



St Boniface's Catholic College

Recruitment Information Pack

**Dream.
Believe.
Achieve.**

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Dear Applicant

Thank you for your interest in a post at St Boniface's Catholic College. The College has a very long and proud history of educating boys in Plymouth and we are looking to appoint highly motivated and enthusiastic staff at this exciting period of growth at the College to carry on this tradition.

The College is going through a rapid journey of improvement since our last Ofsted inspection, which was recognised in our latest monitoring visit. This is an exciting time to join our College and would suit someone who is looking to work in a dynamic environment and gain a wealth of experience.

You will receive support and development in whatever stage of career you are in and will work in a place where staff well-being is of paramount importance. This makes St Boniface's Catholic College a uniquely exciting and rewarding place to work.

I hope you find the answers to many of your questions in this pack. If you have any further questions please get in touch, and if you want to come and visit before making an application, you are more than welcome to do so.

Your sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil Maslen', with a horizontal line underneath.

Neil Maslen
Headteacher

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Welcome to St Boniface's Catholic College

St Boniface's primary purpose is to serve the needs of Catholic families in the South West section of the Plymouth diocese. Further to this, St Boniface's aims to meet the general mission of Catholic schools since 1856: to build community, educate, preach the Gospel and contribute to the common good of society. Our mission is to achieve this while raising standards and delivering high quality education through the lens of the Catholic faith. It is not necessary for all staff or students to be of the Catholic Faith themselves, we are an eclectic community that are respectful of the Catholic Faith.

St Boniface's operates in a culture of values and principles defined by the Christian faith. Education in the Catholic faith, high quality pastoral care and the development of spirituality help define the distinctiveness of the College.

History of SBCC

St Boniface's College was founded in 1856 as a school for "young Catholic gentlemen" by the first Roman Catholic Bishop of Plymouth, Dr Errington (1804-1886). As a result of Bishop Errington's appointment as Coadjutor Archbishop of Westminster in 1855, the College was almost immediately placed under the patronage of his successor as Bishop of Plymouth, The Right Reverend William Vaughan (1814-1902). The College's first school building was in Wyndham Square, Plymouth.

In 1863, the school was renamed "St Boniface Boys' Catholic School" and relocated to a larger building to Melbourne Street, and later to North Road.



St Boniface's College at Buckfast Abbey (1941)

With the outbreak of World War II the College was evacuated to Buckfast Abbey between 1941 and 1945. The Abbey was instrumental in assuring the school continued during those difficult war years. During this period, the school buildings in Plymouth were used as strategic operation bases for the Admiralty and continued to be used even after the students returned to Beacon Park.

In 1946 the College was encouraged to become one of the 179 direct grant schools where fees for selected day pupils from lower income families were partly or fully paid by the local authority. The College retained autonomy from the local authority and remained members of the Headmasters' Conference. Situated in Beacon Park, it had 450 boys in the 1970s.

When the Labour Government withdrew funding from direct grant schools in 1976, the College, like Manchester Grammar School and others, was forced to decide between reverting to a fully independent school or becoming a Voluntary-Aided school. After a period as an independent school, in 1981 St Boniface's Catholic College and Bishop Vaughan Catholic School were amalgamated into a Voluntary-Aided boys' Comprehensive school at Crownhill, which then became the Grant Maintained St Boniface's Catholic College. Notre Dame High School became a state school at the same time.

On 1 January 2008 the College was renamed and readdressed as "St Boniface's Catholic College" at 21 Boniface Lane, Manadon Park - after the school applied to rename "Bladder Lane" to "Boniface Lane".



First year students wearing the then purple uniform c. 1953

Plymouth CAST

St Boniface's is part of Plymouth CAST. Plymouth CAST is a trust set up by the Catholic Diocese of Plymouth to support and develop its schools. Plymouth CAST is a genuine 'multi academy trust' in that the constituent schools are all part of a single company with a central Board of Directors, rather than each being an academy company in its own right. The Diocese of Plymouth covers the traditional counties of Cornwall, Devon and Dorset and therefore also includes the newer unitary authorities of Plymouth, Torbay, Poole & Bournemouth. Altogether there are 36 schools within the Trust spread from Penzance in the West to Bournemouth in the East. Together CAST employs 1300 staff and provides for 7000 pupils. As with all academies, Plymouth CAST is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity.

Our Students

Our students come to us from across the city and beyond into Devon and Cornwall. Although the majority of our students come from the six Catholic primary schools as well as the local non-faith schools, our students can come from as many as 40 different primary schools.

This means we have a wide and eclectic mix of students, from a variety of different backgrounds and abilities as well as from other faiths and no faith at all.

Our aim is for all students from whatever background and ability to flourish; academically, spiritually, morally and culturally.

On entry in Year 7 students are set into ability groups, based on their Year 6 SATS results as well as baseline tests in English, Maths and Science.

In Year 12 our students are able to join our merged Sixth Form with Notre Dame taking an academic A-level route or a vocational pathway.