



ST MARY'S SIXTH FORM COLLEGE



WORLD CLASS THINKING : WORLD CLASS ACHIEVING



Meet The Team:

(from left to right) Kirstie Lilley-Head of Year 12 / Justin Charlton-Director of Careers & Progressions / Claire Curtis- Head of Sixth Form (Pastoral) / Laura Horton- Head of Sixth Form (Quality of Education) / Rebecca Lenham - SM6 Safeguarding Lead / Maeyen Corbin-Head of Year 13 / Clare Horrigan-Operations Manager

SM6 is a thriving Sixth Form with rapidly increasing student numbers. We offer a wide range of academic and vocational courses at Level 3, new T-level qualifications, a bespoke Level 2 Work Skills programme, as well as GCSE re-sit opportunities in both Mathematics and English.

We achieved a 99.9% pass rate in 2023 with 75 grades at A* and 91.9% of all grades at A* - C. In 2023, approximately 81% of students were offered a place into their first choice University and thanks to our unique Medical Health and Social Care Academy, a unique partnership between ourselves, the NHS and Hull University, a remarkable number of students were offered places at Medical School. Our world class facilities ensure we have a vibrant learning environment with access to state-of-the-art classrooms, science labs, social areas, IT provision, sports and performing arts venues.

99.9%
pass rate
at KS5

The most recently published performance data indicates our students consistently make excellent progress. We have been rated as an outstanding provider of post-16 education by ALPS over the past 9 years and have consistently been the region's top academic provider in a range of attainment and performance measures. Most notably, our most recent value-added score for academic qualifications was above all state-funded post-16 providers with a statistically significant cohort, not just in Hull, but in the East Riding too. This means that regardless of your starting point, on balance, current data indicates that you will do better at St Mary's than you will do at any other post-16 provider in the area.

SM6 is part of a Catholic school which believes that building character and spirit is an essential part of the development of learners. We have an excellent reputation for exceptional personal development, offering many exciting opportunities (trips and visits, charity work, sports, drama, music, mentoring, youth leadership and chaplaincy to name but a few) for students to develop as young adults. We firmly believe in providing young people with opportunities that they might not otherwise be exposed to. We offer a caring, supportive environment with a strong emphasis on pastoral care and preparing students for life after college. This is perhaps no better illustrated than with our appointment of Grad Interns who are a team of high-achieving recent graduates who provide individual support and guidance both academically and pastorally.

I hope you find this information helpful and informative and if you have any other enquiries please do not hesitate to contact me at SM6.

Mrs Laura Horton,
Senior Assistant Vice Principal

ST MARY'S COLLEGE SIXTH FORM

Head of School Welcome



I am delighted to offer you a warm welcome to St Mary's College Sixth Form and hope that this prospectus helps you discover something of who we are, what we do and what we stand for.

St Mary's College is one of the most successful schools in the country and is rightly proud of its reputation and track record in delivering the highest of standards for all students but particularly at Key Stage 4 and for our Sixth Form. The hard work and dedication of our staff and students never stops. We look forward to developing the school and improving standards even further.

St Mary's College is one of the biggest Catholic schools in the country serving almost 2500 students from Hull and the East Riding. In recent years we have added significantly to our state-of-the-art campus, theatre and sports facilities and exceptional Sixth Form centre. The size of the school is not an end in itself. However, it does allow us to offer a huge range of academic and extra-curricular programmes to cater for the many talents and interests of our community.

As a Catholic school we believe that all people, young and old, have an amazing capacity to do great things. The pursuit of excellence is not an option, it is our mission, our vocation, our very purpose. Underpinning our ambitions is our commitment to the personal pastoral care of every person. We have invested heavily in the leadership and staffing of a sophisticated pastoral care system which provides appropriate and timely support for individuals in order that learning, development and successful outcomes happen.

Our multi-national community celebrates the diversity of cultural and language traditions contributed by students and staff. As an International School we offer exceptional opportunities to experience the life, language and culture of other countries, to develop global awareness and a respect for justice, peace, the climate and our environment.

We are delighted to have been accredited as a World Class School in perpetuity in 2023 and acted as one of three lead schools for the World Class Schools network in the UK. It is a wonderful endorsement of the commitment of staff and students and of the very special nature of life at St Mary's College. Aiming to be one of the very best schools possible, St Mary's College Sixth Form is a demanding and challenging place to learn and to work. It is also a hugely rewarding and enjoyable place to be.

**Average grade in
technical
qualifications
Distinction***

**75 A*
grades
in 2023**



Chidimma Okonkwo



A former student of The Boulevard Academy, Chidimma chose to come to SM6 without any of her former close school friends to support her. "When I first came, I was so nervous, but I (and my mum) knew that this was the place for me to come and study as it's simply the best there is locally."

Currently in her first year in the Sixth Form, Chidimma is studying 4 A Levels: Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Spanish. Her plan in Year 13 is to apply to study Medicine at one of the country's top universities such as Imperial College London or the University of Cambridge.

Whilst not having to rely on the College's Pastoral Teams this year, Chidimma feels very reassured in knowing who is there to support her and she is overwhelmed by the help offered by teaching staff whom she describes as 'amazing', "No matter when you ask a question or ask for some help, they seem to be here at any hour to support".

Chidimma has these words of wisdom for any Year 11 students thinking about their higher education choices:

"The commitment from teachers here is amazing, they have such dedication and belief in the students. They really believe the students here are the 'future' and they invest so much in us"



Millie Brazier

Millie is a former student of Hymers College and joined SM6 in Year 12 to study Biology, Chemistry, Maths and PE with future study hopes of attending Medical School.

In order to help realise this, Millie is part of a special tutor group for students looking to follow a similar route. "This support was particularly invaluable when I became uncertain recently about the direction I wanted to take, they were able to instigate interviews with the Careers Advisor and Mr Charlton who were both able to provide me with the assurance and advice I needed to make the right university applications for me.

Being part of the Medical, Health & Social Care Academy has been really good for me on getting an insight on the profession, sessions have been both in person and virtual with a range of professionals. I'm very lucky to have my own medic mentor in the shape of Dr Dan Roper who has been part of the application preparation process too and I feel really ready to submit my choices. I would let anyone currently in Year 11 know that all the teachers here are supportive and amazing, the extra-curricular and opportunities are second to none. I do sport: netball and badminton, the courts are available to students to play on and staff get involved in playing with the students too, it's a real community within the Sports Academy".

"My SM6 experience has been fantastic, I absolutely love it here. When I'm walking down the corridors here, I'm always smiling and people are always smiling back, it's so friendly."

Harvey Kemp



Harvey was an internal applicant to SM6 having been right through St Mary's College as a student since the age of 11.

He is currently studying A levels in Criminology and PE and a BTEC in Sport. He hopes to join the Royal Navy after sixth form to be able to learn about engineering and have a chance to travel the world.

Careers meetings have really helped him find out the right route to a successful application to the Navy as well as the professional talks that came in from many of the armed forces during his time at the college. "SM6 has been great, I stayed because I had friends here and I knew it was a good place to study. The transition from school to college has been good, there is study time to really take the stress off and focus on what you need to do. It's made very clear what you need to do to be successful so you can use your time in the right way.

To any St Mary's student thinking whether they should stay or not, I'd simply say 'Why wouldn't you?'. The teachers treat you as young adults, the teaching is as good as it gets, the building, technology and equipment is fantastic."

"Why wouldn't you?"



Ebenezer Abara

Ebby chose to come from Italy to join his family in Hull and study at SM6. It was a big change coming into a new college system in a new country which he had never visited before, but after less than 24 hours in the UK he had signed up as a student at SM6.

"I did some research on line from Italy on further education options in Hull and some friends in the city who had studied at St Mary's said it was amazing and would be the perfect place for me. I considered that the right advice for me and came straight away.

I'm studying Sport full-time through the BTEC Level 3 qualification route with a hope to reading Sports Science or Sports Rehabilitation at university. I've applied to Sheffield, Loughborough, Leeds and Derby, but I would love to get to Loughborough for its reputation and facilities.

I've received all sorts of help with my application, even from one of the teacher's of French and from Mr Charlton and the PE teaching team. The SM6 experience has been different in a really positive way, learning a new school system (and I actually prefer the system here) where I can focus on the subjects I really want to specialise in and dedicate time to what I really want to do.

You should come to SM6 because it's got an incredible Academy of Sport where I have been part of the Coaching & Leadership programme, working on the summer schools and I have coached in other organisations outside of the school. These experiences I've had have really formed me into my future profession, with huge extra opportunities and learning about Safeguarding, First Aid, things that will help you in the world of work. The college has got lots of amazing facilities, I train every day in the school's gym. The school has done so much for me in the last year. I'm so busy all the time doing something."

"I spend my time here doing as much as I can fit in, as I am investing in my future aspirations"



SM6 Medical, Health & Social Care Academy

MHSCA

The MHSC Academy was established in July 2015 between St Mary's College Sixth Form (SM6) and the NHS Hull Clinical Commissioning Group in order to support local students onto NHS and Social Care career pathways. The MHSC programme is designed to run alongside normal Sixth Form studies.

The aim is to provide students from the local area, with a high-quality enrichment programme that helps progress their ambitions across the broad and diverse range of NHS careers such as medicine, nursing, allied health and social care and direct patient care. The MHSC Academy will help students to select the right educational qualifications and also provide essential work experience and industry enrichment, delivered by NHS Partners, to prepare them for the workplace or further studies.

Our Medical Academy was the first of its kind. We were the first provider in the country to have made such links with the NHS, providing our students with invaluable experiences and offering support with their applications to Universities and Medical Schools around the country.




Academies of Sport Programme

SM6 is proud to promote a sports offer that was described by OFSTED as “as good as it gets”. Students can engage in sport across three levels, Competitive, Leadership and Volunteering, and/or Participation and can also make use of our fully equipped state-of-the-art on-site gym.

We offer elite level coaching in a wide range of male and female sports such as Rugby, Football, Netball, Basketball, Table Tennis and Badminton. All with nationally recognised coaching staff who have either played or coached their sport to the highest level.

Our Sports Academies boast course directors and coaches drawn from the three main professional sporting clubs in the city – Hull City Football Club, Hull KR and Hull FC offering world-class leaders in their field.





**St Mary's College
is a national
role model.**

– CEO of Sport England (2014)

SM6 Educational Visits

Iceland, Poland, Berlin, Paris, New York and Geneva



As the world becomes increasingly interlinked, we believe it's important to offer our students the opportunity to visit different countries and experience different cultures.

As well as those listed above we also have various different trips in the UK such as Media Exhibitions and Performing Arts visits in London, Field Trips in Filey and Psychology observations at Chester Zoo.

One of our most popular trips is the annual study visit to New York early in the Spring Term.

The New York trip is a once in a lifetime opportunity. Students tour the 'Big Apple' and see some of the most iconic sights in the world including Times Square, Fifth Avenue and Central Park.



Our students are left simply astounded at their experiences of NYC:

“One of the most incredible experiences of my life”

“A once in a life time opportunity!”

“Such a great trip with great people and so many great experiences!”

“This trip was the best experience of my life, thank you so much for making it possible”

“Thank you for the most unreal, perfect week!”



St Mary's College Sixth Form

Students at SM6 can benefit from the expertise of our teaching teams, personal tutors and Grad Interns. Our students can refer themselves for help or our outstanding teaching staff will refer their students for help in areas such as academic writing, help with UCAS references to universities and apprenticeships and study skills including organisational skills and coping with workload.

Students will benefit from being in a tutor group which focusses on applying early for university, interview practice and preparation, and developing university-style study skills, such as debating. They receive high levels of support with their personal statements and UCAS applications from an experienced form tutor, three of whom attended Cambridge University and so can share their direct experiences of applying to the world's leading universities. The students are given the chance to visit Oxford, Cambridge and a wide range of UK universities and these trips are enhanced by our status as a Lead World Class School.

As the sixth form of choice for students with additional needs, we offer a dedicated Learning Support resource for SM6 students, providing individual and bespoke support to students with a range of learning needs, including those with SEND and EHCP requirements. Alongside our dedicated SM6 Safeguarding and wellbeing staff, we also work alongside a diverse group of external agencies to provide extensive support for students.

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Academy of Music & Performing Arts



SM6 has a forward thinking, rich cultured Academy of Music & Performing Arts and one that we wholeheartedly believe has the ability to enrich not only the artistic ability and creative vision of the students in our care, but also from a pastoral perspective in terms of progression routes to success. The Academy delivers Drama, Dance, Music, Musical Theatre as well as our Primary Music provision and our Peripatetic lessons across the St Cuthbert's trust.

The breadth of performances at SM6 really is world class. From whole school productions through to dance showcases, improvisation nights, Rock Challenge and choirs to name just a few.

Our 'SMArts Festival' saw West End performers and award-winning musicians visit the college to run workshops and perform alongside our students.

Our state-of-the-art facilities enable our highly skilled staff to deliver an industry standard creative arts experience. Students have a chance to perform on national platforms at the RSC or the international 'Move It' dance exhibition.

Our stunning school theatre is acknowledged by our partners from The Royal Shakespeare Company as being the best school theatre in the country.



SM6 Facilities

In our newest building on campus we host some fantastic facilities for our SM6 students which include:

- Computers on every level for students to access during their study periods.
- Books and computers in our Learning Resource Centre to support their studies.
- The Café Pod, only available to Sixth Form students.
- A fully equipped state-of-the-art gym. Sixth Form students can have access to this gym for only £5 for two years (no monthly fee).
- A kitchenette area for only Sixth Form students where students can heat up their own food in the microwaves and toasters provided.
- The Theatre of Dreams in which SM6 assemblies and a variety of shows and productions are performed.
- A range of work and social spaces positioned throughout the building.
- Outdoor picnic area and garden, exclusive to SM6 students.
- Modern, open plan art and design area with industry standard equipment.



APPLY NOW AT



<https://smchull.org/sm6-sixth-form/admissions-and-apply>



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