



# St Michael's Catholic College

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Tel: 020 7237 6432

[www.stmichaelscollege.org.uk](http://www.stmichaelscollege.org.uk)

Principal: Ms Felicity Corcoran

Vice Principal: Ms Charlotte Sayed

Vice Principal: Ms Joanna Nottage

28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have now reached the end of a very successful spring term and are looking forward to the upcoming Easter break.

It has been a very busy term and I am very pleased to report that following a thorough consultation and due diligence process with Southwark Diocese and the Department of Education St Michael's will be part of the St Benedict Catholic Multi Academy Trust which opens on 1<sup>st</sup> April. As one of the 4 founding schools in the trust we have worked hard with Headteachers, Governors and the Trust board to create a Catholic Multi Academy Trust that: enhances all of the highly effective practice at St Michael's, respects our unique Salesian identity, provides access to high quality support and collaboration and will preserve, promote and strengthen Catholic Education in south east London. On a day-to-day level, there will be no noticeable difference to students or parents, but we now have the benefit of having a safety net of support and advice available to us now we are part of this formal partnership.

I am also delighted to report that St Michael's has won 3 prestigious SSAT (The Schools, Students and Teachers Network) Educational Outcomes awards for our 2023 results. The first is for being in the top 10% of non-selective schools nationally for student attainment, the 2<sup>nd</sup> is for being in the top 20% for progress, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> is the Closing the Gap Achievement Award. The Closing the Gap Achievement Award is for high levels of attainment and progress of students in receipt of the pupil premium.

I am incredibly proud that St Michael's is the sole winner of the Closing the Gap Achievement award and the only SSAT member school to be a triple award winner out of approximately 3000 SSAT member schools. It is wonderful to receive this national recognition and is testament to the consistent hard work and commitment of staff, students, parents and governors to our Salesian ethos and mission which makes a significant difference to the lives of our students. Please click on this link for the official press release <https://www.stmichaelscollege.org.uk/st-michaels-receives-national-recognition-for-exceptional-performance/>

The college closes today for the Easter break at 12:30pm, following Maundy Thursday liturgies led by the 6<sup>th</sup> form Chaplaincy Team with performances from the Year 7 choir. We will reopen **on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April at 8:40am**. Please ensure your child is present from the first day back and arrives on time. It is disruptive and detrimental to your child's learning and to the learning of other students if students do not start back on time and it also adds to staff workload, which is unreasonable. Our term dates are published well ahead of each academic year and parents/carers have statutory responsibilities to ensure their child attends school every day. A reminder also that late marks will be given to any student arriving after 8:40am, unless they have a medical appointment.

I would like to thank all parents and carers for your continued support this term. Our students succeed when we are all working together for the good of every single child in the St Michael's community in line with our Catholic and Salesian ethos.

However, I recognise that many families are still facing a number of challenges due to the continued cost of living crisis. Please do make us aware of any difficulties you are having so that we can assist you in any way we can. College staff continue to work hard to support any families in need in line with our Catholic ethos and do this in a discreet way.

As we approach Easter, we remember that the Easter story is one of hope, of light overcoming darkness and is an important reminder that nothing can come between us and the love of God.

Wishing you a very Happy Easter!

### **Let Us Have Hearts of Thankfulness – An Easter Prayer**

Lord God,  
You loved this world so much,  
that you gave your one and only Son,  
that we might be called your children too.

Lord, help us to live in the gladness and grace  
of Easter Sunday, every day.  
Let us have hearts of thankfulness  
for your sacrifice.  
Let us have eyes that look upon  
Your grace and rejoice in our salvation.

Help us to walk in that mighty grace  
and tell your good news to the world.  
All for your glory do we pray, Lord,  
Amen.

*Rachel Marie Stone*

Yours sincerely

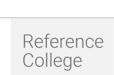


Ms F. Corcoran

Principal



Catholic Schools'  
Partnership



## Updates and reminders for Parents/Carers for March 2024

### ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE UNIFORM POLICY

(Years 12 and 13 should see the 6<sup>th</sup> 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 moving to a new uniform which was 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 2023-24

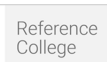
Grey Trousers or Grey Kilt (same shade of grey as blazer) Both items are only available from Whitehall Clothiers. In relation to the kilt there should be no extremes of length. Students are not permitted to roll up the waistband of their skirts and the skirt must be knee length or longer.

- White Shirt with a top button- all students (open necked blouses are no longer permitted)
- Clip on tie in House colours – all students.
- 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 Year 7 only 2023-24

- 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.
- 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.
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### **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

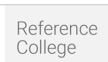
- St Michael's PE sport shirts
- St Michael's PE 1/4 zip sweatshirt.
- Navy Shorts or Navy tracksuit bottoms (leggings and cycling shorts are NOT allowed)
- Trainers (no pumps, converse etc)
- Pupils should bring their own roll-on anti-perspirant. Aerosols are not permitted as they cause problems for 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, false eyelashes 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 6<sup>th</sup> form all hair accessories and head scarves etc. must be black, navy or grey in line with the 6<sup>th</sup> 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/>



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