





Welcome to Our Learning Community Guided by Gospel Values

At St John's we pride ourselves on being A Learning Community Guided by Gospel Values, where each individual is valued and nurtured to grow in confidence and to embrace their God-given talents. As a supportive and caring school, we respond to the changing needs of all our students across the age and ability range and we are committed to the highest standards of teaching and learning.

By providing a wealth of exciting educational, enrichment and extra-curricular experiences and opportunities, we encourage our young people to be aspirational, fulfilling their potential and realising their dreams with determination and enthusiasm.

By working in partnership with parents/carers, parishes, feeder schools and the wider community, we provide a caring, positive and stimulating learning environment in which each individual can succeed.

Our dedicated and highly motivated staff are always available to offer specialist help, support and guidance for you and your child. In addition, our students are our best ambassadors, so please take the opportunity to speak with them about their St John's experiences when you visit our school.

We look forward to meeting you in the near future,

Lisa Byron Headteacher



MISSION STATEMENT

We value each person as uniquely created in the image and likeness of God. We support each person in their faith journey by creating opportunities to reflect on the world around us and our role within it.

We commit ourselves to ensure that the Gospel Values of peace, justice, equality, and respect for life find expression through our actions. Therefore, we create a stimulating learning environment through a curriculum which responds to the interests and needs of learners, making effective use of new technologies.

We respect and support one another, embracing diversity and celebrating each other's talents and success.

We create a safe and healthy community which is attentive to the needs of all.



LEARNING EXPERIENCE

> "We create a stimulating learning environment through a curriculum which responds to the interests and needs of learners."

CURRICULUM CHALLENGE

At St John's we aim to provide all of our students with an education which combines academic excellence with the development of the whole person.

We encourage students to be aspirational and we support and guide them onto appropriate pathways so that they can fulfil their potential and realise their dreams.

Students follow a curriculum which is broad, balanced, relevant and challenging. Our curriculum is designed to be responsive and appropriate to students' needs, interests and skills, as well as providing flexibility and choice.

We provide clear pathways through all Key Stages which include a range of vocational opportunities.

We have highly-committed, dynamic and enthusiastic teaching and support staff, who challenge and motivate students to succeed.

With creative approaches to teaching, outstanding pastoral care and a vibrant learning environment, we strive to provide a high quality education for all of our young people.

"Teaching is typically committed, energetic and enthusiastic."

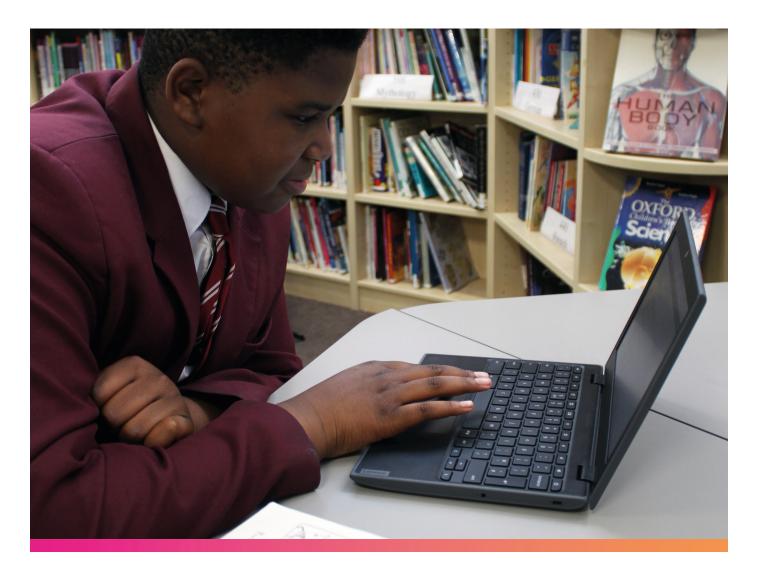
Ofsted 2019











"We respect and support one another, embracing diversity and celebrating each other's talents and success."

ACHIEVEMENT

We believe that all of our students deserve to feel safe, secure, and happy in order to achieve their full potential.

We have extremely high expectations of our students and encourage them to show respect to each other at all times. We work hard to make sure that everyone feels welcome, safe and valued within our learning community.

Pastoral tutors have responsibility for their students' well-being. They, along with the Heads of Year, have personal knowledge of each student and are on hand to provide help and guidance in all aspects of school life. Students, who require extra assistance, are well-supported by our SENDCO, Learning Support and Student Welfare Teams.

We delight in celebrating our students' excellent progress and wonderful achievements and we are incredibly proud of their endeavours and successes both within and beyond the classroom. We welcome the opportunities to celebrate in style with our students, staff, parents and families at assemblies, Awards Events and Celebration Days.



IN ACTION

OUR COMMUNITY

Spirituality is central to our learning community and is based on the firm belief that each of our students is blessed with many God-given gifts and talents.

Students are encouraged to live out the Gospel Values in their treatment of each other and in their service to those less fortunate than themselves. Charitable work and fundraising activities are important aspects of school life and our students are encouraged to become actively involved in helping the wider community.

Our School Chaplain, Parish Priests, RE department and our pastoral teams support the spiritual development of the whole community. As well as opportunities for reflection, prayer and worship within school, we offer a programme of day and residential retreats for all year groups.

Our Lourdes Pilgrimages and charitable expeditions, both at home and abroad, ensure all participants fully appreciate the world around them and demonstrate how acts of kindness can make a huge difference to the lives of those less fortunate than ourselves.

"Pupils are well supported in their emotional well-being." Ofsted 2019







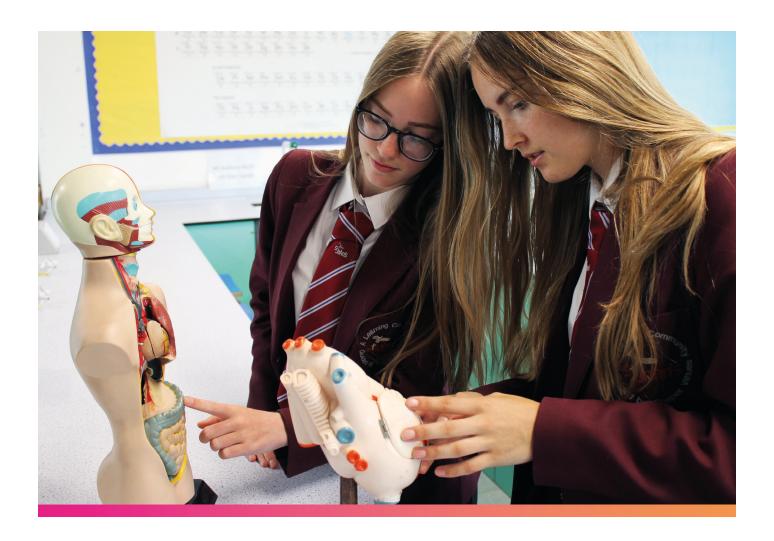






POSITIVE PARTNERSHIPS

"We believe in working together with parents and carers to provide exciting opportunities and maximise the achievements of our young people."



COMMUNICATION

Parents/carers need to be well informed regarding their child's academic progress as well as their social and emotional development. Only by working in partnership together, can we fully support our young people in all aspects of their education.

Clear and frequent communication is essential and we make sure that we provide many opportunities throughout the academic year for parents/carers to discuss their child's progress with pastoral tutors and subject staff.

Similarly, the views and opinions of our students are important to us and our Student Leaders are involved in all aspects of school life from supporting younger students in lessons, to participating in the interview process for staff vacancies.

We pride ourselves on providing excellent pastoral care and guidance so that every student can fulfil their potential. The partnerships we have established are built on trust and open, honest communication to ensure that our working relationships continue to grow and flourish.

EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES

ENRICHMENT

We provide a wide range of exciting extra-curricular activities to enrich the learning experiences of our students.

These include opportunities to be involved in Drama, Dance, Art, Music and outdoor learning activities, including Duke of Edinburgh Awards. Students have access to a wide variety of sports and many individuals compete at regional, national and even international levels.

At St John's we strive to foster a love for learning. To inspire our young people, we offer a wide choice of local, national and international residential experiences, from spiritual retreats to foreign exchanges and adventurous expeditions.

Accredited with "Leadership Academy" status, we encourage our students to develop their leadership skills so that they may make a positive and significant impact on the world around them; their achievements are a testimony to their hard work, dedication and enthusiasm.











"The leadership of the 16-19 study programmes is effective... Every lesson presents stretch and challenge, pitched at the right level."

Ofsted 2019

ST JOHN'S SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

We have a dynamic Sixth Form, offering a wide range of academic and vocational courses.

Our students also benefit from outstanding pastoral care and guidance with most individuals choosing to continue their education at university. Comprehensive and independent careers advice is provided for all students to support them in making their educational, apprenticeship or employment choices.

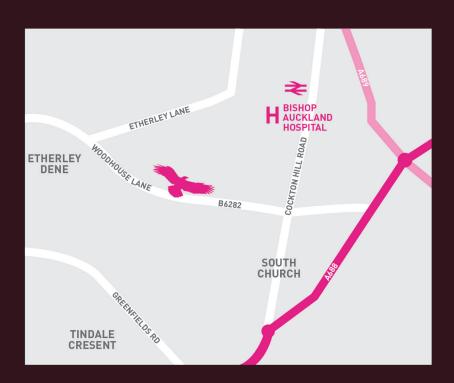
Sixth Form students play a vital role in our school community by accepting responsibilities, supporting lower school students and working on local and international projects. We encourage them to be role models and we support them as they grow into the leaders of tomorrow.



JOINING US

We welcome your applications so if you think St John's might be the right school for your child, please come along to our Open Evening, where our students and staff will be happy to answer any questions you may have. If you are unable to attend, you can also contact the school to request further information or to arrange a visit.

We look forward to meeting you in the near future.



ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

WOODHOUSE LANE, BISHOP AUCKLAND, COUNTY DURHAM, DL14 6JT E: ADMIN@STJOHNS.BHCET.ORG.UK

T: 01388 603246





