



# Christ the King

Catholic Voluntary Academy

Providing the best experience  
in a **Living Faith Community**



## Welcome to Christ the King

Christ the King is a well-equipped, purpose built Catholic Secondary School, opened by Bishop Ellis in 1971. The school is a mixed 11-18 Catholic Comprehensive and is situated in a pleasant suburban area to the North East of Nottingham.

It has its own very extensive playing fields and the buildings include specialist suites for: Modern Languages, Music, English, Mathematics, Science, Art, Design and Technology, Information Communication Technology, Learning Resources, Humanities and Religious Education. The buildings also house a chapel, media centre, assembly hall, gymnasium, sports hall and dining hall.

The new purpose built Sixth Form Centre was opened in the Autumn of 2003 by Bishop Malcolm McMahon. During the last four years Christ the King has enjoyed substantial refurbishments to its premises which has enhanced the learning experience of its students.

### The Purpose Of This Catholic School

Our first and most important aim is to share the Gospel message of care and love for the individual. We want our students to be happy and to feel valued. Our school mission statement is printed on the brochure cover. Christ the King is a CATHOLIC SCHOOL. It is a major responsibility of our school to help our Catholic students to develop their understanding of the Catholic Faith whilst respecting other faiths in and out of school.

We are closely linked with our partner parishes which include The Good Shepherd at Arnold, The Divine Infant of Prague at Bestwood, Holy Cross at Hucknall and The Sacred Heart at Carlton. Priests from each parish regularly visit the school and contribute to a variety of ways, e.g. being a member of the Governing Body, celebrating Holy Mass and getting involved with the pastoral care of our students.

Each day begins with prayer and students attend acts of worship each week. Holy Mass is celebrated regularly and other liturgies and prayer groups take place throughout the year. These are supported by our lay-chaplain. On special days Holy Mass is usually celebrated in the Main Hall for all students.

### We expect all our students to develop self-discipline and we expect the highest standards in, for example:

- honesty, integrity, courtesy, respect for others
- all aspects of school work
- appearance (full school uniform)
- appropriate conduct
- homework
- punctuality and reliability

“The school is well led and managed. This is illustrated by an enthusiastic team who have an interest in the children as people and have a good relationship with them.”



### Primary / Secondary Transfer Arrangements

At Christ the King, we work closely with our partner primary schools as part of the Pax Christi Catholic Academy Trust to ensure that the transition between primary and secondary education is a smooth one. This allows our new students to embrace the opportunities available to them whilst maintaining the feeling of stability and security which they enjoyed at their smaller primary school. We do this by working closely on both curriculum and pastoral issues, with particular emphasis being given to 'getting to know CTK' visits during the Autumn, Spring and Summer Terms for curriculum experiences and the opportunity to meet children from the other partner schools.

Further information on our admissions criteria and how to apply for a place at Christ the King Catholic Voluntary Academy is available separately in this brochure. We welcome applications from parents/carers of children who have attended our partner primary schools and from those who have not. Governors welcome applications from Catholic and non-Catholic families and indeed celebrate this diversity. The school has a Planned Admission Number (PAN) of 147 students. This means the school has the capacity to admit up to this number of students each September into Year 7.

### Sixth Form

At Christ the King, we really do believe that every student deserves the best possible experience. Our Post-16 Centre is no exception and in fact the school prides itself on offering a centre of excellence to young people. The curriculum on offer in the school will prepare all students for Higher Education, training or the world of work. In addition, the ethos and values of the school based on the fundamental principles of Catholic doctrine will help to support the emotional and spiritual well-being of all students who choose to study at Christ the King Post-16 Centre.

It is with great pleasure that we offer you the opportunity to have an insight into life at Christ the King, Post-16 and the school provides students and parents with information in order for you to make the right decision! Please read the Sixth Form booklet carefully and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. In addition, there is a separate section on the Academy's website which provides more information regarding the Sixth Form provision at Christ the King Catholic Voluntary Academy.



## The Curriculum Statement



The fundamental aim of our Catholic school is to create a Christian, Learning community concerned with the Christian formation and guidance of all of its members.

### The Governors' Curriculum Statement

The Governors have total conviction and belief in the Catholic comprehensive ideal. At the heart of this formation is the fostering of knowledge, understanding and practice of our Catholic Faith. This is the foundation stone upon which the school is built. In declaring this to be the principle aim of the school, the Governors recognise that academic achievement inevitably plays a very significant part of that guidance towards maturity.

The school will, with Governors' guidance, develop and maintain an environment where discipline and hard work are demanded at all levels, where individuals are cared for and where expectations are high. The curriculum reflects the Governors' commitment to provide this education. It is broad and balanced, develops progressively, is appropriate to individual needs and encourages all students to develop their talents.

Academic success, sporting and musical achievement, full participation in the life of the school and the parish, together with personal spiritual conviction are seen as legitimate and desirable goals for our children at Christ the King to become well qualified, articulate, creative and caring young Christians. Indeed personal qualities such as courtesy, honesty, the development of good relationships and a sense of God's love for each of us will be nurtured and promoted in all aspects of school life.

**Parents are always welcome to come to Christ the King Catholic Voluntary Academy and, provided reasonable notice is given, the following documents will be available:**

- the Governing Body's Statement of Curriculum Aims
- all statutory instruments, circulars etc, concerning the curriculum which are sent to the school by the DfE
- all published H.M.I, OFSTED and Diocesan reports which refer to the school
- all schemes of work used by the school
- all syllabuses for public examinations or otherwise used by the school
- procedures for dealing with complaints
- the relevant part of the Trust Deed which governs the provision of Religious Education in the school



## Educational Entitlements



**Students at Christ the King Catholic Voluntary Academy are entitled to a curriculum which:**

- is built on the teachings of Christ
- recognises and responds to the need for interaction with other learners, with teachers and with God our Father
- enables and encourages a personal exploration of knowledge, beliefs, concepts, ideas, skills, attitudes, values and morals
- recognises and respects the intellectual, social, physical, creative, aesthetic, cultural, moral and spiritual needs of the learners
- has a variety of teaching methods and organisation of learning appropriate to the varied and changing needs of the learners and society
- is broad, balanced, develops progressively and is appropriate to individual needs
- reflects the learners' rights to be consulted and informed about their educational development
- enables personal success
- encourages a deep commitment to the Catholic Faith

**Furthermore, students are entitled to a curriculum which provides:**

- opportunities for recreational, vocational and spiritual growth
- opportunities for spiritual interaction with other students
- opportunities for social and learning interaction with other students whose race, gender, class, religion, creed, age, stage of development or other personal circumstances may be different from their own
- opportunities for quiet reflection and prayer
- opportunities to develop independent reasoning and the personal power of choice
- a secure and encouraging environment where Christian values and attitudes are explored and which allows for experimentation, promotes a high level of achievement and enables students to learn from their experiences
- opportunities to come into contact with and interact with members of the religious life
- personal guidance and counselling
- interaction with skilled and informed teachers and other education workers
- opportunities for teachers and learners to interact in an appropriate physical environment



I am glad my child has had the experience of attending Christ the King. It will remain a happy memory in her life.



## Assessments & Examinations

There are regular formal assessments which are reported to parents/carers alongside progress grades which allow for early intervention if a student is not performing as well as they should.

### Assessments, Examinations & Reporting

Students are regularly assessed in each and every subject. We also arrange for students to take part in 'mock' examinations so that they gain an understanding of what they will need to do to perform well in examination conditions.

During each academic year, as well as the reported formal assessments in each subject, a detailed School Report (which covers all subjects) is sent to every parent. In addition, there is for each year group, a parent/teacher consultation session. Appointments are made (via the student) to see all the relevant teachers and details of progress can then be discussed. Finally, individual subject teachers will supplement these arrangements with additional assessment/progress reports.

### Homework

All students are expected to do homework in all subjects. In Year 7 this averages one hour per night and increases as the students move up the school years. All students are given homework diaries in which to record details of work set. Parents/carers are required to sign these diaries each week and make any appropriate comments. At the start of each year a homework timetable is given to students to take home so that parents/carers can effectively monitor the homework situation.

### Sex Education

We have a comprehensive and wide-ranging course followed by all students, covering all aspects of sex education including an AIDS information programme. The course develops from the family, love and marriage topics in Year 7 through to Year 11 in line with students' own physical, emotional and spiritual development. The course is set entirely in a Catholic context approved by the Governing Body. The course is integrated into the Citizenship, Personal and Social Education programme, the Religious Education programme and the Science schemes of work from Year 7 to Year 11. The material considered broadly reflects the stages in development experienced by the students as they progress towards physical and emotional maturity.

### Special Educational Needs

Our Inclusion Department is responsible for ensuring that all students, whatever their needs, are able to access the learning that Christ the King provides for them. Where a student is unable to do this, for whatever reason, the staff in the Inclusion team will offer a range of strategies to help, or access services from outside agencies, where necessary. They will then monitor and evaluate the progress of every student receiving this support and work closely with parents/carers to keep them informed of progress.

## Individual Support & Care

Students with Special Educational Needs are usually identified prior to entry to the school so that an effective transition can be planned for. Close liaison with the partner primary schools ensure that careful planning to meet the needs can be made before transfer. Once here, all staff are informed of the needs of each student and every effort is made to ensure that the maximum academic and social progress is achieved.

We have lift access to all floors, ramp access to classrooms and disabled toilet facilities. The emphasis is on helping all students to access the curriculum in mainstream classes and we offer a variety of ways of supporting students to achieve this. This could include extra in-class support; individual literacy programmes; special equipment or learning aids; teaching materials aimed at different ability groups, help to move around the school and support from a variety of outside agencies.

Through our Assessment procedures, we can easily identify students who are 'gifted and talented'. This refers to anyone who achieves highly in a certain area, which could be academic achievement, or equally sporting or creative arts etc. Students who have been identified as being gifted and talented are monitored to ensure that the teaching we provide meets all of their additional needs so that they can perform highly in their particular field. Extra-curricular activities are on offer at lunchtimes and after school to encourage all students to explore different activities. We offer Sports Leadership courses which



enable students who are talented at sports to coach children who attend our partner primary schools so that they can share their talents and enthusiasm.

### At Christ the King, every child really does matter

We engage with a variety of professional services to support our students. When attendance falls below accepted levels, we work supportively with parents/carers to resolve the issues.

We also have access to the Educational Psychological Service who can provide help for individual students with certain difficulties. A number of specialist instrumental music teachers visit the school each week to give tuition to children on a variety of instruments. The school also benefits from the services of the Primary Care Trust. We have a part-time, on-site school nurse who conducts regular health checks, advises parents and teachers concerning student health problems and arranges medical examinations by doctors and immunisation programmes.



## Extra Activities & Groups

The school is focused on providing a wide and varied range of activities for the students both in and out of school.

Recent productions have included 'Little Shop of Horrors', 'Oliver', 'High School Musical' and 'Annie'. The Sixth Form produces an annual pantomime which they take pride in performing to our partner primary schools and to the wider school community in the evenings. There are a large number of additional sporting activities. The PE Department runs clubs or teams in these activities: football, hockey, netball, basketball, cricket, athletics, tennis, gymnastics, dance, badminton, volleyball and cross-county. Inter-form competitions are often held at lunchtime.

### Football Academy

We currently have a partnership with Sky Sports to run a high level football academy that takes place on Friday mornings for selected students who have a keen interest and show exceptional football ability. The academy is run by outside coaches.

### Rugby Academy

Starting in 2011, the school has established a rugby academy for gifted and talented students. Working with high level coaches the students have the opportunity to participate in both codes of rugby (Union and League) developing a wide range of rugby skills. These sessions take place on either Wednesday afternoons or Friday mornings and run throughout the school year.

### Drama Academy

One of our most exciting out of school opportunities is our Drama Academy. This is run in partnership with the Theatre Royal, Nottingham Playhouse and Channel 4. This provides the students with the opportunity to learn high level drama skills and to receive coaching from

organisations such as the Northern Ballet. Members of these academies perform in a drama academy production and receive many opportunities to experience professional productions.

### Educational Trips

Students have the opportunity to go to mainland Europe on educational trips organised by the Communication, Spiritual and Human and Creative and Active Learning Areas. There has always been the opportunity, every year, for students in certain year groups to spend a few days at 'The Briars' – the Diocesan Retreat Centre for young people at Crich, Derbyshire and a venue which many children from our partner primary schools will know well. This is always a marvellous experience for our young people who come back renewed in their commitment and enthusiasm for their faith. Other recent trips include a visit to Auschwitz and an exchange with our Italian partner school. We are deeply indebted to our staff who accompany the students on such visits and the families who take part in the exchange for helping to provide such extra-curricular enrichment.

### Chinese Academy

Gifted and talented modern linguists have an opportunity to learn Mandarin as part of their curriculum. A small number of students have the opportunity to take part in a visit to China to practise their linguistic skills.

### School Council

Promoting student voice and student leadership are central to the school's ethos. We now have a Head Boy and Head Girl leading School and House Councils with representation from all years running alongside a Prefect system. The campaigning and subsequent elections have become an exciting part of the Summer Term and we are very proud of those students who contribute in such ways.

### Recently the School Council has been involved in:

- being involved in the interview days for key members of staff joining CTK
- working with the Catering Manager to look at new and exciting recipes
- deciding on improvements to the dining room
- helping to design our New Food Technology Suite
- writing the Anti-Bullying Policy
- designing a new Rewards System

## Careers Education

### Careers Education & Guidance

A comprehensive Career Education & Guidance programme is delivered throughout the school including in the Sixth Form Centre. This forms an integral part of the personal and social education programme in the school and includes:

- preparation for GCSE choices, including Choices Day and parental information evenings
- access to Careers Library
- films and visits
- annual careers convention
- studies of career opportunities
- visiting speakers
- advice and assistance for Sixth Form students with their UCAS and other applications to higher level courses
- 'mock' interviews to enable the students to experience what it will be like when they apply for a job, training opportunity or place in a further education college or university

## Pastoral Care & School Houses

One of the main advantages of being a smaller than average secondary school is that we are small enough to create and maintain a caring, sharing Catholic ethos within the school whilst being large enough to give a wide range of curriculum and other opportunities to all of our students. In order for us to be able to do this, students and staff are grouped into a House system so that we can enhance the guidance and support which students receive as well as improving our monitoring of each student's progress.

### Each House consists of:

- vertically mixed Form Groups composed of students from Years 7 to 11
- all the associated Form Leaders
- associated Teaching Assistants, Cover Supervisors etc
- associated Administration and Technical staff
- the Director of Learning
- an Achievement Leader

### The Houses are named after sites of early Christian significance within the British Isles:

	<i>Director of Learning</i>
<b>Canterbury</b>	Miss M Tyrrell
<b>Holywell</b>	Mrs J Collins/Mr J Fry
<b>Lindisfarne</b>	Mrs L Batt
<b>Iona</b>	Mr R Short
<b>Walsingham</b>	Mrs D Leigh

# Learning & Teaching

## Art

We employ a wide variety of Teaching and Learning styles and encourage our students to look critically at the work of others as well as their own. Students produce a portfolio of work developed from given starting points. Ideas are developed through investigations informed by contextual studies, the experimentation of media, materials techniques and processes and recording from observation.

## Drama & Theatre Studies

We feel that Drama has a significant role to play in any student's education, creating and developing confidence and life skills such as the development of dramatic techniques, sounds and vocalisation, role-play, improvisations, characterisation and script work. It encourages confidence and understanding in a variety of situations.

## Media Studies

This subject offers students the chance to develop the skills necessary to analyse media texts, understand how and by whom they are produced, explore issues of media ownership and to appreciate how new technologies are changing the way in which we consume the media.

## Music

Music forms an important, enjoyable and fulfilling part of the curriculum for all students, where the active involvement in playing instruments, singing and using music technology is a key to success. Music is an option course that enjoys success and achieves good results. Music also plays a central part in the Academy's Acts of Worship and at a wide variety of school and community functions.

## Physical Education

We aim to encourage a lifelong interest in sport and a healthy lifestyle and strive to ensure that each and every student has the opportunity to develop physically, socially

and morally within the department's programmes of learning. The aim is to encourage students to develop their techniques and skills by applying them to the different activities through a safe and co-operative environment.

## English

English is a skill for life, and we aim to ensure that all students learn to communicate effectively in speech and writing. The English Department strives to help each student to understand and respond imaginatively and critically to what they hear, read and experience in a variety of media. Students are encouraged to enjoy both modern and classical literature in all its forms, and we are lucky to have the Learning Resource Centre to support our schemes of learning and help cultivate a love of reading.

## Modern Foreign Languages

In the Modern Foreign Languages Department, we teach both French and Spanish. Both languages are popular option choices. Students are also given the opportunity to visit Paris and it has proven to be a trip full of many wonderful memories. The department has been able to offer an invaluable opportunity for students to savour the delights of mainland Spain.

## Science

The study of Science helps us to make sense of our physical environment and enables us to make informed decisions about many issues which affect our daily



lives. Science stimulates imagination and curiosity, and engagement in its process can develop a wide range of transferable skills. Our emphasis is on active learning, much of the learning being experientially based, and considers the wider range of learning styles of our students to maximise inclusion.

## Religious Education

Students learn about many aspects of the Catholic Church teachings and what it means to belong to the Catholic Church. There is also time for students to reflect on their own beliefs and how these impact upon their lives. In addition to this, students will also study aspects of world religions throughout the years. RE gives students the opportunity to explore everyday matters in a spiritual and nurturing environment. It deepens respect for others and encourages our students to support each other through difficult times. For many students it is one of their best outlets for challenging thoughts leading to personal growth.

## Geography

Students study a variety of topics on both local and global scales. Fieldwork and assessment activities are a key part of the course where topics such as environmental sustainability are studied. Students explore a range of issues and examine potential solutions to them.

## History

Students follow a course which begins with the Battle of Hastings in 1066. This then flows into the medieval era focussing on how people lived and how villages and towns were structured. We then move to the Industrial Revolution which is followed by a project on the slave trade. Students go on to study WW1 and WW2 and also the American West and a Medicine Through Time topic.

## Sociology

Sociology is studied in the Sixth Form gaining an A level qualification. Students study The Family and how the structure benefits society from the viewpoint of various

theorists. We also study how political and media changes have created a diverse range of different family structures.

## Mathematics

Mathematics is a key skill used in everyday life so it is important that all students are encouraged to develop their skills in Number, Algebra, Geometry, Statistics and Problem Solving. All students are set challenging targets and our experienced staff aim to develop each student's confidence, reasoning and communication to achieve these targets. We aim to expand students' knowledge of Mathematics, not just finding a method to solve a problem but developing their understanding of the processes needed and how to transfer skills.

## Information Communication Technology

We aim to equip all students with the necessary skills and understanding to be able to use ICT purposely, safely and responsibly for learning, everyday life and employment. The school has very modern ICT facilities all equipped with appropriate software and all students have access to their own e-mail account and have filtered internet access.

## Design Technology

In Design Technology students are taught how to design, manufacture and evaluate real products that are useful in everyday life. Students enjoy working with a variety of materials such as timber, metals, plastics, electronics, graphic materials and textiles. They also work in the food area and are taught about healthy eating and food preparation.

## Business Studies

Business Studies is an exciting and interesting subject which helps students to understand the world in which we live and reflects the values of society and the people working within them. Business Studies provides an understanding of the commercial world and how finance is raised and used by the Government to pay for the Nation's goods and services.



Good leadership and a family ethos would be a reason I would recommend this school.





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