

# BISHOP CHALLONER CATHOLIC COLLEGE

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



## Media Studies

**Q Do Year 7 study Media?**

**A** No. Media Studies is a GCSE and an A Level option. In Year 9, your son/daughter will get a chance to choose it.

**Q What's the pass rate of Media Studies?**

**A** Our students get consistently good grades in this subject. For the past few years, we have had a 100% pass rate at A Level – with approximately 50% of students gaining A\*-B in 2019 and 2020 (class sizes range between approx. 8 and 18 students). At GCSE – our cohort is much bigger (usually around 40/50 students in the year) and the pass rate is approx. 90% on average over the past two years.

**Q What types of things do you learn?**

**A** At GCSE and A Level, the syllabus is very varied. Students learn about newspapers, advertising, magazines, television, websites, social media, the music industry, radio and the gaming industry.

**Q Isn't Media just about watching films?**

**A** No! Students will never watch a film in Media Studies (much to their dissatisfaction!) They will occasionally watch clips or an episode of a TV programme to aid their learning, but the majority of the syllabus ranges from dynamic theories, to understanding politics, historical contexts, ideas surrounding race, feminism, prejudice and touches on marketing, business, digital technology and communication studies.

**Q Isn't Media just a soft option?**

**A** Every company nowadays relies on Media in different forms. Not only do we need the students of today to be media savvy, we need them to have an in-depth knowledge of the intricacies involved in utilising media theory and application, as well as understanding the means of media production. We live in such a media saturated world that we are doing a disservice to students if we do not teach them to navigate this modern era and give them the skillset to not only enjoy a variety of media products but to look for hidden meanings and understand how audiences are targeted – even manipulated.