

ST RICHARD'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE

School Information



St Richard's Catholic College

Information on the college

Introduction

St Richard's is a co-educational Catholic college offering a Christian education to pupils of all abilities from the ages of 11 to 16 years. It is our aim to encourage and develop every pupil in our care academically, socially and spiritually.

We have high academic standards at St Richard's, as our GCSE results testify. We expect our pupils to work hard, behave well, dress smartly and pursue excellence in all that they do inside and outside of the classroom. We also aim to provide a happy, caring and safe environment in which pupils can learn and develop into rounded, responsible and confident members of the community.

Our efforts have not gone unnoticed. We are a National Teaching School, National Support School and a Specialist Science college with High Performing Specialist School status and we have Leading Edge status, International School status, Prince's Teaching Institute 2016 mark and Fairtrade status as well as Gifted and Talented Lead School status. We are also a strategic partner in the Sussex Maths Hub.

All children are unique and precious individuals with different talents and aspirations, and our efforts are directed into ensuring that they feel both valued and challenged.



St Richard's Mission Statement

Comitas, Caritas, Scientia

St Richard's Catholic College is a community where all are welcomed in the spirit of Christian love and respect.

Our school encourages the wonder and joy of learning in order to ensure that every pupil reaches their full potential.

We enable all to flourish and grow together in friendship and in faith.

We aspire to be courageous, having the integrity and the spiritual strength to make a positive difference in the world, both now and in the future.

We endeavour to cherish our school motto of Community, Charity and Knowledge.

***'I have come so that all may have life, and have it to the full.'* (John 10:10)**

Christian Values



Parents choose to send their children to St Richard's because they want them to be educated in the Catholic faith. We have an active and vibrant religious life and we are lucky to be supported by our local clergy and a Chaplaincy team. They regularly visit the college and are always available to provide advice and practical help for pupils, staff and parents. We have a Lay Chaplain to enhance this area of school life.

The school day begins and ends with a prayer or reflection. We hold daily assemblies and encourage pupils to participate through preparing and presenting themes or by providing music for the hymns. Regular masses are held and we have a chapel within the college where pupils can pray alone or in a group. We also run retreat days and residential weekends designed for contemplation and deepening of faith. Pilgrimages are organised to Lourdes and Rome.

A pupil liturgy team enables pupils to make an impact on how they feel the spiritual and liturgical life of the college should develop. The Liturgy Captain and his/her Deputy make a valuable input into all whole-school services.

The RE department was rated as 'outstanding' in our most recent Diocesan inspection. It seeks to help pupils explore their own spiritual journey whilst having the dual role of ensuring academic excellence at GCSE. Opportunities to put 'Faith into Action' and to learn from other religions are always sought in the RE curriculum.

We strongly encourage parents to participate in college and community religious activities to support their child and show by example how to be a committed Christian.

The Curriculum

We provide a learning programme that is broad, balanced, motivating, engaging and challenging. A programme relevant to young people living in the 21st Century.

In the first three years, pupils will study a wide range of subjects incorporating Religious Education, Maths, English, Science, History, Product Design, Geography, Modern Languages, Computing, PSHEe, PE, Drama, Music, Art and Dance. Some pupils also study Astronomy, and Latin.



In years 10 and 11, pupils are offered a curriculum that embraces opportunity and excellence. This curriculum is designed to give pupils the necessary skills for life-long learning and prepare them for the work place. The core curriculum includes: Religious Education, English Language and English Literature, Mathematics, Science (Triple or Double), MFL, Physical Education and Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education including Citizenship and Work Related Learning.

In addition to the Core Subjects there are two learning pathways that offer an element of choice but also ensure that each pupil can achieve an Ebacc qualification.

Pathway 1

Option A Subjects: Geography, History

Option B Subjects: Art (Design), Art (Fine), Business Studies, Classic Civilisation, Computer Science, Drama, Food Preparation and Nutrition, Graphics, Media Studies, Music, Textiles

Option C Subjects: French, German, ICT, Media Studies, Resistant Materials, Sports Studies

Pathway 2

Pupils continue with the Modern Foreign Language option made at the end of Year 8, either French, German or Spanish

Option A Subjects: Geography, History

Option B Subjects: Art (Design), Art (Fine), Business Studies, Classic Civilisation, Computer Science, Drama, Food Preparation and Nutrition, Graphics, Media Studies, Music, Resistant Materials, Sports Studies, Textiles

Year 10 pupils participate in a Work Experience placement and have access to Enterprise Learning where they develop skills in team-working, problem solving and assertiveness. All pupils must continue full-time education after the age of 16 and we support them in the choosing of the most appropriate A level or vocational course.

Most Able Pupils

St Richard's Catholic College aims to extend and challenge the most able pupils and is committed to a policy of differentiation in teaching and learning. This encompasses variety, enrichment, extension and support for pupils. The school's Most Able policy ensures the identification of pupils, the provision of extension and enrichment activities and the careful monitoring of progress to ensure that pupils achieve their best. Our core aim is to ensure pupils are extended within the classroom. In addition, there is a programme of departmental enrichment activities which runs throughout the year.

Organisation of Teaching Groups

Most subjects prefer to teach mixed ability groups at Key Stage 3 with the exception of maths and modern foreign languages. At Key Stage 4, the core subjects are taught in setted groups and the Learning Pathways are mixed ability.

Special Educational Needs

Our aim is to develop the full potential of these children and involve them fully in college life. We have a dedicated Special Educational Needs department and offer access to a broad and balanced curriculum through a variety of methods including grouping, in-class support and occasional withdrawal for individual support. Our Teaching Assistants develop their own specialist knowledge within the departments to which they are attached. They focus on ensuring that pupils become independent learners with high levels of confidence and self-esteem.

Homework

Homework plays an essential part in the learning progress of every pupil. Pupils are given a homework timetable and the homework itself is published online on 'Shw My Homework'. Pupils and parents will all be given logins to 'Show My Homework' so it can be supported and tracked at home. Pupils also receive a journal in order to add in extra notes, important events and collect rewards. Parents/carers are asked to sign this journal weekly.

Year 7 pupils can expect to spend an average of 30 minutes on each homework subject. Some pupils will, of course, work quicker than others and as a child progresses through school homework will take longer. There is an after-school homework club available for all pupils.



Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHEe)

Our pupils leave St Richard's with more than academic achievements under their belts. A five-year PSHEe programme teaches them the value of being a good citizen, keeping safe and healthy, playing a role in the community and social skills.

Each pupil is assigned a Personal Tutor when they start the college. These Tutors will lead them through the programme, which is evaluated each year. Issues covered include the environment, health and hygiene, careers guidance, safety, tolerance, relationships and economic and political awareness.

Assessment

Five times a year, each child is assessed against his/her FFT Aspire targets. An = is shown when the pupil is making good progress against their target; a + when they are making exceptional progress and a - (minus) indicates under-achievement. Certificates are awarded for 3 or more pluses. For pupils under-achieving in two or more subjects, a letter is sent home asking parents/carers to make contact with a child's subject teacher so that intervention strategies can be put in place.



Pupils' work is regularly assessed in line with college assessment and marking policies. Pupils are encouraged to peer mark, self-assess, review progress and respond to feedback from the teacher so that they are involved in their own target-setting and 'closing the gap'.

At the same time we are all working towards the wider recognition of the talents and strengths of all children asked for by employers, encouraged by the Government, and appreciated by parents. All Year 11 pupils receive a Progress File at Prize Evening.

Learning Beyond The Classroom

We believe that pupils can learn as much outside the classroom walls as inside. We therefore place strong emphasis on providing a range of extra-curricular activities with a broad appeal. Such is the breadth and quality of this programme that it has earned us recognition from Education Extra and Sport England. Our Year Seven pupils complete the John Muir Award, and a number of our Year Ten pupils complete the DofE Bronze Award.

Here is just an overview of some of the activities that a child might get involved in: -

Clubs and Activities

The following clubs take place after college or in the lunch hour -

<i>Athletics</i>	<i>Classics</i>	<i>MFL</i>
<i>Netball</i>	<i>Latin</i>	<i>Drama</i>
<i>Fitness Training</i>	<i>Art</i>	<i>Young Investigators</i>
<i>Basketball</i>	<i>Technology</i>	<i>Orchestra</i>
<i>Hockey</i>	<i>Creative Writing</i>	<i>Theatre Visits</i>
<i>Rugby</i>	<i>Chess</i>	<i>Interact</i>
<i>Football</i>	<i>Rock School</i>	<i>School Council</i>
<i>Dance</i>	<i>Eco-School</i>	<i>Drum Club</i>
<i>Rounders</i>	<i>Choir</i>	<i>Maths Challenge</i>
<i>Duke of Edingburgh</i>	<i>Fab Fizzics</i>	<i>Film Club</i>



Trips

Recently our pupils have had the opportunity to visit Berlin, Austria, France, Iceland, Isle of Wight and CERN, as well as participate in field trips such as the Eden Project and CAT Camp (Centre for Alternative Technology). Departments run regular weekend trips including retreats to Whitstable, field trips to Swanage and expeditions for the DofE scheme.

Sports

All pupils are encouraged to participate in extra-curricular sporting activities and we try to provide something to interest everyone. Lunch-time and after-school clubs focus on activities ranging from basketball to table tennis and include dance, rounders, rugby, athletics, cross country, football, cricket and fitness training. Through participation in, and enjoyment of, a variety of activities pupils are encouraged to develop their talents, character and sportsmanship within the Christian ethos of understanding and tolerance.

Pupils who show a particular aptitude for a sport may be selected for school teams and play competitively against other schools or within college in inter-form and house matches. We are pleased to report that a number of our pupils have been selected to represent the area and County and have won a number of honours outside college.

Drama

Drama, like Music, forms part of the college curriculum with the option to take both subjects at GCSE level. However, pupils with a particular interest can also attend clubs at lunch-time and after college and get involved in productions. In recent years the college has presented a number of musicals including 'Thoroughly Modern Millie', 'Little Shop of Horrors', 'Annie', 'Oliver', 'Godspell', 'The Wiz', 'Back to the 80's', 'West Side Story', 'Return to the Forbidden Planet' and 'Disco Inferno'. Other performances include Shakespeare's 'A Comedy of Errors', 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', 'Richard III' and 'Macbeth'.



Music

We have excellent facilities to promote and develop learning and a love of music. In addition to two spacious teaching areas and numerous practice rooms, we have a recording studio featuring all the latest digital mixing and recording equipment. The music suite is equipped with thirteen iMac computers, running industry-standard software.

The work of our specialist music teachers is supported by the teaching of peripatetic teachers for guitar, wind instruments, brass, strings, percussion and voice. Pupils are strongly encouraged to make use of this facility.

The Music Department has a busy schedule of extra-curricular activities including two choirs, an orchestra, brass ensemble, a string ensemble, rock school, drumming club and 'GCSE extra'. Pupils are encouraged to perform in front of their peers at assemblies and Masses and in front of the wider community at events such as the Eastbourne Prom Concert, Summer Sing, HCPT Carol Concert at Westminster Cathedral and at Parish events from Mass to Advent Services.



Fundraising for Charity

We promote a strong ethos of community living, whether that community is the college or the local, national and global community of which we are all part. Pupils are therefore encouraged to support charities and do something to help others. Each year the college comes together to raise funds for 'Surviving Christmas' in support of the homeless. Mufti days have raised money for charities such as St Michael's Hospice, Breast Cancer Care and CAFOD. We also have an annual fundraising project to sponsor disabled children travelling to Lourdes at Easter and to subsidise the transport costs of some of our year 11 pupils who act as helpers. In

addition, each Year Group adopts its own charity to support. In past years, CAFOD, Cancer Research, Guide Dogs for the Blind and British Heart Foundation have benefited in this way.

School Council

Pupils have an opportunity to raise matters of concern through our School Council, the aim of which is to represent the views of pupils to the teaching staff and Leadership and Management Team. Each year group has representatives on the School Council which meets monthly, promoting active citizenship.

Additionally, each year group has its own Year Council which meets regularly with the Pastoral Leader. The aim of the Year Council is to organise charity and social events and to raise issues that concern form groups.

Eco-Schools Committee

St Richard's has been a member of the East Sussex County Council's Eco-Schools Scheme for seventeen years. This is an environmental scheme aimed at raising awareness of environmental issues beyond the curriculum. It relates these issues to positive action within the college environment. The Eco-Schools Committee is responsible for co-ordinating action within the college and is made up of staff, governors, parents and pupils. The Committee has won a number of awards for its environmental work. It has recently adopted five sections of Bexhill Beach through the Marine Conservation Society.



Pupil Welfare

Young people can experience many different problems and anxieties as they go through college, both in their personal and academic life. We aim to provide total support for each child so that no-one ever feels alone or unsupported.

Each child is assigned a Personal Tutor when they begin at St Richard's. This Tutor will monitor the child's progress and welfare throughout college life. Pastoral Leaders support Personal Tutors in their work and seek to develop a unity and sense of belonging amongst each year group.

There is also a network of external support agencies such as the Counsellor, a Behaviour and Attendance Consultant and the Community Health Nurse who support our staff in caring for the welfare of pupils.

Counsellor

Our Counsellor provides a confidential counselling service to all pupils. Pupils may request an appointment themselves by filling in the slip in the journal, or may be referred by staff, fellow pupils or parents. This allows them a safe and private place to explore any difficulties they may have. The issues they may bring can be wide-ranging, for example loss or bereavement, lack of confidence or self-esteem and relationships at home or school.

Child Protection/Safeguarding

In all the work we do we see the rights, safety and welfare of our pupils as paramount. This means that sometimes we have to take actions which some parents and carers could find threatening. In such cases we will work for a mutual understanding. We will explain our professional responsibilities and we will give every reassurance as to our motives but we will always stress that, for us, a pupil's needs have to come first.

Anti-Bullying

Every pupil has a right to learn and to feel safe, happy and secure in their learning environment. We have zero tolerance to bullying behaviour and expect parents/carers and pupils to notify us immediately if there is a problem. We define bullying as the persistent attempt to make someone unhappy. Further details can be found in our Friendship and Anti-bullying policy located on the college website.

Attendance/Punctuality

We have a rewards system in place for good attendance. At the end of the winter, spring and summer terms, pupils who have achieved 100% attendance will receive a certificate to place in their Progress File. Pupils who achieve 100% attendance for the whole year will receive a voucher as well as a certificate.

Punctuality is monitored. Pupils who are late on more than two occasions without a reasonable excuse are given 24 hours' notice of a one hour detention.

College meals/Biometrics/Cashless Catering

We have a cafeteria that provides snacks at morning break and a varied lunch-time menu. Facilities are available for pupils who prefer a packed lunch. No-one is allowed home for lunch. Menus are published on the website.

Working in partnership with our catering contractor, Chartwells, the college operates a cashless catering system. On their first day at the college, pupils will have a scan of their finger taken, which is then converted into a digital signature. By placing their finger on a reader they can access their accounts. There is a daily 'spend limit' programmed into the system which can be increased or decreased for an individual pupil by making a written request to the college.

Conduct and Discipline

Every organisation needs rules to run efficiently and effectively. At St Richard's we have in place a strict Code of Conduct. This enables us to safeguard the right of every child to learn without hindrance. It also ensures our pupils learn self-discipline and the need to take responsibility for themselves and their actions. These are lessons that will serve them well through life.

The basic principle of the Code of Conduct is 'respect for the person and respect for a person's property'.

Pupils must:

- Show respect to staff and their peers;
- Take responsibility for themselves in terms of learning, conduct, homework, uniform and organisation;
- Respect and not interfere with another person's property or their right to learn.
- Exercise tolerance of one another's differences.

As we are a Catholic college we expect pupils to abide by Christian principles and Catholic values in order to show respect and concern for the wider community.

Sanctions

Pupils who misbehave are dealt with swiftly and effectively. A range of sanctions exists from the withdrawal of certain privileges to putting a pupil on a subject or behaviour report. Pupils in Years 7 and 8 will find bad behaviour impacts on their work as at this stage a credit and debit system operates and debits may be given for poor behaviour or lack of effort.

If a pupil is put in detention after college, parents will be notified in writing at least 24 hours before and given the reason for the punishment.

Serious and persistent offenders may find themselves excluded from college for a period of time. Only the Principal can make the decision to exclude a pupil and must follow the procedure laid down by East Sussex County Council.

If a pupil has to be disciplined, we inform the parents/carers at all times. We monitor and discuss pupils' behaviour at regular Pastoral Care Meetings and at termly Tutors' Meetings. We aim to get to the root cause of bad behaviour and deal with it before it develops further.

Rewards

As a college concerned with the development of the whole child, we recognise that all children have gifts which must be nurtured. We aim to celebrate all achievements. Rewards exist in the form of: praise, responsibility, representative honours, prefect status, postcards home, certificates, excellent attendance certificates and annual school prizes for achievement, effort and service.

The CREST

At St Richard's we believe that the development of the whole child is fundamental to all we do. We seek to find ways to celebrate successes outside of the classroom and in doing so help foster confident, emotionally resilient and happy individuals.

The CREST is a way of celebrating your child's wider development. Our pupils work towards it during their five years with us. To achieve the CREST, pupils will have to have taken part in a range of activities to include: leadership, enrichment in sport or the Arts, charity work, peer support, work related learning.

Parents/carers will receive a report on their child's progress in the CREST annually. Special awards ceremonies will be held at the end of each year for those who achieve the full award and families will be invited to come in and celebrate this achievement.

Uniform/Appearance

A high standard of uniform and appearance is expected. Uniform must be worn in its entirety. Jumpers may be removed in the summer term, following the Principal's directive. Hairstyles must be of a conventional nature. Girls' hair should be tied back. Boys must have short hairstyles above their collars and tram-lines, wedges or shaved hair are not allowed. Styling products, highlighting, colouring or extensions are not permitted.

Uniform rules are not open to question, interpretation or negotiation.



Parents/carers play an integral role in the success of St Richard's. We want them to feel part of college life and we aim to keep them fully informed of what's happening in college and how their child is progressing. We also welcome their ideas and input.

Each term parents/carers will receive a newsletter telling them about any important issues and developments within college and the wider educational world. The newsletter also details major forthcoming events and activities. It also provides parents with feedback on surveys that they fill in at different points of the year.

Parents are kept fully up-to-date on their child's progress through college with Parents' Evenings, held annually and twice yearly in Year 7. Extra evenings are held if there are any important curriculum changes or innovations in relation to a particular year. We also organise evening events related to internet safety, positive parenting, emotional health, drug awareness and how to help their child to revise.

If a parent has any concerns about their child's development, our staff are always available to talk with him/her. Appointments can be made by calling Reception.

Parental Focus Groups

A morning and evening parental focus group meet termly to discuss aspects of school improvement. This input is invaluable in helping the school evaluate and review its practices. Attendance by parents/carers is voluntary.

Parent, Teachers and Friends Association (PTFA)

The PTFA plays a key role in keeping open links between home and college and enables parents to play an active part in the working of St Richard's. The PTFA organises social functions and is present at many college events providing support and refreshments.

The PTFA also contributes to the development of the college. It has raised essential funds to provide extra computers, outdoor furniture, mini-buses and has purchased items for the School Council, departments and extra-curricular clubs.

Staff Learning

St Richard's is fortunate to have a highly qualified, energetic staff who are willing to go the extra mile for the pupils in their care. All are committed to the highest expectations for each child and all see themselves as learners too. We invest heavily in professional development for all staff so as to enrich the teaching and learning in the college.

The Building

The main college building was opened in 1959. It is a pleasant brick building with excellent specialist accommodation. This includes seven laboratories that have been refurbished, and a well-equipped Craft, Design and Technology area. Facilities for Art, Textiles, Pottery and Photography are provided. We have an Assembly Hall, a Chapel, a Library, a Drama Studio, a Music Block equipped with a recording studio and practice rooms and a fitness suite. ICT has five large, well-equipped rooms.

March 2002 saw the completion of a new Creative/Expressive Arts block, which included expansion to sporting facilities within the college; a new suite of rooms for art and a further suite of rooms for ICT. During 2003, an extra science laboratory and a new technology room were built. During 2005, three new classrooms were built accommodating extra English and maths rooms. These classrooms enabled the college to comply with the Disability Act, providing access for all. During 2007, a new entrance and stairway to the science and technology block was built; a laboratory and technology room were completely refurbished; and the canteen area and the library were extended and refurbished. During 2009, a lift enabling disabled access to the Art Block was installed; a toilet for disabled use was created and a bicycle shelter was built. October 2011 saw the opening of an extension to A Block providing three extra classrooms, toilet facilities and a lift allowing disabled access to nine classrooms. August 2013, a lift allowing disabled access to the science laboratories was installed and two laboratories were refurbished. July/August 2014, two ICT suites were refurbished, the dining area was extended and a new kitchen was built. In the summer of 2015 the Food Technology room and two science laboratories were refurbished, as well as a set of toilets. Summer 2016 saw the installation of a new lighting and sound system as well as replacement windows in the hall. In the past two years, all external windows have been replaced. Annually, we upgrade our facilities.

Outside, the college has three all-weather playing surfaces, accompanying tennis courts, and a netball area. The playing field area is extensive and includes football, rugby and cricket facilities.

We have planning permission to build a new sports complex and a multi-purpose block.

Pupils are encouraged to take an interest in their environment and be responsible for it.



Inspection Reports

In November 2006, St Richard's achieved 'outstanding' in every category following its inspection by OFSTED and the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton. In November 2013, the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton again awarded the school "outstanding" in every category.

The following quotations from the two reports give a flavour of the college's standards and ethos.

Quotes from OFSTED (November 2006)

'Staff have high expectations for all students, and relationships are strong and encourage a culture of success.'

'Outstanding personal development helps students to mature as thoughtful, confident young people able to enjoy and make the most of the opportunities available to them.'

'A wide variety of extra activities gives students scope to explore and develop their potential. Individuality is valued and sustained through excellent care, guidance and support.'

'The social, moral, spiritual and cultural development of students is outstanding.'

'The excellent curriculum is flexible and tailored to students' needs.'

'The college is outward looking and wants to secure a rewarding future for its students beyond the leaving age of sixteen.'

'Leadership and management are excellent.'

'The college has rigorous systems for reviewing its work and evaluates its performance accurately.'

'Staff and Governors are unified in their commitment to excellence and dedication to the care of every child.'

'Student attitudes are exemplary'

'Individuality is valued and sustained through excellent care, guidance and support.'

Quotes from Section 48 Inspection Report (November 2013)

'This is an outstanding Catholic College where the Catholic Christian faith is central to the whole education mission working collaboratively with pupils, parents and parishes.'

'The college is a community where all are valued and actively encouraged and supported to develop to the full.'

'Prayer and worship make an excellent contribution to the spiritual and moral development of pupils.'

'Community Cohesion is outstanding. The college truly realises its ambition to be a fully inclusive Catholic educational community in every sense.'

'Relationships throughout the college between and amongst pupils and staff are very good.'

'Pupils make excellent progress throughout their school career and achieve very high standards.'

'Behaviour in lessons is outstanding overall.'

'Based on lessons observed and the school's detailed records over time, teaching is outstanding.'

What are the precious and special features of St Richard's?

The Governors' View

In St Richard's there is a real sense of inclusion and looking beyond ourselves. The pastoral system is strong, providing a safe, secure environment for all to achieve their potential. The staff are extremely hard-working and are committed to their own professional development. The school is a faith-based community where all are encouraged to be proud of their faith. We see ourselves as assisting parents and staff in the education and religious formation of their children.

The Staff's View

Staff, parents and pupils share a sense of pride in this school and positive relationships exist throughout. The development of the whole child is central to all we do and we have high standards. Communication at all levels is strong and there are rigorous systems in place. No-one settles for the status: there is a genuine acceptance of change and the benefits it brings. We have a comprehensive professional and leadership development programme. We are proud of our community links and the ethos of respect that is tangible on walking into the school.

Pupils' Views

St Richard's Catholic College offers a wonderful place for pupils and teachers alike to learn and develop. The teachers show passion for the subjects which is reflected on the children who clearly enjoy their learning. Religion is a key foundation of the school and prayer and mass happen on a weekly basis. Friendship and fun is encouraged and numerous extra-curricular activities and break and lunch times allow the children to enjoy themselves and make new friends and develop new ones. St Richard's is a school which is constantly moving forward, as shown by our GCSE results which seem to improve each year. It has been given many different awards and status such as becoming a Teaching School. In my personal opinion, St Richard's is a wonderful school to learn in and I have enjoyed every moment I have spent here. I have been encouraged and helped to become the person I am today and I thank St Richard's for allowing me to achieve my goals and follow my dreams.

Mark

St Richard's has an extremely caring environment with every member of the community willing to offer their support and guidance, not only academically but also on a personal level. The teachers' commitment and determination for us to succeed is always apparent. A great strength of our school is the friendly atmosphere which I think sets it apart from others, allowing individuals to develop whilst preparing them for the future in the best possible way.

Megan

The St Richard's community is strikingly unique. We are nurtured in a wonderful learning environment and teachers go out of their way to aid our understanding and are committed to the school. At school we are not only encouraged in our studies, but also in our compassion and care towards one another, making it a tight knit yet welcoming community. Another important part of St Richard's is that we learn about our faith in detail and it is part of our daily life, there is always spiritual guidance available and prayer is a key element to the school routine.

Kamila

St Richard's has a positive and friendly atmosphere which is shown by the encouragement of teachers and the determination of pupils who want to achieve their potential. All teachers and staff are very friendly: they encourage and push you to achieve your potential and reach targets and goals, which at first seemed extremely difficult. I have enjoyed all of the extra-curricular activities.

Stephen

What Next?

These fact sheets have given you an overview of what St Richard's has to offer. If you would like further information visit our website at www.strichardscc.com where you will find our Handbook, our Annual Report to Governors which includes team reports and objectives as well as reports on community links and extra-curricular activities for the past academic year; the School Profile and the latest newsletters.

Final Word

It is in the consideration of what we teach, how we teach, and how we assess what has been taught, that the fascination of the work of education lies. St Richard's seeks to achieve as much as is possible for every child, for it is through success in this endeavour that the teacher also gains the greatest possible satisfaction. We maintain the 'tried and the true' in educational terms, but we also seek to look with an open mind at every possibility of improvement and development in our methods and content of our curriculum. We are a Catholic community and so fundamental to all the curriculum requirements are the Christian virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity. We endeavour to instil into our pupils a belief in God that permeates their lives, an outlook for their future that is bright and enthusiastic and a love for their fellow man that forms the basis of their existence. All these ideals are suitably summed up in the Prayer of St Richard.

Prayer of St Richard

Thanks be to Thee my Lord Jesus Christ
For all the benefits Thou hast given to me,
For all the pains and insults Thou hast borne for me.

O most merciful redeemer, Friend and Brother
May I know Thee more clearly,
Love Thee more dearly
And follow Thee more nearly.

Amen

Examinations Report – 2015-2016 (as at 28th September 2016)

Congratulations to all staff at the college for the tremendous results achieved by our pupils.

82% of pupils achieved 5 or more A*-C grades including English and maths. This is well above the National and the County averages (63% and 61%).

87% of pupils achieved 5 or more A*-C grades including all subjects.

55% achieved the baccalaureate (C+ inc. English, Maths, Science, MFL and Humanities)

47% gained at least 3 A*-A grades

99% achieved 5 A*-G

100% achieved 1 A* to G. The National average is 98%.

The average points score per candidate was **44.3**

The average GCSE points score was **457**

The average capped (best 8) points score was **364**

The total number of examinations taken by the year group of 188 totalled 1908. This included the full range of ability, from those with special needs to those well above average ability.

The average entry per pupil was 10.1 subjects. This is above the National and County average.

Of the year group of 188:

Including English and Maths

9 pupils achieved 13 A*-C

30 pupils achieved 12 or more A*-C

56 pupils achieved 11 or more A*-C

101 pupils achieved 10 or more A*-C

122 pupils achieved 9 or more A*-C

137 pupils achieved 8 or more A*-C

144 pupils achieved 7 or more A*-C

144 pupils achieved 6 or more A*-C

141 pupils achieved 5 or more A*-C

In all subjects.

9 pupils achieved 13 A*-C

30 pupils achieved 12 or more A*-C

56 pupils achieved 11 or more A*-C

101 pupils achieved 10 or more A*-C

123 pupils achieved 9 or more A*-C

139 pupils achieved 8 or more A*-C

149 pupils achieved 7 or more A*-C

155 pupils achieved 6 or more A*-C

163 pupils achieved 5 or more A*-C

Congratulations to all the following groups and pupils for their results in the early entries:

Year 11 AS RE: Of the 28 entered, they achieved 11 A, 8 B, 8 C and 1 D grade (D is a pass at AS).

Year 10 RE: Of the 28 pupils entered, they achieved 12 A*, 11 A grades and 4 B grades.

Dr Durkin's Year 9 Astronomy group: 68% achieved C or above in Year 9.

Year 10 Core Science: 78% achieved C or above in Year 10.

Individual mother tongue results:

Spanish: 4 pupils achieved an A* grade.

Russian: 3 pupils achieved an A* grade.

Japanese: 1 pupil achieved an A* grade.

Polish: 5 pupils achieved A-E grades.

Once again, congratulations to all pupils and staff who worked so hard to achieve these results.



St Richard's at work...





... and at play

