
ST MARY'S RC HIGH SCHOOL





“...a school that is a beacon of excellence and is achieving remarkably high results for pupils right across the curriculum”



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Welcome to St Mary's RC High School

Thank you for showing an interest in our school. St Mary's was founded by the Sisters of Charity in 1861 and sits in an idyllic country setting with the Black Mountains in one direction and the Malvern Hills in the other.

At St Mary's we have been providing a Catholic education for over 150 years. We exist to serve the local Catholic communities, Christians of other denominations and families who wish for their children to be educated in a Catholic environment.

Built on the Gospel values and teachings of Jesus, we pride ourselves on the warm and welcoming atmosphere in the school and on the strength of relationships between students and staff.

We want our students to develop academically, personally and spiritually in order that they achieve their potential and enjoy a bright future.

St Mary's is characterised by an excitement for learning. Teaching is of a very high standard

and there are many opportunities for our students to learn different subjects across a broad and balanced curriculum.

We believe that our students learn best when they are happy. We have therefore invested in a strong pastoral care system so that our young people settle in quickly and get support when they need it, helping them to flourish during their time with us.

St Mary's has been oversubscribed for a number of years, reflecting that parents and their children like the ethos and 'feel' of our school.

It is a privilege to lead this school and I am incredibly proud of what we collectively represent. I look forward to meeting you at our forthcoming Open Evening and mornings, and hopefully to working with you and your children in the coming years.

Stuart Wetson
Headteacher

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“Over the past four years, pupils have made much better progress
in their GCSEs than other pupils nationally”



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Passionate About Progress & Achievement

Our focus on maintaining the highest standards across all aspects of school life, is reflected in the consistently strong performance, achievement and outcomes of our students.

GCSE results typically exceed local and national averages year on year and our students are incredibly well prepared for Post-16 learning and beyond.

Teaching & Learning

We pride ourselves on the quality of teaching and learning at our school and aim to foster a life-long sense of curiosity and resilience in our learners.

Lessons are well planned and teachers use information about students' progress to challenge them appropriately. 'Behaviour for Learning' in the classroom is a key focus, enabling our children to enjoy their lessons, develop new understanding and acquire knowledge carefully and securely.

Our Catholic ethos permeates the curriculum and enriches the learning for students.



"Your school is characterised by an excitement for learning, and plenty of opportunities to learn, rather than a focus on simply passing exams."



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"Dear young people, let us not be satisfied with a mediocre life.
Be amazed by what is true and beautiful, what is of God"



POPE FRANCIS



Working & Worshipping Together

In the life of faith in a Catholic school, religious education plays a central and vital role. At the heart of Catholic education lies the Christian vision of the human person. This vision is expressed and explored in religious education. Therefore, religious education is never simply one subject among many, but the core subject of St Mary's.

Our ethos is founded on Gospel values and our students learn about love, compassion, hope and forgiveness through worship, reflection and working together.

"A high priority is placed on social, moral, spiritual and cultural education and this threads through everything in the school curriculum."



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“There is a high degree of trust in the culture of your school”



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Taking Good Care of Your Children

St Mary's is a caring, Catholic community, where students' personal welfare and growth are our priority. Excellent pastoral care is supported by the fact that we worship, reflect and celebrate together throughout the school year.

Dedicated Heads of Year, Support staff and our Chaplain work together to ensure that all aspects of your child's development are looked after.

We listen to the views of our students through the School Council and seek to implement their suggestions for the ongoing improvement of their school environment and experience.

We have an uncompromising focus on high standards of behaviour and our children respond positively to this in the way that they conduct themselves in lessons and around the school.



"Pupils feel safe and their welfare is managed exceptionally well...pupils behave with high standards of courtesy and politeness in lessons and at break times."



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Exciting Enrichment Beyond the Classroom...

In addition to their curriculum-based learning, students at St Mary's have many opportunities to develop their knowledge, skills and fitness through a whole host of teams, fixtures, productions, competitions, trips and events.

Locally, St Mary's is always incredibly well represented having teams in all of the major sports and across all age groups. Practice and training sessions run most evenings at school and all are welcome to attend.

The annual Eisteddfod, school productions and school orchestra group, are there for our students whose passion lies in the performing arts and there are a number of other clubs that take place during and after the school day which cater for a range of interests.

Amongst many other exciting trips, our students get the chance to visit the World War 1 Battlefields, the German Christmas Markets, sign up for the annual ski trip or accompany our frequent pilgrimages to Lourdes. In recent years, more senior students at St Mary's have embraced the 'World Challenge' initiative

and taken expeditions to India and Malaysia where not only were they in charge of their accommodation and itinerary but they also assisted with community-based projects of great value to those living in under-developed conditions.

We believe experiences such as these are invaluable in the development of our children and continue to look for opportunities outside of our immediate surroundings to broaden their horizons and inspire them to be life-long learners.



"Pupils are given opportunities to take part in extra-curricular classes in art, music and drama"



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