



YEAR 7
TRANSITION

PROSPECTUS

**ST ALOYSIUS'
COLLEGE**

2018/2019

Choosing a secondary school is an important decision for any family. I am delighted that you are considering St Aloysius' College – a highly successful and long established Catholic school for your son.

St Aloysius' College is an aspirational, well ordered, academically successful and enriching place of education. Well located with excellent transport facilities, the school provides a very positive and caring environment which focusses on challenging our young people to succeed, and supporting and nurturing them as they navigate their journey into adulthood. Staff at the school work tirelessly to achieve our aim of quality and excellence in all that we do. We take our responsibility of working in partnership with parents and the parish for the faith formation, seriously ensuring that they are safe and secure, growing in God's love so that when they leave the school they are equipped with the academic achievements and skills needed to play a full role in whatever path they choose.

We acknowledge and encourage the important role that parents have in the education of their child and look forward to working in partnership with you.



MS J HEFFERNAN
EXECUTIVE
HEADTEACHER



**HEADTEACHERS'
WELCOME**





At St Aloysius we are committed to providing an outstanding Catholic Education to every student, underpinned by huge ambition and aspiration. We want our students to achieve the best academic qualifications and to develop the skills, knowledge and attributes needed to succeed in life.

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum aimed at developing well-rounded boys, in an environment of accountability, compassion, equality, integrity and high expectations.

Our enrichment curriculum enables our boys to develop interests beyond the classroom and to further develop their many God-given gifts and talents.

St Aloysius' RC College, a school steeped in history and founded in 1879, has educated and formed boys who have established distinguished careers in Business, the Arts, Academia, Sport, Entertainment, Government and the Clergy to name a few.

At St Aloysius, a life of leadership, service and pastoral development awaits.

Wherever our boys' talents and gifts lie, they are sure to find them here with us.



MR A ENGLISH
ASSOCIATE
HEADTEACHER





OUR SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

Those working in the school strive to achieve a sense of community within and outside the school setting in which our students aim for excellence in all areas of development: academic, social, physical, moral, cultural and spiritual.

The school engenders a respect for the individuality and integrity of all human beings.


Inherent in our respect for individuality, we recognise that all are God's creation.

It therefore follows that all forms of prejudice and discrimination are to be condemned: that poverty and unemployment also destroy human dignity as does bullying in all its forms: physical, verbal and psychological. There is no way to peace except through justice.

The school is outward looking: staff use every opportunity to widen the horizons of students' experience, by school visits and trips, as well as involving them in enterprises with the local community.

The Diocese, local Churches and primary schools, the local council, employees, voluntary organisations and local hospitals are all used in this extension of experience.

MISSION STATEMENT



The St Aloysius College mission is to educate our students in an environment where Gospel values are defined and the St John Baptiste de la Salle traditions of learning, justice, respect and community cohesion are promoted.

In pursuing our mission at this Catholic School, we seek to:

Promote a Christian community whilst respecting other world faiths

Create a culture of high expectations and achievement which will enable students of all abilities to prosper, develop and take responsibility for their own learning

Encourage students to respect and support others: their peers, their teachers, those in the wider community and particularly those in society who are marginalised

Value all students as individuals of equal worth in an atmosphere of respect, tolerance and understanding so that they will grow into responsible adults with an appropriate respect for the environment in which we all live.

Our pupils are offered a wide range of opportunities to develop their spirituality. All pupils receive at least three periods a week of R.E from specialist staff. In addition, Mass for all year groups is organised at the beginning and end of each academic year. All pupils are given the opportunity to attend Mass on Holy Days of Obligation in addition to a weekly Mass. Retreats are organised for our Year 7 pupils during their first year.



TEACHING, LEARNING & THE CURRICULUM

“The teaching is
Outstanding, teachers are very
enthusiastic and use skilful questioning
to challenge pupils and make them
think”

OFSTED 2012

When pupils arrive at St Aloysius in Year 7 they are placed in one of six tutor groups. Pupils are then taught either in tutor groups or in ability sets in Maths. A review of the boys' progress takes place immediately after each of the two formal exams and boys are moved between groups or sets should it be considered appropriate. Exceptional Progress is expected of the boys in our care and support and intervention is available when this is not secured. From September 2018 this has included prep time at the start of the day.

SUBJECTS TAUGHT IN YEARS 7 & 8 INCLUDE

Mathematics, Science, Religious Education, Geography, History, Modern Foreign Languages (French or Spanish), Art, Computer Science, Design Technology, Physical Education
Music

SUBJECTS TAUGHT IN YEARS 9, 10 & 11 INCLUDE

Mathematics, English Language, English Literature, Religious Education, Science (Combined Science or Three Separate Sciences)
History or Geography, French or Spanish

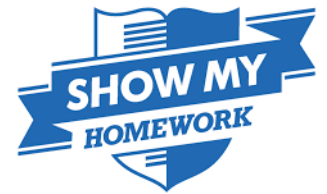
SUBJECTS TAUGHT IN 6TH FORM INCLUDE

Sciences: Chemistry, Physics and Biology, Mathematics, English Languages, English Literature, Languages: French and Spanish, Economics, Music Technology, Physical Education, Fine Art and Graphic Communications, History, Geography, Philosophy & Ethics, Computer Science, Government & Politics, Sociology, Psychology, Classical Civilisations and the Extended Diploma: Science, Business & Sport

HOMWORK

Each student is issued with a homework diary in which all homework must be recorded. The homework timetable is provided and should be written by the student in the space provided in the diary. In Year 7, we would normally expect each student to spend up to one and a half hours each evening on homework, but as the student progresses through the school he should spend longer - up to three hours in Year 11. Parents are expected to check the homework diary each evening and ensure all set homework is completed in an appropriate manner. Please use the space provided in the homework diary to write comments and be certain to contact us if you are concerned about any aspect of your son's homework.

The school is also using 'Show My Homework' which is a digital platform on which teachers will set pupils homework. You can access 'SMH' via the app or through the school website and it will provide you with details of when the homework is set, what the task is and when it is due in. It is beneficial to download this app onto your devices to track your son's homework.



Prep time is a valuable addition to the life of the school.

"The ethos for learning here is fantastic"

OFSTED 2012



MONITORING OF ACHIEVEMENT



Our success with exam results at St Aloysius is an outcome of excellent teaching, hard work by staff and students and because we track the progress of our pupils throughout the year in all year groups. This consistency builds a routine of revision and test preparation into our pupils.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Throughout an academic year pupils in each year group will complete assessments at three points, which are in November, February and June.

These assessments are written tests with KS4 teachers using past GCSE exam questions to make up the assessments. Not only is the pupil's knowledge constantly being tested with this assessment model but it allows them to gain much needed exam practice as well.

The data obtained from the assessments tests is then used to measure the progress the pupil is making against the Academic Target he has been set at the beginning of the year. Pupils that are underachieving significantly will engage in teacher/parent meetings to address this and pupils making more than the expected progress are rewarded with certificates/letters sent home.

The pupils academic target is set using CATs results obtained when pupils sit the CAT4 (Cognitive Ability Test) towards the end of September in Year 7 and then again at the beginning of Y9. This provides a good measure of the pupils' ability to learn and provides challenging targets that our pupils work hard and aspire to achieve.



REWARDS, DISCIPLINE AND PASTORAL CARE

We place great emphasis on the need to recognise and reward achievement in all forms. Teachers use our electronic register system to record all positive and negative behaviour. This system makes all positive and negative behaviour transparent to everybody including parents. It also makes the pupils accountable for their own actions.

We have a strict code of behaviour which gives our boys a great sense of security as we believe that every pupil has the right to be educated in a safe and caring environment. We have a clear “Anti-Bullying Policy” of which all members of our school community are aware. They know that bullying in all its forms, whether mental, physical, or verbal is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Any pupil who is aware of bullying taking place should inform a member of staff.

Behaviour at the school is excellent and for the occasion when it is not, the school employs a number of sanctions when we do encounter poor behaviour or attitudes, to include extra work, withdrawal of privileges and detentions. In exceptional cases boys may spend time in the Learning Support Centre, or rarely be excluded from the school. A senior staff presence at local bus stops before and after school ensures good behaviour is maintained at all times.

We have a well developed pastoral care system, to care for the personal, academic and spiritual welfare of our students. All staff are involved in pastoral care, but your son’s form tutor and Head of Year will have particular responsibility for him. We work closely with parents to make sure we meet each individual student’s needs.

We place great emphasis on promoting positive links with our parents/carers and inform them by letter or through our newsletter and social media. Parents evenings are exceptionally well attended.



We actively promote a positive reward based culture at the school that allows pupils to benefit from their good behaviour and work. Those pupils with the most positive comments recorded on the system will be rewarded as it is essential that pupils are recognised for positive actions.

In addition, each year has its own Prize Giving ceremony at the end of the year to which parents are invited. This is another opportunity to recognise and reward those pupils with a positive attitude to their learning. You can be sure that from the very first day, hard work and achievement by your son will be recognised and rewarded.

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LEARNING SUPPORT



SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS

We have a well resourced special needs department with a team of well-qualified specialist teachers. These teachers can give help and support either in class or individually. If necessary, your son will also receive special English language teaching and a one to one tuition programme in both numeracy and literacy for those pupils in most need.

ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE

Spanish, Polish, Portuguese, Italian, Turkish and Greek speaking pupils are supported throughout their education by native speakers among the staff. The department provides the following learning support programme:

- After school homework/exam support
- KS3/KS4 ESOL lessons: to develop their cognitive academic language proficiency, including listening, speaking, reading and writing
- Community language GCSEs in students' own language
- Trips to promote communication and teamwork e.g residential activity trip to Kent
- Educational trips e.g. London School of Economics

“Progress is outstanding This includes pupils who are disabled or have special educational needs and also for those for whom English is not their first language. Equality of education is excellent”



EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

At St Aloysius' College we feel that it is extremely important to offer our pupils a wide variety of extra curricular activities to so that they can develop to become well-rounded individuals.

We offer a host of opportunities to attend clubs before and after school and during lunchtime such as DT Workshops, ICT Club, Cookery Club, and Creative Writing. Recent additions to the programme include Year 10 & 11 Debating Club and Medicine Society.

We run a programme of wide ranging educational and cultural trips including:

- Field trips to Dorset and Norfolk
- Auschwitz in Poland
- Ski trips to Austria
- Globe theatre/ Natural History Museum/Belsize Park Synagogue
- China and the USA - New York, Washington, Philadelphia

SPORT

The school PE department offers a wide range of activities and academic courses across all Key Stages including A level. The students have opportunities to participate in a wide range of activities during the school day. The basketball, handball, table tennis and badminton clubs are all very popular and we also run teams in football, rugby, athletics and cross country. All students are encouraged to take part in an activity.

Our sporting achievements are well known and can only be described as outstanding. Our teams regularly perform well in local, London and national tournaments, with the Year 9 team winning the ESFA trophy recently along with the Year 7 5 a side team also winning the national title. We have also competed in the English schools basketball finals having won national titles at U15 and U17 levels and we also competed in the national handball finals in 2018.

MUSIC

Our Music department has an active programme outside of timetabled lessons and there are many opportunities for pupils to develop their musical skills and talents. Individual instrumental lessons and examinations are offered with a full range of instruments for hire.

The popularity of the use of technology in music is recognized with a suite of i-mac computers. Boys are encouraged to compose, perform and record their work using the latest software applications. There are after school bands of most genres, including rock and jazz who rehearse weekly. A whole school concert takes place once a year when the quality of music is exceptional.

We recently introduced a Music Scholarship Scheme which offers free tuition and use of an instrument to those who can demonstrate, by means of an audition, a natural aptitude and commitment to music.





EXTENDED SCHOOL PROVISION

Students take their roles such as mentors and prefects very seriously, they talk about the importance of being Youth Ambassadors, going to nearly primary schools to promote keeping safe to the pupils there”

OFSTED 2012

WORK EXPERIENCE

We are very proud of the excellent opportunities for vocational education offered at St Aloysius' College. All pupils attend Work Experience as an integral part of the Year 10 course. There are also a number of links with local colleges that aim to develop the abilities of our pupils in vocational areas. Careers guidance is given to boys on an organised basis by the school's Careers teacher, who interviews each of our pupils during Year 11. At Post 16 there are strong links with employers and universities.

SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

The school has a number of partnerships with leading technological industries. These have enabled pupils to have excellent opportunities for work-related learning and mentoring schemes. We are currently working with Expedia, Google and a number of prestigious law firms.

HELPING OTHERS

Pupils are encouraged to take an active part in service to the wider community. At Christmas pupils invite residents from our local nursing homes in for a special Christmas lunch which they have prepared, with the music department providing the entertainment.

During Lent the whole school takes part in fund raising for a particular cause or charity. In recent years large sums of money (around £4,000 a year) have been raised for CAFOD, Childline, a school for street children in Kimberly, South Africa and a school in Ban Faen in Laos. We recently raised £5,000 towards the building of student hostel in Kumasi, Ghana. As a result of a generous donation, raised from Lenten appeals, the Peramiho Girls School in Tanzania have been able to build a sports playing area.

This year we also responded to an appeal from Bungu Hill school, Uganda to help fund the replacement of a broken down water pump. We raised £4,500 which has given them access to piped water again, a particularly worthy project.

There are various fund raising activities during the school year that raise money for a number of good causes including Heron House Children's Hospice, the British Heart Foundation and Great Ormond Street.

ADMISSIONS



St Aloysius' College is a Catholic Voluntary Aided 11 – 19 comprehensive school for boys, within the Trusteeship of the Diocese of Westminster. As a Catholic school we aim to provide a faith based education for all our pupils and it is essential that this is supported by all families in the school.

In order to preserve the school's comprehensive character across the ability range, the school will allocate all candidates into one of four equal bands by means of a standardised assessment test.

If there are more candidates than places in any band, places within that band will be allocated in accordance with the admissions criteria.

Within each of the categories, priority will be given to boys living nearest to the school.

For details of the full admissions policy, please refer to the Admission Policy document available on the school's website and on the London Borough of Islington's website.

Candidates will be invited to take the banding tests on the afternoons of 11th and 12th October to determine the band to which they will be allocated.



ST ALOYSIUS' COLLEGE

OPEN EVENING
OCTOBER 3RD
5:00PM - 7:30PM

OPEN MORNINGS
OCTOBER 9TH,
10TH & 11TH
9:15AM - 10:30PM

BANDING TESTS
11TH AND 12TH
OCTOBER 1:30PM

CONTACT US

0207 561 7800

enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk

30 Hornsey Lane, Highgate,
London
N6 5LY

You must apply online via your home Local Authority by 31 October 2018. Our supplementary form, Certificate of Catholic Practice/ Baptismal certificate (if applicable) should be returned to St Aloysius as soon as possible but no later than 31 October 2018.