













St. Paul's School for Girls
PROSPECTUS
2013/14







School Mission Statement

St. Paul's is a Catholic School for girls situated in the Archdiocese and within the city of Birmingham. It exists primarily to assist Catholic parents in giving their children a good Catholic education that they may lead fulfilled lives, which promote the common good of society.

By Catholic education we mean that every aspect of school life is permeated by the belief of the school community:

- in a loving God, as revealed by Jesus Christ.
- that all persons are sacred because each is made in the image of God and is therefore deserving of respect.
- that all creation is an expression of the goodness and love of God revealed through it.
- that all are entitled in justice, to be given the opportunity to develop fully as persons and thus have equality of access to the Curriculum.

As the school shares in the Church's mission to educate and nurture in the faith, prayer, the Eucharist and other liturgical celebrations have a central role in the life and work of the School Community.

The school strives to present the highest quality of teaching and learning. Each girl is encouraged and stimulated to aim for excellence and thus achieve the best possible personal and academic standards.

The diversity and richness of contribution from all members of the school community in promoting and upholding all-round high standards are highly valued. Great emphasis is placed on graceful growth in self-discipline and the right use of freedom. Each member is expected to treat others with a spirit of respect and responsible love and to regard the environment with a sense of enlightened stewardship.

A warm atmosphere, full of caring relationships, is encouraged and every assistance is given in helping the girls to be of real service in family life, the local community, the Church and society generally, and to be gracious and open in receiving support in return.

The agreed purpose of the school's existence and the way in which that purpose is fulfilled and resourced are subject to regular review.









The School Aims

- a) to promote an environment where all would experience Christian community living, feel personally valued and be helped to develop and celebrate a personal commitment to Christ and His Church.
- b) to provide a broad balanced, relevant and coherent curriculum enabling each student to discover and develop her potential fully in the academic, aesthetic, spiritual and vocational dimensions.
- c) to develop in students a reverence and responsibility for themselves, others and their environment, together with a deep appreciation for, and tolerance of, diversity in our multicultural society.
- d) to enable students to face the future with confidence in their personal qualities and achievements, able to respond positively to the changing needs of society and able to adapt with ease and courage to the demands of family life, their faith community and the world of work or further education.

General Information

Name of School: St. Paul's School for Girls

Vernon Road, Edgbaston Birmingham, B16 9SL

Telephone: 0121 454 0895 Fax: 0121 456 4803

Email: enquiry@stpaulgl.bham.sch.uk

Website: www.stpaulgl.bham.sch.uk

Classification: Voluntary Aided Catholic Comprehensive

Secondary Day School for Girls

Headteacher: Dr D.E. Casserly. B.A (Hons), Q.T.S., M.Ed, NPQH,

PGCR, EdD

Chairman of

Governors: Mrs Mary Browning

Office Times: 8:00a.m. - 5:00p.m.

Number on Roll: 957

Diocese: Birmingham

Local Authority: City of Birmingham

Education Department

Council House, Margaret Street

Birmingham, B3 3BU

Number of Teaching Staff: 79 Number of Support Staff 55



Criteria for Admission

St Paul's is a non-selective Catholic Girls' School. The ethos of the school is Catholic. The school was founded by the Sisters of Charity of St. Paul the Apostle to provide education for girls of Catholic families. The school is conducted by its governing body as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its Trust Deed and Instrument of Government and seeks at all times to be a witness to Jesus Christ. We ask all parents applying for a place here to respect this ethos and its importance to the school community. This does not affect the right of parents who are not of the faith of this school to apply for and be considered for a place here.

Governors require that parents approach Parish Priests to provide supporting evidence in respect of Baptism, other Sacraments and attendance at church. A supplementary information form for this evidence is available from St. Paul's and is to be returned to St. Paul's school by parents on or before 15 October 2013, to assist the governors in applying the criteria stipulated below.



In September 2014 the Governing Body will admit 165 girls and, if the number of applications exceeds the admission number, the governors will give priority to applications in accordance with the criteria listed, provided that the governors are made aware of that application before decisions on admissions are made. (See Note 1)

In all categories, if there is over-subscription, the Governors will give priority to children living closest to the school determined by shortest distance. (See Note 4)

Criteria

- 1 Baptised Catholic girls (see Note 2) who are in the care of a local authority (children in care) or provided with accommodation by them (e.g. children with foster parents) (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).
- 2 Baptised Catholic girls, who are siblings (i.e. those who have sisters attending the school at the time of admission), whose application is supported by their Parish Priest on the Supplementary Information Form, stating their family attendance at a Catholic Church (see Note
- 3 Non-siblings who otherwise fulfil Criterion No. 2.
- 4 Baptised Catholic girls, who are siblings (i.e. those who have sisters attending the school at the time of admission), not covered by Criteria 1-3 (inclusive).
- 5 Other Baptised Catholic girls not covered by Criteria 1-4 (inclusive).
- 6 Non-Catholic girls who are in the care of a local authority (children in care) or provided with accommodation by them (e.g. children with foster parents) (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).
- 7 Non-Catholic siblings (i.e. those who have sisters attending the school at the time of admission)
- 8 Other non-Catholics.



Note 1

Girls with a Statement of Special Educational Needs that name the school must be admitted. This will reduce the number of places available to applicants. (This is not oversubscription criterion)

Note 2

In all categories, for a girl to be considered as a Catholic, evidence of Catholic Baptism or Reception into the Church will be required. For a definition of a Baptised Catholic see the Appendix. Those who face difficulties in producing written evidence of Catholic Baptism/Reception should contact their Parish Priest.

Note 3

For Catholic and non-Catholic girls the definition of sibling is:

- A sister sharing the same parents;
- half-sister, where two girls share one common parent;
- step-sister, where two girls are related by a parent's marriage;
- Adopted or fostered girls

The children must be living permanently in the same household.

Note 4

Parents making an application for a Catholic girl should also complete the school's supplementary information form (SIF). Failure to complete the SIF may affect the criterion their daughter's name is placed in.

Family attending Sunday Mass refers to:

- Both parents;
- Mother;
- Father;
- A grandparent.

Note 5

Distances are calculated on the basis of a straight-line measurement between the applicant's home address and a point decided by the school (the front gate). The local authority uses a computerised system, which measures all distances in metres. Ordnance Survey supply the coordinates that are used to plot an applicant's home address within this system.

In a very small number of cases it may not be able to decide between the applicants of those girls who are qualifiers for a place, when applying the published admission criteria.

For example, this may occur when girls in the same year group live at the same address, or if the distance between the home and school is exactly the same, for example, blocks of flats. If there is no other way of separating the application according to the admissions criteria and to admit both or all of the girls would cause the legal limit to be exceeded, the local authority will use a computerised system to randomly select the girl to be offered the final place. As an exception, the governing body will give careful consideration to offering places above the Admission Number to applications from children whose twin or sibling from a multiple birth is admitted even when there are no other vacant places.

The home address of a pupil is considered to be the permanent residence of a girl. The address must be the girl's only or main residence for the majority of the school week. Documentary evidence may be required.

Where care is split equally between mother and father, parents must name which address is to be used for the purpose of allocating a school place and proof may be requested.





Appeals

Parents who wish to appeal against the decision of the Governors to refuse their daughter a place in the school must apply in writing to Chair of Governors. Appeals will be heard by an independent panel.

REPEAT APPLICATIONS

Any parent can apply for a place for their child at any time outside the admissions round. Parents do not have the right to a second appeal in respect of the same school for the same academic year unless, in exceptional circumstances, the admission authority has accepted a second application from the appellant because of a significant and material change in the circumstances of the parent, child or school but still refused admission.

LATE APPLICATIONS

Late applications will be dealt with according to the Local Authority co-ordinated scheme, after consultation with an admission authority, if appropriate.

CHANGE OF PREFERENCE

Once parent/carers have submitted their preferences they will not be allowed to change them without an exceptional change in circumstances, for example, if the family has recently moved address or an older sibling has changed schools.

All requests to change preferences should be made in writing to the Local Authority.

Any parent/carer who submits an application for a change of preference for an oversubscribed school, without an exceptional change in their circumstances, will have that application refused.

APPLICATIONS OTHER THAN THE NORMAL INTAKE TO Y7 (In-Year applications)

From September 2013, applications should be made directly to the governing body at the school.

WAITING LISTS

Parents whose girls have not been offered their preferred school will be informed of their right of appeal and will be added to their preferred schools waiting list.

The Local Authority will send Voluntary Aided and Foundation Schools their waiting lists following the offer of school places.

Waiting lists for admission will remain open until the 31 December 2014 and will then be discarded. Parents may apply for their daughter's name to be reinstated until the end of the academic year when the list will be discarded.

Waiting lists will not be fixed following the offer of places. They will be held in accordance with the order of priority for allocating places and are therefore subject to change. This means that a girl's position on the waiting list could go up or down. Any late applicants accepted will be added to the school's list in accordance with the order of priority for allocating places.

Inclusion on a school's waiting list does not mean that a place will eventually become available. It may be that those already offered places may accept them, thereby filling all available places.

Children who are the subject of a direction by a local authority to admit or who are allocated to a school in accordance with a Fair Access Protocol take precedence over those on a waiting list.

IN YEAR FAIR ACCESS POLICY

The governing body have adopted the LA fair access policy for admission of previously excluded or hard to place children.

There is no charge or cost related to the admission of a girl to this school.



Rite of Reception took place (Cf. Rite of Christian Initiation, 399).

APPENDIX

Definition of a "Baptised Catholic"

(For use in the Criteria of Admission to Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Birmingham)

To establish clarity, consistency and fairness in the application of Criteria of Admission in Catholic Schools in accordance with the Trust Deed of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, it is necessary to define the description of a "Baptised Catholic" for the benefit of parents who are making applications and for governors who formulate and apply the criteria for admissions.

A "Baptised Catholic" is one who:

• Has been baptised into full communion (Cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, 837) with the Catholic Church by the Rites of Baptism of one of the various ritual Churches in communion with the See of Rome (i.e. Latin Rite, Byzantine Rite, Coptic, Syriac, etc, Cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1203). Written evidence* of this baptism can be obtained by recourse to the Baptismal Registers of the church in which the baptism took place (Cf. Code of Canon Law, 877 & 878).

or

Has been validly baptised in a separated ecclesiastic community and subsequently received into full communion with the Catholic Church by the Right of Reception of Baptised Christians into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church.
 Written evidence of their baptism and reception into full communion with the Catholic Church can be obtained by recourse to the Register of Receptions, or in some cases, a sub-section of the Baptismal Registers of the church in which the

Written Evidence of Baptism

The Governing bodies of Catholic schools will require written evidence in the form of a Certificate of Baptism or Certificate of Reception before applications for school places can be considered for categories of "Baptised Catholics". A Certificate of Baptism or Reception is to include: the full name, date of birth, date of baptism or reception, and parent(s) name(s). The certificate must also show that it is copied from the records kept by the place of baptism or reception.

Those who would have difficulty obtaining written evidence of baptism for a good reason, may still be considered as baptised Catholics but only after they have been referred to their parish priest who, after consulting the Vicar General, will decide how the question of baptism is to be resolved and how written evidence is to be produced in accordance with the law of the Church.

Those who would be considered to have good reason for not obtaining written evidence would include those who cannot contact the place of baptism due to persecution or fear, the destruction of the church and the original records, or where baptism was administered validly but not in the Parish church where records are kept.

Governors may request extra supporting evidence when the written documents that are produced do not clarify the fact that a person was baptised or received into the Catholic Church, (i.e. where the name and address of the Church is not on the certificate or where the name of the Church does not state whether it is a Catholic Church or not).



Provision of Opportunities for Visits to School Prior to Admission

Open Evening is on Thursday 26 September 2013 between 6pm and 9pm. Alternative arrangements can be made for parents unable to attend the Open Evening if they telephone the school. We are very proud of our school and the excellent working atmosphere, so please feel free to make an appointment.



What does Ofsted say?

"Standards at GCSE have been well above the national average for a number of years."

"Students' behaviour is outstanding both in lessons and around the school. They attend well, are punctual and are very keen to learn and succeed. Relationships between all members of the school are strong and students are supported by a "can do", caring ethos. "

"Outstanding teaching is evident in both key stages and in the sixth form."

"There are strong and extremely positive relationships between teachers and students in all lessons. The "can do" attitude that is a fundamental part of the school's ethos is evident in the high expectations that teachers have of all their students both in terms of behaviour but also in their approach to learning."

"Students are prepared extremely well for the extra demands of post-16 courses and as a result progress on AS-level courses is now well above the national average. Every student is mentored by their form tutor and by a dedicated sixth form mentor, ensuring that any underachievement is identified early and that support can be carefully tailored to their needs."

What do our pupils say?

St Paul's School for Girls is one of the best things that has ever happened to me. Even though I have been here for a couple of weeks it feels like I have been there all my life because I feel like I belong here because all the teachers are so funny and kind, they are so much fun!

I went to SS Peter and Paul Primary School. When you come here if you went to that school you will recognise some faces, but I can truly say, hand on heart this school is so much better, it's out of this world! The school day might sound long but it's not, it's because we are having so much fun learning and being with your friends time flies. The teachers make the lessons so fun you learn so much more. Also the teachers are so nice and they are so willing to help you achieve because I am a St Paul's girl there is nothing I cannot achieve!

The bus journey is so fast and fun but even if you come in the car, train or even walk you will find friends so quickly like I did. Hannah and I met on the first day and now we are the best of friends.

The girls here are so nice, if you can't find your way around even though you will in a matter of days, they are so willing to help.

I am sure after reading this letter you will consider sending your daughter here and I am sure she will love it here, take my word because I sure have enjoyed my time here so far! Thank you for reading my letter.

My name is Beverline Ntelo Makumba, before I came to St Paul's my primary school was St Chad's Catholic Primary School in Newtown. My mom wanted me to go to this school because my cousin (Michelina Domingos) went to this school and also because I am a Catholic.



St Paul's is a really great school, I've found it very interesting in my few weeks of being here. St Paul's has a motto which is 'I am a St Paul's girl, there is nothing I cannot achieve. The teachers give you a great education in lessons and it's always fun, even though St Paul's has rules, it's still an amazing school, always do your best no matter what Even though I'm just in Year 7 I still think that St Paul's is the best school for girls to get their education. All I want to say is I am and will be enjoying all my time at St Paul's!

As a brand new St Paul's girl I am finding it truly amazing! You may ask, why? Well I shall tell you. The teachers are genuinely nice, and every lesson is one more bit of knowledge (in some lessons A LOT). In a lot of schools all the pupils have their own 'gang' of friends and that sometimes makes you feel alone and blocked off from everybody else, St Paul's is the complete opposite!

This may sound cheesy and cliché but it is like one big family everybody is supportive and encouraging. The staff and pupils welcomed me and made me feel at home. My new classmates feel the exact same way. The only thing that upsets me is going home. That sounds very teacher's pet-ish but I'm proud to say it because I love it here. I can embrace my religion, express my mind, and sweat my athleticism through clubs and teams.

May I say one more thing? I am a St Paul's girl there is nothing I cannot achieve! Thank you St Paul's!

St Paul's is an excellent school, as I get to know the school more, the more I love it. Everybody here is friendly and makes me feel welcome, like I belong here. Even though I have only been here for a few weeks, I feel like I have always been here, or at least like I have always meant to be here.

The school helps us to believe that we can do anything if we put our minds to it: 'I am a St Paul's girl, there is nothing I cannot achieve'. And it's true, if I really want to do something, and this applies to everyone, and I put all of my effort into it I will succeed. I think that St Paul's teaches us that really well.

Every day in the morning I look forward to meeting my friends and starting my first lesson, I enjoy every day here and I think that many others do too. I can't wait for the next day and learning something new and meeting someone new. St Paul's is one of the best schools ever, I think that anyone that is a part of it is privileged. To anyone that is leaving Year 6 and on the way to Year 7, I would say to them: go to St Paul's! Because I truly believe I will do the best of my ability and the teachers will push me just enough at this school. St Paul's has rules, just like any other school, but they are only there to help us in our school career and help us to become young ladies. I am a St Paul's girl, there is nothing I cannot achieve!

Thank you to everyone for making me feel welcome.









All Things to All People



The school teaches us to believe that 'I am a St Paul's girl there is nothing I cannot achieve'. I was worried about a few things like getting lost in the school, having no friends and not keeping up! These things I don't worry about now because the teachers and students are so kind that they show you the way to your class and I've made loads of new friends and all the classes are so fun! So all there is needed to say is St Paul's is the best! Thank you for reading!

St Paul's school is an amazing school, whatever you want to do St Paul's has organised it. My old school was St Cuthbert's. My mom wanted me to go to St Paul's because of all the amazing opportunities like sporting opportunities, music opportunities, there's so much you can do.

I think a reason why I like this school is because of the teachers. I don't know how many times I've laughed with a teacher or how many times I've had a funny conversation with a teacher. I know when you start secondary school you worry about the teachers shouting at you but at this school I haven't been shouted at once, and I've been here for three weeks! At this school I feel part of a big family, a really big family. Everyone welcomes you with open arms.

The lessons are awesome! The hectic schedule has 6-7 lessons a day and they're all so fun and so interesting, I just love when the days are jam packed! The teachers always tell us to believe in ourselves and a great saying is, 'I am a St Paul's girl there is nothing I cannot achieve'.

If you join St Paul's you will become a St Paul's girl!

Thank you for reading this.

Hello I am Hannah, a new St Paul's girl, I came from St Gerard's a Catholic school. Although leaving had me up in tears, I realised there was no reason to be upset. St Paul's is a lovely school. It makes me proud to say 'I am a St Paul's girl' even though I do boast a lot about it! Every time before going on the bus I think to myself, 'You did it, you got in to one of the best schools!' And like my uncle said, the best schools are in Edgbaston.

Most schools drag you through lessons, well not this one! They try so hard to make lessons fun and interactive. Even though we still take tests and all that who cares? Doesn't every school?

After just 3 weeks of being in the school I feel like I've stayed for 6 months! I finally feel a sense of belonging. For anyone who is thinking of going to St Paul's I say GO! You too could become a St Paul's girl. For 'I am a St Paul's girl there is nothing I cannot achieve!' I would like to give a word of thanks for all the people who helped me.











Year 12 Pupil Aspirations

ICT - Dist

Spanish - A*

Name	GCSE's		Career choice	Quote
Albina Babu	Biology - A Chemistry - A* English Language- A* English Literature - A History - A*	Maths Applications – A Physics – A Food Technology A* Religious Studies – A* Spanish – A* ICT - Dist	Medicine	"I'm very proud of my GCSE results. My teachers helped me immensely to achieve these grades, which is why I stayed on at SPG Sixth Form."
Alicja Boryn	Biology - A* Chemistry - A* English Language - A* English Literature - A Geography - A* Maths A*	Physics - A* Textiles - A Religious Studies - A* Business Studies - A* ICT - Dist Polish - A Additional Maths - B	Law	"I know I will be completely supported by the school to realise my dream of becoming a lawyer."
Clara O'Reilly	Biology - A Chemistry - A* English Language - A English Literature - A Food Technology - A	History - A Physics - A Religious Studies - A* Spanish - A	Medicine	"At the time, GCSE seemed difficult but I realised that with a lot of hard work" and determination, you can achieve whatever you want. I am proud of the grades that I achieved and I advise future students of GCSE's to stick with it and you'll be fine."
Eleanor Dowd	Biology - A Chemistry - A English Language - A* English Literature - A History - A* ICT - Dist	Physics - A Food Technology - A* Religious Studies - A* Geography - A* PE - A* Maths - A Additional Maths - B	Engineering	"GCSEs are a challenge and require hard work but providing you work hard and put in the effort they are more than manageable."
Matilda Dowd	Biology - A Chemistry - A English Language A* English Literature - A Food Technology - A* History - A*	PE - A Maths - A* Maths Application - A Physics - A Geography - A Religious Studies - A*	Journalism	"A levels are going to be a challenge but it is so much nicer studying things you enjoy and find interestin.""







Year 13 Pupil Aspirations

Name	AS Levels	Destination	Quote
Libby Dorset	Psychology - A Geography - A Religious Studies - A Business Studies - A	Manchester Management	"St Paul's has made me realise that I can reach my full potential. Deciding to do my A levels here has given me a great start to what I'm hoping will be a very bright future."
Megan Chauhan	English Literature - A Psychology - A Sociology - A	Liverpool Media	"The jump form GCSE to A level was a big shock, but the teachers really helped me through it. I love Sixth Form, it's the best decision I have ever made. I don't think I would have been successful going anywhere else."
Shanice Clarke	English Literature – B Psychology - A Sociology – A Health Social Care - B	Liverpool Psychology & Sociology	"My time in Sixth Form has been one I will never forget. I love everything about it."
Colleen Sprigg	Psychology - A History - A Biology - A Chemistry - B	Birmingham Biology	"St Paul's has been my greatest encourager and has pushed me to excel in everything I do. St Paul's is a family I'm proud to be part of."







The School Day

Timetable

Monday		Tuesday/T	hursday/Friday	Wednesday		
8.50am	Registration	8.50am	Registration	8.40am	INSET	
9.00am	PSE	9.00am	Mass/Assembly	9.15am	Registration	
9.50am	Lesson 2	9.20am	Lesson 1	9.20am	Lesson 1	
10.35am	Lesson 3	10.10am	Lesson 2	10.10am	Lesson 2	
11.20am	Break	11.00am	Break	11.00am	Break	
11.35am	Lesson 4	11.15am	Lesson 3	11.15am	Lesson 3	
12.20pm	Lesson 5	12.05pm	Lesson 4	12.05pm	Lesson 4	
1.05pm	Lunch	12.55pm	Lunch	12.55pm	Lunch	
1.40pm	Registration	1.30pm	Registration	1.30pm	Registration	
1.45pm	Lesson 6	1.35pm	Lesson 5	1.35pm	Lesson 5	
2.30pm	Lesson 7	2.25pm	Lesson 6	2.25pm	Lesson6	
3.15pm	Dismissal	3.15pm	Dismissal	3.15pm	Dismissal	

Every Wednesday morning Registration and Form Prayer take place at 9:15am because of Staff In-Service Training or individual pupil Reviews.







Sex and Relationships Education

The Governing Body of St. Paul's acknowledges its statutory duty to provide Sex Education for all pupils (Education & Employment Act 1993). It is guided by the DCSF 'Sex and Relationship Guidance' July 2000 and by the Diocese in the 'All That I Am' programme. This programme offers a coherent development of the gift of sexuality based on the dignity of the human person in the context of Church Teaching. It builds upon work covered at Key Stage One and Two of 'All That I Am' in primary school. The programme at St. Paul's is placed within a wider context of Family Life Education and is firmly rooted in the belief that:

- i) every person is created in the image of God and is therefore deserving of respect.
- ii) sexuality is essential to our personal identity and is God's gift to us.

The programme aims to foster the holistic development of all pupils, is based on Christian principles and in all respects conforms to Catholic teaching. Recognising that parents are the first teachers of their children, the Family Life programme hopes to build on and support the work of parents.

The Governing Body acknowledges the right of parents to withdraw their children from the school's Sex and Relationships Education programme when it is delivered outside the National Curriculum. Should they wish to do so the school requests that they seek an interview with the Headteacher to make their position clear

School Dinners

We have a Cafeteria system. £2 should buy a reasonable meal according to present prices. Free meals are available and money will be put on the account of those who qualify. There is free choice to the value of £2. The Dining Room offers healthy snacks at break and cooked dinners at lunchtime. Bio Recognition is used to open a cashless account.

Food Policy

We have, in line with DfE directives, a food policy which encourages Healthy Eating through the school curriculum and school meals provision.





School Curriculum

The management and development of the curriculum is under the direction of Miss J Allan, Deputy Headteacher. She works closely with Heads of Department in all matters relating to the curriculum. A general outline of the curriculum according to Key Stages is as follows:

In Year 7 the following subjects are presently taught: Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Science, Design Technology, History, Geography, Art, Drama, Music, Physical Education, Personal and Social Education, French/Spanish and Information and Communications Technology. From September girls are set in half year groups, according to ability, for English and Maths. In D&T they are taught in four groups per half year, for all other subjects they are taught in form groups.

In Year 8, pupils are set according to ability in two half-year groups for English, Mathematics and Modern Foreign Language.

In Year 9, the curriculum offered to pupils is similar to that offered in Year 8 and includes a lesson in Citizenship. However, in Year 9, girls are also set according to ability in Science. Girls choose their D&T option at the end of Year 8 and study this in Year 9.

In Years 10 and 11, pupils study a core of: Religious Studies, English Language and Literature, Mathematics, Science, Physical Education and Personal and Social Education. Girls are set in ability groups for those Core subject areas which are examined. Other subjects selected from option blocks include: History, Geography, Media, Spanish, Italian, French, Drama, Music, Art, Business Studies, Child Development, Physical Education, ICT Technology and Health & Social Care. Option choice subjects are generally taught in mixed ability groups. A small number of pupils in Key Stage 4 are guided towards a Vocational Skills

course, with an emphasis on ICT skills within the workplace and the Asdan COPE award.

Students in Year 12 and 13 are offered courses at 'AS' and 'A2' level. Subjects offered are: Art, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, ICT, English Literature, Film Studies, French, Geography, General Studies, Health & Social Care, History, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Physics, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology, Spanish and Textiles. All students follow either RE AS/A level or another accredited course in Theology, along with a course in Personal and Social Education.

In all year groups the curriculum offered is enhanced by a wide variety of activities. These include, across the Key Stages, liturgical celebrations and sacramental practice, residential experiences, curriculum and work related visits, work experience, field courses, revision and master classes, opportunities to develop personal learning and thinking skills, school concerts and productions, fund raising, sports fixtures and links with other schools and universities. Careers, Family Life, Health, Enterprise, Work Related Education and Citizenship Education is delivered in all Key Stages in a cross-curricular way and explicitly in Personal and Social Education and Citizenship lessons in Year 9.

All staff are involved in the development of the school curriculum through their participation in Curriculum Teams and Development Groups. A Committee of Governors is responsible to the Governing Body for monitoring the School Curriculum.





Extra Curricular Activities

A wide range of clubs and activities are offered to the girls at St Paul's, both at lunchtimes and after school. These include: Centenary Choir, Gospel Choir, Flute Choir, Recorder Group, Wind Band, Brass Group, String Group, Art Workshops, Bookshop, Science Club, the Duke of Edinburgh Award, theatre trips, sporting clubs and teams e.g., Volleyball, Gym, Dance, Trampolining, Health Club, Rounders, Cricket, Athletics, Football, Hockey, Rowing, Archery, Fencing, Horse Riding, Tennis, Sailing, Hairdressing and Netball teams.

"The school's positive, friendly and welcoming atmosphere helps support students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Opportunities for prayer and reflection are plentiful and all faiths are respected. Students enjoy a very wide range of extra-curricular activities, from sailing to drama. "

(Ofsted Report 2013)

Sporting success last year:

Last year was a year of outstanding sporting success:

Year 7 and 8 Schools Athletic Champions
Year 7 Schools Netball Champions
Year 7 and 8 Catholic Partnership Swimming

Champions

Year 7 PGL Netball Best Year 7 Team Year 8 and 9 Birmingham School Games Athletics

Champions

Year 8 and 9 Catholic Partnership Athletics

Champions

Year 9 and 10 Schools Athletic Champions Year 7 Birmingham Schools Basketball

Champions

Year 8 Birmingham Schools Basketball

Champions

Year 11 Birmingham Schools Athletic

Champions

We aim to build upon this by winning even more trophies for our newly built cabinet!

Already we are delighted that Eve McDermott (8S), Bethany Steele (8S), Sian St Clair Marrett (8S), Heather Darragh (9T), Dinna Samuel (9T), Jada Bailey-Webber (10T) are called for county trials for the West Midlands basketball team.

Whole School Drama Production

Each year we have a whole school production: 2011 Oliver 2012 Sound of Music









Special Educational Needs

The School's Special Educational Needs Policy was updated in October 2010 to meet the demands of the DCSF Revised Code of Practice, its guidelines on Inclusion and the requirements of the SEN and Disability Discrimination Act 2002. The Disability Equality plan is published on the school website.

Pupils with learning needs are placed on the school's SEN list and are given appropriate support in line with DCSF and LA recommendations.

SEN is managed by our SENCO Miss Davies. Miss Davies works with a team of support teachers and teaching assistants, liaises regularly with parents and enlists the help of external supporting agencies where appropriate. The work of the department is successful in ensuring access to the curriculum for all our pupils. Copies of the SEN policy are available on application to Miss Davies.

Governors report annually to parents on the administration of the policy and resources in the school profile. The current number of pupils with statements for SEN is 14.

"Those students who are disabled or who have special educational needs are making good progress overall because of the good teaching they receive and the well planned and targeted support of other adults. There is no difference in the progress of students from different ethnic groups. Those learning English as an additional language make progress in line with other students because their needs are identified quickly and the support offered matches their needs very well."

(Ofsted 2013)

"The government funding provided for these students is used effectively across year groups to provide small group teaching in literacy and numeracy, and to employ academic mentors to support eligible students."

(Ofsted 2013)

Child Protection

The school has a statutory obligation to safeguard and promote its pupils' welfare, safety, health and guidance whilst fostering an honest, open, caring and supportive climate. The welfare of each child is of paramount importance. Appropriate procedures are in place for the monitoring and reporting of any concern, in accordance with Local Authority guidelines.







Spiritual Development of Pupils

A) Religious Education

The aim of the Religious Education programme is to support the work of the home and the parish; developing and nourishing growth in faith and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ for all pupils. They are presented with the teachings of Jesus Christ and His Church and are challenged to grow in understanding of truth, and in attitudes with regard to God, self, other people and the world in which they live.

B) Prayer and Worship

Prayer and Worship are central to our Catholic School tradition and an essential part of pupils' development. The Eucharist is celebrated weekly and Benediction on the first Friday of each month. Friday of each month. In addition, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and other non-sacramental liturgies occur throughout the year. Pupils are encouraged to offer their personal skills and gifts, in a spirit of sharing and prayer, in the preparation of all liturgies and school assemblies.

Further opportunities for spiritual development are available in Days of Reflection at Savio House, the Briars, Alton and Caldey Island, School Retreats, Residential Experiences, Pilgrimages to Rome and Lourdes.

School Chaplaincy

Our Chaplain, Fr. Gerry Lennon, is available on a number of days each week for the celebration of the liturgy, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and to meet the personal and spiritual needs of the school community. He is assisted by Sr. Hilary Beater and Miss Simone Doyle who are available to give pastoral support and guidance to pupils.





Consultation with Parents/Guardians

Each girl is regularly assessed in all her subjects. Results of these assessments are collated once a year to form the annual report to parents. Parents are also kept informed of progress in relation to targets. Any parent may request an interim oral or written report by getting in touch with her daughter's Head of Year, allowing reasonable time for the report to be compiled.

All parents are invited to the school at least once a year to discuss their daughter's progress with individual teachers.

Information evenings for parents are also held at appropriate times during each Key Stage.

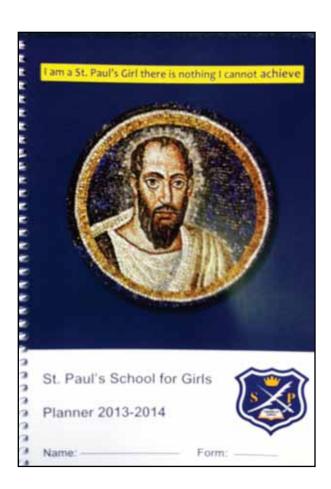
Homework

It is school policy that all girls do homework in order to fulfil the requirements of subjects studied. Teachers set homework appropriate to each subject and parents are requested to ensure that it is done. The amount set varies according to the subject and the girls' ages and stages of development. It is important that the girls realise that their parents expect them to treat homework seriously. Each girl is issued with a homework diary which is regarded as an important means of communication between parents and teachers. This also provides general information about the school.

Communications

The Homework Diary is used for staff to communicate praise and concern to parents. Parents may also use the diary to communicate minor concerns they may have to their daughter's Form Tutor.

In addition, we will text parents with reminders as well as email letters and information requests such at parental surveys.



Pastoral Issues

Behaviour

The school's Pastoral policy reflects in practice the value which is placed on each individual person, together with an expectation of the highest standard of behaviour at all times. It is based on self-respect, respect for others and respect for the environment.

The school aims to enable all pupils "to grow in self discipline and learn the right use of freedom" so that the exercise of Christian, Gospel love is evident among its members.

A positive attitude to discipline is encouraged so that the emphasis is seen to be on praising and rewarding good behaviour. These include meeting the PAUL criteria and having a reward day, positive e-Portal logs, praise cards sent home, Achievement of the Week Award and teacher and peer nominated prizes awarded at the Annual Awards Evening. Sanctions, however, are also in place for breaches of school discipline. These include detention and appropriate service to the school for specific misconduct. In all instances, parents will be notified, usually through the Homework Diary, when a detention is imposed.

On entry into school, pupils and parents are asked to sign a contract, expressing their willingness to uphold the School Code of Behaviour.

"Behaviour around the school and in lessons is impeccable. Students are courteous, polite and friendly to staff, visitors and to one another. Disruption to learning is extremely rare and students' attitudes to learning are highly positive. They enjoy working together and are keen to succeed in all lessons."

(Ofsted 2013)

Bullying

Bullying is never tolerated at St. Paul's. All incidents must be reported to a member of staff since it is important that all students feel safe and happy in school. Parents are encouraged to report any incident of bullying to their daughter's Head of Year.

"Students feel safe at the school. All the students spoken to during the inspection said they feel safe and always have. Parents and carers were unanimous in their view that students were safe and happy at the school.

(Ofsted 2013)

Basic School Code

Respect yourself:

- Be conscious of your personal appearance.
- Wear correct uniform smartly.
- Bring correct equipment.
- Be punctual.
- Complete all tasks set.
- Use your homework diary.

Respect others:

- Be courteous in speech and attitude.
- Walk on the left.
- Do not run.
- Be in the right place at the right time.
- Take care at doors and on stairways.

Respect the environment:

- Take care of all property.
- Put litter in bins.
- Eat and drink in approved places.
- Leave all rooms and cloakrooms tidy.





Personal Appearance

In the interests of safety and general good order around the school, the following points must be adhered to:

- Long hair must be tied back during school hours
- Jewellery may not be worn, except for a gold or silver stud in the lobe of the ear and a wristwatch. This jewellery must be removed for PE. If a choice is made to pierce ears, they will take 5-6 weeks to heal. Ear piercing must be done at the start of the summer holidays as all earrings must at all times be removed in PE lessons.
- Earrings of different colours are not allowed to be worn.
- Make-up may not be worn in Year 7 11.
- No hair gel or dye of any kind may be worn. Hair must be one colour. Hair braided with different colours is not acceptable.
- Nose, tongue, lip and eyebrow studs are not permitted.
- Only telescopic umbrellas must be used.
- No pouches to be used but a school bag large enough to carry books safely is required.
- Skirts must be worn appropriately.



Uniform

THIS IS COMPULSORY FOR YEARS 7-11 and in all circumstances girls must maintain a smart appearance. All uniform should be named.

Uniform

- Plain navy or black coat. Coats with logos or made of denim or leather or look like leather are not acceptable.
- Navy four-gore skirt no more than 1.5 cm from the knees.
- White open necked blouse with slit at the side of hem in Yr 7 to Yr 10.
- Navy pullover with V shaped neck with school colours at neck, cuff and welt.
- School purse as stocked by school uniform suppliers optional.
- School lanyard purchased from school is advisable.

Footwear

- Plain black shoes should be worn in school low heeled and not slingbacks (ballet shoes are dangerous).
- No boots, trainers or trainer style shoes may be worn in school.
- Shoes should be one colour, with no logo and not have a trainer style sole.
- Canvas shoes should not be worn.
- Socks can be knee length plain white.
- Tights should be plain black, not patterned.

P.E. Uniform

- Track suit with school crest.*
- Games blouse Sky blue trutex games blouse with navy collar and trim and school crest.*
- Games skort Navy blue stretch skort (skirt and shorts combined) with school crest.*
- Yellow knee-high games socks.
- White trainers.
- Navy pump-bag.*
- White ankle socks.

All items marked * must be embroidered with pupil's full name:

- on left hand side of opening on the blouse.
- on the outside of the skort, on the bottom right
- on outside of pump-bag.
- on left hand side of track suit top and below waistband front right hand side.

All other items require a name-tag to be sewn in securely. Please ensure you have all items ready for the start of the Autumn Term.

Uniform Stockists

Clive Mark 4/5 Three Shires Road

Bearwood

Tel: 0121 429 4244

Other branches at: Coventry Rd, Sheldon

Poplar Rd, Kings Heath B'ham Rd, Wylde Green

Gogna Schoolwear 67/69 Rookery Road

Handsworth B21 9QU

Tel: 0121 523 5572

Mansuri School Uniform Company 6 High Street Kings Heath B14 7SW





Charging Policy

- 1) Education provided at St. Paul's during school hours will be free of charge. Parents may be invited to make voluntary contributions for the benefit of the school or in support of any activity organised by the school. The only exception to this will be where parents are required to contribute towards the cost of instrumental music tuition. The amount is reviewed annually by the Governors. The fee for music tuition is £21 per term (can be paid by 10 monthly payments). The fee for the Gospel Choir, Steel Drums and any girls in receipt of free school meals is £6 per month.
- 2) Parents will not be required to pay for material, books, instruments or other equipment for use in school, but are requested to equip their daughters with basic writing equipment, a New International Version Bible, an English Dictionary and a dictionary in the Modern Foreign Language(s) their daughter is studying. (Bible and dictionaries are available from school).
- 3) Charges may be made for materials used in practical work when parents have indicated, in advance, a wish to own the final product.
- 4) A voluntary contribution is requested to enable certain Physical Education activities to take place for Upper School pupils; e.g. Judo.
- 5) Parents will be required to pay for transport to work experience.
- 6) A rent of £5 is charged for lockers.

- 7) Charges will be made for board and lodging on residential visits. Where families are in receipt of family credit or income support no charge will be made for residential visits made during school hours or if the visit is an essential part of the curriculum. Parents requesting exemption should write directly to the Headteacher.
- 8) There will be no charges for entry to public examinations unless:
 - i) the pupil has not been prepared for the examination by the school.
 - ii) the examination is not on the prescribed list.
 - iii) preparation for the examination takes place outside school hours.
 - iv) the pupil is resitting all or part of an examination.
- 9) Where a girl fails to complete examination requirements without good reason e.g. failing to complete coursework or not turning up for the examination, then the fees will be recovered from the parents.
- 10) Charges will be made for "optional extras" i.e. activities which take place outside school hours and are not related to statutory duties.

Since no compulsory charge is allowed for any activity which occurs for more than 50% of normal school hours, the Governors will ask for voluntary contributions from parents so that the activity can take place.

One of the exciting areas of life at St. Paul's is the range of educational trips and visits that have traditionally been offered. The Governors hope that parents will continue to support the various activities and visits offered to girls.

Transport

West Midlands Travel provide two No. 829 buses at 8.10 a.m each morning next to St. Philip's Church in Colmore Row which travel direct to St. Paul's. After school, three double-decker buses convey girls to the City Centre.

The school is situated near all main bus routes: Nos. 9, 19, 120, 126, 137 and 140 from the Hagley Road; as well as having easy access to both the Inner and Outer Circle City bus routes.

The Green Bus Company operate three bus services direct to St Paul's - the SP1, SP2 and SP3.

The cost of the bus pass will be £475 per year which you are able to pay either in one payment or by direct debit over twelve months. If you only catch the bus occasionally it will be £1.50 per journey. If you have any queries you can contact the Green Bus Company on: 0845 234 2222.

Buses will stop at bus stops along the way for St Paul's Girls only.

SP1	Time
Swan Centre	7:00
Flaxley Rd	7:07
Bromford Bridge	7:11
Tangmere Dr	7:17
Holly Lane	7:20
Six Ways	7:26
The Ridgeway	7.36
Kingstanding Rd	7:45
Scott Arms	7:55
Hamstead Station	8:07

SP2	Time	SP3	Time
Whetty Lane	7:21	Hall Rd	7:16
Northfield Baths	7:36	Kitts Green Rd	7:26
Shenley Court	7:41	Swan Centre	7:35
Gibbins Rd	7:53	Acocks Green	7:45
Harborne Baths	8:03	South B'ham College	7.56
Warley Park	8:12	St Mary's Row	8:07
St Paul's	8:26	Edgbaston Church	8:16
		St Paul's	8:25





Achievement at St Paul's

"Each girl is encouraged and stimulated to aim for excellence and thus achieve the best possible personal and academic standards. The diversity and richness of contribution from all members of the school community, in promoting and upholding all-round high standards are highly valued." St Paul's School for Girls Mission Statement."

At St Paul's we enter all of our students for examination in the courses that they are following in Key Stages 4 and 5, provided that they have satisfied the requirements of the examination board and have completed all coursework. We have a strong tradition of academic excellence and we firmly believe that each girl should have the opportunity and encouragement to reach their full potential.

"In the good school, many more of the high achieving pupils from primary school are likely to achieve an A or B grade in Maths and English GCSE. If they miss out ... then this shuts the door on these subjects at A level, and in turn access to the top universities." (Her Majesty's Chief Inspector, Sir Michael Wilshaw 20 Sep 2012)

In 2013 OfSTED confirmed that St Paul's is a good school.

This summer OFQUAL published a briefing containing key statistics about GCSE results for 2013. Here is how St Paul's compares to the national picture:

- Nationally the proportion of entries achieving A* is down 0.5 percentage points
 To 6.8 per cent.
- At St Paul's the proportion of entries achieving A* is up in 2013 to 8.32%
- Nationally the proportion getting A* and A is down 1.1 percentage points to 21.3 per cent.
- At St Paul's the proportion of entries achieving A*- A is up in 2013 to 26.25%
- Nationally the proportion getting A*- C is down 1.3 percentage points to 68.1 per cent.
- At St Paul's the proportion of entries achieving A*-C is 77%

A Level results have risen again in 2013 at St Paul's. The average point score per entry is currently 223.28, and per student is **756.34**. Compare our results to the national picture:

- Nationally 7% entries for girls achieved A*grades
- At St Paul's 7% entries for girls achieved A* grades
- Nationally 98.1% entries achieved A* E grades
- At St Paul's 98.54% entries achieved A* E grades

All Things to All People



2012 GCSE RESULTS

Subject	No of Entries									
		A*	Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G	U
Art & Design	47	0	6	8	16	12	3	2	0	0
Business Studies	12	1	1	5	3	1	0	0	1	0
Drama	32	0	6	14	12	0	0	0	0	0
Child Development	32	1	5	9	5	9	2	0	1	0
English Language	158	8	31	52	23	28	13	3	0	0
English Literature	157	15	33	57	32	11	7	2	0	0
Food Technology	80	6	15	21	19	8	9	2	0	0
French	7	2	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
Geography	67	0	7	18	20	8	8	4	2	0
Health & Social Care	20	0	2	5	6	3	2	2	0	0
History	85	15	12	22	18	11	3	2	2	0
Italian	13	1	1	4	5	2	0	0	0	0
Mathematics	297	15	31	56	86	62	28	10	7	2
Media Studies	28	1	5	19	1	2	0	0	0	0
Music	6	0	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
PE	13	0	1	2	6	2	1	0	1	0
Product Design	37	0	9	7	7	3	7	2	2	0
Religious Education	152	34	43	45	24	2	2	0	2	0
Biology	79	5	25	24	19	6	0	0	0	0
Chemistry	79	13	18	26	16	5	1	0	0	0
Physics	79	5	12	24	21	14	3	0	0	0
Science – Core	79	0	0	4	39	21	11	3	1	0
Science – Additional	67	0	1	4	20	21	16	5	0	0
Spanish	49	2	12	15	11	2	4	1	1	0
Textiles	35	2	7	12	4	3	6	1	0	0
OCR National ICT	109		32	28	49	0	0	0	0	0
		Dist*	Dist	Merit	Pass					

Leavers' Destinations 2012

Year 11 Destinations		Year 13 Destinations	
Stayed at St Paul's	75	Degree Course at University	53
Further Education College	53	Deferred start to 2011	5
6th Form College	12	Resitting of A2 levels at St Paul's	1
Other School 6th Form	16	College of F.E.	1
Employment/Training	3	Employment	2
Unknown	1	Destination Unknown	0
TOTAL	163	Gap Year	5
		TOTAL 67	







2012 A LEVEL RESULTS

Average point score per entry was 208.78 Percentage of A level entries achieving A*-E 99.5%

Average point score per student was 708.04

Subject	No of Entries	Number Achieving each grade						
		A*	Α	В	С	D	Е	U
Art	9	0	0	2	3	3	1	0
Biology	13	0	0	4	0	4	3	2
Business	6	0	1	1	4	0	0	0
Chemistry	12	0	4	0	6	1	1	0
English	19	1	3	5	9	1	0	0
Film Studies	6	2	2	1	1	0	0	0
French	3	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
Geography	19	1	4	6	8	0	0	0
Health & Social Care	7	0	0	1	4	1	1	0
History	18	0	2	5	6	4	1	0
ICT	10	0	0	2	3	3	2	0
Mathematics	11	0	1	1	2	5	1	1
PE	3	0	0	0	0	2	1	0
Psychology	18	0	1	5	5	4	3	0
RE	25	0	6	6	10	2	1	0
Sociology	20	0	4	6	8	2	0	0

2012 AS LEVEL RESULTS

Subject	No of Entries	A	В	С	D	E	U
Art	5	0	2	0	0	2	1
Biology	28	2	5	3	9	6	3
Business Studies	11	1	4	1	1	4	0
Chemistry	15	1	1	1	7	4	1
English	32	15	11	6	0	0	0
Film Studies	10	1	4	3	2	0	0
French	4	2	0	1	1	0	0
Geography	18	5	5	3	3	2	0
Health and Social Care	5	2	2	1	0	0	0
History	24	3	3	5	11	1	1
Information Technology	11	1	5	3	2	0	0
Mathematics	19	2	1	5	4	3	4
Polish	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Physics	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Psychology	37	3	9	12	8	5	0
Religious Studies	39	4	10	13	12	0	0
Sociology	31	8	11	4	8	0	0
Spanish	5	3	1	1	0	1	0

Attendance and Punctuality

Parents are asked to see that girls arrive in good time for registration in the morning. Ordinary school hours are from 8.50a.m. to 3.15p.m. Unless some prior permission has been granted by the Headteacher or some form of medical treatment is required, no pupil may be absent except for reasons of personal illness or family bereavement.

In the case of illness it is important that parents notify the school on the morning of the first day of absence; as school operates a 'first day of absence call' to any parent who may not have contacted school. Absence must be confirmed in writing, by a parent, to the Form Tutor on their daughter's return.

The acceptable percentage for attendance is 95% or above. 100% attendance is expected and rewarded. Attendance below 95% is unacceptable and will be followed up by both the Head of Year and Educational Social Worker.

Information on Rates of Absence 2012-2013 for pupils of compulsory school age.

% of pupil sessions missed through unauthorised absences: 0.5%

% of pupil sessions missed through authorised absences: 3.8%

% of pupil attendance: 96%

St Paul's Old Girls' Association

The Association is open to all ex-pupils of St Paul's. Two events are organised annually, to which all previous pupils are invited.

The Annual Mass takes place, by tradition, in October in the Convent Chapel and is followed by a short, informal meeting. This year 2013 it is to be held on 05 October at 3.30pm.

Ex-pupils who would like to join the Old Girls' Association should contact the Chair of the Association:

Mrs Ann Russell 216 Streetsbrook Road Solihull B91 1HF Tel: 0121-705-4400.







"I am a St Paul's girl; there is nothing I cannot achieve."



St. Paul's School for Girls Vernon Road Edgbaston Birmingham B16 9SL

Telephone: 0121 454 0895 Fax: 0121 456 4803

Email: enquiry@stpaulgl.bham.sch.uk