



St Mary's CE High School

Secondary Transition Evening Thursday 28th September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

September 2023

I am delighted to be able to write to you courtesy of your child's current Head Teacher to personally invite you to our Secondary Transition Open Evening that will take place on **Thursday 28th September 2023**.

The school will be open from 5.00pm until 8.30pm and I will be making presentations in the main school hall at 6.30pm and 7.45pm. If you would like to pre-book space on one of the presentations please complete the on-line reservation form ([HERE](#)) or use the QR code at the end of this letter. Visitors are welcome to tour the school before or after the presentations,

In addition, there will be Open Morning tours on the following dates:

7th, 12th, 13th, 18th, 20th, 25th, 27th September and

3rd, 5th, 10th, 11th, 17th, 19th October.

Each Open Morning is from 9.00-10.00am when visitors are welcome to tour the school to see our students and staff at work as well as meet senior staff and members of the transition team. If you would like to book your place on an Open Morning, please contact the school on 01992 629124.

I am aware that making the decision about a secondary school for your child is one of the most important decisions for a family and at St Mary's we really believe that this decision can only be made by visiting a school to meet and speak to the staff, students and other parents/carers. Our Secondary Transition Evening and Open Mornings are aimed at providing you with the opportunity to see our school at work, tour our excellent premises and gather information required for you to make an informed decision about the right school for your child.

The School has a strong inclusion policy and is recognised as an inclusive, multi-cultural and harmonious learning community of which students are very proud. Central to St Mary's successful ethos is working together to create a community where individual skills, talents and cultural heritage are respected and valued. Working in partnership with parents/carers and the wider community ensures that our students feel supported, attain high standards and experience a broad and balanced education that prepares them to participate fully as citizens of the twenty first century.

We are genuinely proud of our work in the St Mary's learning community and the provision of a safe and caring learning environment founded on Christian principles.

Our focus is on ensuring every student makes as much progress as possible regardless of their starting points. In the 2023 summer examinations, Year 13 students recorded a 90% pass rate and 62% of our Year 11 students achieved standard passes in both their English and Maths exams. Our inclusive curriculum means that on average students at St Mary's are entered for 9 subjects at KS4 and 47% of students are entered for the Ebacc, well above the national average. This work reflects our inclusion agenda and our commitment to ensuring that every child makes at least good progress during the time they are at St Mary's.

WE BELIEVE EVERYONE IS EQUAL: EVERYONE DESERVES THE BEST

Lieutenant Ellis Way, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire EN7 5FB t: 01992 629124 f: 01992 643354

e: admin@st-maryshigh.herts.sch.uk w: www.st-maryshigh.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr Nicholas Simms B.Sc. (Hons), NPQH

'Students feel happy and safe at school' OFSTED 2019

'An exceptionally inclusive and caring community' SIAMS Inspection 2020

St Mary's works closely with the Church and the Parish Rectory Team. Members of the clergy and our own Chaplain visit the school to lead acts of worship and to provide spiritual guidance. The school community celebrates key events in the Christian year, making use of the Church of St Mary the Virgin. There are opportunities for daily acts of worship or personal reflection and services for students to celebrate the Eucharist.

St Mary's welcomes applications from families of any faith or of no faith. All members of the school community are expected to respect our Christian values and this is an important basis of our work together. A family does not have to regularly attend church or any other place of worship to make an application to join St Mary's. Our aim is to provide opportunities for students to make informed decisions about Christian practice and to encourage a tolerance for differences in individual beliefs. Students are guided to make individual decisions about their personal level of active participation in worship.

We welcome visitors to our school to see our facilities and observe students and staff at work, or to discuss any aspect of our work at the school. If you would like to discuss any aspect of primary transition please contact the School on 01992 629124.

Once you have made your decision about the secondary school for which you wish to apply for September 2024, you should apply online on the Hertfordshire County Council online admissions website (www.hertsdirect.org/admissions). Parents/carers who live in authorities other than Hertfordshire need to refer to their own local authority website. The admissions process opens on 1st September 2023 and the deadline for admissions applications is 31st October 2023. St Mary's additionally require the completion of our Supplementary Information Form, which can be downloaded from the School website, along with the school brochure and prospectus (www.st-maryshigh.herts.sch.uk).

I do hope that you are able to join us on our Secondary Transition Evening on Thursday 28th September and/or for one of our Open Mornings. I look forward very much to meeting you and introducing you to our high achieving community.

Yours faithfully



Nicholas Simms
Head Teacher



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