





A VERY WARM WELCOME...



Welcome to St Gabriel's RC High School, where we pride ourselves on being an inclusive Catholic family that embraces diverse identities, faiths, and beliefs. Since our establishment in 1954, we have been dedicated to serving our community, fostering an environment where every student is valued and encouraged to grow both academically and spiritually. Our school is not just a place of learning; it is a vibrant community rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ, where students are inspired to develop their God-given talents and make positive contributions to society.

At St Gabriel's, we believe that education is a journey that goes beyond the classroom. Our mission is to cultivate resilience and excellence in all that our students do. Our recent Ofsted report noted that "the school provides a safe and caring environment where students thrive and develop a strong sense of community." Furthermore, it highlighted that "leaders have established a clear vision for the school, which is shared by all staff and students, and this has a positive impact on the school's ethos." We are committed to providing a high-quality education that meets the needs of all students, including those who are disadvantaged or have special educational needs.

Our vision is underpinned by our core values of Strength, Service, and Success. The Catholic School inspection report (May 2025) affirms that "the distinctive Catholic identity of St Gabriel's is understood and lived out by students, staff, and governors." We aim to cultivate a culture of respect and support, where students learn to self-regulate their actions, treat others with kindness, and prioritise their learning. The inspectors aptly quoted stated, "the children need to know that they are loved," which reflects our commitment to nurturing strong relationships throughout the school community.

As you explore our prospectus, you will find detailed information about our curriculum, extracurricular activities, and the various support systems in place to ensure every student thrives. We invite you to join us on this journey of discovery, growth, and faith, as we work together to nurture the leaders of tomorrow.

Thank you for considering St Gabriel's RC High School. We look forward to welcoming you into our vibrant community, where "prayer and liturgy is central in the daily life of the school," and where every student feels comfortable and welcomed

Head teacher

Mr S Braithwaite



LEADERSHIP TEAM

Back row left to right:

Mrs Middleton, Mr Braithwaite, Mrs Cull

Front row left to right:

Mr Killion, Mrs Nelson, Mr Minshall, Mr Vincent

Mr Braithwaite	Headteacher
Mrs Middleton	Deputy Headteacher of Quality of Education
Mrs Cull	Deputy Headteacher of Culture and Standards & DSL
Mr Killion	Assistant Headteacher of Personal Development & CEIAG and Deputy DSL
Mrs Nelson	Assistant Headteacher of Teaching and Learning
Mr Minshall	Assistant Headteacher of Progress, Achievement and Curriculum
Mrs Turner	Assistant Headteacher of Inclusion
Mr Vincent	Assistant Headteacher of Inclusion

STUDENT SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Muhammed (Head)



Olivia



Livy



Nicholas

Head Student, Muhammed Iftikhar Talib

'Welcome to St Gabriel's, an inclusive and diverse catholic school where students are supported from the moment they begin in Year 7. Our dedicated nurturing staff are committed to guiding each child through the challenges they may face both academically and personally. Alongside this support, the wider leadership of our St Gabriel's family, like the talented Heads of Departments help students to achieve excellent GCSE results by the end of Year 11 whilst also guiding them into confident and resilient young adults. Our students leave embodying our core mission values of strength, service and success, ready to contribute positively to the wider community.'

Deputy Head Student, Olivia Cooper

'Our school is a welcoming, inclusive place helping us to grow and become better people.'

Deputy Head Student, Livy Davies

'Our school is an incredibly friendly and accepting place allowing all children to feel safe and jovial.'

Deputy Head Student, Nicholas Cooper

'At St Gabriel's, our mission is to find and champion each individual's talent. Every student that walks through our doors doesn't just enter a school, but a family. We support and encourage each of our peers to achieve success and become one step closer to their dreams.'



OUR MISSION

At **St Gabriel's**, we are an inclusive Catholic **family** who embrace diverse identities, faiths and beliefs.

We strive to use our God-given talents to **serve** others and to **succeed**.

The Lord is our **strength**, which inspires us to make positive contributions to our school community and be valued members of our global society.

'The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him.

(Psalm 28:7)

OUR EXPECTATIONS

Students demonstrate the **strength** to self-regulate their decisions and actions.

Students act to **serve** others, treating all staff and peers with respect.

Students strive for **success** by always putting their learning first.

CHAPLAINCY

Chaplaincy plays a central role in all areas of our school life. It is our aim that all students come to know and enjoy life-giving communion with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. Our St Teresa of Calcutta Chapel is open for all members of our school family as a quiet space to reflect and pray.

Our GIFT Team (Growing In Faith Together) aims to share with others that which is most sacred in our school, the Good News of Jesus Christ. All members of our school community are given opportunities to respond, reflect, and act upon this message. Student leaders assist their Form Teacher in organising form prayers, reflections, collective worship in assemblies, special holy days and charity events.

At St Gabriel's, we have a vibrant **'Catholic Mission and Worship Team'** who are involved in a wide ranging and varied part of school life, ranging from being a welcoming presence around the building, encouraging people to witness to their faith through their words and actions, meeting with students as a listening ear, scaffolding opportunities for formal and informal worship and making the word of God relevant to pupils and staff in their daily lives.

The Staff Liturgy Team is also extremely fortunate to receive the support and guidance of our local priests. Mass is offered at school on a regular basis alongside opportunities to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation throughout the year. The Year 8 Sacrament of Confirmation programme is run jointly between the school and the local parish churches. St Gabriel's staff also support Local Youth IMPACT group. We also work closely with Just Youth Spiritans, who lead our Year 7 retreat days and Year 10 Peer Mentor training.





PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Students' opportunities for personal development are celebrated at St Gabriel's, as they are able to access a wide range of academic and extra-curricular enrichment opportunities. This includes all Year 7 pupils learning Level 1 British Sign Language.

We are fortunate to have inspirational colleagues leading Music, Drama, Art, Technology and PE, who support our students in developing their creative and practical God-given talents.

PERSONAL SOCIAL HEALTH CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

The school uses high quality resources from the PSHE association, NHS, Barclays and other leading providers to help prepare students for life in modern Britain effectively. Weekly Personal Development lessons go beyond just the academic, working to enhance students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. See below our students meeting former MP James Frith to discuss 'The Principles of Public Life', with some eventually going on to visit the Houses of Parliament:

Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) is taught using the Diocese approved programme 'Ten Ten - Life to the Full'. Resources ensure that lessons are taught within the context of a Christian understanding of human sexuality, rooted in the wisdom and doctrine of the Catholic Church.



CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

St Gabriel's prepares students for future success in education, employment and training by using the Gatsby Benchmarks; a framework that defines the best careers provision in schools and colleges. There is extensive work done with local colleges, employers and organisations such as the Comino Foundation to give students experiences of Further Education and different job sectors. See our recent Year 10 trip to Multi-award winning McCann advertising, where they won their advertising campaign competition:

In addition to our Student Senior Leadership Team, students also have the opportunity to take on servant leadership through being elected as Form Representative and joining our Student Council resultantly. In Year 10, students may also serve through becoming Peer Mentors, who play an active role in the transition of our new Year 7 cohorts.

All Year 7 students experience learning of BSL with the opportunity to complete their Level 1 and progress to Level 2 in Year 8 should they wish to.

THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION

We are particularly proud of the broad and rich curriculum our students benefit from at St Gabriel's. We have an excellent range of subjects and courses available to study, all of which have been carefully sequenced and rigorously planned to ensure our curriculum is **ambitious, aspirational and accessible**.

We review our curriculum offer annually to ensure it is right for our students, and are delighted to have launched engaging new courses such as GCSE Psychology, GCSE 3D Design, GCSE Photography and a Level 2 technical award in Hospitality and Catering in recent times.



ART & DESIGN

Students discover how art and design shapes our history, and contributes to culture and the creative industries



COMPUTER SCIENCE

The curriculum introduces new knowledge, skills and pupils experience a vast range of cultural capital that will enable them to develop their moral compass for life.



DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Students will use creativity and imagination to design and make products that solve real and relevant problems.



DRAMA

Often pupils are more suited to one type of character, style and genre, as their ability suits it, however we aim to broaden these skills and knowledge.



ENGLISH

Literature exposes pupils to different cultures and contexts – giving pupils the chance to reflect, understand the world around them, and express themselves.



FOOD AND NUTRITION

We believe all children should leave high school with basic cooking skills, a knowledge of nutrition and an enjoyment of cooking.



GEOGRAPHY

The geography curriculum enriches pupil's cultural understanding of the societies they find themselves in and the disparities across the globe that communities face.



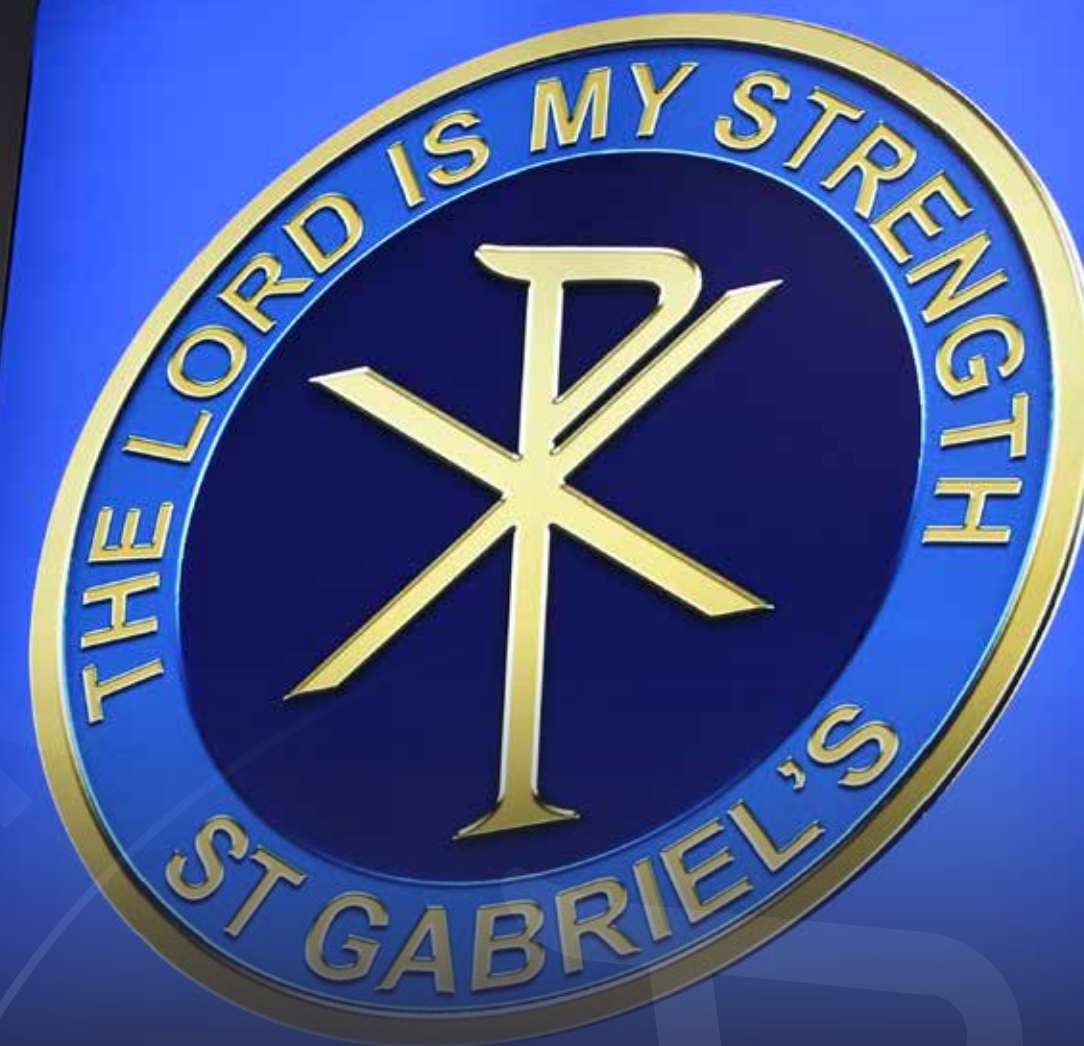
HISTORY

History helps you to understand the details and significance of events, both at the time they happened, and how they resonate through time.



MATHEMATICS

They will achieve success by strengthening their transferable skills of calculation; reasoning logically, algebraically and geometrically;



MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Through learning a new language, they make natural comparisons with their own language and can make connections with the grammar patterns and spelling rules.



MUSIC

We provide an enjoyable, challenging and fun-filled journey through an enriching and diverse curriculum offer. We aim to kindle their curiosity and love for the arts.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Our long-term aim is to provide pupils with positive experiences of PE which encourage lifelong participation in sport and/or physical activity



PSYCHOLOGY

Pupils will develop an understanding of the psychological concepts that impact health, development and growth and will consider these ideas in real-life contexts.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The teaching of RE makes links between the beliefs, practices and values of a range of faiths and world-views studied.



SCIENCE

Purposeful practical activities are embedded throughout the curriculum, providing exciting opportunities for students to experiment clearly, confidently and creatively.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

We take great pride in the appearance and conduct of our pupils both whilst in school and whilst representing our school in the local area. Upholding our school's strong reputation by ensuring we are all dressed smartly and appropriately is of great importance to all stakeholders, and serves to prepare young people for future education and employment.

School uniform is to be worn by all pupils, and serves to support our mission statement – **'We are an inclusive Catholic family'** – by reflecting the equality of opportunity afforded to every young person within our school community.

We are grateful to our supportive families for ensuring their children have the correct items in accordance with this policy, all of which can be purchased from our listed suppliers. Suppliers often provide discounts on school uniform in the summer term of each academic year (June - July). We have noted where items are also available from other high street retailers.

Students' **uniform is checked by Form Teachers each morning**, with positive 'Mission Points' awarded to those dressed in accordance with our expectations. Negative points are issued to students not adhering to the uniform policy, and staff have the right to confiscate prohibited items if appropriate. In very rare cases where students repeatedly contravene our uniform standards, Form Teachers will contact parents/ carers to discuss what support is required.

SCHOOL DAY

LESSON	TIME
Registration and daily checks / Assembly / Form Time Programme	8.40 am – 9.10 am
1	9.10 am – 10.10 am
2	10.10 am – 11.10 am
BREAK	11.10am - 11.30am
3	11.30am - 12.30pm
4	12.30pm - 1.30pm
LUNCH	1.30pm - 2.10pm
5	2.10pm - 3.10pm
Year 11 study support, Enrichment and Extra-curricular activities	3.10pm - 4.00pm

UNIFORM Only available from uniform suppliers	P.E. KIT
- Navy blazer with school logo. - Year group coloured tie. - Navy pinafore with school logo (must be at least knee length). - Navy V-neck jumper with school logo (optional). - Navy skort (must be at least knee length)	- Polo shirt with school logo. - Shorts or skort with school logo. - Tracksuit bottoms or leggings (optional). - Hooded sports jumper with school logo (optional). - Printed initials on all items of kit for labelling/identification (optional).

UNIFORM SUPPLIERS

Monkhouses Schoolwear	86 The Rock, Bury BL9 0PJ	0161 764 4320
Murrays Family Clothing	26 Bridge Street, Ramsbottom	01706 281 812
PTs School Wear	7 New Road, Radcliffe	0161 723 0991
Smart Start Schoolwear	11 St Johns Gardens, The Rock	0161 943 8145
Signature Schoolwear	86 The Rock, Bury, BL9 0PB	0161 943 8145



THE BIG 5



1

RESPECT OUR COMMUNITY

Treat others with kindness and consideration, and take care of our school environment.

Service

2

BE ON TIME, ALL THE TIME

Arrive punctually to school and every lesson, ready to begin learning straight away.

Strength & Success

3

ENGAGE FULLY IN LEARNING

Listen actively, participate positively and always try your best.

Strength

4

NO MOBILE PHONES

Phones must be switched off and out of sight at all times on school grounds.

Success

5

WEAR YOUR UNIFORM CORRECTLY

Dress smartly and follow all uniform expectations with pride.

Strength & Success

REWARDS

LEVEL	Reward awarded because a student has:
M1	Form teachers issue one M1 in form time for Strength – this is for students who have attended on time and with the correct uniform and equipment. M1s for service and success can and should be issued in lessons for positive participation and at social times for recognising behaviour that reflects our values.
M2	- Students will receive an M2 for being star of the lesson - Every teacher, in every lesson will issue an M2 - You will not be eligible for an M3 if you have not received an M2.
M3	- Students will receive an M3, which is a departmental commendation, for outstanding work within a curriculum area - Every half term, curriculum areas will identify students who have achieved M2s (star of the lesson) and produced exceptional work to receive an M3 and have a notification sent home - Every rewards assembly, students who have received an M3 will be celebrated
M4	- Students will receive an M4, which is a Headteacher's commendation, for living out our school values either in the classroom or beyond - Every half term, Heads of Year will identify 3 students from their year group for an M4. - Every week a different department will identify 3 students across their subject areas to receive an M4 where they will take their work to show Headteacher. (Curriculum areas will be on a rota)

SANCTIONS

LEVEL	Sanction issued because a student has:
S1	WARNING
S2	POOR QUALITY OF WORK - Disruption - Equipment
S3	NO HOMEWORK - Refusing to complete classwork - Property / premises destruction - Malicious language - Disruption - Failed to attend S3 detention
S4	INAPPROPRIATE / UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR - Truancy - Head of Year detention - Removal - No ingredients for food tech - No kit for PE - Refusal to follow instructions - Failed to attend S3 detention - More than 5 minutes late to form/lesson - Late to school - Failed to attend/comply with S4 detention
S5	FAILED TO ATTEND S4 Reflection Room.

ADMISSIONS POLICY

St Gabriel's RC High School is a Roman Catholic academy within the **St Teresa of Calcutta Roman Catholic Academy Trust**. The Academy Trust is the admissions authority, and the Local Governing Board is responsible for taking decisions on applications for admissions. For the school year commencing September 2027, the Trust has set its planned admissions number at 210 students.

Children with an Education Health and Care Plan, that name the school, will be given a place following consultation.

Admission to the school will be made by the Local Governing Board in accordance with the stated parental preferences it receives and subject to the following set of criteria which will be used to form a priority order if there are more applications for admission than the school has places available.

A	Roman Catholic children who are in public care (IAPLAC) and previously looked after children and those children adopted from state care outside of England. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted [1] (or became subject to a residence order [2] or special guardianship order).
B	Roman Catholic children living in a contributory parish and who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme.
C	Roman Catholic children attending an Associated Roman Catholic primary school and who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme who have a brother or sister at the school at the time of transfer.
D	Other Roman Catholic children attending an Associated Roman Catholic primary school and who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme.
E	Other Roman Catholic children who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme and have a brother or sister at the school at the time of transfer.
F	Other Roman Catholic children in Maintained Roman Catholic primary schools and who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme.
G	Roman Catholic children in other Maintained primary schools and who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme.
H	Other children in public care (IAPLAC) and previously looked after children and those children adopted from state care outside of England. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted [1] (or became subject to a residence order [2] or special guardianship order).
I	Other children.

[1] Under the terms of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. See Section 46 (adoption orders)

[2] Under the terms of the Children's Act 1989. See Section 8 which defines a "residence order" as an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live.



The Trust recognises that the first responsibility of the school is to serve the Roman Catholic community for which it has been established. This is focused on designated parish communities and the Roman Catholic primary schools that are partners in providing for those communities. In establishing their oversubscription criteria, the Governors have also taken full account of the Code of Practice produced by the Department for Education and the emphasis placed on supporting children in public care.

A Supplementary Information Form should be completed in support of your application to St Gabriel's RC High School together with the following evidence:

- A copy of your child's Baptism Certificate
- Evidence of completion of the Diocesan Sacramental Programme
- Proof of address within a designated parish boundary in the form of a Council Tax bill (for pupils living within a contributory parish only).

Please ensure the Supplementary Information Form and supporting information is returned directly to St Gabriel's RC High School by 31st October 2026.

Email: admissions@stgabrielshigh.stoccat.org.uk



TRANSPORT



SCAN ME FOR
BUS SERVICES



SCAN ME FOR
FARES AND
PASSES

Tickets and passes

Whether it's an iGo card, Our Pass, Scholar's Permit, Free School Pass or the Care Leavers travel offer, see what you need to get you to school or college.

Find out what information is required to register for your pass, the costs, benefits and what you need to do should you lose it.

ARBOR PAY

We are asking all parents to use our e-payment method to pay for all payments to school, such as food and drink in the canteen at breakfast, break and lunch trips, revision guides etc.

This can be done online using the Arbor Parent Portal or Parent app.

You will also be able to view what your child is purchasing each day in the dining room on the school meals section of the parent portal. You will automatically receive an email with details of how to log onto the Arbor Parent Portal.

PAYING FOR SCHOOL DINNER MONEY

You will be able to pay for school lunches either by cash, or via our new e-payment system, Arbor Pay. You will receive further information about setting up a Arbor Pay account when your child starts in Year 7.

BIOMETRIC CASHLESS CATERING SYSTEM

From September 2013, new measures in the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 mean that any school that uses biometric recognition systems, such as finger identification, will need to obtain written consent from a parent/carer before they take and process their child's biometric data.

As St Gabriel's uses this system for pupils' lunches, the following information explains how the Biometric System works.

Bio – what?

Biometrics authentication is the automatic recognition of a living being using suitable body characteristics. By measuring an individual's physical features in an authentication inquiry and comparing this data with stored biometric reference data, the identity of a specific user is determined. There are many different biometric features that can be used for authentication purposes these include finger image, signature, iris, retina, DNA or any other unique characteristic. Once a characteristic has been chosen the next stage in the Biometric process is authentication. A biometric feature is saved on to a database. Once the data has been stored, a new scanning of the biometric feature is taken. If the comparison is positive, access to the appropriate application is granted.

A history of biometrics

Once the domain of the local constabulary, biometric technology is now being used at many locations around the country. Banks, supermarkets and now even schools and colleges are adopting this increasingly popular technology. Biometrics are not new, its roots have been traced back to ancient Egyptian times. The use of finger images as a security device started with Chinese officials using them to seal documents in the second century BC. Over the last few years the technology has begun to find favour commercially.

Whilst the use of biometrics has been steadily growing over the last ten years, the past couple of years have seen an explosion in development, interest and vendor involvement.

Biometrics and Security

Students, parents and staff can rest assured that the fingerprint images cannot be used by any other source for identification purposes. The system uses an image of the finger to create a mathematical algorithm and then discards the finger image; only the numbers remain and these cannot be reinterpreted back into a finger image.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Why do you need to take my child's finger image?

By taking an image of your child's finger we can turn this information into a digital signature.

Can finger images be used by any other agency?

No, the software we use turns your child's finger image into a mathematical algorithm. The image of the finger is then discarded. The information that is stored cannot be used to recreate an image of the child's finger.

How does it work?

When the child places his/her finger on the scanner, the software matches their finger image with the unique digital signature held in the database.

THE LORD IS MY STRENGTH



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