

**OUR SCHOOL**

Saint Augustine’s Catholic High School was established in 1974 by the Archdiocese of Birmingham to serve the needs of Catholic families living in Redditch, Bromsgrove and the surrounding areas and families of all beliefs. We currently have 928 students on roll in the 13-19 age range. Approximately 39% of our students and 27% of our staff are Catholic. We pride ourselves on being a Catholic school for all.

Saint Augustine’s converted to a Multi-Academy, Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi Academy Company, with its feeder Middle School and two feeder First Schools within the Redditch and Bromsgrove Catholic Partnership in July 2014.

Saint Augustine’s Catholic High School has topped the nation league tables in England for 2016 with its best placing ever. It is the top performing school in the Midlands (East and West) and the top performing Catholic School outside London. We are 21st in the listing from 4495 schools nationally. This places Saint Augustine’s Catholic High School in the top 1% of schools in England.

We are very proud of the outstanding student outcomes that have been achieved and are testament to the judicious planning which ensures the maintenance of high levels of student progress by staff at Saint Augustine’s Catholic High School.

Our Sixth Form is recognised as one of the most successful Sixth Forms in mainstream education. We offer a broad range of academic and vocational subjects at GCE and BTEC. We have high expectations of our students enabling them to achieve excellent examination results, which takes them on to places in the Russell Group universities, to high calibre training and apprenticeships. Our Sixth Form area has just had a £20k refurbishment to provide students with outstanding facilities.

Being a truly comprehensive school in terms of intake and socio-economic background, the greater diversity in the student population has provided the Directors, Academy Representatives, leadership team and staff with fresh opportunities and new challenges in relation to raising standards and improving learning and teaching. It has thrived in this and allowed flexibility and innovation in all dimensions. School leaders have responded by significantly improving the student environment, implementing changes to the curriculum and investing in developing learning and teaching. Professional development has been directed to sharing and developing good practice in learning and teaching and different curriculum pathways have been introduced to reflect changing student need. However, the school has continued its emphasis on a traditional curriculum pathway for over 90% of the school cohort.

As a Catholic School, we strive for personal and academic excellence for all students; have a rich prayer and liturgical life and a strong sense of community and service to others. We are very proud of the pastoral care offered to students, the extra-curricular opportunities we offer and our examination results. These compare very favourably with other schools both nationally and in the Local Authority. In 2016 a 100% pass rate was achieved for A2 Level, with an average point score per student of 945.56, the highest in Worcestershire. At GCSE 79% of students gained 5+ A\* - C grades including English and Mathematics. 86% of students gained 5+ GCSEs A\*-C with 86% of students making expected levels of progress. We are determined to continue to improve upon our standards further whilst remembering to always focus on the development of the whole person.

**Our Staff**

The school is led by a senior leadership team, comprising of an Executive Principal, Head of School, two Assistant Principals and two Specialist Leader of Education (SLE). In addition, the HR Officer/Support Staff Leader is part of SLT. This group is the vortex for driving improvement in all aspects of the school and the Multi-Academy.

At Saint Augustine’s, the role of the Form Tutor is seen as integral to the success of the social, moral, spiritual and cultural development of all students. Form Tutors and Heads of Year work closely with Curriculum leaders and Subject Teachers to monitor academic performance and to ensure personal and academic excellence for all our young people. Form Tutors also help deliver certain aspects of the Statutory Entitlement Curriculum and with their form support the prayer and liturgical life of the school. Support is given to students and staff both from the RE department and the Chaplaincy Team in this work.

The school has a large number of Support Staff, our Administrative staff have an excellent range of experience and offer a high level of support for teachers and students, enabling teachers to devote time to teaching and learning. We employ a number of Graduate Coaches, who offer support in the classroom and help implement the Inclusion Agenda. There are two experienced full time Learning Supervisors. We have a number of Technicians who work alongside teaching staff in our Science and Technology departments. We also have two full time Technical Support staff who maintain the Management Information Systems within the school and work in the development of New Technology as a Teaching and Learning tool.

**Our Curriculum**Our curriculum has evolved to suit changing student need in recent years. We anticipate further changes in the near future to meet new government initiatives, and to better provide for the needs of ALL of our students.

* In Key Stage 4, which starts at Year 9, all students follow a core curriculum consisting of English (including English Literature), Mathematics, Religious Education and Science. Students choose from one of four different pathways suited to their needs and to their abilities.
* In the Sixth Form we currently offer around 30 advanced courses of which students study four in Year 12 and usually three in Year 13.
* All students in the Sixth Form follow a course in General RE and all are entered for General Studies as an additional qualification. At present we do not offer intermediate level courses.
* In order to ensure viability in Sixth Form class sizes, we have emerging collaborative links with other local Sixth Forms in minority Sixth Form subjects.

**The Inclusion Agenda**As a Catholic school the way we care for and value each individual student is core to our mission. It is important to us that we work to provide an inclusive education for all our students. We are becoming more skilled in supporting children with special educational needs and are currently focusing on supporting the small but gradually increasing number of students with emotional and behavioural needs. We have a large number of able students. They perform well and their value added scores are consistently high.

**Teaching and Learning**

Good lessons are at the heart of what we do at Saint Augustine’s. We are totally committed to the highest quality of learning and teaching. We regularly review and monitor practice and share and develop best practice. To this end the school invests heavily in staff development and in technology and is working hard to increase the number of outstanding lessons in our school. Student behaviour is very good overall and we are fortunate to have committed parents and Governors. All staff are asked to claim accountability for ensuring high standards in relation to teaching, learning and student behaviour.**Our Students**

Student and parental surveys indicate high levels of satisfaction with the provision and experiences offered by the school. They value the support offered to them by their teachers and the overall Christian environment of the school.

Students are generally hard working, responsible, well behaved, ambitious and hopeful for their future. A significant number of students are involved in the music and performing arts life of the school and a smaller number of students are involved in school sport teams and other school events such as poetry competitions, Maths challenges, STEM clubs, chaplaincy, debating and public speaking and trips abroad. Year 11students, who have been appointed as prefects, lead whole school projects such as the organisation of the Year Book and School Prom and also carry out lunch and break time duties. Sixth Formers accept responsibility as School Ambassadors, paid Lunchtime Supervisors and for running Science and Mathematics Clubs in partner first and middle schools.

All students contribute to the success of the School’s Fundraising Activities with £6,368.23 being raised during the academic year 2015/16. Chaplaincy plays a lead role in fundraising and in supporting a rich and vibrant prayer life within the school. This life promotes respect for all people in line with the school’s commitment to be a ‘Christ centred learning community committed to the development of the whole person’.

**Our Catholic Ethos**Our Catholic ethos is key to the success of our school. We truly believe that each person is made in the image of God and is therefore deserving of respect. We therefore strive to help each student in our school to develop fully as a person, ready to take their place as a responsible citizen in the adult world. We support staff in their individual career progression through appropriate CPD. Both staff and students alike are supported in their own personal faith journey through prayer and days of reflection.

**Comments from our most recent Ofsted and Diocesan Inspections**

*The record of students’ progress and the observations made by HMIs during the inspection, confirm the many strengths that exist in the quality of teaching, including the Sixth Form. Students, including those in the Sixth Form, have the opportunity to study a wide range of subjects that meet their needs. The subjects and the other opportunities the school provides through assemblies, visits, competitions and other experiences, help students to develop as well-rounded young people ready for life after school. Outstanding behaviour in lessons linked directly to teaching that excited and motivated the students.'* Ofsted March 2015

***SUCCESS INSPIRES SUCCESS***

***A Christ centred learning community committed to the development of the whole person***