



# St John Plessington Catholic College Prospectus 2022 / 2023



**All are welcome...** Barnston Primary Bedford Drive Primary Bidston Avenue Primary Bidston Village Primary Brackenwood Juniors Bromborough Pool Primary Brookhurst Primary Castleway Primary Cathcart St Primary Christ Church CE Primary Church Drive Primary Christ the King Catholic Primary Dawpool CE Primary Devonshire Park Primary Eastway Primary Egremont Primary Fender Primary Gilbrook Primary Greenleas Primary Grove Street Primary Heswall Primary Heygarth Primary Higher Bebington Juniors Holy Cross Catholic Primary Holy Spirit Catholic CE Primary Ladymount RC Aided Primary Lingham Primary Liscard Primary Manor Primary Mendell Primary Mersey Park Primary Millfields Primary Mount Primary New Brighton Primary Orrets Meadow Primary Overchurch Juniors Overchurch Primary Our Lady & St Edward's Catholic Primary Our Lady of Pity RC Primary Oxton St Saviour's Primary Pensby Primary Portland Primary Poulton Lancelyn Primary Prenton Primary Raeburn Primary Redcourt Primary Riverside Primary Rock Ferry Primary Sacred Heart Catholic Primary Sandbrook Primary Somerville Primary SS Peter and Paul Catholic Primary St Alban's Primary St Andrew's CE Primary St Anne's Catholic Primary St Aloysius Catholic Primary St Bridget's CE Primary St George's Primary St John's Catholic Infants St John's Catholic Juniors St Joseph's Catholic Primary (Upton) St Joseph's Catholic Primary (Wallasey) St Mary's College (Crosby) St Michael & All Angels Catholic Primary St Peter's Catholic Primary St Peter's CE Primary St Werburgh's Catholic Primary Stanton Road Primary Styal Primary The Priory Parish CE Primary Thornton Hough Primary Tower Primary Townfield Primary Vyner Primary Well Lane Primary William Stockton Primary Woodchurch Road Primary Woodside Primary Woodslee Primary

*As Headteacher of St John Plessington Catholic College, I am delighted to welcome you to our 2022 Prospectus and share some information with you about our College.*



SJP is an 11-18 Voluntary Aided Academy part of the Holy Family Catholic Multi Academy Trust in the Diocese of Shrewsbury. We are the lead school in the Inspire Learning Teaching School Hub. We welcome children of all faiths and from a wide variety of backgrounds who all add to the richness of our College.

We are a successful school, students of all abilities make good progress and benefit from a rich and broad curriculum tailored to meet their individual needs, as well as excellent pastoral support throughout their journey with us.

Our curriculum has a blend of academic and vocational qualifications delivered by subject specialists in excellent facilities which include a state of the art media suite, multi million pound Sixth Form Centre, access to professional standard sporting facilities and excellent IT facilities throughout the College.

Gospel Values underpin everything we do at SJP. Our school motto 'Always faithful to Christ' guides us as we learn together on our academic and social journeys from Year 7 to Year 13. In the words of Oscar Romero, 'We are prophets of a future that is not our own' and our students are guided and supported to make a positive contribution to our local, national and international communities during their time with us and beyond.

Our success is based on the partnership we have with our parents and carers, to provide consistently good support and guidance for all our students. We are oversubscribed in all year groups, however we never take your support for granted and we always strive to be the best we can be.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.

**Ms Maria Sharratt**  
Headteacher



# Pastoral Care

The College works hard to give our students a smooth, positive transition to secondary school. We work closely with primary schools to get to know your child and to understand their academic and social needs and abilities. This personal and proactive approach ensures that teaching provision is responsive and tailored to the individual.

From the outset, our focus on pastoral care enables staff to forge strong relationships with our new students. At the heart of our pastoral system is the form teacher who supports each student on a daily basis and is a key point of contact for families. The form teachers are supported by a Head of Learning, a Learning Coach, SENDCO, Asst.SENDCO and other key pastoral staff such as the Chaplain and First Aide Wellbeing Lead. Unique to SJP are the Learning Coaches.

Every child has a Learning Coach who will support them holistically. They will meet with your child during the year to monitor and discuss academic progress as well as ensuring that your child is happy and successful. It is our job to ensure that all children get the chance to show their talents. Our pastoral care system ensures that all the students are known inside out.

## **Rights Respecting School - UNICEF**

We are a UNICEF Rights Respecting School. We aim to place the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child into practice within the school and beyond.



# The Learning Experience

SJP is a place where all children can learn.

The College provides a calm and ordered learning environment where all children are treated as individuals. This allows the students to enjoy high quality teaching and learning.


A strong emphasis on high quality first teaching and learning ensures that each student is fully supported stretched and challenged.

Regular and consistent assessment ensure that students' progress is carefully monitored, achievement is celebrated and underachievement swiftly addressed.

Good learning brings its own rewards; at SJP we promote success through supportive praise and encouragement, with rewards for sustained effort, good work, praiseworthy conduct and improvement.

As well as academic success, we acknowledge personal endeavour, service to the College community and sporting achievement.

Here at SJP we work to create opportunities that allow all students to succeed.



## At KS3 students study the following subjects

- Art
- Design Technology (which includes: Food Technology, Resistant Materials, Graphics and Textiles).
- English
- Geography
- History
- Mandarin
- Mathematics
- Music
- Performing Arts
- Physical Education
- Religious Education
- Science
- Spanish

## At KS4 we offer the following subjects

- Art & Design
- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Dance
- Design Technology
- English Language
- English Literature
- Geography
- Health & Social Care
- History
- ICT
- Mathematics
- Music
- Music Technology
- Performing Arts
- Physical Education
- Religious Education
- Science
- Spanish



# Innovation

There is definitely a culture of achievement here at SJP. We have received many local and national awards, including being named TES Secondary School of the Year and winning the TES National Award for Numeracy & Maths, as well as being shortlisted for the National Award for Literacy & English.

SJP has recently been designated a Teaching School Hub, one of only 87 schools nationally to have been recognised as a centre of excellence for teacher and leadership and development.

We are a school that is always looking to be at the forefront of fresh initiatives that will further benefit the lives of our students. This can only be achieved as a result of the hard work and dedication of staff who are totally committed to their profession.

Students will find opportunities for: football, athletics, gymnastics, badminton, hockey, netball, music, dance, drama, art, basketball, cricket, skiing, rounders and rugby, along with specialised fitness work and sports leadership awards, this complements the SJP Experience.



# Spiritual Life

At SJP, all adults model behaviour that is based on Gospel Values. Our mission is to provide a rigorous and broad education within the context of a Christian environment. An understanding of the Roman Catholic faith, in line with the Gospel message, underpins the whole work of the school.

Our main aim is to develop the self-esteem, dignity and respect of all members of the community by concentrating on each person's infinite worth in the eyes of God. The College fully respects the beliefs of parents and children of all denominations and faith backgrounds. The Christian ethos underpins all our work and provides all members of the College community with a safe environment which is paramount in creating a successful learning environment. All students study Religious Education and our Catholic identity and spiritual life are reflected in all areas of our College.

During the year, students take part in series based around the liturgical calendar and participate in a whole range of groups and experiences that provide faith-based community service. Each day, prayer and collective worship form an integral part of the life of the College. Students have the opportunity for reflection during retreat days, residential visits and by spending time in the College Chapel and Peace Garden.

## **Faith in Action**

As a Catholic school, Gospel Values guide us in all we do. By putting our faith into action we commit to helping those who are in need, working on improving human rights for everyone. We put the teachings of the Gospel into action and at SJP we all have a responsibility to live out our faith through serve and reflection as we deepen our relationships with God.





## The SJP Experience

Life at our College extends well beyond the classroom.

Our fundamental aim is to ensure our young people are taught the key values of respect and dignity, that the sort of person we become is of first importance, and to have a real sense of duty and service to others.

At SJP, we aim to offer something of lasting value to our students. We call this the 'SJP Experience' - in addition to academic qualifications, the students have opportunities to participate in a range of experiences that are exceptional – for example, visits to the USA, South America, China, Europe and Africa.

The College also partakes in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award initiative and more than 350 students are currently working towards achieving their Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards.

In aspiring 'not to have more but to be more', our students are expected to serve others, gain the best qualifications they possibly can and develop a real understanding of who they are in life.



# Sixth Form

We have a broad curriculum offer enhanced by an exciting enrichment programme.

Our students receive highly personalised pastoral support to enable them to be successful in their chosen career.

The Sixth Form Centre provides high spec independent study facilities for our students. There is a large 'open plan' study area with over 70 workstations and Wi-Fi access as well as offices for the Sixth Form Pastoral team. The new build connects with our College Library which our students can access with additional computer facilities available.

The Ann Benson-Burke Study Centre also provides a number of bespoke Sixth Form classrooms including a new Media suite with an additional area for film and media development where students will study in a truly immersive environment, with interactive projectors

capable of wirelessly displaying multiple workspaces as well as allowing multiple users to access a finger touch screen. Photography, SFX and VFX will also be a focus for the students as they utilise the Green Screen Studio with its wall to wall, ChromaKey Cyclorama enabling the students to create work of a professional standard.

#### **College Library**

The College boasts a large and vibrant library, valued by the whole community. Sixth Formers are able to work and gain computer access in the College library throughout the day.

#### **The Refectory**

Staff and Sixth Formers have the opportunity to come together and share a mutual working and relaxation area near the dining room. It is equipped with Wi-Fi access and staff and students are able to eat and drink in this area.







# Choosing SJP

SJP is a Voluntary Aided school, which means that our Governors are responsible for admissions. They consider applications according to the criteria in our Admissions Policy agreed by the College and the Diocese of Shrewsbury. The Governors consider these applications in a priority order made available to Wirral Local Authority. If you would like to visit the College to discuss the entry of your child, please call us on **0151 645 5049**.

Our planned admission number is **270**, increased by the Governors of SJP in recognition of the growing popularity of the College and the enhanced demand for places.

For any parents who have been unsuccessful with their applications for a place, there is a process of appeals. Parents appeal to an independent Appeal Panel who may choose to place students over and above the Planned Admission Number of **270**.





# New Beginnings

## Links with Primary Schools

Staff and students from SJP visit local Primary Schools throughout the year for a whole range of liaison activities. Because some of these activities take place at the College, many of our prospective students have visited us on several occasions before they begin Year 7. In the summer term before their admission, all of our new students receive visits from our Transition Team who give them all the help they need to get ready for the move to SJP.

During this time, a whole series of induction events takes place to help newcomers to settle in and to allow parents to get to know the College. A Welcome Evening takes place in July when parents and students meet their new Form Tutors.

## Communication with Home

Communications and partnership are key. Parents receive reports twice per academic year and each year group has a review evening, usually conducted online.

We speak directly with families via ParentMail and our weekly SJP News, fortnightly newsletter and, of course, all parents have access to our on-line reporting system and extensive Virtual Learning Environment (Google Classroom). These are all accessible via our website at [www.stjohnplessington.com](http://www.stjohnplessington.com), which also contains all of our units of work for all subjects in all years.





## St John Plessington Catholic College

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**Holy  
Family  
Catholic  
Multi  
Academy  
Trust**