



PROSPECTUS

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A VERY WARM WELCOME...



Thank you for considering the wonderful community that is St Gabriel's RC High School for your child.

Our school holds a strong reputation within the local community and diocese for excellent pastoral care, academic success and a distinctive Catholic ethos. In our most recent diocesan inspection, St Gabriel's was graded as 'outstanding' in all areas. Students receive a fantastic experience of Religious Education and celebrate excellent GCSE outcomes. Pupils benefit from opportunities for regular collective worship through Mass and prayer, and actively participate in the Catholic mission of our school. My vision for our school has Christ at the Centre, and gospel values are integral to who we are and all that we do.

Having been inspected by Ofsted in March 2023, the first time since joining the St Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Academy Trust, I am delighted to share with you that St Gabriel's has been graded as 'good' in all areas. I am especially pleased that the report recognises the expertise and commitment of our teachers, the respectful behaviour of our students and the positive relationships between pupils and staff. St Gabriel's has been on a successful journey of improvement over the last four years, and has benefitted from strong and supportive leadership from the Senior Leadership Team, the Local Governing Body, Trust Central Team and Diocese. This is an exciting time to belong to the St Gabriel's family, and we are all incredibly proud of what we have worked hard to achieve.

Our school comprises of 1060 students and their parents/carers, as well as approximately 130 members of gifted teaching and support staff. Many of my colleagues are past pupils of St Gabriel's and/or send their children to our school, which is a testimony to our strong ethos and culture. Our students are blessed to have talented and motivated subject specialists inspiring their love of learning. We are well supported by an experienced and committed Local Governing Body, and are proud to be one of seven schools currently working in partnership within our Trust.

We are looking forward to celebrating our 70th anniversary this year having opened our doors in 1954. Whilst we are rooted in tradition, we are an innovative, dynamic, outward-facing and forward-thinking community. We constantly review our policies, practices, procedures and systems in response to research, and welcome open and transparent collaboration with all stakeholders. We strive to provide our students with the very best experience of Catholic education possible, and never become complacent despite our recognised strengths.

Head teacher
Mrs T Rosa



LEADERSHIP TEAM

Back row left to right:

Mr Minshall, Ms Standbridge, Mrs Nelson, Mrs Rosa, Mrs Cull, Mrs Turner

Front row left to right:

Mrs Middleton, Mr Killion, Mrs Shiels, Mr Stewart

Mark Minshall	Associate Assistant Headteacher (Digital Learning and Examinations)
Ms Standbridge	Business Manager
Mrs Nelson	Associate Assistant Headteacher (Teaching and Learning)
Mrs Rosa	Headteacher
Mrs Cull	Deputy Headteacher (Culture and Standards)
Mrs Turner	Assistant Headteacher (Progress and Intervention)

Mrs Middleton	Deputy Headteacher (Quality of Education)
Mr Killion	Assistant Headteacher (Personal Development and CEIAG)
Mrs Shiels	Associate Assistant Headteacher (SENDCo)
Mr Stewart	Assistant Headteacher (Safeguarding and Student Welfare)



STUDENT SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Evie Later



Pierina Pagliuca



Frankie Thomas



Adam Yasar

Head Student, Evie Later:

"Welcome to St Gabriel's! I am the newly appointed Head Student of St Gabriel's. When I first came here, I was quite nervous about secondary school as some of you may be feeling, but here at St Gabriel's we are more than a school... we are a family. It would be a huge honour to have your children join us."

Deputy Head Student, Pierina Pagliuca:

"As a member of the St Gabriel's family, I can assure you that your child will flourish into a well-rounded, enthusiastic student who strives for success."



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.



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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.



HUMANITIES

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



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	P.E. KIT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	Bury Market Hall	0161 761 1365
PTs School Wear	7 New Road, Radcliffe	0161 723 0991



REWARDS

We aspire for all students to have positive, happy and fulfilled experiences of Catholic education at St Gabriel's. Staff are looking to reward you for meeting and exceeding our expectations. You can view your rewards through the **Arbor App!**

LEVEL	Reward awarded because a student has:
M1 Formal Praise	<p>Chosen to meet our expectations by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strength: Wearing correct uniform and arriving on time. Service: Showing good manners, helping when asked and participating in prayer and liturgy. Success: Arriving with equipment, fully completing classwork and fully completing home learning on time.. <p style="text-align: center;">THANK YOU!</p>
M2 Mission Points	<p>Acted to exceed our expectations. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strength: Applying excellent effort, showing resilience, sustaining improved conduct. Service: Offering to help peers or staff, acts of kindness, leadership of prayer and liturgy. Success: Completing excellent classwork, completing excellent homework, actively participating during lessons, strong performance in assessments or examinations. Mission Points are awarded for either strength, service or success and your Form Teacher is notified. To receive your Mission <p>Badges, you need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 Mission Points Bronze badge 200 Mission Points Silver badge 300 Mission Points Gold badge <p style="text-align: center;">WELL DONE!</p>
M3 Star of the lesson	<p>Exceeded our expectations in an exceptional way. Star of the Lesson will be awarded to at least one student during form time and lessons. Once you have five stars stamped on your Five Star Superstar rewards card, you can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend 'Fantastic Fridays' (Years 7-9). Join the front of the queue and enjoy a treat at break time (Years 10-11). <p>Your Form Teacher, Head of Department, Head of Year and parents/carers are notified.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">KEEP SHINING BRIGHTLY!</p>
M4 Headteacher's commendation	<p>Made a positive contribution to the wider life of our school beyond the classroom, deserving this special award. Mrs Rosa will award you a £10 reward, along with a certificate and Mission Chocolate Bar.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!</p>
Celebration Assemblies	<p>Certificates and rewards for longer-term achievements will be awarded during our termly celebration assemblies, including rewards for 100% attendance.</p>

SANCTIONS

Sanctions are only issued if a student chooses not to meet our expectations. If this happens, your teacher will inform you of the sanction and the reason why it has been given. Remember to **FOCUS** in every lesson: **F**ace the speaker, **O**ffer answers, **C**heck your posture, **U**ndivided attention, **S**ilence.

LEVEL	Sanction issued because a student has:
S1 Warning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chew gum and/or eat during lessons. Disrupt learning. Be impolite/rude towards other students or staff. Not fully complete classwork. Not fully complete homework. <p>Can be viewed by staff, students and their parents/carers through Arbor</p>
S2 Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not adhere to the uniform policy. Not adhere to the mobile phone/devices policy. Not arrive with the correct equipment. Be up to 5 minutes late (without a note). Continue disrupting learning (S1 previously given) Use derogatory language. Not help when asked to do so by staff. Complete classwork to a poor standard. Complete homework to a poor standard. <p>Form teachers are notified, parents/carers receive a message and staff issue an action to support students in correcting their conduct.</p>
S3 Social time detention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be defiant. Be up to 10 minutes late (without a note). Continue disrupting learning (S2 previously given) Use malicious language. Show a lack of respect for property or premises. Refuse to attempt classwork. Not submit any attempted homework. <p>Form teachers, Heads of Department and Heads of Year are notified. Parents/carers receive a message. A 10-minute break or lunchtime detention is issued.</p>
S4 Removal /After school detention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue disrupting learning (S3 already given). <p>Form teachers, Heads of Department, Heads of Year and Deputy Headteachers are notified. Parents/carers receive a message. Students are removed and accompanied to where they will be supervised for the remainder of the lesson. A 30-minute after school detention with SLT is issued for the same day.</p>
RED CARD Serious Incident	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commit a serious incident of a potentially dangerous or illegal nature. Truant (i.e. being more than 10 minutes late or walking out of a lesson). <p>Form teachers, Heads of Year, Deputy Headteachers and the Headteacher are notified. Parents/carers are contacted.</p> <p>Following investigation, the student maybe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internally excluded; Suspended; Moved to another school; Permanently excluded.

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 2024, 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roman Catholic children living in a contributory parish and who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme.
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other Roman Catholic children attending an Associated Roman Catholic primary school and who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme.
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other Roman Catholic children in Maintained Roman Catholic primary schools and who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme.
G	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roman Catholic children in other Maintained primary schools and who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme.
H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 31 October 2023

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.

PARENT PAY

We are asking all parents to use our e-payment method to pay for all payments to school, such as lunches, trips, revision guides etc.

This can be done online using a very secure website called ParentPay or in cash at local stores where you see the PayPoint logo.

PAYING FOR SCHOOL DINNER MONEY

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



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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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