



# St Mary's Catholic School

Benton Park Road, Newcastle upon Tyne. NE7 7PE

*where everyone can succeed*



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October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: St Mary's Sixth Form Open Evening – Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018, 6pm-8pm**

As you will be aware, this is a crucial time for your son/daughter as they continue to work hard for their GCSEs and begin to think about their options for next year. Each year, the majority of our Year 11 students decide to stay at St Mary's to join our Sixth Form, and we want to explore what options will be available to them and to share information about how we intend to guide and support your son/daughter as they make the transition into Sixth Form.

To give you an insight into the Sixth Form, and what students can expect if they continue studying at St Mary's, I would like to invite you to our Sixth Form Open Evening on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018, starting at 6pm. As well as a presentation from Mr Foster and myself about life in the Sixth Form, there will be an opportunity to discuss with teachers the subjects that are available in our Sixth Form. This is a very important part of the evening as it will also give students an insight into the demands of the courses that we offer, and the entry requirements for individual courses. We think this is a useful time for students to talk to teachers about the ways of learning, the expectations that will be placed upon them, and the content of our Sixth Form courses. All of this information will then help students to make informed decisions about their next steps.

Following the Sixth Form Open Evening, and before February half term, each student in Year 11 will be offered a meeting with me, or another member of the Sixth Form Leadership Team. The purpose of this meeting is to give us an idea of what students wish to study and to ensure they select courses that are appropriate for them, based on their predicted performance at GCSE level and the entry requirements for our courses. This also helps us plan, provisionally, our post-16 curriculum for September 2019.

Please find overleaf, an overview of the transition programme that outlines how your child will be supported as they move into Year 12.

This is an important and exciting time for your son/daughter and we will ensure that they are supported fully and informed of all the options available to them. With your continued support, I am sure the transition into the Sixth Form will be a smooth one, and I very much look forward to meeting you at the Open Evening. I would be very grateful if you would complete the reply slip below, indicating your intention to attend the Open Evening, and return it via your child's Form Tutor no later than Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November.

Yours faithfully

Mr S. Tait  
Key Stage 5 Leader

As the parents/carers of \_\_\_\_\_ in Form Group \_\_\_\_\_

We will/will not be attending the Sixth Form Open Evening on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018 starting at 6pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

National Teaching School  
designated by



## Transition Programme: Year 11 into Year 12

Date	Event
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sixth Form Open Evening.</li> </ul>
December-February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students in Year 11 meet with a member of the Sixth Form Leadership Team to discuss options and subjects, their suitability, and to discuss any initial questions students might have about Sixth Form.</li> </ul>
March/April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Options finalised, following meetings with students, so that the school timetable for 2019 can be devised.</li> </ul>
May/June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 11 sit their GCSE exams.</li> <li>Parents and students are welcome to contact Mr Tait during this time with any questions they have regarding the transition process, but the focus for students at this time should be their exams.</li> </ul>
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following the GCSE exams, students will experience a 'taster day', to give them the opportunity to experience Sixth Form lessons and routines.</li> <li>Students will be issued with compulsory work to be completed before the start of term in September in the subjects they have chosen to study.</li> </ul>
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following publication of GCSE results on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2019, final review of students achieving grades required for entry onto chosen courses.</li> <li>Further meetings with students to discuss options if changes need to be made.</li> </ul>
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students are inducted into the Sixth Form and begin their Sixth Form studies at St Mary's Catholic School.</li> </ul>

