

The Sixth Form

St Mary's Catholic School



Welcome to the
Year 12
Parent Information Evening

Loved. Guided. Inspired.

Structure of this evening

- 1. Welcome, Introductions & Objective**
- 2. Supporting your child to achieve their potential and aspirations**
- 3. A diverse, immersive enrichment programme**
- 4. Dates for the Diary**
- 5. Navigating the school website**
- 6. Go4Schools**
- 7. Safeguarding & Wellbeing**
- 8. 16-19 Bursary**
- 9. Meet the Form Tutor**

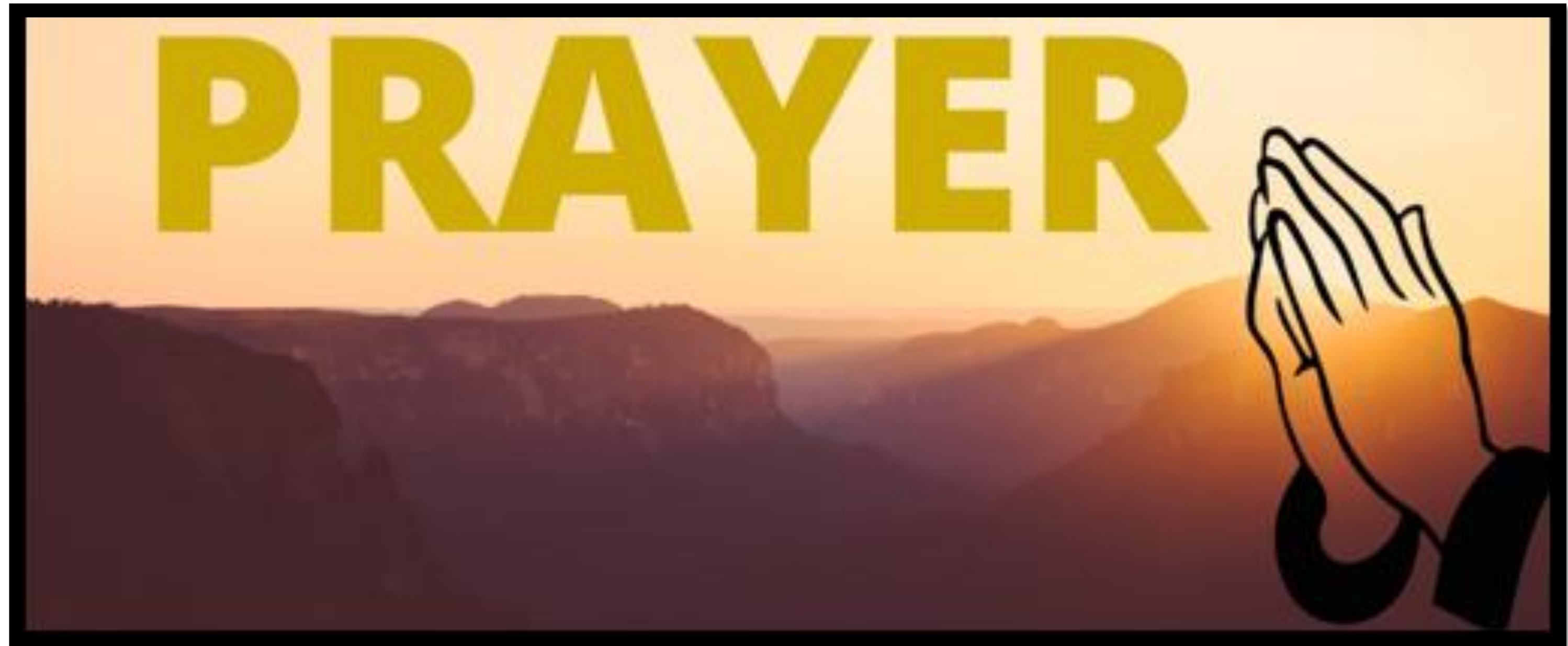
Introductions

The Sixth Form Team

- **Mrs. Ribeiro** Year 12 Manager
- **Mrs. Jose** Year 13 Manager
- **Mrs. Knight** Careers Leader
- **Mr. Noble** Director of Sixth Form

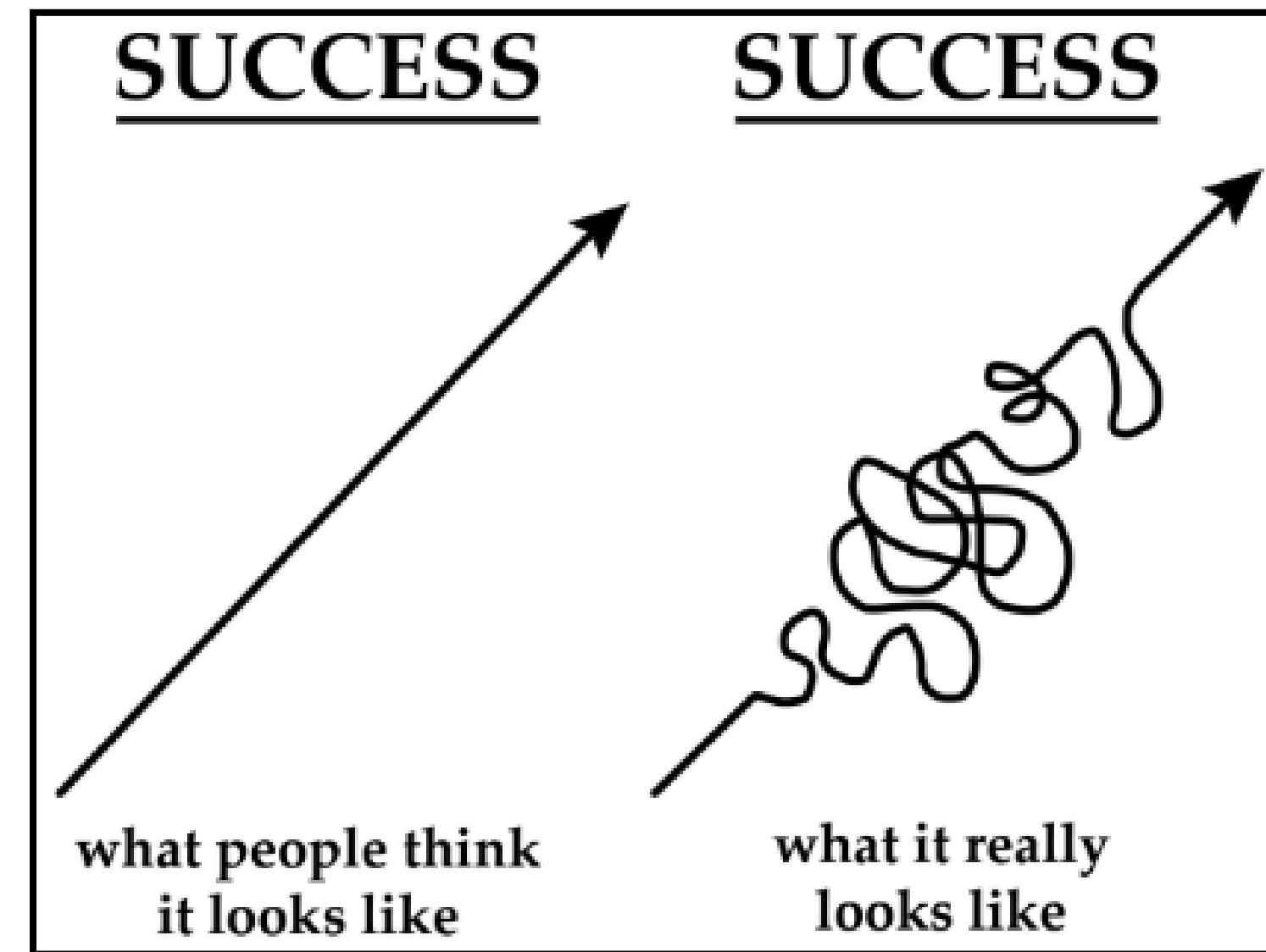
Form Tutor Team

- ✓ **Mr. Hunt (12A)**
- ✓ **Mr. Lawn & Miss Easby (12J)**
- ✓ **Mrs. Ryan (12M)**
- ✓ **Mr Harris (12T)**



Supporting your child to achieve their potential and aspirations

What is *your* **‘WHY’**?



FIXED MINDSET

The belief that skills, intellect, and talents are set and unchangeable.



GROWTH MINDSET

The belief that skills, intellect, and talents can be developed through practice and perseverance.



I'll stick to what I know.
Either I'm good at it or not.

DESIRES

I want to learn new things.
I am eager to take risks.

It's fine the way it is.
There is nothing to change.

SKILLS

Is this really my best work?
What else can I improve?

This is a waste of time;
there's a lot to figure out.

EFFORT

I know this will help me
even though it is difficult.

It's easier to give up.
I'm really not smart.

SETBACKS

I'll use another strategy;
my mistakes help me learn.

This work is boring.
No one likes to do it.

FEEDBACK

I recognize my weakness,
and I know what to fix.

It's easy for him or her.
They were born smart.

TALENTED PEERS

I wonder how they did it.
Let me try to figure it out.

Examples of everyday learning behaviours:

Aspiration	Courage	Accountability
Attendance & Punctuality 	Independence	Organisation
Resilience	Initiative	Collaboration





Record-Breaking A Level Results 2026

— St Mary's Catholic School Sixth Form —



A record proportion of A* and A grades, equalling the benchmark set in 2018.



Record levels for A*-B, overall pass rate and early indications of value added.



Students are progressing to first-choice universities, apprenticeships and employment.

Leading destinations include UCL, Bristol, York, Leeds and Bath.

“ St Mary's Sixth Form is flourishing.

Paul Carroll, Chair of Governors

“ Our best ever performance is testament to our staff, parents and wonderful students.

Deirdre McHugh, Headteacher

**AEROSPACE
ENGINEERING**

ECONOMICS

**MATHEMATICS
& STATISTICS**

**APPLIED MEDICAL
SCIENCES**

DENTISTRY

**MECHANICAL
ENGINEERING**

ARCHITECTURE

MEDICINE

PHYSICS

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE
& LINGUISTICS**



Love



Respect



Flourish



Apprenticeships

Students have recently secured degree-apprenticeships or apprenticeships at:



Post-18 Pathway preparations

- Our Careers Leader, Mrs Knight is based Sixth Form.
- The Careers Aim for Year 12 is to **Explore Post 18 Choices**. This is achieved through:
 - ✓ Work Experience Week
 - ✓ Apprenticeship and University Fair at the ExCel Arena in London
 - ✓ University Experience Day
 - ✓ Visiting guest speakers and universities to speak with students
 - ✓ Enrichment Week
 - ✓ Outside Inside Day
 - ✓ Multiple Mini Interviews (MMIs) to support our aspiring medics/dentists/vets
 - ✓ School's Careers Fair
 - ✓ PSHE focus on Post 18 choices, including UCAS, Apprenticeship and employability support.
 - ✓ Extensive resources: Unifrog, Careers Teams Page



Work Experience



- ✓ Monday 8th - Friday 12th February
- ✓ All students are expected to find their own placements
- ✓ All students MUST log their placement on their Unifrog profiles
- ✓ E-letters will be sent home with full instructions

Outside-Inside Day



**“Set your standards high...
and watch your aspirations soar.”**

The VESPA Model... for success

- ✓ **Vision** – know what you want to achieve
- ✓ **Effort** – put in the hours of proactive independent study
- ✓ **Systems** – organise your learning resources and time
- ✓ **Practice** – practice and develop your skills
- ✓ **Attitude** – respond constructively to setbacks.



Supervised Study Rooms



F2 - 3



F1

Maximising the effectiveness of Supervised Study:



Brain Dump:		Daily Time Box		
Three large white arrows pointing downwards from the Brain Dump section to the Priority Tasks section.		Name:		
		Form:	Date:	
		Study period #1	Time:	
		Task:		
		Study period #2	Time:	
		Task:		
		Study period #3	Time:	
		Task:		
		Break / Lunch	Time:	
		Task:		
After School	Time:			
Task:				
Evening	Time:			
Task:				

Priority Tasks:
1)
2)
3)

The Sixth Form

St Mary's Catholic School

Supervised Study Contract

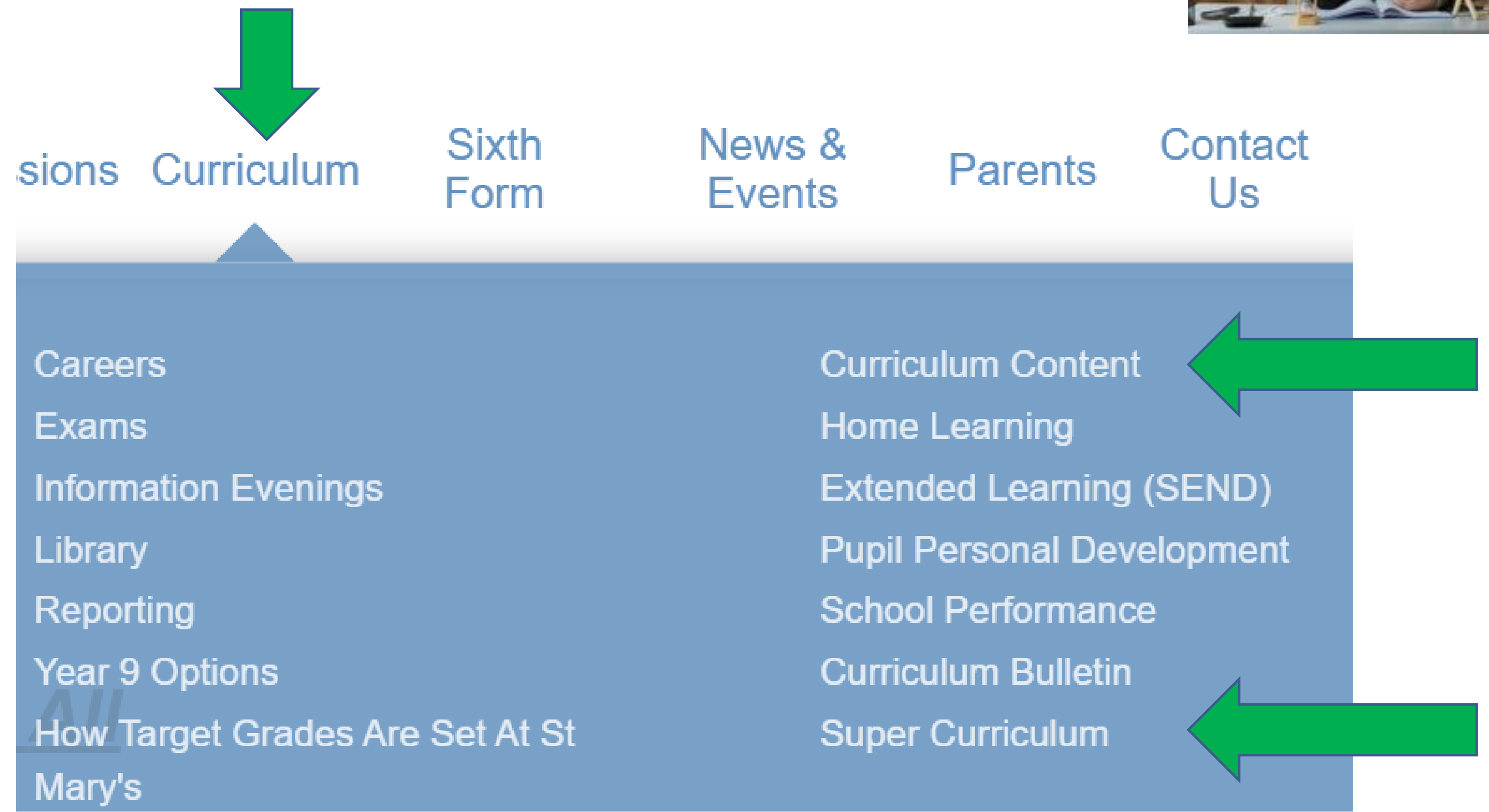
Full Name: _____

Tutor Group: _____

My Commitment:

- ✓ I recognise that developing effective independent study habits will support my academic progress and outcomes, as well as prepare me for university, an apprenticeship, or employment.
- ✓ I commit to choosing a minimum of 50% of my supervised study periods to be completed in the Silent Study Room (F2-3).

"But... I don't have any work to do"



The negative impact of low attendance

0 days of school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned

Attendance Policy

St Mary's Sixth Form operates a levelled sanctions structure, as set out in the Sixth Form Home-School Agreement. Significant or persistent low attendance forms an important aspect of this levelled sanctions structure:

Level 1 – Formal written warning

Level 2 – Second written warning which the school reserves the right to refer to this in future academic or job references.

Level 3 – Final written warning (usually coupled with parental meeting). The school will use this in future academic or job references.

Level 4 – Withdrawal of Sixth Form place

If a pupil has been absent continuously for at least 20 school days with unauthorised absences, we will assume the young person has left St Mary's Sixth Form and they will no longer be a member of St Mary's Sixth Form.

Please contact attendance@stmarys.net to report a child absent
or call 01279 654 901 by 08.40am (morning registration)

ON TIME. READY TO LEARN.

Small delays compound into real lost learning.

JUST FIVE MINUTES LATE EACH DAY

≈ **16 LESSONS** missed across a year

LATE EACH DAY	SCHOOL DAYS LOST	LESSONS MISSED
5 min	3 days	16
10 min	5 days	32
15 min	8 days	48
20 min	11 days	63
30 min	16 days	95

Approximate figures based on a 190-day school year and one-hour lessons.

THE CUMULATIVE EFFECT

- 1 **Arrive late**
- 2 **Miss the opening**
retrieval, instructions, explanation
- 3 **Knowledge gaps build**
- 4 **Progress slows**
- 5 **Outcomes can narrow**

PUNCTUALITY IS RESPECT

For your classmates.
For staff who are ready for you.
For your own goals.

Be there before the start. Be ready when learning begins.

Your time matters. Other people's time matters. Every lesson matters.

✓ Smart

✓ Modest

✓ Professional

Sixth Form Dress Code

The way you present yourself is important to the school and first impressions count.

We expect Sixth Form students to always be smart and well-presented in a modest and professional business-like manner, the following are a summary of the dress code to ensure openness and transparency of expectations as they apply to Sixth Form:

If uncertain, please clarify the suitability of items of clothing and style with the Director of Sixth Form.

Students who are dressed in an undignified manner and/or are in breach of the dress code will be sent home to return to school after they have changed into appropriate wear.

Gentlemen

- A suit with a shirt and tie.
- Top button on shirts must be fastened.

Choice 1		
Item	Non-negotiables	Examples**
Formal business suit or formal trousers & suit jacket/blazer	▪ NOT linen	 H&M  Next  Next
Collared shirt and tie	▪ Top button must be done up ▪ Shirt must be tucked in	
Black or brown formal shoes	▪ Polishable ▪ NOT trainers or boots (inc. Dr. Martens) ▪ Must be worn with socks	 Next  Ted Baker

Ladies

- A suit jacket with trousers or formal skirt (knee-length), all of which should look like they come from a suit though not necessarily the same suit. Colours should be suitably sober.
- Discreet jewellery and make up.
- Skirts must be knee length and appropriate material i.e. non-clingy and not figure hugging.
- Tailored formalwear trousers (skin-tight trousers/leggings/jeans etc. are not allowed as they are unprofessional).
- Blouses/shirts must be plain (or subtly patterned): should have sleeves and be of an opaque material.

Choice 2		
Item	Non-negotiables	Examples**
Business style trousers, skirt or dress with a suit jacket or blazer	▪ Skirts/dresses must be knee-length ▪ Skirts/dresses must NOT be lycra, eg bodycon style:	 Lipsy  Asos  Next
Smart blouse		 H&M  Shein  Zara
Black or brown formal shoes	▪ Plain or subtly patterned* ▪ Midriffs, shoulders and backs must be covered at all times ▪ NO strapless or "string-strap" tops, eg.  ▪ NO see-through or lace material	 H&M  Asos  Asos
	▪ Flat or low-heeled ▪ Polishable ▪ NOT trainers or boots (inc. Dr. Martens) ▪ Must be worn with dark socks or tights  No Ugg boots	 Next  Zara  Next
		 Shein  H&M  Cahin Klein
		 New Look  Zara

Clear expectations



A diverse, immersive enrichment programme
&
An inclusive, friendly, respectful and fun experience







WISEUP
TEAM BUILDING

Centred around Personal Development and Community

	AUTUMN	SPRING	SUMMER
YEAR 12	Leadership ☐ Duke of Edinburgh Personal Development ☐ Finance ☐ Cooking ☐ Mindfulness ☐ Sport ☐ Current Affairs ☐ Creative Studies Community ☐ Charity event ☐ Reading support for lower years ☐ Enhancing our Environment	Leadership ☐ Duke of Edinburgh ☐ Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) Personal Development ☐ Finance ☐ Cooking ☐ Mindfulness ☐ Sport ☐ Current Affairs ☐ Creative Studies Community ☐ St Elizabeth's Project ☐ Reading support for lower years ☐ Enhancing our Environment	Leadership ☐ Duke of Edinburgh ☐ Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) Personal Development ☐ Finance ☐ Cooking ☐ Mindfulness ☐ Sport ☐ Current Affairs ☐ Creative Studies Community ☐ Education Project ☐ Reading support for lower years ☐ Enhancing our Environment
YEAR 13	Leadership ☐ Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) Personal Development ☐ Finance ☐ Cooking ☐ Mindfulness ☐ Sport ☐ Current Affairs ☐ Creative Studies Community ☐ Charity event ☐ Reading support for lower years ☐ Enhancing our Environment	Personal Development ☐ Finance ☐ Cooking ☐ Mindfulness ☐ Sport ☐ Current Affairs ☐ Creative Studies Community ☐ St Elizabeth's Project ☐ Reading support for lower years ☐ Enhancing our Environment	Personal Development ☐ Finance ☐ Cooking ☐ Mindfulness ☐ Sport ☐ Current Affairs ☐ Creative Studies

Enrichment Opportunities:

Duke of Edinburgh: Gold



Dedicated to achieving excellence for all

Enrichment Opportunities:

EPQ

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

Explore. Research. Create. Succeed.

The EPQ is a Level 3 qualification that lets you go beyond the classroom and create your own in-depth project on any topic that interests you.

HOW IT WORKS

1



CHOOSE YOUR TOPIC
Pick something you're passionate about.

2



PLAN & RESEARCH
Develop a question, explore sources and plan your project.

3



CREATE YOUR PROJECT
Produce a written report or alternative product.

4



PRESENT
Deliver a short presentation on your project.

5



ACHIEVE
Earn a Level 3 qualification worth UCAS points.



BOOST YOUR UCAS APPLICATION
Show universities your initiative and academic ability.



EARN UCAS POINTS
Equivalent to half an A Level.



PURSUE YOUR PASSIONS
Study a topic that inspires you.



DEVELOP SKILLS FOR LIFE
Transferable skills valued in university and the workplace.

EXAMPLE PROJECTS



How effective is social media activism?



Should the voting age be lowered to 16?



The ethics of artificial intelligence



Is genetic engineering the future?



To what extent is the justice system fair?



Your idea.
Your project.
Your future.

SKILLS YOU'LL DEVELOP

- 

INDEPENDENT THINKING
Develop your own ideas and take ownership of your learning.
- 

RESEARCH & ANALYSIS
Find, evaluate and use information effectively.
- 

COMMUNICATION
Present your ideas with confidence and clarity.
- 

TIME MANAGEMENT
Plan, manage and meet your deadlines.
- 

UNIVERSITY & CAREER READY
Stand out in your UCAS application and develop skills for the future.

“

The EPQ pushed me to think deeper, work independently and discover a passion for my subject. It was challenging but so rewarding.

– Year 13 Student

Dedicated to achieving excellence for all

Enrichment Opportunities:

St Elizabeth's Project



Enrichment (Leadership) Opportunities:

Black History Month



Charity Week



Enrichment (Leadership) Opportunities:

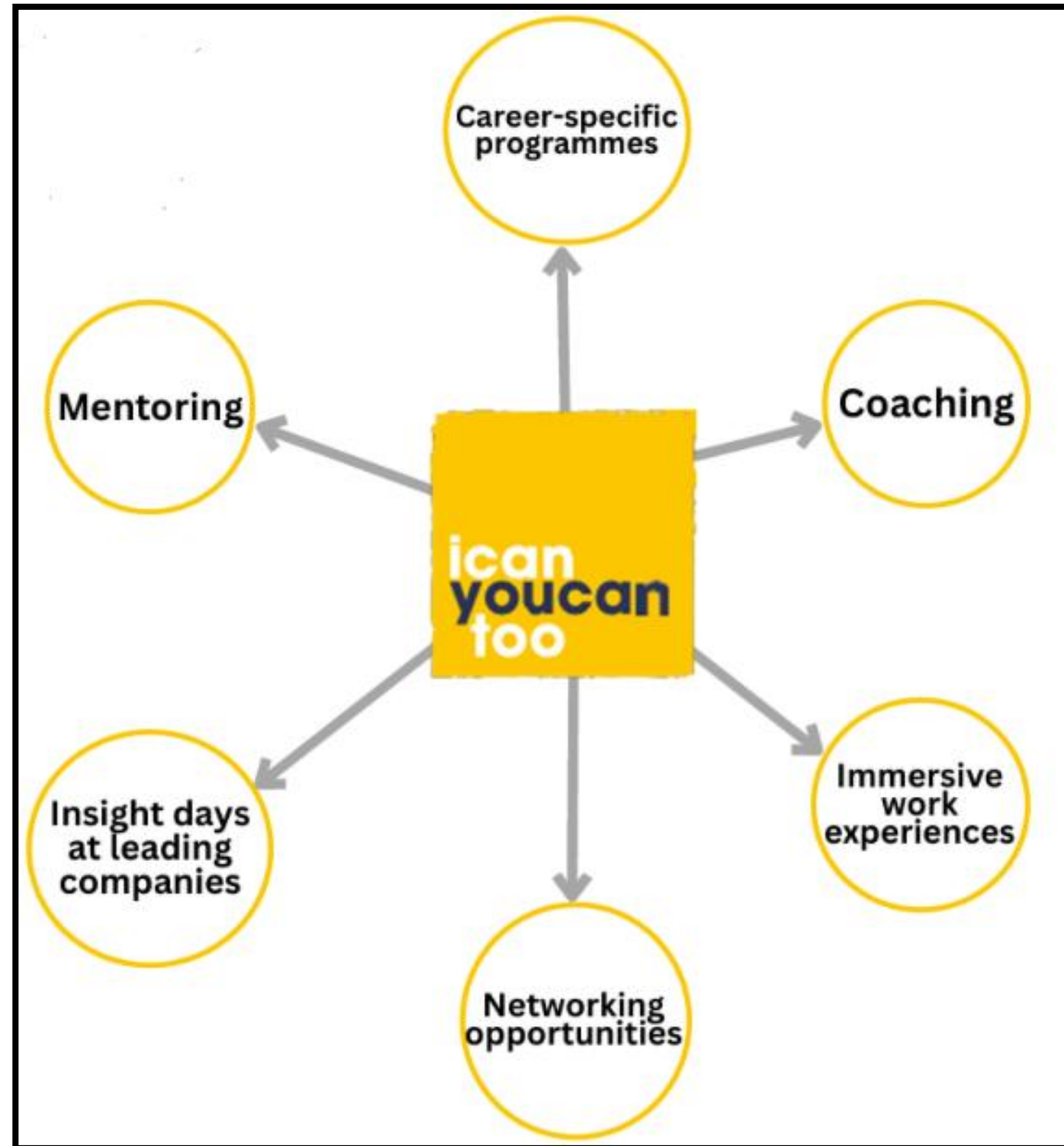
Catholic and Spiritual Life

- Pilgrimage to Lourdes
- Radio Maria
- Cantenians Public Speaking competition
- Sixth Form Retreat day (off site)
- Virtue-Driven *House reward system*
- Faith Leadership opportunities: *Spiritual Leaders & Chaplaincy Team*
- Charity Week



Enrichment Opportunities:

'I Can You Can Too' (ICYCT)



THREE amazing Programmes on offer:

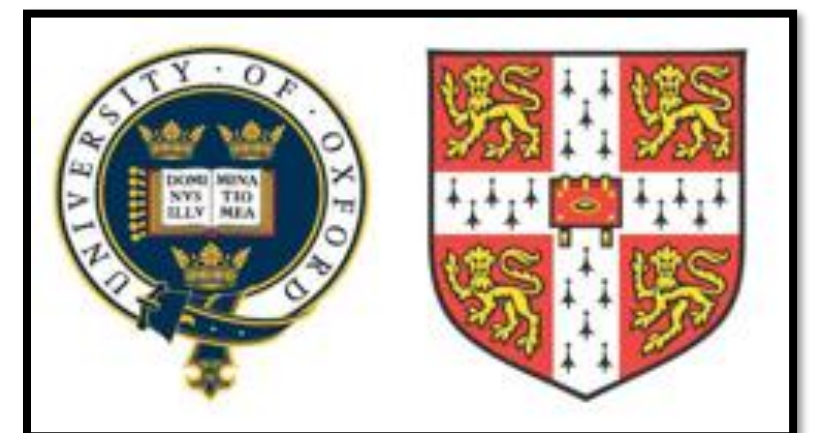
Corporate



Healthcare



*Oxford & Cambridge
Universities*





Nilesch B. Dosa MBE  · 1st

Founder, icanyoucantoo | MBE & King's Award recipient | Keynote
Speaker & Advisor on Social Equality | EY

 icanyoucantoo

Official Launch Date:

Thursday 17th September

Thursday 17th September – *I Can You Can Too* launch

Friday 2nd October – **Sixth Form Retreat**

W/c 19th October – **AP1 (CWG)**

Wednesday 11th November – **Sixth Form Open Evening**

Thursday 19th November – **Year 12 Invite Only Parent Evening**

W/c 11th January – **AP2 (CWG)**

W/c 8th February – **Work Experience**

Thursday 15th April – **Parent Evening**

W/c 19th April (for 2 weeks) – **Internal Exams**

W/c 10th May – **AP3 + Report**

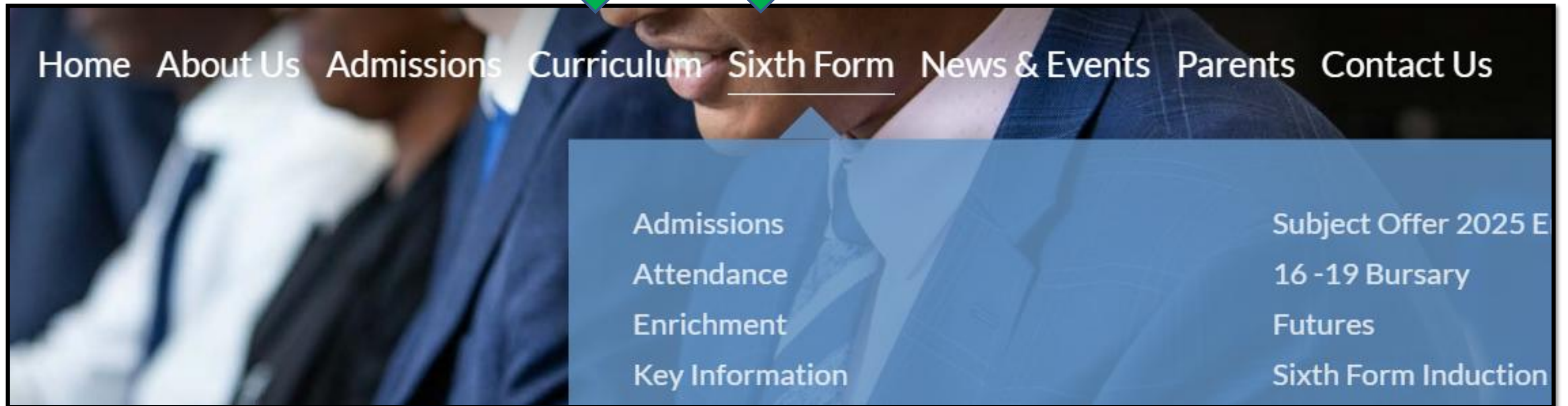
17th–18th June – **Invited Resits**

W/c 28th June – **AP4 (CWG)**

W/c 12th July – **Enrichment Week (incl. Inside-Outside Day on Thursday 15th July)**

Dates for the diary:

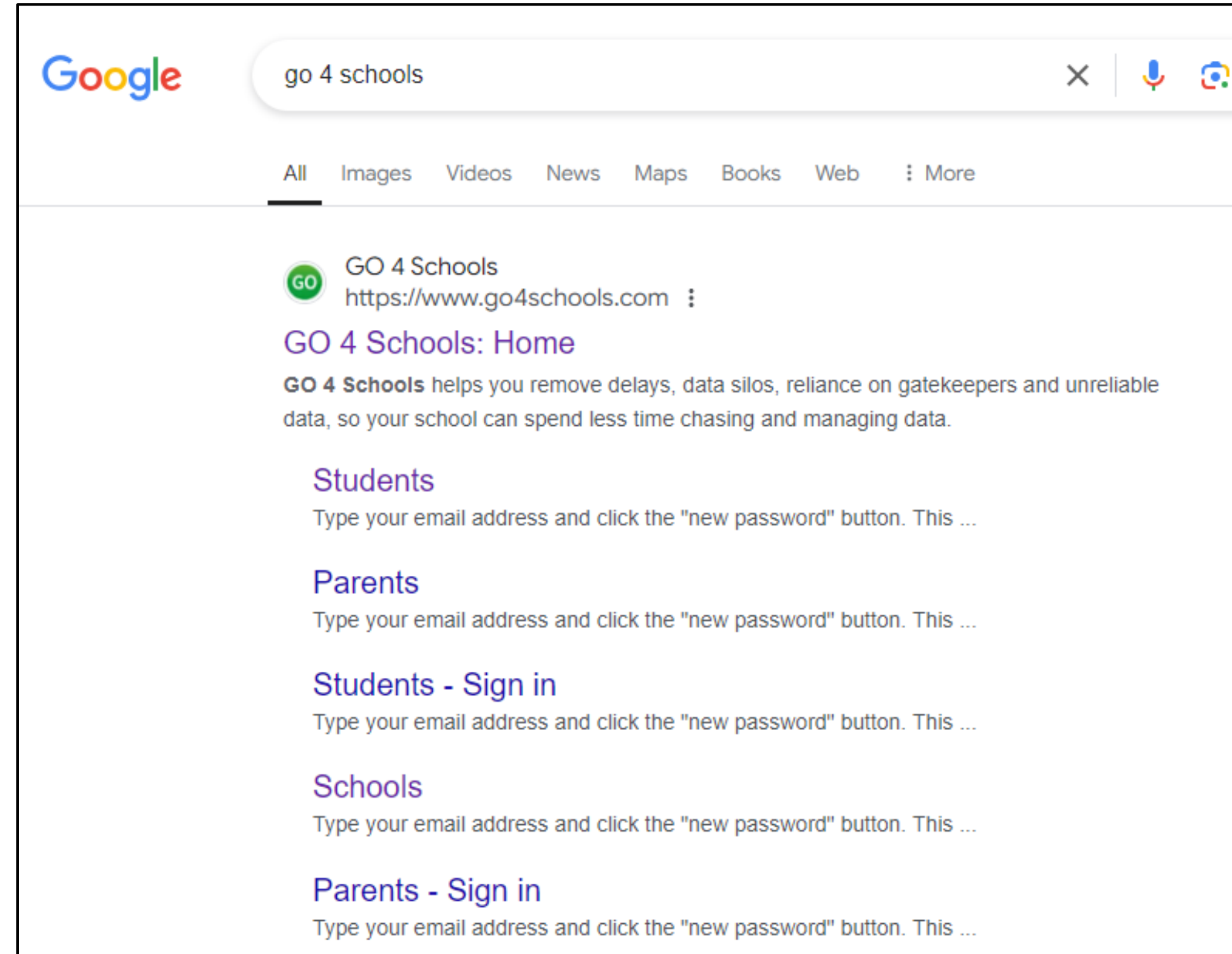
Navigating the school website



- ✓ St Mary's has invested in a the leading educational (online) platform **Go4Schools**
- ✓ This was in response to parental feedback requesting more information about pupil progress
- ✓ Go4Schools stores and present “live” information about your child's academic performance
- ✓ This information also includes student homework (*no other platform should be used to set homework.*)

Accessing Go4Schools

1. Search for Go 4 Schools
2. Pick the appropriate link (student/parent)



Accessing Go4Schools

3. The login page will become visible
4. Choose “first time user”
5. Ensure you use your:
 - St. Mary's email address (students)
 - or the email address the school has on file (parents)

Sign in

Please note that not all login methods are supported by all schools.

 Sign in with Google

 Sign in with Microsoft

 Sign in with GO

First-time user?

Forgotten Password?

If you haven't logged on to GO 4 Schools before, type your email address and click the "new password" button.

This is the password you may use to log in to GO 4 Schools if your school supports this login method. It is also the password you use to log in to the GO 4 Schools Mobile App if your school uses the Mobile App.

Email address

c.palmer@stmarys.net

New password

Live tracking

You are currently previewing as Mrs Maria Fontanelli

STUDENT DETAILS

 Homework (1) Due within the next 7 days or the last 7 days			
Due	Subject	Task	Done
12 Sep 2024	Economics 12A/Ec1	Key Terms Guidance time: 20-30 min.	☐

Attendance
83%

- Present
- Unauthorised absence

Live tracking

STUDENT DETAILS

2025 ▾ Year 12 (Current), 12A

 [Progress summary](#) [View subject in detail ▾](#)

Progress

Summary - Current Working Grade

☒ Subject name ☐ Grade value

Biology	DT Joint	Economics	Enrichment	General RE	Mathematic	PSHE	Registration	Supervised Study
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Residual legend

GO 4 School: Current model

Above target

On target

Below target

Well below target

Live tracking

Subject	Year 7 Baseline	External target	CWG	Sheet summary
Biology, Mrs A Acheson, Mr D Neesam	-	-	-	A2L 1 A2L 2 A2L 3 Assessments
DT Joint, Mrs A Crowhurst, Mr M Hunt	-	-	-	Year 12 Key Assessments Year 13 Key Assessments
Economics, Mr C Palmer, Mr J Gitau	-	-	-	Micro Theme 1 Macro Theme 2 Micro Theme 3 Macro Theme 4 Progress Examination A2L 1 A2L 2 A2L 3

Designated Safeguarding Leads

Miss D McHugh



Headteacher,
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead

Mrs N Hayden



Assistant
Headteacher
(Pastoral)
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead

TIP: You can alert every member of the safeguarding team by selecting the small 'DSPs' box in 'Alert Staff Members'.

If you need any help with CPOMS, please see Miss Saunders for help.

Miss E Saunders



Pastoral &
Mental Health
Support
Coordinator,
Deputy DSL

Mrs C Wilkin



Assistant
Headteacher,
Pupil Premium
Lead, Deputy DSL

Mr W Lawn



Head of PE,
Deputy DSL

Love, Respect, Flourish

➤ Safeguarding

➤ Online Safety

➤ Gambling Awareness

What is The SHARP system?



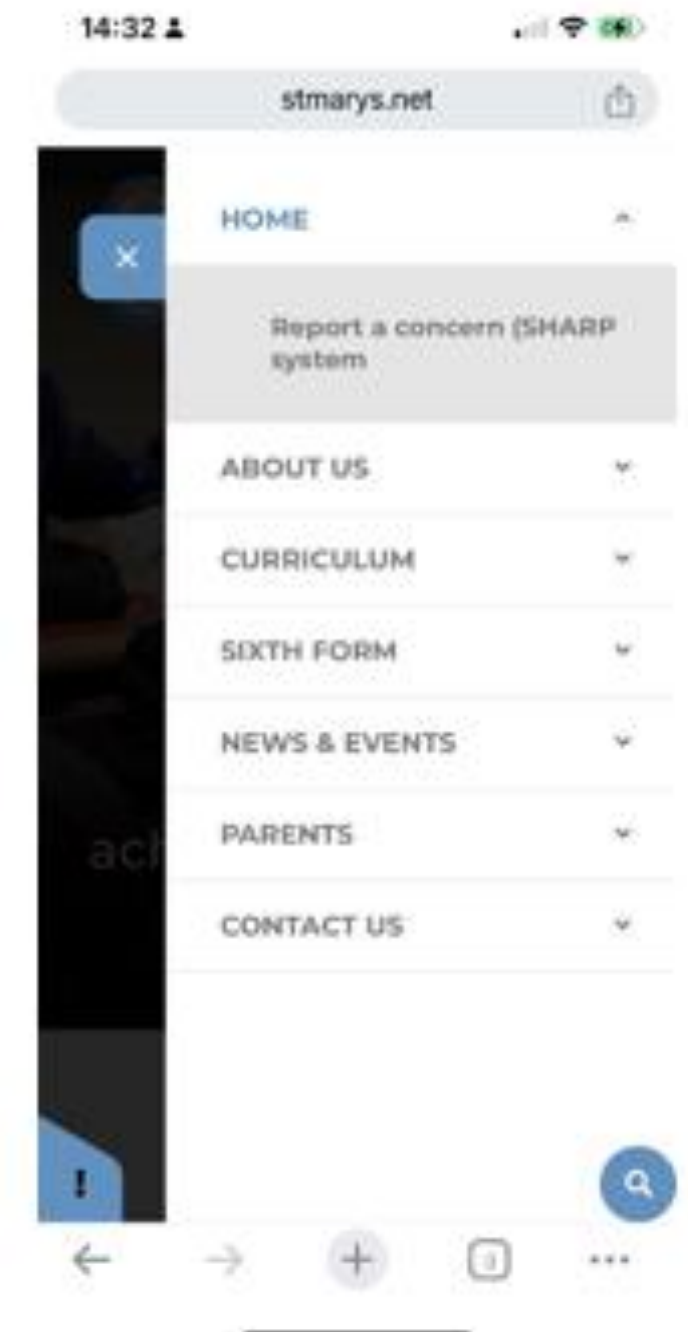
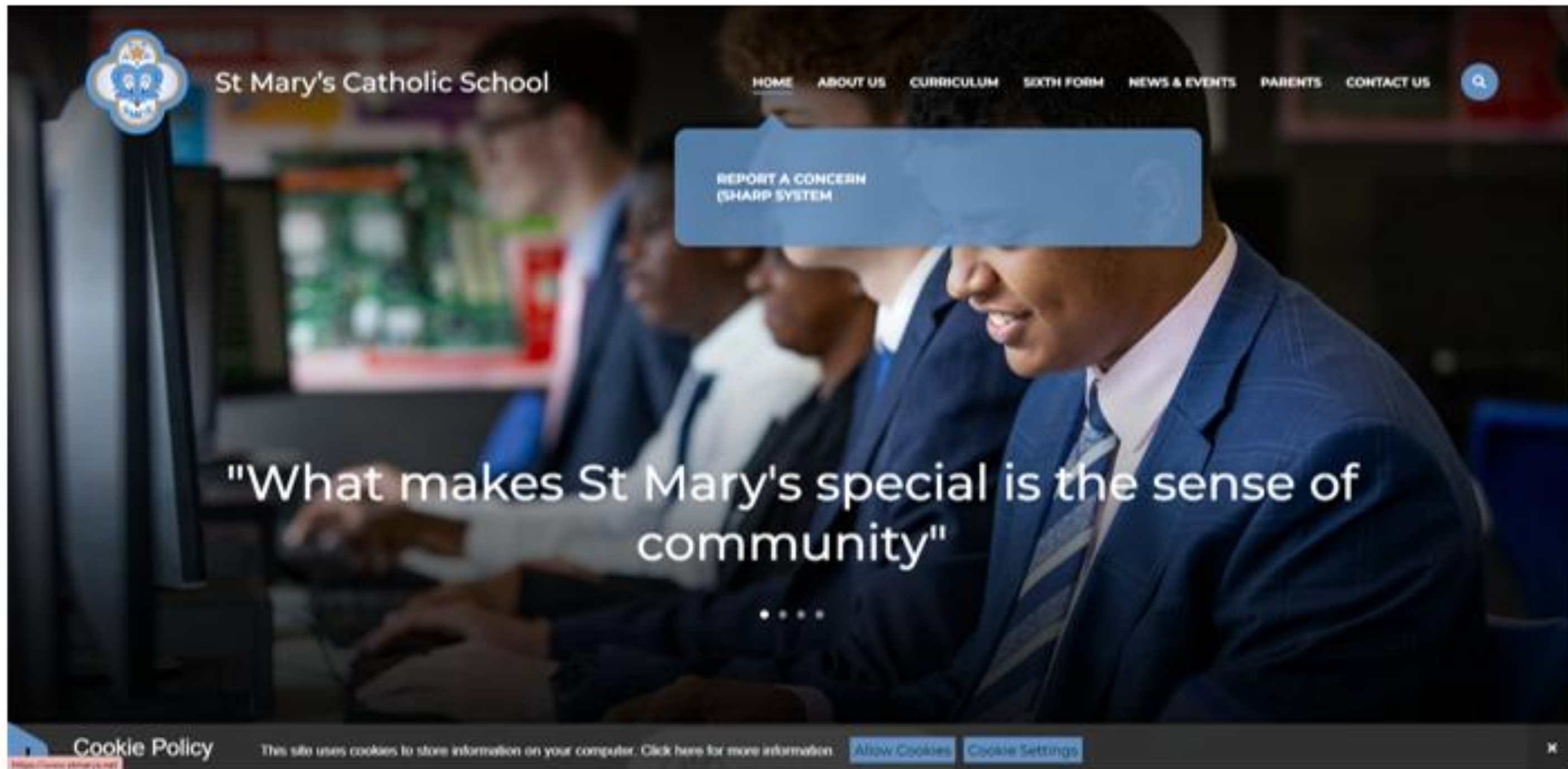
- The SHARP system is a way for you to report an incident, crime or worry confidentially and digitally.
- You don't need to put your name on the report if you feel unsafe doing so.
- Miss McHugh is the only member of staff who will initially read your report.
- Miss McHugh will then arrange help for you between 24-48 hours.
- If your concern is about a crime that has taken place outside the school, we will contact our local police officer.

*This is a **CONFIDENTIAL** way to stop **YOU**, a **FRIEND** or **SOMEONE** else you have seen **SUFFERING**.*

Where can I find The SHARP system?

1. Visit our school website (stmarys.net).
2. At the top, choose the 'HOME' tab.
3. Visit the 'Report a concern' page.

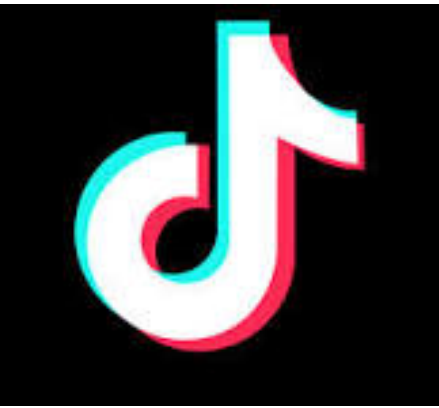
You can do this on your phone, tablet, laptop or computer.



Safeguarding in school

Key Principles:

1. Creating a safe learning environment
2. Recognising signs of abuse or neglect
3. Providing support for students' wellbeing
4. Clear reporting procedures for concerns



Tips for Staying Safe:

1. Be aware of digital footprints
2. Manage privacy and security settings
3. Recognise online risks such as cyberbullying or exploitation
4. Encourage open conversations about online activity



Gambling awareness

Key Points:

1. Online betting and gaming risks
2. Signs of problem gambling
3. Impact on mental health and finances
4. Where to get help and support

How Parents & Schools Can Support Students:

1. Open communication between school and home
2. Consistent boundaries and expectations
3. Promoting resilience and wellbeing
4. Accessing resources and professional help when needed

Useful resources & links

For further support, please click:

[Child Exploitation & Online Protection \(CEOP\)](#)

[ThinkUKnow](#) - Online Safety

[NSPCC - Safeguarding & Child Protection](#)

[BeGambleAware](#) - Gambling Support

16-19 Bursary

Financial help towards the cost of studying — for 16-19 year olds in full-time education

VULNERABLE BURSARY • higher priority

- In, or recently left, local authority care
- Get Income Support or Universal Credit in your own name
- Get DLA in your own name, plus ESA or Universal Credit
- Get PIP in your own name, plus ESA or Universal Credit

Original evidence required (agency/key worker letter or proof of benefit)

DISCRETIONARY BURSARY • lower priority

- You live with a parent/carer who receives benefits
- You're a young carer, or have an EHCP
- Household income is under £25,000 (evidence required)
- Can help with trips, meals, books, equipment & travel

Termly payments, plus support for things like residential trips

Remember: you must meet the school's behaviour, attendance and punctuality expectations to receive payment.



How to apply: download the Bursary Form and return it with evidence (incl. Tax Credit Award Notice) to Mr D'Cruz, Senior Leader.

More info: gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund

THANK YOU

FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT



CONTACT INFORMATION:



01279 654901



info@stmarys.net



www.stmarys.net



Windhill, Bishop's Stortford,
Hertfordshire, CM23 2NQ

Meet the Form Tutor

- ✓ **Mr. Hunt (12A)**
- ✓ **Mr. Lawn & Miss Easby (12J)**
- ✓ **Mrs. Ryan (12M)**
- ✓ **Mr Harris (12T)**