



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

a Catholic Voluntary Academy

Newbold Road • Upper Newbold • Chesterfield • S41 8AG

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Our ref L2924 EY

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IMPORTANT YEAR 11 INFORMATION PACK

Dear Parent/Carer and Pupils

Please find enclosed information about several important events coming up for your child and the first of two formal reports you will receive this year. I hope you find it informative.

Year 11 Data Report and Tutor Comment

Pupils, please pay close attention to the Behaviour grade, Engagement grade and Organisation grade. They reflect what type of learner you are and areas that require development. If you have any 3 or 4 grades, you and your parents should be concerned as these suggest serious potential underachievement. This should be rectified immediately.

You need to look at your Current Attainment grades very carefully. Compare them to your GCSE Target grades to see which subjects require more effort and attention. If you are two or more grades below your target, this is an area of concern.

It is important that you make positive changes based on this report. Your teachers and Form Tutor will always be happy to help you, provided that you are genuinely prepared to work harder and more effectively.

The attendance data is very detailed. Notice first the Attendance, looking at the percentage figure. Anything below 96% would normally be a worry unless it could be explained away by a single significant illness. Clearly, the greater the percentage the better, bearing in mind that employers will often request attendance data many years after pupils have left school. They will also request the number of separate occasions of absence, so taking frequent short absences can be very damaging to future employment prospects. Remember, you need 96% attendance and at least 100 House Points to be eligible for the Prom!

Parents' Evening for Year 11

You are invited to attend the Year 11 Parents' Evening to be held on **Thursday 5 December** from 5.00 pm. This is a particularly important meeting which pupils are expected to attend **IN UNIFORM**. Our Careers Adviser, Ms Killingsworth, will be present in the Dining Room to give further help with Post 16 Options from 5.00 pm.

Your son/daughter should complete the attached form with the names of teachers. He/she should then ask each teacher for a time for an appointment and give the form to you before the Parents' Evening. Ensure that you have your list of appointments with you when you attend. Please try and see all teachers at this crucial time.

It is important that everyone keeps to the times stated in order to facilitate smooth running of the evening. **FOR THIS REASON WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF PARENTS WOULD, ON ARRIVAL, REGISTER THEIR ATTENDANCE ON THE SHEETS PROVIDED IN THE MAIN ENTRANCE OF THE DRAMA HALL. IT IS ALSO IMPERATIVE THAT YOU SIGN OUT WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED YOUR APPOINTMENTS.**

Parents are asked NOT to park in the Staff Car Park. A great number of cars can be parked on the bus turning area if positioned facing the kerb. There are also two other car parks at the top end of the school, each leading off Newbold Road.

Live, Love and Learn in the Light of Christ

Post-16 Information Evening at St Mary's Catholic High School

Wednesday 27 November 2019 at 5.00 pm – 8.00 pm

The evening has been arranged for all parents/carers and Year 11 pupils who hope to continue their education at St Mary's after their GCSE examinations. It provides an opportunity to listen to Heads of Departments about their courses and to discuss A level and BTEC options.

We have created a schedule of presentations to help you make the most of the evening with your child (see attached). We advise that you **attend one of the welcome talks** along with visiting the subject areas your child is most interested in pursuing next year. You do not need to attend the welcome talk first, you can visit all the presentations in whichever order you like. There are several new programmes of study on offer, so please use this an opportunity to ask questions and find out more detail from the relevant staff.

Viva will serve as an information hub with various staff representing the school community. There will also be many current sixth-form students on hand to assist you with any queries you may have.

Please indicate on the reply slip at the end of this letter the exact numbers attending as this will help us in our organisation of the evening.

Post-16 Pathways

A key priority for Year 11 is planning a post-16 pathway. Pupils have been spoken to in assemblies and are in the process of having careers interviews to help them decide what their next educational step should be.

After Parents' Evening, your child will be completing the first Post-16 Questionnaire. They need to have a clear idea about their first choice pathway and ensure that they can achieve this based on their predicted GCSE grades. While it is important to be aspirational, pupils also need to be realistic.

It is advisable for pupils to consider a back-up pathway, just in case they do not meet their target grades. It is crucial that your child has a place secured to continue education or training, whatever the outcome of the GCSE examinations.

It would be helpful if you could discuss different pathways with your child and support them throughout this important process. Use their latest report to check predicted grades and current attainment in order to judge how appropriate a chosen course may be. Attend **Post-16 Information Evening on 27 November** to gain more knowledge about what we can offer.

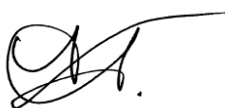
Please look at different courses and providers online to get a sense of what is available and appropriate for your child.

We appreciate that circumstances and minds may change over the coming months, so please be assured that their choices at this stage are not set in stone. We need to begin the process and get an indication of what our young people are hoping to do after their GCSE's.

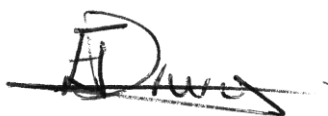
You will have an opportunity to discuss post-16 options at **Year 11 Parents' Evening on Thursday 5 December** with subject staff and our Careers Adviser.

We appreciate your continued support during this important year.

Yours faithfully



Miss H McKay
Assistant Headteacher



Miss E Drury
Head of Behaviour & Attitudes

Year 11 Important Information Pack Reply Slip

Please complete the following to confirm that you have received and read the following information:

Year 11 Report	
Year 11 Parents' Evening	State whether you will be attending: Yes No
Post-16 Information Evening	
Post-16 Pathways	

Post-16 Information Evening

Wednesday 27 November at 5.00 pm – 8.00 pm

Name of pupil: _____ Form: _____

Pupils and their parents are invited to this A level and BTEC choices evening. Please state how many people will be attending **including** the pupil: _____

Would you please return this slip by **Friday 22 November 2019** at the latest through your child via the Form Teacher.

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APPOINTMENT SHEET – please complete and retain

APPOINTMENT SHEET
YEAR ELEVEN PARENTS' EVENING – THURSDAY 5 DECEMBER 2019

PUPIL'S NAME _____ FORM _____

SUBJECT	TEACHER	Room	COMMENTS
Maths		Gym	
Physical Education		Gym	
Modern Foreign Languages		Gym	
Science		Gym	
Art		Dining Room	
Design & Technology		Dining Room	
Health and Social Care		Dining Room	
Careers Adviser		Dining Room	
English		Drama Hall	
Geography		Drama Hall	
History		Drama Hall	
Religious Education		Drama Hall	
Drama		Drama Hall	
Music		Drama Hall	
ICT		Drama Hall	
Heads of Year – Miss Hood		Drama Hall	
Head of Behaviour and Attitudes - Miss Drury		Dining Hall	
VENCO – Mrs Peace		Office next to ICT 2	

**Please remember to sign in and out on the lists in the Gym foyer
and aim to see all the above teachers if possible.
Refreshments available in the Dining Room**