# St. Joseph's Catholic High School





Unlocking Belief in All.

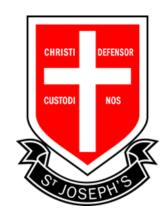
### **Our Mission Statement**

#### 'Unlocking Belief in All'.

The students and staff of St. Joseph's chose this mission statement together. We hope it encompasses everything we set out to achieve here at St. Joseph's and everything we have achieved in the last 7 years. Guiding young people to believe in themselves; to believe in their abilities, in their resilience and that their faith will guide them. We're part of the St Thomas Catholic Academy Trust, Northampton Diocese.

## Our Vision

We aim to create a school where children aren't just loved but that they know they are loved. We envisage our students as having the qualities and virtues of: love and compassion, learnedness and wisdom, attentiveness and discernment, gratitude and generosity, faith-filled and hopefulness, curious and active, eloquent and truthful and living prophetically and intentionally. This is what it means to be a St Joseph's student.





Ciran Stapleton MA NPQH
Head Teacher

"The school is significantly oversubscribed, being placed in the top 10% of the country for 3 of the last 4 years." Ofsted Sec. 48 2018



# Learning at St Joseph's

"Building learning that lasts"

We are a learning community. Learning occurs through exceptional teaching with trust, understanding and moral purpose at its core. Our mission is to create curious, resilient, determined lifelong learners who don't view the world as it is but as it should be. We aim to develop learners who are prepared for life in a world characterised by change, who can thrive as part of a school community which extends beyond the school gate. 'Only the best is good enough' has become a mantra for aspiration, Students at St Joseph's work towards highly ambitious targets from Year 7 through to the Sixth Form.

Our insistence of high academic rigour has resulted in the students making outstanding progress during their time with us placing the school in the top 5% of schools nationally for progress (top 10% Fischer Family Trust 2018 & 2019) and in the top 6 best performing and improving schools in the country in April 2016 (HMI Inspection). "One pupil voicing the opinions of a group of pupils said "The teachers are good and happy. They make learning fun. You can always go to teachers for help."

Ofsted December 2018.









# The Curriculum at St Joseph's

Our curriculum's intention is to allow all learners, irrespective of their starting point, the means to unlock their belief to be the best possible version of themselves. Aiming to provide the Attributes, Skills and Knowledge for our students to change society for the better, our curriculum pathways, established thorough analysis of prior attainment and currently working at grades, enable all pupils to make exceptional progress.

Students joining us in Year 7 will experience a two year, knowledge rich, Key Stage 3 which provides access to the best of what has been thought and said in history. Our three year Key Stage 4 deepens students' understanding and aims to connect the world's big ideas. Having been through an Information and Guidance process in year 8, students begin their GCSE courses in Year 9. Pathways are carefully developed to give students opportunities to select courses relevant to their future ambitions, areas of interest and expertise. The number of students taking the esteemed EBACC qualifications is considerably higher than the national average and we are one of the only schools in Slough to offer the challenging 'Triple Science' GCSE to our most able cohorts. We've shown that students at St Joseph's study a curriculum that unlocks entry to the best Universities in the world.

The vast majority of our students remain with us to study A/S and A' Levels at sixth form. Over the past seven years, 100% of our students have secured a destination of their choice, whether it be a place at their preferred university or in the workplace.





# I am Attentive and Discerning

"Pupils' behaviour is exemplary. They are courteous and respectful towards each other and teachers. They wear their uniform smartly and take good care of their school environment"

**Ofsted 2018** 

"Pupils are proud of their school. They behave well around the school and in lessons. They are cheerful, polite, helpful and very supportive of each other".

iamjoseph

**Ofsted 2016** 





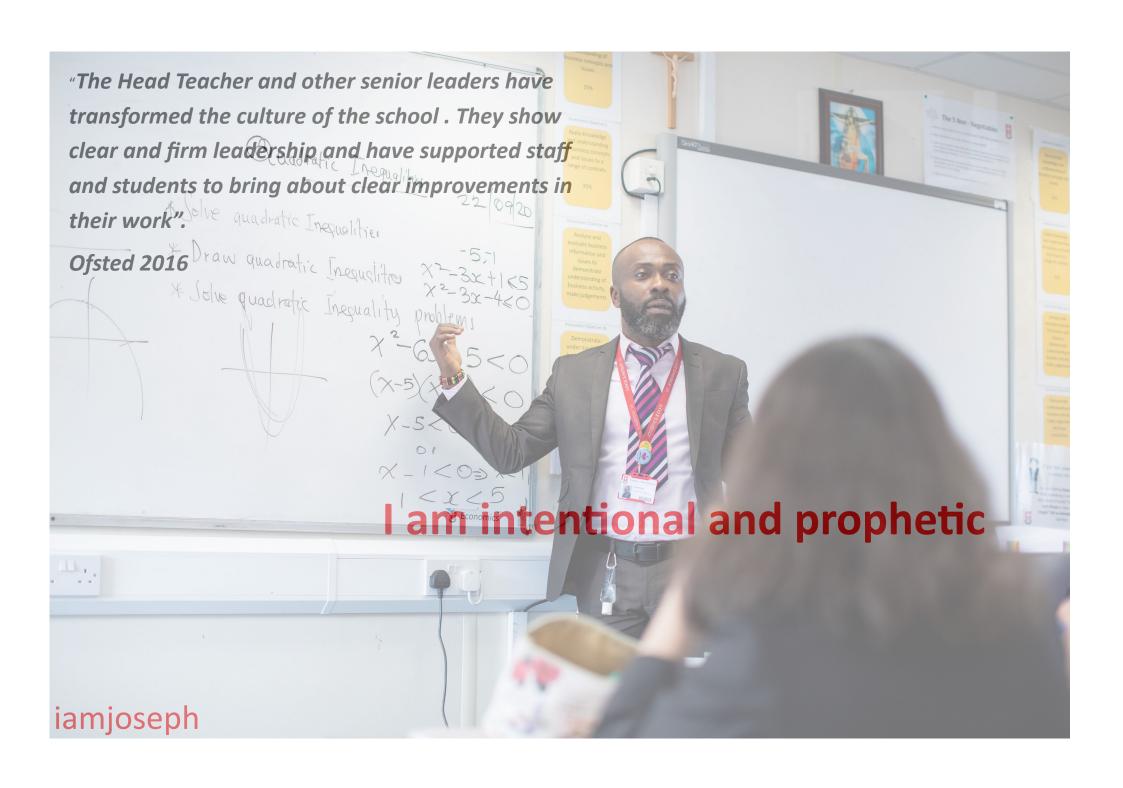
# The Sixth Form at St Joseph's



Life as a Sixth Form student at St Joseph's is stimulating, inspiring and enjoyable. The Sixth Form numbers over 200 students. Our students leave with excellent qualifications and experiences which will serve them throughout their lives. For example, our students have gone on to study Medicine at Cambridge University, Kings College University of London and Plymouth University; Law at Bristol University and a variety of subjects at a wide range of Russell Group universities.

At Sixth Form we bridge the gap to adulthood. Students develop across many areas of school life, contributing intentionally to the school climate. The prefect system allows students to grow as leaders and to engage in many initiatives to broaden their horizons, be it participation in our partnership programme with Eton College or funding missionary work in Thailand. Students are challenged to engage in enrichment activities that resonate with our core values as a Catholic school.

We aim to provide each and every student in our care with the best experience possible. Students who choose to be part of our Sixth Form are expected to have high ambitions and expectations of themselves.



# Spiritual Life

At St Joseph's we cultivate an unashamedly Catholic atmosphere in which each individual is highly valued. The care and value of others is central to our work. All of our students are expected to achieve their God-given potential and become morally and spiritually equipped for adult life, so that they can change society for the better. At St Joseph's every action we take is directed by Gospel values.



# The Pastoral System

Form tutors live out the concept of a 'home from home', building meaningful relationships with students and families to ensure students feel supported, confident and prepared. We are committed to safeguarding our students and have clearly established values rooted in the worth and dignity of each individual child.





# Curricular plus



St. Joseph's has a strong tradition of extra curricular activities designed to ensure every child has the chance to develop life-long skills applicable outside the classroom. Every child participates in at least one extra curricular activity over the year. Sport, art and the performing arts are strong traditions and the school has a reputation of excellence for its theatre productions. Students have access to a wide range of activities from the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, theatre trips to London, trips to Paris, trampoline clubs, guitar clubs, choir, right through to modern dance competitions.



# Happy, hopeful Students

We are inspired by St Joseph, patron Saint of workers and a member of the Holy Family. We aim to create a place where children aren't just loved but that they know they are loved. It is this ethos that drives our children to become academically successful. Here, all children are developed according to their ability and we make every effort to ensure that we reach out to all, regardless of background. You'll experience a happy atmosphere at St Joseph's in which the dignity and worth of each pupil and member of staff is recognised, developed and safeguarded. Our school is recognised for its atmosphere of welcome where all feel at home in a sense of safety and security. Staff are willing to be present with the pupils in friendship and to go that one step further to meet their needs.





