

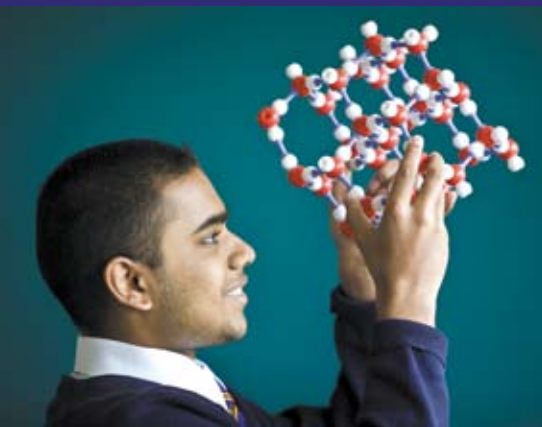


# ST PAUL'S

---

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

---



A SPECIALIST SCIENCE & LANGUAGE COLLEGE AND TRAINING SCHOOL





“St Paul’s is a very special place where students are encouraged, in the school’s own words, ‘to do the best that is possible’.”

*The quotes in this prospectus are taken from our most recent OfSTED report.*

# Ministerium Tuum Imple

(2 TIM 4:5)

St Paul wrote these words to his disciple Timothy when he was in prison at the end of his life. In using them he passed on his mission as a follower of Jesus Christ to Timothy and to us. Its meaning gives us two words and a phrase that are the basis of the life and work of St Paul's:

Love · Serve · Do the best that is possible

Dear Parent,

Welcome to St Paul's. The words of St Paul, on which the Mission of the school is based, mean that we are committed to the care of pupils and the success of every pupil in a way that is rooted in the values of the gospel.

We expect pupils to set themselves high standards in their work, their extra-curricular activities and their relationships with others. We challenge them to do so and support them so that they will achieve. We do this to enable them to make the most of the opportunities offered by St Paul's and to lay the foundations of success and personal development.



Whilst at St Paul's your child will be in the fortunate position of having a well equipped, modern school and we are determined that St Paul's will be second to none in the quality of its staff, curriculum and teaching and learning.

St Paul's was established to serve the Catholic community in the area but our school is strengthened by the strong support of the wider Christian community in Milton Keynes. We aim to be a school in which faith is caught as well as taught so that the work done in parishes and families can be built upon.

We will work with you in developing the gifts possessed by your child, whatever they may be, so that he or she is well prepared to take a place in the adult world confidently.

If you have any questions about the process of applying for a place, or would like to visit St Paul's, please contact the Headteacher at the school.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Mr Marc Auckland".

**Mr Marc Auckland**  
Chair of Governors

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Michael Manley".

**Mr Michael Manley**  
Headteacher

‘Classroom relationships are excellent, lessons are interesting and students feel that teachers work hard to help them succeed.’

‘This is a very caring school where students trust the adults around them and grow in confidence and self-esteem.’

## Success through ...

### COMMUNITY

As a worshipping community St Paul's lives its Mission through its witness, care and expectation of excellence. All members are valued and encouraged to grow together. Love of God and the example of Christ are at the forefront of our policies and practice.

St Paul's seeks to guide each pupil on his/her own individual faith journey. Prayer is part of daily practice, and pupils are encouraged to lead class prayers. Each Tutor Group takes part in a Day of Recollection at the Catholic Church of St Edward the Confessor, and all pupils are given the opportunity to attend spiritual retreats.



‘The school provides a caring and supportive atmosphere where students, whatever their background, can flourish as individuals.’

‘Pupil’s spiritual, moral, social and cultural development are outstanding and reflect the Catholic ethos of the school.’

## Success through ...

### **PARTNERSHIP**

Every member of our community is recognised as unique, and equally worthy of praise and support. Each pupil has a Mentor and a Form Tutor, supported by a Year Leader. Tutor teams not only deliver a programme of Citizenship and Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE), but also support the progress of individuals in their care

All pupils are set specific targets and are encouraged to reach these through a structured mentoring process. Regular meetings with parents and pupils ensure that this process is supportive as well as challenging.



### **LEARNING**

Learning at St Paul's is an exciting journey of discovery, brought to life with innovative teaching and imaginative use of resources. Our curriculum is well balanced and includes a large range of academic and vocational courses to suit every pupil's needs and aspirations.

In aiming for success our lessons are stimulating and interactive, encouraging our pupils to become independent thinkers and learners. We use a variety of teaching approaches to meet the different ways in which our pupils learn.

Our expert teachers are enthusiastic and dedicated, working closely together to provide a consistently high standard across the whole curriculum backed up by impressive resources and facilities.



‘Attitudes to learning from students of all ages and abilities are excellent and these, together with the good teaching and the rich and interesting curriculum, ensure that students make outstanding levels of progress.’

## Success through . . .

### **OPPORTUNITY**

The curriculum is broad and a wide range of subjects are offered to all pupils to give a solid foundation in the knowledge, skills and understanding needed for future examination courses.

The curriculum is balanced in that arts, science, aesthetic and practical subjects are studied throughout so each pupil has the opportunity to develop his or her potential to the full in all areas.



### **SUPPORT**

St Paul's prides itself on providing unique opportunities for all pupils. A specially equipped Learning Resource Base provides a separate area for specific support, whilst Learning Support staff are a welcome addition to lessons in all areas of the curriculum. We have developed excellent facilities for a number of visually impaired and autistic pupils. We also provide support for a significant number of pupils who have English as a second language.

Our aim is to enable all pupils to access the whole curriculum and we are always looking for ways to improve and build on what we have done in the past.



“St Paul’s is a place where every child really does matter.”

‘The school provides a caring and supportive atmosphere where students, whatever their background, can flourish as individuals.’

## Success through ...

### ENRICHMENT

St Paul's values the opportunity to broaden and enrich the experiences of all pupils. Visits have included Modern Foreign Language excursions to France, Germany and Italy, Art and Design students going to New York, History and English pupils travelling to Flanders as well as those studying Construction visiting Disneyland, Paris. The school also participates in the World Challenge programme with pupils having explored such far away destinations such as Venezuela and Mongolia

Rather closer to home, curriculum areas actively seek to widen experiences beyond the classroom and groups have opportunities to participate in activity weeks at Longrigg, near Sedbergh in Cumbria, as well as residential retreats at Buckden in Cambridgeshire. There is also a thriving Duke of Edinburgh scheme.



In Music there are concerts where individuals and groups have the opportunity to perform to audiences on a regular basis. Musicians are very well catered for via curriculum lessons and expert tuition. The Music Department enjoys the contributions of various ensembles as well as a choir. Pupils have enthusiastically become involved in the new music technologies we have been able to offer which has generated a whole new level of interest.

Drama is very popular at St Paul's and recent drama productions have included 'Godspell' and 'Oliver!'. These productions always involve a large number of pupils from all year groups. The Drama department itself offers ample opportunity for pupils who either study the subject or who may have an interest to showcase their talent and perform in front of an audience.

‘Pupils show high levels of emotional health and participate enthusiastically in a wide range of sporting activities.’

## Success through . . .

### **PARTICIPATION**

St Paul's enjoys a programme of "Sport For All", whilst also promoting excellence. For many pupils, Sports Day is an annual highlight with participation the key feature. Events like tug-of-war and obstacle courses, alongside more traditional events, allow all pupils to enjoy and take part.

Throughout the year all forms in Years 8 to 11 participate in the Burditt Cup, with teams in badminton, rounders and 5-a-side football, battling it out at lunchtime and after school, on many occasions with vigorous involvement from Form Tutors.

The school has teams in cricket, soccer, athletics, rugby, netball, tennis and basketball. A team is also fielded in County Athletics and Cross Country. Some pupils have been able to develop to county and even national standard whilst at St Paul's.



‘This is a school where everybody constantly strives to do better.’



‘Emphasis on learning skills is beginning to provide a strong base for students’ academic success.’

‘The school offers an imaginative range of courses with considerable choice and flexibility in both key stages.’

## Success through ...



### **ENCOURAGEMENT**

Within a Christian environment we believe that all pupils can be encouraged to achieve the maximum according to their potential. Our annual Awards Evening rewards effort, commitment and contribution, as well as achievement.

St Paul's has made significant progress in recent years in improving the high levels of success attained by pupils. At Key Stage 3 results have been improving steadily to well above the national average in English, Mathematics and Science. At Key Stage 4 standards are similarly above national averages.

The numbers in the Sixth Form has increased rapidly and now stand at 360. While the vast majority of pupils at St Paul's choose to continue their education with us after Year 11, the Sixth Form also receives a healthy number of external applicants from across Milton Keynes. This is a testimony to the success that is being encouraged.



‘The school is rightly proud of its Science and Languages College status and this adds a further ingredient to a rich mix of opportunities to both students and the local community.’

## Success through . . .

### **SPECIALIST COLLEGE STATUS**

Today's young people not only live in an increasingly scientific and technological world but also one where global communication has become increasingly important. St Paul's Specialist Science College and Language College aims to develop the potential of every pupil, so that they are able to become fulfilled and responsible citizens, ready to meet the challenges of the 21st Century.

An understanding of, confidence with and an ability to use mathematical and technological skills are fundamental requirements if our young people are to be successful in their future lives . . .

We have specialist status as both a Science College and a Language College, reflecting the experience of our facilities and teaching, as well as our commitment to the development of these subjects and their skills at each Key Stage.



As the notion of a 'global community' increasingly becomes reality and our young people experience new environments, their need for good linguistic skills will become essential for them to become effective contributors locally, nationally and internationally. As a result we have invested substantially to ensure our pupils have the opportunity to meet these challenges.

‘All students either go to university or enter further education, training or employment. This is the result of good teaching, an excellent curriculum and students’ own very positive attitudes towards their learning.’

## Success through ...

### POST 16 PROVISION



Continuing education beyond 16 is a key part of our school community and at St Paul's we are committed to providing an educational experience in Years 12 and 13 that develops the whole person in preparation for leading a successful and fulfilled life beyond school.

We encourage all students to do the best that is possible. The overwhelming majority of our students go on to secure places at the university of their choice. And, whilst we are delighted to have students at Oxford or Cambridge, all students are valued, whatever their destination. Careers and Higher Education advice is always freely available.



We offer an extensive range of courses and pathways for learning post-16. In addition to academic AS and A2 courses we also offer Applied Vocational AS, A2 and BTEC National Qualifications, therefore providing for a range of learner needs. It is possible to combine academic and vocational courses. The entry requirement for these routes is a minimum of five GCSEs at Grade C or above. Most students will take four chosen subjects in Year 12 but their learning will be enhanced by following a range of other courses that include, General Studies, Critical Thinking and General RE.

We also offer a route into Year 12 for those students who do not meet the 5 C Grade requirement through the First Diploma in Business. Many students complete this course and then progress to the advanced courses.

Programmes of study post-16 are enriched at St Paul's through a range of opportunities. Students are able to use their talents by providing service to the school community through participation in the school council, supporting in lower school lessons, assisting in the paired reading scheme or by taking part in language of sports leaders' programmes. The curriculum experience is further enriched through trips to universities, the theatre, lectures, retreats, residential trips, field study weeks and there is a whole programme of visiting speakers introducing young people to areas of interest and concern that will affect them in their journey into adulthood.



‘Professional development is highly valued and the school makes good use of its status as a training college.’

‘Initiatives are welcomed and talents are nurtured.’

## Success through . . .

### **PROVIDING QUALITY**

St Paul's has been a Training School since 2003. Providing well qualified and highly trained teachers is at the heart of our work as a Specialist Training School. As a training school, we have been identified as a centre of excellence for providing training and development. At St Paul's, we are innovatively leading the way in staff recruitment, training and development for staff in our own school and staff in other schools through our collaborative outreach work.

As a training school, we are committed to sustaining a culture and ethos of continuing professional development for all members of the school community and the work of the training school is integral to St Paul's being an outstanding place to work and learn.



Extensive programmes for professional development are provided for all staff within school ranging from those who are in the very early stages of their careers to providing continuing professional development for established members of staff who are still very committed to life-long learning and to enhancing their skills. The work of the training school is underpinned by a commitment to enhancing the quality of pupil learning at St. Paul's.

