



St John's Catholic

Comprehensive School



SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS 2016/17



The excellent relationship among and between pupils and staff is testimony to the strong Catholic ethos that pervades the daily life of St John's



Welcome to **St John's Sixth Form**

St John's Sixth Form is inclusive and we strive to value and respect each and every individual who joins our vibrant community. We encourage all of our students to aspire to academic excellence and success, believing that there are no limits to a student's potential.

Our Sixth Form curriculum is bespoke to the needs and abilities of each student, providing stimulating academic and vocational opportunities which develop confidence and nurture individual talent.

We are committed to the highest standards of teaching, learning and pastoral care – achieved through a combination of challenge, support, encouragement and praise – and, by working in partnership with parents/carers, we empower our pupils to achieve success and become the leaders of tomorrow.

So please take this opportunity to visit us to discover the exciting opportunities and the right pathway for you at St John's Catholic Comprehensive School.

Finally, if St John's is the right Sixth Form for you, I very much look forward to welcoming you into our school community in the future.

M Barron
Head Teacher

Our Vision

In our Catholic school, the teachings of Christ permeate all aspects of School life.

We seek to offer a high standard of education to each individual and to foster excellent relations between staff, students and parents.

Each person is recognised as a child of God, an individual who is encouraged to develop his or her full potential.

In partnership with the wider community, we aim to prepare each student to make full use of the opportunities available so that all are able to positively contribute to society.

We have a strong family ethos, where every pupil receives the very best care and guidance, as well as having access to modern facilities. This is to ensure our students have the right tools in order to achieve and prepare themselves for a career in both modern Britain and a global economy.





St John's is now a very good Catholic learning community with many outstanding features.

Section 48 Ofsted Inspection May 2014



Bridging the Gap

The transition from studying for GCSE and other Level 2 qualifications to A Level and Level 3 Vocational qualifications (e.g. BTEC) is arguably the biggest challenge a student will face within their academic journey. At St John's we realise that this can often be a difficult time and our supportive and knowledgeable Sixth Form team are there to help you with this process at every step.

In addition to our annual 'Sixth Form Open Evening', prospective applicants are more than welcome to contact the school to arrange a mutually convenient time to tour our school and discuss potential course choices with a member of the Sixth Form team.

After the application window closes, every applicant will be invited into our school for a discussion about their course choices. Any conditional offer of a place at St John's Sixth Form will follow on from these discussions and in plenty of time to allow applicants to focus on their GCSE/Level 2 qualifications and final coursework deadlines.

All successful applicants are given a conditional offer and will be invited to attend our Sixth Form

Transition events in late June or early July. These occasions provide an excellent opportunity to meet with prospective teachers and fellow students whilst gaining a better understanding of the demands of future courses.

On joining our Sixth Form in September, members of the Sixth Form team, your form tutor and teachers will continue to closely support you as you bridge the gap from your GCSE and equivalent studies to your new Sixth Form courses. Alongside an excellent teaching and learning experience, at St John's we pride ourselves on delivering first class pastoral, careers, academic and spiritual support to help our Sixth Form students achieve their very best.

Providing Excellence for All

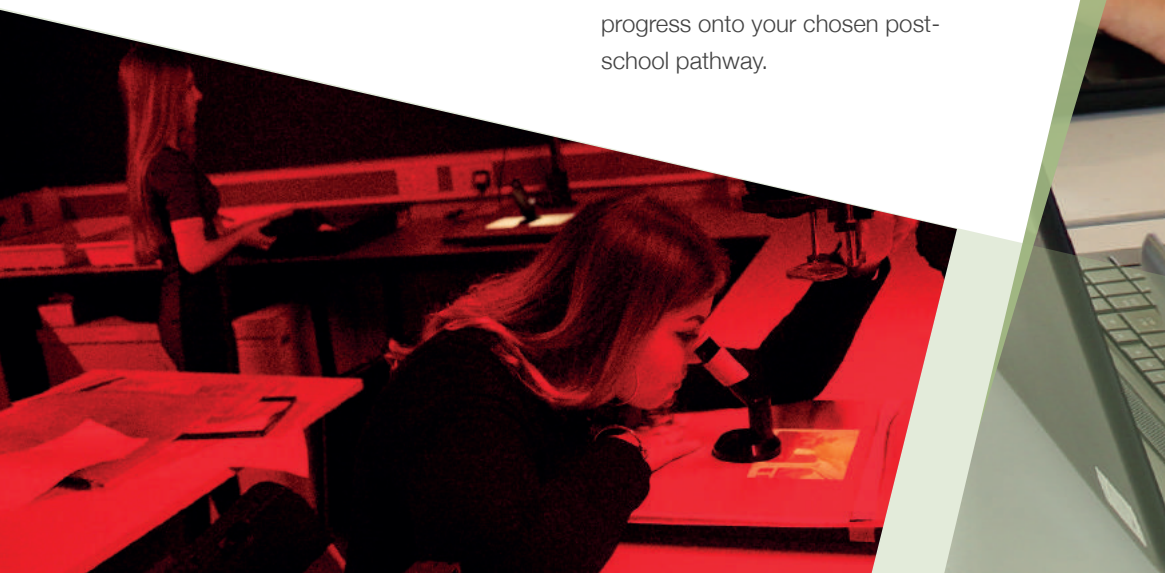
Our Sixth Form students are a vital part of St John's, a school that values every young person no matter their ability, religion or background. You will be supported throughout your time in Sixth Form in order that you make the very most of your own unique, God-given talents.

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum, based on traditional A Levels and Vocational courses, taught by a team of dedicated and talented teachers who always strive to engage and challenge our students.

Our offer comprises of both an academic pathway, featuring an extensive number of A Level

courses, and a Vocational pathway, consisting of a wide range of BTEC courses. Subject to meeting individual subject-entry criteria, some of our students embark on a mixed programme of academic and vocational courses.

Successfully following an Academic, Vocational or Mixed pathway will provide you with an excellent foundation that allows you to progress onto your chosen post-school pathway.







Going the Extra Mile

In St John's Sixth Form, to help ensure that our students are best prepared for onward transition to higher education and the workplace, we combine students' core subject learning with enrichment activities including PSHE, RE, Work Skills, Cooking Skills, EPQ, Games and Motor Mechanics.

To ensure that you achieve to the very best of your abilities, many of our dedicated teaching staff provide additional revision and teaching sessions throughout the year and during the school holidays, to help students that wish to make progress have every possible opportunity to do so.

In an ever-changing world, we recognise the importance of our Sixth Form students having opportunities to explore career options through our Work

Experience programme during Year 12.

Through our PSHE programme we prepare and educate our students in areas such as personal finance, as well as introducing external speakers from a range of backgrounds to provide in-depth knowledge of the world beyond the classroom.



Inspired by Christ

Something that sets St John's apart from other local secondary schools is its Catholic ethos and clear emphasis on each person's spiritual, mental, emotional and physical development. Students come here to grow, as well as to learn, and that principle shapes everything we do.

As a Catholic school we strive to:

- Develop the spirituality, values and virtue of our young people, respecting whatever they have.
- Develop a sense of love, service and responsibility and the importance of family and society.
- Give them the opportunity to know and believe in God.
- Equip those who enjoy a faith for Christian life in the world.



We believe spiritual development requires a gentle and loving approach. We believe in meeting young people where they are and letting them move at their own pace. We try to create a climate where they can be open and questioning.

Our Chaplain works in school for most of the week. In turn, he is able to draw on a broad team of priests from the local parishes, to help support the sacramental life of the school.

The spiritual life of the school includes prayer, liturgical and sacramental experience and participation in the major events of the Church's year. There are retreats (spiritually focused days out) that are provided each year. We create

opportunities for spiritual expression and inspiration through Art, Music, Dance and Drama as well as external speakers to inspire our students.

An important objective is to broaden each young person's own ability to learn from the world around them and from life's experiences. Our students have the opportunity to enter into fund-raising events for charitable causes that are most often chosen by the students themselves.

Alongside the academic achievement of our students, we seek to help them grow as human beings so that they are ready to enter into an adult life as generous-hearted and well-rounded people that are able to rise to life's challenges.



Growing in responsibility & **Serving Others**

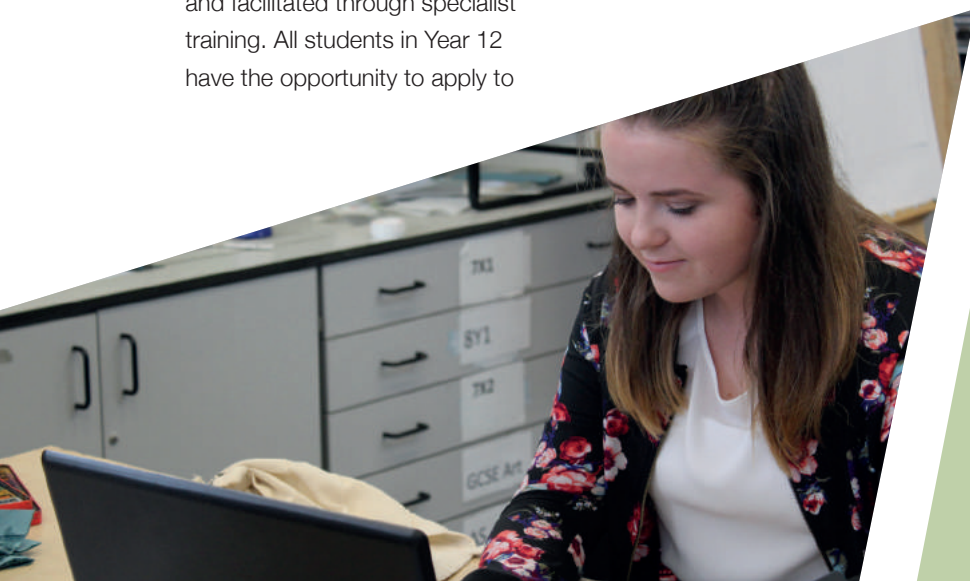
St John's Sixth Form has a proud history of academic success with both our A Level and Vocational programmes.


Wherever possible, Year 12 & 13 benefit from smaller classes which, combined with inspirational teaching, helps to ensure our pupils achieve success.

Our dedicated Careers' Officer, in partnership with the Sixth Form team, provides advice on university and apprenticeship applications, 'gap' years and entry into the workplace.

Student leadership is encouraged and facilitated through specialist training. All students in Year 12 have the opportunity to apply to

join the school prefect team and take part in a range of whole school projects and day-to-day activities such as fund-raising events, supervising younger students at break times and representing the school at 'front-of-house' during Open Evenings and other Whole School productions. Being a prefect at St John's provides excellent experiences for our students to discuss in applications for university, apprenticeships and employment opportunities.



A young man with short brown hair, wearing a dark blue suit jacket, white shirt, and red tie, is smiling slightly. He is standing in front of a mural that features a large owl with yellow eyes and green foliage. The background of the page is a solid green color with some faint, abstract patterns.

Finally, What we believe makes St John's Sixth Form different

In Our Sixth Form we aim to educate the whole person and this is what we believe differentiates us from other Sixth Forms in the Gravesham area. Ensuring that our students meet and exceed their potential is, of course, paramount. However, alongside this we believe that it is equally important to encourage our students to be both academically and socially conscientious and thus pass on 'well-rounded' young people into Higher Education and the workplace.

If you do decide to join our Sixth Form, I am sure that you will be both happy and successful. You have my word that the staff and I will do all in our power to ensure that this is the case.

M Barron – Head Teacher



Contact Details



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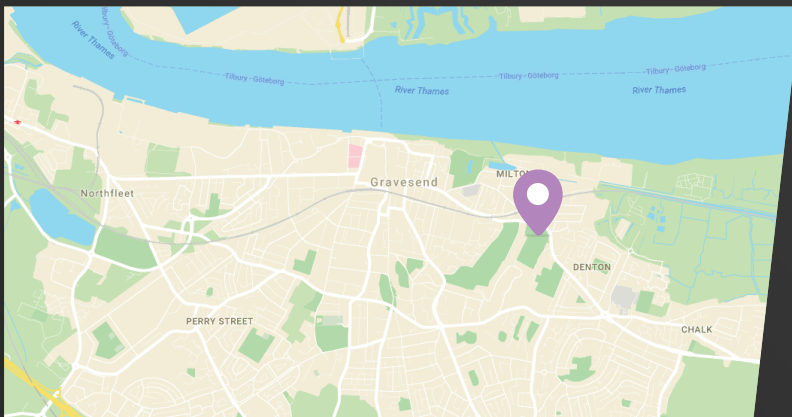
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www.stjohnscs.com



If you are driving and using a sat nav - please use the postcode:
DA12 2SY to arrive at the main school entrance in Rochester Road