

# St Robert of Newminster

Catholic School & Sixth Form College

## Personal Development Programme 2023

Let Your Light Shine



**Bishop Wilkinson**  
Catholic Education Trust  
Through Christ, in Partnership

## School Vision & Mission

At St Robert of Newminster we recognise that each individual member of our community is created in God's image with unique talents and abilities. We nurture each person through loving relationships and rich daily experiences centred on the teachings of Christ. We affirm the dignity of each individual and our values underpin everything we do across our school, with and for each student and member of staff to enable them to 'Let their light shine'.

### St Robert's Values:

#### Faith

A prayerful community rooted and **guided** by the teachings of **Jesus**

#### Respect

A diverse community, created in the image of God, whose members are treated with **respect** and **dignity**

#### Vocation

A **hard-working** community that helps people recognise their own **unique purpose**

#### Excellence

A **dedicated** community that strives for excellence in our **learning** and **conduct**

#### Aspiration


A community built upon high **expectations** of ourselves and others

#### Integrity

A just community with a firm understanding of what is **right**, that acts with **honesty** and **kindness**



## Let Your Light Shine

FAITH	RESPECT	VOCATION	EXCELLENCE	ASPIRATION	INTEGRITY
					
<b>A prayerful community rooted and guided by the teachings of Jesus</b>	<b>A diverse community, created in the image of God, whose members are treated with respect and dignity</b>	<b>A hard working community that helps people recognise their own unique purpose</b>	<b>A dedicated community that strives for excellence in our learning and our conduct</b>	<b>A community built upon high expectations of ourselves and others</b>	<b>A just community with a firm understanding of what is right that acts with honesty and kindness</b>
“Holiness doesn't mean doing extraordinary things, but doing ordinary things with love and faith.”	“Treat people the same way you want them to treat you.”	“Let us seek to live in a way that is always worthy of our Christian vocation”	“Dear young people, do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! Do not be afraid to dream of great things!”	“In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works”	“Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth”
<i>Pope Francis</i>	<i>Luke 6:31</i>	<i>Pope Francis</i>	<i>Pope Francis</i>	<i>Matthew 5:16</i>	<i>1 John 3:18</i>

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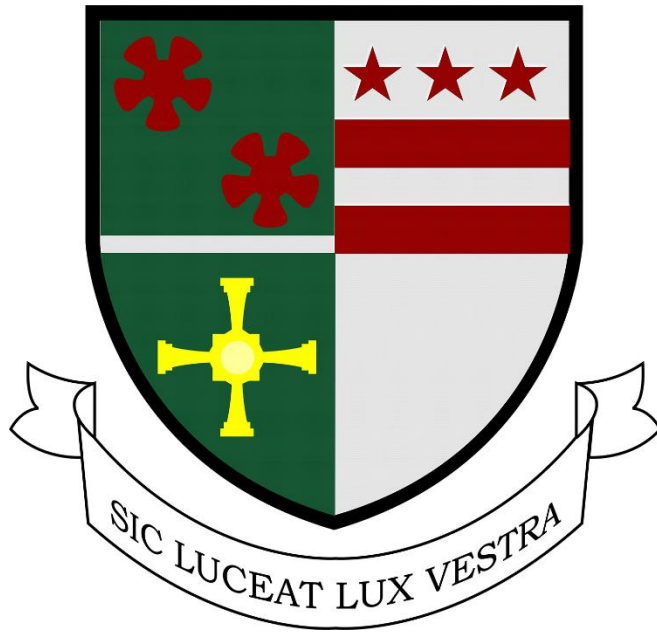
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# Vision & Values



## **Our Vision**

At Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust, we recognise that each individual member of our community is created in God's image with unique talents and abilities.

We nurture each person through loving relationships and rich daily experiences centred on the teachings of Christ. We believe that humanity is a gift that we receive through others and that our relationships unlock the unique potential in each person. As such, we affirm the dignity of each individual and our values underpin everything we do across every school, with and for each student and member of staff.

## **Our Values**

### **Develop spirituality**

We believe that a knowledge of and a personal relationship with Christ brings meaning and direction to life.

### **Act with justice, respect, and dignity**

We believe that every member of our diverse community is created in God's image and therefore we act with respect and show dignity, ensuring that all are treated with fairness, justice, and equity. We work fervently to dispel inequality and pay special attention to those most in need.

### **Foster a sense of vocation**

We believe that all members of our Trust should be supported to recognise their own purpose and to develop a sense of how they are called to contribute to society.

### **Promote educational excellence**

We believe that each person should be equipped to excel through the highest quality learning opportunities and richest wider-school experiences.

### **Form high aspirations**

We believe that every member of our Trust community should have the highest expectations of themselves and others and should be equipped with the knowledge and skills to achieve greatly.

### **Celebrate community**

We believe that our schools promote truth, honesty, reconciliation, resilience, and integrity in their own context, but together create strength, optimism, and excellence across the Trust.

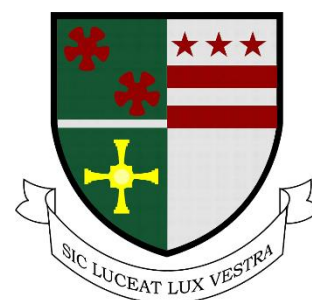
### **Support exceptional leadership**

We believe that the best leadership in Catholic Schools raises the work of the staff and the attainment of young people to levels that exceed expectations through relentless focus, effective management skills, profound empathy, sustained energy, and robust optimism, underpinned by wide professional knowledge founded on innovative research.

## St Robert of Newminster Catholic School & Sixth Form College

### Our Vision

At St Robert of Newminster we recognise that each individual member of our community is created in God's image with unique talents and abilities. We nurture each person through loving relationships and rich daily experiences centred on the teachings of Christ. We affirm the dignity of each individual and our values underpin everything we do across our school, with and for each student and member of staff to enable them to 'Let their light shine'.



### Our Values

#### Faith

A prayerful community rooted and guided by the teachings of Jesus

#### Respect

A diverse community, created in the image of God, whose members are treated with respect and dignity

#### Vocation

A hard-working community that helps people recognise their own unique purpose

#### Excellence

A dedicated community that strives for excellence in our learning and conduct

#### Aspiration

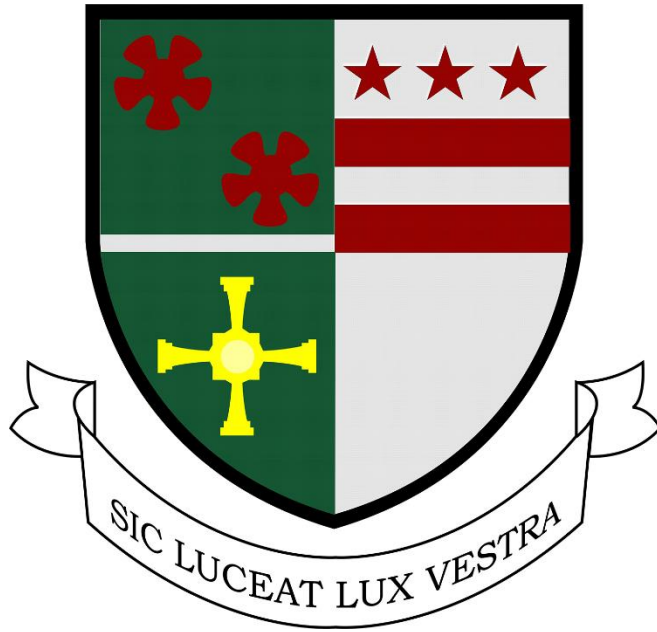
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A just community with a firm understanding of what is right, that acts with honesty and kindness



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# Catholic Life & Mission



## Catholic Life & Mission

At St Robert's we want students and staff to feel comfortable to explore their relationship with God, whilst realising that the members of our school community come from different backgrounds, beliefs, and faiths. Our school is a place, where all are valued equally and belong. We strive to create an environment where pupils can encounter the love that God has for each of them. With Christ at the centre, our school seeks to exemplify faith in action, working for justice and compassion, manifest in acts of charity and kindness. We work for those in need, and instil an ethos of care, kindness, and respect. As an inclusive family, we seek to help and care for the most vulnerable and marginalised. Our community is built upon values, which are inspired by the Gospel and the Church. Our values are visible in the environment, relationships, interactions, and our day-to-day life.

### **Chapel & Chaplaincy**

Our Chapel and Chaplaincy Team are at the heart of the Catholic life of St Robert's. Staff and students with a wide range of skills and talents enhance the faith of our community. Our Chaplain offers opportunities and participation for all our pupils enabling them to grow in their spirituality, be confident in expressing their faith and demonstrate leadership in matters of social justice, environmental stewardship, and meaningful prayer & reflection. The breadth and depth of the Catholic life opportunities offered to our students is something we strive for each day to allow all members of the community to let their light shine.

### **Retreat**

We offer an exciting retreat programme to ensure that all our students can develop spiritually, morally, socially, and culturally. Our retreat programme offers pupils the opportunity to spend a few days in prayer, work, and reflection. A retreat is a time where our students can step back from their daily lives to re-charge and then re-emerge revitalised. We work in conjunction with the Diocesan Youth Ministry Team as well as our long-standing connection with the SVP on Holy Island:

- **Lindisfarne (Holy Island) toward the end of Year 7**
- **Year 8 and 9 can visit Emmaus Youth Village in Consett**
- **Years 9, 10 and 12 can attend the Diocesan Summer Festival at the Youth Village**
- **Year 11 enjoy a morning of celebration before they receive their 'Record of Achievement' at the Stadium of Light**
- **Y12 can visit the Emmaus Youth Village in Consett.**
- **Y13 enjoy a 'Day of Celebration' to mark the end of their journey at the school**

### **Prayer & Worship**

Students at St Robert's can take part and take a lead on daily prayer and reflection. Our pastoral tutor team meet with our students each morning, and with the support of the school chaplain, they take part in prayers that reflect our weekly themes or focus upon the liturgical season. In addition to daily prayer, students have a weekly form of collective worship with their Head of House, a member of the school's leadership team or with their fellow students taking the lead. Our collective worship follows the diocesan format of gather, listen, prayer and mission.

## Faith & Formation

Students at St Robert's, with our school values at the fore, are given the opportunity to develop into the people God intended them to be. Helping them to grow in their relationship with Christ in order that they can respond to God's calling which is unique to them. The school's motto ***luceat lux vestra*** (Let your light shine) encourages all members of the school community to work for the greater glory of God and the common good. This 'work' could include involvement in our Catholic co-curricular programme which further enhances their personal formation and consists of:

- **Chaplaincy Group**
- **CAFOD Group**
- **SVP Group**
- **Environment Group**
- **Form, House, and School Captains**
- **Whole school charitable focus during Advent & Lent**
- **Yearly fundraising within House groups**
- **Spirited Arts**
- **REcreate (newly formed club ran by the RE department)**

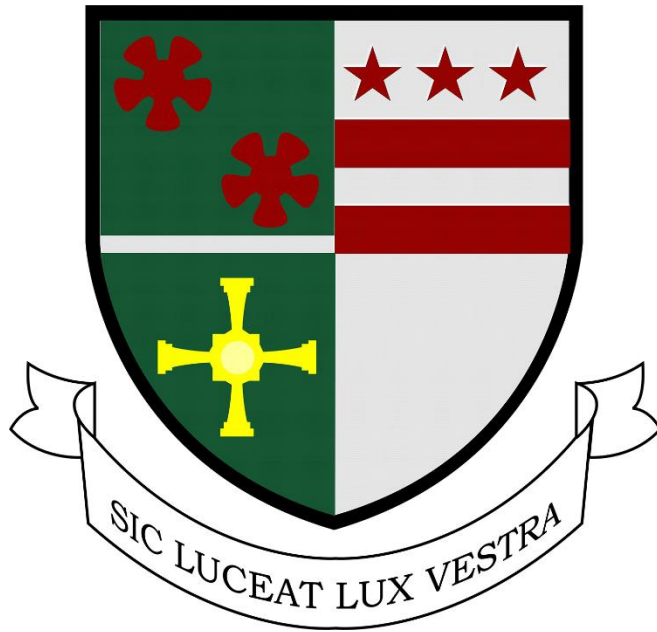
## Pilgrimage

Students at St Robert's can take part in the Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes, Year 7 visit to Holy Island and the annual pilgrimage to Rome for our Year 11 and Sixth Form students (please note that these opportunities have not occurred recently due to COVID, however, we will share more details as and when they return)

## Sixth Form

Sixth Form students celebrate the liturgical life of the Church through promotion of the liturgical seasons and saints' day in the weekly newscast on the information screens in both Sixth Form blocks. This is also promoted through the Sixth Form social media accounts.

Year 13 students mark the end of their two years with a Day of Celebration. This starts and ends with a liturgical service. The day covers several reflective activities during which students can share their progress, successes and celebrate all that has given them dignity and development as a whole person.



# Pastoral System

## House System

St Robert's is structured around a pastoral House System:

- **Durham House (St Cuthbert)**
- **Finchale House (St Godric)**
- **Lindisfarne House (St Aidan)**
- **Whitby House (St Hilda)**

Each house is led by a Head of House who are supported through assistant Heads of House and pastoral tutors. The Houses each have a designated link from the senior leadership team. The Heads of House, in conjunction with their teams, focus on ensuring that the following areas are a priority in the development of students:

- **Attendance**
- **Punctuality**
- **Expectations & Behaviour**
- **Safeguarding**
- **Counselling, Mental Health & Wellbeing of pupils**

Heads of House and their teams are responsible for the delivery of collective worship in school. The Heads of House lead centrally planned assemblies and acts of worship which are underpinned by our school values. In addition, the pastoral team support the development of students through monitoring their achievement and behaviour.

Achievement is rewarded in the following ways:

- **Platinum, Gold, Silver, and bronze awards based on achievement points gained**
- **Termly Pastoral Tutor awards**
- **Termly Head of House awards**
- **Ongoing School Values awards**

Behaviour is monitored through a pastoral reporting system:

- **Yellow Head of House report**
- **Red Senior Leader Report**
- **White Head Teacher Report**

Heads of House, and their teams will employ sanctions consistently and fairly, in line with the behaviour policy of the school. These include:

- **A verbal reprimand**
- **Extra work or repeating unsatisfactory work until it meets the required standard.**
- **The setting of written tasks as punishments, such as writing lines or an essay.**
- **Loss of privileges**
- **Missing break time.**
- **Detention**
- **School based community service or imposition of a task**
- **Regular reporting**
- **In more extreme cases schools may use temporary or permanent exclusion.**

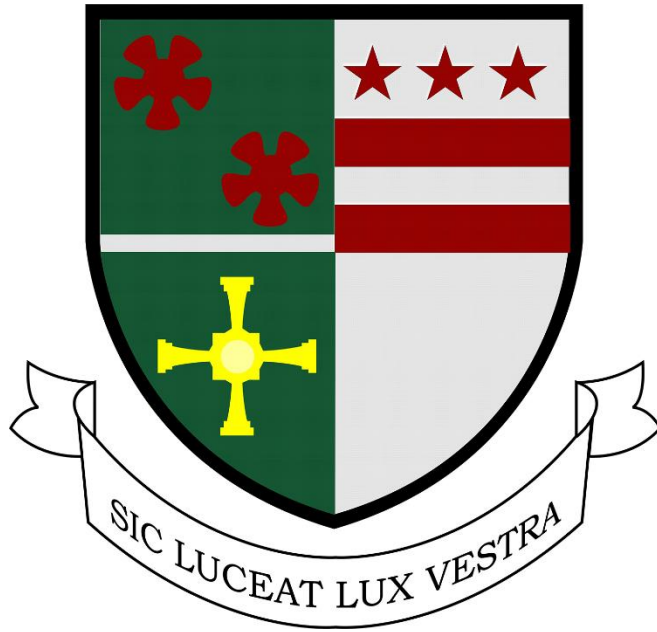
## **Sixth Form Pastoral Structure**

Year 12 and Year 13 are led by a Head of Year and Assistant Head of Year. The Sixth Form has taken St Thomas Aquinas as their patron, a saint that sought to fuse philosophy and theology as a single approach to life. St Thomas Aquinas, as a Doctor of the Church, pursued a life of academic study founded on a strong life of faith.

The Head of Sixth Form and Heads of Year, in conjunction with their teams, focus on ensuring that the same areas are a priority in the development of students as followed by Lower school:

- **Attendance**
- **Punctuality**
- **Expectations & Behaviour**
- **Safeguarding**
- **Counselling, Mental Health & Wellbeing of pupils**

The Head of Sixth Form, Heads of Year and their teams are responsible for the delivery of collective worship in Sixth Form. The Head of Sixth Form and Heads of Year lead planned assemblies and acts of worship which are underpinned by our college values. In addition, the pastoral team support the development of students through monitoring their achievement and behaviour.



# Transition Programme

## Transition Programme

The St Robert's community welcomes students from a wide range of primary schools. However, our five official feeder primaries are:

- St Joseph's Catholic Primary School – Washington
- St Bede's Catholic Primary School – Washington
- St John Boste Catholic Primary School – Washington
- Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School – Houghton le Spring
- St Michael's Catholic Primary School – Houghton Le Spring

To assist students in their transition from KS2 to KS3, we facilitate lessons throughout the year for their target language of French or Spanish as well as visits to our school to participate in activities such as Science lessons. We complete transition days, which welcomes students into their tutor groups and their House system, as well as a range of activities across different subject areas.

Our latest prospectus can be found [here](#)

### **Ongoing Transition Activities**

As part of our ongoing transition programme, Year 6 pupils can take part in:

French - our Head of MFL and 6th form linguists offer to deliver basic French to all year 6 pupils across all feeder schools, to give them a taster of French as well as ease their transition in MFL in year 7.

Science - our Science department offer to deliver two session to each feeder school over the year whereby year 6 students gain experience of our laboratory and scientific skills.

Physical Education - our PE department offer festivals to the 5 feeder primary schools throughout the year. Some are at St Roberts; others are at a feeder primary school or an allocated facility like Houghton Rugby Club. Year 12/13 BTEC students and Year 9 leaders are used to help run and lead the events:

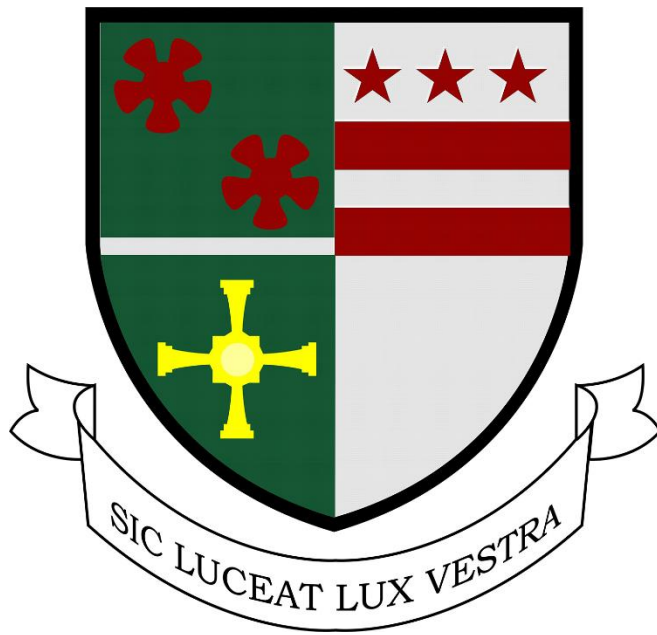
- **Reception = Teddy Bear Picnic**
- **Year 1 = Dance**
- **Year 2 = Multi sport**
- **Year 3 = skipping**
- **Year 4 = Hand Ball**
- **Year 5 = Tag Rugby and Cricket**
- **Year 6 = Athletics**
- **All Years = Cross Country**

Art - The Art department and sixth form artists deliver lessons to year 5 focussed on planning and designing stained glass windows.

### **Summer School**

We offer a summer school for our prospective Year 7 students at the end of July. Students can participate in a number of different activities including:

- **Maths**
- **Literacy**
- **Sports**
- **Dance/Trampolining**
- **ICT/Media**
- **Art/Photography/Ceramics**



# PSHE & RSHE Curriculum



### PSHE: Chameleon PDE

Our personal, social, health and economic curriculum have been built in conjunction with Chameleon PDE. Our subject leader has put together a programme that covers the required statutory guidance that includes a wealth of resources and assessment in the following areas:

- **Emotional & Mental Health**
- **Future Choices & Money**
- **Health & Fitness**
- **Keeping Safe**
- **Online Life & Media**
- **Personal Skills Development**
- **Relationships**
- **Values, Rights and Responsibilities**



#### **Curriculum Offer**

Students at St Robert's have one 60-minute lesson per week on PSHE/RSE. The lessons are taught by our pastoral tutors and the course is led by our PSHE coordinator and overseen by the senior leader for personal development. Staff received training in preparation for the new RSE curriculum and we will be making use of the training available from Chameleon PDE.

#### **PSHE across the Curriculum**

In 2021 we carried out an audit of our department areas to see where the personal, social, health and economic curriculum were evident. The link below outlines the department areas whose curriculum offer includes coverage of:

- **Health & Wellbeing**
- **Relationships**
- **Living in the wider world**

We are confident that students, in all key stages, have a broad and balanced curriculum that incorporates an emphasis on personal development underpinned by our school values.

[Breakdown of PSHE.xlsx](#)

## PSHE in Sixth Form

PSHE develops students' personal skills and helps them to prepare for life after Sixth Form so that they can play a full part in society. Students will cover the following areas: -

- **Personal Skills and Development**
- **Mental Health and Wellbeing**
- **Online and Media**
- **Keeping Safe**
- **Health and Fitness**
- **Future Choices and Money**
- **Sexual Health**
- **Relationships**
- **University and Apprenticeship Applications**



Our 6<sup>th</sup> Form Relationships, Sex and Health Education & PSHE is provided using the Chameleon PDE resources – the following areas are covered throughout Year 12 and Year 13:

RSE	Health & Wellbeing	Personal Skills & Development	Future choices and money
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Sexual Health: Contraception &amp; Choices</li><li>▪ Sexual Health and Sexually Transmitted Disease/Infection</li><li>▪ Managing challenging relationships</li><li>▪ Online Dating and Personal Safety</li><li>▪ Pregnancy and Parenthood</li><li>▪ Sexuality and Sexual Orientation</li><li>▪ Gender Diversity</li><li>▪ Respectful and Assertive Communication</li><li>▪ Influence of faith and culture on relationships</li><li>▪ Online Dating</li><li>▪ LGBTQI+</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Driver Safety</li><li>▪ Attitudes to Drugs</li><li>▪ Healthy eating on a budget</li><li>▪ Keeping physically healthy</li><li>▪ Young adult illness</li><li>▪ Managing mental health</li><li>▪ Managing and study and exam stress</li><li>▪ Mental health issues and strategies</li><li>▪ Prioritising mental health</li><li>▪ Suicide prevention</li><li>▪ Resilience</li><li>▪ Contraception</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Goal setting and contingency planning</li><li>▪ Marketing yourself</li><li>▪ Building a positive online profile</li><li>▪ Personal Statements and CVs</li><li>▪ Taking a gap year</li><li>▪ Career research</li><li>▪ Work experience</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Work or study; next steps</li><li>▪ Career ambitions</li><li>▪ Customer service and customer rights</li><li>▪ Money matters</li><li>▪ Offers and application</li><li>▪ Finance</li><li>▪ Budget</li><li>▪ Travel safety abroad</li></ul>

## Ten Ten: Life to the Full

### Relationships, Health & Sex Education

St Robert's uses Ten Ten's RSE programme, **Life to the Full**. We teach 'Relationship, Sex and Health Education' (RSHE) within the context of a Christian understanding of human sexuality rooted in the wisdom and teaching of the Catholic Church. We deliver this teaching through the prism of Catholic RSHE. The framework of our programme is taken from the Model Catholic RSE Programme by the Catholic Education Service, which has been highlighted by the Department of Education as a work of good practice.

Life to the Full will address the needs of young people where they are at in today's world. The teaching includes lessons on:

- **Puberty**
- **Personal Hygiene**
- **Fertility**
- **Menstruation**
- **Family & Friends**
- **Sexual Intimacy**
- **Delaying sex**
- **The human body**
- **Sexuality**
- **Marriage**
- **Gender**
- **Online relationships**
- **Social Media**
- **Consent**
- **Grooming**
- **Pressure**
- **STI's**
- **Contraception & Natural Family Planning**
- **Abortion/Miscarriage**
- **The effect of drugs & alcohol on relationships**
- **Pornography**
- **Sexual Exploitation**

**Ten:Ten**  
Resources



The programme is fully inclusive of all students and the content is age related.



#### One-Page Overview - LTTF Secondary

	RE, PSHE or Tutor Time							Whole Year
Sessions per programme	Session 1 50 minutes or 2 x 25-minutes or 2 x 50-minutes	Session 2 50 minutes or 2 x 25-minutes or 2 x 50-minutes	Session 3 50 minutes or 2 x 25-minutes or 2 x 50-minutes	Session 4 50 minutes or 2 x 25-minutes or 2 x 50-minutes	Session 5 50 minutes or 2 x 25-minutes or 2 x 50-minutes	Session 6 50 minutes or 2 x 25-minutes or 2 x 50-minutes	Session 7 50 minutes or 2 x 25-minutes or 2 x 50-minutes	Cinema Whole or half-year groups
Main Themes	All	Created and Loved by God			Created to Love Others		Created to Live in Community	All
Sub-themes	Religious Understanding	Me, My Body, My Health	Emotional Well-Being	Life Cycles	Personal Relationships	Keeping Safe	Living in the Wider World	Cinema-in-Education
Year 7	Who Am I?	Changing Bodies	Healthy Inside and Out	Where We Come From	Family & Friends	My Life on Screen	Living in the Wider World	Facts of Life
Year 8	Created and Chosen	Appreciating Differences	Feelings	Before I Was Born	Tough Relationships	Think Before You Share	Wider World	The Trouble With Max
Year 9	The Search for Love	Love People, Use Things	In Control of My Choices	Fertility & Contraception	Marriage	One Hundred Percent	Knowing My Rights and Responsibilities	Love, Honour, Cherish
Year 10 & 11*	Authentic Freedom	Self-Image	Values, Attitudes & Beliefs	Parenthood (Personal Relationships)	Pregnancy & Abortion (Life Cycles)	Abuse	Solidarity	Babies(Y10 Truth & Lies Y11)

### **British Values & SMSC**

The British values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Respect, Tolerance, and Individual Liberty are both taught explicitly and implicitly through our curriculum and co-curriculum.

As part of our PSHE curriculum students will cover the following topics in Year 7, 8 and 9:

- **Welcoming and Inclusive School**
- **Challenging Stereotypes**
- **Difference and Diversity in the Community**
- **Impact of Prejudice & Discrimination**
- **Challenging Unfair Family & Cultural Expectations**
- **Extremism**
- **Promoting Inclusion**
- **LGBTQI+**
- **Illegal Employment & Modern-Day Slavery**

As part of our chosen RSE programme students will cover the following themes:

- **Created and Loved by God**
- **Created to love others**
- **Created to live in community**

### **A Values Based Curriculum**

Our curriculum is broad and balanced and ensures that (where appropriate) students are given a rich and diverse insight into how our school values, British values, and the students spiritual, moral, social and cultural education can be developed. Our PSHE across the curriculum audit helped us to see where the different themes were apparent.

### **Collective Worship & Tutorial**

Students at St Robert's enjoy weekly acts of collective worship which are underpinned by our school values. These acts of collective worship allow the students to pause and reflect upon their own spiritual, moral, social, and cultural education. Some of the themes covered are outlined below:

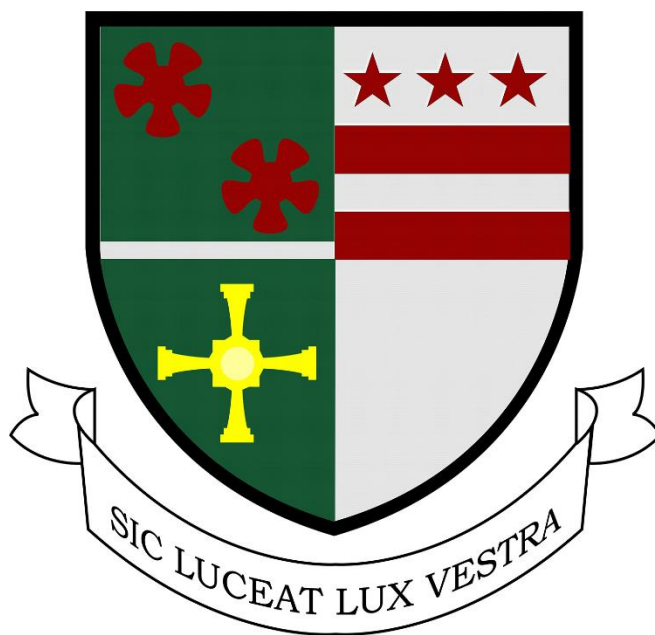
- **Environmental Stewardship**
- **Remembrance**
- **Social Justice (CAFOD & SVP)**
- **Holocaust Memorial**
- **Advent**
- **Lent**
- **Human Rights**
- **Celebrating Differences**
- **Achievement & Success**

### **LGBTQ+ Inclusivity Group**

Our Chaplain runs this group weekly, and it is currently aimed at pupils in Year 10 – Year 13. As a Catholic community we recognise that each individual member of our community is created in God's image with unique talents and abilities. This group has been set up to nurture each person through loving relationships and rich daily experiences centred on the teachings of Christ. The aim of the group is to affirm the dignity of each individual and our school values, in particular faith, respect, and integrity, underpin our communication to enable all members of our school community to 'Let their light shine'.

The group has been set up with the following intention:

- 1. To support young people on their journey**
- 2. To provide a comfortable and safe space for pupils in school**
- 3. To ensure that all pupils in St Robert's feel welcome**
- 4. To demonstrate the example of Jesus to our young people and help them make informed decisions**



# Co-Curriculum

## Co-Curricular Implementation

### **Chaplaincy Programme:**

Our Chapel and Chaplaincy Team are at the heart of the Catholic life of St Robert's. Staff and pupils with a wide range of skills and talents enhance the faith of our community. Our Chaplain offers opportunities and participation for all our pupils enabling them to grow in their spirituality, be confident in expressing their faith and demonstrate leadership in matters of social justice, environmental stewardship, and meaningful prayer & reflection. The breadth and depth of the Catholic life opportunities offered to our pupils is something we strive for each day to allow all members of the community to let their light shine.

### **Chaplaincy Co-Curriculum:**

- **Key Stage 4 Social Justice Group**
- **Key Stage 3 Chaplaincy Team**
- **6<sup>th</sup> Form Leadership (Pope John Paul II Award)**
- **Key Stage 3 CAFOD Group**
- **KS4 & KS5 Inclusivity Group**
- **Year 7 visit to Lindisfarne (Holy Island) in July**
- **Year 8 and 9 visit to the Emmaus Youth Village in Consett**
- **Years 9, 10 and 12 can attend the Diocesan Summer Festival at the Youth Village**
- **Year 11 enjoy a morning of celebration before they receive their 'Record of Achievement' at the Stadium of Light**
- **Y13 enjoy a 'Day of Celebration' to mark the end of their journey at the school**

### **Aspire Programme:**

The Aspire Programme works alongside departments to put in place initiatives to ensure students fulfil the aspirations and strive for excellence in their respective subjects. Whether this be through clubs which expand knowledge, intervention prior to examination or simply a guest speaker coming in to explain the career pathways available, every student at St Robert's will be given the opportunity to delve deeper into their areas of interest.

### **Aspire Co-Curriculum:**

- **Chess Club (KS3 led by School Librarian)**
- **cREate (Year 7 & 8 RE craft club)**
- **Book Club (KS3 led by School Librarian)**
- **Raspberry Pi (IT & Computing)**
- **KS4 intervention programme**
- **Photography Club**
- **Craft Club (Art Department)**

### **Community Programme:**

Through the community aspect of our Co-curricular syllabus, we hope to enlighten our student's knowledge and understanding, helping them plan their future career pathways as well as focus on their spiritual, moral, social and cultural education. Guest speakers, work experience, community projects, links to businesses and school initiatives, will help to improve their knowledge of our local community and the world around us.

### **Community Co-Curricular Programme:**

- **Personal Development Day (April)**
- **Guest speakers (most recently Hannah Anderson from Kyma Media Oct 2022)**
- **Parish Carol Concert (planned in conjunction with one of our feeder primaries)**
- **Duke of Edinburgh**
- **Christmas Coffee Morning**
- **Feast of St Robert celebration**
- **Anne Frank Trust Voices of Equality**
- **Holocaust Memorial Day preparation**
- **Remembrance Day preparation**
- **Lessons from Auschwitz**
- **Inter House Competition**
- **Mental Health & Wellbeing (The Prime Agency / He Knows She Knows)**
- **Anti-Bullying Group - Anti-Bullying Week Conference (Anne Frank Trust)**

### **Creative Programme:**

The Art, English, Drama and Music departments always offer our students the chance to excel. Whether it be music lessons, drawing, dance, sculpture, drama, school productions or concerts there is so much on offer throughout the year.

### **Creative Co-Curriculum:**

- **KS3 & KS4 Choir**
- **Drama Club**
- **Wind Band**
- **Rock School**
- **KS3 Creative Writing Club**

### **Active Programme:**

The Active programme is mainly coordinated through our PE department (Team St Roberts). Lunchtime drop-ins, after school clubs, schools' fixtures and national competitions all contribute to the activity programme within school. It has always been the St Robert's way to give every student the opportunity to represent their school and to enjoy the experience of playing alongside teammates and meeting new friends. Our clubs give students the chance to 'let their light Shine'.

- **Year 7-13 Badminton**
- **KS3 Inter-House Football**
- **Year 7-9 Boy's Rugby**
- **Year 7-13 Girl's Football**
- **Year 7-9 Cricket**
- **Year 7-13 Netball**
- **Year 7-13 Basketball We currently have teams in the following leagues:**
- **Boy's Football**
- **Girl's Football**
- **Netball**
- **Rugby**



- **Skiing**
- **Swimming**
- **Cross-Country**
- **Indoor Athletics**

Our Co-Curricular and Personal Development Programme is fluid and additional groups present themselves throughout the academic year. Students and parents/carers are made aware of the opportunities at the beginning of each term, and these are updated on the school website regularly.

Additional Co-Curriculum Support: St Robert's also provides opportunities to support the development of students through the following academic support:

- **National Tutoring Programme**
- **Guided Reading**
- **Phonics**
- **Times Tables**
- **Literacy Support**
- **Numeracy Support**
- **Handwriting Practice**
- **Comprehension and SPaG**
- **Homework Support**
- **Social Club**
- **Warhammer Club**
- **Lego Cl**

## School Council

### Year Group Student Council

St Robert's provides opportunity for students to be part of the school council. Each Year Group Council will meet once every half term. Meetings will take place during Friday morning registration.

Year Group	Dates of Meetings	Venue of Meetings
7	November – December	MFL Department
8	January – February	MFL Department
9	March – April	MFL Department
10	May – June	MFL Department
11	September – October	MFL Department

### Executive Student Council

Two nominated representatives from each Year Group Council will meet as an executive committee. Meetings will take place on Thursdays during period 3. Members of SLT or the Governing Body will be invited to attend these meetings.

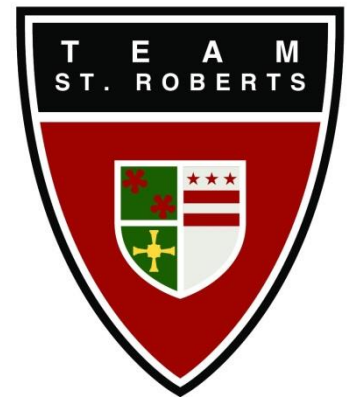
### School Council Meetings

- Mrs A Batey will supervise the meetings and act as a prompt where necessary. However, she will not chair the meetings. A Chair and Vice Chair for each year group will be elected at the first meeting for each year group council.
- Each meeting will have an agenda with specific themes for discussion. These themes will have been discussed during morning registration to ensure all students' voices are heard.
- One member from each meeting will produce minutes from that meeting (pupils will take their turn alphabetically). The minutes will be e-mailed to all members of the Year group, Mrs A Batey, Heads of House, Mrs K Gittens and Mr A McHale.

## Sport & Physical Activity

The PE Department, supported by staff across the school competitive teams in a variety of different sports:

- **Boys Football**
  - Every school year from 7-11 and an additional two teams in the Sixth Form
- **Girl's football**
  - Under 12, Under 14 and Under 19
- **Boys Rugby**
  - Year 7, 8 and 9
- **Girls Rugby**
  - Year 8 and 9
- **Boys' badminton**
  - Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4
- **Basketball**
  - Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4
- **Netball**
  - Every school year from 7-11 and an additional combined team from Year 12 and Year 13
- **Cross Country & Athletics**
  - All school years are represented



### School Trips and Visits

Departmental areas across the school, strive to enrich the school curriculum by providing a range of opportunities to develop student's understanding of key topics and focus areas. These include a range of single day and residential visits and trips to local, national, and international venues.

Some of the opportunities that we have offered pre-COVID, and we will look to reinstate:

- **Religious Education: Places of Worship and Academic Conference**
- **Religious Education: Candlelight Conferences – Peter Vardy Religion & Ethics**
- **Physical Education: School Ski Trip**
- **Physical Education: Derwent Hill Outdoor Pursuits**
- **Modern Foreign Languages: France / Spain**
- **Modern Foreign Languages & Religious Education: Synagogue Visit**
- **History: Berlin**
- **History: Battlefields**
- **Geography: GCSE & A Level Field Trips**
- **Science: Switzerland (CERN)**
- **Science: Iceland**
- **Chaplaincy: Holy Island & Emmaus Youth Village**
- **Sixth Form: University Visits**

### Student Leadership

In 2021 St Robert's launched its first application for student leadership across Year 7-11. The student response was overwhelming. The information below gives an overview of the application form.

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for expressing an interest in becoming a student leader at St Robert's. Should you be successful, this will allow you the opportunity to develop leadership skills, but more importantly to aid in the running of our school through performing duties. You will help ensure that our school values are promoted by all:

<b>Faith</b>	<b>A prayerful community rooted and guided by the teachings of Jesus</b>
<b>Respect</b>	<b>A diverse community, created in the image of God, whose members are treated with respect and dignity</b>
<b>Vocation</b>	<b>A hard-working community that helps people recognise their own unique purpose</b>
<b>Excellence</b>	<b>A dedicated community that strives for excellence in our learning and our conduct</b>
<b>Aspiration</b>	<b>A community built upon high expectations of ourselves and others</b>
<b>Integrity</b>	<b>A just community with a firm understanding of what is right that acts with honesty and kindness</b>

You will be expected to take a leadership role in some of the following areas (please note these activities may depend on the role itself)

- 1. Represent the school at various events such as parents' evenings, open evenings, and awards events**
- 2. Attend (at least one) Senior Leadership Team Meeting**
- 3. Help to produce articles for the school ethos magazine**
- 4. Support the Heads of House with Assemblies and other events that contribute to the school**
- 5. Be a positive role model to all within the community**

Additional duties may also be added after negotiation.

Thank you and good luck with your application

**Mr Davis**

**Assistant Head Teacher**

Please indicate the position you are applying for:

<b>Name:</b>		<b>House Captain</b>	
<b>Year Group and Tutor Group:</b>		<b>Form Captain</b>	

Important	Desirable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide a positive role model</li> <li>▪ Wear full school uniform</li> <li>▪ Contributes to school's extra-curricular activities</li> <li>▪ Willing to contribute to school events</li> <li>▪ Actively promotes the values of the school</li> <li>▪ Promote the name of the school within the wider community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Helped organise / run events</li> <li>▪ Strong contribution to school's extra-curricular activities</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Able to work as part of a team</li> <li>▪ Warmth and openness</li> <li>▪ Positive relationship with staff</li> <li>▪ Show respect for peers and staff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Experience as part of a team</li> <li>▪ Empathy with younger pupils</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Good record of achieving coursework deadlines</li> <li>▪ Able to cope with demands of school course and Head Boy duties</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Organised</li> <li>▪ Motivated</li> <li>▪ Good time-management</li> <li>▪ Punctual</li> <li>▪ Caring</li> <li>▪ Reliable</li> <li>▪ Offers to help</li> <li>▪ Positive</li> <li>▪ Sees solutions, not problems</li> <li>▪ Demonstrate initiative</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Shown good leadership skills</li> <li>▪ Confident</li> <li>▪ Experience of public speaking</li> <li>▪ Wide range of interests</li> <li>▪ Proactive</li> </ul>

## Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

Students in Year 10 are invited to work toward the 'Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award'. The award is comprised of four sections:



### **1. Volunteering**

Carried out for approximately 1 hour per week continuously for 3 months. This section is designed to promote independence in the participant and allow them to help in the community. Usual volunteering activities include helping at Brownies/Cubs group, working in a charity shop, litter picking/beach clean. The work that the participant undertakes must not take the form of a role that would usually be paid, nor can they receive payment themselves.

### **2. Physical**

Carried out for approximately 1 hour per week continuously for 3 months. Any physical activity, either team based or individual. It can be an existing activity, or the participant can start a new one.

### **3. Skills**

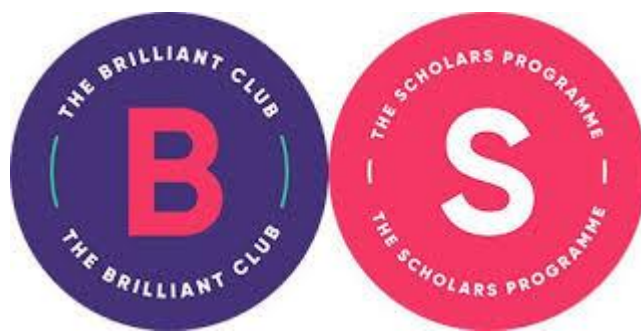
Carried out for approximately 1 hour per week continuously for 3 months. The participant can develop an existing skill, such as playing a musical instrument, or learn a new skill. The skill cannot be sport based unless it is umpiring/refereeing.

### **4. Expedition**

The fourth section of the Award is the expedition. At Bronze this takes the form of a two-day, one night walking expedition, assessed by an assessor. We will be carrying out training sessions on a Wednesday afterschool for an hour. We also run a practice expedition to help prepare the participants for the Qualifying expedition.

### The Scholars Programme

Students in Year 9 and Year 12 are invited to take part in 'The Scholars Programme' ran by 'The Brilliant Club'. The Brilliant Club works with schools and universities across the UK. They mobilise the PHD community to support students who are less advantaged to access the most competitive universities and succeed when they get there.



In 2022 we are delivering 3 placements of the Scholar's Programme run by Brilliant Club at St Robert's. Students study a supra-curricular (an area outside of their normal curriculum) taught by a leading PHD student within the field. We have 2 placements of Y12 students and 1 placement of Y9s completing the programme. Students will complete a 2000-word final assignment and their work will be graded using the university system (1<sup>st</sup>, 2:1). The best work may even be published!

Placement 1:  <b>Topic:</b> <b>Photochemical smog and the effects of air pollution</b>	Y12 STEM students
Placement 2:  <b>Topic:</b> <b>Countering Counterfeits</b>	Y12 Humanities students
Placement 3:  <b>Topic:</b> <b>Primitivism in the Ancient World</b>	Y9 students



### KS4 intervention

GCSE students are supported in their studies by a comprehensive intervention programme run by subject departments. All intervention is centrally tracked to ensure that there is good distribution of students who are selected across all departments and to monitor the impact of the sessions.

The intervention listed below is generally held over 5-7 weeks with teachers assessing the progress of the students in an informal way at the end. To ensure that students are supported and not over-loaded, most will only be invited to one or two nights of intervention within each round.

#### **Year 10:**

Within Year 10 intervention is mostly focused around in-class interventions. Teachers will intervene within their lesson time to ensure that concepts and substantive knowledge is secured. Any gaps within learning and misconceptions are corrected through lunchtime intervention sessions run by class teachers when necessary

#### **Year 11:**

Four rounds of formal after school intervention are held across the year

#### **Round 1:**

Autumn Term: Students work with teacher in small groups to target, practice and correct misconceptions and important exam skills

#### **Round 2:**

Spring Term: This round of intervention is linked to Year 11 practice examinations and the groups are selected based on student performance in these assessments.

#### **Round 3:**

Spring Term: Tutorial Intervention: During one half term, selected students work with the Subject Leaders of English, Maths and Science. This is an intensive in-school intervention designed to have a substantial impact on the core subjects

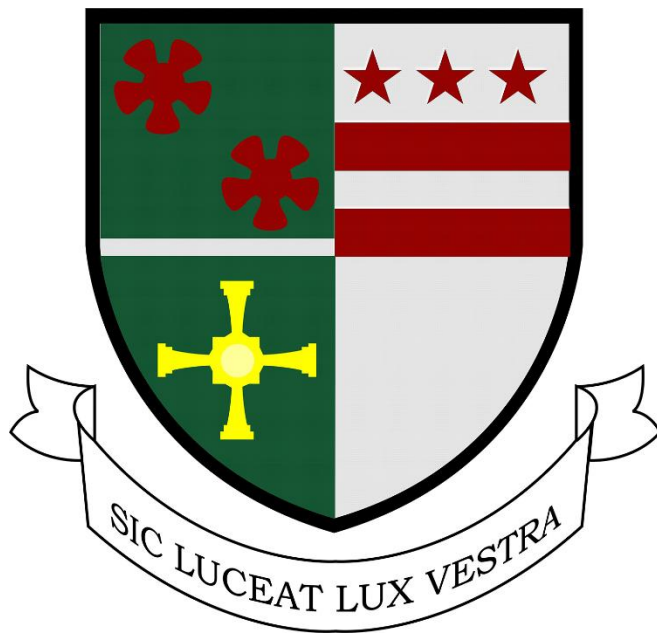
#### **Round 4:**

Summer Term: A final round of intervention runs up until the formal exams begin in May. This round of intervention targets and final misconceptions and is often used to consolidate exam skills

### **Activities Week**

The final week of the summer term is an activities week for our Key Stage 3 Pupils. The week begins with 'Sports Day' where pupils compete in a variety of different activities to win points for their 'House'. The remainder of the week is dedicated to some of the activities listed below:

- **Science trip to the Centre for Life**
- **History trip to Beamish Museum**
- **National Theatre Performance and Workshops in conjunction with the English Department**
- **Geography trip to Edinburgh**
- **Physical Education trip to Sunderland Climbing Wall**
- **MFL tip to Newcastle**
- **Health & Social First Aid session**
- **Psychology and Law carousel**
- **Islam Q&A led by a representative from Newcastle Central Mosque**
- **Sikhism Q&A led by a representative from the Northeast Sikh Service**
- **Environmental Stewardship supported from 'Go Green Wash**



# **Careers Education, Information & Guidance**

### Our Vision

To ensure all students are supported to make informed decisions on their career choices and are provided with the opportunity to develop their employability skills to become responsible and employable members of society. We provide students with the knowledge to make career decisions based on their ability, aspirations and market needs in an increasingly competitive and ever-changing world.

### Our Philosophy

At St Robert of Newminster School our Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) programme is an integral part of the preparation of students for the opportunities and experiences of adult life. Its central concern is equipping pupils to manage the choices, changes and transitions affecting their future education, training, employment, and life as adult members of society.

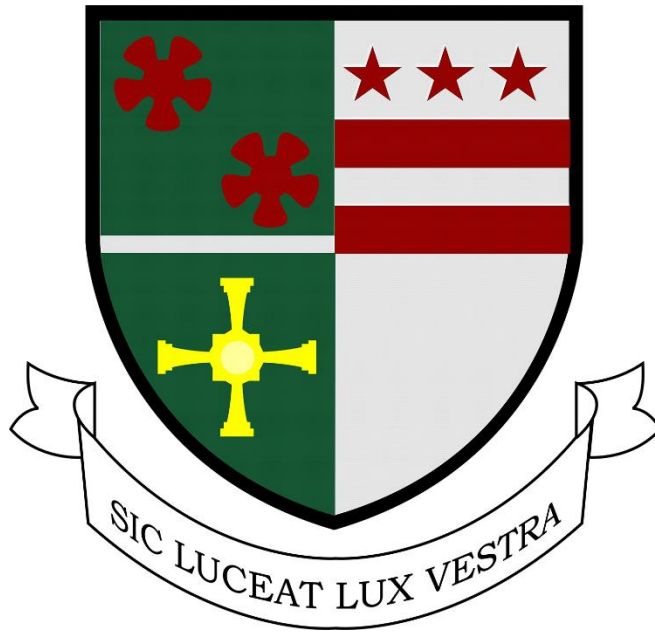
### Gatsby Benchmarks

At St Robert's we believe that careers guidance is a progressive journey. Our careers programme is structured to support students throughout their time in school. We aim to ensure all students receive the relevant careers information, advice and guidance that is suitable for their age and ability through the implementation of the Eight Gatsby Career Benchmarks, written by Sir John Holman, a former Headteacher and founder of the National STEM Learning Centre.

#### The 8 Gatsby Benchmarks are:

1. A stable career programme
2. Learning from careers and labour market information
3. Addressing the needs of each student
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experiences of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance

	MORNING REG LESSONS THURS P3 Tutorial	Monday 7th March	Tuesday 8th March	Wednesday 9th March	Thursday 10th March	Friday 11th March
National Careers Week 2022		<a href="#">Introduction - NCW</a> <b>Year 7</b> <b>Year 8</b> <b>Year 9</b> <a href="#">HOPE</a> <a href="#">RBS – Home Video (Vimeo Version)</a> Starter / Main / Plenary	<a href="#">Life as a Nurse</a> <a href="#">Life as a Paramedic</a> <a href="#">Life as a Podiatrist</a> <a href="#">Life as a HC Support Worker</a> Starter / Main / Plenary	<a href="#">1 - Nick Bright's Story</a> <a href="#">2 - Concept Artist</a> Starter / Main / Plenary	<a href="#">1 - Isaac's Story</a> <a href="#">2 - Drama Facilitator</a> Starter / Main / Plenary <a href="#">Year 7 – Aiming High - Workbook</a> <a href="#">Year 8 – Problem Solving Workbook</a> Year 9 – Governor's Carousel	<a href="#">Meet HALVARD</a> <a href="#">Meet OLIVIA</a> <a href="#">Meet ALA</a> Starter / Main / Plenary
		<a href="#">Introduction - NCW</a> <b>Year 10</b> <b>Year 11</b> <a href="#">HOPE</a> <a href="#">Engineering Pathways (Scroll down)</a> Starter / Main / Plenary	<a href="#">Arvin's Story</a> <a href="#">Catherine's Story</a> Starter / Main / Plenary	<a href="#">Virtual Careers Fair</a> Starter / Main / Plenary	<a href="#">Apprentices at Airbus</a> Starter / Main / Plenary <a href="#">Training/Apprenticeship Providers</a>	<a href="#">Careers at Sea</a> Starter / Main / Plenary
		<a href="#">Introduction - NCW</a> <b>Year 12</b> <b>Year 13</b> <a href="#">Astro Biologist</a> Starter / Main / Plenary	<a href="#">Working in Logistics</a> Starter / Main / Plenary	<a href="#">Engineering Pathways (Scroll down)</a> Starter / Main / Plenary	<a href="#">Virtual Careers Fair</a> Starter / Main / Plenary <a href="#">Training/Apprenticeship Providers</a> Year 12 & Year 13 Assembly	<a href="#">Orthodontist</a> Starter / Main / Plenary <a href="#">LMI Information</a>



# **Safeguarding & Personal Development**

St Robert of Newminster Catholic  
School & Sixth Form College  
Safeguarding Team 2022 - 2023

**Mrs J Bowen**

**Designated Safeguarding Lead**

Deputy Head Teacher  
Office: Reception



**Mr D Bayne**

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead  
Head of Sixth Form  
Office: Sixth Form Classroom: RE Pod



**Mrs R Hurst**

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead  
SENDCO  
Office: SEN Corridor Classroom: RE



**Ms K Gittins**

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead  
Head of Transition  
Office: PE Dept Classroom: PE Dept



**Miss B Salmon**

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead  
Head of Yr13  
Office: Sixth Form Classroom: RE Pod



**Mr A McHale**

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead  
Senior Assistant Head Teacher  
Office: Music Pod Classroom: History Pod



**Mrs J Sykes**

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead  
Head of Yr12  
Office: Sixth Form Classroom: Maths



**Mrs S Chappell**

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead  
Head of Geography  
Office: Geography Classroom: Geography



## PSHE & RSE at Home / Safeguarding / School Values

On top of trained staff delivering high-quality resources, our PSHE programme will also ensure that parents can support their children in their personal development journey. Likewise, we will ensure that safeguarding is prioritised, and all students are aware of who they can speak to.

### **Our PSHE & RSE @home scheme:**

We believe that parents are the first educators of their children, and we feel it is key to involve them in the learning process for PSHE and RSE. In 2022 we will be launching our updated PSHE and RSE resources and sharing these with parents in advance of the students receiving the lessons. This is to help initiate discussion about what has been taught in school.

### **Contextual Safeguarding**

Alongside the PSHE and RSE curriculum, students will also receive lessons and assemblies based on contextual Safeguarding issues. These lessons and/or assemblies will focus on local issues in Washington & Sunderland. These lessons/assemblies are planned in conjunction with our Designated Safeguarding Lead who works with external safeguarding authorities and the Police in the planning process.

### **Safeguarding Slide**

At the start of each PSHE and RSE lesson, Form Tutors will refer to the safeguarding slide which contains information about who to go to/what to do if a student has a concern about anything that may have been raised in the lesson. This helps to foster a safe environment for discussion and debate and reminds students about the support that is in place.

### **School Values**

Our school values will be shared within our PSHE & RSE lessons. The values underpin our expectations of student learning and conduct.

					
A prayerful community rooted and guided by the teachings of Jesus	A diverse community, created in the image of God, whose members are treated with respect and dignity	A hard working community that helps people recognise their own unique purpose	A dedicated community that strives for excellence in our learning and our conduct	A community built upon high expectations of ourselves and others	A just community with a firm understanding of what is right that acts with honesty and kindness
"Holiness doesn't mean doing extraordinary things, but doing ordinary things with love and faith."	"Treat people the same way you want them to treat you."	"Let us seek to live in a way that is always worthy of our Christian vocation"	"Dear young people do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! Do not be afraid to dream of great things!"	"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works"	"Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth"
<i>Pope Francis</i>	<i>Luke 6:31</i>	<i>Pope Francis</i>	<i>Pope Francis</i>	<i>Matthew 5:16</i>	<i>1 John 3:18</i>

## Personal Development Day

Each year in April, Year 7-10 students take part in a drop-down personal development day. The day is predominantly led by pastoral tutors, Heads of House, and the Senior Leadership team. The day aims to address:

- **Spiritual, moral, social, and cultural education**
- **Mental Health & Well-Being**
- **Diversity**
- **British Values**
- **Citizenship**

Personal Development Day 2023 will consist of:

1. **Relationships & Sex Education: Cinema in Education and Follow Up Lessons**
2. **Contextual Safeguarding – Personal Safety & Knife Crime**
3. **The Mizen Family: Knife Crime & The Forgiveness Project**
4. **Prime Agency: Mental Health & Body Image**
5. **UK Parliament**
6. **Smashed: Alcohol Awareness**



# The Prime Agency



St Robert's is a link school for the 'Anne Frank Trust'. In partnership with the trust, we offer students (often specifically chosen cohorts) the opportunity to take part in workshops led by experienced facilitators on issues such as homophobia, racism and gender discrimination.



Our link to the 'Anne Frank Trust' was closely aligned to the work of our DSL and our approach to 'Prevent'. Our catchment area has seen a notable increase in cases of hate speech, homophobia and far right extremism. We hope that by involving students in these workshops will help to challenge the prejudice and discrimination that our young people may be subjected to.

### What is the 'Anne Frank Trust'?

Using Anne Frank's life and diary as a starting point, we empower young people with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to challenge all forms of prejudice and discrimination. In doing so, we partner with schools, local authorities, the criminal justice sector, and others to deliver educational programmes alongside acclaimed exhibitions to young people in a variety of settings.

As a link school we will run core programmes led by the Anne Frank Trust as well as their workshops covering a range of anti-discrimination topics.

**Winter term 1: Anne Frank Exhibition:** St Roberts will host the Anne Frank exhibition with Y9 students trained as guides. The guides will then run the exhibition as students, parents and the local community visit and are educated about the life and impact of Anne Frank and her family

**Winter term 2: Workshop Programme: Anti-Racism.** All Y8 students will receive a workshop relating to racism and racist behaviour. They will be empowered to examine their own behaviour and use of language as well how we can make our school more inclusive and freer from discrimination

**Spring term 1: Voices of Equality:** Y7 students will be involved in this 2-day programme in which students will look at how different forms of discrimination affect people in Britain today. In the second day of the programme, students will produce assemblies and leaflets to educate the wider school on these themes.

**Spring term 2: Workshop programme: Gender equality and homophobia.** All Y9 students will receive a workshop relating to gender equality and homophobia.

**Volunteer Equality Ambassadors:** Year 12 and Year 13 students of History, Sociology and Politics have volunteered to become equality ambassadors. They will support the delivery of the sessions and will continue to promote the work of the Anne Frank Trust across the year

93%

of young people surveyed progress in their attitudes towards at least one group of people different from themselves

71%

of young people make significant progress in knowledge about prejudice and the harm it can cause.

67%

of young people maintain their improved attitudes 18 months to 2 years after completing the programme.

## Contextual Safeguarding

St Robert's employs the services of Clennell Education Solutions. They support the designated safeguard lead in the implementation of our safeguarding structures as well as the support in the delivery of staff training and sessions for pupils.



As part of our ongoing priority to ensure that we keep children safe in education, staff have had up to date and relevant training on contextual safeguarding related to Washington, Sunderland and the Northeast of England. The information below outlines how we cover these contextual safeguarding issues using our most recent focus on sexualised behaviours:

### Sexualised Behaviours

- **RSE & PSHE Curriculum**
  - **Abusive behaviour and bullying**
  - **Women's Safety**
  - **Consent**
  - **Addressing misconceptions**
  - **The law on sexual harassment**
- **Special Assemblies led by the Safeguarding Team**
- **Poster Campaign**
- **Personal Development Day – tutors delivering 90-minute lessons on sexual harassment**
- **Student questionnaires to support the safeguarding team in how we can tackle instances of improper sexualised behaviour**

Other areas of contextual safeguarding in our area:

- **Prevent**
- **Protected Characteristics**
- **Online Media & Grooming**
- **Bullying**
- **Tobacco, Vaping & Cannabis**
- **County Lines**
- **Knife Crime**

## St Robert's School Prayer

Dear Lord,

We gather today as a **community** of **faith** and ask the Lord to instil in us an eagerness to learn so we can strive for **excellence**.

May St Robert's example be in our words and actions so that we treat others with dignity and **respect**.

We pray that as we learn, we **aspire** to become better than we were yesterday.

As your **light shines** through us, help us become who you **call** us to be.

Enable us to act with **honesty** and **kindness** welcoming all with **love**.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen

