



ST. CATHERINE'S COLLEGE

A CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY



Preparing students to stand shoulder to shoulder with their peers: locally, nationally and globally.



WE ARE ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE

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To achieve their God-given potential, learners in our care are inspired and supported to be:

Ambitious Hard-working Resilient Responsible

“I have come that you may have life, and have it to the full” (John 10, v10b)



WE ARE ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE

An Introduction from our Headteacher, Solomon Berhane:

We are St Catherine's College. We are a Church of England Academy that has children at the heart of everything we do.

We are different, and what sets us apart is that we are the only Church of England secondary school in East Sussex. Parents and carers choose St Catherine's College for their children because we insist upon high standards and firm boundaries, all underpinned by our Christian vision and values. As a consequence, our smart, well-behaved students are happy and proud of their school.

We are preparing our students to stand shoulder to shoulder with their peers: locally, nationally and globally. To achieve their God-given potential, learners in our care are inspired to be **ambitious, hard-working, resilient** and **responsible**. As children

grow older, it is our responsibility as a College to teach them to become independent learners and to become responsible citizens in an ever-changing world. Young people have a range of needs and it is essential that we contribute to all aspects of their development. We need to give them the skills they will require to adapt and be able to rise to the challenges that life will bring. Life skills, such as communication, collaborative working and self-motivation are central in enabling young people to leave education and function as confident, aspirational and resilient individuals.

We are St Catherine's College. We passionately believe that it is important that young people, no matter what their background, should feel empowered to become active participants in shaping the community and society in which they live. As well

as academic excellence, at St Catherine's College we also focus on the values, attitudes and behaviours which enable individuals to learn to live together in a supportive, accepting and compassionate manner.

We look forward to welcoming you to St Catherine's College so that we can work together to enable your child to excel and flourish in secondary school and beyond.

"Jesus said, "I have come that you may have life, and have it to the full"

(John 10, v10b)

*“Be who God meant you
to be and you will set
the world on fire”*

St Catherine of Siena



*"People who are crazy enough
to think they can change the
world are the ones who do"*

Steve Jobs





The Gambia



River Cuckmere Geography Trip



China



Bushcraft

WE ARE ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE. WE ARE AMBITIOUS.

We are preparing students to stand shoulder to shoulder with their peers, not just with an equality of opportunity and potential, but in solidarity as global citizens.

St Catherine's College is a safe and happy Christian community where all students, regardless of their background, can flourish. We work tirelessly to provide the very best education, enabling all our students to excel, ensuring that everyone is stretched to achieve their full potential.

Life at St Catherine's College is full of exciting opportunities to help children discover and develop their talents. Residential trips include visits to The Gambia, Berlin, Paris, Spain and Morocco. Day trips include a range of visits to local and regional places of interest and worship, theatres and adventure. In school, there is a wide range of extra-curricular clubs and activities including homework clubs and an extensive variety of sports activities.

We also offer the internationally renowned Duke of Edinburgh Award and are proud of our successful Combined Cadet Force (CCF), which is run in partnership with Eastbourne College.



ST CATHERINE'S
COLLEGE





“Staff are very positive about the culture of high ambition and success”

Ofsted



WE ARE ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE. WE ARE HARD-WORKING.

Providing all of our students with the highest quality learning opportunities is at the heart of what we do at St Catherine's College. The teachers at our school are focused on making sure that every student is supported to achieve their God-given potential. We understand that it is important for our teachers to inspire all of our children to make the best possible progress in each and every lesson.

"Teachers have high expectations and help students to achieve well" - External Inspector

"Staff work very well together to help pupils fulfil their potential" - Ofsted

Success is the result of combining this teacher expertise with hard-working children. Ofsted commented that "during visits to lessons, teachers showed strong subject knowledge and students completed tasks willingly." They also commented, "Pupils appreciate the help they are given by their teachers, so they can achieve well in the subjects they study".

As a consequence, our children flourish academically and go on to be highly successful at post-16 and beyond, where they are able to stand shoulder to shoulder with their peers.

"Teachers at our school are amazing" - student

"Teaching the children at St Catherine's College is a real privilege. My professional development is fully supported so that I can help every child to be successful" - teacher

WE ARE ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE. WE ARE RESILIENT.



Just as we teach our young people to be ambitious, hard-working and responsible, we also work hard to develop a culture of never giving up and never giving in.

Part of learning to be resilient is learning that mistakes are a purposeful tool for learning and a positive experience to work through. We want our students to embrace mistakes and setbacks as an inevitable path to success. We believe that children will persist and learn never to give up if we support them to face challenges in a safe, caring and nurturing environment. We endeavour to instil a confident 'can-do' attitude in our students, who are willing to encourage and support everyone around them to be the best that they can be.



As Winston Churchill said, "continuous effort - not strength or intelligence - is the key to unlocking potential." As a Christian community we believe that part of learning to be resilient is recognising that there will be times when things get tough.

We are committed to promoting positive mental health and well-being at St Catherine's College and, therefore, through strategies such as PSHE, nurture and well-being schemes, we are totally committed to helping our children to develop the capacity to work through difficult times.

"But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded."

2 Chronicles 15:7



“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you.”

Joshua 1:9

“Students, parents, staff and governors care greatly for each other. They comment on their feeling that the school is a family, and they relate this directly to its Christian ethos”

Inspection report - SIAMS





WE ARE ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE. WE ARE RESPONSIBLE.

Care for Children at St Catherine's College

At St Catherine's College we have happy, safe and confident learners. We place God's children at the heart of everything we do and that is why we put great emphasis on our personalised pastoral care. We always take the time to listen to our students, to find out what is going well and how we can improve things further. As a church school, we have a responsibility to make compassion, kindness, tolerance and respect, integral to everything that we do. Ofsted commented, "Pupils are happy and optimistic".

We teach our children to be responsible citizens; to take care of each other, the community in which we live and our wider global community. We have the highest expectations of behaviour and conduct, both in and out of lessons, and we reward students when they meet and exceed these. Ofsted stated that we "set very high standards for pupils' behaviour. Pupils respect these expectations. As a result, behaviour is good in this school and classrooms are calm and purposeful."

Care and Community are recognised strengths at St Catherine's College

"A pupil spoke for many when they said, 'I like everything about this school'" - Ofsted

"Students were polite and friendly. Relationships between staff and students and between students themselves are strong" - Ofsted

"Students are tolerant and show respect for cultural values which are different from their own" - School Review Report by an Educational Consultant



TRANSITION

Transition from Year 6 to Year 7 at St Catherine's College is an important step and we work hard to make sure that it runs smoothly.

Transition begins when places are allocated to Year 6 students. We acknowledge that this has the potential to be an anxious time for children and for parents and carers and, with this in mind, we provide an extensive transition programme. We have a dedicated team of transition staff who work to ensure that students who are joining us are ready for a successful and enjoyable Year 7. At any stage of the process, if you have a concern, staff are always willing to answer your questions.

Our transition programme starts with visits to all students in their primary school setting, which introduces a friendly face and gives them the opportunity to ask questions or voice any concerns they might have. We ensure that we meet all Year 6 teachers who can tell us about your child, so we already know them before they join us. For those students who have additional needs, our SENCO makes separate visits to ensure our provision starts from day one and a Familiarisation Day is organised during the summer term.

Our Welcome Evening in the summer term provides an opportunity for everyone to meet their tutor, their Head of Year and other students in their tutor group.

The Assistant Head of Year, who is a non-teaching member of staff and an expert in pastoral care, is also at this event. This is closely followed by our Taster Days, when students engage in fun activities and make new friends, whilst getting to know the layout of the College. From then, in Year 7, there are a number of exciting opportunities for students to get fully involved in the life of St Catherine's College.

"There is a collective excitement about the future" - Ofsted

"Pupils are happy and optimistic" - Ofsted

ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

The Governors aim to offer a high-quality education based on Christian principles for all children at the College. We recognise our responsibility to children of Christian families, to those from Church schools and to children in the local community.

To achieve these aims, the Governors designate 50% of the places available at the College as foundation places and 50% as community places. If there are fewer qualified applicants for foundation places than the places available, any unfilled foundation places will become additional community places and vice versa.

Parents applying for community places should appreciate that the Governors hope that all pupils will attend religious education lessons and take part in Christian worship at the College. Governors reserve the right to determine the category under which an application is considered.

To apply for a place, please visit: <https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/admissions/>. For admissions enquiries, please contact the College directly on 01323 465437.

The arrangements are agreed in accordance with the provisions of the School Admissions Code and in consultation with the Chichester Diocesan Board of Education and a range of stakeholders.

In order for a child to be considered for a foundation place at the College, parents should, in addition to the Local Authority application form, complete the College's Foundation Reference Form. This can be obtained from, and must be returned to, the College. If that form is not returned, the Governors will assume the application is for a Community Place and process it accordingly.

In the event of oversubscription, the Governors will allocate places using the following criteria which are listed in order of priority:

| Foundation Places (104) places) | Community Places (104) places) |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Looked After Children (LAC), Previously Looked After Children (PLAC) and Internationally Adopted Previously Looked After Children (IAPLAC) who are eligible under any of the Foundation criteria below. 2. Children who are eligible under any of the Foundation criteria below and who have a strong medical or other special reason for attending this College. 3. Children of any member of staff who has been employed at the College for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the College is made and who are eligible under any of the Foundation criteria below. (Please see footnote 4). 4. Children who are eligible under any of the Foundation criteria below and who have a brother or sister attending the College at the time of admission. 5. Children who are, or whose parents are, regular worshippers at an Anglican church. 6. Children who are, or whose parents are, regular worshippers at another Christian church. 7. Children who are, or whose parents are, regular worshippers at a place of worship of another major world faith which is a member body of the UK Inter-Faith Network. 8. Children from named feeder schools. (Please see footnote 7). | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Looked After Children (LAC), Previously Looked After Children (PLAC) and Internationally Adopted Previously Looked After Children (IAPLAC). 2. Children who have a strong medical or other special reason for attending this College. 3. Children of any member of staff who has been employed at the College for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the College is made. (Please see footnote 4). 4. Children who are eligible under any of the Community criteria below and who have a brother or sister attending the College at the time of admission. 5. Children living within the Eastbourne Borough ward of Sovereign and to the east of Lottbridge Drove in the Borough ward of St. Anthony's. 6. Children living outside the area identified in category 5 above. |

In the event of oversubscription within any category, place allocation will be decided by prioritising applications on the basis of home to college distance measured in a straight line (as the crow flies). Distances will be measured from the child's home address to the nearest gate used by the children at the College. Distances will be measured using the East Sussex County Council GPS measuring system.

In the event of a tiebreaker, the college will use a random allocation to decide which child will be offered the remaining place. This will be overseen by a person independent of the College and the applicants.

APPLICANTS WHO ARE NOT OFFERED A PLACE

Parents who are not offered a place for their child have the right to appeal against any refused preference. The deadline for submitting your appeal can be found on the College's website. **More information on appeal panel decisions, appeal deadlines and general appeal advice can be found at eastsussex.gov.uk/schoolappeals.**

If you require an appeal form to be sent to you, please write to: East Sussex School Appeals Service, West E, County Hall, St Anne's Crescent, Lewes, BN7 1UE.

If an application is unsuccessful, the applicant will be notified in writing. The applicant should contact the College directly if they would like their child to be placed on the waiting list.

Please note:

1. Those applying for a Foundation Place (F1-7) should submit a Foundation Reference Form to the College. It is not necessary to complete a Foundation Reference Form when applying under the F8 category. The Foundation Reference Form must be completed by your priest, minister or religious leader confirming that you or your child have attended a public service of worship at least once a month during the last 12 months. In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship the church [or, in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship] has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the requirements of these [admissions] arrangements in relation to attendance will only apply to the period when the church [or in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship] or alternative premises have been available for public worship.
2. Where parents feel there is a medical or other special reason for attending the College verification such as a medical, education welfare officer's or social worker's report will be required at the time of application. To be given priority for admission on this basis, the Governors would have to be satisfied that the child's needs could only be met at St Catherine's College.
3. The term 'Christian church' refers to a church that is, or is eligible to be, a full member of Churches Together in Britain & Ireland or of The Evangelical Alliance.
4. 'Staff' is defined as anyone who is directly contracted by St Catherine's College.
5. A map of the boundaries for the College Community Area can be viewed at the College.
6. Any offer of a place based on distance from the College depends on the child living at the address provided on the closing date for applications. A business address, a child minder's address, or any other address other than the child's home will not be accepted. Proof of address may be required at the time of accepting a place. An offer based on a false address, or any other false information will be withdrawn.
7. Named feeder schools are Pevensey and Westham CE Primary School; St John's Meads CE Primary School; The Haven VA CE Methodist Primary School; Tollgate Community Junior School. These schools are named feeder schools (Church or Church Partnership Schools) so that parents can express a preference to continue their child's faith-based education.

COLLEGE UNIFORM

We strive for the highest standards in all aspects of school life and believe that students should take pride in their appearance and their school. High standards of appearance are an important part of each student's sense of values and are a preparation for the world outside school.

Therefore, we have a clearly stated policy that all students are expected to wear full school uniform, both whilst journeying to or from school and, of course, on site. The highest standards are maintained from the moment students enter the College and parents/carers are asked to support the policy regarding uniform.

Students have the option of wearing either **black college trousers with an SCC initial, black tailored shorts or a college tartan skirt**. A grey v-neck jumper is optional.

PE/EXPRESSIVE ARTS UNIFORM

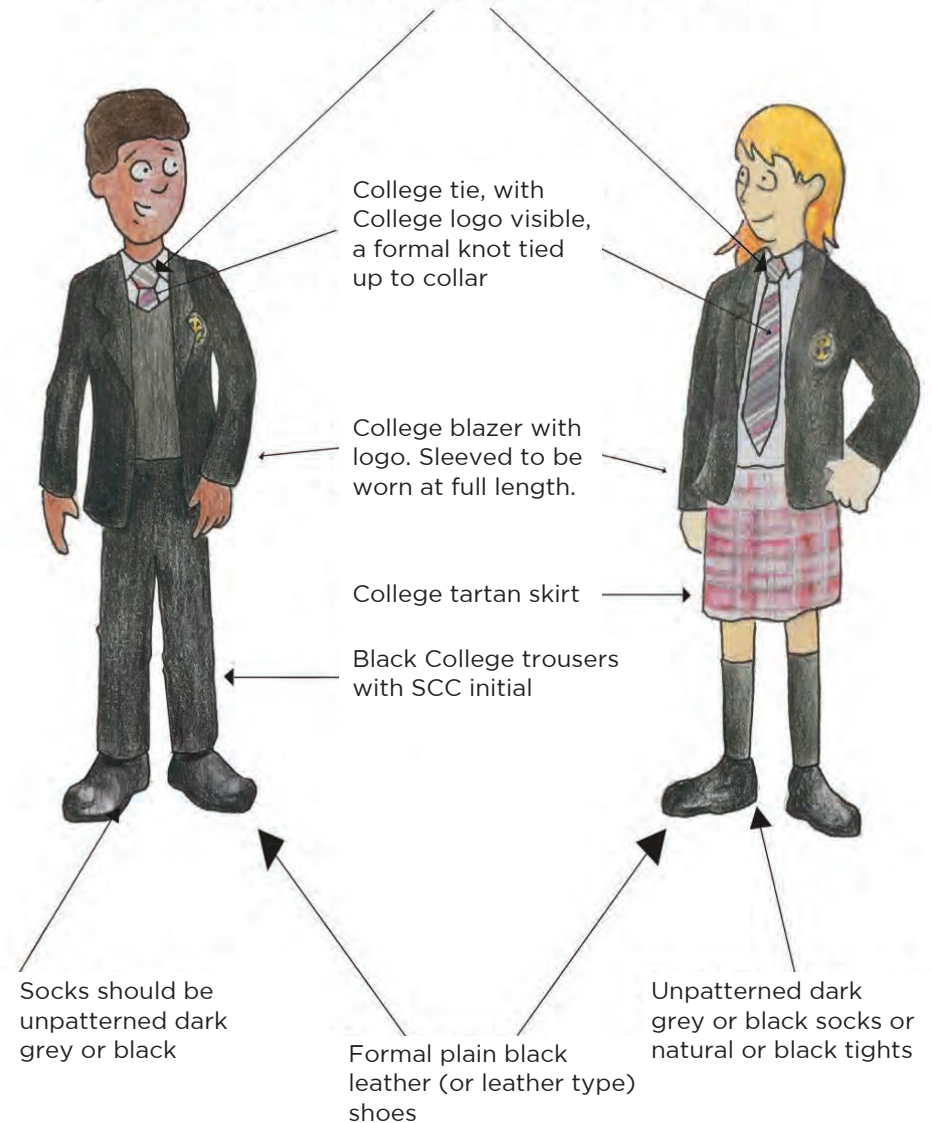
- Polo shirt and shorts both with college logo
- Black socks for football, or white sport socks
- Football boots and shin pads
- Trainers (not black-soled)

Optional Extras:

- Black training bottoms/Plain black leggings
- Waterproof jacket, zip-neck top, 'skort' (with college logo)

How To Wear Your St Catherine's College Uniform

White school shirt or blouse (tucked in with top button fastened).
No coloured or patterned undergarments should be visible.



TEACHING AND CURRICULUM

We want to enable all of our students to achieve their God-given potential in all aspects of their life. To achieve this, our students are offered a broad and balanced curriculum, delivered by inspirational and enthusiastic teachers, who demonstrate their passion for their subjects in every lesson. We focus on ensuring that our lessons are appropriately challenging and give every opportunity for our students to reach their potential. For those who require it, we do offer additional support with catch-up classes and other forms of intervention.

Our Key Stage 3 runs from Year 7 to Year 9 and provides an exciting curriculum for students. It is composed of a full range of subjects with a focus on the creative and expressive arts alongside traditional academic subjects. When students join us in Year 7, they will study a modern foreign language, either French or Spanish.

In Key Stage 4 all students will study English Language and English Literature, mathematics, science, PE and religious studies. In addition to this, students make option choices in Year 9. Students currently choose to study history and/or geography, with other options including French, Spanish, art, art - 3D digital design, computer science, dance, drama, design and technology, food and nutrition, early years, information technology, music, and photography. Some students will also have the opportunity to follow a motor vehicle course at our unique off-site garage.

A comprehensive and high-quality life skills programme is delivered to all students, which includes first class careers advice. This supports our students to have a wider understanding of the world we live in and guides them towards becoming responsible citizens. We also have a vast enrichment programme to help our students realise their talents. At St Catherine's College we strive to support and develop our students both inside and outside of the classroom.

2023 RESULTS - ATTAINMENT AND STUDENT PROGRESS

St Catherine's College is delighted with our students' excellent achievements. English and maths both had grade 9-4 pass rates of over 70%. The School is proud to report rising results, with all the key GCSE measures improved when compared to 2019; the pre-Covid benchmark which has been used nationally in this year's grading. There is strength in depth too, with a number of subjects exceeding a 90% pass rate. These include biology, chemistry and physics; art and drama; motor vehicle; and early years. Modern languages also performed strongly with French and Spanish pass rates of over 80%. A number of other subjects also performed exceptionally well.

GCSE Headlines:

| Subject | Grade 4+ | Grade 5+ |
|--------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Maths and English combined pass rate | 67% | 43% |
| Maths GCSE | 73% | 50% |
| English GCSE | 70% | 56% |
| Science GCSE | 60% | 34% |

Special Mentions:

Special congratulations to Millie Barrett who achieved nine grade 9s; also to Caedmon Myeni, Samuel Smedley, Isabelle Lynch, Alysia Evans, Daniella Berhane, Cameron Clarke, Lily Wenham, Isaac Long, Vicky Tsim, Milosz Grabowski, Lauren Didsbury and Amberley Connor who all achieved eight or more of the top 7-9 grades.

The School feels blessed to be serving its community and particularly wants to thank the parents, staff and students for their unwavering love, care and support through a challenging few years. We wish our students all the very best for their futures and continue to pray for their ongoing success.

SCHOOL DAY AND SCHOOL YEAR

| SCHOOL DAY | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 8.40am - 9.05am | Registration and Worship |
| 9.10am - 10.10am | Period 1 |
| 10.10am - 11.10am | Period 2 |
| 11.10am - 11.30am | BREAK |
| 11.30am - 12:30pm | Period 3 |
| 12.30pm - 1.30pm | Period 4 |
| 1.30pm - 2.00pm | LUNCH |
| 2.05pm - 3.05pm | Period 5 |
| 3.05pm | End of school day |

| SCHOOL YEAR 2023-2024 | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Term | Start Date | End Date |
| Term 1 | Friday 1 September 2023 | Friday 20 October 2023 |
| Autumn holiday | Monday 23 October 2023 | Friday 27 October 2023 |
| Term 2 | Monday 30 October 2023 | Friday 15 December 2023 |
| Christmas holiday | Monday 18 December 2023 | Monday 1 January 2024 |
| Term 3 | Tuesday 2 January 2024 | Friday 9 February 2024 |
| February holiday | Monday 12 February 2024 | Friday 16 February 2024 |
| Term 4 | Monday 19 February 2024 | Friday 28 March 2024 |
| Spring holiday | Monday 29 March 2024 | Friday 12 April 2024 |
| Term 5 | Monday 15 April 2024 | Friday 24 May 2024 |
| May holiday | Monday 27 May 2024 | Friday 31 May 2024 |
| Term 6 | Monday 3 June 2024 | Friday 23 July 2024 |

*N.B. These are the published East Sussex County Council term dates.
Schools will additionally arrange 5 INSET (Staff Training) days.*



ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE

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Phone: 01323 465400

Email: admin@stcatherines.college

www.stcatherines.college



*“During my daughter’s
time with you, she has
flourished into the unique
person she is”*

Parent