



SAINT BENEDICT

Catholic Voluntary Academy

Sixth Form Prospectus



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

“The quality of teaching, learning and assessment in the sixth form is consistently good. Students enjoy their lessons and find them interesting and challenging,” - Ofsted 2018



Welcome to Saint Benedict

At Saint Benedict Sixth Form every young person is seen as an individual; nurturing the gifts and talents of each of our children is central to our mission. We achieve this by offering the highest quality of education possible, which includes a broad range of experiences aimed at developing the whole person, and enabling all to grow in a safe and happy environment.



Kevin Gritton - Headteacher

Life at Saint Benedict Sixth Form

Saint Benedict is a highly successful Catholic academy of 1,400 students aged 11 to 18, with around 170 in the Sixth Form.

We are located in Darley Abbey in the North of Derby and, as the only Catholic secondary school in the city, our students travel to us from far and wide.

We welcome all young people to study with us in our Sixth Form, whatever their background, and whatever their faith.

All staff are highly ambitious for every student and work tirelessly to ensure that each young person is equipped with the skills and qualities they need to go on and live happy and successful lives.

We have excellent facilities which include Elmwood, our dedicated Sixth Form Centre. We are also proud to have our own Enhanced Resource Base which supports visually impaired and physically impaired young people.



Natalie Robinson
Head of Sixth Form



Why study at Saint Benedict Sixth Form?

Saint Benedict Sixth Form has been rated 'Good' by Ofsted and we will support and challenge you to achieve the best that you can.

We have high expectations and we will expect you to work independently, making the best use of our Post-16 study facilities.

Our teachers will challenge you in lessons and push you to reach the grades that you are capable of.

Your personal tutor will encourage you to take full advantage of all the opportunities available to you.

The Sixth Form team will ease the transition from Year 11 to Year 12, and offer advice and guidance throughout your time here.

Subject teachers will monitor your progress carefully, providing focused support quickly when and if it is needed.



Kat Difusco
Deputy Head of Sixth Form

“The information, advice and guidance about students’ next steps in education, employment or training is of a high quality,” - Ofsted 2018



Routes to Success

Our curriculum has been carefully chosen to match the needs and aspirations of our students.

Level 3

The majority of our students study a traditional A Level programme. We offer a large number of A Level courses, including facilitating subjects. Alongside these we offer a number of vocational and technical courses.

Subject leaflets outlining the content of all our courses are available on our website, as well as individual criteria for each subject.

Monitoring your progress

We will set you minimum expected grades, based on your entry profile, and give you all the support you need to help you to achieve them.

Dedicated facilities

Our Sixth Form students have exclusive access to Elmwood, our Sixth Form Centre.

Three large study rooms, each with ICT facilities, provide plenty of places to work during study periods and after school. One study room is dedicated to silent study, whilst the others allow for group work.

Elmwood also has a Sixth Form Common Room for those times when you need to relax.

As sixth formers, you will have access to the library, where laptops, books, newspapers and periodicals are available during and after the school day.

“The leadership of the sixth form is strong and ambitious for the future. Leaders enjoy good relationships with students, who say they are approachable and supportive,” - Ofsted 2018

Supporting your future

Whatever path you take, you will have access to guidance and advice to help you succeed.

The majority of our students make a decision to apply to university; we also have students go onto success through higher apprenticeships and employment.

Whatever path you take, you will have access to guidance and advice to help you succeed.

We arrange regular visits from local employers, universities and business people, giving you the opportunity to ask questions and get a feel for different careers.

Our popular ‘Meet the Undergraduate and Apprentice’ event provides you with the chance to talk to Saint Benedict alumni about their experiences of university

and apprenticeships.

Prospective Oxbridge, medical and veterinary students all receive tailored guidance and opportunities for university open days, summer schools, work experience and apprenticeships.

Our university application support begins in Year 12. You will be given one-to-one support writing personal statements and CVs, choosing courses, universities and apprenticeships. Our dedicated careers advisor will provide interviews for all students in the Sixth Form on request.



“Expectations are high. The retention and attendance rates in the sixth form are high and this serves as an indication of how much students value the sixth form,” - Ofsted 2018



A fulfilling experience

Whilst undoubtedly the main focus during your time with us will be academic success, as a Saint Benedict Sixth Form student, you will belong to a rich and diverse community with a wide range of opportunities for personal growth.

Saint Benedict Sixth Form has students drawn from a wide range of schools in Derby and Derbyshire, including Saint Benedict.

Each year, we welcome a significant number of students into Year 12 who have been previously attending other schools.

Every student is assigned to a dedicated Sixth Form tutor group which also links you to the rest of the academy.

Your personal tutor will encourage you to take responsibilities in your tutor group, the Sixth Form and the rest of the academy.

Each year a number of Sixth Form students are chosen, following a rigorous application process, to represent and lead their peers on the Student Leadership Team. From their number, a Head Boy and Head Girl are selected and they are expected to undertake additional responsibilities.

During your time in Sixth Form, you will have access to a variety of enrichment activities as part of your personal development, which will provide you with a competitive edge for your next steps

We have a long tradition of students participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Award, at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels and we have recently introduced a wellbeing programme for all of our sixth formers.

In addition to in-school opportunities, staff organise field trips, visits and university taster sessions. You will also be supported if you want to organise your own visits to university or to summer schools.

Students in Year 13 are also given the opportunity to apply to take part in Project Arusha which involves spending time in Tanzania, teaching in local schools, once they have completed their studies.

A track record of success

It is our aim for every one of our students to go on to happy, fulfilling lives. Many go on to great things. Here are just a few of them:



George Lee
Cambridge University

George achieved three A*s in his French, Sociology and English Literature A-levels in the summer of 2017. He is studying French and Russian at Cambridge University. He said: "No-one in my family has been to university before so I just couldn't believe it. Things like this don't happen to me, they happen to other people."



Molly Allen
Headteacher

Molly is Headteacher at Alvaston Infant and Nursery School. Previously she worked as a class teacher at Derby High School, where she was also English co-ordinator. She studied Primary Education at Birmingham City University before fulfilling her ambition to become a teacher.



Abigail Williamson
Apprenticeship

Abigail is gaining hands-on experience while studying as part of her advanced technical apprenticeship at Rolls-Royce. She completed her Level 3 BTEC in Engineering during the first two years of her apprenticeship and has enrolled at university to study a four-year Foundation Degree in Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering.



“Teachers use their strong subject knowledge to question, challenge and accurately assess students’ performance,” - Ofsted 2018



**St Ralph
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Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Our academies are special places where we get the chance to improve the lives of young people in a unique way every day.

We develop young minds, helping every child aspire to achieve their best academically as well as focusing on the growth of character and the development of the whole person.

Working together across the Trust, each academy benefits educationally from the expertise within the Trust as a whole and practically from the services procured and provided centrally.

By enhancing the links between secondary and primary schools we provide stable, challenging and consistent education through the phases to those pupils and families we serve.

Our Trust was formed in September 2018 to preserve, maintain and develop Catholic education in the areas served by our academies and is one of four Multi Academy Trusts within the Diocese of Nottingham.

We are committed to providing the highest quality of education for every child and young person in our care, bringing together 25 schools from Derby City,

Derbyshire, Staffordshire, Stockport and Nottinghamshire, 20 of which are primary and 5 are secondary.

For us it is a wonderful opportunity, indeed a privilege, working with a team of over 1,200 staff and in excess of 200 volunteers to shape the future of Catholic education for more than 8,000 children and young people across the Trust. Inspired by the life, message and example of Jesus Christ, and in the words of our patron, St Ralph Sherwin, doing this “today rather than tomorrow” is our aim, providing extensive continuing professional development for our staff to grow and develop so that, as role models to the children they teach, we encourage a culture of lifelong learning.

We feel both excited and humbled to be chosen to lead our Trust and are dedicated to preserving and developing Catholic education in the areas served by our academies, providing the highest quality of education for every child and young person we serve.



CEO Sean McClafferty



Chair Jacqueline Rodden



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