

ST ANNE'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St Anne's was founded in 1904 by the LSU Sisters for the Christian education of girls. This was later expanded to include the co-educational post-16 provision in the St Anne's Sixth Form College. It is only through Christian education that woman, created in the image of God, can understand her true dignity and it stated then, as it states now:



"The education it provides is firmly Christian. Its aim is to communicate Christ to its pupils and to form them as mature persons who will value their Christian responsibilities in life".

In 1907 the Sisters applied for and received a grant from the Board of Education thus becoming a Direct Grant School, a change of status enabled girls of a recognised level of ability to obtain free places at St Anne's. As the school grew in numbers and expanded in size it retained this status for the next 60 years weathering the trauma of considerable destruction of buildings and evacuation of pupils during the Second World War. In August 2012 the school converted to an academy enabling greater autonomy and educational freedoms. The LSU Sisters remain Trustees of the school.

St Anne's is a vibrant comprehensive school for girls, extending this traditional school into a co-educational post-16 sixth form. We have a long tradition of all that is best in Christian education. Respect and valuing each individual are central to our ethos as we strive to be a caring and inclusive school based firmly on the Gospel values of Jesus Christ: Love, Hope, Faith, Justice, Acceptance and Reconciliation.

We expect the highest standards from our students, teachers and from all who work in this school and sixth form college. We have a strong reputation for excellence and consistently achieve academic results, which are amongst the best in the area and within the top 10% nationally. St Anne's was one of the first schools in the country to be awarded Beacon status and has since received 2 excellence awards including Leading Edge status for literacy.

Our students are well behaved and courteous. Visitors to the school frequently comment on the friendly and calm atmosphere and the girls' enthusiasm for learning. The school offers a wide curriculum and an extensive programme of extra-curricular activities ranging from Sports Leadership Course and Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme to Speech and Drama clubs, Young Engineers and orienteering. There are numerous sports and athletic clubs and we have a thriving music department with a range of bands and orchestras and several highly acclaimed choirs.

We believe that professional development is crucial to achieving high standards for all students and to teachers' job satisfaction and well being. A comprehensive induction package is available to new and newly qualified teachers. Experienced teachers joining the school will receive any initial support they may need to establish themselves from their line manager. All staff are expected to make full use of development activities offered within the school or by outside providers.

The award of Specialist Science College Status in 2004 has opened up exciting new challenges and opportunities for St Anne's. It has enabled us to branch out into the community, to learn with and from others and to develop as professionals as we work to put our ambitious plans into practice for the benefits of all our students.

