



Bishop Challoner

Catholic Secondary School

Diocese of Portsmouth
St. Michael's Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG22 6SR
Tel: (01256) 462661 Fax: (01256) 810359
Email: headteacher@bcs.hants.sch.uk
Website: www.bcs.hants.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mr J P Wright, BTh



September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

During the month of September we normally open our doors and welcome prospective students and their families to our Open Evening, giving them the chance to meet with our students and staff and see first-hand our amazing school in action. This is an evening that everyone looks forward to. So, it was with a very heavy heart that due to the COVID-19 restrictions we have had to make the decision to cancel this event.

Bishop Challoner has a fine tradition of academic, sporting and cultural achievement for its students, firmly rooted in the distinctive Catholic values of the school.

These distinctive values and the strong pastoral support system at the heart of our school allow us to 'Walk with' our students and their families. This close, supportive relationship is something we are extremely proud of and jealously guard. We also believe that children thrive in situations where they understand boundaries and where staff and parents have high expectations of them. This focus on fair, challenging, consistent routines such as behaviour, uniform and homework are referred to as "The Challoner Way".

We have thought long and hard about how we share our story with you during these challenging times. At the same time, we needed to ensure that the learning of our current students was not affected and that we keep everyone safe. We are unable to offer tours of the school at present, so have produced a short film that will hopefully give you an insight in to what you can expect from Bishop Challoner. This can be found via the below link:

<http://www.bcs.hants.sch.uk/>

We appreciate that deciding on a secondary school for your child is a very important decision. We would like to share with you information about Bishop Challoner and hopefully answer any questions you may have. After you have watched our short film and read the below we hope you will agree Bishop Challoner is a very special school. If however, there is more you would like to know please do not hesitate to email adminoffice@bcs.hants.sch.uk

Yours faithfully

Mr J P Wright
Headteacher



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Headteacher: Mr J P Wright
Chair of Governors: Mr M O'Driscoll
School Hours: 9:00am – 3:35pm
Office Hours: 8:30am – 4:30pm (4pm on Friday)

Ofsted



Inspection date: May 2018
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection: Good

Effectiveness of Leadership and management: Good

- The headteacher and his senior team are committed and dedicated to their school community. They have established a strong ethos of care and ambition for all.
- Pupils feel safe and valued in school. They are confident that there are always people to talk with if they have a worry or concern. Additionally, parents feel that the school looks after their children well.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment: Good

- The quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good ... lessons are planned effectively to meet pupils' needs.
- Staff across the school have built excellent working relationships with pupils. As a consequence, they can quickly identify pupils' learning needs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare: Outstanding

- The school's work to promote pupils' personal development and welfare is outstanding. Pupils are passionate about their school and they work hard to contribute to all aspects of wider school life.
- Pupils thrive in the positive school atmosphere.
- Pupils' behaviour in lessons and around the school is exemplary. This is because leaders have created a culture which is inclusive, calm and purposeful. Courtesy and learning are the foundation of all aspects of school life.

Outcomes for pupils: Good

- Across the school and in most subjects, including English, mathematics and science, pupils' progress is typically good due to effective teaching.
- Pupils who join the school with lower than expected levels of literacy and numeracy receive well-considered additional support. This is effective in improving their reading fluency, comprehension and mathematics. As a result, these pupils are able to access all areas of the school curriculum.



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Section 48 – Validation of the Catholic life of the school



Inspection dates: November 2019
Overall Judgement: **Outstanding** in all areas

- Bishop Challoner provides an outstanding, inclusive Catholic education and every member of the school community carries Challoner's call to do 'ordinary things extraordinarily well' close to their heart.
- Children at the school recognise this distinctive ethos and celebrate that they are accepted for who they are – they believe they can be themselves at Bishop Challoner.
- Families are at the heart of this truly diverse and inclusive school giving the children the space and love to achieve no matter what.

Applying for a Place

The process for applying for a Year 7 September 2021 place is now open and must be made by 31 October 2020 via the Hampshire County Council Website using the below link:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions>

As a faith school, our Governors rank applications against our admissions policy, to do this they use the information supplied by parents on the Supplementary Information Form along with the evidence of faith supplied with this. Supplementary Information Forms and the evidence of faith must be returned directly to the school by 30 October 2020. You will be able to find our Admissions Policy and the Supplementary Information Form on our website:

<http://www.bcs.hants.sch.uk/admissions-2/>

Frequently asked questions:

Q. To apply for a school place at Bishop Challoner do I have to complete an online application with Hampshire County Council?

A. Yes all applications for a school place need to be made via the Hampshire County Council website: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions>

Q. I do not have internet access. Can I obtain a paper application form?

A. Yes, contact any school or Hampshire County Council's Admissions Team and they will be able to provide this for you.

Q. When do applications need to be submitted to Hampshire County Council by?

A. All applications must be submitted using the Hampshire County Council online link or via post by 31 October 2020.

Q. Do I have to complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) ?

A. All applications are ranked by Governors against the Admissions Policy, it is advised that SIFs are completed and submitted by 30 October 2020. Last year there were no admissions without an accompanying SIF.

Q. I have posted my Supplementary Information Form (SIF) and evidence. How do I know that it's been received?

A. You will receive a receipt, stating the date your SIF and evidence was received, your child's name, your child's date of birth and the type of evidence supplied, please keep this in a safe place.



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Q. I have applied for a school place via Hampshire County Council but forgot to submit the Supplementary Information Form and evidence. Will the school contact me to request this?

A. No, the school will not contact parents for information to support their application.

Q. My child is not Catholic. Can we still apply for a school place at Bishop Challoner?

A. Yes, the Governors are pleased to consider requests for children from other Christian families and families of other Religious Faiths and who express a desire for their child to be educated in Bishop Challoner Catholic Secondary School.

Q. What is evidence of faith?

A. If your child is a Catholic, a copy of their baptism certificate or a certificate of reception into full communion with the Catholic Church. If your child is not a Catholic your Minister or faith leader should provide a statement of faith on letter headed paper.

Q. The Supplementary Information Form (SIF) requests a Ministers signature. What is this for?

A. If your child is not a Catholic your minister or faith leader should sign the SIF to verify your child's membership.

Q. If my child is not a Catholic, does my minister or faith leader have to both sign the Supplementary Information Form and provide evidence of faith?

A. Yes without these, the Governors are unable to rank children against the Admissions Policy.

Q. I already have a child at the school. Will this be taken into consideration and do I still need to submit a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) along with evidence?

A. When completing the Hampshire County Council online application form ensure that you record that you have a child already on roll (this child needs to still be on roll in September 2021). Supplementary Information Forms and evidence are child specific and should also be submitted to ensure that the Governors are able to rank against the Admissions Policy.

Q. My child attends one of the Catholic primary schools, St. Anne's and St. Bede's in Basingstoke and St. John the Baptist in Andover. Do I still need to submit a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) and evidence?

A. It is advised that SIFs are completed and submitted with evidence for all applications regardless of where your child currently attends school. These are used by the Governors to rank applications against the Admissions Policy.

Q. My child is Catholic but does not attend one of the Catholic primary feeder schools. Will they be penalised for this?

A. Our aim is to offer an education to baptised Catholic Children who are resident in the North West Hampshire Pastoral Area, comprising parishes of St. Joseph's (Basingstoke), Holy Ghost (Basingstoke), St. Michael's (Tadley), The Sacred Heart (Hook) and St. John the Baptist (Andover), if Supplementary Information Form and evidence are supplied.

Q. Bishop Challoner is the closest school to my home address. Is this my catchments school?

A. As a faith school our catchment area is the North West Hampshire Pastoral Area and applications are ranked against our Admissions Policy. We also operate an inverse distance criteria.

Q. My child is not Catholic, Christian or of any other faith. Can I still apply?

A. Yes, if we are your first choice and your child is not successful in being allocated a place they will be placed onto our waiting list, which is ranked against our Admissions Policy.

Q. Hampshire County Council's application form asks for three schools, ranked in order of preference, I only want my child to attend Bishop Challoner. Can I leave the second and third choice blank?

A. It is advised that parents complete the form with more than one choice, if your child does not get your first choice and you have not advised of a second or third your child may be allocated to any school with a place.



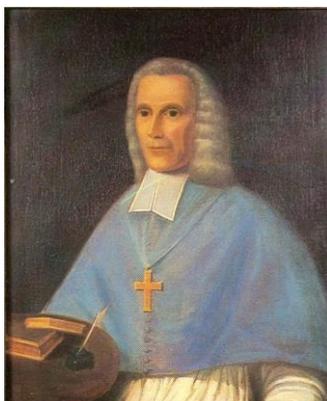
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Q. My child is academically able. Will they be ranked higher?

A. No, Bishop Challoner's Admission Policy does not rank children against academic ability. This is not taken into consideration.



Bishop Richard Challoner
(29th September 1691 to 12th January 1781)

We Are All Children Of God And Equals Before Him.
Jesus Is Our Teacher And We Seek To Follow His Example

DO ORDINARY THINGS EXTRAORDINARILY WELL



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