

ST BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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Web site: www.st-benedicts.org

Headteacher:

Mr N Gibson

Chair of Governors:

Mr D Cropper

Assistant Headteachers:

Mrs S Boote Powell

Mrs M Parton

Mr S Smallman

Vice Chair of Governors:

Mr G Phillips

Introduction

St Benedict's is an 11-18 voluntary-aided, co-educational Catholic school serving a very wide catchment area which includes the Catholic parishes of Alcester, Bidford, Broadway, Chipping Campden, Evesham, Henley, Stratford, Studley, and all surrounding areas. The school was founded in 1963 and is blessed with a splendid eleven acre site close to the centre of the historic town of Alcester. There are approximately one hundred and ten well-qualified full-time and part-time members of staff who, in keeping with the aims of the school, will help provide our pupils with a spiritual, academic and pastoral environment which will enhance their growth in Christ, encourage them to achieve their full potential and assist them to develop as caring human beings. St Benedict's pupils are encouraged to have respect for themselves, for others and for the world about them. Our Sixth Form, which offers the International Baccalaureate, Btecs and other courses, opened in a purpose-built £6 million building in September 2011.

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Benedict's seeks to develop the whole person. We are a Catholic school inspired in our mission by the vision of life that is found in the teaching of the Gospel, the Church, sacramental life and in Jesus Christ, who came that we 'may have life and have it to the full'.

In striving to fulfil this mission we reflect the spirit of our patron St. Benedict. In practice this means that we seek to:

encourage, support and inspire young people and the wider school community in the journey of faith;

create a well-ordered family community, a family of the Lord's service where everyone is valued and respected;

develop the intellectual, creative, physical, spiritual and religious potential of every pupil and encourage involvement in extra curricular activities such as sport, music, drama and community service;

work in partnership with parents, parishes, feeder schools, and the wider community in a spirit of mutual service for the benefit of all;

prepare our young people for life beyond school and in particular develop personal integrity, moral values and a sense of justice so that they 'act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with God'.

(Micah 6:8)

ETHOS / PASTORAL CARE / PUPILS

The ethos and philosophy of St Benedict's originates in our faith in Christ. As a Catholic school we provide a religious education in accordance with the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church; the theory and practice of this ethos will be found to permeate life at school - in lessons, assemblies, tutor periods, prayer groups, Masses, retreats and the chaplaincy. All pupils are united in their Christian purpose and feel part of a caring, Christian family where a spirit of ecumenism pervades. St Benedict's is known as a family school and there is a genuine rapport between staff, pupils and parents.

Good work, self-respect and respect for others, genuine effort, honesty, good manners, initiative, self-esteem, success, charity, caring and other similar qualities are actively encouraged. Rules are kept to a minimum and are designed to promote the happiness, safety, progress, good conduct and smartness of our young people. Trust is important.

Prior to starting at St Benedict's pupils visit or contact the school from their primary schools for an Induction Day. During this day they experience life at St Benedict's, familiarise themselves with the geography and organisation of the school and meet staff and pupils. In the evening of the same day there is a meeting for the new pupils and their parents led by staff to ensure that parents are fully aware of administrative matters.

During the summer term before starting at St Benedict's members of the staff Primary School Liaison Team visit or contact the primary schools to meet new pupils and discuss St Benedict's issues with them. The staff also talk to the primary school teachers to ensure that the transition from one school to the next is as smooth and educationally beneficial as possible. We have SEND transition with an extra Induction visit the week before the main Induction Day and other personalised induction programmes as required. Parents are also seen as part of the Induction process on the evening of the Year 6 Pupil Induction Day. Parents (SEND) will also be invited to a 'coffee morning' to meet the Head of Inclusion and other staff.

When starting Year 7 at St Benedict's each pupil is placed in a form which has a tutor who is responsible for the welfare of the pupils. The tutor's role is pastoral - a guide, who supports, leads, oversees and, if necessary, disciplines. Discipline at St Benedict's is firm but kind, followed by forgiveness; praise, encouragement and caring engender responsiveness and responsibility. Our pupils' attitude is characterised by traditional politeness, helpfulness, warmth and thoughtfulness. If problems arise a referral system operates. In this referral system the form tutor is the first and most important source of help as well as being the point of contact for parents. The Assistant Headteacher who is Head of Pastoral Care, along with the Pastoral Support Manager and other key pastoral personnel co-ordinate the pastoral system and parents are informed and consulted whenever needed. We believe in a triangle of communication between parents, pupils and teachers, where channels should always be open. To encourage good communication St Benedict's produces a calendar at the beginning of the Autumn Term which is available on the school website. Each pupil also has a planner that can be used for home/school communication on a daily basis. Our school website, www.st-benedicts.org, is a comprehensive and up to date source of information for parents and pupils, as is ParentMail.

Safeguarding (Child Protection)

Under the Education Act 2002 (Section 175), schools must make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Parent/carers should know that the law (Children Act 2006) requires all school staff to pass on information which gives rise to a concern about a child's welfare, including risk from neglect, physical, emotional, or sexual abuse. The staff will seek, in general, to discuss any concerns with the parent/carer, and where possible, seek their consent to a referral to Social Care. **This will only be done where such discussion will not place the child at increased risk of significant harm.** Schools will seek advice from Social Care when they have reasonable cause to suspect a child may be suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm. Occasionally, concerns are passed on which are later shown to be unfounded. Parents/carers will appreciate that the designated person for

child protection was carrying out their responsibilities in accordance with the law and acting in the best interests of all children.

St Benedict's designated persons for child protection are the Head of Pastoral Care and Heads of Lower/Upper School

St Benedict's is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and pupils to share this commitment.

- The school is committed to your welfare, protection and safekeeping
- You have a fundamental right to be protected from harm and from all forms of neglect, abuse and exploitation and should feel safe and secure at school
- It is an aim of the school always to act in your best interests and we will encourage the fullest possible involvement and consultation

If you have any concerns about your own safety and welfare or the safety of another pupil you can raise those issues with any member of staff. Your concerns will be taken seriously, you will be encouraged to talk and you will be listened to.

Safeguarding Designated Senior Leader

Mrs S Boote Powell
Assistant Headteacher
Head of Pastoral Care

British Values

In our mission to develop the 'whole person', we are a Catholic School inspired by the vision of life that is found in the teaching of the Gospel, the Church, sacramental life and in Jesus Christ, who came that we 'may have life and have it to the full'. We live out the Gospel values of faith, hope, charity, prudence, temperance, justice and fortitude.

The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy and considered them to be democracy, rule of law, **individual** liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs. At St. Benedict's Catholic High School these values are reinforced in a pervasive manner that permeate the school community at every level as we live our daily lives in accordance with our Christian values.

British values derive from Christian values and are at the heart of educating the 'whole child' at our school for life in Modern Britain. Part of our role in that preparation is ensuring that we promote and reinforce British values to our pupils and that they proceed to adulthood with a deep sense of morality, integrity and justice recognizing that we are all made in the image of God.

In practice this means that we seek to:

- Create a well-ordered family community where everyone is valued and respected
- Prepare our young people for life beyond school and in particular develop personal integrity, moral values and a sense of justice so that they 'act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with God'. (Micah 6:8)

Catholic values underpin our belief that all are made in the image and likeness of God. Catholic values explicitly value the equality of all, rejects discrimination of any kind, and by extension welcomes diversity of culture. As Pope Francis recently wrote:

"What we are called to respect in each person is first of all his life, his physical integrity, his dignity and the rights deriving from that dignity, his reputation, his property, his ethnic and cultural identity, his ideas and his political choices. We are therefore called to think, speak and write respectfully of the other, not only in his presence, but always and everywhere, avoiding unfair criticism or defamation."

We promote these values by our words and deeds. Our Catholic values and practice therefore permeates every aspect of our school's activity.



DIOCESAN SCHOOLS COMMISSION

ST. BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Admissions Policy: 2017/2018

The admissions process is part of the Warwickshire LA co-ordinated scheme.

The Admission Policy of the Governors of St Benedict's Catholic High School is as follows:

The ethos of this school is Catholic. The school was founded by the Catholic Church to provide education for children of Catholic families. The school is conducted by its governing body as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its Trust Deed and Instrument of Government and seeks at all times to be a witness to Jesus Christ. We ask all parents applying for a place here to respect this ethos and its importance to the school community. This does not affect the right of parents who are not of the faith of this school to apply for and be considered for a place.

The School's Published Admission Number (PAN) in Year 7 for the school year 2017/18 is 140.

If the number of applications exceeds the PAN, the governors will give priority to applications in accordance with the criteria listed, provided that the governors are made aware of that application before decisions on admissions are made (see Note 1 below). In all categories, priority will be given to those who have a brother or sister (see Note 3 below) attending St Benedict's Catholic High School at the time of admission and then distance.

1. *Baptised Catholic children (see Note 2 below) who are in the care of a local authority (looked-after children) or provided with accommodation by them (e.g. children with foster parents) (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).*
2. Baptised Catholic children who currently attend a Catholic feeder school (see Note 4 below)
3. Baptised Catholic children who live in a feeder school parish area (see Note 4 below)
4. Other Baptised Catholic children
5. *Non-Catholic children who are in the care of a local authority (looked after children) or provided with accommodation by them (e.g. children with foster parents) (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).*
6. Non-Catholic children who currently attend a Catholic feeder school
7. Other Non-Catholic children.

OVER-SUBSCRIPTION

Where there is a need to split any category or group of pupils, places will be offered in accordance with distance between the child's home and school (shortest distance = highest priority). Distance will be calculated by the straight line measurement from centre point of the applicant's home address location to the centre point ("centroid") of the preferred school. (All measurements are subject to slight change due to updates of mapping data).

In a very small number of cases it may not be able to decide between the applicants of those pupils who are qualifiers for a place, when applying the published admission criteria.

For example, this may occur when children in the same year group live at the same address, or if the distance between the home and school is exactly the same, for example, a block of flats. If there is no other way of separating the application according to the admissions criteria and to admit both or all of the children would cause the PAN to be exceeded, the individual priority for each applicant will be set by random allocation (lottery). The draw will be carried out by two officers of the Admissions Service, Communities Group in the presence of a Local Authority solicitor. The order of the draw will be recorded and countersigned at the time. As an exception, the Governing Body will give careful consideration to offering places above the PAN to applications from children whose twin or sibling from a multiple birth is admitted even when there are no other vacant places.

Note 1

Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) that names the school will be admitted first. This will reduce the number of places available to other applicants.

Note 2

In all categories, for a child to be considered as a Catholic, evidence of Catholic Baptism or Reception into the Church will be required. This must be sent directly to the school. For a definition of Baptised Catholic see the Appendix. Those who face difficulties in producing written evidence of Catholic Baptism/Reception should contact their Parish Priest. Failure to provide evidence of Catholic Baptism/Reception may affect the criterion the child's name is placed in.

Note 3

The definition of a brother or sister is:

- A brother or sister sharing the same parents;
- Half-brother or half-sister, where two children share one common parent;
- Step-brother or step-sister, where two children are related by a parent's marriage;
- Step-brother or step-sister
- Adopted or fostered children.

The children must be living permanently in the same household

Note 4

The designated feeder schools and appropriate parishes for St Benedict's Catholic High School are:

Our Lady's Catholic Primary School, Alcester
St. Catharine's Catholic Primary School, Chipping Campden
St. Gregory's Catholic Primary School, Stratford-upon-Avon
St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, Broadway
St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, Evesham
St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, Henley in Arden
St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, Studley

Parishes:

Our Lady and St. Benedict, Wootton Waven, Warwickshire
Our Lady and St. Joseph's, Alcester, Warwickshire
Our Lady and St. Kenelm, Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire
Our Lady and the Apostles, Brailes, Banbury, Oxfordshire
St. Catharine's, Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire

St. Francis of Assisi, Kineton, Warwickshire
St. Gregory the Great, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire
St. Joseph the Worker, Bidford-on-Avon, Warwickshire
St. Mary and St. Egwin, Evesham, Worcestershire
St. Mary, Studley, Warwickshire
St. Saviour, Broadway, Worcestershire

Maps of the parish areas are available at the school and parish or by post on request.

Note 5

The home address of a pupil is considered to be the permanent residence of a child. The address must be the child's only or main residence. Documentary evidence may be required.

Where care is split equally between mother and father, parents must name which address is to be used for the purpose of allocating a school place

APPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN TO BE ADMITTED INTO A CLASS OUTSIDE OF THEIR NORMAL AGE GROUP

If parents wish for their child to be considered for admission to a class outside of their normal age group, they must make an application for the normal age group in the first instance. Parents must then submit a formal request to the Governing Body. This request should be in the form of a written letter of application outlining the reasons why you wish for your child to be considered to be admitted into a class outside of their normal age group and enclosing any supportive evidence and documentation that you wish to be taken into account as part of that request. The Governing Body will consider requests submitted and advise the parents of the outcome of that request before the national offer day, having taken into account the information provided by the parents, the child's best interests and the views of the head teacher.

If parents are considering submitting an application for their child to be admitted into a class outside of their normal age group, it is strongly recommended that they also read the DFE guidance which can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/summer-born-children-school-admission>

APPEALS

Parents who wish to appeal against the decision of the Governors to refuse their child a place in the school may apply in writing to Chair of Governors via the school's main address. Appeals will be heard by an independent panel.

REPEAT APPLICATIONS

Any parent can apply for a place for their child at any time outside the admissions round. Parents do not have the right to a second appeal in respect of the same school for the same academic year unless, in exceptional circumstances, the admission authority has accepted a second application from the appellant because of a significant and material change in the circumstances of the parent, child or school but still refused admission.

LATE APPLICATIONS

Applications received after the closing date will be processed by Warwickshire Local Authority in accordance with the Warwickshire Local Authority's admissions co-ordinated scheme.

Applications received after the notification date (after places are offered) will be added to the school's waiting list in admission criteria order.

APPLICATIONS OTHER THAN THE NORMAL INTAKE TO YEAR 7 (In-year applications)

An application should be made to the Local Authority who will need to consult with the Governing Body.

WAITING LISTS

Waiting lists for admission will remain open until the end of December 2017 and will then be discarded. Parents may apply for their child's name to be reinstated until the end of the academic year when the list will be discarded. The waiting list will be kept by the Governing Body in admission criteria order. When a new child joins the waiting list, all applicants on that list will be re-ranked to ensure that the list is always maintained in oversubscription criteria order. This means that a child's position on the waiting list could go up or down. Inclusion of a child's name on the waiting list does not mean that a place will eventually become available.

Children who are the subject of a direction by a local authority to admit or who are allocated to a school in accordance with a Fair Access Protocol take precedence over those on a waiting list.

IN YEAR FAIR ACCESS POLICY

Please refer to the agreed policy with the Local Authority for admission of previously excluded or hard to place children

YEAR 12 ADMISSIONS POLICY

St Benedict's Sixth Form is a mixed Sixth Form that welcomes applications from students at other schools as well as from those already at St Benedict's. The school's PAN for external students joining Year 12 in September 2017 is 10.

Academic Criteria for Admission to the Sixth Form:

1. International Baccalaureate Diploma - For those students interested in studying the International Baccalaureate Diploma they will need to achieve a minimum of Grade B or 5 at GCSE in six subjects with a minimum of Grade C or 4 at GCSE in English and Mathematics. Students wishing to study Higher Level Mathematics will require a minimum of Grade A* or 8 at GCSE in Mathematics.

2. BTec Plus - Students who wish to study the BTec Plus will be required to achieve a minimum of Grade C or 4 at GCSE in four subjects, preferably including English and Mathematics. For the Health and Social Care BTec Plus course a Grade B or 5 at GCSE in Biology is preferable. Where the student wishes to study an International Baccalaureate programme subject a minimum of Grade B or 5 at GCSE will be required in that specific subject.

Admissions Process Year 12

Students applying for a place in Year 12 in September 2017 will be encouraged to attend the Sixth Form Open Evening that takes place in November 2016. Applications for Year 12 must be completed using the Sixth Form Application Form that is available in hardcopy from the school or online on our school website. All applications must be returned by the date specified by the school (please check the website for details).

All students will be invited to attend a meeting with the school accompanied by a parent where study programmes and subject choices will be discussed. For external applicants, a reference from their previous school will also be required.

Following the meeting, a letter will be sent to applicants confirming the decision made regarding a place in Year 12. All offers of a place in Year 12 will be made subject to the student meeting the entry requirements.

All those who have received offers of a place will be invited to attend the Sixth Form Induction Day held in July of the year of entry.

Students holding conditional offers must confirm acceptance of their place following receipt of their GCSE results in August. The deadline for confirmation is 1.00pm on GCSE Results Day.

Guidance will be given to students who wish to consider a change of subject choice following receipt of GCSE results.

Oversubscription to the Sixth Form

Subject to the applicants satisfying the minimum academic requirements if the number of external applications exceeds the PAN for Sixth Form, the Governors will give priority to applications in accordance with the criteria listed below. In all categories, priority will be given to those who have a brother or sister (see Note 3 above) attending St Benedict's Catholic High School at the time of admission and then distance.

1. Baptised Catholic children (see Note 2 above) who meet the minimum academic requirements and who are in the care of a local authority (looked-after children) or

provided with accommodation by them (e.g. children with foster parents) (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).

2. Baptised Catholic external applicants who meet the minimum academic requirements. Following the publication of GCSE results in August 2017, external applicants who meet the minimum academic requirements will be offered places in accordance with distance between the child's home and school (shortest distance = highest priority). Distance will be calculated by the straight line measurement from centre point of the applicant's home address location to the centre point ("centroid") of the preferred school. (All measurements are subject to slight change due to updates of mapping data).
3. Non-Catholic children (see Note 2 above) who meet the minimum academic requirements and who are in the care of a local authority (looked-after children) or provided with accommodation by them (e.g. children with foster parents) (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).
4. Non-Catholic external applicants who meet the minimum academic requirements. Following the publication of GCSE results in August 2017, external applicants who meet the minimum academic requirements will be offered places in accordance with distance between the child's home and school (shortest distance = highest priority). Distance will be calculated by the straight line measurement from centre point of the applicant's home address location to the centre point ("centroid") of the preferred school. (All measurements are subject to slight change due to updates of mapping data).

In a very small number of cases it may not be able to decide between the applicants of those pupils who are qualifiers for a place, when applying the published admission criteria.

For example, this may occur when children in the same year group live at the same address, or if the distance between the home and school is exactly the same, for example, a block of flats. If there is no other way of separating the application according to the admissions criteria and to admit both or all of the children would cause the PAN to be exceeded, the individual priority for each applicant will be set by random allocation (lottery). The draw will be carried out by two officers of the Admissions Service, Communities Group in the presence of a Local Authority solicitor. The order of the draw will be recorded and countersigned at the time. As an exception, the Governing Body will give careful consideration to offering places above the PAN to applications from children whose twin or sibling from a multiple birth is admitted even when there are no other vacant places.

The Governing Body reserves the right not to run subjects where, in the reasonable opinion of the Governing Body, it is not economical to do so due to the number of students for that subject.

Appeals

All applicants refused places will be notified that they have a right of appeal through an independent appeal panel. If there are insufficient applicants meeting the entry requirements, the school does not have to fill all the places.

There is no charge or cost related to the admission of a child to this school.

GOVERNORS
(for the 2017-2018 Academic Year)

Foundation Governors

Mr D Cropper (Chair) (The Old Post Office, 14 Church Lane, Cookhill
Alcester, Warwickshire, B49 5JS)

Mr O'Connell
Mrs M Hughes
Mrs B Rennie
Mrs A Yearby

LEA Representatives

Mr K Clark

Co-opted Governor

Mr S McVeigh

Headteacher

Mr N Gibson

Parent-Governors

Mrs M Fletcher
Mrs A Hurd
Mr G Phillips (Vice Chair)

Teacher/Non-Teaching-Governors

Mrs K Martin

Clerk

Mr D Evans (Coventry LEA, Government Support Services)

MEMBERS OF STAFF

Teaching Staff

Mr K Alford	BSc (Hons) Sports & Exercise Science, PGCE in PE	Head of PE, 11F Tutor
Mrs S Ball	BA (Hons), National Award for SEN Coordination.	Head of Inclusion
Mrs S Boote Powell	BA (Hons), MA History, PGCE CCRS	Assistant Headteacher/Head of Pastoral Care
Mrs S Bragg	Bsc (Hons), PGCE	Head of Science, 11B Tutor
Mrs K Brown	BEng Automotive Engineering 2.2 (Hons), PGCE Secondary Science	Science
Miss M Buckley	LLB (Hons) Law, MBA	Computing and Business Studies, 12/13D Tutor
Mrs J Carpinato	BEng (Hons) Building (Structural) Engineering	Trainee Teacher
Miss G Coombes	BSc (Hons) Science, CCRS, PGCE	Head of RE, 8B Tutor
Mrs F Corrado	MA Structural Engineering, PGCE Maths	Maths
Mrs H Clutterbuck	BA Fine Art, PGCE	Art
Miss K Dale	Bed (Hons) Fashion & Textiles and Dip HE	Textiles
Miss D Dance	BA (Hons), PGCE History	History, 10F Tutor
Mrs R Davies	BA (Hons) Film and Literature	English, 12/13B Tutor
Mr E Deschamps	PGCE	Modern Foreign Languages, 7B Tutor
Deacon S Dunton	BA (Hons), PGCE	Theory of Knowledge, Joint 10M Tutor
Mrs G Edwardes	PGCE	Science, Joint 12/13C Tutor
Mrs K Farrelly	BSc Maths, PGCE	Head of Maths, 11C Tutor
Dr D Fernie	BA (Hons) Phd PGCE	English, Theory of Knowledge, Joint 12/13C Tutor
Mrs F Fisher	BA (Hons) Theology 2:1, PGCE RE	RE, Joint 9D Tutor
Miss S Ford	BA (Hons), PGCE	English, 12/13F Tutor
Mrs B Fullthorpe	BA (Hons) History, PGCE	Head of History
Mr N Gibson	BA (Hons) Industrial Design & Technology, Cert Ed, FRSA, Post Graduate Cert in Educational Management, PGCE	Headteacher
Miss D Gisbourne	BSc (Hons) Biology, PGCE Biology	Science, Joint 10M Tutor
Mrs A Grudzinska	BA (Hons)	PE
Mrs A Hamilton	BA (Hons) Art Practice & Cultural Policy	Dance, CAS
Mr A Hendry	BA CertEd	Geography
Mr A Holland	BA (Hons), MEd, PGCE	History, Theory of Knowledge
Miss R Houston	BA (Hons) Primary Education with QTS	Maths, Joint 9D Tutor
Mrs R Hursey	BA English, PGCE, MA Creative and Critical Writing	Head of English, 11M Tutor
Mrs S Hyde	BSc (Hons) IT for Business, PGCE, QTS	Maths
Mr L James	ABSM Performing, GBSM Performing, PGCE Secondary Music	Head of Music
Mrs G Jenkins	BSc Hons Mathematics and PGCE Mathematics	Maths
Mrs J Knowles	BEd, CertEd	Science, Curricular Achievement Co-ordinator
Miss J Kruszyk	BSc Psychology	Psychology (Maternity Cover)
Mrs J Lee	BA (Hons), QTS	English, Film Studies,
Miss A Lever	BSc, PGCE	Science, CPD Co-ordinator, Uganda Committee, Staff Committee Member
Mr S Liles	BSc (Hons) Maths, PGCE	Maths, 10D Tutor, Staff Committee Member
Mrs K Martin	BSc Business & IT, PGCE	Computing, Business, Maths, RE, 9C Tutor
Mrs H McDermott	BA Hons Costume Design and PGCE Design Technology	Design Technology
Mrs J McDermott	BA (Hons), PGCE	Head of Modern Foreign Languages, 8C Tutor
Mrs D McKinley	BA (Hons) English Literature, Drama & Education, MA in Shakespeare & Education (Merit), PGCE	English
Mrs N McLeod	BEd (Hons)	Head of Year 12, i/c Textiles, Workskills,
Miss M Mora-Garcia	MEC Physical Activities and Sports, Official University Degree (Spain)	Modern Foreign Languages
Mrs D Munford	BA (Hons), PGCE	Head of Year 13, PE, RE
Miss J Nallen	BSc (Hons) Geography, PGCE	Head of Geography, 8M Tutor
Mr P O'Mahony	B.Tech in Mechanical Engineering, PGCE	Physics, 9M Tutor
Miss E Page	BA English, EGCE English and Drama	English, 8D Tutor
Mrs M Parton	BSc (Hons), GRTP	Assistant Headteacher, ICTAC Co-ordinator

Miss H Pettit	BSc (Hons) Food & Consumer Management	Food Technology, Textiles, History, 7C Tutor
Mrs A Phillips	BSc (Hons) Sport & Exercise, PHCE Secondary Science	Science (Maternity Cover)
Mr A Redfern	BA (Hons), PGCE	English, History, CPD Co-Ordinator, Hungary Committee
Mrs P Roman	PGCE	Modern Foreign Languages
Mrs J Sandham	NVQ3 Communication + Information Skills	Senior Librarian, Literacy Co-ordinator
Mr V Sindroja	BSc (Hons), PGCE	Maths, 12/13M Tutor
Mr S Smallman	BSc (Hons), PGCE	Assistant Headteacher, Head of Sixth Form
Mr A Strett	BSc (Hons) Secondary ICT with QTS	Computing, Business, PE, 7F Tutor
Mrs T Sylvester	BA (Hons), PGCE	Head of Art, 9B Tutor, Dance
Mrs J Tarver	Bed PE/English	Pastoral Manager
Ms K Taylor Jones	BA (Hons), PGCE	Head of Drama, 7M tutor
Miss H Tidd	PGCE Geography	Geography, 10C Tutor
Mrs L Toy	BSc (Hons) Joint Maths and Physics	Maths
Mr M Wallington	BSc 2:1 Sports (Coaching) FdSc	PE
Mrs V Williams	MSci (Hons) in Chemistry, PGCE	Chemistry, 9F Tutor
Mr D Wright	BEd (Hons) Design, Craft & Technology, PGCE	Head of Design Technology, 10B Tutor

Peripatetic Music Staff

Mr M Dibbens	Drums
Mr P Hurd	Guitar
Mrs C Johnson	Woodwind
Mrs S Laight	Violin
Mrs N Newcombe	Voice
Mrs A Vale	Piano/Keyboard

Non-Teaching

Learning Assistants

Mrs F Austin-Braams	Level 3 Learning Assistant
Mrs F Bullingham	Level 3 Learning Assistant, Holistic Support
Mrs H Conn	Level 1 Learning Assistant, SRN
Mrs V English	Cert Ed, Level 2 Learning Assistant
Mrs C Hand	Level 2 Learning Assistant
Ms L Hart	Level 2 Learning Assistant ND 3-Dimensional Design
Mrs H Heron	Level 2 Learning Assistant, ONC, HNC Mechanical Engineering
Mrs M Marshall	EAL Co-ordinator, HLLA
Mrs S Nickerson	NCFE Special Needs Assistant, HLLA
Mrs D Seabourne	Level 3 Learning Assistant
Mrs E Smith	Level 3 Learning Assistant, BA (Hons) Special & Inclusive Ed, OCR, FDLS Degree Learning Support
Mrs V Smith	Level 3 Learning Assistant - ASD
Mrs G Suttle	Level 2 Learning Assistant

Administration

Miss L Armfield	Finance Assistant Manager
Mrs K Baggott	Data Manager
Mrs A Bayliss	School Manager, BA (Hons)
Mrs C Brealey	Finance Assistant
Mrs K Castle	Sixth Form Administrator
Mrs D Clay	Administrator
Mrs C Cunningham	Attendance Co-ordinator/Health & Safety Co-ordinator
Miss T Gibbons	Departmental Assistant
Mrs K Hawkins	Finance Manager
Mrs M Holbrook	Office Manager/PA to Headteacher and SLT
Mrs J Homes	SWIFT, Careers, Work Experience + Work Related Learning + Applied Learning, MSc Business Management Systems, IDPM
Mrs C Laishley	School Business Assistant
Mrs J McCaslin	Sixth Form Administrator

Mrs N Perks	SEND Secretary
Mrs J Smith	Examinations Officer
Mrs K Whitehouse	Administrator, School Fund, Governor Maintenance

Ancillary Staff

Mrs S Barker	Laboratory Technician/Art Technician
Mr A Blewitt	ICT Systems Manager
Miss N Ceairns	Youth Minister, 8F Tutor
Mrs N Clarkson	Library Assistant, BSc (Hons)
Mrs E Binks	Technology Assistant, BA (Hons)
Mrs J Holmes	Senior Laboratory Technician
Mr A Langman	ICT Technician
Mr P Larvin	ICT Technician
Mr C Trim	Technology Technician

Caretaking, Kitchen & Cleaning

Mrs J Avery	Cleaning
Mrs L Beasley	Cleaning/Mid-day Supervisor
Mrs D Bennett	Kitchen Assistant
Mrs L Blundell	Cleaning
Miss C Davies	Kitchen Assistant
Miss Lisa Dilks	Cleaning
Mrs D Dyer	Mid-day Supervisor
Mrs S Evans	Kitchen Assistant
Miss D Gibbons	Cleaning
Mrs D Gibbons	Senior Caretaker
Mr A Gilchrist	Assistant Caretaker
Mrs A Hellyer	Chef Manager
Mrs A Hodge	Mid-day Supervisor
Mrs C Hoskins	Cleaning
Mrs S Lancaster	Cleaning
Mrs E Righton	Kitchen Assistant
Mrs P Rueahkham	Cleaning
Mrs M Smith	Kitchen Assistant
Mrs M Styler	Cleaning
Mrs M Woodfield	Cleaning
Miss S Woodfield	Cleaning
Mrs S Woodward	Kitchen Assistant

DAILY TIMETABLE

School begins at 8.50. Assembly is held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Morning				
8.55 - 9.00 Registration				
9.00 - 10.00 Period 1				
10.00 - 11.00 Period 2				
11.00 - 11.20 Break				
11.20 - 12.20 Period 3				
Afternoon				
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
12.20 Lunch	12.20 Lunch	12.20 Lunch	12.20 Lunch	12.20 Lunch
1.10 Registration	1.20 Registration and Form Prayers	1.15 Registration	1.20 Registration and Form Prayers	1.10 Registration
		1.20 Assembly/Form Prayers		
1.15 Period 4	1.35 Period 4	1.35 Period 4	1.35 Period 4	1.15 Period 4
2.15 Period 5	2.35 Period 5	2.35 Period 5	2.35 Period 5	2.15 Period 5
3.15 Assembly				3.15 Assembly
3.35 End of school	3.35 End of school	3.35 End of school	3.35 End of school	3.35 End of school

All pupils have lunch at school, where a self-service restaurant operates using a fingerprint system. Sandwiches may be brought and eaten in the school dining hall.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES 2017- 2018

Autumn Term:	Tuesday 5 September to Friday 22 December inclusive
Half Term:	Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October inclusive
Spring Term:	Tuesday 9 January to Thursday 29 March inclusive
Half Term	Monday 19 February to Friday 23 February inclusive
Summer Term:	Monday 16 April to Friday 20 July inclusive
Half Term:	Monday 28 May to Friday 01 June inclusive
May Day Holiday:	Monday 7 May
Teacher Training days:	Monday 4 September, Wednesday 18 October 2017, others tbc

SCHOOL UNIFORM - St Benedict's pupils wear school uniform, full details of which are set out below:

All items are compulsory unless stated

BOYS

Navy-blue or plain dark top coat
White shirt
Medium grey V-necked long-sleeved pullover
or black pullover in Year 11. No cardigans
Grey socks
Clip-on school tie
(**NO** earrings/piercings)

Black blazer with school badge
Black trousers
Black shoes (**not canvass or trainer style**)
(**must be able to apply polish**)
No exaggerated hair styles.

P.E. & Games

Royal blue football socks (compulsory)
Sports shirt (compulsory) (with school crest)
Towel (compulsory)
Bag for sports clothing
Hooded sweatshirt with school logo

Plain Black football shorts with badge (no stripes)
(compulsory)
Training shoes (compulsory)
Football boots (compulsory)
Black rugby jersey (compulsory)
Shin pads (compulsory)
Gum Shield (strongly advisable)
White trainer socks for indoor and summer use.

GIRLS

Navy-blue or plain dark top coat
White button-to-the neck blouse
Medium grey V-necked long-sleeved pullover (Years
7-10) – no cardigans.
or black V pullover in Year 11 only (**not cardigans**)
Black shoes – (**must be able to apply polish**) (**not
trainer style, canvas or stilettos**)
Clip-on school tie

Satchel/briefcase - **not** bulky sports bag
NO jewellery (pierced ears – small stud only)
NO piercings
NO make-up or nail polish

Black blazer with school badge
Medium grey **knee-length** skirt with school crest.
(Years 7-10)
Black **knee/to mid-calf-length** skirt (tailored -
not of a stretch material, or have any pattern
on them)(Year 11 only)
White knee-length socks (Years 7-10)
Grey tights (Years 7-10)
Black tights (Year 11 only)
White ankle socks (summer only)
NO leggings
NO cardigans
NO dying of hair

P.E. & Games

Plain black skorts with school crest (no stripes)
(compulsory)
Football boots (for hockey, football & rugby)
P.E. bag
Hooded Sweatshirt with school logo
Plain black tracksuit bottoms (no stripes)
(compulsory) October - February

Sports shirt (compulsory) (with school crest)
Training shoes (compulsory)
Towel (compulsory)
Royal blue hockey/football/rugby socks
(compulsory)
Shin pads (compulsory)
Gum Shield (strongly advisable)
White trainer socks for indoor and summer use.

Many of the items can be purchased from major stores.
Items are available from 'your school uniform' www.marksandspencer.com
and Alcester NSC www.alcesternsc.co.uk

MEDICINE IN SCHOOL

St Benedict's has adopted the Warwickshire County Council policy on medication in school. Therefore, only medication that has been prescribed by a GP and is in the original chemist's packaging with the label clearly stating the pupil's name, medicine and dosage can be brought into school. This needs to be brought to the Office where it will be stored. It is the pupil's responsibility to come to the Office when they require their medication.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND IMAGES OF CHILDREN

During your child's education at St Benedict's we may wish to take photographs of activities that involve your child. The photographs may be used for displays, publications and on websites by the school, local newspapers and the Local Authority.

Photography and/or filming will only take place with the permission of the headteacher and under the necessary supervision. Due to the advances in technology, this also includes mobile phones, and other products which have a photographic function. If filming or photography is carried out by the media, children will only be named if there is a particular need to do so (e.g. they have won a prize) and a child's address will **not** be disclosed. Parents can be assured that an image which may cause distress or embarrassment will never be used. There may be eventualities whereby parents wish to use cameras to take photos that may involve other children (e.g. a school play). We ask that images are appropriate and respectful to other people and do not interrupt or disrupt that particular school event. If you do not wish to give your consent please write to the school.

TELEPHONE

If it necessary for pupils to contact parents during the school day they may use a telephone at the Office. The cost is 10p to call a landline and 20p to call a mobile telephone.

MOBILE TELEPHONES

If mobile 'phones are brought to school they **must be switched off and out of sight at all times**, including break and lunchtime. If a pupil's mobile 'phone is seen, heard, or used at all during the school day it will be confiscated and returned only in person to a parent who can come into school to collect it. Alternatively, pupils can collect their property at the end of the day on the last day of each half-term. Pupils are not permitted to take photographs. **The school will not accept liability for any pupil's property brought into school.**

TRANSPORT TO SCHOOL

Arrangements for transport to school for those pupils who are entitled to free or concessionary bus passes are made by the Warwickshire or Worcestershire education authorities and co-ordinated by the headteacher. Details are sent to pupils' homes in time for use on the first day at St Benedict's. With permission pupils may travel to school by bicycle. They are expected to maintain their bicycles in good condition and to a safe standard for riding. Helmets must be worn. The Head of Pastoral Care should be informed of pupils using bicycles for this purpose.

ILLNESS OR ACCIDENT

If a child has an accident or is taken ill, parents are contacted so that the pupil may be taken home. No child will be sent home until the parent has been informed. If a child needs to receive hospital treatment he/she will be taken directly to hospital, by ambulance if parents/guardians cannot be contacted, where the parents may meet the teacher in charge. **Telephone numbers for use in emergencies are essential.** Pupils are not allowed to carry medicines around school. Tutors and/or office staff supervise the taking of medicines (only medicines issued by a GP, **clearly marked**, maybe given to pupils). Parents should inform the school of any allergies or long term medical conditions that their child suffers from.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Parents and guardians are requested to encourage their children who are pupils at this school to:

- (a) Conduct themselves in a manner which is considerate to their own safety and the safety of others.
- (b) Observe standards of dress consistent with safety and/or hygiene (this would preclude unsuitable footwear and other items considered dangerous). No ear-rings for PE (including sleepers).
- (c) Observe all the safety rules of the school and in particular the instructions staff give in an emergency.
- (d) Not wilfully misuse, neglect or interfere with equipment provided for their safety.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

As St Benedict's is a lively, effective school, with teachers who have high expectations and emphasise achievement, educational visits form an important part of the curriculum and are often re-enforced by extra-curricular activities. The continuation of such outings depends on parents making voluntary financial contributions. Should parents or pupils have concerns over monetary payments they should contact the headteacher.

ATTENDANCE

Parents/guardians must contact school on the first day of absence by 8.45 am to report that their child will be absent that day. The reason for absence will be relayed to form tutors via registers.

All absence must be covered by a letter of explanation from the pupil's parent/legal guardian. Even though a pupil's parent/guardian telephones to explain absence, on the pupil's return to school a letter of explanation must be produced. If letters are not received the absence will be marked as unauthorised. A parental explanation does not, in itself justify authorisation.

Authorised absence is absence with permission from a teacher or other authorised representative of the school. This includes instances of absences for which a satisfactory explanation has been provided (for example illness). Schools are entitled to request confirmation of any parental explanation for absence, for example medical confirmation from a doctor.

Unauthorised absence is absence without permission from a teacher or other representative of the school. This includes all unexplained or unjustified absences.

Attendance levels are regularly monitored and letters to parents are produced when attendance falls below certain thresholds. Persistent absence will be followed up by the Head of Pastoral Care and appropriate strategies employed as a result of liaison with the appropriate agencies e.g. Attendance, Compliance and Enforcement Services for Warwickshire and Worcestershire.

Leave of Absence

Amendments to the 2006 regulations **remove** references to family holiday and extended leave as well as the statutory threshold of ten school days. The amendments make clear that Headteachers **may not grant any** leave of absence during the term unless there are **exceptional** circumstances. Parents can receive a Penalty Notice from the Local Authority for taking their child on holiday during term time without consent from the school. From September 2013 these Notices now cost £60 per child per parent if paid within twenty-one days and £120 if paid within twenty-two and twenty-eight days.

If a Penalty Notice is issued and not paid within the timeframe set out in the notice, the Local Authority clearly state that the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 of the Education Act 1996. Leave of absence requests should be officially applied for, by parents, two weeks in advance using the relevant LA forms obtainable from the school office for this purpose. Headteachers are no longer permitted to authorise absence for holidays taken during term time. They are permitted to grant leave only in exceptional circumstances. If you think you have exceptional circumstances please talk to us without delay and before arrangements are entered into or money committed. If exceptional circumstances are accepted the Headteacher will determine how much absence will be authorised.

Pupils Leaving School Site

All pupils in Year 7-11 must sign out at the Office when leaving the school premises for a particular reason, eg to attend a medical appointment, and sign back in on return. Tutors must have been notified of such situations by letter from parents/guardians in advance. Only members of the Senior Leadership Team may sanction pupils leaving the school premises for any other reason. Equally, Tutors wishing to send home a child for reasons of illness, etc must consult Head of Pastoral Care/SLT members before doing so. Pupils should be collected by their parent/guardian and will not be allowed to go home unaccompanied.

No pupil may leave the premises without permission or make their own arrangements to go home. Telephone calls in this instance may only be made by appropriate members of staff, ie Head of Pastoral Care/SLT.

ORGANISATION OF THE CURRICULUM

Aims

The ethos of St Benedict's is one of maximisation of potential, spiritually, academically, vocationally and socially. We know that by the end of their time with us, most pupils will have achieved their full potential and very often progressed beyond expectations. This gives them the confidence and ability to develop their achievements in further and higher education or in their chosen careers post-16/18.

KS3/Lower School

St Benedict's provides a broad, balanced curriculum. In years 7, 8 and 9 all pupils follow national curriculum guidelines in English, maths, science, Spanish, history, computing, geography, technology, art, music and P.E. and diocesan schemes for R.E. Pupils in Years 7 and 8 are involved in a Curriculum Carousel which allows pupils to be taught additional curriculum areas i.e., dance, drama. Their rate of progress is monitored throughout this key stage aided by internal examinations taken for each year group. Core subjects are taught in ability groups by setting pupils in Years, 8 and 9, and other groups are made up of pupils of all ability levels.

KS4/Upper School

All pupils are entered for GCSE examinations (or foundation qualifications if appropriate) in the following subjects: English, English Literature, maths, science and R.E. The optional subjects are Spanish, computing, business and communications systems, business, food and nutrition, product design, textiles, geography, history, art, music, drama. Prior to KS4 guidance is given to parents and pupils on our Curriculum Guidance website and several meetings are held for parents and pupils to help them make informed decisions about choices in KS4. We are able to personalise the curriculum needs of our pupils, and where it suits, pupils can take less than six GCSEs or up to fourteen GCSEs or the equivalent. This guidance is available on-line and is available for you to examine in more detail.

Key Stage 5/Sixth Form

St Benedict's Sixth Form core provision will be the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, along with a range of BTEC Level 3 Courses, (Business and Health and Social Care), and International Baccalaureate Courses from the Diploma Programme. Please see our separate Sixth Form Prospectus for more details.

Teaching methods

A glance at the layout of classrooms shows the variety of teaching and learning styles used in the school. Teachers are encouraged to use a range of teaching techniques according to the needs of their pupils and resources are used so that teachers may develop the most suitable strategies to meet individual needs. Schemes of work are available in school and will be available from the school website. Please see Mrs Parton (Assistant Headteacher) for further details.

Pupils' responsibility for their own learning

Pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning. This may mean them using 'spell check' to improve their work or participation in music tuition, or sports practice. It may also involve working on the internet to research individual projects or interests. The ethos of positive consideration and thoughtfulness is always present and pupils are given every opportunity to organise their lifestyles so that they may achieve and extend their individual potential. School diaries are an important part of this procedure. Pupils note their long-term goals and targets as well as their day-to-day plans and these are monitored by their form tutors and by you. Merit certificates and Curricular Achievement certificates are awarded to pupils who have reached significant levels of attainment. Responsibility for learning also means more than what is outlined above. St Benedict's aims to make pupils

more autonomous learners, pupils who seek and enjoy learning develop an independence which they will take on to their next learning experience and even through life. This is particularly important when they come to do the International Baccalaureate.

Work Pattern

During a normal week there are 25 lessons of 1 hour, along with several acts of collective worship and three assemblies a week.

R.E

R.E is a fundamental element of the curriculum from Years 7 -11 and in a core subject. The curriculum is based upon schemes approved by the Archdiocese and reflects expectations of the Curriculum directory for Catholic Schools.

Sex Education

Pupils follow a Personal Relationships Programme based on a scheme which accords both with Diocesan guidelines and reflects Roman Catholic teaching. Whilst it is appreciated that pupils must be knowledgeable about the physical aspects of sexual development emphasis is also placed upon their responsibilities morally, ethically, socially and spiritually. The policy statement on Sex Education is available from school. Please contact the Headteacher if you would like a copy. If, after due consultation, you feel that the policy statement on Sex Education is not appropriate to the needs of your child alternative arrangements may be made but a written request to the Headteacher is needed.

Special Educational Needs and Disability

At St Benedict's Catholic High School, all pupils are valued as individuals. Each one comes to our school with ability in different areas and is encouraged in an atmosphere of celebration and praise. All have an entitlement to every aspect of the school curriculum.

If at any time during your child's years with us additional needs are identified, we aim to meet those individual requirements in a variety of ways, making reasonable adjustments. This may be at Universal Provision - within the mainstream classroom supported by guidance from the Inclusion Manager/SEND Co-ordinator Mrs Ball and implemented by the class teacher, for example differentiated work. There may be further need to support at Targeted Provision - where specific, additional, and time limited interventions may be provided to small groups to close a gap in the individual's learning, for example, booster groups. They are run by specific departments and may be supported or led by Learning Assistants. For a minority of children (those with a higher level of additional need) Higher Needs Provision - highly tailored targeted intervention may be required to accelerate progress or enable children to meet their potential and are run by experienced Learning Assistants. Withdrawal from lessons is only used when it is best for the individual. The school works closely with Local Authority Advisory Services and the Lifespace team.

At all times contact between home and school is seen as essential and we aim to work together as a team for the good of your child. We are very lucky to have our Scholastica Enrichment Centre at the heart of the inclusion department as a base to support learning, alongside developing the social and emotional wellbeing of pupils. Within this centre we are able to provide identified support including Nurture Group sessions, Circle time, Physiotherapy sessions and specific interventions.

The school strives to meet the need of those individuals with Education Health Care Plans (Statements of Special Needs); we take into account local and national legislation and do our best to meet the requirements of pupils within the normal structure of the mainstream school setting. More detailed information about the role of the Inclusion Department is available on our website or upon request.

Homework

Homework is set according to a timetable. Both teachers and parents are encouraged to make comments (including celebratory ones) in the appropriate column in the school diary. Pupils in Years 7 and 8 are expected to spend approximately one hour each evening doing

homework. In Year 9 one and a half hours' work is expected and in Years 10 and 11 pupils should be studying for approximately two hours each evening and spending part of the weekend studying so that a weekly total of 15 hours' work should be achieved. Pupils are given detailed advice about the study skills needed when doing homework. We do ask for parental co-operation too in the form of:

encouragement and support;
signatures in school diaries (weekly);
monitoring of exercise books;
testing;
listening to oral work;
helping with reading;
sharing skills and knowledge;
discussion;
provision of a suitable working environment;
contacting form tutors if there are any problems via diaries, telephone or letter;
a "Homework Information and Guidance" sheet is given to pupils and parents.

Coursework

Most GCSE subjects are now assessed entirely by examination. Some coursework still exists for computing, drama, art, music and technology.

Examinations, Profiles and Consultation

Examinations take place in every year culminating in GCSEs at the end of Year 11. Parents receive feedback on their child's progress every half-term. Target setting for pupils is an integral part of the learning process. Consultation with parents take place formally twice a year but there is, however, an 'open door' policy within the school which means that you are welcome to discuss any problems or concerns at any time. We do ask that you ring for an appointment and suggest that you arrange to speak to your child's tutor in the first instance.

Inspection of Documents

All school policies are available from the school office or from the school's website.

Complaints

The first contact for parents, as always, is the form tutor. If further advice is needed senior staff, including the headteacher, are available. The Chair of Governors and Warwickshire Local Authority may be consulted should it be considered necessary. The Complaints Policy is on the school website.

The Wider Curriculum

Pupils are able to take advantage of many social, cultural and educational opportunities offered by the school. We are linked with a Hungarian School (Szent Imre Gimnazium School) and pupils visit the school. There are study visits to Marle Hall in North Wales; theatre trips to Stratford, Birmingham and Warwick take place; school plays and poetry recitals are an annual event; peripatetic music teachers offer lessons in school; there is an active and successful orchestra; a French department exchange visit to a school in Normandy takes place regularly; and there is sport both competitive and non-competitive throughout the year; we have also linked with St. Kizito Secondary School in Uganda. We also have visits from American students, Japanese students and Australian students. The Sixth Form have recently visited China and Italy.

Careers, Routes and destinations All pupils follow courses in careers education and careers guidance is given by specially trained members of staff, as well as by expert outsiders. All pupils have a week's work experience during Year 11. Some pupils go into full-time employment at the end of Year 11 but most continue their studies in our new Sixth Form. Some students continue studying at Alcester Grammar School, Prince Henry's, Evesham, Stratford Girls Grammar School St. Augustine's, Stratford High School, or at the South

Warwickshire or Worcestershire Colleges of Further Education. Routes and destinations for pupils in Year 11 2015-2016 were as follows:

Continuing in Education	Training/Apprenticeship	Employment	Voluntary/part-time activities	NEET – not in Employment, Education or Training	NALA – not available, left area
104	5	1	nil	nil	nil

THE HOUSE SYSTEM

The House system was founded in 1968 to group young people together so that they may compete in a controlled, healthy and friendly atmosphere, thus promoting a sense of pride and belonging.

Pupils on being admitted to St Benedict's are placed at random into one of five Houses each named after saints. They are Becket, Clitherow, Dibdale, Fisher, and More. The intake is divided into five tutor groups, 7B, 7C, 7D, 7F, and 7M.

Each House has members of staff designated Head of House and the Boys' and Girls' Captains and Vice-Captains are elected from the 11th and 10th years respectively.

House activities are many and varied giving everyone the opportunity to represent their House. A calendar of House events is compiled and published at the beginning of each year. Events are scheduled to take place at lunchtimes and on afternoons of certain feast days.

Each House meets regularly on a rota basis to worship together and deal with House business.

House colours are automatically awarded to individuals after they have represented their House on fifteen separate occasions. House colours take the form of a miniature House shield badge worn by the recipient on the blazer lapel.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

At St Benedict's, extra-curricular activities play an essential part in the complete education of our pupils. All students are encouraged to participate in the wide range of opportunities available and response is traditionally very good. The activities contribute to the vitality and friendly determination to succeed evident in the school.

Departments within the school contribute in many ways to extra-curricular events, from retreats, study visits and field work to trips abroad. We also run a very healthy and popular Duke of Edinburgh Scheme for Bronze, Silver and Gold which encourages young people to use their talents, develop new skills and also help in the community. There is much sport, too. In P.E. lessons pupils take netball, football, rugby, cricket, athletics, basketball, rounders, and tennis but can also try badminton, dance, volleyball, gymnastics, trampolining, orienteering, climbing, softball, dodgeball, lacrosse, problem solving, cheerleading and table-tennis. From time to time, games are played to raise money for charity. Inter-school matches take place in many different sports. In all games, the emphasis is on the pleasure of participating as well as the importance of winning. Those pupils who do gain local, regional or national success are acknowledged as worthy standard-bearers in a school where success is for every individual, although it is seen in different ways in all our pupils.

Our annual fundraiser sponsored walk, around Alcester, is impressive both in terms of organisation and as a fund-raiser. The Alcester walk is open to the whole school and we expect all pupils to participate. One other important fundraiser is the annual Christmas Raffle and Bingo.

A great deal of the success of the social side of life at St Benedict's is attributable to members of our Parent Teacher Association, the St Benedict's Association. Their considerable efforts enable us to offer a varied range of activities for everyone to enjoy. Recently parents, pupils, staff and friends of the school have enjoyed race nights, discos, 50/50 club, concerts, summer balls, barbeques, raffle, and quizzes. To the members we are very grateful.

ST BENEDICT'S SIXTH FORM

September 2016 saw us welcome our sixth year of Sixth Form students into our purpose-built Sixth Form Centre, which accommodates up to 160 students (80 in both Years 12 and 13) when at full capacity. We welcome present pupils from our 11-16 school and, most warmly, pupils from other schools who believe that the education offered at St Benedict's is what they want.

The Curriculum on Offer

Our curriculum offers something for all abilities: the **International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma** is the core of our curriculum. It is a broad and balanced programme of education with final examinations that prepare students for success at university and life beyond. The programme is taught over two years and has gained recognition and respect from the world's leading universities.

IB students study six subjects: 3 at Higher Level and 3 at Standard Level, thus ensuring breadth of experience in languages, social studies, the experimental sciences and mathematics. The sixth subject may be an arts subject, or one of the additional 'elective' subjects also being offered, such as an additional language or another science subject.

In addition the programme has three core requirements that are included to broaden the educational experience and challenge students to apply their knowledge and understanding:

- The Extended Essay requires students to undertake independent research through an in depth study of a question relating to one of the subjects they are studying
- Theory of Knowledge encourages each student to reflect on the nature of knowledge by critically examining different ways of knowing and different kinds of knowledge
- Creativity, Activities and Service requires that students actively learn from the experience of doing real tasks beyond the classroom.

BTEC Plus

This is a two year full-time qualification which creates a package of qualifications giving access to university or employment. It is tailor-made according to each student's individual need.

The core of the course consists of a Level 3 BTEC Diploma – the subjects we are currently offering are Business and Health & Social Care. These vocational qualifications will equip students with the essential skills and knowledge for future study or a career in these areas.

In addition to the BTEC Diploma, students can choose to study one or two IB subjects at either Standard or Higher Level, or study additional units to gain an Extended Diploma.

Please refer to our full prospectus on-line to find out about our Sixth Form and curriculum in more detail: www.st-benedicts.org

**CURRICULUM MODEL FOR ST BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC HIGH
SCHOOL
MAIN SCHOOL**

SUBJECT	TIME Periods/Week		
	7	8	9
Art	1	1	1
English	4	3	3
Spanish	2	2	3
Geography	2	1	2
History	1	2	2
Computing	1	1	1
Mathematics	3	4	3
Music	1	1	1
PE	2	2	2
RE	2	2	2
Science	3	3	3
Technology	2	2	2
Citizenship Carousel Including Arts award, Dance and Drama	1	1	-

SUBJECT	TIME Periods/Week	
	10	11
English	4	4
Mathematics	4	4
Science	6	6
RE	2	2
Option A	2	2
Option B	2	2
Option C	2	2
Option D	2	2
PE	1	1