

STUDENT ENTRANCE



St Joseph's Catholic Academy
Sixth Form Prospectus

Welcome

At St. Joseph's Catholic Academy Sixth Form 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.



Mission Statement

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.



Our Courses

We offer a wide range of courses at St Joseph's including traditional array of A Levels in addition to vocational subjects. Students take 3 subjects, some of the most able students take 4. All course information and entry requirements can be found on the school website.

Traditional A Levels

Art, Biology, Chemistry, Computing Science, Design Technology, English Language, English Literature, French, Geography, History, Law, Maths, Further Maths, Music, Philosophy & Ethics, Photography, Physics, Psychology, Sociology, Spanish.

Vocational BTECs

Applied Science, Business Studies, Engineering, Health and Social Care, Sports Studies.

We also offer a VTCT course in Hair and Beauty in our bespoke Saint Salon.



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. Career or Higher Education Pathways

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?

4. 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?



Why Choose Us?



Wide choice of Courses Careers

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 to further enhance and create a bespoke curriculum for each individual student. 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.

Career Driven

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 as 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

At St. Joseph's we are committed to not only providing a high quality academic programme, but also to give every child bespoke enrichment opportunities, suited to their interests and intended pathways.

Students begin their enrichment programme in year 12 and continue this through into year 13. Students will be guided in making their choice and supported every step of the way. They have two separate pathways to choose from:

Option A will give students an additional qualification, award or additional UCAS points which add to their core curriculum qualifications. Students follow this option for their entire time in sixth form. Please note, if a student is taking four A Levels then we would not recommend this option for them.

Option B is a shorter 13 week option whereby students would select three opportunities in each year.



Option A choices

Level 3 Core Maths. This qualification develops mathematical skills and critical thinking and an option we would highly recommend for students taking Engineering and/or sciences who do not also take A Level Maths. Students cover a range of study areas including: student loans, taxation, mortgages and interest rates, to name just a few. In terms of UCAS points, it is worth 40% of an A level, meaning an A is worth 20 points.

John Paul II award. This is a nationally recognised award which highlights students' commitment to helping others. Students volunteer in the local community such as supporting students in local primary schools, working in local charity shops and are the driving force behind charity events ran within school. Students also have a range of opportunities to get involved in parish ministry ranging from supporting Masses, cultivating prayer gardens, running coffee mornings for parishioners and helping the SVP.

Level 3 Sports Leaders. This is a nationally recognised award which is worth up to 16 UCAS points. Students learn and demonstrate effective communication and organisational skills whilst leading and teaching physical activities with the local community. Leadership is at the heart of this qualification and is therefore looked upon favourably by employers and further educational institutions alike.

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). EPQ is an opportunity for pupils to research and explore a personal interest or hobby, outside of their curriculum area. Students have a robust scheme of learning which gives pupils the tools to correctly academically research their focus area, format a report and effective presentation skills. We work with local universities who deliver some parts of the course. This qualification is worth half an A level, meaning an A is worth 28 points.



Enrichment

Option B choices

Core P.E. An opportunity for a laugh and giggle with friends and providing light relief from the rigour of academic study. Students work with their teachers to decide what sports they will do such as trampolining, use the gym equipment, football, badminton, etc. Students can take this option all year round.

Computing skills. Students are taught how to complete tasks such as mail merge, format reports and produce spreadsheets with formula and functions – all skills students need at university and many occupations. This programme also extends to creating graphics and editing photographs.

Functional Spanish. A fun, lively enrichment where students learn key phrases and vocabulary for future holidays – and perhaps employment – in the sun!

Supervised Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC). There are over 3,000 free MOOC's with a vast array of topics. Students choose what they want to study; this can be directly related to their curriculum, an interest or hobby they have or be something they have never heard of before!

First Aid. Our school nurse teaches students basic first aid skills such as how to put on a sling, what to do if someone burns themselves and how to manoeuvre an injured person into the correct recovery position.

Core RE

In addition to the Enrichment Programme students also participate in core RE and ethical studies. The blend of ethics and community support helps 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. Students are also given opportunities for further placements during half terms through our links with universities and local businesses. We also encourage and give guidance to individuals looking for regular volunteering placements.



**APPLY
NOW**

The Sixth Form Open Evening is in November each year.

Do come along, meet our staff and students and see the fantastic facilities St. Joseph's can provide you with.

The first step of the application process is to complete the online [application form by 31 March](#) . We will keep in touch throughout the school year with key information. For the official enrolment, students must come to St. Joseph's on their GCSE results day to complete all necessary documentation.

Students will be offered a place at St. Joseph's Sixth Form if they meet the following results/ criteria:

- At least five 9 – 4 grades, including mathematics and English Language (there is the opportunity to resit Maths and English)
- A minimum of a Merit in the subject they want to study in Vocational Subjects

Completing your application form

Choose your subjects by ticking the three subjects you wish from the list. You can select four option subjects if you are predicted to get 8/9s in your GCSEs. Specific subjects have their own criteria, for example you will need a grade 7 to take Maths at A Level. Please research your intended subject on the key stage 5 subject page.

To complete the online application form scan the QR code:



✉ office@stjosephs.uk.net

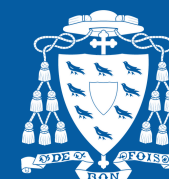
🌐 www.stjosephs.uk.net/sixth-form

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📘 @stjosephsca

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