



28th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to update you on the current position regarding the sixth form at St Mary's Catholic College.

As I have already shared with you, we were extremely pleased with our examination results this summer. Our results improved at both A Level and GCSE, with GCSE English and Maths outcomes amongst the best the College has seen for many years. This is an important achievement for our students and staff and reflects the significant progress St Mary's has made in recent years. This success is further supported by our excellent Ofsted report last academic year.

Alongside celebrating this success, we also have a responsibility to continually review our school and sixth form provision to ensure it continues to meet the needs of our students and the wider school community.

We have been extremely pleased with the increase in student numbers in Years 7–11 in recent years, with several incoming Year 7 cohorts being full or oversubscribed. However, sixth form recruitment has not followed the same pattern. Currently, we have 30 students in Year 13; however, there is no Year 12 cohort because only a very small number of students applied to join the sixth form. Following careful consideration, we made the difficult decision not to proceed with a Year 12 cohort this academic year. We worked closely with all students who had applied to support them in identifying suitable alternative post-16 provision.

This illustrates the current low student numbers and reflects the pattern of falling demand we have seen over the last few years. It is important for all of us at St Mary's that we now carefully consider the future of our sixth form provision, ensuring that we are able to support the increased numbers of students in Key Stages 3 and 4, maximise their academic success and continue to build on this summer's excellent results.

Following careful consideration of this position, the Holy Family Catholic Multi Academy Trust Board has made a decision in principle to propose the closure of the sixth form at St Mary's Catholic College and to submit a significant change application to the Department for Education. The final decision has not yet been made, and the views and experiences of our students, families and wider community will form an important part of the evidence considered before that final decision is reached.

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Headteacher: Mr. K Maddocks *BSc and QTS*



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We are therefore opening a formal three-week consultation from **Monday 28th September to Monday 19th October**. During this period, we want to listen to the views of our families and invite you to be actively involved in this important process.

The consultation is focused on the proposed closure of the sixth form and its implications for our students, families and wider community. We particularly want to hear your views, questions and concerns, and understand any impact or issues that you believe should be taken into account before the Trust Board reaches its final decision

We recognise that you will have questions, so we have included a detailed document with this letter setting out key information about the proposal and consultation process in a question-and-answer format. There is also a survey we would really like all families to complete.

Please find the links below:

[FAQ's](#)

[Survey](#)

On Monday 5th October from 12pm to 7pm, I will be hosting online and in-person sessions for families where you have the opportunity to ask questions, seek clarification and share your views directly with me.

Please book here: <https://stmaryscatholiccollege.schoolcloud.co.uk/>.

We remain completely committed to continuing to raise standards at St Mary's. Please be assured that supporting our current Year 13 students and ensuring they can complete their studies successfully remains our highest priority throughout this process.

We also remain firmly focused on supporting our current Year 11 students to achieve the very best possible outcomes and ensuring that they receive high-quality advice and guidance about their next steps beyond GCSEs.

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

I would greatly appreciate as many parents and carers as possible contributing to this consultation. Your views will form an important part of the evidence considered by the Trust Board as it reaches its final decision about the future of sixth form provision at St Mary's.

We recognise that this is an important matter for our students and families, and we are committed to listening carefully to your views and ensuring that they are properly heard and understood throughout this process.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of St Mary's Catholic College.

Yours faithfully,

Mr K Maddocks

Headteacher

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