

# St. Gregory's Catholic High School

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**Headteacher**  
**Mr E McGlinchey BSc (Hons) NPQH & NPQEL**

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for taking the time to review this information pack about St Gregory's Catholic High School in what is a major decision for all families to make. Deciding where your son or daughter will be educated, and more importantly, where they will develop as a person should be carefully considered and this pack along with other information about our school will assist you with this.

As the proud headteacher of this Catholic family school for the whole community, I am delighted to offer you an insight into life at St Gregory's.

In this information pack, you will receive:

- This letter from the Head teacher introducing you to St Gregory's Catholic High School
- Information about Admissions Arrangements
- Information about how to keep up to date and follow our school on Twitter and the School Website
- The school's Curriculum and Intent principles which are highly regarded and praised by Ofsted
- Information about where to find our successful Ofsted inspection reports (Good and Outstanding)
- Examples of our School Newsletter, The NET and our Safeguarding letters

Further to the information in this pack, you will be able to:

- View a video production of the school which provides a virtual tour of the school and our facilities whilst also introducing you to a number of our teaching and support staff as well as interviews with current pupils, former pupils and current parents
- Arrange a personal tour of the school accompanied by a member of senior / transition staff

## **Why choose St Gregory's Catholic High School for my child?**

Primarily, St Gregory's is a **Catholic** High School for the **whole** community. If you are looking for a school that has the feel of a secondary school but maintains a strong community and family atmosphere, then St Gregory's is the perfect school.

At St Gregory's your child will not feel overwhelmed by the size of our pupil population or site, something we are proud of and work hard to maintain as a family school. We believe it is important that everyone is treated like an individual and able to discover and express his or her talents to the full.

Our school motto is 'One Family Inspired to Learn' and anyone who visits our school always comments on the warm welcome and the wonderful ethos that we are known for.

St Gregory's was graded as a '**Good**' school by Ofsted in January 2020. The Catholic Life of the school was inspected under Section 48 of the Education Act in 2019 and we were delighted to be judged as '**Outstanding**' in all areas. All new parents can rest assured that St Gregory's is officially a 'Good' school with many Outstanding features.

*One family... inspired to learn.'*

SEAL *it with* RESPECT

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St. Gregory's R.C. High School Appeal Trust. A REGISTERED CHARITY



In our report, Ofsted said, "Pupils at St Gregory's are happy, confident and welcoming to visitors. They like each other. There is a strong sense of community across the school. This reflects the school vision, 'One family inspired to learn'. One pupil said: 'we are cared about as individuals but, because everyone cares, that makes us all one.'"

Our school community has a strong sense of 'standing up and being counted' as this enables our pupils to both develop and show their talents, whilst leaving a positive footprint on their community and beyond. Ofsted reported, "The work the school is doing to promote awareness around hate crime and leaving a 'positive footprint' is well developed. Pupils work side by side with staff leading on these initiatives. They are rightly very proud of the work they are doing".

The Section 48 inspection report also noted, "Pupils embrace the demands that membership of the school community expects. In their own words, this is because mission is, "about who we are and why we are here, and the values we share." School Council, Young Leaders, Anti-Bullying Ambassadors and inclusion in the Warrington Hate Crime Partnership are key examples of pupil action".

At St Gregory's your child will be safe and happy, our Safeguarding procedures and processes are second to none and we have a positive culture of being a 'Listening and Telling' school. Safeguarding is regarded as highly effective by Ofsted inspectors in their report.

After five years at our school, your child will be well prepared both personally and academically for the next stage of their lives and St Gregory's pupils are highly sought after by colleges, universities, apprenticeships and employers.

### **Strong Academic Success**

St Gregory's is well known for a long track record of very strong examination performance. The school performs above the national average for attainment and progress year after year and all subjects perform higher than the national average in their subject areas too. A number of subjects perform substantially above national averages including Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Modern Foreign Languages and Performing Arts.

We are proud that exceptional performance is achieved by all groups of children, including those with SEN and pupils with English as an additional language. Higher ability pupils excel and each year around a third of all grades are between grades 7 to 9. Our performance in examinations for all pupils demonstrates that children are treated as individuals where their strengths are realised.

### **Will I get a place at St Gregory's?**

As a result of our success, St Gregory's is understandably a very popular school and there can be competition for places, however, every year we do welcome 240 pupils into Year 7. Pupils come to our school from over 30 different primary schools across Warrington including our 6 Catholic partner schools as well as St Phillips Westbrook, Callands, Westbrook Old Hall, Sankey St James, St Barnabas, Great Sankey Primary School, Evelyn Street and Penketh South to name but a few.

Around a **third of our pupils are not baptised Catholics** and our admission criteria does allow for non-Catholics to apply for a place via criteria points 1, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 depending on your circumstances. Parents of many different faiths and no faith view our ethos as something they want their child to be part of and embrace.

To conclude, at St Gregory's, your child will receive a well-rounded education that provides academic success, strong personal development, and the ability to make a difference through our charity work and campaigns ensuring they will be prepared to move on to the next stage of their lives as confident, highly capable young people all guided by strong Catholic values.

If you have reviewed the information in this pack, viewed our virtual tour and information video and booked a personal tour and decide that St Gregory's is the school for your child to grow and develop, I very much look forward to your application and welcoming you and your family to the St Gregory's family.

Yours sincerely,

Mr McGlinchey  
**Headteacher**