



"The school's inclusive Christian ethos and shared core values nurture excellent working relationships between staff and pupils" (Ofsted 2016)

Information

Joining St George

This booklet contains important information about joining us at St George. Further information about every aspect of college life can be found on our website at www.stgcc.co.uk.

Moving from Primary to Secondary School *"Saint George Catholic College has a very strong community spirit and is a warm and welcoming place to be" (Ofsted 2016)*

We have an excellent reputation for our transition arrangements, which help children move from primary to secondary school with more confidence. We know this can be a nervous experience for parents and students. Therefore we aim to tailor our transition programme to suit individual needs by getting to know our prospective students at the earliest opportunity. We have strong links with our feeder primary schools; staff from St George regularly teach specialist lessons in the primary schools, and existing St George students buddy up with children in Year 6. We also offer a number of exciting extra curricular opportunities for our primary schools, with annual open days for Years 5 and 6, celebration masses and sports tournaments at the college. Our transition programme continues throughout Year 7. Students are welcomed with their own mass, and we organise a number of team building experiences to help them bond with their peers. Year 7 also have their own dedicated area, where there is both an indoor and outdoor social space for their sole use.

Care and Guidance *"Pupils' pastoral and welfare needs are given careful support, alongside their academic requirements" (Ofsted 2016)*

Every effort is made to ensure students settle in well, and knowing our students as individuals helps us form the positive relationships needed to provide a stable foundation for their education. When students join us they are organised into year groups according to age, which are then divided into tutor groups. The tutor plays a vital role in the development of our students as they remain with their group from Year 7 until they depart in Year 11. Tutors monitor their group's well-being and achievement, as well as meet with parents termly to discuss student progress at our mentoring days. Through assemblies, tutor time and regular visits to our chapel, students' academic progress is well balanced with their development as well rounded adults, and this work is complemented by the college chaplain. Each year group is then managed by a progress leader, who takes overall responsibility for the group's progress. Each progress leader develops a system of rewards and sanctions based on students' attitude throughout the year.

Supporting Our Students' Needs *"The school has invested in extra lessons and a range of resources to support disadvantaged pupils and pupils with special educational needs or disability" (Ofsted 2016)*

Students have many different skills, talents and abilities and as a college we have a responsibility to develop these to the full. We therefore take great care to differentiate work across all subjects in order for everyone to achieve their full potential.

A number of our students are gifted and talented, and we look to optimise their skills by giving them every opportunity to further their talents, whatever they might be. For example, students with outstanding ability in Maths are given the opportunity to study for additional qualifications, and our PE department has established

new sporting clubs for students who are particularly talented in certain areas. We also work closely with local colleges, universities and businesses to provide workshops for gifted and talented students.

Our Special Educational Needs department is housed in its own exclusive suite called 'Trinity', and students of all abilities are most welcome here. In Trinity, we offer a breakfast club as well as lunchtime activities, where students can benefit from individual help with assignments or extra reading sessions. We also run a nurture group here as well as other group and one-to-one sessions to aid our students. Those with special educational needs are fully supported through a range of access technologies including skilled staff, specialist equipment and resources, and many students have individual learning programmes designed to maximise their independence.

Student Responsibility

"The system of captains, vice captains and prefects who focus on different areas of the college's work... is exceptional" (Ofsted, 2011)

Independence is one of our core values at St George, and student responsibility is therefore something that is nurtured from Year 7 onwards. Individuals from each year group are elected by their peers to become part of the student council, and members fully participate in the development of the college. Year 8 students support their new colleagues in Year 7, providing advice and support during that important first year. By Year 11, students are ready to take on larger responsibilities, with our captains playing a pivotal role in the life of the college. Our students therefore develop a strong sense of ownership for their personal development and the college community.

Curriculum and Teaching *"Very high-quality teaching enables pupils to make excellent progress" (Ofsted 2016)*

The following information acts as a brief overview of our 11-16 curriculum at St George. Key Stage 3 represents Years 7, 8 and 9, while Key Stage 4 encompasses Years 10 to 11. Although there is a broad format to our curriculum, we strive to make it as personalised as possible to meet the varying needs of each cohort.

Key Stage 3

At Key Stage 3 students follow courses in: English, Mathematics, Science, Religious Education, Technology, Information Technology, Geography, History, Modern Languages, Art, Music, Drama, Dance, PE and PSHE.

When students join us in Year 7, they are organised into teaching sets according to their performance in the KS2 SATs. As our staff get to know Year 7 and their ability, students are re-set based on our own staff judgements after their first half term. There is then room for movement between sets depending on student performance throughout the year.

Key Stage 4

At Key Stage 4 students follow a common core of English, Mathematics, Science, RE, PE and PSHE. In addition, all students choose three optional subjects including a range of vocational courses, which take place off the college site. We have strong links with Itchen, City and Eastleigh colleges to run vocational access courses.

Enrichment and Extra-Curricular Activities *"Pupils do as well as, or better than, other pupils nationally in their GCSE examinations in nearly all subject areas" (Ofsted 2017)*

Students are invited to participate in a range of educational visits, clubs and activities including:

- Team Building Trips (such as our annual Summer Camp in the New Forest)
- Science Club
- Literacy Reward Trips
- Theatre Visits
- Humanities Trips – WW1 Battlefields and Auschwitz museums, and Field Trips
- School Productions and Concerts
- Ski Trip and Water Sports Trip
- Foreign Language Trips
- Year 7 Cathedral Visits
- Instrumental Lessons
- Performing Arts Clubs in Art, Drama and Music (we have our own choir, orchestra and a number of bands)
- Sports clubs and fixtures cover a diverse range of subjects including less traditional activities such as, American Football, Trampolining and Cross-Country

Uniform

Our students have always worn a smart uniform. We believe uniform is vital in students identifying themselves as a part of our community. We offer both a winter and a summer option for students, although it is not necessary for parents to buy both, with the winter option being valid all year round.

Winter Uniform

- Black blazer with college badge
- White shirt
- College tie
- Black trousers
- Black knee length skirt (stretch styles are not allowed)
- Black footwear
- Black/Grey/White socks
- Plain Black/tan tights

Summer Uniform

- White polo shirt with college logo
- Black trousers
- Black knee length skirt (stretch styles are not allowed)
- Black footwear
- Black/Grey/White socks
- Plain Black/tan tights

Optional Items

- Black v-neck jumper with college logo
- Black v-neck cardigan with college logo

PE Kit

Indoor: White top, red shorts/skort, white sock, trainers (non marking soles).

Outdoor: Red long sleeved rugby top, red shorts/skort, football boots/trainers, gumshield.

Recommended items: college fleece top, shinpads, deodorant, towel and paper bag.

We recommend that all items are clearly labelled. Jewellery in any piercing, is not permitted with the exception of a pair of stud earrings in the ears. Makeup is not allowed in Years 7, 8 or 9, although in Years 10 and 11 it can be worn if discreet. Hairstyles should not be below a Grade 2, and any extreme styles or fashion statements that the college deems to be unreasonable, along with any hair adornments, are not permitted. No hooded sweaters are allowed.

All items of uniform can be purchased from our suppliers

**Skoolkit, 31, Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9FF tel: 02380 629095
and Tesco - www.tesco.com/ues**

College ties and badges are available from reception at St George.

Timings of a Typical School Day

Our days always start at 8.40 am and end at 3.00 pm. All lessons are 60 minutes long.

Registration	08:40	09:00
Period 1	09:00	10:00
Period 2	10:00	11:00
Break	11:00	11:20
Period 3	11:20	12:20
Period 4	12:20	13:20
Break	13:20	13:55
Period 5	14:00	15:00

Transport

The following services cater for students travelling to and from St George:

Bus Services

The college operates four dedicated private bus services that provide a return journey, for which a fee is payable. Priority is given to younger students and distance.

1. The 301 from: Lordswood stopping at Millbrook, Regents Park, Shirley, Winchester Road and The Avenue.
 2. The 302 from: Woolston stopping at Sholing, Thornhill, Bitterne, Bullar Rd, Northam, and Stag Gates.
 3. The 303 from: Whiteley stopping at Titchfield, Locks Heath, Warsash, Lowford and Bursledon.
 4. The 304 from: Peartree stopping at Woolston Link, Chapel (St Mary's), Central Station, Lower Shirley (Foyes Corner), St James Road and Winchester Road.
- Minibus "A" collects and returns students from North Baddesley, Chandlers Ford, St Swithun Wells and Chestnut Ave Eastleigh, fees apply.
 - Minibus "B" collects and returns students from Hamble (Social Club), Ingleside- Old Netley, Thornhill Park Rd and Townhill Way, fees apply.
 - Minibus "C" collects and returns students from Bishops Waltham, Fair Oak, Bishopstoke and Eastleigh, fees apply.
 - Minibus "D" collects and returns students from Bitterne Triangle, Mousehole Lane, Townhill Way, fees apply.

The Bluestar no: 18 from Millbrook to the City Centre then change to the Bluestar no: 2 to Bassett Green Road stop (2mins walk from the college).

The Bluestar no: 8 & 9 from Fawley and Langley to the City Centre then change to the Bluestar no: 2 to Bassett Green Road stop (2 mins walk from the college).

The First Bus no: 3 from Hedge End/West End to the City Centre then connect to the Bluestar 2 or Firstbus U6H to Burgess Road stop at McDonalds (2 mins walk from the college).

From Fair Oak and Eastleigh the Bluestar no: 2 has a return service stopping at the Bassett Green Road stop (2 mins walk from the college).

Trains

Students from the Whiteley and Fareham area travel to Eastleigh Parkway station then change trains to Swaythling station (5 mins walk from college)

Students in Chandlers Ford travel direct to and from Swaythling station.

A direct service is also available from Winchester to Swaythling (Please refer to rail company timetables).

Hampshire and Southampton Assisted Travel

Assisted travel is no longer available for Catholic students on denominational grounds, except where a child is in receipt of free school meals or means tested applies.

The college holds no responsibility for any alterations or changes to the above transport timetables which are not contracted by the college.