

Welcome from the Key Stage 5 Team

We are delighted to welcome you to St Julie's Catholic Sixth Form Open Evening. Sixth Form is a vibrant and integral part of our school community.

All that we do as a school as is driven by and checked against our Mission Statement and Sixth Form is no different. Our ultimate aim is to prepare our young people for life beyond school, whether their destination be further education, training or employment – and in doing so we focus not only on their academic progress but also on their ability and desire to make a positive contribution to society.

We recognise that this is a crucial and demanding period in the life of any young person and so take very seriously our responsibility to provide our students with the very best care, guidance and support. It is vital also to remember that all parties – school, students and parents/carers – must work in partnership, with effective communication and mutual respect at the heart of our relationships.

We pride ourselves not only on our high academic standards but also on our



Sixth Form

Our Vision

commitment to contributing to the development of young people who are, in the words of St Julie, 'affectionate and attentive to the needs of others'.

Once again, we welcome you to St Julie's Catholic High School Sixth Form and look forward to working together with you over the next two years to offer invaluable opportunities for personal growth and academic development.

Outcomes for Students – Three –Year Trend

We are delighted to inform you that for the past seven consecutive years our Sixth Form has achieved a minimum pass rate of 96% at grades A*-E for A Level courses and a 100% pass rate for Level 3 BTEC.

Our '**Value Added**' scores for **2015, 2016 and 2017** – the key measure used by the Department for Education in raking post-16 provision - demonstrates that students in Year 13 made progress that was at least in line with and in most cases **above that of their peers** in other schools and colleges nationally.

The APLS monitoring system, which analyses the full national data set for A Level and Level 3 BTEC results, has been published for 2017 and places us in the **top 25%** of all centres nationally for A Level results and the **top 10%** for Level 3 BTEC results.

St Julie's remains amongst the top ranked schools and colleges in the city for both for A Level and Level 3 BTEC performance.

The majority of our Year 11 students choose to continue their studies with us post-16 and our figures for progression from Sixth Form into education, employment or training for the last three years have been above national, with very low numbers of students being regarded as 'NEET' (Not in Education, Employment or Training) upon leaving Sixth Form.

We have a proven track record of helping our students to access the most **competitive degree courses at leading universities**. In recent years St Julie's students have achieved places at:

- The University of Cambridge to study Geography and Natural Sciences
- The University of Leeds to study Dentistry
- The University of Liverpool to study Law and Medicine
- Nottingham University and the Royal Veterinary College to study Veterinary Science
- Liverpool Hope University to study Physics
- Bird School of Performing Arts in London

to name but a few. In each of the last three years, over 80% of applicants succeeded in securing a place at university, comfortably above the national average which is typically around 75%

We have also had many students opt to pursue studies that will prepare them for careers in fields such as teaching and nursing – further proof that a St Julie's education helps students to not just excel academically but also to leave with a sense of their wider social responsibilities and an eagerness to 'give back'.

We are exceptionally proud of all of our students and many have returned to offer student guidance as part of our Student Focus Groups on subject-specific courses.



The Curriculum

All students in St Julie's Catholic Sixth Form are coursed as **full-time students**, meaning that they study a minimum of 3 x Level 3 (or Level 2 BTEC) subjects. You will find within your prospectus pack provisional option blocks for A and Level 3 BTEC courses for 2018/19.

GCSE English and Maths is now a statutory requirement for students who have not yet achieved a Grade 4 and highly recommended for students who do not have a Grade 5 but wish to progress onto certain degrees e.g. teaching.

UCAS support

We understand many students intend to consider a University degree and as outlined above we have an excellent track record of progression into University. Students who decide to apply to University will be assigned a **UCAS Mentor** (Form Tutor) who will have received training in the application process for UCAS.

The UCAS process begins half way through Year 12 and students receive a range of support via their Progress Leader, Form Tutor and Admissions Tutors from local universities.

For students who decide not to apply to University other forms of support are provided such as interview technique training and guidance on CV writing.



Christian Action and Extra Curricular Activities

Students who enter St Julie's Catholic Sixth Form have made a positive choice to continue or start their education in a Catholic Sixth Form. St Julie's is committed to providing all students with varied opportunities to develop and learn, not only in the narrowest sense of obtaining qualifications, but in the context of **developing skills and sharing gifts and talents** with others.

All Year 12 students complete a weekly carry 'Christian Action' volunteering activity. Many of these activities will be offered in school but students can carry out a volunteer placement out of school. There are a number of pre-organised placements available, but students can make their own arrangements for approval by the Sixth Form Progress Leader.

Students keep a record of your Christian Action activities to refer to in applications for their next steps after Sixth Form and attendance at placements is monitored by the Key Stage 5 Team.

This is a very important aspect of Sixth Form life as employers and University admissions tutors are looking for 'well rounded individuals', but most importantly it's challenging and often fun. Examples of activities include our Paired Maths and Paired Reading schemes; a Primary School volunteer programme; and offering support to younger students across a range of Departments including Performing Arts, Design & Technology and Humanities.

Workshops and activities/PSHE Programme

Sixth Form students have the opportunity to access a range of workshops through a number of key providers such as Medlink, Vetlink, The Social Mobility Foundation, Mentoring programmes provided by Liverpool Hope University, work experience opportunities, mentoring support for CV writing and revision support as well as a range of Guest Speakers who deliver presentations on driver safety, drug awareness and Gap Year information.

The PSHE programme has been enhanced through a wide range of external providers who aim to develop the values, knowledge and understanding of each individual student. There are a number of PSHE sessions throughout the year which enable students to attend tutorial meetings to discuss their progress.

Religious Studies

As part of your entitlement to spiritual and moral education in a Catholic Sixth Form, you will have either **one lesson per week of Core Religious Education**, or you may choose A Level Religious Studies. Students will complete a qualification recognised by the Archdiocese of Liverpool in Year 12 and an NOCN Religious Education qualification in Year 13 as part of the

Core RE Programme. Attendance and **participation in Core RE lessons is compulsory** as part of your commitment to St Julie's as a Catholic Sixth Form.

Collective Worship and Assembly

Our Catholic faith is at the forefront of everything we do. We are proud of our tradition and our Notre Dame heritage, and express this on a daily basis.

In registration, all students take a turn to give a 'Thought for the Day' reflection to be shared with your Form during Scared Time. Sixth Form Tutors and students come together for Assembly. Each Form takes a turn to prepare and deliver the Assembly on a weekly rota basis.

Work Experience

In Year 12 **all students must complete one week's Work Experience** in July. They are expected to find a placement appropriate to their career intentions. Form Tutors will begin preparations well in advance and support students in securing a placement. The Sixth Form Progress Leader can also advise you on possible placements. Often the simplest way to find a placement is through family and friends, though all students will be provided with contact details for placements provided in recent years.

Parent/student surveys and Student Focus Groups

Responses and feedback from our recent surveys reveal the following:

- 97% of students agreed that they are satisfied with the **facilities** on offer to

Sixth Form students

- 97% of students agreed that the **quality of teaching** they receive is good or better.
- 100% of students agreed that the Sixth Form is well led and managed
- 100% of parents agreed that their daughter/son is **happy** in Sixth Form; makes good progress; is taught well; and has been well supported in their university/apprenticeship/job application

Application process

Current Year11 students should complete the application form available online or from Mr Willis, Miss Corrigan, Miss Gawley or Mrs Jones and return to Mrs Raven, if you have not already done so, by **Friday 2nd February 2018**.

Each student who has applied will have an **interview** where they will receive a **conditional offer** of a place in Sixth Form, pending their GCSE results and having demonstrated good progress and behaviour throughout Year 11.

Further details regarding Governors' Entry Criteria will shortly be available on the school website but we typically require an average GCSE grade of 5 or above and grade 5/6 or above in the Level 3 subjects with which students intend to continue.

Any external applicants will need to complete the application form and provide a reference from their current school which includes details of predicted grades and current academic performance as well as behaviour and attendance records.