



**ST MARY'S  
COLLEGE**



**World Class Thinking : World Class Achieving**





# Welcome

I am delighted to offer you a warm welcome to St Mary's College and hope that this prospectus helps you discover something of who we are, what we do and what we stand for.



**St Mary's College is a very special, unique and pioneering school which is built on traditional values with a modern outlook. We are one of the most successful schools in the country and are rightly proud of our reputation and track record in delivering the highest of standards for all students. The relentless hard work and dedication of our staff and students never stops.**

At our school we love and care for students: we focus on knowing the child as well as we know the student. We aim to develop young people who know they are adored and individually valued, who will go into the world and make a difference.

St Mary's College is one of the biggest Catholic schools in the country serving over 2400 students from Hull and the East Riding. However, despite our size, we pride ourselves on knowing students individually, and ensuring they feel seen and known to us.

We have added significantly to our state-of-the-art campus, theatre, sports facilities and exceptional Sixth Form. This allows us to offer a huge range of academic and extra-curricular programmes to cater for the many talents and interests of our community. Our distinctive enrichment programme is designed to ensure all students have amazing experiences that otherwise they may not be exposed to.

As a Catholic school we believe that all people, young and old, have an amazing capacity to do great things.

The pursuit of excellence is not an option, it is our mission, our vocation, our very purpose. Underpinning our ambitions is our commitment to the personal pastoral care of every person. We especially focus on our SEND children whom we see as fully complete humans, who have important and beautiful qualities, they enrich our school community without end.

We are a community that cares for one another and firmly believe that every member of our school has an important part to play. For me, in my role as Head of School, our disadvantaged children will always be a priority for no child should ever be born unlucky by circumstance. It is our job as a school to offer all our children, regardless of background, opportunities that they would not find anywhere else.

Our multi-national community celebrates the diversity of cultural and language traditions contributed by students and staff. As an International School we offer exceptional opportunities to experience the life, language and culture of other countries, to develop global awareness and a respect for justice, peace, the climate and our environment. Our school has a key role to play in our local community: respect and tolerance are paramount.

We offer a bespoke transition programme which ensures that all youngsters joining us in Year 7 feel fully supported and excited at the start of their journey at St Mary's College.

Aiming to be one of the very best schools possible, St Mary's College is a demanding and challenging place to learn and to work. It is also a hugely rewarding and enjoyable place to be. We promise to do our absolute best to look after your child: just as they are your world, so they will become ours.

**Maria Stead**  
Head of School



# Ethos and Values

## Mission Statement

“Love God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength and love your neighbour as you love yourself”

(Mark 12: 30-31)

St Mary's College exists to help parents and carers educate young people spiritually, morally, physically and academically as well as possible.

We aim to be a truly Christian community, where our relationships are built on encouragement, concern, respect, forgiveness and reconciliation.

Our religious life is rooted in the faith, practice and moral teaching of the Roman Catholic church.

Each person in our community is specially valued and has an important part to play in making sure we live out our mission.

## Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural

St Mary's is privileged to have the opportunity to sow the seeds of faith and nurture their growth.

We provide opportunities to prepare and participate in a variety of liturgies:

- All students, in their year groups, have the opportunity to reflect upon their spiritual development
- Year 8 students have the opportunity to take part in a week-long residential retreat at The Briars in Derbyshire
- Some students join the Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes. They are also involved in service to the wider community
- Every lesson starts with the sign of the cross; every day starts with prayer
- Staff daily briefing meetings start with prayer
- The college Chapel is open to everyone, every day
- The Chaplaincy team of laity and clergy is a constant source of support, help & encouragement to staff and students

## Pastoral Care

Pastoral care is at the heart of St Mary's education.

Each student has a Personal Tutor. The focus of the Tutor Team in each year group is:

- to gather a secure knowledge and understanding of each child
- to encourage each child to recognise and fulfil their potential
- to monitor and promote good attendance, effort and attainment
- to set high expectations for each child
- to support in difficult circumstances
- to ensure your child is SEEN, KNOWN and LOVED



# A Curriculum For Life

Underpinned by ambition for all, the intent of the curriculum at St Mary's College extends far beyond academic outcomes, ensuring that all students are provided with the best education possible to move on to their next steps with confidence and live informed and fulfilled lives. As such, our curriculum is designed to be distinctively ambitious, coherent and enriched - immersing students in rich knowledge, language and experiences at every stage.

## Our Curriculum Journey

In the lower years, students study a broad range of subjects in line with the demands of the national curriculum and our commitment to RE and drama for all.

This broad and balanced offer continues as students progress through their learning journey with the vast majority of students going on to study the full EBacc suite of subjects – including MFL and Humanities – whilst also selecting options from a wide range of subject choices.



## Sixth Form

**The Sixth Form (SM6) delivers outstanding post-16 provision at St Mary's College.**

We offer a wide range of courses including A Levels, BTEC and Technical courses.

SM6 enjoys a high level of returning students and new external recruits who want to access our top quality sixth form offer and state of the art facilities. SM6 has developed distinct academies within the sixth form: The Academy of Sport, the Medical, Health & Social Care Academy (MHSC) and the Academy of Music & Performing Arts.

Results in all areas demonstrate that SM6 is extremely successful. We welcome applicants from students of all faiths from Hull, the East Riding and beyond.







# Careers

Careers Information, Advice, Support & Guidance (CIASG) at St Mary's College complements our ethos of assisting students to prepare for the opportunities and challenges of the world.

Guidance is predominantly delivered through experienced form tutors and learning mentors, backed up by specialist staff who are available for more personal and 'one-to-one' consultations.

CIASG events (i.e. Parents Information Evenings on Work Experience and Progressions) are planned throughout the year with outside speakers and specialists making regular contributions to the Guidance programme.

There are comprehensive Careers Information, Advice, Support and Guidance in our Careers Office within the Learning Resource Centre with up to date Careers Information, Advice, Support and Guidance on the school system and on the website.

## Individual Specialist Guidance Interviews

We have a dedicated Careers Advisor who can help young people to make informed decisions at crucial times in their lives.

Students can also drop in for a quick personal chat at break, lunch or after school.

# Outstanding Enrichment

## Sport

All students at St Mary's College have the opportunity to participate in two hours of high-quality curriculum physical education. They experience a variety of activities and have the opportunity at Key Stage 4 & 5 to study a wide range of academic and vocational qualifications.

This was recognised by OFSTED who judged the department as 'Outstanding' in 2011. This was reinforced by a further OFSTED 'Outstanding' judgement in 2014 on the quality of school sport competition available at St Mary's College and two Gold 'Schools Games' marks in 2015-16 & 2016-17.

An extensive range of extra-curricular sporting activities is offered. Students have opportunities to develop a healthy and active lifestyle and participate in a structured pathway of competitive sport from inter-house competitions, through to representation in sport after school in over 20 different activities.

Many students gain individual and team honours at district, county, regional and national competitions. We have active partnerships with all three professional sports clubs in the city - Hull FC, Hull KR and Hull City AFC and close links with many of the leading amateur clubs in the area, many of whom choose to deliver from our stunning sports facilities.



## Music & Performing Arts

Our Academy of Music and Performing Arts provides SMC students with world class tuition and experiences both within the curriculum and outside of school hours.

Students at St Mary's College benefit from music tuition from an in-house team of experts in their field. These instrumental teachers guide the students through formal examinations in their chosen instruments and support a number of performance opportunities throughout the academic year.

Our school theatre was declared by the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) to be one of the finest school provisions in the country. From here we are able to share our students' talents and our rich tradition of high-class music, plays and productions. Annual productions include full-scale musicals, BTEC Level 3 Improvisation Evenings and seasonal music concerts.

We are very proud of our status as a Lead Associate School for the RSC and our 'Recognised School' award with the national Council for Dance, Drama, Music & Musical Theatre for the industry standard quality of our teaching.



We hold a Platinum Artsmark award from Arts Council England for our commitment to arts and cultural education.

## International School

As the world becomes increasingly interlinked and local communities become more diverse, St Mary's is in a fantastic position to prepare our students to become true global citizens who can contribute positively wherever they may live and work.

We were re-designated as an International School in 2021. Since this time our staff and students have been involved in many exciting and diverse projects that have deepened our understanding of different countries & cultures around the world, including a project in Nepal in 2018 and one in Kenya which continues to date.









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