



Everything is possible
for one who believes

Mark 9:23





We believe this is a place
that can make a difference



Thank you for your interest in St Bede's.
Our school has an enviable reputation within
Blackburn with Darwen and across Lancashire
for high academic standards, exemplary pupil
behaviour and for providing outstanding
opportunities for our young people to be inspired
and succeed both in and outside the classroom.

Great schools are living communities with positive relationships at their heart. The success of St Bede's is founded on these relationships and the support of our parents and dedication of our staff, who are totally committed to the children they serve. Crucially, this is underpinned by our Catholic ethos, our values and our mission.

At St Bede's we seek to create an environment where pupils are happy, challenged and successful; we aim to give pupils the chance to thrive and excel, which we believe is best achieved in a partnership between parents, pupils and teachers. We are inspired by the Gospel where we are told: 'Everything is possible for one who believes.' (Mark 9:23)

D Callaghan
Headteacher

GCSE Passes 2019

76%

pass rate in both
English and mathematics


82%

pass rate in English

81%

pass rate in mathematics



A photograph of several students in a computer lab, wearing school uniforms and working at computers. The students are focused on their screens, and the lab is filled with computer monitors and keyboards. A dark blue semi-transparent box is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing white text.

We believe in
setting high targets
and working hard
to achieve them



We believe in going the extra mile

Settling into School

Before your child begins school Miss O'Toole, your Primary Transition Co-ordinator, will visit your child in their primary school to speak with them and their class teacher. Your child will then participate in a three day induction programme here at St Bede's whilst still in Year 6. This will give them the opportunity to meet their new teachers and learn about the routine of the school before they begin in September.

Pastoral Care

All our staff are committed to ensuring that your child is happy at school. To enable this to happen we have a pastoral team that ensures your child is aware of the key people available to them to speak to if they have any concerns. Children are placed into one of four colleges: Arrowsmith, Plessington, Southworth and Rigby. Your child's college leader will be your main point of contact and will remain so throughout their time at the school. All brothers and sisters will be placed in the same college so that you need contact only one college leader.

Setting

Children are set based on a combination of your child's Key Stage 2 results and data, and discussions with their Year 6 teachers. Whilst studying for GCSEs, class sizes for maths and English will not usually exceed 25.

Learning Support

Our Learning Support Department ensures that any special requirements to obtain full access to the curriculum are met. Mrs Ormisher is our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO), who leads a large department of support staff who can provide either short or long term support for your child.

Freshly Prepared Food

Our catering team works hard to ensure that all children have access to freshly prepared, tasty and healthy food in our purpose-built dining hall.





We believe in embracing
new ideas and offering
new opportunities

We place great importance on achievement in all areas of school life. In addition to academic results, St Bede's success in sport is very impressive, as is our reputation for performing arts. We also have a commitment to educational visits, including numerous residential trips both overseas and in the UK, a highly successful Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and a full programme of retreats and away days through the school's chaplaincy.

Mathematics

Our maths department aims to ensure that your child works to achieve their maximum potential and develop an understanding and appreciation of mathematical knowledge, concepts and skills through a variety of learning experiences. Pupils are banded and placed into sets within the department at differentiated levels, to allow each child to develop their potential. Throughout the year your child will be continually assessed through classwork, homework, module tests and an end of year test. All children are supported by their teachers and extra help is also available at Homework Club at lunchtime.

Science

In science we study how God expresses his love for us through his material creation. Our aim is to appreciate the miracle of creation through the study of animals, plants, materials and physical processes. Our work in science fosters a sense of community and team spirit. Through our work we learn to respect each other's ideas and values. Your child will be taught science three times per week at Key Stage 3. At Key Stage 4 most pupils are taught five lessons per week. Lessons will cover aspects of biology, chemistry and physics with an integrated approach.

English

Our English department creatively provides your child with the fundamental literacy skills needed for life beyond St Bede's. We strive to guide your child as they gain an appreciation of a wide range of literature, whilst providing them with the confidence to express their own literary views. We adopt a collaborative view that regardless of your child's starting point, they can achieve their potential and beyond. We endeavour to enhance your child's learning through a range of engaging approaches, such as theatre trips and extra-curricular activities. Progress is continually assessed by our supportive teachers through classwork, homework and scheduled assessments.

Religious Education

The Religious Education department seeks to foster an interest in, and enthusiasm for, religious debate and enquiry and an appreciation of the significance of religion in contemporary society.

RE lessons enable your child to develop knowledge of religious belief, tradition and practice and the skills to critically analyse, evaluate and debate, with confidence. A variety of trips, visiting speakers and exhibitions are provided to enhance learning and complement the curriculum.

The RE department deliver a 'Values' curriculum and organise residential retreats. This provides a range of opportunities for personal reflection, exploration of faith and spirituality and the development of Gospel values within our school and society.

Computing

Computing is an exciting subject where students explore computers and programming, including games and mobile app development. Our computing department oversees St Bede's TV, the school magazine, and computer club.

Modern Foreign Languages

All pupils study Spanish as a language. Your child will be given the opportunity to join various trips and visits abroad during their time at the school.

Geography

Geography is a subject that is indispensable to understanding the modern world. Your child will study the relationship between the Earth and its peoples through the study of place, space and environment. The geography department organises field trips and visits.

History

History is taught in an exciting and innovative way at St Bede's, using inspiring re-enactments as well as more traditional classroom based teaching. There are many history trips and visits available for your child to take part in. In year 10 there is a trip to Europe.

Design and Technology

Design and technology enables your child to develop an investigative and analytical approach to their work and their environment. Design situations are set and they must follow a design process to solve problems. They will develop design, graphical and practical skills in the areas of graphical design and product design.



We believe that imagination can take you everywhere

Music

The music department gives your child the opportunity to develop their musicianship. They will develop their creativity, personal learning and thinking skills by working in teams to perform their own compositions. As well as the more traditional instruments, we also have rock band instruments, drums, guitar, bass and keyboards.

The standard of musicianship in all our ensembles is very high. Your child will be given the opportunity to participate in singing group, wind band, orchestra and swing band. In addition, we also offer brass and woodwind tuition after school.

Drama

Drama is a creative and demanding subject that allows your child to access a series of practical skills and techniques to help them discover more about themselves and the world in which they live. The department has a state of the art drama studio to work from. Your child will be given the opportunity to take part in school productions. This year there will be a Christmas showcase.

Art

The art department strives to provide a broad based practical art education, whilst cultivating virtues based on Christian principles in preparation for adult life. Your child will study many topics such as fine art, textiles, drawing, graffiti, ceramics and digital photography. The styles of various artists such as Van Gogh and Escher will be studied. The art department organises trips and visits including places as far afield as Paris and Barcelona.





Sporting Achievements

At St Bede's we have a proud history of excellence in sport. Here is just a selection of our achievements in 2018/19.

Biathlon

- East Lancs Biathlon 2018
- Boys U16 Winner
- Girls U16 Winner

Cricket

- Year 7 Blackburn with Darwen League Champions
- Year 8 Blackburn with Darwen League Champions
- Lancashire Cricket Foundation BWD U13 Champions

Swimming

- BWD Year 8 Boys Backstroke Champion
- BWD Year 9 Boys Backstroke Champion
- BWD Boys Freestyle Relay Winners
- BWD Boys Medley Relay Winners
- BWD U12 Girls Butterfly Champion
- BWD U14 Girls Breaststroke Champion
- BWD U14 Girls Individual Medley Champion
- BWD U15 Girls Butterfly Champion
- BWD U16 Girls Backstroke Champion
- BWD U16 Girls Breaststroke Champion
- BWD U16 Girls Individual Medley Champion
- BWD U14 Medley Relay Champions
- BWD U16 Medley Relay Champions

Cross Country

- Year 7 Boys Blackburn with Darwen Team Winners
- Year 10/11 Boys Blackburn with Darwen Team Winners
- Year 7 Girls Blackburn with Darwen Team Winners
- Year 10/11 Girls Blackburn with Darwen Team Winners
- Lancashire Schools U16 Boys Cross Country Champion
- Lancashire Schools U16 Girls Cross Country 4th Place

Badminton

- Blackburn with Darwen U14 Boys Winners
- Blackburn with Darwen U16 Boys Winners
- Blackburn with Darwen U16 Girls Winners
- Lancs Schools Badminton U16 Girls Winners

Table Tennis

- Lancs School Table Tennis U16 Team Winners
- Blackburn with Darwen Table Tennis League Junior Champion
- Blackburn with Darwen Table Tennis League Makinson Shield Winner

Netball

- Year 9 Girls Blackburn with Darwen League Winners

Football

- Year 7 Girls League Futsal Winners
- Year 7 Boys League and Cup Winners
- Year 9 Boys League and Cup Winners
- Year 10 Boys League Winners
- Year 11 Boys Cup Winners & Lancashire Cup Winners

Gymnastics

- North West U16 Milano Competition Champions
- North West U19 Floor and Vault Champions

Indoor Athletics

- Year 7 Girls Winners
- Year 7 Boys Winners

Athletics

- Lancashire Champion Junior Boys 100m Champion
- Lancashire Champions Intermediate Boys 100m Champion
- Lancashire Champions: Intermediate Boys 3000m Champion.

Town Sports - Boys

- Year 7 Hurdles Winner
- Year 8 Hurdles Winner
- Year 9 Hurdles Winner
- Year 9 200m Winner - TOWN RECORD
- Year 9 100m Winner - TOWN RECORD
- Year 9 Long Jump Winner
- Year 9 Shot Put Winner
- Year 10/11 1500m Winner
- Year 10/11 100m Winner
- Year 10/11 200m Winner

Town Sports - Girls

- Year 7 70m Hurdles Winner
- Year 8 75m Hurdles Winner
- Year 8 Long Jump Winner
- Year 8 Discus Winner
- Year 9 Long Jump Winner
- Year 9 Triple Jump Winner
- Year 10/11 60m Hurdles Winner
- Year 10/11 1500m Winner
- Year 10/11 800m Winner
- Year 10/11 Javelin Winner
- Year 10/11 Discus Winner



We believe that we can achieve more, together

At St Bede's we highly value the relationship that we have with Parents and Carers. At our Parent's Evenings we carry out surveys to find out their opinions on various issues so that we can build on our strengths and ensure we are effective on meeting challenges. The comments and graphs below represent a selection of views from Parents and Carers across all year groups. To view a full breakdown of the data collected please visit the school website www.stbedesblackburn.com

“My child has progressed well at St Bede's and has been really happy. We are very proud of him.”

“My daughter is doing very well and the Teachers know their subjects and pupils very well.”

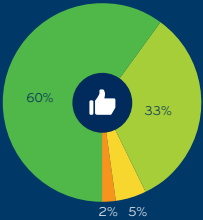
“St Bede's is an amazing school. I am proud that my children are students here. Thank you.”

“My child has autism, but I have no problems with my son coming to this school. They have dealt with all of my concerns. Thank you.”

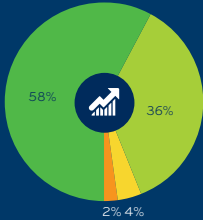
“My child is doing extremely well and I couldn't be happier for him at this stage. Many thanks to the fabulous teaching staff here at St Bede's.”



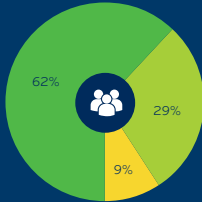
My child is happy at this school



My child makes good progress at this school



I would recommend this school to another parent



- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Don't know
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

We believe that
all things are possible

St Bede's

Roman Catholic High School





Niall Callaghan

St Bede's is a great school and allows you to explore numerous opportunities. The staff are very supportive and play a key role in encouraging us as pupils.

Frances Arrowsmith

Over my time at St Bede's, I have been able to forge great relationships with both students and staff. This school has always encouraged me to become more confident inside and outside class. I will carry these lessons and memories through as I enter further education.

Laura Brady

St Bede's has given me new opportunities to develop as a person through sport and other activities. In the future I am hoping to start my A levels.



Sam Robert

My time at St Bede's has been a valuable experience and has helped me to grow as a successful individual. The Teachers at St Bede's are very supportive and provide you with outstanding teaching to help you reach your full potential. My aim is to do medicine at one of the top Universities.



Isabelle Johnson

St Bede's has pushed me academically and offered me an incredible amount of enriching activities, preparing me for Sixth Form College and University. My time here has helped me discover my passion for aeronautical engineering and every teacher has had faith in me along the way. Five years may be short but this school has made such a tremendous impact.



Maisie Doyle

St Bede's allows me to reach my full potential both academically and personally. Next year I'm hoping to start college and proceed to do A Levels.





St Bede's

Believe all things are possible