

*St. James' Catholic High School  
A Specialist Humanities College*



*School Prospectus*

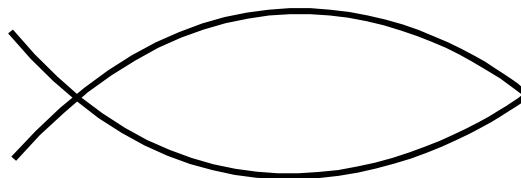
*Academic Year 2009/2010*

*Diocese of Shrewsbury  
Metropolitan Borough of Stockport*



# MISSION STATEMENT

St James' Catholic High School aims to promote a Christ-Centred, Caring environment, where individuals develop their full potential and achievement is celebrated.



**“The future of humanity lies in the hands of those who are strong enough to provide future generations with reasons for living and hoping.”**

*- Gaudium et Spes*

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**Headteacher: Mr C G Lowry B.Sc. (Hons); M.Sc.  
The Governing Body of the School**

Chairman:	Mr D Donohue
Vice Chair:	Mrs M Monaghan
Headteacher:	Mr C G Lowry
Foundation Governors:	Mrs C Connolly Mrs P Warrington Mr C Moran Mrs J Gay Mr J Livesey Mrs E Wilkinson Vacancies (3)
Teacher Governors:	Mr S Guscott Mr H Brophy
Non-Teaching Governor:	Mrs S Palmer
Parent Governors:	Mr K Newsome Mrs K Carter Mr D Hewitt
Representative Governors:	Mr P Carter Mr M Handley

**Metropolitan Borough of Stockport**

Executive Member (Education Portfolio): Councillor Mark Weldon  
Director for Children & Young Peoples' Services Mr A Webb

The 1980, 1988 and 2002 Education Acts and the 2007 DCSF School Admissions code gave parents increased opportunities to choose the school where they would like their children to be educated. The law requires local education authorities and school governors to publish details of admission arrangements and other information so that parents are able to express preferences for schools in the light of full and comparable information about them. This prospectus provides information about an individual secondary school in Stockport –

**St James' Catholic High School.** It should be read in conjunction with another booklet, which gives general information about admissions to secondary schools and other matters of interest to parents considering their children's admission to secondary schools in Stockport. The booklet 'Secondary Education in Stockport' contains a list of all maintained secondary schools in the borough. Copies of this prospectus relate to the school year beginning September 2009 and were correct at the time when they were compiled in July 2008. It should not be assumed that there will be no change affecting the information before, during or after the 2009/2010 school year. General telephone and personal enquiries about secondary education should be made to the Education Division, CYPD, Stockport M.B.C., Stopford House, Stockport, SK1 3XE. Tel: 0161 480 4949. Personal callers should go to the reception desk of Stopford House. In addition, arrangements for admissions to Stockport Schools can be found on the Council website [www.stockport.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.stockport.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

## THE RELIGIOUS LIFE OF OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St James' is a Catholic School and our teaching of religious education is according to the doctrines of the Catholic Church. Each day offers the opportunity for communal prayer in which the pupils play an active part. We are very fortunate to have the services of a number of our priests and they are supported by a group of committed lay people.

Mass is celebrated regularly in school and at other times in small groups, form groups, year groups or the whole school. All assemblies are collective acts of worship and these are often prepared and delivered by the pupils. There is a carefully structured programme of assemblies and every member of staff is involved in collective worship at St James'. Each school term ends with a whole school mass or liturgy and these are also highlights of our school year.

The Year 7 pupils at St James' are able to become involved in one day of spiritual/social experience away from school for each class. Throughout their whole school life, St James' pupils are given every opportunity to learn to integrate their spiritual and moral development with their academic and social progress. The generosity and sheer hard work that so many pupils put into our many charitable undertakings are one reflection of this.

St James' Catholic High School is an 11-16 co-educational Catholic Secondary School under the trusteeship of the Diocese of Shrewsbury. It is maintained by Stockport Authority. As a voluntary aided school, the governing body is the admissions authority and is responsible for taking decisions on applications for admissions. The co-ordination of admissions is undertaken by the local authority. For the school year commencing September 2009, the governing body has set its admissions number at 160 in Year 7.

Admissions to the school will be made by the governing body. All preferences listed on the local authority preference form will be considered on an equal basis with the following set of ADMISSIONS CRITERIA forming a priority order where there are more applications for admissions than the school has places available

1. Baptised Catholic children from the following Catholic partner primary schools, Cheadle Catholic, Our Lady's, St Ambrose, St Peter's, St Simon's.
2. Baptised Catholic children who have a sibling at the school at the time of admission.
3. Baptised Catholic children from other Catholic primary schools.
4. Baptised Catholic children from non Catholic primary schools.
5. Other children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission.
6. Non Catholic children from Catholic partner primary schools
7. Non Catholic children whose parents wish them to have a Catholic education

*[Notes. By definition, secondary admissions tend to be more complex. In some LAs, voluntary aided schools under criterion 1 list designated parishes and Catholic schools within them rather than Catholic partner primary schools. If that is the case then criterion 3 can be further broken down into:*

- *Baptised Catholic children living in the designated parishes but attending Catholic schools outside those parishes.*
- *Baptised Catholic children from parishes other than the designated parishes who attend a Catholic primary school of a designated parish.*
- *Baptised Catholic children from parishes other than the designated parishes and who attend Catholic schools other than those of the designated parishes.*

#### **NOTES**

- a) Where applications are received from children in public care those who are baptised Catholics will be given priority over all other Catholic based criteria and those who are non Catholics priority over children falling into other admissions criteria (*an alternate version can read "children in public care will be admitted to the school in advance of the outlined order of criteria"*).
- b) The Governing Body reserve the right to admit children with proven and exceptional medical and social needs where admission to the school might best help satisfy those exceptional needs, providing that such application is submitted with appropriate evidence or reports from a doctor or social worker. If the school is named in a statement of special educational needs the Governing Body has a duty to admit the child to the school.
- c) All applicants will be considered at the same time and after the closing date for admissions which is 24<sup>th</sup> October 2008.
- d) All Catholic applicants will be required to produce baptismal certificates.
- e) If category (1) is oversubscribed, children who satisfy (1) and (2) will have priority over children who satisfy only (1). Subsequently if in this or any category there are more applications than places available, priority will be given on the basis of distance from home to school, those living nearer to the school having priority.
- f) Siblings are defined as brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer's partner, and in every case, the child should be living in the same family unit at the same address. The sibling must be in attendance at the school at the time the younger child starts.

We welcome close links with the parents and families of all our pupils in the school and also our many friends in the community including those in the local authority, our parishes and primary schools, further education and commerce and industry. Although there are many occasions when visitors are invited to come to school, we extend a genuine, warm welcome to you to come to see us at work during the normal school day. Just ring school to make an appointment and we will be pleased to welcome you and show you around. If you are new to the area or if you do not know the school or have never visited it, then we extend a special invitation to you and your child.

**CATEGORIES TO BE USED FOR THE ALLOCATION OF PLACES TO THE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL IN STOCKPORT**

To determine the appropriate category for your child you should read the descriptors on this page and the next. Your child will meet the criteria of only one category. In order to fit into a category your child must satisfy all the conditions listed. Details of associated schools and nominated parishes can be found in the LA 'Information for Parents' booklet.

*NB Reference to the associated Catholic high school is NOT an offer of a school place.*

<p><b>CATEGORY A</b></p> <p>Your child is a Catholic</p> <p>You live in a parish (or part parish) ** which is associated with the secondary school</p> <p>Your child attends an associated Catholic primary school.</p>	<p><b>CATEGORY B</b></p> <p>Your child is a Catholic</p> <p>You live in a parish (or part parish)** which is associated with the secondary school</p> <p>Your child goes to a Catholic primary school</p> <p>Your child has a brother or sister attending the school.</p>	<p><b>CATEGORY C</b></p> <p>Your child is a Catholic</p> <p>You do not live in a parish (or part parish)** which is associated with the secondary school</p> <p>Your child goes to a Catholic primary school</p> <p>Your child has a brother or sister at the school.</p>
<p><b>CATEGORY D</b></p> <p>Your child is a Catholic</p> <p>You live in a parish (or part parish)** which is associated with any of the three Catholic high schools.</p> <p>Your child goes to a Catholic primary school.</p>	<p><b>CATEGORY E</b></p> <p>Your child is a Catholic</p> <p>You live in a parish (or part parish)** which is associated with the secondary school</p> <p>Your child goes to a non-Catholic primary school.</p>	<p><b>CATEGORY F</b></p> <p>Your child is a Catholic</p> <p>Your child goes to a Catholic primary school.</p>

<p><b>CATEGORY G</b></p> <p>Your child is a Catholic.</p> <p>Your child goes to a non-Catholic primary school.</p>	<p><b>CATEGORY H</b></p> <p>Your child is NOT a Catholic.</p> <p>Your child has a brother or sister at the school.</p> <p>You support the Catholic ethos of the school.</p>	<p><b>CATEGORY I</b></p> <p>Your child is NOT a Catholic.</p> <p>Your child attends an associated Catholic primary school.</p> <p>You support the Catholic ethos of the school.</p>
<p><b>CATEGORY J</b></p> <p>Your child is NOT a Catholic</p> <p>Yours is a practising Christian* family</p> <p>You support the Catholic ethos of the school</p>	<p><b>CATEGORY K</b></p> <p>Your child is NOT a Catholic</p> <p>You want your child to receive a Christian * education</p> <p>You support the Catholic ethos of the school</p>	

\* The term Christian will be interpreted as commitment to a belief in the Trinity and in the sacramental nature of baptism.

\*\* *A nominated area may be a parish or part of a parish.*

When any category, other than category A is oversubscribed, the determining criteria within any category will be:

- a) Any sibling link existing at the time the new entrant would first attend the school;
- b) Distance from the school by the shortest route (this does not imply an expectation that the pupils concerned would walk).

### **Discretionary exceptions**

The governors may make additional admissions for highly exceptional social reasons or where a child has a certified medical condition, which makes it essential that he/she should go to one school rather than another. If a parent wishes to claim exception on medical or social grounds, the reason must be stated on the preference form and supported by written evidence from a recognised specialist at the time of the application. In either case, governors may request further expert advice or information. Difficulties with child-care arrangements will not, of themselves, be sufficient grounds for an exception for social reasons. It is expected that admissions for medical or social reasons will be extremely rare.

### **Fresh start admissions**

The governors may admit a pupil who is a Stockport resident, who has been permanently excluded from another high school within the LA, after the "Pupils at Risk of Exclusion" (PARE) panel has given careful and balanced consideration to the circumstances, and a recommendation has been made to the governing body of the school. Decisions will be made in the context of the mutually supportive admissions practice between high schools within the LA.

The governors may also accept the transfer of a pupil causing concern, from another high school within the LA, subject to the same considerations.

### **THE SCHOOL DAY AT ST JAMES'**

08.40	-	Pupils to be at school
08.45	-	Registration/Assembly
09.05	-	Period 1
09.55	-	Period 2
10.45	-	Break
11.05	-	Period 3
11.55	-	Period 4
12.45	-	Lunch
13.30	-	Registration
13.35	-	Period 5
14.25	-	Period 6
15.15	-	End of school day

### **THE CURRICULUM AT ST JAMES'**

For most of our pupils this can be said to begin before they come to St James' since they will have been involved in our curriculum liaison programme with our partner primary schools. The majority of boys and girls in Year 7 have been to the school on several occasions before they join us when they have taken part in "curriculum days". Many members of staff from St James' are well known to these pupils because many have spent time with the pupils and staff at the primary schools in the two years before they transfer.

Consequently, when pupils do join us in Year 7, a great deal has already been done to make the transfer as smooth and as anxiety free as possible.

St James' is housed in modern and well-appointed buildings in pleasant surroundings and is very well equipped to deliver the National Curriculum and new educational initiatives.

### **Years 7, 8 and 9**

All pupils follow a core programme consisting of:

Art	Mathematics
Drama	Music
English	Personal and Social Education
French and/or German	Physical Education
Geography	Religious Education
History	Science
ICT	Technology

### **Years 10 & 11**

All pupils at present follow a core programme consisting of:

Religious Education	Physical Education
English	Personal and Social Education
Mathematics	Science
Modern Foreign Language/ASDAN	

In addition all pupils can choose from a range of option subjects including Art & Design, Business & Communication Systems, Drama, Geography, History, ICT (GCSE), Learning for Living, Music, Physical Education (GCSE), Product Design, Food Technology.

In close collaboration with the local 6<sup>th</sup> Form Colleges we are also able to offer our pupils the opportunity to undertake Modern Apprenticeships and work related Skills for Working Life Programmes.

All pupils are able to follow up to 10 GCSE courses of study during Year 10 and 11.

Further information concerning the curriculum structure is available from school.

### **TEACHING GROUPS AT ST JAMES'**

Year 7 pupils are placed in forms with a tutor who will generally stay with them throughout their time at St James'. This member of staff comes to know the pupils and their parents very well and in an otherwise changing environment can offer support, guidance and care on a more personal level.

All the groups in school consist of boys and girls and all curriculum areas are open to both girls and boys since we are concerned to ensure that our equal opportunities policy permeates all that we do.

As children move through the school they will experience a programme of banding and setting according to ability. They will also be in differing class sizes according to the nature of the subject being studied. Parents are given full information about these matters at curriculum meetings. In these ways the curriculum is structured to help to fully extend and support all of our pupils. Support for pupils of particularly high ability or with learning difficulties is provided in a variety of ways. Some temporary withdrawal of pupils from normal lessons occurs but generally support is given to pupils within the normal classroom setting.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AT ST JAMES'.**

At St James' we have developed a comprehensive approach to this area of school life. Our assistant headteacher, responsible for Key Stage 3, works with our partner primary schools and identifies children with special educational needs before they come to St James'. We also have a member of the teaching staff who has the position of special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCO) and this teacher supervises our provision throughout the school and with external support agencies including the "Learning Support Service".

St James' has a school nurse based in our medical room and all the necessary medical care is available together with a programme of health education within the curriculum. There are also staff who are trained 'first-aiders'. Our school also has the services of an educational welfare officer who deals with pupils' problems and gives support and advice to families. We are also able to call upon the support of an educational psychologist who will see pupils and parents by appointment. St James' is designed to accommodate pupils with physical disabilities and accordingly the school has no stairs and all areas of the school are accessible by wheelchair users. In addition the school follows the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act. The local authority has produced an accessibility plan for the school and this is available on request.

The special educational needs policy can be found on the school's website and is subject to review on an annual basis by the Staff & Pupils Committee of the Governing Body.

The school has a named senior member of staff with specific responsibility for child protection issues. Action taken is in compliance with national and LA guidelines and in accordance with legal requirements.

## **EDUCATION FOR RELATIONSHIPS AT ST JAMES' (Including Health and Sex Education)**

The education of the pupils in sexual matters is primarily the right and duty of parents. The school has a complementary role to play and this important area of education is placed in the context of the child's spiritual, emotional, moral and social development. Parents making applications to St James' will wish to be fully involved in these programmes of learning in accordance with legal rights, which include the right of withdrawal from certain lessons.

Education for relationships is seen as part of a loving, caring human relationship within marriage and as such is very much a part of religious moral education lessons. Elements of our policy, including sex education, are also included within the school's personal and social education and science programmes of learning.

## **HIGH ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND EXAMINATIONS AT ST JAMES'**

Pupils are tested on entry to the school to determine their level of ability. This allows their teachers to set them appropriate and challenging academic targets. These are monitored as they work towards their SATs examinations at the end of Key Stage 3 and GCSEs at the end of Key Stage 4.

At Key Stage 4 pupils are able to enter examinations administered by a number of Examining Boards. Most sit the GCSE examinations under the auspices of AQA but other GCSE boards are used in some subjects. The school is also involved in the AQA Unit Accreditation Scheme and ASDAN.

### **THE SCHOOL'S SPORTING AIMS AND PROVISION**

All pupils study physical education as an integral part of the curriculum and the school aims to bring every pupil to a full appreciation and development of their individual physical capabilities. The school offers excellent extra-curricular sporting activities across a wide range, open to all pupils. St James' has a very high sporting reputation in the locality and regularly achieves success in competitive team sports. The school's outdoor playing areas include a floodlit 'all weather' pitch, grassed playing areas, tennis and netball courts. The school also has an excellently equipped sports hall.

There are six specialist P.E. members of the teaching staff. These staff have coaching qualifications in a wide range of sports including, gymnastics, hockey, badminton, basketball, netball, rugby and association football. A number of other local sports clubs are also involved with school in various ways. In addition, we participate in the school sports coordination programme which continues to strengthen sporting links with our partner primary schools.

### **THE ARTS AT ST JAMES'**

St James' gives the arts a high priority. All lower school pupils study art, music and drama, and in addition, each of these subjects is available as an optional choice in the upper school. There are opportunities for students to sing in the choir and/or play in the orchestra. There is also a programme of peripatetic music lessons for instrumentalists.

The school has a wide and varied programme of visits to art galleries, concerts, theatre productions and plays. Actors and theatre groups regularly perform in the school. The school aims to present a large-scale musical/dramatic production every two years. In addition the school has an annual arts exhibition.

### **A GUIDANCE SYSTEM FOR EVERY CHILD AT ST. JAMES'**

The care and welfare of every single pupil at St James' concerns us all. As has been indicated, great care is taken within our liaison programme to ensure that full information about each child is forwarded to us from the primary school. Within St James' the heads of year and form tutors continuously supervise, monitor and guide pupils through their five-year stay at the school. This team enjoys a very high level of contact and co-operation with parents and anyone else genuinely interested in a particular pupil's well-being and progress.

**In all matters of support and discipline parents will be involved at an early stage and, in turn, parents are encouraged to contact school whenever they have any worry or concern.**

**At times, of course, sanctions may need to be employed. At such times we will involve parents and we look for and expect full support in these matters. Parents and pupils should be completely aware of the school's rules forbidding the possession by pupils of any inappropriate substances. This is not tolerated at St James'. (Please see our website for the definition of an inappropriate substance as it appears in our substance abuse policy). The breaking of such school rules might well lead to permanent exclusion from the school. Again we feel our standards are very high indeed and we expect and require that all of St James' pupils endeavour to meet such standards in, for example, their dress and behaviour.**

After-school detention is the school's main sanction in cases of misbehaviour and we expect full co-operation from parents whenever this sanction is used. In cases where it is decided that a detention should be administered, a note will be written in the child's planner giving 24 hours notice of the detention is to be served. However, in some cases it may be felt necessary for the student to serve a detention at much shorter notice. If this is the case parents are contacted by telephone. Failure of a student to attend detention is considered to be a major breach of the school's code of conduct and at the very least they will serve a headteacher's detention as a result. This usually involves a detention of 45 – 60 minutes one day after school. However, headteacher's detentions have been served on Saturday mornings!

As well as annual written reports, a schedule of meetings, pupil progress checks and interim reports operate to continually monitor achievement and keep parents informed. Each pupil has a journal in which they are expected to keep a note of important activities, appointments and home works, which is a big help in this exchange of information and assessment of pupils. To help with forward planning, the school calendar of events can be found on the school web site. Further notification of events are usually given close to the actual date. Other school information and matters of general interest are contained in "St James' News", our termly school news-letter and on our web site.

St James' works very hard as a school to ensure that all children receive every due care and attention. The school follows a carefully prepared child protection policy and involves external agencies whenever necessary. The school has the right and duty to inform social services of any child protection concerns.

As required by the DCSF our "Home School Agreement" for new pupils is discussed and should be signed at our new intake parents' evening.

## **SCHOOL UNIFORM FOR ALL PUPILS OF ST JAMES'**

Every pupil is required to wear the school uniform. Our pupils are often complimented on their appearance and we maintain high standards. The uniform is as follows:

### **Years 7 - 10**

#### **Girls Years 7 - 10**

Navy blazer with school badge

Navy box pleated skirt (box pleat only please) or

Black trousers with school trim on both trouser pockets (only available from F R Monkhouse)

White blouse (button up type to take school tie)

School tie

Navy blue school pullover with St. James' trim (*optional*)

Black or white ankle or knee length socks or plain black tights

Dark brown or black shoes (**no boots or trainers**)

*Shoes must have a plain black or brown upper and no obvious logos or badges.*

**For Science:** Blue overall (Optional)

#### **Girls PE**

White polo shirt

Black plain shorts (no stripes)

Navy fleece – St James' badge **compulsory**

White sports socks for indoor use

Blue football socks for outdoor use

Non-marking trainers for indoor use

Navy plain sweater for outdoor use – optional

Navy track suit bottoms (no Stripes) – optional

Shin pads – **compulsory**

Gum shield - optional

#### **Boys Years 7 - 10**

Navy blue blazer with school badge

Charcoal grey or black trousers

White shirt

School tie

Grey pullover with St. James' trim (*optional*)

Dark brown or black shoes (**no boots or trainers**)

*Shoes must have a plain black or brown upper and no obvious logos or badges.*

#### **Boys PE**

Navy blue rugby jumper (reversible gold)

Black shorts

Plain white PE t-shirt

Non-marking trainers for indoor use

White ankle socks for indoor use

Navy blue sports socks

#### **For Science:**

Blue overall (*optional*)

## **All Year 11 Pupils**

All pupils in Year 11 wear our special Year 11 maroon pullover and school tie. They are **not** required to wear a blazer.

Many items of general school uniform e.g. blouses, shirts, shoes etc. are available from a number of suppliers however regulation items e.g. our school tie, blazer badge and Year 11 pullover are only available from:

- FR Monkhouse, The Precinct, Cheadle Hulme

For all years, hairstyles **MUST** be sensible and tidy, with extreme hairstyles forbidden – a *shaven haircut, where the scalp is clearly visible, is an example of an extreme hairstyle*. Long hair should be tied back using bobbles.

Facial hair for example beards and moustaches are also not permitted.

### **JEWELLERY, MOBILE PHONES, WALKMANS, MP3 PLAYERS ETC.**

Jewellery of any kind is **NOT** to be worn by pupils and expensive products such as mobile phones, walkmans etc. must not be brought to school. If such items are brought into school and are seen by a member of staff they are confiscated; to be reclaimed by either a parent or carer. Put simply, we expect ALL pupils of St James' to have high standards and adhere to the school rules.

We expect FULL SUPPORT in these matters from parents and carers applying for their child(ren) to come to St. James'

### **CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY**

Details of the school's charging and remissions policy, as drawn up by the governing body, are available from the school and on the school website.

### **CLUBS \* TEAMS \* SOCIETIES \* HOBBIES \* VISITS \* EVENTS \* HOLIDAYS**

The school offers a very wide range of opportunities for pupils to involve themselves in what are often known as 'extra-curricular' activities. The list is, in fact, too long for inclusion here. However, the following is a sample of what is on offer to St James' pupils:-

Skiing holiday; school orchestra; sports teams; retreats; community service; theatre visits; choir; German exchange holiday; dramatic & theatrical productions and international holidays. When a new pupil joins St James', all of these opportunities are described in detail.

## **OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT OUR SCHOOL**

The attendance rate (2007/2008) at St James' is:

**Authorised absence: 4.99%**

**Unauthorised absence: 1.24%**

**Attendance for year: 93.77%**

In cases where parents have any queries or concerns the school encourages contact through a series of persons. First of all your child's form tutor will generally be your first point of contact. However, enquiries with reference to the curriculum should be directed to the appropriate head of department. Your child's head of year should be the person to contact with more serious issues. The key stage coordinators, deputy head and headteacher will certainly become involved, if necessary, as will Stockport LA Officers and/or members of the Governing Body.

## **STOCKPORT LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY**

### **Travel to School**

#### **General**

Stockport is an urban area well served by public transport. Services are provided by the Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive (GMPTE) after consultation with the Council, which is not directly involved in the provision of the transport to schools. Any queries about school buses should be directed to the GMPTE, telephone enquiry unit (Tel;0161 244 1000). Children under 16 years of age may travel at the child concessionary fare.

#### **Free Travel**

Some children qualify for free travel passes if transport is considered necessary to facilitate school attendance. In considering each application the LA, as required by law, will have regard, amongst other things, to the age of the child, the length and nature of the route and whether or not parents are in receipt of qualifying benefit.

The council does not normally assist with the transport costs of pupils who obtain places in independent schools or schools outside Stockport.

The council reserves the right to review a route used for measurement purposes at any time and may withdraw passes in cases that subsequently fail to qualify. Parents who wish to appeal against a decision regarding eligibility for free travel should do so in writing to the Corporate Director for C & YP stating clearly their grounds of appeal.

### **Cycle Allowances**

A cycle allowance to the current value of £146 is available instead of a free travel pass subject to the above criteria being met. The prior written approval of the headteacher of the school to be attended should be included with the application.

### **Transport on Medical Grounds**

Transport may be provided on medical grounds, normally for a limited period, on the recommendation of the school medical services. Parents who wish their child to be considered because they are unable to use public transport because of e.g. a broken leg, should apply to C & YP Directorate (Tel: 0161 249 4450) a note from the child's specialist or family doctor will also be required.

### **FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

Only children from families in receipt of income support/income based jobseekers allowance/Child Tax Credit but who are not entitled to Working Tax Credit, and whose income (as assessed by the Inland Revenue) does not exceed £15,575 (amount subject to review) are eligible for free school meals. Application forms and further information are available from Stopford House reception or any of the LA's information offices. Information is also available from the Contact Centre Tel: 0845 644 4303 Email: [benefitsfsm@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:benefitsfsm@stockport.gov.uk)

### **CLOTHING GRANTS**

Families not entitled to the above benefits but do receive Working Tax Credit are eligible to receive the secondary school clothing grant of £47 (Year 7 pupils only). Applications and further information are available from any of the Authority's information offices or from the Contact Centre as above.

### **FURTHER DOCUMENTATION**

Further detailed documents are available at the school. These include LA and school curriculum statements, all statutory documents, Ofsted reports referring to the school schemes of work and syllabuses, LA arrangements and details of the school's religious education programme.

### **LEAVER'S DESTINATIONS**

A very large proportion of our pupils go on to further study, usually at "A" Level. This year the vast majority of our pupils have gone on to sixth form college or college of further education with the remainder entering employment, further training or other activities. Details are given at the end.

### **PLACES AVAILABLE FOR SEPTEMBER 2009**

There will be 160 places available for new pupils in September 2009.

(St. James') is a good school, which is improving and has a number of outstanding features. Standards achieved throughout the school are high in almost every subject'

Ofsted Report 2007 on St James' Catholic High School

### **THE SCHOOL'S FACILITIES**

St James' has first class facilities for the education of young people. The school is purpose-built having all that is needed for the delivery of the national curriculum into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

The school has three teaching blocks and recently there have been extensive improvements to the school's sports facilities with the installation of a state of the art floodlit all weather playing surface; and tennis courts.

### **EDUCATION BEYOND ST JAMES'**

All pupils are involved in the compilation of their curriculum vitae whilst at St James'. This integrates with careers education and the services of the school's Connexions personal advisor. All pupils have the opportunity to experience two full weeks of work experience at the start of Year 11. Catholic sixth form provision within Stockport is provided for by Aquinas Sixth Form College.

## **COMPLAINTS**

Should parents have concerns about any aspect of school life they are advised in the first instance to contact the school and speak to their child's form tutor or head of year. In the vast majority of cases this will resolve issues however, should parents feel the need to make a formal complaint details of how to do this can be found on the "Policies" page of the school's website.

## **CONCLUSION**

We sincerely hope that the information contained in this prospectus is of interest and that it proves useful to you. We fully understand the importance of making the right choice when it comes to your own child. If you would like any further advice or help after having read the prospectus, please do not hesitate to contact us. We will do our very best to help.

**Please remember that you have an invitation to come along and view the school; simply telephone for an appointment. You will be made very welcome.**

## Examination Results 2008

### Key Stage 3

#### Core Subjects

<b>Subject</b>	<b>% Level 5 +</b>	<b>% Level 6 +</b>	<b>% Level 7 +</b>
English			
Mathematics			
Science			

#### Non-Core Subjects

<b>Subject</b>	<b>% Level 5+</b>	<b>% Level 6+</b>	<b>% Level 7+</b>
Art			
Design & Tech			
Geography			
History			
ICT			
Languages			
Music			
PE			

### Key Stage 4

**Percentage achieving 5+ A\*-C grades**  
77%

**Percentage achieving 5+ A\*-C grades (inc. English & Mathematics)**  
69%

**Percentage achieving 5+ A\*-G grades**  
98%

**Percentage achieving 1+ A\*-G grades**  
99%

**Terms and Closures  
School Year 2009/2010  
Main Term Dates**

**Main Term Dates**

- **Autumn Term 2009** - Wednesday 9th September 2009 to Monday 21st December 2009
- **Spring Term 2010** - Monday 4th January 2010 to Friday 26th March 2010
- **Summer Term 2010** - Monday 12th April 2010 to Friday 28th May 2010
- **Primary** - Monday 14th June 2010 to Friday 30th July 2010
- **Secondary** - Monday 7th June 2010 to Friday 23rd July 2010

**Mid Term Holidays**

- **Autumn Term 2009** - Monday 26th October 2009 to Friday 30th October 2009
- **Spring Term 2010** - Monday 15th February 2010 to Friday 19th February 2010

**Public Holidays**

- **Good Friday** (Friday 2nd April 2010) to **Easter Monday** (Monday 5th April 2010)
- **May Day** - Monday 3rd May 2010
- **Spring Bank Holiday** - Monday 31st May 2010

**Staff Training Days**

**Day 1 7<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

**Day 2 8<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

**Days 3 to 5 have yet to be determined**