



Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Year 9 Information Evening

Achieving Excellence



Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Let's reflect

**Father, we pray
for knowledge and understanding
for teachers, pupils and parents.**

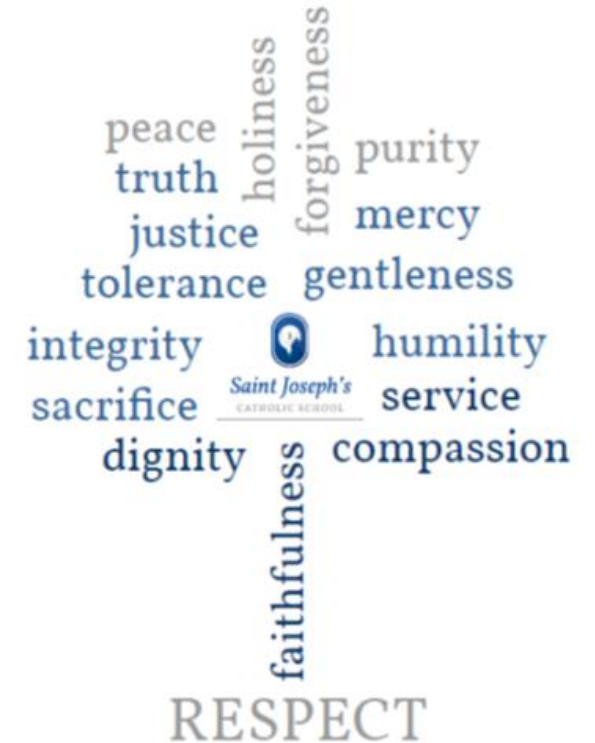
**We pray that you will be
with our teachers and pupils
as they start a new school year.**

**We pray that you will give pupils
tenacity as they seek for understanding
and new revelations in their studies.**

**Father we also pray for parents,
that they will support pupils by building
a closer working relationship with teachers and staff.**

This we ask in Jesus Name.

PRAY RAY



"Excellence for the sake of the Gospel"



Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Our Mission

What we stand for

With God's love and inspiration, we aspire to achieve excellence.



This is a promise and a prayer to help your children be the best version of themselves.



Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Our Vision

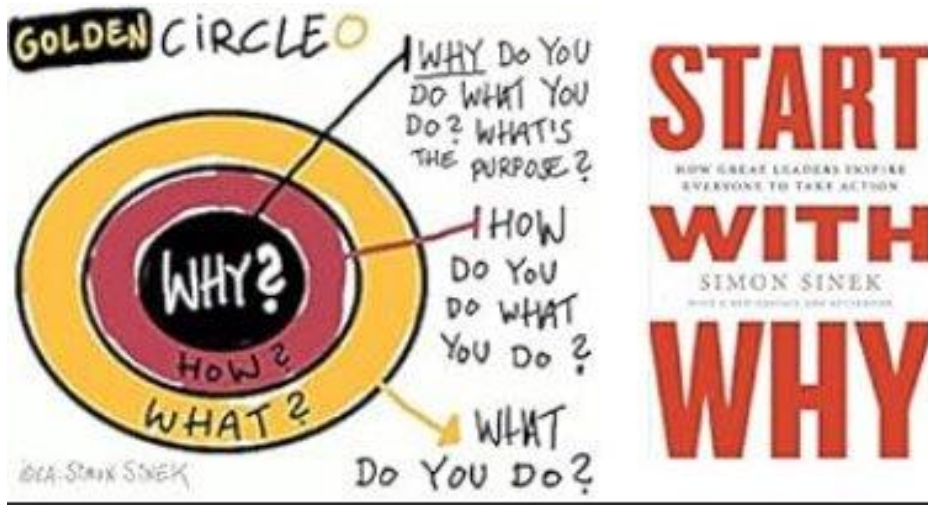
What is our ambition?

1. St. Joseph's aspires to be an exceptional, inclusive Catholic school where every individual feels a **profound sense of belonging and recognises their spiritual gifts.**
2. In a safe, trusting, and respectful environment, everyone can thrive.
3. The St Joseph's family is dedicated to providing and receiving **outstanding educational opportunities, enabling each member to achieve excellent progress and outcomes** in every aspect of school life to ensure the highest level of academic results.
4. We are committed to nurturing God-given talents and encouraging everyone to reach their full potential, fostering spiritual and moral character development.



Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Our School's DNA



Why = The Purpose

Our Mission – aspiration to achieve excellence.

How = The Process

Our practice and pedagogical approach is from the best educational research.

SEND and Vulnerable pupils are placed at the centre of the School.

CST is central to all we do and who we are.

Pupils are supported by the SJCS family.

What = The Result

A love for learning

A sense of belonging to St Joseph's

Ready to make a difference in the world

Excellent GCSE results.



Leadership at SJCS

It is not just myself but all staff

1. Care at the centre of our leadership
2. Compassion through:
Listening and learning
Showing gratitude
Encouragement
Values displayed and lived through actions and words
3. Family alignment – Always aiming for togetherness
4. Communicating with clarity so you know 'the why' for the journey we are on
5. Ambitious – Always aiming for us to have the highest standards
6. Always aspiring for excellence and supporting everyone to find their Excellence.



Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Our Improvement

Changes that have been made

1. GCSE Results have increased with 15% increase in 9-4 grades.
2. New Pastoral Framework
3. New Assessment and Feedback system
4. Higher level of Teaching and Learning implemented
5. New Heads of Department and Year established
6. New roles within the School – Literacy, Numeracy, Beacon Teachers, Eco
7. New subjects being offered – Business, DT, Textiles, Health & Social, Digital IT, Enrichment
8. Greater extra curricular opportunities outside of the classroom
9. Increased focus on School Trips
10. Increased frequency of Rewards trips
11. Site Development – Heating system, IT labs, Painting, Doors, Pods, Snack Shack
12. Still striving to build a Sportshall



Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Working with everyone

Excellence cannot happen alone

1. Continue working with Governors
2. Strengthening our relationship with the Diocese and Parish
3. Continue to use from the Local Authority
4. Collaborating with the best educational practices and professionals available
5. Working with other schools
6. Engaging with the wider community
7. Forging links with businesses (big and small)
8. Triaging and developing with Parents



Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Our Mission

What we stand for

With God's love and inspiration, we aspire to achieve excellence.



This is a promise and a prayer – we are ambitious **AND WILL** become the highest performing School in Salisbury for progress at any level.



Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

School Day Design

AM REG	9.00 - 9.20
PERIOD 1	9.20 - 10.20
PERIOD 2	10.20 - 11.20
BREAK	11.20 - 11.40
PERIOD 3	11.40 - 12.40
PERIOD 4	12.40 - 1.40
LUNCH	1.40 - 2.20
PM REG	2.20 - 2.30
PERIOD 5	2.30 - 3.30

Before School Routine

0800 – Dining Room available
0820 – School Gate opens
0830 – Breakfast available
0900 – Bell for the start of the day



Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The St Joseph's Way

- Our approach to learning
- Our roles & responsibilities
- Assembly time
- Helping pupils understand why we, as teachers, do the things we do!

We do things the
St Joseph's Way!

Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

As a pupil at St Joseph's, I am member of a unique community. I understand that I have a right to a first-class education, and have a responsibility to ensure that my classmates also receive a first-class education.

The St Joseph's Way is what sets us aside as a school. It helps me to understand why we do the things we do, and to ensure we can all thrive in a first-class learning environment.

S **Start lessons well:** Line up, full uniform, stand behind desks, equipment out, respect reflection.

T **Take my seat,** title, date, starter & retrieval immediately.

J **Join in the learning:** I will respond to questions when cold-called, volunteer answers when I can, and vote when requested.

O **One voice:** There's only one voice speaking at one time. This way, we all learn.

S **Silent work is good for me:** It's a chance to show what I have learnt and helps everyone to focus.

E **Extend my learning:** I will always push myself to extend my learning and access the challenge tasks when I can.

P **Plenaries** help me recall my learning and help my teacher to plan for the next lessons.

H **Homework is good for me:** It's my chance to show what I have learnt and to practise my skills.

S **Sharing ideas** helps me to learn from my peers. I'll use a partner voice if in pairs and a group voice in larger groups.

W **Work** is completed to MY best ability.

A **Assessments and feedback** are essential for helping my progress; my teacher feeds back to me what I need to do to improve and I act on it with my MRIs.

Y **YOLO – You Only Learn Once:** This is a myth! I know reviewing and revisiting my learning helps it stick in my long-term memory.




Key Stage 3 (Yr9)

- Varied curriculum with 16 different subjects being studied
- **Core:** Maths (8), English (8), Science (6), RE (5)
- **Humanities & Arts:** Spanish / French (3), Geography (2), History (2)
- **Creative:** Music (2), Art (2), Computer Science (2), Drama (1)
- **Creative Carousel:** ***Pathway A*** (Food Tech and Textiles) ***Pathway B*** (Business Studies, and Design) 18-week block then rotate
- **Physical Education & Enrichment** (6) - Yr9 Tues P5 is Enrichment
- **PSHE:** Careers Education, RSE, Finance



Visibility of Curriculum

- Learning Journeys
- Key terms
- Learning Checklists

Component 1: Foundational Catholic Theology. Chapter 1: Origins & Meanings. Key Terms.		
<i>Self Evaluation</i> At the end of the unit evaluate how well you can use each of the terms <i>Green:</i> I can use this term confidently and can apply it to exam questions <i>Yellow:</i> I think I know the term or could use it if I had to <i>Red:</i> I think I need help to understand this term and how to use it.		
		
Key term	Definition	Traffic light
creation ex nihilo	Creation out of nothing. Before God created the universe, nothing existed. Only God can create out of nothing.	
imago Dei	In the image of God – the belief that we are made to reflect God's characteristics and qualities (not His appearance)	
evolution	The process of mutation and natural selection which leads to changes in species over a period of time	
inspiration	God breathed – the belief that the Spirit of God guides individuals	
omnipotence	The belief that God is all powerful!	
revelation	A word used to describe the ways in which God makes himself known	
stewardship	The duty to care for creation responsibly as stewards and to protect it for future generations	
transcendence	Existing outside of space and time. God exists in a way that makes him nothing like anything on earth. Above & beyond creation.	
causation	The idea that everything has a cause and God is the cause of the universe	
Atheist	A person who does not believe in God	
Humanist	A non-religious person who follows the principles of humanism	
Speciesism	The idea that human life is more important than other life	
Immanent	God is close to his creation and involved with the world so that he can make himself known	
Dominion	Having power or control over nature and the environment	
Sustainable	Using natural resources responsibly so that they don't run out	
Metaphorical	To read the words of the bible as stories or myths that contain truths	
Literal	To read words of the bible as factually true	

Component 1: Foundational Catholic Theology. Chapter 1: Origins & Meanings. Learning Plan.	
<i>Self Evaluation</i> At the end of the unit evaluate how well you can use each of the terms <i>Green:</i> I can use this term confidently and can apply it to exam questions <i>Yellow:</i> I think I know the term or could use it if I had to <i>Red:</i> I think I need help to understand this term and how to use it.	
Concept	RAG
I can explain Catholic beliefs and teachings about the origin of the universe and the concept of creation ex nihilo as expressed in the writing of St Augustine	
I can explain relationship between Catholic views, other Christian views and non-religious views about creation	
I can compare Scientific views (Big Bang & Evolution) with Catholic views and explain compatibilism	
I can explain Catholic beliefs and teachings about the origin and sanctity of human life and the concept of imago Dei as expressed in the writings of St Catherine of Siena	
I can explain the relationship between Catholic views, other fundamentalist Christian views and non-religious views about the value of human life, including attitudes toward abortion	
I can explain humanist critiques of Catholic views about the value of human life and abortion (with reference to Peter Stringer's view on speciesism)	
I can compare Genesis 1 & 2 creation stories and what they teach about humans, God and creation. I can also explain different interpretations of the bible stories.	
I can compare Catholic & Humanist beliefs on care for the planet and environment	
I can explain the meaning of Michelangelo's Creation of Adam and the extent to which Michelangelo's Creation of Adam expresses Catholic beliefs about creation, God and human beings	
I can explain the use of symbolism in and imagery in Christian art (Tree of Life Apse mosaic and the meanings of the symbols contained within it eg: the Alpha and Omega, the Chi-Rho, lamb, dove and the four evangelists)	
I can explain the symbol of cross as the tree of life with reference to the theology of Christ as the New Adam and how this is expressed in the San Clemente mosaic	
I can explain the influence of the concept of imago Dei on Catholic Social Teaching about justice, peace and reconciliation	
I can explain how a Catholic charity, such as CAFOD and one local charity, such as SVP, reflect Catholic beliefs about the dignity of human beings, the importance of loving one's neighbour, and respecting creation	
I can explain how the Catholic Church works with other faiths to promote understanding, respect, tolerance and harmony between the different religious and non-religious traditions in Great Britain	





Future Options

The Basics:

- GCSE Options Choices in Yr9
- 3 choices – range of subjects
- Suitable pathways for your future
- Begin GCSEs in Yr10

The Subjects:

- **Core:** Maths (8), English (8), Science (9), RE (5)
- **Options (all 5 periods):** Spanish, French, Business Studies, Health & Social Care, DIT, Creative Media, Geography, History, Art, Separate Science, Music, PE GCSE, Food Technology, Drama

Options Evening 12th February
Options DEADLINE Mid March



Assessment for Learning (KS3 & 4)

- A whole-school focus on Formative Assessment
 - “Every day, every lesson, every interaction”
 - *Is it going? Is it staying in? Can they retrieve it when they need it?!*
- Providing students with regular “feedback that moved forwards”
 - *Feedback that helps guide students to improve and allows opportunities for them to act upon it*
- Empowering students to take ownership of their own learning
- Regular end of unit / term summative assessments
- End of Year Exams

3

Elicit Evidence of Learning

Make use of practised methods to elicit evidence of student learning which you can use to inform your teaching and learning process **in real time**. Techniques to consider...



An effective all-student response technique



A routine for structured discussion



Generating improved verbal responses



Selecting students to answer; inviting everyone to think



Key question: what have you understood?

See also: low-stakes quizzes, exit tickets, traffic light cards / thumbs up or down / hinge-questions (add others)

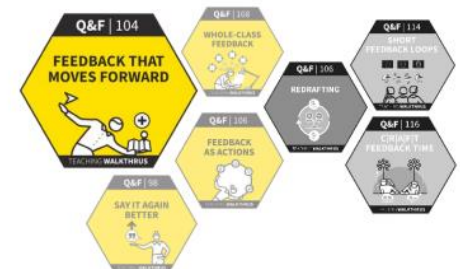


Active Observation: Teachers intentionally monitor students' behaviours, interactions and engagement. Looking for patterns in participation and understanding. Identifying students who may need support or extension, allowing for timely intervention. Teachers build stronger relationships, foster inclusive learning and adapt instructions to meet diverse needs – creating a dynamic and responsive classroom where all students can thrive.

4a

Feedback (Students)

Provide students with regular feedback that allows them to move forwards in their learning, identify where misconceptions have occurred and allowing opportunities to act upon this feedback.



Homework (OFO)

How do we approach homework?

- In the way we wish our own teachers had when we were at school!
- Homework forms a valuable part of our curriculum / assessment process
- But we also appreciate the need for students to unwind / relax, pursue outside of school clubs / hobbies and spend time with family

How will be set?



Designed to be easy and simple for students and parents:

- *Single-sign in*
- *Set Wed-Tue*
- *Work on all devices*
- *Instant feedback*





Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Y9 - Reports and Communication (OFO)

- Year 9 Parents evening (Thu 26/02/26) [To coincide with Options process]
- Early-year (Dec) and end of year reports (July) including:
 - Attitude to learning (AtL)
 - Academic progress
 - Pastoral data (attendance, conduct etc.)

New for 25/26: Re-designed Reporting structure designed to give parents clarity over how their child is progressing, both within a year group context but also with an eye on potential future attainment (likely GCSE outcomes).

Regular Updates:





Effective Independent Study / Revision Habits

Revisit Content	Practice Recall	Reflect & Develop
<p>Read through class notes and activities</p> <p>Create mind maps / diagrams to learn key content</p> <p>Highlighting notes</p> <p>Create flashcards</p> <p>Create a revision 'wall' with key terms and key themes (post-its)</p>	<p>Practice recalling key facts / figures / people / formulae</p> <p>Practice recalling definitions of subject vocabulary</p> <p>Practice recall examples that illustrate key information</p>	<p>Mark your own work to an exam board mark scheme</p> <p>Study mark schemes and examiner's reports</p> <p>Compare model answers against your own</p> <p>Using the exam board specifications, create your own exam questions</p> <p>Hand in extra work for marking!</p>



Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

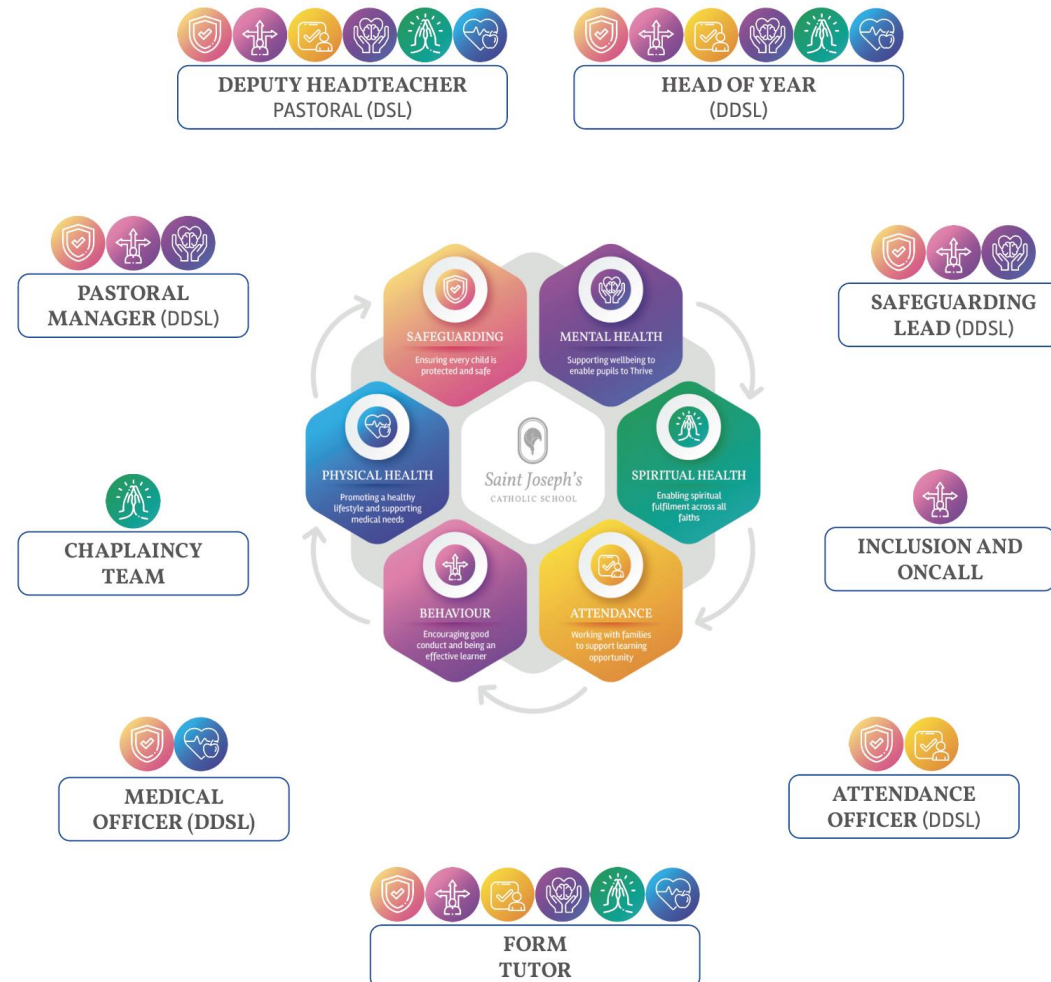
Pastoral Support





Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Pastoral Support





Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Careers & Futures!

Year 9 Careers support

PSHE: Understanding their options and continuing to get to know themselves - their interests, strengths, qualities and how this can help them make decisions for their future.

Careers advice meetings available with Miss Gale (Careers Lead Professional) supporting options process & Career ideas.

Advice for Year 9 students:

Continue to get involved in extra-curricular clubs, trips, activities (like DofE), volunteering.

It's hard to know what you like and are good at, unless you try things out!

for parents:

- Have a look at the Careers Portal, with links to Career Pilot, e-clips and Career Companion
- Ask questions to help them reflect on what they like and are good at:
 - ☐ what was the best lesson today?
 - ☐ what did you learn about in science today? . . . did you enjoy it?
 - ☐ what sport did you do in PE today? . . . did you enjoy playing Badminton?". . . did you find it easy working as part of a team? Did you lead the team warm up?

This will help them when making key decisions this year and beyond!

CAREERS PORTAL

Welcome to the Careers Portal at St. Joseph's Catholic School.

This resource is for pupils, parents, carers, teachers, employers, training providers and anyone who has a keen interest in preparing our pupils for their future.

We are very proud of the careers provision at St. Joseph's Catholic School. We have been awarded the national Quality in Careers Standard using the Career Mark approach, which recognises excellence in careers, employability and enterprise.

Currently, the pace of change is more rapid than at any time in history. Changes in society and work are having a profound effect on traditional patterns of employment. If young people know more about the range of careers open to people with the right qualifications, they will have a clearer idea of the routes to better jobs.

This page will link you to sources of information and advice, and where to get help. Please use the links on the right for further information.



CAREERS EDUCATION

All learners experience a relevant and appropriate careers curriculum which promotes equal opportunities, challenges stereotypes, raises aspirations and encourages learners to reach their full potential. Learners are taught to take responsibility for their futures and encouraged to make full use of the learning opportunities, resources and events made available to them. Our offer is always developing and new events and activities are delivered every year.

- [Learner Entitlement](#) (updated June 2022)
- [KS3/KS4 Careers Education](#) (updated June 2022)



Career Pilot is a free one-stop website helping 13-19 year olds in the South of England to find out about all of their options. Career Pilot also has a Parents Information Zone to help parents/carers support young people in making the right decision about study and work.

Go to
CAREERPILOT

careercomp@nion

Careercomp@nion provides students and parents/carers with the most up-to-date, independent, and impartial careers information about education, apprenticeships, labour market information, special educational needs, job hunting, qualifications, and more.

Username: stjosephsstudent
Password: stjosephsstudent

Go to
CAREER COMPANION



eCLIPS helps young people to make informed study and career decisions. It has accurate information on over 1400 jobs including live labour market information and lots of advice on education and employment choices.

Login: koosca50

Go to
ECLIPS

MORE USEFUL LINKS AND RESOURCES

National Careers Service - Provides information, advice and guidance to help make decisions on learning, training and work.

Apprenticeships - Government portal containing information and advice about apprenticeship





Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The Year 9 Team

Mrs Hambly- Head of year

Mr Reynolds- Head of year support

9M

**Mrs Henry
Mrs Jackson**

9F

**Mrs Halls
Miss Wells**

9T

Miss Reynolds

9V

**Mr Blakey
Mr Wilkinson**



Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Pupil Wellbeing & Mental Health



- Form Tutor
- Head of Year
- Anti Bullying Ambassadors
- Inclusivity Alliance
- Pupil Parliament
- Pupil Voice
- Pupil Leadership

- Miss Brignall & Mrs Rose
- Pastoral support
- Links to external agencies and projects
- Signposting available
- School nurse every Wednesday





Rewards & Sanctions

Rewards

- Merits
- Weekly Recognition
 - Weekly Raffle
 - Happiest Moment of the Week
- Accumulative Rewards – Trips!

Sanctions

- The Strike System
- Demerits
- Centralised Detentions
- Further Interventions



Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Important Dates for the Year

- Reports
 - Dec
 - July (inc End of Yr Exams)
- Yr 9 Options
 - They have started on different pathways
 - More option choices will be Introduced - January
 - Evening – Thurs 12th February
 - Deadline Mid March
- Parents Evening
 - Thursday 26th February
- Awards Evening:
 - Week commencing 13th July





Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

"With God's love and inspiration, we aspire to achieve excellence."

In the **Catholic Church**, **excellence** refers to the commitment to educate the whole person—body, mind, and soul—by instilling virtue, knowledge, and wisdom.

It is measured by how well we cultivate faith, goodness, and sanctity in our students, aiming to nurture their spiritual and intellectual lives while preparing them to live faithfully according to their God-given vocations.

Excellence involves striving for high standards and continuous improvement, focussing on the process rather than the outcome..

Excellence is achieving the best you can do with the tools you have available, you do not need to compare it to others.



Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

UNIFORM



The school believes that a high standard of appearance and presentation enhances the dignity of the individual and raises self-esteem. To that end, school uniform should be worn properly to and from school and throughout the school day.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS ON UNIFORM CAN RESULT IN SANCTION. MORE INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE.

UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

TROUSERS - Black or dark grey. Tailored. No jeans, leggings, corduroys, or casual trousers. May be supported by a dark, narrow, unbranded belt.

SKIRTS - Black. Must be pleated. No tube skirts. Knee high.

SHORTS - Black. Smart, tailored (no cargo or sports shorts).

SHIRT - Plain white. Full button and collar.

BLAZER - Blue blazer with school logo.

TIE - House Tie - Red, Blue, Green or Yellow.

SOCKS/TIGHTS - Socks, short (ankle/trainer). Black, navy blue, or white. Or plain natural/black tights.

SHOES - Black. Shoes must be completely black (including the soles) with no logos, laces, or trims of a different colour. No sports trainers. No foam soles. No visible "air bubbles". Leather or canvas.

APPEARANCE EXPECTATIONS

HAIRSTYLE - Students whose hairstyle is reasonably deemed offensive, of a non-natural colour, or in any other way disruptive to learning, will be asked to modify that hairstyle, and could be asked to remain in inclusion until such time as the hair has grown back sufficiently, or the style has grown out.

MAKEUP - Tidy, natural look, minimal make up.

NAILS - Nails should be of a natural look, colour and length. We will ask for nail varnish or false nails to be removed.

JEWELLERY - A watch and, if desired one band (charity) that can be removed for PE. All other jewellery must be removed when in school uniform. All jewellery must be removed for PE. Incidents of theft are rare at SJCS but we do ask, to aid us in minimising this, that students do not bring items of value to school.

PIERCINGS - One earring per ear, which should be a stud for safety reasons, and be in the lower lobe. All piercings must be removed for PE. No facial or body piercings at all.

PE KIT EXPECTATIONS

TOP - School polo shirt - house colour.

SHORTS - Black sports shorts, plain with no distinctive branding (shorts must be loose fitting, mid-thigh, not tight fitting Lycra).

SKORT - This is an optional item and must be the SJCS branded item to ensure it is appropriate.

TROUSERS / LEGGINGS - Black tracksuit bottoms or leggings, plain with no distinctive branding.

TRAINERS - Practical and suitable for sports performance.



Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

PERSISTENT ABSENCE

Persistent absence means pupils who miss more than 10% of school every year.

-£10,000

Persistently absent pupils in year 10 & 11 could earn £10,000 less on average at age 28, compared to pupils with near perfect attendance

-£750

For each additional day of absence between years 7 to 11, the typical pupil could miss out on an average of £750 in future lifetime earnings

-£20,000

This rises to almost £20k less on average at age 28 for those who are severely absent



WHY ATTENDANCE MATTERS AT SAINT JOSEPH'S



NEW FINE SYSTEM FROM 2024



If within a 3 year period, your child has a 2nd and 3rd absence or irregular attendance...

2nd Time: 1 Child = £320, 2 children = £640, 3 Children = £960, 4 children = £1280 (No discount for early payment)

3rd Time: No penalty fine, your case will go to court! A magistrate can fine each child £2500.
1 parent and 4 children = **£10,000**
2 parents and 4 children = **£20,000**

PUNCTUALITY





Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Set for Success -

- Uniform
- Phones
- Check Ins
- Communication
- Attendance

"At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive evolvement of parents and carers. "

*-Jane D Hull**



How can parents help.....

- Encourage your children to check their homework and any messages on Class Charts.
- Check emails/school comms for latest news and updates.
- Check in for understanding of lessons, topics – particularly around EOY test time – and encourage independent learning.
- Encourage your children to report any issues AS SOON as they can – duty staff, teachers, tutors, HOY.... as soon as we know, we act!
- Encourage pupils to attend unless absolutely necessary...





Saint Joseph's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

What to gain from Year Nine -

- Enrichment
- Careers Opportunities
- Y9 trip
- Building character