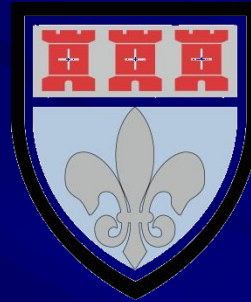


St Mary's Catholic School



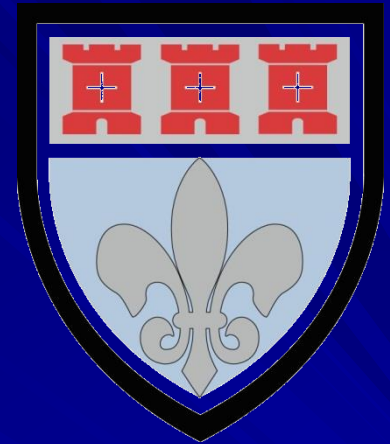
Sixth Form Open Evening

Tuesday 13th December 2016

Why St Mary's?

Continuity

- Friends
- Teachers
- Pastoral care



"Students have excellent attitudes to learning and enjoy the opportunities they are given to learn independently" Ofsted

Why St Mary's?

Pastoral Care and Guidance

Structure

- Senior Assistant Headteacher, Sixth Form
- Head of Year 12 (Mr Spurr) and Head of Year 13 (Mrs McEwan)
- Experienced team of Form Tutors

Balance between independence and support

- Good communications with home
- Regular monitoring and progress checks
- Study support
- Support for progression to university
- Support for progression to employment

Why St Mary's?

Oxbridge Programme

- Links with Oxford and Cambridge Universities
- Visits
- Academic mentoring to support application / interview preparation
- Support students with applications to UNIQ, Oxford summer school

Durham University – Supported Progression

- Summer school at Durham University – Yr12
- Completion of assessed work
- Result: a reduced offer of up to two grades

Newcastle University

- Strong links with university
- Mock interviews
- Outreach – Students Ambassadors visit and support students

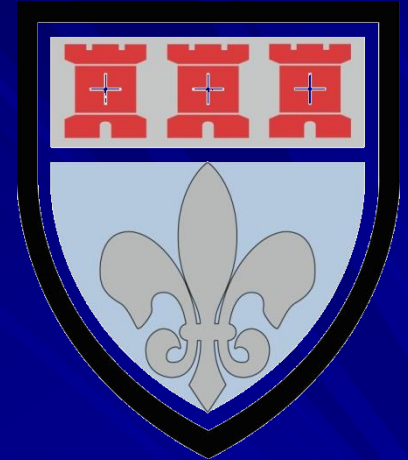
Work Experience

- Support and guidance in securing work placements
"The school has good links with local employers and universities" Ofsted

Why St Mary's?

Performance in 2016

- 100% pass rate at A level
- 33% grades A* - A
- 85% grades A*-C
- 90% of vocational entries are Distinction or better



“Students’ achievements are outstanding, as is their personal development and well-being” Ofsted

How is the Sixth Form different?

- You can study more specialised subjects
- Smaller number of subjects studied, chosen from a wider range
- More independent learning
- More adult relationships with staff
- Sixth Form identity/ separate facilities

What will I study?

- Changes nationally to post-16 assessment and curriculum
- More challenging and rigorous content than before
- Shift from modular assessment to linear assessment
- Therefore students **pick 3 subjects**
- Some students may want to study 4

Curriculum

A-level

- Wide range of A-Level choices
- Students achieving 7-10 A*-B grades in traditional GCSE subjects
- GCSE English & Maths at strong grade C / grade 5 on new system
- Select 3 subjects
- Some may wish to select 4

Vocational

- Mainly Bs and Cs at GCSE
- Prefer practical work and coursework
- It is possible to do a mix of A level and Vocational courses
- Students currently studying vocational courses

What should I study?

- Strong performance at KS4
- Strong performance in most challenging units
- Career goals
- Passion/interest
- Combination of subjects
- Core curriculum

A-Level Pathway

- Art & Design
- Biology *
- Business Studies
- Chemistry *
- Computer Science
- 3D Design
- Drama
- Economics
- English Language
- English Literature *
- Film Studies
- French *
- Fashion & Textiles
- Geography *
- Government & Politics
- History *
- Photography
- Maths *
- Further Maths *
- Music
- Philosophy & Ethics
- Physics *
- Psychology
- Russian *
- Spanish *
- Sports Studies
- Textiles

* Facilitating Subjects

Subject to viability

Vocational pathways

- Science
- Business Studies
- Health and Social Care
- ICT
- Sport Studies
- Media Studies
- Performing Arts

Subject to viability

What else will I study?

- Core PE
- Core RE
- Pastoral Programme

Sixth Form Students

- **James Ashcroft** (Year 13)
- **Idara Eshiet** (Year 13)

Wider Opportunities at St Mary's?

Sixth Form opportunities

- Sixth Form Leadership Team / School Council
- Amnesty International
- Classics Society
- John Paul II Award
- In-class support/paired reading
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Charity fundraising / RAG committee
- Educational visits
- International Expedition
- Careers Academy UK
- Work Experience
- Young Entrepreneur Competition
- Peer Mentoring
- Sports Leaders
- Spirituality group
- Sixth Form Retreat
- EPQ
- Reece Scholarships
- Sixth Form Prom
- National Citizenship Service

"Students make an outstanding contribution to the local community in many ways, including a large number of charitable and voluntary activities" Ofsted

EPQ

- Project qualification
- Self managed but with a mentor
- Topic of own choice
- 5,000 words or equivalent
- March Y12 to December Y13
- Universities really value it – excellent preparation for university
- EPQ tutor who oversees students' work
- In UCAS weighting, worth more than an AS-level

Career Ready (Careers Academy UK)

- A structured programme
- Workshops
- E-Mentoring
- Paid internships
- Access to lectures
- Only school in the North East affiliated to Career Ready

What next?

- Students meet with senior staff
- Guidance to match subject choices to likely GCSE performance
- Senior staff work on option blocks
- Taster day in July 2017 – details will follow post GCSE exams
- GCSE results August 2017
- External Applicants – application form on website, apply 27 February 2017

"Guidance and support at key transition points between schools and the Sixth Form are strong and help students settle in quickly" Ofsted

Thank you for listening

- Please make your way to the Atrium where you can visit the different subject stalls
- Subject staff are available to answer any questions you may have
- The Sixth Form is clearly sign posted – 2nd floor