



**St Mary's  
Catholic College**  
Wallasey  
*A Voluntary Aided Academy*

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Headteacher: Mr. A. Boyle BSc(Hons) N.P.Q.H



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CHOICE FILLED LIVES

Part of Holy Family Catholic Multi Academy Trust





# Welcome to St Mary's Catholic College

On behalf of the Governors, staff and students of our College community, we would like to welcome you to St Mary's Catholic College, part of the Holy Family Catholic Multi Academy Trust. In November 2016 St Mary's became an academy and is now part of the family of schools in the Trust that also includes St John Plessington, Our Lady of Pity and St Bernard's, all of which are judged as Outstanding by OFSTED. **It is a very exciting time to join our College.**



Mr. A. Boyle BSc(Hons)  
N.P.Q.H  
Headteacher

Our College has embraced the chance of working in partnership with St John Plessington. This has allowed us to build on what we do well and learn from the practice that has enabled SJP to be outstanding for so long. Students, parents and staff all tell us that they are delighted with the changes they have seen.

**Our aim now is to build on this success and make St Mary's one of the best schools in the country**

The words of Archbishop Romero "Aspire not to have more but to be more" inspire our work with the young people we serve. Our students are taught to recognise and understand world issues of justice and peace to ensure that they are learning to become the adult Christian leaders of tomorrow.

As a Catholic College we are committed to enabling every member of our community to 'Love and Serve Christ within us all'. This makes respecting ourselves and all other people central to the life of the College. By considering the needs of other people, we develop awareness of living in service to others. We involve students in fundraising, working with a wide range of charities, and local, national and international organisations.

**We have an incredible staff and an inspirational community and want to share this with you and your children**



# Aspiration & careers

We have the highest aspirations for our students. Our career advice and support for all students start as they enter the College. Each year students leave our Year 13 with the qualifications to enable them to pursue their lifelong ambitions with recent leavers studying medicine, veterinary science, dentistry, law and many top degrees. Several students have gone on to study at Oxbridge and enjoy successful careers. Others have taken up high level apprenticeships in prestigious companies and many have gone on to study dance and drama. Whatever their interests, we work hard to ensure all students realise their dreams and go on to achieve success in their future lives.

# Safe, happy and supported

At St Mary's we pride ourselves on the pastoral care of our students. The support we provide is widely recognised as a great strength. We want all our students to be happy, confident and ready to learn, pursuing their interests across our wide curriculum. This will lead to excellent outcomes, opening the doors to future careers and developing character, qualities and wellbeing.

The fact that so many of St Mary's staff send their own children here is a reflection of their belief that students here benefit from a well-rounded education and are looked after well.

Each year group in our College has a dedicated experienced Head of Year who works closely with a non-teaching Progress and Aspiration Coach. Together with their team of form tutors, our year teams get to know your child very well and build a close relationship with the family of each child. Students spend half an hour each day with their forms in progress and aspiration time where they regularly look at each child's progress in school and what the next steps are that will enable them to realise their academic potential. This structure enables all students to feel secure and more confident as they move through school.

We value everyone's voice in the College. Each year group sends representatives from year council meetings to the College Council. We ask students to tell us what we have done well and to recommend areas for development. Students' voices are regularly surveyed, particularly about ways we can keep improving our college. Keeping parents informed. Regular progress reports, review days, parents' evenings and curriculum evenings are organised to keep you fully informed of your child's experiences and progress. Our partnership with parents is a key part of our offer.

**Aspire**  
not to  
**have more**  
but to **be**  
**more...**

Archbishop Romero



# Extra Curricular Opportunities

We have a fantastic extra-curricular programme to enrich the lives of our students. Each year more than a 150 students pass through our Duke of Edinburgh programme including students completing the Gold Award visiting Buckingham Palace to receive this prestigious award. We believe experiences like this help to make them into the young adults of the future.

Performing arts is a great strength of the College and there are many opportunities for our students to perform through the year. Last year saw an incredible production of 'The Wizard of Oz' and in the previous year 'Bugsy'. St Mary's has seen an incredible number of pastpupils go on to have successful careers in music, dance and theatre

There are a wide variety of clubs at lunchtime and after school. These include Art club, STEM club, basketball, football, netball, band, choir, performing arts club, robotic lego club, debating and film clubs. Our sports teams achieved great success last year. The Y11 football team won the Wirral Schools Cup, the Y10 team won the Wirral basketball final and the Y7s won their futsal league.

We know how important experiences are for our young people. We have a wide range of trips across all year groups. Last year we visited Rome, our partner school Lu Du Middle School in Taicang, China and took students to Auschwitz, Conway and Lourdes. In 2020 we will be visiting Iceland and taking a group skiing in Austria. All these experiences help them to grow and understand the world around them. For many of our trips we hold fundraising to help as many students as possible take advantage of these wonderful experiences.

# A High Performing Sixth Form

We know how highly parents value the fact that St Mary's can continue to meet the needs of their child as they develop into young adults. The fact that a child has been nurtured and developed in our care enables us to know them well and help guide them to their chosen career.

The range of courses we offer is vast and this has ensured that the results for our sixth form students are excellent enabling our record of successful entry to top universities including Oxford University to be the envy of many.

## Meeting everyone's needs

Most students with special educational needs are taught in mainstream classes with some additional in-class support from specialist teaching assistants. Our support enables students with additional needs to make excellent progress from their starting points and Lexia and phonics programme accelerates the progress of students who need additional help in reading. The Romero Centre, a fully staffed area during break, lunchtime and after school, offers a quieter place to meet friends and get pastoral or learning support across all three key stages. Regular monitoring and assessment of all students' needs allows us to clearly assess, support and monitor any student who may require it.

## Working in Partnership

**With Parents:** St Mary's puts great emphasis and value on a close working relationship with parents. Effective and regular communication lies at the heart of this. We have regular progress reports sent home to parents, review days where parents have the chance to spend time discussing their child's progress with each of their child's subject teachers and parents' evenings to focus on progress. Parents are encouraged to get in touch to let us know about and address any concerns. We have an annual presentation evening in the autumn term enabling us to celebrate our many achievements with parents and students. Our concerts and shows are highlights of our year which our parents attend in large numbers and enjoy immensely.

**With partner schools:** We work closely with all partner schools to ensure a smooth transition into year 7. With schools across our trust, we have exciting opportunities to share resources, skills and training to ensure all students get the very best.

**With the community:** We want St Mary's to be at the heart of the local and wider community. We want our students to take their place in society, making a positive impact wherever they go. Everything we do works towards this aim.

**With many organisations:** We work closely with Chester Zoo, Chester University, Liverpool University, Liverpool Hope and Edge Hill Universities to provide the best opportunities for our students. These give a wide range of experiences, opportunities and perspectives to help take our children into the world of today.



“ Joseph, Patrick and Callum are all very different, but you managed to spot their individual strengths and encouraged them to develop into amazing young people. Be proud St Mary's and thank you once again.”

Parent August 2019



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