



St Michael's Catholic College

Llewellyn Street, Bermondsey, London SE16 4UN

Tel: 020 7237 6432

www.stmichaelscollege.org.uk

Principal: Ms Felicity Corcoran
Vice Principal: Ms Charlotte Sayed
Vice Principal: Ms Joanna Nottage

18th July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have now come to the end of a very busy and successful academic year. We continue to be delighted with the outcome of our recent Diocesan section 48 Catholic Inspection which judged the college to be Outstanding in all areas. This recognition has been important to all in our community, especially our students who can see that demonstrating their faith in action every day has a positive impact on both themselves as individuals and most importantly on the entire St Michael's community. I am proud that St Michael's has been judged as being 'deeply rooted on principles of care and compassion based on the Salesian values of respect, understanding, affection and humour (RUAH) evident at all levels within the school and extended community'. It is my mission and that of all staff and the governing body to ensure this always remains the case.

It has been wonderful to bring the year to a close with a wide variety of careers and enterprise events and an arts and enrichment week involving lots of trips and cultural experiences. It has also been fantastic to welcome lots of parents and carers to the college this term, to share the gifts and talents of students at our recent showcase and sports awards evenings. It was a brilliant opportunity in particular for students to share their creative and sporting talents and also for our faith in action groups, chaplaincy teams, mental health ambassadors, diversity ambassadors and the 'all are welcome' group to demonstrate how their work contributes to the success of St Michael's.

Once again, I would like to give thanks for the highly skilled and committed staff that we have at St Michael's. We are very blessed to have such dedicated staff who share in the college vision to ensure students have the very best academic provision and pastoral care at every stage of the academic year. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank staff who will be leaving St Michael's this summer: Ms B Etemewei, Mr Gavin, Mr House, Ms Mundy, Ms Oluwole, Mrs Shillito, Ms Simms, Ms Walker and Mr Walker. We thank them for their positive contribution and service to our community and wish them well for the future.

We also wish those students in Year 11 and 13 who will be leaving as well and we thank them for their fantastic contribution to St Michael's Catholic College. We hope they will continue to demonstrate RUAH values through their words and deeds as they make their way in the world, we will keep them in our prayers as we await their examination results.

We look forward to welcoming all year groups back in September and details about the start of term are included below along with the details of the college uniform and hair policies which I ask that all parents and carers read carefully so that expectations are clear as this ensures a positive start to the new term. We will also be inviting all parents and carers to attend 'Curriculum Evenings' in September which provide us with an opportunity to share with you important information about your child's learning, how you can support them with their education, along with key dates for the year. The curriculum evenings will be taking place in person at the college and it is important that you attend so that you are fully informed. A sign-up form will be sent out to parents/carers towards the end of the summer holidays.



Curriculum Information Meeting Dates

Year 11 Wednesday 6th September 5pm
Year 13 Wednesday 6th September 6pm
Year 10 Thursday 7th September 5pm
Year 12 Thursday 7th September 5:45pm
Year 8 Tuesday 12th September 5pm
Year 9 Tuesday 12th September 5:45pm
Year 7 Thursday 14th September 5pm

I would like to thank all parents and carers for your support this year and we look forward to continuing to work in partnership with you next year. I hope that you and your family keep safe and well during the summer break.

Prayer for the End of the School Year

At the end of this school year we
give thanks to God:

For all the teaching and learning
that has taken place in our school,
both in and out of the classroom,
For the talents and gifts that have
been shared and the challenges that
have been faced;
For the burdens that have been
lifted and the hurts that have been
healed;
For the respect, understanding,
affection and humour that has
been shown.

We give thanks for the friendships
that have just begun and for those
that have grown.
For the faith that has been lived in
our daily struggles,
For the hope that has lifted our
hearts on the dark days
and for the love that has kept us going.
We give thanks for the community
that we are.

Lord, bless us and keep us safe over the
summer, pour out your love on us that we
may return renewed and refreshed
to continue our journey together.

We make this prayer through Christ
our Lord.
Amen

Yours faithfully,



Ms F. Corcoran
Principal

Start of Term Arrangements

- **Monday 4th September: Inset day for staff**
- **Tuesday 5th September: 9:30am Start of term for Year 7 & 12 students only**
- **Wednesday 6th September: 8:40am Start of term for Year 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13 students**

Please ensure that your child is ready to start back on the right date at the right time. In line with Department of Education policy the college will not authorise any holiday taken in term time and is under no obligation to set work for students missing school for this reason. Every day missed is 5 hours of learning lost. Parents/carers should be aware that stricter regulations in relation to punctuality, attendance and in particular unauthorised absence are in line with Department of Education guidance.



ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE UNIFORM POLICY

(Years 12 and 13 should see the 6th form Dress Code information on the website)

We want all students to take pride in their appearance and to recognise that they wear a uniform to show they are a valued part of the college community. Therefore, all students are required to meet College uniform requirements at all times both in school and on the way to and from school. It is not reasonable for parents/carers to ask us to make exceptions for their child as it undermines our high standards and ethos. We ask all parents and carers to read this policy carefully and ensure their child's uniform complies.

Please note all items of uniform are available from Whitehall Clothiers, 77 Camberwell Road, SE5 OEZ Tel: 020 7703 3604.

Both Whitehall Clothiers and St Michael's can provide help to any families who require support in purchasing uniform so please do contact us if you require financial assistance in this way. We also have a substantial stock of second-hand uniform stored at the college to support families and promote sustainability. As explained earlier in the year for reasons of affordability and sustainability we are now moving to a new uniform which is being introduced for new Year 7 students this September, with a transition period and minor changes introduced in Years 8-11 as we are mindful of money that has been already spent on current uniform.

Uniform for students in Years 8-11 in September 2023 – the only changes required for September are highlighted.

- Grey Trousers or Grey Kilt (same shade of grey as blazer) Both items are only available from Whitehall Clothiers. In relation to the kilt there should be no extremes of length. Students are not permitted to roll up the waistband of their skirts and the skirt must be knee length or longer.
- **White Shirt with a top button- all students (open necked blouses are no longer permitted)**
- **Clip on tie in House colours – all students. We can now confirm that for September all students now require a tie in house colours. Parents/carers are asked to pay for the tie-on parent pay over the summer and students will then be issued with the tie at the college at the start of the new term. This means parents are not required to travel to Whitehall Clothiers to buy the tie. Parents/carers must take responsibility to ensure they have paid for the new tie by 4th September.**
- Grey Cardigan with only available from Whitehall Clothiers. Students are not permitted to tie up their cardigans at the back.
- Grey Blazer – with College Badge – only available from Whitehall Clothiers.
- Black socks ankle or knee length or Black tights (NO WHITE SOCKS)
- Black/ Navy/Dark Grey Coat -**no other colours, patterns or logos allowed**. Outdoor hats must be plain black, navy or grey. Coats, hats, scarves and shawls/wraps are not allowed to be worn inside the college building.
- Formal Black Leather Shoes (NOT trainer style or boots) with black soles, black laces (if lace ups) and all black stitching.

- No Jewellery of any type is allowed- students are also not permitted to wear jewellery to and from school.
- TRAINERS OF ANY COLOUR MAY NEVER BE WORN AT OR TO AND FROM THE COLLEGE

As students in Year 8-11 grow out of the current uniform items can be replaced with the new uniform that has been introduced for the new Year 7 from September 2023.

Uniform for students in New Year 7 only September 2023

- Grey Trousers or Grey Kilt (same shade of grey as blazer) Both items are only available from Whitehall Clothiers. In relation to the kilt there should be no extremes of length. Students are not permitted to roll up the waistband of their skirts and the skirt must be knee length or longer.
- White shirt with top button and House tie. (ties can only be purchased on parent pay and will be distributed at the start of the new term.
- Grey v- necked jumper with blue trim, only available from Whitehall Clothiers
- Grey Blazer with College Badge and blue trim – only available from Whitehall Clothiers.
- Black socks ankle or knee length or Black tights (NO WHITE SOCKS)
- Black/ Navy/Dark Grey Coat - **no other colours, patterns or logos allowed.** Outdoor hats must be plain black, navy or grey. Coats, hats, scarves and shawls/wraps are not allowed to be worn inside the college building.
- Formal Black Leather Shoes (NOT trainer style or boots) with black soles, black laces (if lace ups) and all black stitching.
- No Jewellery of any type is allowed- students are also not permitted to wear jewellery to and from school.
- TRAINERS OF ANY COLOUR MAY NEVER BE WORN AT OR TO AND FROM THE COLLEGE

School Bags for all students in Years 7-11

- **All students in Years 7-11** must have the official St Michael's School bag bought from Whitehall Clothiers with their name written on the name label. No other bags will be allowed in these year groups.

PE Kit

PE kit requirements are the same for all students and items are available from Whitehall Clothiers

- St Michael's PE sport shirts
- St Michael's PE 1/4 zip sweatshirt.
- Navy Shorts or Navy tracksuit bottoms (leggings and cycling shorts are NOT allowed)
- Trainers (no pumps, converse etc)
- Pupils should bring their own roll-on anti-perspirant. Aerosols are not permitted as they cause problems for those with asthma.
- If students forget their P.E. Kit it will result in students receiving a negative mention on their record. Pupils will be expected to borrow a clean P.E. Kit from the P.E. Department which must be washed and returned to the P.E. Department promptly.
- All pupils at St Michael's are expected to take part in P.E. unless there is medical evidence to excuse them.

- All children who are selected for college teams will be expected, if required, to play on Saturday mornings and after college hours during the week.

Equipment

- All pupils must have a ballpoint pen, pencil, eraser, ruler and geometry set and a small scientific calculator.

Additional information

- Chewing Gum is **STRICTLY FORBIDDEN** in college as it causes costly damage.
- All items of uniform should be clearly marked with the students' name.
- Caps and non-winter hats are banned at all times.
- Make-up, nail varnish and false nails are not to be worn by any pupil.
- Jewellery is not allowed at all and cannot be worn whilst travelling to, from or at college, including earrings. This applies to all pupils. Jewellery and any other unauthorised items will be confiscated and returned to parents/guardians at the end of each college term. We do not allow students to cover piercings with plasters/use clear plastic studs to protect piercings. Therefore, students will be required to remove any piercings. Students are advised to have any piercings done at the start of the summer holiday to allow enough time for healing and earrings etc to be removed before the start of term.
- Wristwatches are permitted but **smart watches are not allowed** as this would be the same as allowing students to have a phone with them which is switched on all day.
- Mobile phones if brought to college should be switched off before entering the school site and must not be switched back on or used until the pupil has left the college site. Students who do not follow these requirements or breach the safety policy will have the right to bring a phone to college revoked.

College Hair Policy

The College hair policy has been informed by student, staff, parent and governor feedback to ensure our policies reflect and are supportive of the diversity of our college community.

Parents and carers are asked to read the policy carefully and go through it with their child so that everyone is clear about expectations. It is not fair to expect the college to make an exception for your child unless there is a specific medical reason.

- Students' hair should remain naturally coloured with one natural colour. Streaked, dyed, two tone, highlighted or coloured hair/braids are not permitted, nor are exaggerated hair styles e.g. Mohican
- For health and safety reasons students with hair that is shoulder length or longer must have their hair tied back in PE, DT and Science lessons and hair/fringes should not fall across students' eyes making it difficult for them to see or fully participate in lessons. Also, for health and safety reasons **hair should be no longer than waist length.**
- Afro-textured hair can be worn in all styles including, afros, locs, twists, braids, cornrows, fades, hair straightened through the application of heat or chemicals and weaves (in line with the 'Halo Code') but should be one natural colour. We acknowledge that Afro-textured hair requires specific styling for hair health and maintenance.

- Students are not permitted to have their heads shaved all over (skinhead/0.5 or less all over) and lines (including false partings) and patterns are not allowed to be shaved into eyebrows or hair.
- In years 7-11 hair accessories for all students e.g. hairbands, headbands, ribbons, slides, etc. must be black. Please note headbands should be narrow and glass or plastic beads are not allowed for health and safety reasons.
- In the 6th form all hair accessories and head scarves etc. must be black, navy or grey in line with the 6th form dress code colours.
- Information from the Halo Collective has also been used to inform our hair policy and we have adopted the halo code. More information can be found here:
<https://halocollective.co.uk/halo-school/>