

# Introduction to St Andrew the Apostle School

## About the School

St Andrew the Apostle is a high-performing 11-18 school. It is a strong and vibrant place which recognises the importance and individual needs of every student and member of staff. Praise and encouragement are vital in creating a climate of learning, high expectations, and happy environment, supported by teaching of the highest quality. Our first two sets of exam results were above average: P8: +0.39 in 2018 and +0.33 in 2019. The school is expecting strong performance from its first cohort of Year 13 students this year.

St Andrew the Apostle School opened in 2013 as a result of a successful partnership forged between the Greek Orthodox Church, the Classical Education Trust and our academy sponsor, RET. Our school is based on the Christian faith, the moral principles of the Church and our Character Education values. The school is a diverse environment serving students of all faiths and beliefs. Half of the places are reserved for Greek Orthodox families with the shared goal of securing genuine academic excellence and personal growth for their children. We are dedicated to meeting those aspirations through strong parental and family support so that all children make excellent progress in line with our school motto 'Ever to Excel'.

St Andrew the Apostle is based in Barnet and draws students from a range of other boroughs as well as beyond London. We are currently planning for our brand new, purpose-built school and sports facilities on the same site, which is a very exciting prospect for staff and students alike.

## Values & Ethos

The school is based on the Christian beliefs of the Greek Orthodox church and as such will actively encourage tolerance and respect for students (and people beyond the school) of all faiths and none.

Our Christian values are respect, responsibility, caring, fairness, forgiveness, honesty and trustworthiness. They underpin our school motto 'Ever to Excel' and support the Christian ethos of the school and strong discipline in the classroom.

St Andrew the Apostle Greek Orthodox School is fully committed to exemplary behaviour at the heart of a highly cohesive school community. We will:

- Deliver a broad curriculum that promotes academic excellence and exceptional progress across the ability range
- Foster a spirit of kindness, tolerance and responsibility which will allow each student to grow in character as an individual and as a community member

- Allow students to excel in sports, music and the arts
- Encourage students to progress to higher education
- Promote a high number of students to study maths, sciences, the classical language subjects at university

We are honoured to be the first state-funded Greek Orthodox secondary school in Britain. Anglican, Roman Catholic and other Church schools are very much respected by parents; and we are delighted to join them, making our contribution to the high academic standards and values-based education with which Church schools are associated nationally.

In common with most Church schools, a daily act of collective worship is fundamental to the organisation of St Andrew the Apostle. Assemblies are held for the whole school twice a week and in tutor or year groups on the remaining days. We will actively encourage an understanding and respect for all faiths and our assemblies will draw on the musical and choral traditions of many Christian churches; supporting our students as they develop into respectful and well-educated young people.

## Curriculum Vision

We offer an expertly-delivered, 'traditional but contemporary' curriculum. We support all students to achieve their academic potential. Our curriculum meets the needs of all students, developing them intellectually, socially, culturally, spiritually and morally. There is a focus on the core subjects of English, mathematics and science to prepare every student for life beyond school at university, in training and in employment. The number of students gaining the English Baccalaureate (between 5 and 9 good grade GCSEs including English, mathematics, science, geography or history and a language) is more than double the national average, with a high proportion of the Year 11 group achieving top grades. In Year 7 all students study English, mathematics, sciences, French, classics and Latin, religious studies, technology, history, geography, physical education, art, drama and music.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

The school is outward looking, serving its local and school based community. Students are actively encouraged to join in Community Service in the local area as part of our extended provision and to become involved in long-term commitments to charitable local organisations.

St Andrew the Apostle has a wide variety of performing arts clubs and events which include orchestra, choir and drama. Whole school productions to date include Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, The Wizard of Oz and Bugsy Malone. There is also a full programme of sporting activities and our teams compete regularly and

successfully against other schools. This is in addition to a wide range of clubs and activities before and after school and at lunch time.

The Student Council is an elected body of students that meets regularly and provides invaluable feedback to school leaders. It exemplifies democratic thinking and debate and supports decision making in the school.

### **Sixth Form**

Our Sixth Form opened in September 2018. This followed the excellent GCSE results achieved by the founding students. The Sixth Form quickly established itself as a very strong feature of the school, offering a wide range of courses and outstanding pastoral care. Sixth formers play a key role in the life of the school, modelling academic study and high levels of personal conduct for younger students.

### **New Build**

Recently, all members of our school community were delighted to hear that planning permission for a new and permanent school building had been granted. The

approval is part of a scheme for the wider residential development of the North London Business Park.

Current plans feature a fantastic main school building that includes the majority of the teaching spaces including eight science laboratories, six technology rooms and specialist rooms for computer science, art, drama and music. It will also feature a roof top Multi User Games Area (MUGA). All rooms will be equipped to fully exploit the latest technologies available to support teaching and learning.

Alongside our main building, we plan to create a large Sports Hall for the wide range of sports we offer in our curriculum and during extra-curricular periods. This hall will also incorporate a smaller 'performance' area. There will be a conventional sports pitch, for use in lessons and for after school sports fixtures.

As a school we will ensure that the strong ethos and focus on teaching and learning moves into our new building with us.



*Image showing relative positions of main building, sports pitches and front entrance from Brunswick Park Road*



*Bird's eye view of St Andrew the Apostle School Buildings and pitch*






# Introduction to Russell Education Trust

## Background to the Trust

Russell Education Trust is a multi-academy trust comprising five secondary schools spread across the south of England. The effectiveness of the Trust and its schools has been singled out by the DfE and recognised in Ofsted reports. All RET schools were born of partnerships between local parents and RET, and this partnership remains very healthy.

Results across our schools are consistently well above average and place us in the top 16% of Trusts nationally. The five RET schools develop RET shared systems and best practice through joint working by the Trust's central team and colleagues in schools. RET and parents' representatives sit on Local Governing Bodies, with each having a high level of delegation and professional support. For national comparisons to other trusts, RET is 16th for P8; 13 for entering EBacc and 1st for EBacc 4+.

## Russell Education Trust's Schools

	<p><b>Bristol Free School (established Sept 2011)</b>  <i>Leaders have created a culture characterised by good behaviour and respect and consideration for each other. Staff at all levels give strong support to pupils' safety and wellbeing.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Ofsted 2018</p>
	<p><b>Becket Keys Church of England School (established Sept 2012)</b>  <i>The headteacher's inspired leadership has quickly established a vibrant, orderly community which enables students to thrive. He ensures that a family atmosphere is fostered across the school in which all students feel cared for, and valued.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Ofsted 2014</p>
	<p><b>Kings School Hove (established Sept 2013)</b>  <i>Pupils from a range of backgrounds thrive in this highly successful and inclusive school. Leaders are dedicated, determined and ambitious. Their actions ensure a very strong sense of community, where individuals really matter. A clearly understood set of values underpins the work of the school.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Ofsted 2018</p>
	<p><b>St Andrew the Apostle Greek Orthodox School (established Sept 2013)</b>  <i>Students are making strong progress in a range of subjects. They value the leadership opportunities open to them. Students also appreciate the support and care they receive.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Ofsted 2018</p>
	<p><b>Turing House School (established Sept 2015)</b>  <i>The school has many strengths. Leaders have established an open culture at the school where there is a clear sense of teamwork and community across staff and pupils alike. Everyone takes pride in the school. It is a welcoming and vibrant place.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Ofsted 2018</p>