

SCHOOL OVERVIEW

Welcome to St Peter's Catholic Voluntary Academy Prospectus. We hope you find all the answers to your queries within but, if you do not find everything that you are looking for, please do not hesitate to contact school via the telephone or email at any time. We will be pleased to answer any queries that you may have.

St Peter's Catholic Voluntary Academy is a smaller than average, 11 – 16 mixed V.A. Academy primarily serving the Teesside communities of South Bank, Eston and Grangetown. The school gained Academy status in April 2014 following the rescinding of a notice to close the former St Peter's Catholic College. The school is now part of St Oswald's Catholic Academy Trust, working in partnership with three local Catholic primary schools.

We are extremely proud of our school and the achievements of our teachers and students.

We have had a Pupil Premium Review and received an excellent report that complimented how we utilise pupil premium money highly effectively to facilitate our students being able to make good progress in all aspects of the curriculum.

School had a Section 48 Inspection on 28 & 29 April 2015

Overall Grade: **One: Outstanding**

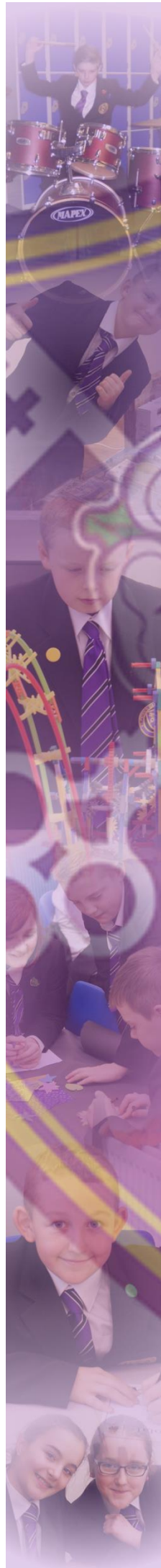
“St Peter's is an outstanding school. Witness to Catholic Life and tradition permeate the whole school and Catholic ethos is clearly evident in the relationships between all stakeholders. Students are proud of their school and readily involve themselves in the many opportunities for supporting others through work, prayer and example.

Standards in RE have improved year on year for the past 3 years and projected achievement for 2015 indicates further improvement. The progress of disadvantaged pupils in RE is equal to and in some cases exceeds that of their peers.

Leaders and managers at all levels are highly effective in managing and developing the Catholic life of the school including provision for religious education.

The school self-evaluation accurately positions the school on its journey and clearly sets out its strengths and areas for development.”

“Students involve themselves in a range of extra-curricular activities which support others less fortunate than themselves. This includes outreach work in the community and within local churches. Some examples of this include substantial support for CAFOD, supporting a local hospice, regular visits to a local care home, collecting for local food banks and participation in a ‘sleep



out' event organised by Teesside Philanthropic Society to raise awareness and money to support families facing homelessness. A parishioner commented that pupils are always willing to come forward and help in any way they can in parish events and other community projects, for example, the Catholic Holiday Fellowship”

“Parents and parishioners talk very positively about the school’s Catholic mission and in particular how every pupil is supported in their overall development. Parents appreciate the many quality opportunities provided by the school to support their children’s spiritual development and see the school as a very caring community.

Excellent relationships have been nurtured between school and local parishes, where mutual support provides further opportunities for pupils to develop spiritual and morally.”

“For the past 3 years there has been successive improvement in standards for RE. In 2014 the percentage of pupils attaining grades A - C, at 73% exceeded the national figure.”*

“Marking of pupil work and effectiveness of both written and oral feedback is of a high quality. Pupils clearly take a pride in their work and all work scrutinized demonstrated consistently high quality presentation. Achievement and effort are celebrated and pupils know their current and projected grades/levels and frequent targeted assessments ensure they know how well they are progressing to reaching these targets.”

“Through the schools well designed recording and tracking system, pupil’s attainment and progress are monitored at half-termly intervals. The RE department carefully analyses this frequent data and is very adept at monitoring pupil’s progress on an individual basis introducing interventions to support learning as necessary. This approach is applied effectively in KS3 where pupils enter RE with prior attainment below and sometimes significantly below national averages but make steady improvement through the key stage with progressive increases in the percentage of pupils on or above target year on year.”

“The schools leaders, managers and governors are unequivocally committed to their work and witness, ensuring that the Catholic Mission of the school is their fundamental priority together with the spiritual and moral development of pupils. They ensure that the provision of the Catholic life of the school permeates every aspect of school life on a daily basis. Leaders and managers are excellent role models providing leadership and guidance at all levels.

Leaders ensure that parents know what is going on at school and how their children are progressing through regular communication, as well as information on the school’s web site. The school seeks regular feedback from



parents following all parent evenings. The views of parents, pupils and staff are important to the school and frequent questionnaires ensure that leaders are aware of any concerns or where improvements can be made.”

“All new staff to the school are provided with induction training with respect to working in a Catholic school. All staff are confident they can call on leaders and managers for support when necessary.”

“For all aspects of religious education, Catholic life and collective worship, as well as formal monitoring, the day to day business and strategic direction are communicated and discussed through frequent and well-focused leadership team briefings and morning staff briefings. This is complemented by the very important informal information sharing and updating by school staff with each other throughout the day.”

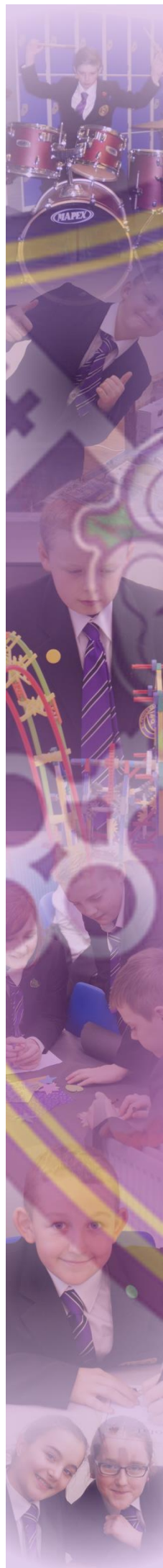
“The governing body carries out its statutory and canonical responsibilities with skill and commitment and is fully involved in decision making to steer strategic direction and in evaluation of school policies. They are very well informed of the very large majority of provision for each of the key religious aspects of their remit”

“The Catholic ethos is so clearly embedded in every aspect of the school – you can’t just see it you can feel it”.

Both the Pupil Premium Report and the Section 48 Inspection Report are published on our website.

Examination results will show an upward trajectory this summer across the full curriculum.

If you would like to see our school in action, please ring to book an appointment during the day.



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Our school strives to promote the spiritual, physical and emotional development of young people within a Catholic community, whilst empowering them to become independent learners within the framework of traditional, current and future technologies.

'Christ be our Light' is the adopted statement of our Academy partnership, which consists of St Peter's Catholic Voluntary Academy, St Gabriel's Catholic Voluntary Primary Academy, St Margaret Clitherow's Catholic Voluntary Primary Academy and St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Primary Academy, and together we are St Oswald's Catholic Academy Trust.

HOME/SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

An application for a place at our school is based on the clear acceptance of the importance of the Catholic faith to the life of our school. We expect all parents and students to support and respect Catholic teachings and all students to play a full part in the spiritual and religious life of the school.

As a school we aim to:

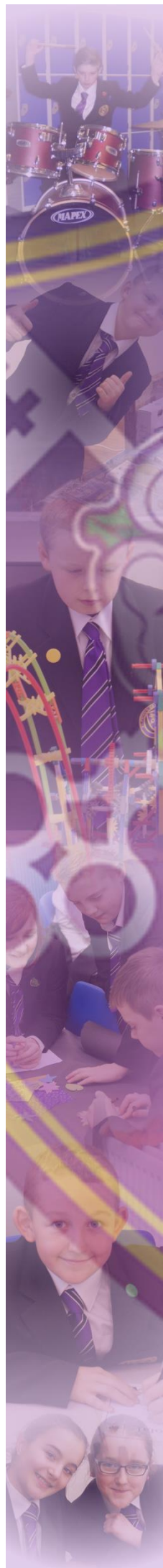
- Nurture the spiritual growth of each child
- Encourage excellence in all aspects of your child's education
- Provide a happy learning environment for your child
- Develop each student's talents and potential to the full
- Prepare students for the responsibilities of adult life

As a student at St Peter's we expect you to:

- Maintain an excellent punctuality and attendance record
- Wear our school uniform with pride
- Work to the best of your ability at all times
- Respect all members of the school community
- Abide by the rules of the school at all times

As a parent, we want you to:

- Ensure your child arrives at school in correct uniform
- Support the School Behaviour Policy
- Attend Review Days/Parents' Evenings
- Contact us at the first opportunity if you have any concerns
- Encourage your child to take advantage of the educational opportunities offered by the school



UNIFORM

Students **MUST** wear:

- Black blazer with school badge
- Black school trousers/black skirt (length just above or on the knee NO leggings/jegging/slim leg type trousers)
- White shirt
- School tie
- Black jumper with school badge (optional)
- Black shoes (no coloured markings)

Pupils must **NOT** wear the following:

- Trainers
- Make-up/fake tan
- Extreme hair colour/cuts (including tram lines)
- Baseball caps
- Jewellery – plain ear studs are allowed and a watch

Pupils are permitted to carry mobile phones with them to and from school but they **must be switched off and placed in lockers all day.**

MP3 players etc or head phones are NOT permitted.

Blazers with badges can be ordered through school.

School badges can be purchased from Ross' to be attached to plain black blazers if not ordering through school.

Black school jumpers with badges can be ordered through school

Ties can be purchased from Ross'

Trousers and shirts can be purchased at any clothing store. Please beware – tight leg trousers and extra short skirts are **NOT** permitted.

PE UNIFORM

- Purple polo shirt with logo
- Black shorts and socks
- Black hoody with logo
- Black joggers
- Trainers
- Football boots/shin pads for football and rugby.

Purple polo shirts with badges and black hoodies with badges can be purchased through Motif8.

Plain or other shirts/hoodies with commercial logos are **NOT** allowed



TIMINGS OF THE SCHOOL DAY

08.40 – 09.00	Tutor Group
09.00 – 10.00	Period 1
10.00 – 11.00	Period 2
11.00 – 11.25	Break 1
11.25 – 12.25	Period 3
12.25 – 12.50	Break 2
12.50 - 13.50	Period 4
13.50 - 14.50	Period 5
14.50 – 15.40	Period 6 - Year 11 students (Monday to Thursday)

(Period 6 is a compulsory lesson for Y11 only, timetabled to facilitate ongoing coursework and revision for all subjects)

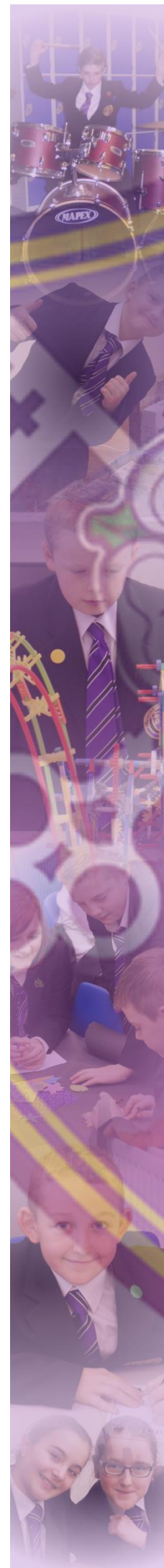
On a Monday, Week B, Y7, 8, 9 & 10 students finish at 13.50 to allow for staff training. Y11 students will finish at 14.40pm on that day

After School

There are various enrichment activities/clubs: sports, cooking, drama, homework, revision classes etc.

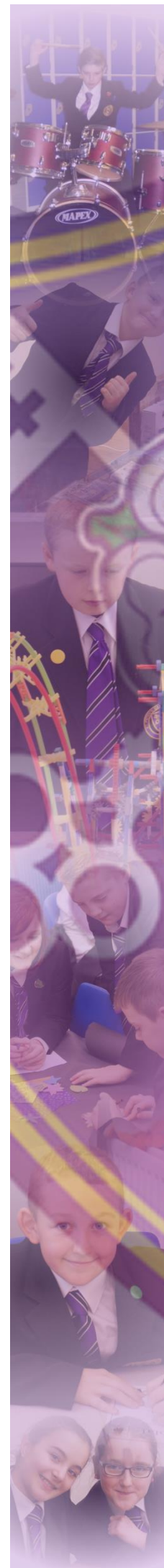
Please encourage your child to attend

Please note that the Academy may change some of these timings if necessary but everyone will be kept fully informed.



YEAR 7 CURRICULUM ALLOCATION

Subject	Number of lessons per fortnight
English	7
Maths	7
Science	6
Religious Education	5
Humanities (Geography and History)	3/3
Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)	4
Physical Education	3
Food Technology	2
Product Design	2
Art	2
Music	2
ICT	3
Personal Social Health Education	This is delivered through half day sessions during the course of the year.



EXTENDED LEARNING/HOMEWORK

Learning to work independently and manage deadlines are really important skills which prepare a student for the world of work. Therefore, most subjects set extended learning/homework tasks. Sometimes, students will get long term project assignments over a half term period.

Details of the extended learning/homework assignment must be recorded in the school planner. We ask parents to be diligent in discussing this work with their child and in signing their planner every week.

REPORTS

We want to keep you fully involved with your child's progress at St Peter's. Each half term you will receive effort and/or progress checks for your child indicating their performance to date. At the end of the school year you will be issued with a Full School Report which provides considerable detail on your child's progress and achievement.

REVIEW DAYS/PARENT CONSULTATIONS

You will be invited to attend two Review Days/Parent Consultations during the year. On these occasions, you can make an appointment to speak to your child's subject teachers to discuss your child's report.

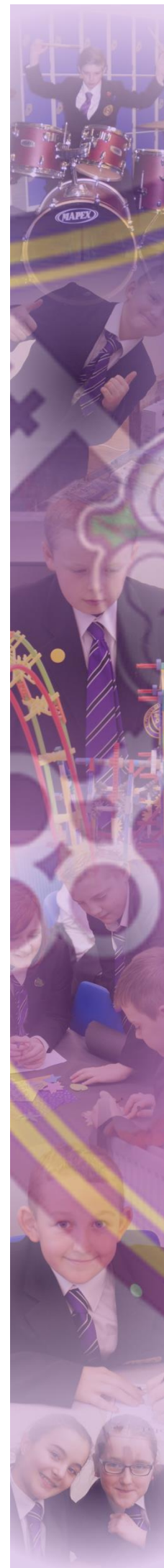
HOLIDAYS

In line with DfE Guidance, we ask that you DO NOT arrange family holidays during term time as school absence can affect your child's academic attainment.

If you wish to do so, an application form must be completed and handed in to your child's Head of House **prior** to you taking your child out of school for a holiday. Applications are only approved in **EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES** by the Head of House and Headteacher. The Headteacher's decision is final. **This is in line with Government directives.**

A fine may be imposed by Redcar & Cleveland Authority if a child goes on holiday without approval.

Holidays during term time for Year 10 and Year 11 will **not** be authorised.



PASTORAL SYSTEM

Pastoral care at St Peter's is organised through a House system and vertical tutoring. Your child will belong to one of four House Groups, led by a Head of House and supported by an Assistant Head of House. The Head of House oversees attendance, punctuality, academic progress and behaviour.

Your child will be placed into a Tutor Group where they will register every morning. The group consists of students from all year groups. This has several advantages including:

- Older students can mentor and support the younger students.
- Tutors can give personalised support to students at key points in their school career, such as choosing options (Year 8) and college applications (Year 11).
- The group can get involved in team building exercises and inter-house challenges.

TUTOR TIME PROGRAMME

House assemblies take place once a week.

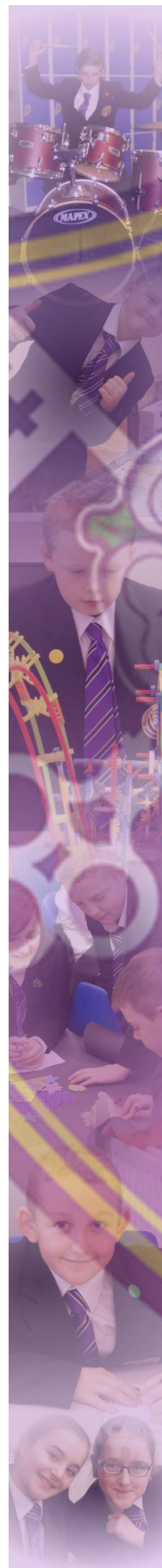
During Tutor Time, students are involved in several activities. One morning a week is dedicated to the following aspects of learning:

- Spiritual Development (reflecting upon a particular religious or moral theme).
- News (a look at current world events/news).
- Paired Reading/Literacy/Numeracy
- Pastoral (working on issues such as anti-bullying or anti-smoking)

READY TO LEARN

Every morning, Tutors will check whether students are 'Ready to Learn'. Students are expected to be wearing full school uniform and adhere to rules, e.g. no jewellery, make-up, extreme hair cut or colour etc. They should also be fully 'Ready to Learn' with all necessary equipment:

- Pen
- Pencil
- Ruler and Rubber
- Bag
- Planner
- PE Kit
- Locker Key - *Lockers/locker keys will be issued in September for use by your child. £2 will be charged to replace any lost locker keys.*



PREFECTS

Prefects are Year 11 students with special responsibilities. Students make a written application before being given a formal interview with Senior Staff. If successful, they are given Prefect status. Prefects wear an all-purple tie to show their status as senior students. The Prefect body carry out a number of school duties, one of which is to support the new Year 7 intake and to support staff with younger students.

BUDDIES

Buddies are Year 9 students who take on the specific duty of supporting the Year 7 intake. The Buddies volunteer to undergo training for the role. They help to resolve any issues the new starters may have. Induction Days will give the Year 6's an opportunity to meet the Buddies.

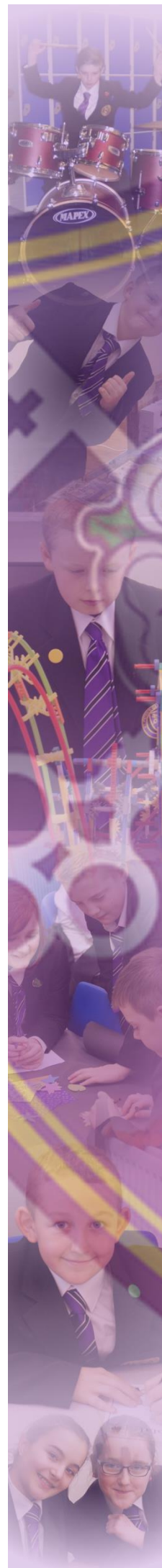
SCHOOL COUNCIL

St Peter's has a thriving student council which meet regularly. Students are elected to represent the school on a Tutor, House and School level. The School Council representatives play an important role in the school in communicating students' requests to the Headteacher. They are also involved in the staffing interview process. Any problems, concerns or suggestions can be made to your child's form representative.

HERLINGSHAW SUITE

The Herlingshaw is an area which offers learning and behaviour support.

Students in need of additional support will have one-to-one or small group appointments to work with support staff there.



AWARDS

Behaviour Awards

Exemplary work/behaviour is awarded with a House Point by the class teacher. This is recorded on to SIMS. Each House Point is added to your House total. There are prizes for everyone in the winning House at the end of the year and at intervals in between.

Star of the Month

Every four weeks, staff nominate a student for the 'Star of the Month' award.

Head's Merit

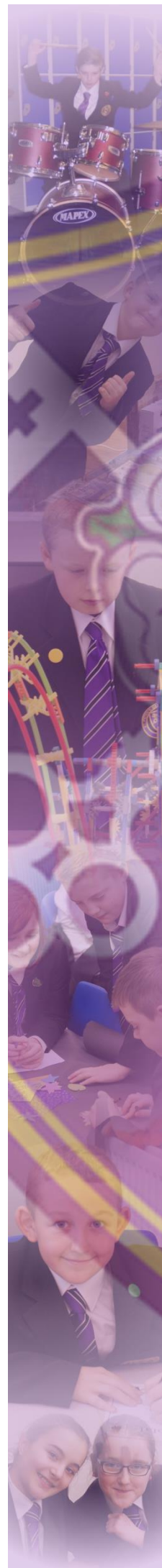
If a child does something deemed 'outstanding', they will receive a Head's Merit, a certificate from the Headteacher.

Attendance

Good attendance is rewarded in several ways. A small prize is given to every student who attends 98% or above. Tutor/House groups with the best attendance record are given non-uniform days and other treats, such as a bowling trip.

ACES

The ACES award ceremony is a prestigious event which celebrates Academic, Community, Endeavour and Sporting achievement during the year. Nominated students and their parents will be asked to attend the event to collect a certificate. Each year there is a special guest to hand out the awards. The evening concludes with entertainment provided by the students.



SANCTIONS

Punctuality

Students who are persistently late to school/lessons will complete a same night detention after school.

Parents are required to accept and support this sanction and, if their child travels on the school bus, make alternative arrangements for their journey home.

Behaviour

Students are expected to live up to our classroom expectations. They must:

- Arrive on time
- Have a positive attitude
- Be ready to learn
- Show respect to others
- Take care of the school environment
- Fully engage with the learning
- Students MUST NOT disrupt the learning of others

The class teacher may issue a detention for persistent poor behaviour in class. This is usually a break detention. If the problem continues, the student may be issued with an after school detention.

Reflection Room

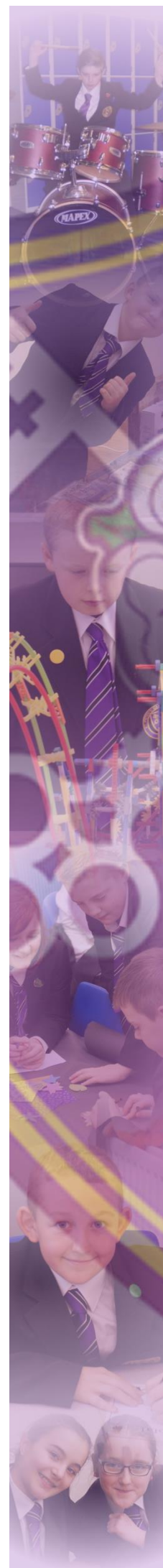
In extreme cases, a student may be removed from a lesson and be placed in the Reflection Room for a period of time. This allows the student time to think about how to modify their behaviour. Parents are notified when a student is placed in the Reflection Room

Pastoral Manager & Assistant Pastoral Manager

The school has the benefit of a Pastoral Manager and Assistant Pastoral Manager who deal with any incidents of persistent low-level disruption.

Nurture Groups

Students who have behavioural issues are given extra support to learn strategies to manage their behaviour.



LUNCH ARRANGEMENTS

The school operates a biometric system. Every child registers their fingerprint onto the school system. They use an electronic device to top up their account and make payment. Year 7 students will be registered in September.

Students are able to choose from a 'set' menu, which offers a balanced hot meal, or a 'snack' menu, which offers sandwiches, jacket potatoes, wraps and salad. It is also possible to purchase a variety of drinks, although drinking water is available.

Fizzy and/or energy drinks are **NOT** allowed into school and will be confiscated as they are not healthy for our students.

Students are **NOT** permitted to leave the school premises during the lunch break.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

There are a range of after school clubs being offered, including:

- Homework
- Music/Drama
- Book Club
- Lego League
- Robotics
- Cook-It

There are also many sporting activities, including Football, Netball, Hockey, Rugby, Badminton Athletics and Trampolining.

TRIPS AND VISITS

St Peter's offers many field and residential visits to enhance students' learning experiences. These include:

- Glass Factory, Sunderland
- Lourdes, France
- Barcelona, Spain – Art & Spanish
- Clothes Show Live, Birmingham (Art GCSE)
- Disneyland, Paris - Reward

