



ST PETER'S
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Secondary Prospectus

WELCOME TO ST PETER'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Our students... are creative, ambitious, inquisitive and collaborative.

Our staff... are dedicated, professional experts who support each other in a culture of continual improvement.

Our community... is built on prayer, faith and Christian love.

We are proud of St Peter's... Our Success comes from...

- ✦ **unique sense of community and care for individuals**, where each student is known as a child of God.
- ✦ **curriculum**, that provides excellence in the basics and a wider curriculum enabling everyone to shine.
- ✦ **intellectual rigour and great academic progress for all students**, whatever their starting point.
- ✦ **continually improving outcomes for our young people at every level**: progress measures for all students are significantly higher than the national average.
- ✦ **charity work and opportunities to serve those less fortunate** at home and abroad.
- ✦ **wonderful accommodation** – a Chapel, theatre, sports hall, gym, extensive grounds, excellent science and technology facilities.
- ✦ **extra-curricular opportunities**, from surf club to Bar Mock and Young Enterprise to Rock Challenge.
- ✦ **prayer**: our starting point is Faith and the need to remember that we are always in God's presence.
- ✦ **people**: the process of education is not about data but about people. We learn from and through people and so human relationships are at the core of the process.
- ✦ **pedagogy**: education is fundamentally about the art of teaching and the science of learning. Our staff and students focus on constantly improving and refining the skills used in the classroom so we can all *become the best we can be*.

In short, we 'love to learn and learn to love'.

With christ as our Guide
LEARNING TOGETHER
Loving God and each other
BECOMING THE BEST WE CAN BE

St Peter's School Mission Statement



The learning environment is perfect for any ability and there are special sets for people struggling or with a learning disability, which can all help improve your ability, knowledge and skills. Overall, St Peter's is a fantastic school, with great morals, friendly staff and is a great place to learn. I am really enjoying my time here!

St Peter's Year 8 student



ST PETER'S – VALUES AND VISION

St Peter's School is proud of its history and its heart. We are a Voluntary Academy run under the joint trusteeship of the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth and the De La Salle Brothers, a worldwide Religious Order devoted to education. St John Baptist de La Salle founded the religious order in the 17th Century. He became the patron saint of educators. The De La Salle Order is now a worldwide organisation running schools, colleges and universities across the world with over 900,000 students in over 82 countries.

De La Salle encouraged his students and teachers to remember during the school day that they were in the holy presence of God. We follow that tradition and pray, Live Jesus in our hearts, forever!

The School works tirelessly to provide a safe, supportive and spiritual environment. St Peter's is open to students from all Christian denominations, from all religions and those of no faith, within the confines of our admission policy.

The primary purpose of St Peter's is to give a Christian education to all its students by...

- * **Seeking to develop and strengthen Christian faith and practice** in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church.
- * **Developing a passion for learning** and a spirit of enquiry and discovery in each student.
- * **Being ambitious to achieve the best** for each student academically, socially and spiritually.
- * **Providing opportunities for each student** to develop self-respect and self-confidence, creativity and responsibility, initiative and leadership.
- * **Inspiring a spirit of service** to the family, the Church, the community and the World at large.
- * **Working in close partnership** with the Parents/Carers, who are the first educators of the child.

St Peter's is very much a caring environment inspired by a wonderfully embracing Catholic ethos. Our links with the school have always been excellent and we know our former pupils settle in quickly and happily.

Gordon Scott, Assistant Head, St Thomas Garnet's School



* St Peter's is a Catholic school in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church and Canon Law, and in accordance with the Trust Deed of the Diocese of Portsmouth; religious education is in accordance with the teachings, doctrines, discipline and general and particular norms of the Catholic Church and religious worship is in accordance with the rites, practices, discipline and liturgical norms of the Catholic Church.



ST PETER'S – JOINING US

We do not select our intake on the grounds of prior attainment or perceived ability. We believe that all students can thrive, learn together and sustain normal social relationships in a community that is inclusive. As a Catholic school we are more socially and ethnically diverse than average UK schools. We welcome every child into the School community whatever his or her ability, social background, or ethnic origin.

Please take the time to read through our admissions policy in detail and if you have any queries or questions please email admissions@st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk.

Students from St Peter's will advance to a wide range of degree courses. These include Medical and Veterinary School or the Russell Group universities – as well as Oxbridge or to specific vocational post-16 or post-18 courses. There are many dimensions

to school success be they artistic, dramatic, scholarly, practical or sporting. Opportunities abound in a rich mix of curriculum and qualifications.

Students with Special Educational Needs are provided with appropriate support. We have teaching assistants and teachers specialising in English as an Additional Language, Language and Communication needs and literacy and numeracy support.

Prospective parents/carers should be aware that the Southbourne site is built on a slope with multiple buildings and levels. The school does have a development plan for improving access but currently not all specialist areas are accessible.

ST PETER'S – OUTSTANDING SUPPORT

Settling in

We have strong relationships with all our partner primary schools and work closely with them to support the children's transition to secondary school. Our Head of Year 7, Sarah Johnson, Senior Leader for Transition and Induction, manages the process.

"As the leader for Year 7 and transition, I have the privilege of welcoming our new students into the St Peter's School community, helping them settle in as they begin this new phase of their educational journey and then see them mature and flourish as they continue through the school. This begins with visiting students in their primary schools and preparing them for the changes ahead through our Induction Evenings (information evenings for parents and students), and the Transfer Day when they get to spend a whole day exploring their new school. I work with a wonderful team of dedicated Year 7 tutors who are the first point of contact for students each day. They will monitor progress and help them through the challenges of adjusting to life in a new school. We endeavour to work together to make the transition process and settling into St Peter's as smooth as possible for both the young people and their parents alike while they adjust to the changes before them".

Keeping in touch

Parents and carers can access an Internet-based secure website at any time which enables them to view up-to-date information about their child's progress and achievements as well as their timetable and the names of their teachers. We encourage parents and carers to contact the school if they have any queries or concerns via email, phone or by writing a note in the student's diary, which the students carry with them during the day.

In the first term of Year 7 parents are invited to meet with their child's tutor to review the settling-in period. Later there is a Parent-Teacher evening so parents can discuss the progress of their child with all his or her teachers. Parents also receive information about progress in the form of reviews at intervals throughout the year and a full personalised report is issued for all students once a year.

Providing support

The pastoral work of the school is a real strength. The focus is on supporting the students to achieve their very best by celebrating success, developing self-confidence, fostering both academic resilience and mutual encouragement of peers and by allaying any anxieties and concerns. Students are placed in tutor groups, their care and welfare is the responsibility of Form Tutors. Each tutor group meets once a day during tutorial time, which includes a corporate act of worship. The Form Tutor is usually the first point of contact between home and school. The work of the form tutors is co-ordinated by Year Leaders and other pastoral staff.

St Peter's Chaplaincy is a ministry which serves to animate the spiritual and liturgical life of the School, support the pastoral system and promote the values of the Gospel. Its outreach extends to families, parishes, our two dioceses, local community and partner primary schools. Our own team is supported by local clergy and other religious groups.

Behaviour for learning

We focus on the positive behaviours that students need to enhance their learning. We recognise and celebrate their qualities of persistence, imagination, inquisitiveness, preparedness, collaboration and ambition. Relationships in the school are based on mutual respect. We value smartness, self-respect and safety for all. St Peter's is uncompromising, for example, about the importance of student appearance and adherence to the uniform code. We also operate a ban on mobile phones.

Our discipline systems are influenced by the Christian notion of forgiveness and reconciliation; however, school sanctions do exist to deter and correct undesirable behaviour. Sanctions include detentions after class, after school and on Saturdays or staff days; periods of 'seclusion' from peers and exclusions both fixed-term and permanent.

School Policies

The school has a comprehensive set of policies that comply with all relevant educational legislation. Some of these are referred to in this prospectus. To view our school policies please refer to our website – www.st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk.

*Within no time at all
I had made friends,
I even found out that
someone in my class
got the same bus
as me and I felt at
home.*

St Peter's Year 8 student







St Peter's is proud of its sense of community and this starts right from the word go in Year 7 tutor groups. Tutors take an active role in ensuring happiness, engagement and a genuine sense of belonging. Whether you're as quiet as a cloud or an accomplished gasbag, we'll provide opportunities for you to make the most of your potential at St Peter's. That's true not just for academic learning, but for our spiritual and social sides too. We are all here to become the best we can be.

Joe Lacy, Year 7 Tutor and KS3 English Lead

ST PETER'S – A SCHOOL FOR EVERYONE

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Facilities

The School has two sites, each with excellent facilities and surrounded by ample playing fields. In addition to the provision of library/learning resource centre, science laboratories, workshops, art rooms and subject specialist rooms there is also a large sports hall with climbing wall, gym, 470 seat theatre, canteen, drama rooms, dance studio and a purpose-built Chapel.

Internal Examinations

School examinations are held towards the end of the school year, except for students in Year 11 who have mock exams in December.



ST PETER'S – BEYOND LESSONS

Careers Education

Careers education and guidance are provided in a variety of ways through curriculum time, opportunities for interviews and specific careers advice and online support. The Careers programme begins in Year 7 where students are encouraged to consider real life decision-making and evaluate their own strengths and areas for improvement.

Extra-Curricular Activities

The School runs a number of clubs and societies. Out-of-school sports activities include rugby, soccer, hockey, netball, basketball, volleyball, cricket, athletics, tennis and chess. A Health Suite with cardio vascular and resistance equipment is available for the use of senior students. A purpose built Dance Studio provides for curricular and extra-curricular pursuits. A drama club, music groups and choirs provide live theatre and music at regular intervals. Students are able to attend sports, music, chess, computer and art and craft clubs during lunch hours. A number of educational visits abroad have traditionally been arranged including student exchanges, cultural visits, fieldwork, historical sites, activity centres and, for older students, working holidays supporting our partner school in South Africa and RTU in India.

Charging

The Governing Body believes that a state education is free. However it also recognises the valuable contribution that the wide range of additional activities, including clubs, trips and residential experiences can make towards the students' education. The Governing Body aims to promote and provide such activities, both as part of a broad and balanced curriculum for the students of the School and as additional optional activities. The Governing Body reserves the right to make charges in certain circumstances for such activities. Where an activity is dependent upon voluntary contributions and those fail to meet the required amount, the Governors reserve the right to cancel the proposed activity. Please see our website for the latest policy statement.

The Sixth Form

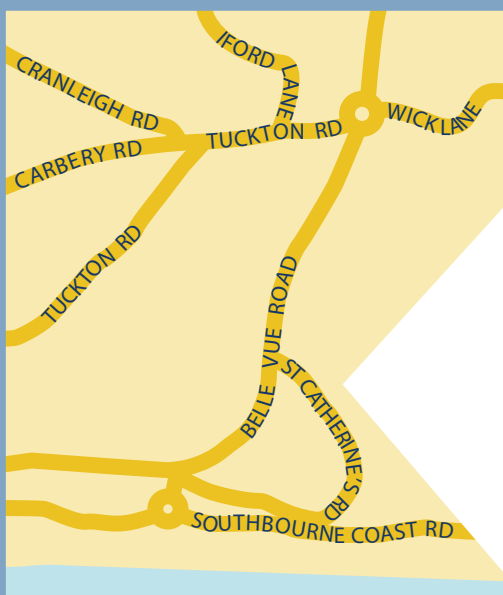
St Peter's has a large and flourishing Sixth Form with approximately 350 students. Courses are predominantly for students wishing to study subjects to Level 3 (A Level or equivalent) in preparation for entry into higher education and specific vocational career paths. Most of our Sixth Formers progress to university, including Oxford and Cambridge. Please see our separate Sixth Form prospectus or further details on our website at www.st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk



Students are typically courteous, considerate and treat each other with respect. The Catholic school status impacts very strongly on behaviour and attitudes.

Ofsted





ST PETER'S
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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