

ST MARK'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER: MS A. WAUGH-LUCAS
BA (Hons), MA, NPQH, PQSI



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October 2024

Dear Student,

You are faced with important choices about your future and will have to make careful decisions. Are you planning to join the Sixth Form to study A Levels, start an apprenticeship or go to college to follow an alternative course? We hope you will seriously consider the Sixth Form at St. Mark's. We believe that we offer an education second to none, not only in terms of outstanding A Level results, but also in the way we develop the moral, spiritual and social values of our students.

St. Mark's provides a wide range of A Level courses taught by experienced and successful teachers, who will give you constant help, support and encouragement.

We offer experienced pastoral care, and, as a Faith School, opportunities for worship and spiritual growth. We also offer opportunities to develop your leadership skills here within the school. These are dimensions that other institutions may not be able to offer. The growth of the Sixth Form has not lessened our commitment to treat our students as individuals.

We believe that there are strong reasons for choosing the Sixth Form at St. Mark's. We are immensely proud of our Sixth Form and feel confident that you will experience a very welcoming, happy and supportive community.

We hope that you will join us next year.

Yours faithfully

Mr Wilkinson
Assistant Headteacher
Head of Sixth Form

Applications to the Sixth Form

We welcome applications from all students, Catholic and other Faith backgrounds. We welcome all students who have shown commitment, dedication to their studies, and support for the School ethos through their examination results.

For many of our Year 11 students, the Sixth Form provides both a fresh start and the opportunity to continue their studies in a familiar environment.

To apply for a place at St Mark's you will need to **complete the application form** using the link below. This system will be **open from 9.00am on Thursday 17th October and will close at midnight on Friday 29th November 2024.**

Application Forms

All applications are to be completed using our Sixth Form Application Website accessed from the Sixth Form Area of the school website.

Once you have completed your application form you will receive a confirmation email.

Internal candidates who apply to the Sixth Form will be invited to an interview in January 2025. Most will receive a conditional offer of a place.

External candidates who demonstrate the necessary academic potential will be contacted in January 2025 to discuss the options available at St. Mark's.

We have an increasing number of applications from students at **other establishments**. We ensure that new students receive a warm welcome and are fully supported as they join the school.

Sixth Form Choices

We plan to offer the following courses in September 2025, although the provision of certain courses will be dependent on sufficient demand.

Students will be undertaking three A-levels (four A Levels may be an option for students who achieve exceptional GCSE results).

Please be aware that students need to choose three A-levels that work together as a coherent package. The three A-levels should facilitate a career path into higher education, an apprenticeship or employment.

The subjects currently available at St Mark's are:

- **Art & Design**
- **Biology**
- **Business Studies**
- **Chemistry**
- **Classical Civilisations**
- **Computer Science**
- **Drama**
- **Economics**
- **English Literature**
- **Film Studies**
- **French**
- **Further Mathematics**
- **Geography**
- **Government and Politics**
- **History**
- **Mathematics**
- **Media**
- **Music**
- **Philosophy and Ethics**
- **PE***
- **Physics**
- **Product Design**
- **Psychology**
- **Sociology**
- **Spanish**

***PE is currently available to study through one of our Consortium partners.**

Information on Further Mathematics

Students who opt for this subject need to be aware that it is mainly for those with an outstanding aptitude for Mathematics. Some universities only accept it as a fourth A level subject. Therefore, students need to be careful about choosing Further Mathematics. They need to question whether it is really necessary for their future career path.

Conditions for Entry

Sixth Form Admissions Criteria for September 2024

St Mark's 6th Form only offers A-level courses. To study A-levels applicants will be required to have achieved at least:

- 5 GCSE passes at grades 9-5 including English Language and Mathematics (grade 5 or above).
- A GCSE grade 6 or higher in the individual subject they intend to pursue at A level, with the exception of Mathematics where a grade 7 is required.
- For Further Mathematics a grade 8 in GCSE Mathematics is required (Please see previous page).
- If the subject was not studied at GCSE, students will be required to have achieved at least a grade 6 in English (or a grade 6 in a similar subject: e.g. Geography/History).

Please note GCSE equivalent courses (BTEC Science) will count as one of the 5 GCSE passes.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

A Level	GCSE entry requirements
Art	6 Art
Biology	6/6 Combined Science or 6 Separate Sciences Biology 6 Mathematics
Business	6 Business (if studied at GCSE) or 6 English Language (if not studied at GCSE)
Chemistry	6/6 Combined Science or 6 Separate Science Chemistry 6 Mathematics
Classical Civilisations	6 English Language or Similar GCSE*
Computer Science	6 Computer Science
Drama & Theatre Studies	6 Drama or 6 English Language or 6 English Literature
Economics	6 English Language and 6 Mathematics
English Literature	6 English Language and 6 English Literature
Film Studies	6 English Language or similar GCSE*
French/Spanish	6 French or 6 Spanish
Geography	6 Geography
Government & Politics	6 English Language or similar GCSE*
History	6 History
Mathematics	7 Mathematics
Further Mathematics	8 Mathematics
Media Studies	6 English Language or similar GCSE*
Music	6 Music and grade 6 instrument
Physics	6/6 Combined Science or 6 Separate Science Physics 6 Mathematics
Psychology	6 English and 6/6 Combined Science or 6 in two separate sciences.

Product Design	6 Product Design (if studied at GCSE) or 5 English and 5 Mathematics (if not studied at GCSE)
Philosophy and Ethics	6 RE
Sociology	6 English Language or Similar GCSE*

*Similar GCSE = English Literature, History or Geography

Please note students achieving grades 6/6 in Combined Science will only be allowed to study a maximum of two science subjects at A level.