



ST GABRIEL'S

ROMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

PRONUNTIO



September 2017



ST GABRIEL'S SETS THE BAR HIGH

We are thrilled with the outcomes our Year 11 achieved this summer. They are the best the school has had and in many key statistics are the best in our locality. The priorities we identified a few years ago, to further improve standards in English and Maths, have paid off. What is more remarkable is how the very highest achievers have excelled. In English Literature, for example, 16 pupils achieved a grade 9-5; the old A*. The government's expectation was that only 2% of pupils across the country would achieve this. An outstanding 7.5% of our pupils achieved this.

Naturally, we are proud of all our pupils who showed great resilience coping with the increased challenge and rigour of new examinations. This makes their achievements very special indeed. Well done to Maks Gotkowicz who achieved three grade 9s making him one of only around 2000 pupils in the country to do so!

For the second year running, we broke our previous best in Maths, where 81% of pupils achieved a new 9-4 standard pass and 57% achieved a strong pass (Grade 9-5 the old A*-C benchmark). We are delighted that the number of pupils achieving 9-4 in both GCSE English and Maths was a fantastic 77%. This is well above the national average figure and locally in the North West Region, this figure is provisionally 60%!

As a Catholic school, Religious Education is at the heart of our school: we continue to nurture and develop the faith of our children. In a year when the school received an 'Outstanding' Section 48 Inspection from Salford Diocese, the subject continues to achieve very highly at GCSE (77% of pupils A*-C).

In Core and Additional Science, and in Further Additional Science, pupils achieved well above the national average. 85% of those pupils entered for Triple Science found themselves with the highest grades. A remarkable feat! This was replicated in so many other subject areas of an academic or vocational nature.

What is clear, is that whatever programme or pathway our pupils followed, the school continues to grow and nurture its pupils in preparation for the next phase of their learning or the world of work. The class of 2017 are all now successfully in their chosen route of education, employment and/or training.

They only do this thanks to the commitment, care and support of all the adults who work here – teachers, teaching assistants and support staff alike. Of course, the pupils themselves and their families have a rather special role to play in this as well!

Mr S.A. Smith - Headteacher

Key Measures	Class of 2017 Result	
English Grades 4-9	84%	National figures: English Lang 65% English Literature 72%
English Grades 5-9	75%	National figures: English Lang 48% English Literature 55%
Maths Grades 4-9	81%	'Best in Bury' National figure Maths 71%
Maths Grades 5-9	57%	National figure 49%
Combined (Both English and Maths at Grade 4+)	77%	'Best in Bury'
Combined (Both English and Maths at Grade 5+)	53%	'Best in Bury'
A*/A or 7-9	20%	
A*-B grades	50%	New St Gabriel's record
Number of Grade 9 in English & Maths GCSE	22	16 different students have at least one Grade 9
Pupils with three Grade 9s	1	One of only 2,000 pupils nationally

How did it all happen?

Few would argue that getting the most out of lessons is the key to successful examination results. However what happens away from the classroom is clearly very important too. Students, who are motivated to do well can access a whole variety of help and assistance - many in this Year 11 cohort did exactly that. During the school year subjects offer numerous 'after school' workshops and revision sessions: many students attended. This practice will continue this coming year. All pupils are welcome and many will see it as being an effective way of going over topics of concern. Many students have used online help too.

Show my homework proved a great success with 83% of our students taking advantage of this new user-friendly means of keeping organised and ahead of the game when it came to independent learning. Parental use was four times higher than the national figure for the company; showing how useful it was for parents supporting and encouraging students at home.

As well as Show My Homework, we have invested in GCSEPOD (www.gcsepod.co.uk), a video-based resource where students revise their courses in small chunks. Last year's Year 11 used it over 20,000 times (next year's Year 11 are already up to 8,000 views). Supplementary to this, and all the other resources made available to students by teachers, resources, past papers and mark schemes were also, and can still be, downloaded from the school's revision website (scien80.wixsite.com/learningks4). The combination of supportive parents, carers, friendships and all the staff of St. Gabriel's have led to this most recent year's remarkable results.

Well done to last year's Year 11 and good luck to next year's Year 11.



Comments from the Y11 exit survey

Never thought I would say this... I will really miss the St Gabriel's family.

I don't think the staff realise how brill they are! Staff that are always willing to go that extra mile - that's what makes St Gabriel's so special!

Without the staff and the care and support given to my son, especially in Year 11, he would have not achieved the results he got. Thank you Mr Tom Lawlor.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the love, care and understanding you have shown Megan over the last 5 years.
Mrs Schofield

Thank you for all the help and guidance over my time at St Gabriel's, I am so grateful.
Thanks for never giving up on me ! Ronan.

The St Gabriel's family have provided the best and most nurturing environment for my daughter to grow not just academically but socially and emotionally.
Forever grateful, Carly Radcliffe.

"I have had the most amazing experience in gaining the grades I needed to succeed onto college, and I couldn't of done it without the help and support of the amazing staff"
Charley Hardman.