



## Message from Miss Burton, Vice Principal

It has been a very busy and positive start to this half term, with a wide range of opportunities and achievements for our students. As we move into May, our focus turns especially to our young people in Year 11 and Year 13, who have now begun their public examinations. Through our recent Leavers' Masses, led by Mrs Whelan and Mrs McGowan, we have taken time to celebrate all that these students have contributed to our school community. These were thoughtful and reverent occasions, offering a chance for reflection, gratitude and prayer. We wish all of our students every success as they begin their exams, and we continue to hold them closely in our prayers during this important time.

Alongside this, it has been a pleasure to see students continuing to flourish across the wider life of the school. Our recent Music Soirée, led by Miss Hughes, was a wonderful celebration of talent, creativity and confidence. Students performed with real pride, supporting one another and showcasing the breadth of musical ability across the school. It was a special evening and a real testament to the commitment and enthusiasm of our young people.

We are also incredibly proud of the students involved in the Duke of Edinburgh programme. They have demonstrated resilience, teamwork and determination, embracing challenge and representing the school exceptionally well. These experiences play an important role in developing character and independence, and we are grateful to the staff who give their time to lead and support this work.

As always, it is these moments—both in and beyond the classroom—that remind us of the character, generosity and spirit of our students. They continue to approach their learning, their enrichment opportunities and their relationships with one another with maturity and positivity, contributing greatly to the strength of our school community.

As we journey through this busy and important period, we are reminded of the words of St John Bosco: "Do ordinary things extraordinarily well." This is something we see lived out each day in the efforts and attitudes of our young people, and we thank them, and you, for the continued support that makes this possible.

## GOODBYE MRS DURKIN!

This week we said goodbye to Mrs Durkin who has served the Bishop Challoner community for 17 years.

Mrs Durkin started her career as a receptionist and then moved on to work in our Pastoral office where she has managed the administration of attendance, school trips, schoolcomms and all aspects of transition when students start with us in Year 7.

Mrs Durkin has been a magnificent servant to our students, staff and general community and we wish her all the very best as she begins a new chapter in retirement.

### *Archbishop Longley's Prayer from Ascension to Pentecost*

*Lift us up with you, Lord Jesus Christ, from the sickness, suffering, fear and grief of these last months. Bless all that your body, the Church, has achieved through her worship of God and her care of God's children. Renew the Holy Spirit among us, that, sent like your apostles, to the people of our diocese, all may contribute to the proclamation of God's word and to the growth of God's kingdom. Amen*

## STAFFING UPDATE

We recently welcomed Miss Wilson to the school as our new Attendance Officer. Miss Wilson will be the main point of contact for all daily attendance matters and you can expect to hear from Miss Wilson if you child is absent from school. Miss Wilson will work closely with Mr Clarke, Associate Assistant Principal and Attendance Lead and the existing Pastoral team.

Miss Lynch will continue her role in supporting students in the Student Services Office and also take on the responsibility of Student Experience Co-ordinator. Miss Lynch will be the main point of contact regarding school trips and schoolcomms.





# SIXTH FORM NEWS

**APPLY NOW**

## ALUMNI VISIT

Last week, we were delighted to welcome back former student Will Parkes, who spoke to our Year 12 students about his journey after sixth form. Will shared his experiences of training and working as an accountant before pursuing a very different path as an Officer Cadet at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.



His engaging talk gave students a valuable insight into the range of opportunities available after sixth form, as well as what life is like within the military. We are grateful to Will for taking the time to return and inspire our students as they begin to consider their own future pathways.



## SCIENCE PATHWAYS IN THE SIXTH FORM

We were also proud to see a group of our Year 13 science students delivering an engaging talk to Year 11 about studying Biology, Chemistry and Physics at Bishop Challoner Sixth Form. They shared their own experiences of sixth form life, offering helpful insights into the subjects, expectations, and opportunities available.

The students also highlighted the wide range of exciting career pathways that studying science can lead to, inspiring Year 11 to consider their next steps with confidence and ambition.

## SIXTH FORM TASTER DAY

We are pleased to announce that sign-up for our Sixth Form Taster Day is now available via our online platform, Applica. This event will give students a valuable opportunity to experience sixth form life, meet our dedicated sixth form staff team, and sample a range of lessons on offer for next year.

The day is designed to support students in finalising their subject choices and feeling confident about their next steps. The Taster Day will take place on 24th June, and we encourage all applicants to sign up and register their place.

## FORENSIC SCIENCE AT UNIVERSITY

A group of students recently took part in a Forensic Science Masterclass at the University of Wolverhampton, organised by our Science Department. The trip provided an exciting opportunity for students to explore the practical applications of forensic science in a university setting.

Students engaged in hands-on activities and gained insight into the techniques used in real-world investigations, helping to deepen their understanding and inspire future study and career aspirations in science.



## YEAR 12 TASTER DAY

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday 24th June

A fully comprehensive Sixth Form welcoming students of all faiths and none

- A** AMBITION
- S** SERVICE TO OTHERS
- P** PROGRESSION
- I** INDEPENDENCE
- R** ROLE MODEL
- E** EXCELLENCE





# SIXTH FORM NEWS

## ★ SIXTH FORM AWARDS

AWARD	YEAR 12	YEAR 13
<b>AMBITION</b>	Patryk W Ruby P	Jack K x 2
<b>SERVICE TO OTHERS</b>	Kian P Tilly M	Charlotte J Ava Mcd
<b>PROGRESSION</b>	Talhah K Lloyd N	Maisie-Mae S x 2
<b>INDEPENDENCE</b>	Leo C Callum K	Bethany H x 2 Jacob G Hannah F
<b>ROLE MODEL</b>	Jerald S Azebe N	Ava Mcd Jacob G
<b>EXCELLENCE</b>	Kunashe M Tulsa S Joshua G Thomas C Ethan C	Isabel H Hannah F

## ✝ CATHOLIC LIFE

### PUPIL LED PRAYER AND LITURGY DURING EASTER

Our Year 9 pupils led us through Prayer and Liturgy during the 4th Week of Easter. The Gospel of the Good Shepherd reminds us that we have lots of influences in our life and they are not always in our best interest, but staying true to Jesus and our faith keeps us close to God.

We reflected on how to listen for the Shepherd's voice in our daily lives.

- Learn to recognise the Shepherd's voice by taking short moments of silence each day and noticing what leads you towards peace and truth
- Before making a decision, ask yourself does it lead you closer to goodness or away from it.
- Surround yourself with people who help you make good decisions to move in the right direction
- Reflect each day on when you felt most alive, peaceful, or truly yourself, and what contributed to that.

Thank you to Tajah, Mary, Grace, Elsie, Daniel and Gabriele.

## FORENSICS MASTERCLASS

On Tuesday 28th April a group of 15 students from year 12 Biology and year 12 Criminology visiting Wolverhampton University for a Forensic Sciences Masterclass. After an introductory talk on the role of crime scene investigators and the different aspects of forensic science the students undertook an evidence collection and analysis workshop.



They lifted fingerprints from drink cans and bottles, analysed the different print patterns and learned how to ensure evidence is collected in a way that would allow it to be used in a court of law.



Students swapped drink cans to obtain swabs and learned how they would be analysed as well as how samples are secured to prevent them being tampered with.

Finally, they analysed footprints for different markings from different shoes as well as learning how different wear and tear can be used to identify a walking style and possible suspects. They even had a go at taking their own footprints using the forensics equipment.

After lunch they visited a crime scene house. They entered rooms with a staged possible crime scene where they assessed the evidence, identified what forensic samples would need to be taken and formulated possible hypothesis as to what might have happened. They all had different ideas about who the most likely suspects were and possible motives.

Noel, Milaan, Ismail, Rosie C, Miley, Hafsa, Thomas F and Joel D from Year 8 Year 8 led Prayer and Liturgy in the 5th week of Easter. The Gospel teaches us that Jesus is the way to God and calls us to trust Him and follow His example through our actions.

We were asked to trust in Jesus this week by:

- choosing trust over anxiety by turning to Jesus in prayer and asking him to lead you whenever you feel uncertain.
- Doing one concrete act of service each day by helping someone in need and putting your faith into action.
- Making Jesus visible through your actions by showing patience, forgiveness, and kindness to others, even when it's difficult.

We encourage families to continue this journey at home by reading and reflecting on the Sunday Gospels together. The Wednesday Word is a weekly resource that helps connect home, school, and parish through the Sunday Gospel. It offers a simple way for families to share scripture and prayer each week.

You can access the resources at: [www.wednesdayword.org](http://www.wednesdayword.org)

## YEAR 9 AND YEAR 10 EASTER MASS

Fr Toby concluded our Easter Mass celebrations with Year 9 and Year 10 this week. In his homily, he reminded us that Jesus' love was revealed through the ultimate sacrifice of His Passion and death, and that we are called to live in the glory and hope of His Resurrection. It was wonderful to see so many pupils willingly serving as readers and servers, eager to play an active role in the Mass, the source and summit of our Catholic faith.



## YEAR 11 LEAVERS' MASSES

This week, we celebrated a beautiful and reverent Leavers' Mass with our Year 11 pupils. Students presented their school tie, symbolising their shared identity, the values learned at Bishop Challoner, and their belonging to a Catholic community as they carry these lessons beyond the school walls. Form photographs reflected the friendships, laughter and support that have shaped their journey, reminding them that they have grown together and never walked alone, while prayer intentions were offered for themselves, one another, and for the families and staff who have supported them throughout their time at the school.



The reading from Ecclesiastes spoke powerfully to this moment, reminding us that life unfolds in seasons, each with its own purpose. As one chapter ends and another begins, students were encouraged to trust that this time of transition is part of God's plan, filled with meaning, hope and promise. Fr Toby continued this theme in his homily, speaking eloquently to students about trusting that God is always with them, especially as they navigate times of change and uncertainty.

It was a deeply moving celebration, marked by a strong sense of reverence, pride and reflection, as pupils recognised this was the final time they would gather together as Bishop Challoner Year 11 in St Dunstan's Church.



## YEAR 13 LEAVERS' MASS

The Year 13 Leavers' Mass was a meaningful and reflective celebration, marking an important milestone as students prepare to move on to the next stage of their lives. Special thanks go to Saoirse and Matipa for beautifully delivered readings and to Aedan for enriching the celebration with his moving violin music. Our thanks go to Fr Toby for his inspiring homily, in which he encouraged students to have faith that they are God's wonderful work and to trust both in themselves and in God as they move forward.



## PRAYER AND MUSIC IN THE CHAPEL THROUGHOUT MAY, THE MONTH OF MARY

Throughout May, Ellen and pupils are praying a decade of the Rosary every lunchtime in the chapel for the world peace and the intentions of all that gather.

Jobe continues to support our musical pupils on Thursday lunchtimes. This week they have been playing Ave Maria and many pupils passing by came into the chapel to listen and have a moment of calmness in their busy day.



## FAITH FORMATION IN THE FAMILY

Below is a list that reminds us of when and where Mass is celebrated in our local parishes. You may wish to consider using this information to help direct your family to participate frequently in the celebration of Mass throughout the year.

Church	Postcode	Parish Priest	Sunday Mass Times	Saturday Vigil Mass Time
St. Dunstan's	B14 7JN	Fr John Peyton	11.30am, 5.30pm	4pm
St. Jude's	B14 5PE	Fr John Peyton	10am	-
Our Lady Of Lourdes	B13 0EU	Canon Sean Grady	9am, 11.30am	6pm
St Catherine Of Sienna	B5 7BE	Fr. Jagadishmario Kurapati (Fr. Mario)	11am	5.30pm
St Edward's	B29 7DB	Fr Denis McGillycuddy	10.15am	6pm
St Mary's	B17 0DN	Fr John Reid	11am, 5pm	6pm
Sacred Heart and Holy Souls	B27 6RG	Canon Jonathan Veasey	8.30am, 10am, 12noon	5pm
English Martyrs	B11 3JN	Fr Robert Murphy	8.15am, 10.30am	6pm
St Chads Cathedral	B4 6EX	Very Rev Canon Brian McGinley	9.30am, 11.30am	4.30pm
Our Lady And St Brigid	B31 5AD	Fr Cecil Rogerson	10am, 5.30pm	5pm
Our Lady Of Fatima	B32 1LL	Fr Philip Long Nguyen	11am	6pm
St Ambrose Barlow	B28 8QU	Fr Paul Johnson	10am, 5.30pm	5.30pm
The Oratory Of Saint Philip Neri	B16 8UE	Fr Anton Guziel	7.30am, 8.30am, 10.30am, 12.15pm, 5.30pm	5.30pm
St Peters	B32 3QG	Fr Gary Buckby	8.45am	-
Our Lady And St Rose Of Lima	B29 5DY	Fr Gary Buckby	11.30am	-
St John and Martin's	B12 9RG	Fr Baburao Pureti	9.30am	4pm
Ss Joseph and Helen with St Paul's	B30 1JG/ B38 9JB	Fr Barry	9am (Ss Joseph and Helen) 11am (St Paul's)	5pm (Ss Joseph and Helen)

## SAFEGUARDING AND WELLBEING

### ONLINE GROOMING

Online grooming is where someone befriends a child online and builds up their trust with the intention of exploiting them and causing them harm.

Groomers are very skilled at what they do. Using fake accounts and photos, they may also appear to be the same age as the child.

A groomer will use the same sites, games and apps as children in order to gain their trust and build a friendship. Any child can be at risk of being groomed, regardless of age, gender, race or location.

Make sure your child knows you are there to help. Social media, apps, games and sites all offer reporting and blocking tools. You can find out more by visiting the UK Safer Internet Centre Safety Guides. You can also report grooming to CEOP.

[Help & advice | Childnet](#)

### GET IN TOUCH

In order for us work together, to best support our young people, please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have information to share regarding the safeguarding or wellbeing of your child.

This is particularly important if there has been a change in circumstances for the young person.

Please contact Mrs K Peckover, Mrs M Nutt or any DSL or a member of the Wellbeing Team.

### PARENT/CARER SURVEY

Birmingham Children's Trust is currently running a consultation to gather feedback from parents and carers regarding their experiences throughout the child protection process. Please take a few moments to complete the survey below to help shape and improve the Children's Trust Service.

[MACPT Consultation Questions - Parents and carers – Fill in form](#)

# V SPORTS

## DofE

Our Year 9 pupils recently completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition, taking on the challenge with enthusiasm and a positive attitude. Over the course of the expedition, they developed valuable skills in teamwork, navigation, and resilience, supporting one another along the way. At the campsite, pupils worked together to set up their tents and prepare their own meals. They also made the most of the experience, enjoying time together in the evening after a day of walking. Despite the challenges, all pupils showed determination and a strong sense of responsibility, successfully completing the expedition. Well done to all pupils, who successfully completed the expedition and represented the school so well.



## GREAT BIRMINGHAM RUN SUCCESS

Congratulations to Noah G, Year 9, for taking part in the Great Birmingham Run Juniors 2.5K event. Noah delivered an exceptional performance, finishing in an impressive time of 8 minutes and 6 seconds. Even more remarkably, he secured 2nd place, finishing just five seconds behind the winner.



This is a tremendous achievement, well done Noah!

## PRELOVED YEAR 11 PE KIT

The PE department will gladly welcome any donations of Year 11 PE kit to keep as spares for any students that need them. Thank you for your continued support.



Click image to view content

## JUNIOR MATHS CHALLENGE

70 students from Year 7 and Year 8 recently took part in the Junior Maths Challenge, demonstrating enthusiasm and determination as they tackled a range of engaging problems. All participants thoroughly enjoyed the experience and embraced the opportunity to test their skills. We are very proud of their efforts and eagerly await the results.



# SEND

## MISS CRUMP

The SEND department wish Miss Crump all the best as she goes on maternity leave this week.

## EXAMINATIONS

The team are preparing for supporting with exam and assessment invigilating duties, for advance navigating exams as neurodivergent young person advice for Young Minds Charity is here:

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/blog/exam-tips-for-neurodivergent-and-disabled-students/>

## SPRING SOIREE

The school's annual music concert took place on 28th April and was, once again, a highlight of the school calendar and the audience were blown away by the talent of our young musicians.

The concert took place in the Auditorium and required a great deal of set up and preparation by our technician and stage crew (George, Archie and Herbie) who had the tough job of making sure the microphones, stage and instruments were in place ready for rehearsals. The performers had prepared pieces of music with the help of their instrumental teachers to provide a diverse programme of music, from vocal pop numbers to Baroque violin duets.

On the day of the concert, the Art department provided some stunning artwork by the Sixth Form students which, along with the stage lighting and delightful entrance music by Tom (piano) and Sophie (flute) welcomed the audience and set the scene for a lovely evening of entertainment. Our 5 presenters (Astrid, Hafsa, Miley, Temperance and Verity) did an amazing job of confidently introducing the event and each performance, as well as suddenly switching duties to go into performance mode when it was their turn.

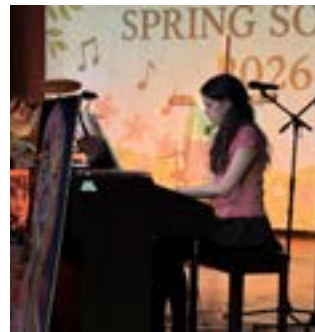
We were delighted to welcome back some of our familiar performers such as our steel pan groups, Trad Group, woodwind trio and We Sing vocal ensembles, but we were equally pleased to see some new faces on the stage. Eli (piano), Onyinye (violin), Emma (guitar) and Toby (clarinet) were among some of the students making their soiree debut and did so with confidence and musicality.

Despite preparing for their GCSEs and A Levels, some of our Y11 and Y13 students performed for one last major school performance: Oscar (guitar and vocals) performed two of his own original songs, and Aidan & Saoirse played a vital role in the steel pan ensemble. Sophie (flute) did a lovely solo as well as being part of the woodwind trio and all of our performers really proudly represented their own musical achievements.

The final act of the night featured another student who made their Soiree debut: Patrick (vocals). Patrick is a wonderful singer who had recently performed at Symphony Hall with a group of our students as part of the brilliant *Born For This*, a musical retelling of the greatest story. To close out our concert he chose to sing 'Can't Help Falling in Love' – which awarded him our first Soiree standing ovation! A touching moment for everyone in the room, as he performed it with heartfelt sincerity.

Next year we hope to see new students taking the stage, hopefully encouraged by the music they experienced at the Soiree, and we are grateful to anyone and everyone who supported the event in some way.

Hope to see you at the next one!



## YEAR 11 LEAVERS SERVICE AND MASS

It's hard to believe we're already at this point in the year, when the exams start for our Year 11s. This group of students has been a real pleasure to work with, and they'll leave a gap behind.

Our Leavers' Service and Mass gave everyone a chance to pause and reflect and think about everything they've been through, achieved, and shared during their time here. It's always a meaningful moment, and one that tends to stay with people.

We came together for the Leavers Service and one of the highlights was a "trip down memory lane" is something students (and staff!) look forward to every year. Seeing old photos, remembering moments that made us laugh, and realising just how much everyone has grown.

We finish with shirt signing. It's always such a great atmosphere and lots of laughter. There were some incredibly creative designs. The effort students have put into their shirts this year has been brilliant, and it's a lovely way for them to take a piece of these memories with them.

We wish them all the very best for their GCSE exams.



## FORM RESOURCES

Our Form Resource Programme continues to explore key themes in personal development, alongside Prayer and Liturgy and wider cultural literacy topics.

Last week, KS4 students focused on mock interview feedback, reflecting on their strengths and identifying areas for development as they prepare for future pathways and opportunities. Meanwhile, KS3 students explored cultural diversity, discussing the importance of respecting and celebrating different cultures, traditions and perspectives within our school community and the wider world. These sessions encouraged students to think about inclusion, empathy and the value of learning from others' experiences. We also launched the first information about Culture Day 2026, which will take place in July. This year's exciting theme is "Around the World in a Day." Students have already had

## ASSEMBLIES

Over the last two weeks, assemblies have continued to celebrate our Year of Youth with musical performances featuring electric guitar, piano, and even vocals. Students have loved seeing their peers perform and showcase their talents as part of this special focus for the year. Our Year of Youth continues to encourage students to use their voices, celebrate their gifts, and recognise the importance of community, confidence, and participation within school life, living out our mission statement. It has been wonderful to see students stepping forward, supporting one another, and embracing opportunities to contribute to the wider school community.

Alongside this, assemblies have explored the important theme of online safety and the law. Students have reflected on the responsibilities that come with using social media and online platforms, considering how their choices online can have real-life consequences. Discussions have focused on staying safe, showing respect to others, and understanding how to use technology responsibly and positively. Students have been reminded of their own responsibilities about use of AI and Social Media and encouraged to reach out to our safeguarding team if they have any concerns.

This week's focus has been Fair Trade and the impact our choices can have on others around the world. Students explored issues linked to fast fashion, considering the working conditions and pay that many workers may experience globally. Assemblies also included a case study linked to cocoa farming in Ghana, helping students understand how the production of some of our favourite chocolate products can affect farmers and families. Through this, students were encouraged to reflect on the power of informed, compassionate choices and how even small actions can contribute towards greater fairness and dignity for others. As we go forth this week, we encourage students to continue thinking carefully about the choices they make — both online and in everyday life — and how these choices can positively impact the people and communities around them. Look out for that Fair Trade logo!

the opportunity to revisit memories from previous Culture Days and begin considering how they might get involved this year, including signing up for performances and activities that showcase the rich diversity of our community. More information will be shared in the coming weeks.

This week, we also celebrated the 100th birthday of Sir David Attenborough. Students reflected on the incredible stewardship he has shown towards our planet through his work raising awareness of environmental issues and the importance of protecting wildlife and natural habitats. Form discussions encouraged students to think about the small but meaningful actions they can take in their own lives, such as reducing waste, recycling, saving energy and caring for their local environment, in order to make a positive difference for the future of our planet. Happy Birthday Sir David Attenborough.



# STUDENT REWARDS

YEAR GROUP	MOST POSITIVE LOGS	YEAR GROUP	MOST POSITIVE LOGS
<b>YEAR 7</b>	Moira C Darcy H Orlaith K Maia-Rose K Olivia A Avani B Joseph G-B Isabella B Riley P Adam K Danyil P Rosie-Mae R Orlaith B Sapphire F x 2 Harrison W Iyla D Oscar B Eden N Hashim K	<b>YEAR 10</b>	Isaac F Sophie E Esther C-S Rohi M Falak W Akram K Ana F Thomas H Mohammed K Mercredi K Rosie K Patrick N Maya P-R Jacob R Teuta Z
<b>YEAR 8</b>	Aydin K Freddie K Milaan L Jeremiah O Lillie-Mae G Patrick R Scott G Zac F Peyton-Godwin K Mykey C Felipe TM Jochebed A Milaan L	<b>YEAR 11</b>	Christelle B Elaine C Atiscia D Ishmai E-N Megan N Philip E
<b>YEAR 9</b>	Angelina E-R Pio S x 2 Kayven R Casper D Maisy B Charlie H-B Bernedette O Kaiden G Munana D Christopher B		

## YEAR 10 & YEAR 12 MOCKS

Please follow the links below for subject information and guidance on the upcoming mocks.

**Year 10** - <https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/examinations-information/year-10-mocks>

**Year 12** - <https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/sixth-form/welcome/external-examinations/year-12-mocks>

## FIRST AID AND MOBILE PHONES

Students should not be contacting parents/carers when they feel unwell and requesting to be collected from school. If a student is unwell, they MUST go to the First Aider who will deal with them. If a student is not well enough to stay in school, the First Aider will contact parents/carers to arrange collection.

Students who contact their parents/carer directly and do not follow the procedures in place will be sanctioned, this may result in their mobile phone having to be handed in to the student services office each day. The use of anyone else's mobile phone risks that person being sanctioned also.

Please do not arrive at school to collect your child unless school have contacted you to do so. We do not have school staff readily available to collect children. Thank you for your support and co-operation.

Any questions or concerns please email them using the main enquiry email for the attention of first aid or call to speak with first aid on the main school number 0121 444 4161.

**NETBOOK DROP IN!**

GET HELP WITH YOUR NETBOOK!

- TECH SUPPORT
- TROUBLESHOOTING
- SOFTWARE HELP & MORE!

**EVERY TUESDAY**

**3:20PM - 4:00PM**

**ROOM M8**



# UNIFORM STANDARDS

Students are required to wear the standard uniform of blazer, tie, white/blue shirt with black straight leg school trousers (not skinny or boot cut) or girls can wear a knee length black pleated school skirt. Girls are also reminded that if they choose to wear a skirt, then they should wear plain, black, opaque tights. Students are reminded that black leather school shoes should be worn and that trainers/trainer style shoes are forbidden.

Please note that school shoes must be kept completely black and boots of any kind are not allowed.

Our uniform requirements are complemented by a smart appearance and as such, hair styles that should not have a distinct contrast in length. Hair that is dyed must be of a natural hair colour and may not contain more than one colour. To avoid a health and safety risk, long hair must not impede vision or cover the face, except for a fringe which must not cover the eyes. Long hair must be tied up for practical lessons. Religious head coverings must be black and securely tied for practical lessons. Hair bands or accessories must be for functional use to secure the hair. Where hairbands are worn they must be black. Headwear that has religious or cultural purpose should be black. The final decision as to whether a particular haircut/style is appropriate is at the discretion of senior staff.

Make up, nail varnish and jewellery are not permitted, with the exception of one pair of plain stud gold or silver earrings which may be worn.

Students found to be wearing an inappropriate item of uniform may be asked to change this or, in some cases, parents/carers will be contacted and requested to bring replacement uniform to school.

We appreciate your support in ensuring that standards of uniform and appearance are maintained.



# REPORTING AN ABSENCE

All students are required to attend school/college on time every day. If for any reason your child is unable to attend, please ensure that the school attendance policy is followed, and their absence is reported before the START of the school day (8.40am) and on each day of absence. Please provide a reason for their absence and the likely length of absence, if known.

To report an absence, please call the main school number 0121 444 4161 and select the correct option for your child's year group.

If you receive a text message or phone call from school/college because you have not reported your child's absence, please contact us on the most appropriate number as detailed above as soon as you can.

Thank you for your co-operation.

# SCHOOL REMINDERS



## CONTACTING SCHOOL

Communication between home and school is very important, in the event that you need to contact school please be reminded of the following procedures.

School telephone number- 0121 444 4161

- Option 1- To report an absence
- Option 2- Head of Year/Pastoral concerns/enquiries
- Option 3- Sixth Form enquiries

## HEAD OF YEAR CONTACT

All Heads of Year and Assistant Heads of Year have teaching commitments; therefore, any Head of Year/Pastoral enquiries should be directed through Option 2 for students in Year 7-11 or option 3 for students in Year 12 or 13.

If student services staff are not available to answer your call in person, please leave a message with the nature of your enquiry/concern and you will get a call back from the most appropriate member of staff at their earliest convenience. We aim to respond to all contact by the end of the next working day.

## SENIOR STAFF CONTACT

Contact with Head of Year and/or Head of Department is expected to have been made before issues are escalated to Senior staff. Should you need to speak to a Senior member of staff, please contact school by phone and select Option 2 or 3, depending on the year group of your child and request a call and the most appropriate Senior member of staff will contact you at their earliest convenience.

## MEETING STAFF

Any requests for a face to face meeting with staff should be made using the same contact details as above. Please ensure that the purpose of any meeting request is made clear. A member of staff may contact you before a meeting is arranged if more information is required.

Please do not attend school without an appointment unless there is a safeguarding emergency.

## SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS

If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact school and ask to speak to a DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)). Mrs Peckover is the Senior DSL.

# FIRST AID INFORMATION AND PROCEDURES

Medication; All medication should be handed into first aid and not carried by the students. Exception EpiPen, Asthma inhalers and insulin as well as Tranexamic acid in special circumstances.

Please make sure we have the correct medical information and emergency contact details. If you have changed your phone number or there is any change in medical conditions or concerns, please contact first aid using the enquiries email or the main school phone number.

Please send children into school with a water bottle which they can re-fill at our water stations provided. Alternatively, they can purchase a drink from the school canteen.

Students with Asthma must carry their own personal inhalers with them. This includes offsite activities and school trips to ensure they can participate safely.

Parents/Carers of students with a known allergy must provide school first aid with antihistamine; this also applies to those with anaphylaxis in addition to their EpiPen.

We do not provide liquid paracetamol such as Calpol. If your child cannot take tablets and you would prefer them to have liquid Calpol, please send this in to the school first aider with your child's name on it. This will be kept safe in first aid for your child only.

Summer Term 1	
Every Wednesday	Rosary
Every Thursday	Community Mass - 11.30am
Friday 8th May - Saturday 9th May	Northfield Music Festival
Monday 11th May	Mental Health Awareness Week
Monday 11th May - Wednesday 13th May	DofE Year 10 Silver Practice Expedition
Wednesday 13th May	Year 12 Dementia Mary Vale Trip Year 7 & Year 8 Ascension Mass
Thursday 14th May	Catholic Secondary Schools Golf Event
Friday 15th May	Year 7 & Year 8 Chance to Shine Cricket Festival
Monday 18th May	7CEC Cake Sale
Wednesday 20th May	7BOS Ice Cream Sale
Friday 22nd May	Last day before Half Term
<b>Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May</b>	<b>School Closed - Half Term</b>
<b>Monday 1st June</b>	<b>School Open</b>

## SCHOOL YEAR 2025 TO 2026

### SUMMER TERM 2026

Half-term: Monday 25 May 2026 to Friday 29 May 2026

Term ends: Friday 17th July 2026



### INSET DAYS

Monday 20th July 2026

### JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Click on the link below to view all job opportunities with The Archdiocese of Birmingham



<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Pages/FAQs/Category/jobs>

## FACILITIES HIRE

We offer a wide range of classes for the local community and our facilities are also available for private hire. For session bookings and all other enquiries please feel free to contact one of the team.

Bishop Challoner Sports Centre is an exciting and innovative sports complex, comprising:-

A full sized Sports Hall

Olympic sized Dojo specifically designed for Martial Arts  
Meeting Conference Room

<https://widget.bookteq.com/bishopchallonersportscentre/43f86d02-be0c-4249-ba4a-637f57cfbea0/book-online/b1be746a-fcf8-4de0-a44e-2497d3876911/activity>

# TEACHING INTERNSHIP

Interested in a career in teaching?

**3-week paid programme earning you up to £455 a week**

22nd June - 10th July 2026



Open to 2nd/3rd/4th year Undergraduates and Masters students currently studying for a degree in or related to:

- ✓ Computing
- ✓ Chemistry
- ✓ Physics
- ✓ Maths
- ✓ Languages
- ✓ Design & Technology

**APPLY TODAY**



[www.bctsa.org](http://www.bctsa.org)

# TRAIN TO TEACH

Primary or Secondary in schools across Birmingham and the West Midlands.



**TRAINING PROVIDER CODE 1K2**



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## WE OFFER

- Full-time & Part-time courses
- PGCE & QTS
- Excellent theory-based training with highly skilled practitioners
- Support every step of the way by our expert school mentors and professional mentors.

