are excellent at our sixth form with over 20% of our students gaining one or more grades at A and above most years. This leads to successful entry to university courses with over a quarter of our students accepted into Russell Group Universities. Students have gone on to study medicine, nursing, engineering, journalism, maths and law to name a few



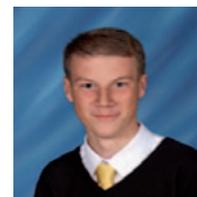
**Mrs S. Lewis-Dale**  
Head of 6th Form

*“ I have loved being a part of the St Joseph’s community over the last seven years because I have always been encouraged and supported during my time here. All of the staff are extremely helpful and approachable, and it is reassuring to know that your teacher’s door is always open if you need any help or advice. Now that I am coming to the end of my journey at St Joseph’s, I wanted to give something back to the school which is why I am honoured to be Head Girl. I hope to study Physics at university and the sixth form staff have given me plenty of support with my UCAS application, and provided me with many opportunities to take part in university-led programmes and events at Russell Group universities across the country. I have always felt at home at St Joseph’s and will be really sad to say goodbye; I would not be the person I am today without this school. ”*



**Izzy Young**  
Head Girl

*“ When I first started St Joseph’s 7 years ago, applying for Head Boy wouldn’t have been something I even considered. However through my time here, with the help of the excellent network of teachers, I have been pushed and challenged both academically and personally. St Joseph’s wants nothing but the best for every student and this is evident through the support given consistently throughout GCSE’s and now whilst completing A-levels and applying to university. I am extremely privileged to have the opportunity to give something back to a school that has helped me for so many years. ”*



**Joshua Mitchell**  
Head Boy

# Mission Statement

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Inspired by God's love and aspiration that each member of our School Community lives life to the full, we commit ourselves to the following aims:

## Prayer, learning and humour

- We will create opportunities for prayer and spiritual development which are relevant to our community and the world in which we live.
- We will create an inspiring learning environment through which our curriculum will be delivered in exciting and motivating ways.
- We will promote enjoyment and happiness through supportive interpersonal relationships and quality enrichment activities.

## Hard work, faith and friendship

- We will develop positive attitudes to learning so that students are able to meet challenges with resilience and go on to make outstanding progress.
- We will promote opportunities which make connections between faith and life, exploring both the Catholic faith and the diversity of other faiths in our community and the world.
- We will create a supportive and caring community which is attentive and responsive to the needs of all, especially those who are vulnerable.

## Respect

- We will respect one another and uphold the school's policies and practices which underpin our learning community.

## Use our gifts and encourage each other

- We will nurture the God-given gifts and talents of each person to support them in achieving success both in school and beyond as lifelong learners.
- We will ensure that our school plays its full part in contributing to the many partnerships to which we are committed.

## Peace

- We will create a safe environment where all can grow and develop supported by our commitment to the Gospel values of justice and peace.



# Choosing the right course

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Choosing the right course is very important. These questions may help you think about a choice which is suited to your strengths and individual needs.

## 1. Strengths and Weaknesses

- Have you discussed your preferred choice of subjects with your subject teachers?
- Do you feel comfortable with your chosen subjects at GCSE and are able to continue with them to a higher level?
- Are you likely to get the subject specific grades required to succeed at Key Stage 5?

## 2. Interest and Enjoyment

- Have you demonstrated a genuine interest in a proposed subject?
- Can you think of ways you have shown your interest outside your lessons?

## 3. New Subjects

- If you are considering a subject completely new to you, what are your reasons for wanting to take it?
- Do you know what the subject involves or relevant skills needed?
- Have you considered the possible consequences of taking more than one completely new subject?
- Have you spoken to the staff who teach that subject?

## 4. Career or Higher Education Course Requirements

- If you have a career or higher education course in mind, does your choice of subjects comply with entry requirements to your chosen course?
- Have you researched current requirements first hand from, for example, the universities publications, admissions officers and careers literature?

## 5. Skills

- Do you know what sort of study the course contains, e.g. does it involve practical work, numeracy, problem solving, essay writing, out-of-school activities?
- Do the skills you will practise reinforce or complement those in your other subjects?

## 6. Unhelpful Questions

- Which teachers do I like?
- What are my friends doing?

# Why Choose St Joseph's 6th form?

## Wide choice of Courses

At St Joseph's we pride ourselves in the ability to offer subjects in both traditional academic and vocational pathways. Students take options in three Level 3 subjects often combining A levels and Btec courses to suit their skills and careers pathways. In addition to this we have an extensive enrichment curriculum developed from our Aspirations programme. This has proved particularly successful in building confidence for students all students particularly those looking to follow Higher Degree level Apprenticeships in fields such as Engineering and IT

## Pastoral Care

You will be supported by a team of tutors and Head of Year who will take you from Year 12 to 13. This means that you will have help and advice from someone who knows your strengths, skills and areas for development. Everyone is provided with every chance to succeed.



## Careers

**Career Vision:** St Joseph's school is founded in its mission to support each member of our community to live life to the full. Our students leave St Joseph's resilient, confident and well-rounded individuals with the knowledge to make informed future choice. Driven to success by clear goals, they are outward facing members of society making positive contributions.

Building on the comprehensive programme lower in the school we start early in year 12 to ensure that all students are aware of the different routes into further education and careers. They will receive information during Assemblies, General RE, Subject areas, engagement with local employers and through trips to local Universities and Careers events.

## Assessments

Each student is given a target grade which take into account their results in Year 11. Work is taught in ten week modules to support students and parents in regular updates about progress. These assessments are used by staff to review students' current performance and shape their programme of study.

## Bursary

The 16 to 19 Bursary Fund helps disadvantaged students pay for things they need to support their education. These may include travel pass, books, equipment, trips to university open days. The amount you get can vary. You apply through school at the start of your studies.

# Enrichment

Enrichment is an essential element to help our students to be future ready for their next stage in life. All students take part in an enrichment programme starting in year 12.

## **Aspirations Programme:**

This taught programme utilises strong links with local and national Universities including Newcastle, Oxford, Northumbria and Sunderland providing opportunities for students to gain work experience, employability skills, interview experience and experience undergraduate lectures alongside the traditional A Levels and btecs.

## **General RE:**

The General RE programme allows students in year 12 and 13 work towards the JP II Award. The blend of ethics and community support supports our students in becoming well rounded individuals making positive contributions to society. Outside agencies are used at key elements to promote thought and deliver expertise information about specialist subjects.

## **Work Experience:**

All year 12 Students spend a week in work placements in the summer term. We also encourage and give guidance to individuals looking for regular volunteering placements.

## **Student Chaplains:**

A member of our 6th form leads the student Chaplain programme. The student chaplain programme requires students to give up some of their free time to help those in need and become ambassadors of Faith at St Joseph's. Students mentor the year 7 Faith in Action group. Some of the enhancement projects include launching exciting projects like care home visits, care parcels, candle making for the housebound, faith and ethos journalism and prayer writing.

## **Peer Support and Buddies:**

An opportunity to support students lower in the school with literacy and social skills while developing confidence and communication skills.

## **MOOC's:**

MOOCs don't always lead to formal qualifications, but they do mean students can gain knowledge in all sorts of areas – whether they want to support your career or are exploring personal interests.

## **Links to Local Universities and Industry:**

St Joseph's has established links with all local universities. These support students with employability skills, preparation for interview and applications and help students to make informed choices.

## **Key Dates:**

### **November 2020**

Applications for sixth form open

### **27 August**

GCSE results day and enrolment for sixth form

### **June/July 2021**

GCSE Exams

# Onwards

We are incredibly proud of our students who leave future ready.

Think about what you could achieve by attending St Joseph's Sixth Form.



## St Joseph's Catholic Academy & Applied Learning College

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