

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 and 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 2018 Art and Science Mark, Fairtrade Fair Achiever Award status, Artsmark Gold Award, Space Education Quality Mark as well as Gifted and Talented Lead School status. We are also a 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, Scientia, Caritas

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, Knowledge and Charity.

***'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. 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 Deputy Liturgy Captain make a valuable input into all whole-school services.

The RE department was rated as 'outstanding' in the 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.



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, Geography, French/German or Spanish, Computing, Product Design, 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 has the opportunity to achieve an Ebacc qualification.

Pathway 1

Option A Subjects: Geography, History

Option B Subjects: Art, Business Studies, Computer Science, Drama, Graphics, Classics, Food Preparation and Nutrition, Media Studies, Music, Textiles, Resistant Materials, GCSE and Technical Award Sports Studies, Certificate in Digital Applications (CiDA)

Option C Subjects: Technical Award in Product Design, Certificate in Digital Applications (CiDA), Technical Award in Sports Studies and Certificate of Personal Effectiveness (ASDAN)



Pathway 2

Pupils continue with the Modern Language option made in Year 7: French, German or Spanish.

Option A Subjects: Geography, History

Option B Subjects: Art, Business Studies, Classics, Computer Science, Drama, Graphics, Food Preparation and Nutrition, Media Studies, Music, Resistant Materials, Sports Studies, Textiles, Certificate in Digital Applications (CiDA)

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 in full-time education after the age of 16 and we support them in the choosing of the most appropriate A-level or vocational course, including Apprenticeships.

More 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 More 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, computing and Modern 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 on the online 'journal' app page. Pupils and parents will all be given logins so homework can be supported and tracked at home. Pupils in Year 7 also receive a journal in order to write extra notes, important events and track rewards. Parents/carers are asked to sign this journal weekly in Year 7. From Year 8, pupils use an online journal.

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 Form 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

Three times a year, each child is assessed against his/her targets. "Expected progress" is shown when the pupil is making good progress against their target; "above expected progress" when they are making exceptional progress and "below expected progress" indicates under-achievement. Certificates are awarded for pupils making the greatest progress across a range of subjects. For pupils under-achieving in a number of



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'.

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 a 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. A Special Awards ceremony 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. Boys must be clean shaven. Uniform rules are not open to question, interpretation or negotiation.



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. We have been awarded Healthy Schools Silver Award, Artsmark Gold Award, Space Education Quality Mark and International School status. 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>Songwriting</i>	<i>School Council</i>
<i>Dance</i>	<i>Amateur Radio</i>	<i>Duke of Edinburgh</i>
<i>Rounders</i>	<i>Choir</i>	<i>Maths Challenge</i>
<i>Gymnastics</i>	<i>Fab Fizzics</i>	<i>Film Club</i>



Trips

Recently our pupils have had the opportunity to visit Berlin, Austria, Rome, Opal Coast, Normandy, Barcelona and CERN, as well as participate in field trips such as the Eden Project and Isle of Wight. Departments run regular weekend trips including retreats to Whitstable, field trips to Swanage, theatre and dance trips and expeditions for the DofE Award.

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, hockey, 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: 'Grease'. 'Our House', '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, piano, woodwind, 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 The Saint Singers (our choir), The Staves (orchestra), The Jazz Saints (a mixed ensemble), Campfire Songs (an acoustic session using ukuleles, guitars and voices), Friday Night Live (a band and songwriting club), Thumper (our drumming club) and Music Boast (extra support for our GCSE pupils). 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, the Foodbank and Love in a Box. Mufti days have raised money for charities such as St Michael's Hospice, CAFOD and The Royal Marsden. 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, Guide Dogs for the Blind, Demelza House, Brain Tumour Research and Chestnut Tree House 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 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.

Arts Award

The Arts Award is a nationally recognised qualification accredited by the Arts Council England and gives young people a chance to develop their skills and knowledge through arts-related activities and research. The term 'arts' is used to include all creative interests from cake-decorating or writing poetry to contemporary dance or photography. Elements include taking part in an arts-related activity; experiencing the arts as an audience member, and organising/delivering an arts event in the community – to name a few. Pupils at St Richard's are offered the chance to complete their Bronze and Silver Arts Award during their time here, and they can complete the qualification entirely at their own pace. Once the Silver Award is achieved, pupils can complete the Gold Award during post-16 study which equates to UCAS points.

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 Form Tutor when they begin at St Richard's. This Tutor will monitor the child's progress, behaviour and welfare throughout college life. Pastoral Leaders and a Mental Health Lead support Form 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 which include a Counsellor, who comes into school on a weekly basis, a Behaviour and Attendance Consultant, a youth worker from the Young Carers charity 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 alerting their Form Tutor or Pastoral Leader in person or, if easier, via email, 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. As a school we consider attendance that drops below 96% to be a concern and a major barrier to learning. 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 a breakfast service, 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. Behaviour points 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. Achievement points are awarded for success, hard work, participation and kindness. Rewards also exist in the form of: praise, responsibility, representative honours, prefect status, reward stickers, postcards home, certificates, excellent attendance certificates and annual school prizes for achievement, effort and service. Our rewards system encourages the development of the whole person through engagement and participation in a variety of activities.

Parents and the College

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 or emailing the relevant member of staff.

Parental Focus Groups

A morning and evening Parental Focus group meet informally each term to discuss school life and 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 strengthening 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 purchased picnic benches, musical instruments, equipment for product design, art and other subjects, medals, a House Cup for sports day and awnings to provide shade. It has also made a donation to equipment for the new sports hall and it pays for the annual lease of one of our minibuses.

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 teaching and learning and leadership in the college. Our Teaching School status provides staff with a range of professional development opportunities as well as giving them the chance to offer support to other schools.

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 Design and Technology area. Facilities for Art, Textiles and Pottery 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 three 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. In July/August 2014, two ICT suites were refurbished, the dining area was extended and a new kitchen was built. In the summer of 2015, two science laboratories and the Food Technology room 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 and blinds 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.

A new four court sports hall will be built on the site commencing July 2018 for completion by December 2018.

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 quo: 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 allow the children to enjoy themselves and make new friends. 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, the latest newsletters and other details about school life.

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 – 2017-2018 (as at 19th September 2018)

My sincere congratulations to all staff at the college for the tremendous results achieved by our pupils.

83% of pupils achieved English and Maths at grade 4 or above. This is well above the National and the County averages. (National 68% BASICS)

62% of pupils achieved English and Maths at grade 5. This is well above the National and the County averages. (National 50% BASICS)

50% achieved the baccalaureate (%C+ and grade 4 inc. English, Maths, Science, MFL and Humanities)

36% achieved the baccalaureate (%C+ and grade 5 inc. English, Maths, Science, MFL and Humanities)

The average EBACC score was 5.22 (just below B) based on a 62% full entry.

Overall attainment 8 is 55.21 (55.00 would be B grade equivalent)

Grade 7 and above was up to 30% from 27%

We had 21 pupils achieving at least 1 grade 9 with 1 pupil gaining Grade 9 or equivalent in all Year 11 exams (only 732 pupils out of over half a million achieved this nationally)

Grade 9 summary:

1 pupil gained 11 grade 9 or equivalent

1 pupil gained 8 grade 9 or equivalent

2 pupils gained 7 grade 9 or equivalent

2 pupils gained 6 grade 9 or equivalent

2 pupils gained 5 grade 9 or equivalent

1 pupil gained 4 grade 9 or equivalent

1 pupil gained 3 grade 9 or equivalent

2 pupils gained 2 grade 9 or equivalent

9 pupils gained 1 grade 9 or equivalent

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

Year 11 AS RE - of the 22 entered, 3 gained A, 8 B, 6 C, 5 D

Year 9 Astronomy group: 73% achieved C or above

Individual mother tongue results:

Chinese: 1 pupil achieved an A* grade.

Japanese: 1 pupil achieved an A* grade.

Italian 1 pupil achieved an A* grade.

Polish: 6 pupils achieved 1A*, 3 A and 2 C grades.

Russian GCSE: 4 pupils achieved an A* grade.

Russian AS level: 3 pupils achieved an A grade.

Russian A level: 1 pupil achieved an A grade.

Congratulations to all pupils and staff who worked so hard to achieve these results.

GCSE Academic Results 2017-2018

Name	Entered		7+		5+		4+		Subject APS	National 4+ %
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Art & Design (9-1)	10	5.38	6	60	10	100	10	100	6.8	79
Art & Design: Fine Art - GCSE (9-1)	10	5.38	9	90	10	100	10	100	8.1	79
Astronomy - GCSE	21	11.29	1	4.76	6	28.57	14	66.67	4.02	n/a
Biology Tier H - GCSE (9-1)	52	27.96	34	65.38	52	100	52	100	7.02	89
Business Studies - GCSE	18	9.68	3	16.67	11	61.11	15	83.33	5.08	65
Chemistry Tier H - GCSE (9-1)	52	27.96	30	57.69	52	100	52	100	6.79	90
Classical Civilisation - GCSE	15	8.06	6	40	9	60	10	66.67	5.37	80
Combined Sci: Trilogy - GCSE Double Award	132	70.97	10	7.60	59	44.70	72	65.20	5.25	55
Computer Science - GCSE (9-1)	13	6.99	4	30.77	8	61.54	11	84.62	5.31	62
D & T: Product Design - GCSE	17	9.14	4	23.53	7	41.18	12	70.59	4.62	62
D & T: Textiles Technology - GCSE	10	5.38	3	30	7	70	8	80	5.45	n/a
Drama - GCSE (9-1)	16	8.6	3	18.75	11	68.75	13	81.25	5.19	81
English Language - GCSE (9-1)	184	98.92	48	26.09	128	69.57	157	85.33	5.42	70
English Literature - GCSE (9-1)	184	98.92	51	27.72	130	70.65	165	89.67	5.58	70
Food Preparation and Nutrition - GCSE (9-1)	14	7.53	0	0	6	42.86	10	71.43	4.29	62
French - GCSE (9-1)	61	32.80	23	37.70	47	77.00	55	90.20	5.70	69
Geography - GCSE (9-1)	64	34.41	18	28.13	43	67.19	52	81.25	5.34	65
German Tier H - GCSE (9-1)	53	28.50	5	9.40	27	50.90	40	75.50	4.60	75
History Option F4 - GCSE (9-1)	118	63.44	52	44.07	87	73.73	98	83.05	5.9	64
ICT - GCSE	11	5.91	1	9.09	5	45.45	6	54.55	4.18	67
Mathematics - GCSE (9-1)	184	98.92	48	25.80	122	65.60	161	86.60	5.27	71
Media Studies - GCSE	35	18.82	9	25.71	17	48.57	29	82.86	5.09	65
Music - GCSE (9-1)	14	7.53	5	35.71	10	71.43	12	85.71	5.86	75
Physical Education - GCSE (9-1)	25	13.44	5	20	21	84	23	92	5.6	70
Physics Tier H - GCSE (9-1)	52	27.96	28	53.85	52	100	52	100	6.88	91
Religious Studies A Option ZZ - GCSE (9-1)	156	83.87	67	42.95	124	79.49	139	89.1	6.03	72
Sport (Award) - BTEC Level 1/2	20	10.75	0	0	0	0	13	65	3.21	n/a



St Richard's at work...





... and at play

