



St Aloysius' College

PROSPECTUS



## 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 students are offered a wide range of opportunities to develop their spirituality. All students 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 students are given the opportunity to attend Mass on Holy Days of Obligation in addition to a weekly Mass. Retreats are organised for annually for all of our Year 7 students.



# Headteacher's Welcome

Welcome to the St Aloysius' College Prospectus. I hope that the following pages will enable you to gain an insight into the life, the spirit and the values of this rich and vibrant community with a long tradition of high-quality Catholic education.

The ideals that were established for the College back in 1879 remain at the centre of the school's mission today. Paramount to this mission is the vision of the school as a Christian community, where we give witness to the power of God's love for us in Jesus Christ. As a community we value and care for each individual as a unique creation of God. We work closely with parents, both in passing on the tradition of the Catholic faith and in ensuring that your son makes the most of opportunities offered to him to achieve his God given potential. We are committed to developing your son as a rounded individual; academically, spiritually, morally, culturally and socially so he is best prepared to embark on the next stage of his life journey.

At St Aloysius' College we recognise the rich traditions of our past that inspire us to the ideal that God is to be found in all things. St Aloysius' College:

- is a caring and disciplined community in which boys feel secure and are motivated to succeed in their studies and in a wide range of school activities. We offer a safe and nurturing environment in which boys are supported pastorally to thrive and where success is celebrated.
- encourages boys to recognize the best in themselves and to work hard to develop all their talents. Excellence in all areas of school life is what we strive for.
- develops in its pupils an awareness of the needs of others and a commitment to putting their gifts and energies at the service of others for the Common Good.

Making the right choice of secondary school for your son is an extremely important decision. If you recognise in St Aloysius' College a place where your son could thrive and grow, then I would encourage you to apply. If there is any further help or information you need then please do not hesitate to contact us.

PAULA WHYTE, HEADTEACHER MA NPQH PQSI







## 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: spiritual, moral, academic, social, cultural and physical.

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.

The school is outward looking: staff use every opportunity to widen the horizons of students' experience, with external speakers, trips and visits, as well as involving them in enterprises with the local community through work experience, charity events and organisations including Mentoring Works and the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

## Section 48 Inspection 2021

**We are proud to have secured a Good Section 48 Inspection Report with some Outstanding features, undertaken by the Diocese of Westminster in May 2021.**

Curriculum design is creative and engaging, topics are revisited leading to opportunities for pupils to progress to develop depth to their learning.

Inspectors are confident that the school is making excellent progress towards being an outstanding Catholic School.

Parents are appreciative of the changes made over the past year by the new headteacher and the positive impact they have had on their children. Parents have noted: 'the school provides our sons with the opportunity to grow in faith while excelling academically'.







“Pupils are rightly proud of the positive relationships between each other and between pupils and staff; the behaviour of pupils is very good in and out of lessons. The achievements of the pupils are recognised on a regular basis through the school’s reward system

Section 48 Inspection, May 2021  
Diocese of Westminster







“The school's commitment to the common good is palpable.”

Section 48 Inspection, May 2021  
Diocese of Westminster



## Teaching, Learning and The Curriculum

When students arrive at St Aloysius in Year 7 they are placed in tutor groups. Students are then taught either in tutor groups or in ability sets in Maths. Ability sets are initially devised based on CAT4 (Cognitive Ability Tests) results. A review of the boys' progress takes place immediately after each of the two whole school assessment points, involving exams in December and June to ensure that rapid progress is being made and that your son is being challenged. Exceptional Progress is expected of the boys in our care and support and intervention is available when this is not secured. Students have prep time at the start of the day to review homework and focus on private study.

### Subjects taught in Years 7 & 8 include

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

### Subjects taught in Years 9, 10 & 11 include

- Mathematics
- English Language
- English Literature
- Religious Education
- Science (Combined Science or Three Separate Sciences)
- History
- Geography
- French
- Spanish
- Computer Science
- Music
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Media Studies
- Graphics
- Physical Education
- Art

### Subjects taught in Sixth Form include

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

We are delighted to report continued success in our Sixth Form with 38% of our students securing places at prestigious Russell Group Universities in 2021 (London average 9%).



Teachers have established clear routines, so pupils arrive punctually, behave well in lessons and waste little time.

Ofsted – November 2018

## Homework

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. Homework is also logged on Go4Schools which teachers, students and parents have access to. 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.

You can access Go4Schools 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.

## 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 students throughout the year in all year groups. This consistency builds a routine of revision and test preparation into our students.

Throughout an academic year students in each year group will complete assessments at two points, which are in December and June.

The data obtained from assessments are used to measure students' progress against their Academic Targets that were set at the beginning of the year.

Students who are at risk of falling behind are offered support to secure rapid progress, whilst students making more than the expected progress are recognised, rewarded and encouraged to further excel and secure the very best outcomes.

Key Stage 2 results are used to inform the academic target set for each Year 7 student, and to ensure all students are placed on the appropriate curriculum pathway.



# 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/carers. It also makes the students 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 student 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, verbal or cyber is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Any student 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/carers 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 students to benefit from their good behaviour and work. Those students with the most positive comments recorded on the system will be rewarded as it is essential that students are recognised for positive actions.

In addition, each year has its own Prize Giving ceremony at the end of the year to which parents/carers are invited. This is another opportunity to recognise and reward those students 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.

## Learning Support

### GIFTED AND TALENTED

We believe in giving all pupils opportunities to develop their God-given gifts through provision of extracurricular opportunities, trips and visits, and ambitious academic targets. Pupils are supported academically and pastorally to maximise their potential and achieve top GCSE grades.

### ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE

Spanish, Polish, Portuguese, Italian, Turkish and Greek speaking students 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





# Extra-Curricular Activities

At St Aloysius' College we feel that it is extremely important to offer our students a wide variety of extra-curricular activities to so that they can develop and 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, Language Club, Creative Writing and Debate Club. We run a programme of wide ranging educational and cultural trips including:

- Field trips to Dorset and Norfolk
- Auschwitz in Poland
- World War II Battlefields in Belgium
- Globe theatre, Natural History Museum, Tate Modern, Belsize Park Synagogue and a variety of attractions in and around London
- Ski trips to Austria
- China and the USA – New York, Washington, Philadelphia

## SPORT

The school's 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.

Our Basketball Academy provides accessible pathways with quality education alongside professional basketball coaching. We support students in developing leadership skills, character and transferable life-skills through sports. We also aim to enable talented players to gain scholarships to basketball universities in the UK and USA.

Close links with Aloysius FC and the Old Aloysians gives our students access to excellent coaching and opportunities to develop their footballing careers. Our facilities at St Aloysius' College Sports Grounds in Hurst Avenue are some of the best in London, with multiple football pitches, hockey pitches and tennis courts.

## MUSIC

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

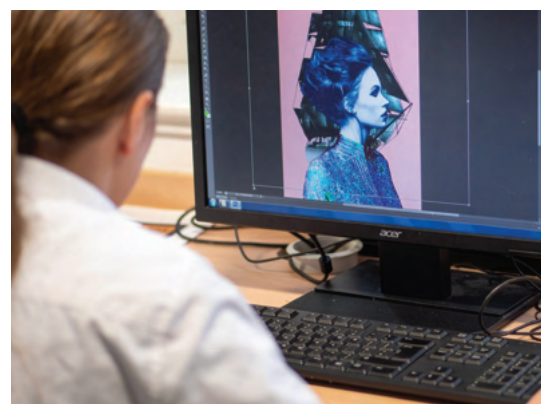
The popularity of the use of technology in music is recognised with a suite of i-mac computers. Boys are encouraged to compose, perform and record their work using the latest software applications. There are after school bands of most genres, including rock and jazz who rehearse weekly. A whole school concert takes place three times annually to exhibit our student's exceptional musical talents.

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.

The well-established St Aloysius' College Music Scholarship Scheme 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. Audition dates are available on the school website.

“The curriculum and enrichment opportunities make a good contribution to the life of the school; Pupils can choose to participate in many sports clubs, choirs and national debating competitions.

Ofsted – November 2018





Pupils behave well.  
They attend school  
regularly, and persistent  
absence is low.

Ofsted – November 2018



## Extended School Provision

### WORK EXPERIENCE

We are very proud of the excellent opportunities for vocational education offered at St Aloysius' College. All students 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 students in vocational areas. Careers guidance is given to boys on an organised basis by the school's Careers Manager, who interviews each of our students 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 students 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. We also have links with Highgate School, which among other benefits facilitates a Year 10 Summer School, provision of IT resources, and access to visiting speakers.

### HELPING OTHERS

Students are encouraged to take an active part in service to the wider community. At Christmas students invite residents from our local nursing homes in for a special Christmas lunch which they have prepared, with the Music Department providing the entertainment. Each form also create Christmas hampers which are delivered to St Gabriel's Parish to be distributed to those in need.

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 Caritas, CAFOD, Childline, a school for street children in Kimberly, South Africa and a school in Ban Faen in Laos.

## Admissions

St Aloysius' College is a Catholic Voluntary Aided 11 – 18 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 students. Boys of all faiths or no faith are welcome to apply.

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

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

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







#### ADDRESS

St Aloysius' College, Hornsey Lane, Highgate, London, N6 5LY

#### PHONE

020 7561 7800

#### EMAIL

[enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk)

#### WEBSITE

[www.sta.islington.sch.uk](http://www.sta.islington.sch.uk)