



MISSION STATEMENT (002)

Charitable Objects

The formal objects of the charity are:

- *to promote and provide for such charitable works wheresoever and whatsoever as advance the Roman Catholic religion; and*
- *to advance education by the provision and conduct of an independent Roman Catholic school or schools for children of any creed (with preference to the children of the Roman Catholic faith) and in particular, but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, for the education of girls, and by ancillary and incidental educational activities and other associated activities for the benefit of the community.*

Vision

To provide a modern and holistic Catholic education of outstanding quality for young women to inspire and empower them to play their full part in the global community.

Features

The Board of Governors defines the School through these five features:

Catholic Girls Boarding Small size Academic

Ethos

The School's Ethos to realise this Vision is:

- Nurturing in each pupil a sense of their own worth and talents by fostering their intellectual, spiritual and personal development;
- Developing in each pupil a love of learning and independent thought through a rigorous academic education;
- Promoting a strong sense of personal responsibility, kindness, cooperation and social justice founded in respect for the diverse needs of others in a global community;
- Encouraging each pupil to enjoy the full sacramental life and spiritual richness of the Catholic Church.
- Fostering a partnership between parents, school and the wider community;
- Inspiring in each pupil the confidence to collaborate and to lead through an enriching and fulfilling boarding experience;
- Following in the spirit of Mary Ward who cherished 'freedom of spirit, sincerity, and a cheerful disposition'.

Strategies

The Board of Governors, in line with the Vision and Ethos of St Mary's and mindful of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, direct the following strategies be followed for the period 2021 to 2026.

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		Author/Lead:	Headmistress

- To maintain the number of pupils in the School at around 390 and sustain the policy of giving preference to Roman Catholic applicants;
- To cultivate our strong Roman Catholic ethos through the spiritual development of our pupils in daily prayer, annual retreats and the celebration of the sacraments;
- To deliver an outstanding academic education within the context of a changing world by continuing to recruit teaching staff of the highest calibre and providing them with the training, resources and support they require, and maintaining the highest standards of senior leadership;
- To prepare pupils for the digital global community through excellent digital literacy and delivery of the technology curriculum;
- To ensure the most suitable curriculum for St Mary's pupils is followed given the changing landscape of the public examination environment, the requirements of further study and the world of work;
- To build on our strong boarding culture and further develop our comprehensive system of pastoral care to ensure that our pupils can thrive in a happy, busy and secure environment throughout the working day, in the evenings and at weekends;
- To provide a varied and bespoke co-curricular programme that promotes both excellence and enjoyment, and reflects the needs and concerns of a changing world;
- To broaden further access to our educational resources and other facilities through developing our links with the local community;
- To broaden and widen access to the School by continuing to offer means-tested admission and hardship bursaries to pupils who would not otherwise be able to attend, or whose education is at risk of being disrupted.

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