



# English Martyrs' Catholic School

MAY THEY ALL BE ONE

*Pupils enjoy coming  
to the school.*

OFSTED

# A Warm Welcome

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As our students will tell you, English Martyrs' is a wonderful school.

We are proud of our strong academic tradition, our rich, broad and varied curriculum - in and out of class - and our students' outstanding achievement leading to university studies, modern apprenticeships and a wide range of careers.

In this community, we cherish each unique individual, created in God's image, and we strive to meet everyone's distinctive needs, seeking to bring out the best in everyone.

Our school has amazing facilities particularly for the performing arts and sports. We have a splendid library and a beautiful school chapel.

At English Martyrs' we are well known for our tremendous community spirit. We are a very inclusive and supportive school where students enjoy the freedom and space to develop their own talents and help others to succeed. Each day we strive to build the true atmosphere of the Christian family, living out our school motto: 'May they all be One'. (John 17).

I hope that you enjoy this prospectus, which offers a brief insight into our work. We look forward to welcoming you on a visit to meet our staff and students.

**M Calen**  
Principal







# Spiritual Life

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Everything we do is part of our spiritual life.

We seek to recognise God in everything, through our learning and in all our words and actions. We pray together each morning at assembly or in our form groups. We also hold whole-school special celebrations of Mass to mark important feast days or events. Voluntary Mass is celebrated in the school chapel of The Holy Family on Friday mornings.

Students play a leading role in the liturgy by reading, serving, making music and as Eucharistic Ministers. Retreats are held for each year group.



## School Prayer

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Lord Jesus Christ,  
make me a better person;  
considerate towards others, honest with myself,  
faithful to you.  
Help me to find my true vocation in life,  
and so to find happiness myself  
and bring happiness to others. Amen

*Pupils appreciate the caring, positive relationships that exist between staff and pupils and, as a result, the school is a harmonious environment for learning. One pupil told inspectors, 'You feel safe to be who you want to be'.*



## Breadth of Opportunity

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Our curriculum is broad, balanced and allows for wide-ranging options and specialism in Key Stages 4 and 5, meeting the needs of all learners.

This breadth of opportunity aligns closely with our Catholic school vision. We believe passionately in the academic value brought by students studying four subjects in Year 12 and EPQ. We believe this supports excellent academic outcomes, rather than by merely focusing on narrow examination content. We nurture excellence by focusing on the individual.

Sixth Form students undertake in-depth learning, building on their talents and strengths, to enable them to pursue further study or chosen employment. The majority of Sixth Form students take up university courses in a wide range of subjects.

Studies are carefully directed and closely monitored. Students are given a great deal of independence and expected to develop good autonomous study habits, which are essential to success.

*Achievement in the Sixth Form is outstanding.*

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# Academic Rigour

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Academic rigour is central to our curriculum.

Students are challenged by a curriculum that expects them to go deeper and beyond the National Curriculum. Subjects we offer are rigorous academic disciplines providing powerful knowledge and cultural capital for all students regardless of background.

*Pupils also said they appreciate the challenge they experience in lessons.*

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# Student-centred

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Our student-centred curriculum seeks to meet the needs of our diverse community.

This is about knowing, valuing and supporting our students as unique learners. For example, this is reflected in the support programme for students' options choices at KS4 and KS5.

Leadership and individual development opportunities are offered throughout the school as we seek to support our students to develop into compassionate, resilient and responsible young people. There are opportunities to help younger students with their learning as mentors and Aspire Champions and to get involved in music, drama and sporting activities both as participants and leaders.

Our Senior Student Leadership Team act as role models for younger students and we are proud of the spirit of collaboration and care which characterise our school community.

*Parents are very positive about the school.*

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# Holistic Education

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Co-curricular activities are integral to a holistic education.

After school, English Martyrs' buzzes with activity, allowing students to be creative, perform, play sport and be active. We also provide extensive development pathways through aesthetic, creative, social, linguistic and literary, mathematical, sporting, scientific, spiritual and technological activities, as well as trips and residential experiences.

We understand that engagement in the Performing Arts helps students to develop self-confidence – so important in all spheres of life. To this end, everyone studies Art, Dance, Drama and Music. The school has a very active musical life and students are encouraged to join our Choir, the Schola Cantorum (Chamber Choir), the Orchestra and other ensembles which give several concerts every year and lead music for the school liturgies.

Our rich and varied sporting life allows students to play a number of team sports such as badminton, basketball, boys' and girls' football, dodgeball, hockey, cricket, netball, rounders, rugby and table tennis. Every student has a weekly Physical Education lesson, and additionally, through the options programme, some students take Sports Studies in Key Stage 4 and in the Sixth Form.

The Houses of the school compete against each other in a number of different sports, culminating in Sports Day, held each year in July at the Saffron Lane Stadium. Teams and individuals from English Martyrs' regularly take part in sporting competitions at regional and national level, frequently with great success.



*The school is a cohesive and inclusive community in which pupils are respectful of each other. They are polite, courteous and conduct themselves around the school with maturity.*

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# English Martyrs' Catholic School

MAY THEY ALL BE ONE

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