



Foundation Programme

Pathway for Post 16

“Routes to Success”

The Foundation Programme

The Foundation Programme is a unique opportunity designed to support newly arriving students to the country with a range of prior educational experience. In particular, students may be at the early acquisition stage to learning the English language.

The courses include: Mathematics, English Language, ICT, Humanities/PSHE and 'home language'. This curriculum provides a programme of Foundation courses designed to support progression to further study at either Level 2 or Level 3.

In addition to the above curriculum subjects, the Foundation Programme includes:

- **Language support.** In order to offer the best possible support to our students, we organise initial assessments in English and Mathematics at the beginning of our programme. Based on the outcome, students receive appropriate support which could include help from a bilingual teaching assistant, additional language sessions or the Accelerated Reader program to name a few.
- **A comprehensive CAIEG programme.** Careers education delivered as part of the pastoral curriculum and supported with independent advice and guidance provided by Prospects.
- **Access to the Post 16 Bursary Scheme.** The 16 to 19 Bursary Fund provides financial support to help eligible students overcome specific financial barriers so they can remain in education.
- **Enrichment opportunities.** Although the main focus of time in the sixth form will be on academic studies, we recognise the importance for students to develop the skills and knowledge for life after studying at Trinity Catholic School. We encourage all sixth form students to participate in the extracurricular life of the school, by involvement in a range of enrichment opportunities. For example, Duke of Edinburgh Award, Sports Leaders, mentoring and cultural visits.
- **Work experience.** In addition to any part-time jobs they may have, all sixth form students are expected to participate in a work experience placement. Students enrolled in the Foundation Programme will be supported in accessing a meaningful placement, aimed at enhancing their exposure to local and national career opportunities.

Why Trinity Sixth Form?

We are a Catholic School for all. At Trinity Catholic School we strive to provide our students with skills that will prepare them for the rest of their lives. Our core values provide our students with the means to navigate their way whilst with us and later during the rest of their lives. As a Catholic school, we are part of a wider network of schools both locally and nationally and therefore uniquely positioned to offer support that many other schools are unable to offer.

We are a diverse and inclusive School. Our curriculum is carefully designed to meet the needs of all our students, with an excellent range of options both at GCSE and A Level. Our school community consists of students from a wide range of backgrounds including many with English as an additional language. Students enjoy school and appreciate its strong community of care and guidance provided to support their personal development.

High expectations for behaviour and attitude. Sixth form students at Trinity are expected to be positive role models for all students in our school community. As such, they must adhere to the highest standards in their behaviour and attitude to learning. In particular, expectations for dress code and attendance and punctuality are detailed below:

- Dress Code.

The expected dress code for Trinity Sixth Form is 'smart business wear'.

- Suit or smart trousers + smart jacket/blazer or smart skirt/dress + smart jacket/blazer.
- Smart shirt (tie optional) or smart blouse.
- Smart shoes – no trainers/pumps/canvas shoes/mules/sliders.
- (Optional for cold weather) Jumper or cardigan – no big logos, sports tops or hoodies.

We respect students' right to wear clothing that is specific to their religious faith. We request written notification from a parent/guardian with regard to this.

- Attendance and punctuality.

- Arrive at school **by 8.55am**, for registration which begins at 9.00am.
- Minimum of **95%** attendance.
- Attend **all** timetabled lessons.

Students enjoy success. All students completing the Foundation Programme progress to further education or employment. Indeed, many of the students from partner schools who run a similar Foundation Programme have completed A Levels and gone on to study at university. Below are some specific case studies:

Anika - Started the Foundation Programme in 2009 and then moved on to do A Levels in Biology, Chemistry and Polish. Her impressive grades enabled her to study Medical Microbiology at Leicester University, where she now works as a researcher in the Department of Respiratory Sciences.

Dominika - Is another member from the 2009 cohort. After completing her A Levels, she went to Birmingham City University to study Criminology and Psychology. Her degree led her into a career in providing support to the victims of crime.

Harold - Following the Foundation Programme, he chose to study A Levels in German, Sport and Psychology. He holds a degree in Applied Psychology from Durham University and is a popular YouTuber.

William - On completion of the Foundation Programme, he proceeded to study his A Levels. With strong grades in Maths, Further Maths and Physics, he decided to study Civil Engineering at Bristol University, where he hopes to start his MSc later this year.

Mustafa - 2016 cohort. After a successful year on a Foundation Programme, he moved to Coventry University and is now in the second year of a Computer Science degree.

Cosmin - Started sixth form in 2017. Following the Foundation Programme, he began Level 3 courses in Sport and ICT. He is a popular member of the school community and was elected as Head Boy by his peers and staff. Cosmin is planning to move on to Coventry University to study Criminology.

These are only a few examples of students who have benefited from following the Foundation Programme. It gave them the opportunity to improve their language skills and adjust to the British educational system. The Foundation Programme has evolved over the years in order to adapt to the needs of students. It offers continuous contact time with teachers which is crucial for students who are new to the English language.

Next steps

- **Enrolment Form.** The Foundation Programme is a popular pathway and, unfortunately, the number of places is limited to 30 students. We recommend that the Enrolment Form is completed at the earliest opportunity to ensure that a place can be secured.
- **Induction.** We are holding student induction sessions as part of our Open Day on **Wednesday 28th April**. Individual appointment times will be sent by letter with each session lasting for approximately 1 hour. During this time, you will have the opportunity to meet with the staff involved in the delivery of the Foundation Programme and ask any questions. This is subject to change as a result of any lockdown restrictions.
- **Any Questions?** Contact Mr Alton (Head of Sixth Form) on malton@tcs.lourdesmac.org.uk

