



Teacher of Religious Education Application Pack

Closing Date:
Wednesday 24 February 2021, 12.00 noon

National Teaching School
designated by

National College for
Teaching & Leadership



Our Values

Faithfulness

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven"



Humility

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth"



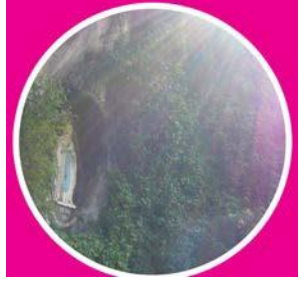
Truth

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied"



Forgiveness

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy"



Tolerance

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God"



Dignity

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted"



Service

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven"



Respect

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God"



Welcome to St. Mary's



*We are a pilgrim school
and we journey with Mary to become
the person God intends us to be.*

I am delighted to introduce you to our school. St. Mary's is a thriving school community, which continues to grow in excellence. It is an honour and privilege for me to serve St. Mary's as Headteacher and I would like to thank you for expressing an interest in this vacancy.

Our Mission states that we are a pilgrim school and we journey with Mary to become the person God intends us to be. This guides us as we work with families to develop virtuous character and draw out the God-given talents in all of our pupils.

As a Catholic school we make Christ known to all members of our extended community through the way we work and the way we act. The values of faithfulness, humility, truth, forgiveness, tolerance, dignity, service and respect are at the centre of our teaching and are achieved through the practice of living virtuously. Our staff and governors work together as a team, constantly seeking to improve, bringing enthusiasm, commitment and enjoyment to every task. We share the common purpose of sending our students out into the world as happy, healthy and successful citizens of the future.

The school was graded as Outstanding in our most recent Ofsted inspection. The inspection team noted that students make 'outstanding progress' and that the 'school prepares young people well for their future careers regardless of individual background or personal aspiration'. For the majority of our students this is a seven-year journey, progressing into our Sixth Form and then to higher education. For others, it is a vocational route, including apprenticeships, again achieving significant success.

We believe that this judgement should be the platform for further success. The appointment of a new subject Teacher for RE will be a significant contributor to the school continuing to develop in order to address the challenges and opportunities provided by the ever changing educational landscape.

In our most recent section 48 report, in the summer term of 2019, St Mary's was again graded as outstanding in all of the sub-categories of the inspection. The inspection team commented on the 'deeply committed and caring Catholic community'. They highlighted the 'opportunities for pupils to be actively involved in Catholic Life on a formal basis through the Faith in Action Group, The Global Warriors and more recently through the St. Vincent De Paul Group.' The quality of Religious Education was also graded as outstanding with the attainment and progress of learners being a particular strength.


We have used our Outstanding judgements from Ofsted and Diocesan inspections as the platform for further development, securing strong academic outcomes for all students at GCSE and A-level and providing a broad range of curricular and extra-curricular opportunities to enable all of our young people to develop skills to prepare them for the outside world.

We are proud of what we have achieved so far as a school and excited by the opportunities available for further development. I look forward to welcoming you to our community.

"St Mary's is a deeply committed and caring Catholic community, characterised by outstanding leadership and dedicated staff, united in wholeheartedly witnessing to the Catholic mission of the school"

Section 48:




Darren Beardsley
Headteacher


National Support School
designated by

National College for
Teaching & Leadership



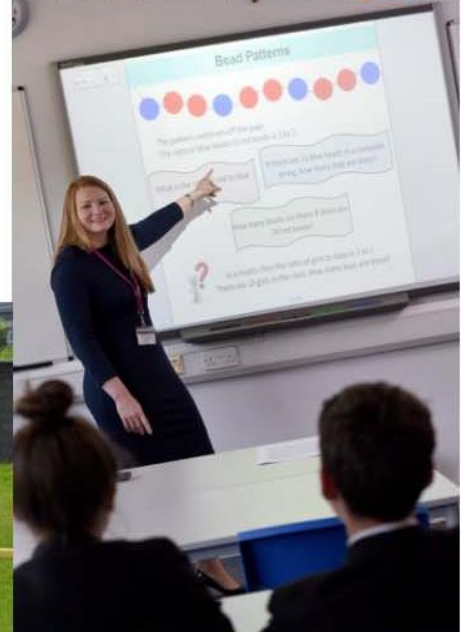
'Pupils embrace their faith and show a deep respect for themselves and for others in their community. They speak confidently about their experiences on retreat and on pilgrimage. "We believe that if we pray to God he will help us"'

Section 48:
The Catholic Life of the School and Religious Education Inspection

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DIOCESAN BOARD FOR INSPECTIONS	
SECTION 48	
REPORT	
THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	
<p>Judged</p> <p>'Outstanding in all areas'</p>	
Overall Effectiveness	1
<hr/>	
Catholic Life	1
Religious Education	1
Collective Worship	1
Date of Inspection	20-21 June 2019



*We are a pilgrim
school and we
journey with
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intends us to be.*



Job Description



Job Title:	Teacher of Religious Education
Required:	For September 2021
Salary:	MPS/UPS
Terms:	Fixed term for one year and full time

Purpose of the Role:

To facilitate and encourage learning which enables students to achieve high standards; to share and support the corporate responsibility for the well-being, education and discipline of all students.

The Job Description should be read alongside the range of professional duties of Teachers as stated in the latest Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document, under the National Conditions of Service for School Teachers and the CES Contract of Employment. The postholder will be expected to undertake duties in line with the professional standards for qualified teachers and uphold the professional code of the General Teaching Council for England.

Main Duties – Teaching and Managing Pupil Learning

- Ensure effective teaching of whole classes, groups and individuals so that teaching objectives are met, momentum and challenge are maintained, and best use is made of teaching time.
- Use teaching methods which keep pupils engaged, including stimulating pupils' intellectual curiosity, effective questioning and response, clear presentation and good use of resources.
- Set high expectations for pupils' behaviour, establishing and maintaining a good standard of discipline through well-focused teaching and through positive and productive relationships.

Main Duties – Planning and Setting Expectations/Pupil Achievement

- Identify clear teaching objectives, content, lesson structures and sequences appropriate to the subject matter and the pupils being taught.
- Set appropriate and demanding expectations for pupils' learning and motivation. Set clear targets for pupils' learning, building on prior attainment.
- Identify pupils who have special educational needs, and know where to get help in order to give positive and targeted support. Implement and keep records on Individual Education Plans (IEPs).

Main Duties – Assessment and Evaluation

- Assess how well learning objectives have been achieved and use this assessment for future teaching.
- Mark (using the school's Feed Forward approach) and monitor pupils' class and homework providing constructive oral and written feedback, setting targets for pupils' progress.
- When applicable, understand the demands expected of pupils in relation to the National Curriculum, KS4 and post-16 courses

Job Description



Main Duties – Relationship with Parents and the Wider community

- Prepare and present informative reports to parents.
- Provide opportunities to develop pupils' understanding by relating their learning to real and work-related examples, recognising that learning takes place outside the school context.
- Liaise with agencies responsible for pupils' welfare.

Main Duties – Manage Own Performance and Development

- Take responsibility for their own professional development and to keep up to date with research and developments in pedagogy and in the subjects they teach.
- Share corporate responsibility the implementation of school policies and practices.
- Set a good example to the pupils they teach in their presentation and their personal conduct.
- Evaluate their own teaching critically and use this to improve their effectiveness.

Main Duties – Managing and Developing Staff and Other Adults

- Establish effective working relationships with professional colleagues including, where applicable, associate staff.

Main Duties – Managing Resources

- Select and make good use of textbooks, ICT and other learning resources which enable teaching objectives to be met.

Accountable to: Faculty/Subject Leader

Accountable for: Allocated Classes

Further Conditions of Service

- To undertake the responsibility of a form tutor as and when required as specified in the generic job description.
- To undertake any other responsibilities as may reasonably be directed by the Headteacher.
- To support and maintain the Catholic ethos of the school as stated in the School Mission Statement.
- Adhere to school policies.



Job Description



Main Duties – Managing Resources

- Select and make good use of textbooks, ICT and other learning resources which enable teaching objectives to be met.

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Person Specification



	Essential	Desirable/Helpful
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well qualified graduate in relevant subject Teaching qualification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional relevant qualifications
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of using a variety of teaching styles Work with pupils of secondary age range of all abilities up to Key Stage 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of teaching to Advanced Level
Specific Aptitude	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to communicate effectively with pupils and staff Good classroom presence and management Work effectively as an individual and as part of a team Well organised with high level of commitment to teaching Computer literate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge of liturgical practices Knowledge of Catholic social teaching
Motivation and Social Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show initiative Ability to deal with pupils in a firm and sensitive manner Place importance on self and pupils achieving high standards Supportive of the school ethos Smart and professional appearance Has vision, energy and enthusiasm Commitment to CPD and school procedures in relation to pay progression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practising Catholic. Ability to contribute to other aspects of school life.

In your covering letter please relate your strengths to the person specification and job outlined.

Person Specification



	Essential	Desirable/Helpful
Personal Qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support and contribute to the school's Catholic Ethos. To be flexible and versatile and be able to demonstrate excellent communication and interpersonal skills. To be able to gain the confidence of and have excellent working relationships with colleagues and students. Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines. To be self-reflective, with the ability and desire to improve own performance. To have high personal standards - dress, conduct and presentation. To be a professional role model for the school values and ethos. Ability and desire to make a significant contribution to the whole school. 	

In your covering letter please relate your strengths to the person specification and job outlined.

Religious Education

at St. Mary's



General

St. Mary's seeks to provide all pupils with the opportunity to explore the Catholic faith in depth and allow each individual to grow spiritually and morally in a Christian community based on gospel values. As might be expected in a Catholic school, the teaching of RE is largely in the hands of specialist staff. There are currently seven full time teachers and a Chaplaincy team, led by Julia Findlay. Although course content varies according to year group, the Scriptures and the traditions of the Roman Catholic Church are studied and discussed, along with its liturgy and teachings, particularly in the way in which the latter impact on our world today and all its problems. The department has its own suite of five spacious and well-resourced RE rooms.

Key Stage 3

Pupils are taught in mixed ability tutor groups. The programmes of study, devised by the RE team, aim to fulfil the requirements of the Curriculum Directory. The course content is delivered in creative ways, giving pupils opportunities to be active. The department regularly uses role-play, art-work, research, pupil presentations, debates and discussions as ways to assist learning. The course is accessible and relevant, offering opportunities to think, question and become informed about many aspects of the Roman Catholic Faith. At St. Mary's we seek to provide opportunities for pupils to reflect on their own life and faith journey and to nurture the growth of each individual. RE at KS3 is rigorously assessed using a departmental system that encourages pupils to continually strive for improvement and higher achievement. All pupils attend an Ethos Welcome Day and have the opportunity to take part in a residential as a way of supporting their spiritual development.

Key Stage 4

The pupils are taught RE in mixed ability, half-year group setting. This allows pupils to be taught in four equal sized groups. All pupils study AQA Religious Studies Specification B. The components of this course comprise of the study of the Roman Catholic tradition, its beliefs and practices., and examination of two contemporary ethical issues through Catholic and other religious and non-religious perspectives. Students will also learn about Jewish belief and practices as part of their GCSE studies. All pupils have the opportunity to experience pilgrimage as part of their faith journey.

All students at KS4 have the opportunity to participate in the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes

Sixth Form

GCE A Level Theology

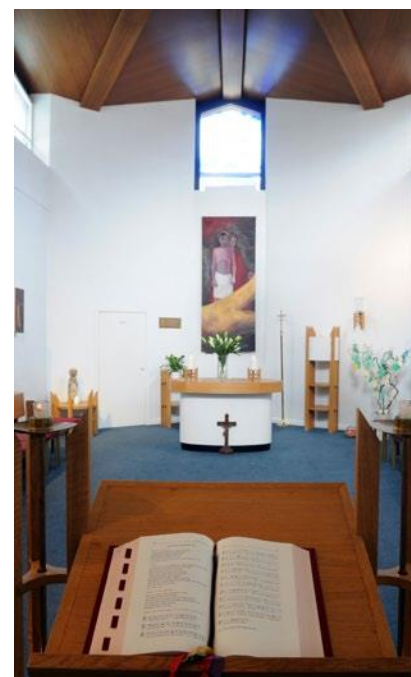
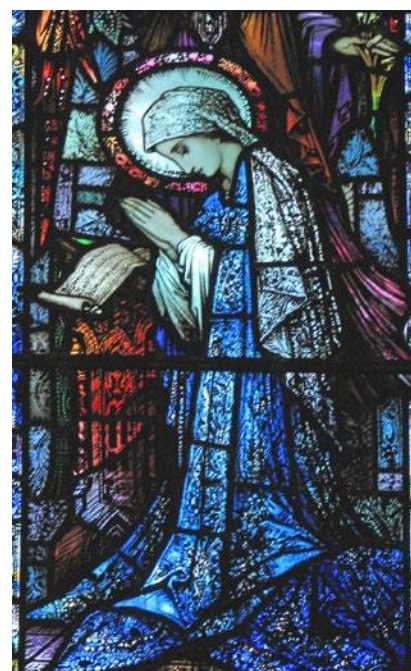
There are a large number of students taking A Level Religious Studies. The pupils follow the OCR course and complete units in Ethics, Philosophy of Religion and Developments in Christian Thinking.

All students in Year 12 and 13 follow a General RE programme. This is a department based scheme that explores ethical, social and moral issues. Students are taught in mixed groups for one hour a week.

All students at KS5 have the opportunity to participate in the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes and visit Holy Island on a retreat.

Religious Life of the School

As a Christian community we value and actively seek to promote gospel values in all aspects of school life. Beyond the limitations of the curriculum, the Chaplaincy team and other teaching staff provide opportunity for individuals and groups to become living witnesses to the Christian way of life. This is encouraged through every day worship, and celebration of liturgy and Eucharist. The RE team seek to provide opportunities for pupils to learn about the Roman Catholic faith through liturgy. Pupils are encouraged to be actively involved in the preparation and planning of all school worship. The pastoral responsibilities of staff reflect the importance of the individual and recognise the physical, spiritual and moral well-being of every pupil. The work of the school is to ensure that every pupil is supported and valued, and each individual is helped to recognise their need for a rich spiritual life. The religious life of the school is further supported by the lay chaplain, Julia Findlay.





“The task of a teacher is not simply to impart information or to provide training in skills intended to deliver some economic benefit to society; education is not and must never be considered as purely utilitarian. It is about forming the human person, equipping him or her to live life to the full – in short it is about imparting wisdom.”

Pope Benedict XVI

“Let us protect with love all that God has given us!”

Pope Francis

Academic excellence is at the heart of what we do. St. Mary's outstanding results at GCSE and A-level prove that our balanced curriculum works. Inspirational teaching and learning develops the knowledge, skills, values, confidence and motivation each student needs to succeed.

The all-encompassing wellbeing of our 1,276 students is paramount. St. Mary's staff support our students' academic, social and spiritual development, reinforced by rigorous school policies to ensure our students are safe, secure and happy.

Students' achievement and progress, within St. Mary's and the wider community, is rewarded through regular celebrations.

A rich variety of opportunities to participate in activities beyond the formal curriculum is open to all. Our charity and fundraising activities benefit a wide range of local, national and international causes.





St. Mary's aims to:

- Teach the beliefs, doctrines and practices of the Roman Catholic Church.
- Be inspired by our patron, and form group saints.
- Develop virtuous character so we become the person God intends us to.
- Instil respect for moral values and tolerance of other religions, races and cultures.
- Give the satisfaction of achievement to all pupils and develop a sense of vocation.
- Encourage good habits of work, appearance and healthy living.
- Support each pupil to ensure their academic, social and spiritual development.
- Promote community cohesion within and beyond the school.

St. Mary's is committed to promoting and safeguarding the welfare of all children and expects all staff and visitors to share this commitment.

"Pupils, 'deeply value and respect the school's Catholic tradition.'"

It is a school where inclusivity and tolerance offer a sense of security and support for all."

Section 48:
The Catholic Life of the School and Religious Education Inspection

Our Results

"All groups of students in Key Stages 3 and 4 make outstanding progress."

Ofsted

Key Stage 4 Results 2019

Number of students in year group: 188 (93 Females and 95 Males)

Post 16 Results 2019

A-level	2019
% A* to E	98.2
% A* to C	78.9
% A* to B	55.9
Average point score per entry	36.04
Average grade	B-

Applied General	2019
% D*–M	100
% D*–D	48
Average point score per entry	31.24
Average grade	Distinction -

The qualifications achieved by our Sixth Form students in 2020 enabled 81% of them to go to university (80% first choice and 41% Russell Group universities). 18 students went straight into employment or higher level apprenticeships.



Key Stage 4 School Headlines 2019

% Basics 9–4 in EM (standard pass)	81.0
% Basics 9–5 in EM (strong pass)	61.0
% EBacc Entry	60.0
EBacc Average point score	5.10
% EBacc Achievement (strong pass)	28.0
% EBacc Achievement (standard pass).	44.0
% 9–4 in English	91.0
% 9–4 in Maths	85.1
Attainment 8 score	56.55
Progress 8 Score	+0.41
% Staying in education or employment	98.0
% 9–7	34.5
Number of 9 grades	146

	School 2019	Leeds LA 2019	England 2019
% Basics 9–4 in EM (standard pass)	81.0	64.3	65.0
% Basics 9–5 in EM (strong pass)	61.0	42.0	43.0
% EBacc Entry	60.0	38.0	40.0
% EBacc average point score	5.10	3.91	4.07
Attainment 8 score	56.55	45.09	46.69
Progress 8 score	+0.41	+0.03	-0.03

- 2019 EBacc achievement (strong pass) is a more challenging measure, requiring a grade 5 in all EBacc subjects.
- Link to Performance Tables:
<https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/school/139351>
- NB: Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Department for Education will not be publishing 2020 KS4 and KS5 examination results.**

Growth Mindset

At St. Mary's we are working hard with both staff and students to develop and embed a Growth-Mindset approach to teaching and learning in order to ensure students love the challenge of learning and learn how to become resilient learners.

Growth Mindset is an idea developed by Carol Dweck at Stanford University: it is the belief that ability is not fixed. Through hard work and effort great things can be achieved and barriers to learning can be overcome.

The Growth Mindset approach depends on the ability to develop resilience, grit and perseverance. Grit is our passion and perseverance towards reaching a long-term goal while resilience is the optimism to keep bouncing back from failure. Both of these traits for success are rooted in a Growth Mindset, and the good news is that Growth Mindset means you can learn, develop and build resilience and grit. Like most valuable skills this takes practice and dedication so at St. Mary's we are aiming to place the Growth Mindset approach central to all we do.





Our Curriculum

As a pilgrim school, our curriculum is central to the journey we are making together. The curriculum seeks to develop virtuous young people who are able to grow and flourish, and reach their God-given potential. It encompasses opportunities inside and beyond the classroom for pupils to gain knowledge, skills, values, confidence and motivation, and celebrates the achievement and success of every individual. We provide a stimulating learning environment in which enthusiasm, commitment and enjoyment are paramount.

The Curriculum specifically aims to:

- Develop virtuous character so we become the person God intends us to.
- Be inspired by our patron, and form group saints
- Teach the beliefs, doctrines and practices of the Roman Catholic Church
- Encourage respect for moral values and tolerance of other religions, races and cultures
- Give the satisfaction of achievement to all pupils and develop a sense of vocation
- Encourage high standards of work, smart appearance and awareness of a healthy lifestyle
- Develop an effective and imaginative use of language
- Provide mathematical, scientific and technical knowledge and skills
- Teach how present-day society evolved, how the nation achieves its standard of living and the ways in which nations depend upon each other, including British values
- Teach about human achievement and encourage aesthetic and environmental awareness
- Encourage open-mindedness and rational discussion.
- Provide opportunities in the Creative Arts.
- Develop independent learning and study skills.



Table showing the number of 1 hour lessons for each subject within a 10-day cycle:

We have four option blocks in Years 9 to 11

"St. Mary's, Menston is at the heart of the community in this area of the diocese. School leaders are discerning but also unyielding in their pursuit of excellence and success for all pupils, students and staff in their care."

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	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Religious Education	5	5	5	5	5
English	7	6	7	9	9
Mathematics	6	7	6	8	8
Science	6	6	9	9	9
Physical Education	3	3	3	3	3
PSHE	1	1	1	1	1
Art	2	2	Option (5)	Option (4)	Option (4)
Design & Technology	4	4	Option (5)	Option (4)	Option (4)
Drama	2	2	Option (5)	Option (4)	Option (4)
French	5	5	Option (5)	Option (4)	Option (4)
Geography	3	3	Option (5)	Option (4)	Option (4)
History	3	3	Option (5)	Option (4)	Option (4)
Computer Science	2	2	Option (5)	Option (4)	Option (4)
Music	2	2	Option (5)	Option (4)	Option (4)
German		introduced	Option (5)	Option (4)	Option (4)
Health and Social Care			Option (5)	Option (4)	Option (4)
Media Studies			Option (5)	Option (4)	Option (4)
Performing Arts			Option (5)	Option (4)	Option (4)
Physical Education (GCSE)			Option (5)	Option (4)	Option (4)
Spanish		introduced	Option (5)	Option (4)	Option (4)
Sports Studies			Option (5)	Option (4)	Option (4)

*PSHE is delivered in a fortnightly PDT session with along with Careers



Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8)

The curriculum is planned to interest and motivate pupils in a broad range of subjects while preparing for continued study in GCSE and vocational courses at the end of Year 8.

On entering St Mary's, pupils are taught in mixed ability groups, except for Maths. In Year 8, setting is introduced in modern foreign languages, along with the opportunity to learn a second language.

Key Stage 4 (Years 9, 10 and 11)

In addition to compulsory subjects we offer a choice of pathways to reflect an individual's aptitude or aspiration. The breadth of curriculum provision is maintained while specialisation enables pupils to excel in subjects beyond the range of the National Curriculum. A separate document giving full details of our pathways is published annually.

Aiming High

Pupils are encouraged to realise their full potential through assessment and the setting of academic objectives. Progress towards targets is reviewed and reported to parents twice each year. Great emphasis is placed on promoting good study habits to which regular homework makes a significant contribution.

Reporting Achievement

Parents receive an annual report of the progress made by pupils with a written comment provided by the form tutor. There is also a summary report containing target grades and an assessment of progress towards those targets, which is provided at strategic points during the year to ensure parents are aware that pupils are on course to fulfil their potential. Further opportunity is provided to monitor and discuss academic and social development at the parents' consultation meeting.



Support and Enrichment

Learning support is well resourced and in addition to specialist teaching staff, a number of classroom assistants and learning mentors work alongside pupils to ensure full access to the curriculum. A broad range of opportunities and activities is provided to help pupils of all abilities make the best progress possible.

Sixth Form (Post 16: Years 12 and 13)

We offer a curriculum that is based on A-levels and technical qualifications. Our range of pathways is designed to allow Post 16 students to gain the qualifications required to secure a place at university, a higher apprenticeship or to embark on a career. Further details can be found in our Sixth Form Prospectus.



Inclusion and Pastoral Care

"Pastoral support is a strength of the school...Pupils' behaviour is excellent in and out of the classroom. They are able to listen to their peers, show understanding, tolerance and, when called for, forgiveness."

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Education Inspection

"Students are exemplary in their conduct and extremely respectful of others, both their peers and staff."

Ofsted

Every pupil is assigned a form group in the care of a Form Tutor. The tutor holds a key position in the life of St. Mary's and is the first point of contact between home and school. Their primary responsibility is to monitor the welfare of each pupil to ensure their academic, social and spiritual development.

The tutor sees members of the form daily to establish and articulate clear expectations to each pupil in order to cultivate appropriate standards and attitudes for participation and success in all areas of school life.

Each year group is led by a Student Progress Leader who meets regularly with the form tutors to discuss individual pupil progress. Student Progress Leaders are supported by the work of the school's Learning Mentors, Lay Chaplain, Catholic Care, Attendance Officer and non-teaching Pupil Support Assistants. A spirit of unity and co-operation is secured through whole year activities such as assemblies, residential visits and Liturgies.



Keeping Parents and Carers Informed

The school places a high value on the triangular relationship between parent or carer, pupil and staff. Effective communication between parent and school is essential to ensure the safety, well-being, motivation and all round development of each child.

- The school maintains close links with the parishes and primary schools
- The weekly General Letter, termly newsletters, stmarysmenston.org school website and the @StMarysMenston Twitter account ensure that families are kept up to date with events and developments
- There is a Home/School Agreement to ensure that both parents and staff work together to encourage the best possible development of each pupil
- Every pupil is issued with a Planner to help them organise their work and to provide a readily accessible point of reference between staff and parents/carers
- Form tutors will monitor behaviour and achievement (in line with the pupil expectations) and will be responsible for collating information across the curriculum. They will liaise with Student Progress Leaders where sanctions or interventions are required.
- Annual Awards Assemblies are held for each Year Group focussing on the achievements of pupils. The assemblies celebrate the progress made by pupils in their subjects, as well as recognising the leadership skills that they have developed throughout the school
- Diploma Celebration Evenings celebrate the achievements of our pupils both within and outside school at Key Stage Three.
- Our Year 11 Achievement Evening and Sixth Form Celebration of Achievement Evening celebrate the achievements at the end of Key Stages 4 and 5.
- Pupils' work is also recognised through Big Breakfast celebrations, emails home and postcards. Improved and 100% attendance are also celebrated.
- We are currently working to further develop our rewards system
- Consultation meetings with staff are held annually to give parents and staff the opportunity to discuss pupil progress
- Parents wishing to discuss any matter concerning their child can contact the school by telephone or email.
- Open Evenings and Open Days provide invaluable opportunities for parents to view St. Mary's, meet staff and see the work of the school
- The work and achievements of St. Mary's are regularly featured in the local and national media
- Parents are encouraged to support the school through involvement in school activities and events
- The SIMS Parent App provides real time update on student progress and attendance

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

St. Mary's is an inclusive mainstream secondary school. Students are taught in mainstream classes with interventions and support as required. We provide a wide range of pupil services to enable access to the curriculum. Learning mentors, form tutors, pupil support teams and counsellors support emotional wellbeing.

The inclusion team work both in class and on a bespoke level to deliver individual programmes of intervention.

St. Mary's Hub, is a base which provides nurturing support to students with additional needs.

Students can access a break and lunch club if they prefer a quieter setting out of lesson times.

Students with more complex needs may have an allocated keyworker to provide support and be the important link between student, teachers and parents/carers.

Personal Development including Careers

All pupils will have a fortnightly PDT lesson. PDT or Personal Development includes Personal, Social, Health and Economic education and some aspects of Relationships education. PDT is also where we deliver some aspects of Our Careers programme. The aim of PDT is to provide opportunities to build students' capabilities and knowledge of wider issues, support students' interests and aspirations, and help them to make informed decisions about their future choices and career pathways. Outside speakers, external visits and in-house activities are also part of our curriculum offer.



Relationships and Sex Education

The school's programmes of RSE is firmly rooted in the Catholic ethos of the school and linked to the school's programme for Religious Education. Other aspects of health and relationship education are taught during PDT (Personal Development Time). Our programme was judged as outstanding by Ofsted and is built on our values as a Catholic school. The programme is in full accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church and emphasises the sacred nature of the Christian marriage and its centrality to family life.

Homework

At St. Mary's we believe that homework is an integral part of learning and we are keen for pupils to continue to learn and challenge themselves outside of the classroom. We want to ensure however, that homework is meaningful, manageable and motivating.

Homework is closely linked to the work pupils are doing in the classroom and the tasks are either Preparation Tasks or Consolidation Tasks.

Homework tasks are published on the school website and any resources which may be needed can also be accessed from here.



Extended Curriculum: Opportunities for Leadership

St. Mary's has a varied and rich programme of events and activities beyond the formal curriculum. All pupils are offered the opportunity to participate and achieve in creative, sporting and academic areas outside the classroom and to share personal interests and enthusiasms with fellow pupils and staff thereby enriching their skills and personal and social development.

An emphasis on the development of global citizens is promoted through foreign learning and cultural exchanges, World Challenge expeditions and the Bambisanani Partnership with Mnyakanya High School in South Africa.

In Year 7 all pupils are given the opportunity to work toward achieving the St. Mary's diploma, which they will complete in Year 8. The first year of a new school is the beginning of a journey, and resembles the first steps of a pilgrimage, following the example of Our Lady, Mary, our school's patron. The aim of the diploma is to recognise the steps on that journey towards developing a virtuous character, and a deepening understanding of our catholic faith and its call to serve. The diploma rewards the completion of a wide range of learner tasks, that take place in the classroom, and leader tasks that take place outside. Our Year 12 students support Year 7 pupils and their form tutors by helping and guiding them. We celebrate the successes of the diploma at a Diploma Celebration Evening in July.

"Students make excellent contributions to the community"

Ofsted

"Pupils understand what it means to have a vocation and can give examples of when they have served the school or community."

Section 48:
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"Parents speak highly of the school and the Catholic Life it exudes."

Section 48:
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Art and Design



School Productions



Public Speaking



Dance



Fundraising



Iceland Geography Visit



Ski Trip USA



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award



Retreats and Pilgrimages



Amalfi Coast Geography Visit



Community Events



Exchanges to France and Germany



Competitions and Awards



Sports Leaders



Faith in Action



Sports Teams, coaching and leadership



Subject Visits



Key Stage 3 Productions



World Challenge Expedition
to Central America



Global Warriors and Fairtrade



Faith in Action



Music



Ullswater Residential



South Africa Visit

The Bishop Wheeler Catholic Academy Trust

St. Mary's Menston is **part of The Bishop Wheeler Catholic Academy Trust**, a charity and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales

Company Number: 8399801

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Chair of the Academy Council:

Mr Chris Billington



The parishes served by our school:

SS Peter & Paul Yeadon
St. Joseph's Pudsey
English Martyrs Addingham
Our Lady & All Saints Otley
SS John Fisher & Thomas More
Burley-in-Wharfedale
St. Mary's Horsforth
Sacred Heart of Jesus Ilkley