



# St. Joseph's Catholic High School

*Business & Enterprise College*

*Founded in 1929*



**St. Joseph's  
Catholic High School**

*Business & Enterprise College*



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## School Prospectus

*Living, Loving and Learning through Christ*  
*High Challenge · High Expectations · High Aspirations*

'Leaders have created a very positive school ethos that enables pupils to thrive in a supportive and caring environment where they feel safe and well cared for'.

**Ofsted April 2016**

## Ethos

**Since its foundation in 1929, the school has established a strong educational and caring tradition which continues today.**

The ethos of the school is based upon the Gospel values and ensures we are a caring and supportive community which nurtures the pupils as they grow into confident, independent and responsible young people. We are exceptionally proud of the achievements of our pupils. We recognise that they are unique individuals with their own talents and it is our mission to provide an environment in which they will have fun, learn, feel secure and ultimately succeed.

*Living, Loving and Learning through Christ*

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‘St Joseph’s school is the hub of the community with excellent links to business and commerce, Universities and Higher Education. We are the lead for the Workington schools for the development of sport and healthy living for our young people in the town. We have a thriving adult education centre serving our community’.

**Sybil Worsley**  
Business Manager



## Partnerships and Community

We have excellent links with our Primary Schools. Our pastoral team of staff ensure that the transition is smooth and seamless for each pupil. We offer a summer school for our new year 7s which is an excellent way of students getting to know the staff, other pupils and their way around the school.

Working with our partners from business and commerce, universities and higher education institutions, we are able to offer our pupils many opportunities during their time at St Joseph’s. This includes days “off curriculum” which are dedicated to careers education, financial understanding, employability skills, future careers, work ready days, work experience, mock interviews and university visits. This prepares our pupils well for post 16 education and their future careers. In addition to this pupils follow a citizenship programme which includes working with people with expertise who come in to school to educate our young people in British Values, radicalisation and extremism as well as how to keep safe on the internet.

Following our recent work experience week for all year 10 pupils, over 88% of employers feedback said that our pupils were very good in all areas of work, which included: general attitude, attitude to work, appearance, punctuality, ability to follow instructions and general manners’.

**Paula Jackson**  
Careers Advisor/ Work Experience Co ordinator

## Welcome

Thank you for your interest in our school. We are very proud of our continued successes at St Joseph’s. Our priority is to ensure that St Joseph’s continues to aim to be an Outstanding school. Our school was judged by Ofsted to be a “Good” school in April 2016 and we recently gained our best ever GCSE results, so our journey to excellence has already begun.

Founded in 1929, St Joseph’s has been serving Workington and the surrounding area for nearly 90 years and has a long tradition of being a family school with strong links to our community and our parishes. We are inspired by St Joseph, Patron Saint of workers and a member of the Holy Family to create a real community with our students at the centre. Our school is recognised for its atmosphere of welcome and calm purpose.

St Joseph’s accepts an enormous responsibility when you place the education of your child in our hands and this responsibility is accepted willingly because we are worthy of your trust.

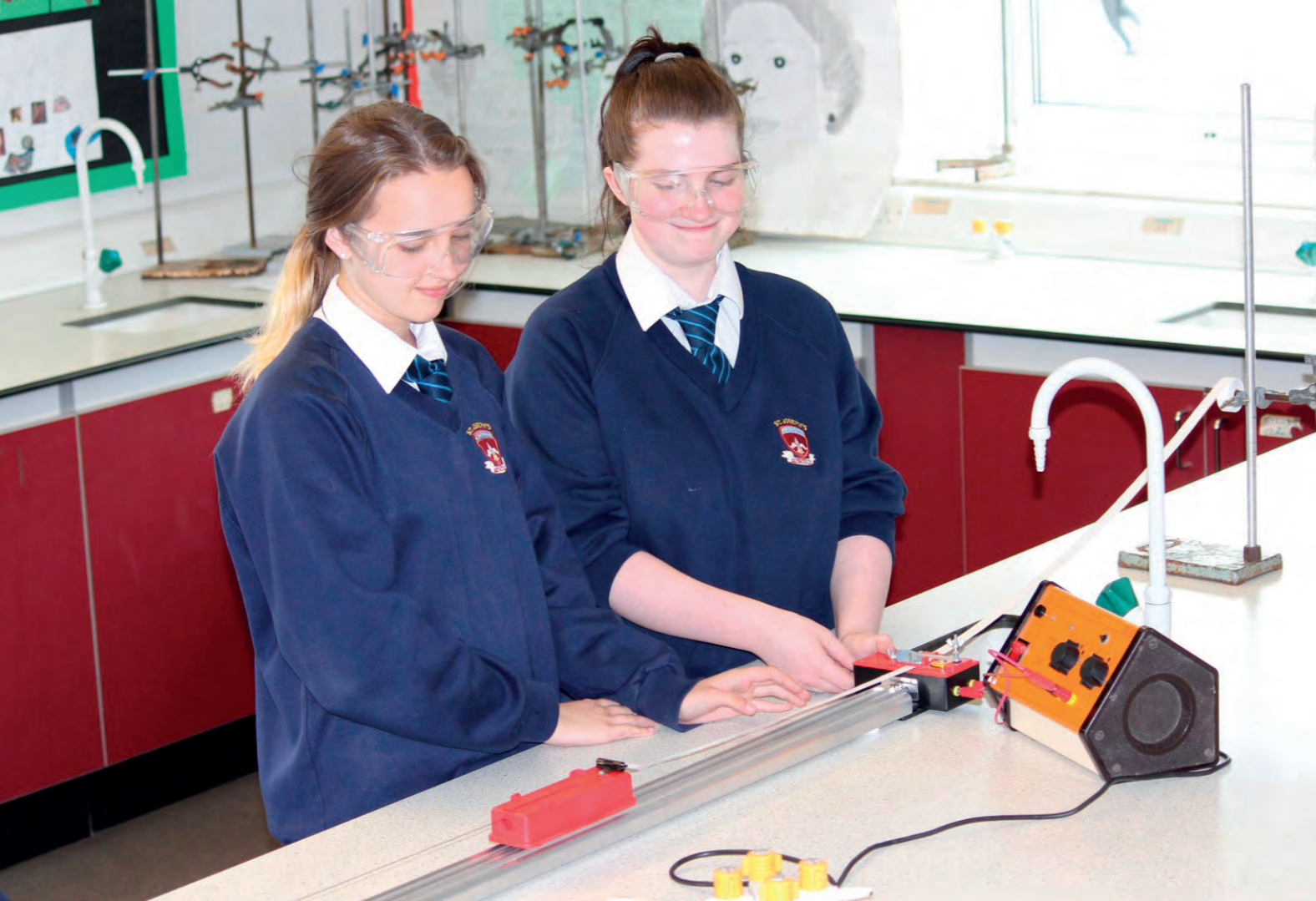
We focus as much on developing our pupils’ character and skills as we do on their learning and academic progress. We want our students to be confident, honest, respectful and tolerant with an aptitude

to contribute to their communities in their future lives. We believe that every pupil has God given talents and skills and we aim to find and nurture them throughout their time at school.

We want our pupils to enjoy their learning, working with wonderful, committed staff who will ensure all pupils build a strong portfolio of qualifications in a structured environment. At St Joseph’s, pupils are expected to aim high and achieve their personal best, supported by wonderful staff who are always willing to go that one step further to meet their needs. St Joseph’s appoints staff of the highest quality and continues to develop them. Our staff are dedicated professionals whose vocation is to help young people. We endeavour to be a centre of excellence which serves the needs of all its pupils and staff and where the teachings and values of Jesus are reflected in our structures and policies. We expect the best behaviour and superb manners at all times.

St Joseph’s is a school which is constantly seeking to improve whilst keeping the traditional Christian values. Our mission is to create an environment that brings out the best in our pupils, year after year.

**Miss JA Kennedy**  
Headteacher



## Your Child Our Child

We take great care to ease transition to this school so that each child grows in confidence. We assign each child to a Tutor Group, where all their pastoral care needs are met. Our pastoral work is characterised by three principles: giving children responsibility, helping them to feel they belong and opening up opportunities. Our team of Pupil Support staff provide structured support and interventions for any pupil that needs focused support. We are fortunate to have a prayer room on site; as well as having a School Chaplain we have a lay chaplain who is based in school. Chaplaincy will provide a place where pupils can find room, encouragement and opportunities to grow in their faith. Our pupils work hard at faith in action through all the fundraising that they undertake for their chosen charities. Our Catholic faith is fundamental to our work. Religious Education is taught and celebrated throughout the school. Celebrations of our faith are joyous occasions embraced by all members of the school community.

‘Pupils are safe and happy in school. The school’s care, guidance and support is strong, enabling pupils to thrive. Pupils show good respect for one another, staff and other adults and for the school environment’.

**Ofsted 2016**



## Learning Beyond The Classroom

At St Joseph’s learning is a holistic experience. We consider learning and the development of the individual to take place in and beyond the classroom. Pupils have the opportunity to take part in a number of activities which allow them to grow in mind, body and spirit. Our enrichment programme is diverse to ensure that every pupil has the chance to experience, enjoy and be fulfilled in their time at St. Joseph’s. Your son or daughter will be invited to experience a wide variety of activities which include drama productions, public speaking, poetry competitions, bible competitions, enterprise and mathematical challenges, musical concerts and competitive sports events. As part of the educational programme to enhance learning in the classroom, trips and visits take place throughout the year. These includes visits to France, Iceland, Paris, skiing trips as well as more local visits. Our Learning Resource Centre is open at lunch times and after school, until 5pm each day for extended learning. There are many other after school clubs which run on a regular basis.

‘Our mission is to create an environment that brings out the best in our pupils, year after year’.

**Miss JA Kennedy  
Headteacher**



## Pursuing Excellence

At St Joseph's we place a great emphasis on every pupil having high aspirations. We want every individual pupil to be able to have a variety of life choices, made possible by successful examination results. Our pupils clearly understand what is expected of them in reflecting the high expectations and standards characteristic of St Joseph's. We expect that they take a positive and purposeful approach to their lessons; that they 'choose to learn'. We also expect that the rules, which allow the school to work safely and harmoniously, are followed. Pupil progress is carefully and regularly tracked and parents are informed three times during the school year. Targets are individually set and are purposefully demanding.

'Staff and pupils relate very positively towards one another. These supportive relationships underpin pupils' good attitudes to learning'.

**Ofsted 2016**



The number of pupils achieving the highest grades at GCSE is increasing each year.

**Ofsted 2016**

'... the pupils received good levels of challenge that has been sustained over time ...'

**Ofsted 2016**

## Working Well Together

Whatever your child needs, we will endeavour to help them. Working together with parents/carers through the five years together, we will help your child with any issue that may be facing them, whether it be underperformance, an attendance problem, a family issue, bereavement, behaviour or friendships.

We know that through working together and supporting pupils through their personal issues, they are more likely to succeed at school and reach their full potential.

'Teaching is good. Teachers are knowledgeable about their subjects and they provide suitable stretch and challenge for students'

**Ofsted 2016**

*Living, Loving and Learning through Christ*

### Parents say .... surveys 2016

Pupils feel **safe** at St. Joseph's School  
Year 11 survey 100% agree (85% strongly agree)  
Year 7 survey 100% agree (74% strongly agree)

Pupils are **happy** in St. Joseph's School  
Year 11 survey 100% agree (55% strongly agree)  
Year 7 survey 100% agree (64% strongly agree)

The school ensures children are **Well Looked After**  
Year 11 100% agree (75% strongly agree)  
Year 7 100% agree (75.4% strongly agree)

There is a **Good Standard of Behaviour** at St. Joseph's School  
Year 11 100% agree (50% strongly agree)  
Year 7 100% agree (64.3% strongly agree)

St. Joseph's School **Deals with Cases of Bullying Effectively** including homophobic, racist, cyber ...)  
Year 11 100% agree (45% strongly agree)  
Year 7 100% agree (64% strongly agree)

'Pupils are provided with a range of opportunities throughout their time at St Joseph's which develop self-confidence and self-esteem'

**Miss JA Kennedy  
Headteacher**