



St Mark's
School BATH

Aspiration
Resilience
Community



“ The headteacher, trustees and governors share a clear and ambitious vision for the school. ”
– OFSTED FEB 2022

Headteacher's welcome

I am delighted to have been appointed as the Headteacher of St Mark's school in June 2024. It is a privilege to have the opportunity to lead a school that has been on a significant school improvement journey and that has the potential to reach even higher heights. Indeed, our Summer 2024 Exam Results show without doubt that St Mark's is a school where students achieve fantastically!

The culture and ethos of St Mark's is clearly embedded in promoting each and every student to be the best they can be and to 'Let their light shine' Matthew 5:16. It is a warm and welcoming community that is driven by the values of Resilience, Aspiration and Community. A focus on these values, through a broad and balanced curriculum, allows our young people to quickly establish themselves and develop their true identities in a setting where the staff know every child and value their contributions in the school and wider community. At the end of their time at St Mark's, our students are well equipped to go out into the ever changing world and to be citizens of which St Mark's can be proud.

My vision for the school is that it is a safe and happy learning environment for all students, with a strong safeguarding and personal development culture that allows pupils to behave in such a way that they can engage fully in their learning because they know the value of it. In doing this, we will continue to promote excellent Teaching and Learning and promote an ambitious curriculum for all that, through strong leadership, will enhance our students' learning experiences and broaden their horizons through a wealth of extra-curricular opportunities.

At St Mark's we have high expectations of our students. We expect them to reflect our expectations in their conduct, attitudes and appearance. These expectations are upheld by a highly skilled team of staff who act in the best interests of the students they serve. The relationships between staff and students at St Mark's are incredibly strong and are the key to ensuring that students enjoy school, engage in their learning, and flourish as they grow.

Following a successful school improvement journey, St Mark's has been categorised as a 'Good' school in both Ofsted and SIAMS inspections. The inspection teams were both full of praise for the work of the school and copies of both reports can be found on the school website.

St Mark's School is a member of the Midsomer Norton Schools' Partnership (MNSP). We continue to build on our successes and progress as a member of the partnership and benefit from the sharing of expertise and resources from within the partnership schools. St Mark's School works most closely with Hayesfield Girls' School and Beechen Cliff, as part of the Bath Hub. All three schools share good practice so that students achieve their aspirations and personal growth through a high quality curriculum offer and a wide range of exciting and engaging opportunities. Our common goal is to ensure our students have an excellent experience of secondary school.

Our desire to inspire all students for future success is extended through our post 16 partnerships with the Hayesfield Mixed Sixth, Beechen Cliff Sixth Form, and the New Sixth, as well as other local sixth forms and colleges. We also enjoy strong partnerships with local businesses, charities, post 16 providers and universities that help promote students' personal development and broaden the opportunities that are available to them.

I am very proud to be the Headteacher of St Mark's school and, as the next phase of the St Mark's adventure begins, I will work closely with students, staff and parents to maintain, and raise, the excellent outcomes and progress that students in the school achieve. Afterall, continued improvement is a clear indicator of how well students at St Mark's flourish. I know that the staff and students of St Mark's share my pride in the school and I am sure that, when you visit us, you will understand why.

Mrs C England
Headteacher

The start of an amazing journey



St Mark's takes children from over twenty different primary schools across Bath, Bristol and Wiltshire so we are passionate about ensuring that the transition from primary to secondary is enjoyable and informative. Our dedicated tutor team will support your child as they prepare for and then settle into their first year with us.

We begin primary transition work in the March of Year 6 with our Friendship Afternoon. We see this event as the very beginning of the exciting journey your child will take from being a Year 6 pupil to becoming a confident young adult ready to be a force for good in the world. During this afternoon, your child will be encouraged to make new friends and to actively experience our school environment.

We host an Induction Day for our students at the beginning of July, which is then followed by a Parent Information Evening and Summer BBQ for our new families. These events provide an opportunity for our new Year 7 pupils and their parents to meet key members of the team and to discover the warm, welcoming atmosphere at our school. We also hold a Summer School at the start of the summer holidays to help prepare our students for the transition to secondary in September.

In Term 1, and as our new students settle into school life and grow confident in their community, we provide two days of team building activities for our new Year 7 students where they can go out of school, work, play and learn together. Here they will begin to firm up friendships and create the lasting bonds that will support them through their school years. At the end of Year 7, when our students are settled into school life and confident in their community, they are invited to attend a Key Stage 3 Camp as part of our end of school year activity days. This camp helps to cement friendships, widen the scope for educational and fun learning activities and provides students with a sense of accomplishment beyond the classroom.

**“ The school is a place where people can be themselves and can develop their own unique talents.”
— OFSTED FEB 2022**



An inspirational curriculum

The curriculum at St Mark’s is designed to fulfil the school’s vision to inspire students to achieve their goals and be a force for good both in school and the world beyond.

Academic and vocational qualifications are the cornerstone of educational success at St Mark’s and we have a curriculum offer that enables learners at all levels to achieve their personal best. We also feel that being ready for the world of work by having the skills and personal qualities to become healthy, resilient individuals is equally important so that our students can lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.



Being a Church of England school, Philosophy and Belief has an important role to play in delivering our school vision. This is the primary forum by which students have the opportunity to explore metaphysical truth and meaning. It is a subject that all students in our school access. By studying Philosophy and Belief, your child will have the opportunity to reflect on the value of each human being and the importance of finding common ground, while seeking the truth for ourselves.



- “ The school has an ambitious curriculum. ”
– OFSTED FEB 2022
- “ Teachers have high expectations of pupils. ”
– OFSTED FEB 2022

Our curriculum offer is:



Aspirational
so that students develop belief in themselves and achieve their personal best by aiming high



Creative
to allow all of our students to thrive while developing their true identities across academic, vocational, science and art subjects



Meaningful and contemporary
so that students are gaining the knowledge and skills that they need to exist in the ever changing world beyond school



Rigorous, challenging and motivating
so that our students reach beyond what they thought their potential was and find joy in, and learn to value the commitment needed to learn and live well



Personalised, supportive and collaborative
allowing our students to develop their resilience, interdependence and the skills needed to have a positive contribution in the school and wider community



Supportive of local, national and international dimensions
which develops a cultural capital that prepares our students for any challenge that they face when they move through the different phases of their lives

Learning without limits

At St Mark's, your child will be encouraged to identify and nurture their individual talents. We will support them to grow their independence and leadership qualities that will prepare them for success in later life.

Your child will be given the opportunity to develop personal responsibility and self-discipline through the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, which culminates in students testing themselves in the outdoor environment via a life changing expedition.

“ There is a remarkable range of additional activities organised by staff and relished by pupils. ”
— SIAMS DEC 2021



Sport is an important aspect of life at St Mark's. Your child will be offered a range of sporting fixtures throughout the year in an atmosphere of teamwork and friendship. Performing Arts opportunities allow all of our students to thrive while developing their true identities. The Performing Arts annual production promotes creativity, confidence and independence, allowing all students to explore and develop musical and dramatic talents whilst promoting collaborative working. Students are able to perform in school, in Bath Hub events such as The Battle of the Bands, or to a wider audience across the city such as the Bath Voices celebration held at Bath Abbey.

We understand the importance of taking learning outside of the classroom in order for lessons to come to life. Your child will be able to enjoy a range of trips locally, further afield in the UK and abroad throughout the year. Students enjoy exhilarating and educational trips to Europe to develop their language skills and develop their cultural awareness, as well our ski trip that offers to all our students a fabulous week skiing in the beautiful French Alps.

School Council and student leadership roles provide an active and important opportunity for our students to develop personal skills and confidence that will support them way beyond their school years. Your child will be encouraged to build their leadership skills as part of a School Council, a forum in which all students are expected to actively participate. They can also become a Student Ambassador, a Peer Mentor, or contribute to the development of their school and local communities through a range of projects. In Key Stage 4, your child will have the opportunity to become a Student Leader and Prefect or even become one of our Head Students.





360° character development

St Mark's has an outstanding reputation for supporting students through their educational journey and providing them with the encouragement and support that they need to excel. We know that the quality of our pastoral care has an effect on our students' academic progress and we are proud of our inclusive system that encompasses Learning Support with Student Support.

“ Pupils have high expectations for their academic progress and personal development. ”
— SIAMS DEC 2021

“ Pupils are challenged and supported to be the best they can be. ”
— SIAMS DEC 2021

“ The behaviour of pupils is a strength of the school... ”
— OFSTED FEB 2022

We believe that your child will reach their full academic and personal potential when parents and the school work in partnership. We have a very clear behavior policy, which is underpinned by the school's visions and values, creating a positive ethos that encourages your child to succeed and achieve.

Our Christian values lie at the heart of our ethos and underpins the way we work together as a community. We are guided by Mathew's words "Let your light shine". This sentiment, regarding personnel development and wellbeing of our students, is paramount and central to our educational purpose. We serve equally those of the Christian faith, those of other faiths and those of no faith.

St Mark's School was subject to a two-day SIAMS inspection in December 2021, in a similar process to Ofsted. The Report was full of praise for the work of the school and is well worth a read.

SEN and Orchard Lodge

“ The school has an inclusive culture and pupils with SEND are well supported. ”
– OFSTED FEB 2022

“ The school’s on-site resource base is well led. ”
– OFSTED FEB 2022



Because St Mark’s is a smaller than average sized school, we are often the school of choice for students who feel more at home in a close-knit community. All of our teachers implement strategies that remove barriers to success and use a range of evidence-based interventions to meet the needs of all of our learners. Our holistic and inclusive approach prepares all students for education post-16, the world of work and independent living.

We ensure that all learners feel valued in our school community by celebrating diversity and difference. Partnerships with parents and carers are developed through regular meetings with our Education Support Team, where students are able to share their opinions and viewpoints too.

Resource Bases

As well as our mainstream provisions for SEN, we have two specialist resource bases, where students are taught by specialists teachers and teaching assistants.

Orchard Lodge is a Moderate Learning Difficulty (MLD) resource base. All of the students in the provision have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). The provision at Orchard Lodge is entirely personalised and centred on students’ EHCPs. Students undertake learning in a range of environments, developing the skills they require in their preparation for adulthood. The curriculum implementation is based on a primary model, where students are taught the majority of lessons in Key Stage 3 or Key Stage 4 groups. Each student has their own bespoke Personalised Learning Intention Map (PLIM) and attend selected mainstream lessons and other activities such as whole-school assemblies.

In September 2025 we opened a specialist Autism base, Bay Tree Lodge. Here, autistic students with an EHCP are able to access a meaningful and personalised education whilst integrating into a mainstream setting. They will be taught by specialist staff who support children to learn in a non-threatening environment so that they can flourish and grow.

Orchard Lodge and Bay Tree Lodge have bespoke facilities, including ‘The Canopy’, which is the students’ sensory space, kitchen areas and an allotment patch.

An exciting future awaits



Our desire to inspire all students for future success is extended through our post 16 partnerships with the Hayesfield Mixed Sixth, Beechen Cliff Sixth Form, and other post 16 providers in Bath. We also enjoy strong partnerships with local businesses, charities, colleges and universities that help promote students’ personal development.

As well as ensuring a memorable end to Key Stage 4 at St Mark’s, our Year 11 Pastoral team work closely with the Bath Hub sixth forms and other local institutions to facilitate future Post 16 opportunities ranging from high quality apprenticeship schemes to traditional A Level courses.

“ The vision ensures that the curriculum is suitable both for the school’s immediate context and to prepare pupils to play a role in the wider society of the future. ”
– SIAMS DEC 2021

A supportive and inspirational partnership



MNSP

St Mark's School is proud to be a member of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership (MNSP), a multi-academy trust consisting of approximately 36 schools with over 16,500 pupils on roll. The Trust celebrates our school's individual character and offers outstanding support to St Mark's. It also challenges us so we can continue our journey to excellence by building on our successes. All schools within the MNSP benefit from sharing expertise and resources with other schools.



Midsomer Norton
Schools Partnership

Bath Hub

St Mark's School works closely with Hayesfield Girls' School and Beechen Cliff School as part of the Bath Hub within the MNSP Trust. All three schools share good practice so that students have high aspirations and experience personal growth through a high quality curriculum offer and a wide range of exciting and engaging opportunities. Our common goal is to ensure that every child in the city has an excellent experience of secondary education.

The Bath Hub facilitates opportunities for our students to be able to access personal development activities beyond St Mark's School, including performing in concerts and showcases as well as participating in social activities such as lower school discos and trips to Legoland with pupils from all three schools!

A caring and progressive leadership team

The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) at St Mark's is the driving force behind the school's success. Our core purpose is to provide the strong leadership and effective management necessary to create a thriving and effective learning environment for every student in our school.

The SLT members have responsibility for a range of specific areas including Curriculum, Teaching and Learning, Pastoral and Inclusion, SEND, Assessment and Data.

Our roles are multifaceted but in essence, it is our responsibility to ensure that the strategic direction of the school is set, monitored and evaluated in order that the school runs smoothly so that all students have the opportunity to reach their full potential.





Transport links

Our school is located close to the city centre and is connected by many public bus services to the majority of residential areas in the city and its outlying villages. There is also a private bus service serving students who live in and around the village of Wick. Some of our students choose to cycle to school and use the school's bike shelter.

Contact details

To find out more or to arrange a tour, please contact us on 01225 312661 or info@st-marks.org.uk
