

SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS

2026 - 2028



ST MARY'S CALNE
GIRLS' BOARDING & DAY



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INTRODUCING THE SIXTH FORM

The Sixth Form is the most exciting stage of your education and here at St Mary's we believe that we provide you with a stimulating environment in which you will excel. For us, the Sixth Form is about looking ahead and we are here to help guide you as you make some very important decisions about your future. We have a very strong Sixth Form of 120 students and our supportive community, in which everybody is valued as an individual, means that you can expect the highest level of care and encouragement.

The Donaldson Award encompasses every aspect of Sixth Form life and the girls will work towards achieving it throughout their final two years of their school career. It captures the essence of what it means to be a St Mary's Sixth Former and we look forward to seeing all that the girls accomplish as part of it. For visuals showing the Award strands and the potential activities, please see page 3.

Learning in the Sixth Form is stimulating and fun, as we aim to foster your intellectual curiosity and creativity. Smaller class sizes mean that you will have the opportunity to explore in real depth your chosen subjects – far beyond the confines of the syllabus – and you will engage in exciting academic debates as you develop a higher level of criticality and an increased independence of thought. You should expect to be challenged intellectually within a supportive environment and you should not be afraid of taking risks in the pursuit of both academic and personal excellence.

Higher Education applications for courses to which you are well-suited at the world's leading institutions form most girls' next steps on their

chosen pathway, and you will be supported in these by an experienced team of dedicated teachers and Tutors every step of the way. The inter-disciplinary skills which you develop throughout the Sixth Form years will allow you to go out into the world and help change it for the better.

Beyond the classroom, St Mary's Sixth Formers are characterised by their 'can do' attitude and take part in a vast array of co-curricular opportunities. Our Sixth Formers are as at home on the sports fields as they are performing on stage in the theatre or at a musical event; their talents know no bounds! We encourage you to take the initiative and set up clubs and societies which suit your own particular interests. We are committed to delivering a truly holistic education, and it is this active participation in and leadership of all areas of school life which gives the Sixth Form its richness and vibrancy. To this end, you will find that there are opportunities to take part in activities which take place outside the school. This could be through Young Enterprise, our links with local universities or social and sporting visits to boys' schools.

This prospectus aims to give you an insight into Sixth Form life at St Mary's, and capture a small part of that inspirational and transformative experience. Our experienced and dedicated team will empower you to broaden your horizons, achieve beyond your expectations, and leave ready to make a positive difference to the world in whatever you choose to do.

Mrs Anne Wakefield, Head



THE ST MARY'S CALNE DONALDSON AWARD

The Donaldson Programme encompasses every aspect of school life and the girls will work towards achieving the Donaldson Award throughout the final two years of their school career. It captures the essence of what it means to be a St Mary's Sixth Former and we look forward to seeing all that the girls accomplish as part of it.

Each girl's personal Tutor, a member of the teaching staff who meets with her very regularly will help with self-evaluation against the six strands, encouraging ideas and participation in relevant activities to make the most of her time in an holistic yet individual way.

Whilst everybody's profile is unique and will excel or focus on certain strands more than others, to complete the Award all strands should be addressed, and Merit or Distinction Level can be achieved for impressive participation in particular areas.

Naturally, certain areas map onto more than one strand, so that our award-winning Young Enterprise entrepreneurship society, for example, contributes to Leadership, Scholarship and Skills for Life, and sometimes others depending on the chosen projects.

The Award Strands

Potential Activities within the Strands



LEADERSHIP
Motivating others to engage and achieve.

Mentoring, Sports Leadership, Young Enterprise, School Parliament running subject societies and prefect roles on the Head Girl's Team.



SCHOLARSHIP
Fostering a love of learning.

Subject societies, Debating, EPQs, MOOCs, Critical Thinking, the Scholars' Programme, *Kaleidoscope* student magazine, and the Donaldson Electives.



GLOBAL AWARENESS
Understanding that we have responsibilities as global citizens.

Lecture Programme, Model United Nations, cultural activities, international trips, exchanges and Eco Group.



SKILLS FOR LIFE
Expanding interests and honing expertise.

Learning a new skill, basic cookery, public speaking, team-building, finance and budgeting, playing in sports teams, fitness and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.



GIVING TO THE COMMUNITY
Embracing an outward-facing perspective.

Volunteering (eg at Springfields Academy), fundraising, charitable endeavours, taking part in school events, prefect duties, writing for school publications, annual Charity Week and School Parliament.



HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAREERS
Preparing for the next stage.

Networking events, *Inspiring Futures* Conference, university conferences, mock interviews, lunchtime Careers Seminars, Interview Thinking Skills and the Lecture Programme.



LEADERSHIP

Motivating others to engage and achieve.

As they reach the dizzying heights of the top of the school, year on year the Sixth Form impress with the variety and quality of the leadership roles and responsibilities they step up to take on, encouraged and supported by staff and on their own initiatives. The elected Head Girl and her Team lead their peers and the school through the School Parliament, setting an admirable example through their dedication to leadership and service. There are opportunities for all who want them, from Sports Leadership to Peer Mentoring, establishing Academic and Supra-Curricular Societies and working alongside younger pupils.

We believe that every Sixth Former should have the opportunity to develop their leadership skills and there are a myriad of ways in which they can do this. We are unusual in that every single student in our Sixth Form has the opportunity to be a member of the wider Head Girl's Team and, therefore, has her own particular area of responsibility.

All girls participate in Leadership Training as part of their Saturday Futures Programme in LVI Form. Girls meet regularly with the Director of Sixth Form and Head to discuss ways in which they think they can effect positive change in the school. You can be confident that the staff will support and encourage you with your ideas and we often learn a lot from listening to your views!

Being a Sixth Former means that you are a role model for the rest of the school, and a particularly rewarding aspect of Sixth Form life is interacting with the younger girls – further developing St Mary's strong sense of community. Many of our high profile events are organised by the Sixth Formers themselves and they always rise to the challenge. Through hosting suppers; helping to plan Awards evenings; planning the Lily Ball or putting on a Fashion Show, they learn about the importance of efficient logistics and planning; how to think on their feet and, perhaps most importantly, how to win over and manage their peers.

YOUNG ENTERPRISE

Members of the LVI Form have the opportunity to participate in the Young Enterprise Company Programme, in which a team of pupils set up and run a real business over the course of the year. They elect a Board of Directors and raise share capital before designing, producing and marketing a product of their choice. At the end of the year, they present a report of their accounts to their shareholders and enter a competition against companies from other schools.

Taking part in Young Enterprise is a wonderful addition to a girl's experience at St Mary's. She develops many enterprise skills, including team working, creativity and problem solving. The shared experience of working with friends to create a product that they really believe in can be a truly amazing journey.

In recent years, girls have created celebrity recipe books, treasure hunt games and a range of beauty products made using beeswax. They have enjoyed great success, winning numerous awards at both County and Regional level and competing at the National Finals in London.



“In addition to working as a team, you learn about the marketing, creative and financial aspects of business; it really helps you to become well-rounded.”

(Lucy)



Head Girl's Trio 2025-2026



Head Girl's Team 2024-2025

WELCOME FROM THE HEAD GIRL'S TEAM

Sixth Form life at St Mary's is an exciting step up from Fifth Form. There are a lot of new privileges and increased freedom, plus the fantastic Boarding Houses with such a friendly atmosphere, creating a unique learning experience that helps make the transition into Sixth Form smooth and enjoyable.

Our horizontal boarding system means that everyone in each year lives and studies together, forming strong friendships. The Houses themselves are amazing: the study-bedrooms are all ensuite - the only downside being that university accommodation will come as a bit of a shock!

The weekends are a time for relaxing, whilst learning vital life skills. For UVI, there are no formal lessons on a Saturday, while LVI benefit from the Saturday Futures Programme, which includes Yoga, Personal Development, Critical Thinking, and Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) lessons. These sessions provide the opportunity for individual research beyond the curriculum, helping us to discover new interests and develop the skills that will be necessary when we make the transition to university. On Saturday afternoon, many of us will have sports matches, while others will go to the gym, have free time, or get involved in social events and activities in the evening. Sundays are for relaxing after a busy week, but there is always an opportunity to go on day trips, ranging from ice skating, roller discos, cultural visits to Bath and Oxford, and more!

In the Sixth Form we are encouraged to create Clubs and Societies to share our passions with others. Engineering Club, English Society, History of Art, Grow Club and Eco-Club, and many others, are all student-led and allow us to develop our interests as well as give girls in younger years an experience of a wider variety of subjects in a relaxed atmosphere. We also produce a school magazine, Kaleidoscope, which is a valuable learning experience as it has given us a forum to express our views.

There are also many opportunities to volunteer with local groups, such as Girl Guides, primary schools and care homes, which is very rewarding. In LVI it is popular to take part in the Young Enterprise competition where we design, manufacture and sell our own products. We also have a School Parliament, which consists of pupils across year groups who represent a particular ministry. It is an amazing opportunity to get the whole school involved in a project and for everyone's voices to be heard.

There are fantastic trips to locations in Europe and beyond which enrich the curriculum with real-life experiences. There are annual subject trips to Florence and Paris, but also larger trips, such as the lacrosse tour to America and Biology trip to Madagascar. We are also encouraged to visit places such as Nepal and Kenya on community projects, with girls applying for Sixth Form Enrichment Scholarships to assist funding for these ventures.

The increased level of academic depth at A Level comes with increased support. Our small class sizes and high number of contact hours each week per subject allow for a strong focus on the individual and your personal progress. Each evening, Academic Staff also spend time on duty in House to help you, if needed. Each girl is also allocated an individual Tutor who they meet with each week to discuss both academic and pastoral matters - they are always available for a chat.

We regularly get a taste of university life through initiatives such as the weekly Sixth Form Lecture Programme, and Friday night Supper Clubs, which help to develop our culinary skills! These incredible opportunities, plus the close-knit community, mean that the Sixth Form years are amongst the best you will have at school, and we leave feeling fully prepared to meet the challenges of university life and beyond.

Head Girl's Team



SCHOLARSHIP

Fostering a love of learning.

Branching out from the heart of our curriculum is finding interest and stimulation within and beyond core A Level subjects.

Subject Societies are popular, whether run by staff, students or jointly, and every girl begins LVI Form with an introduction to the EPQ (Extended Project Qualification), enabling her to develop Critical Thinking and research skills in relation to her own choice of topic.

The Donaldson Electives chosen by the LVI Form add breadth and variety to the curriculum in a series of short courses designed and delivered by our expert staff, from Palaeontology to British Sign Language and Cultural Anthropology. Academic Scholars join their peers in a parallel programme to stretch and enrich.

DEBATING

"It is better to debate a question without settling it than to settle a question without debating it."
(Joseph Joubert)

Debating at St Mary's combines discussing the big questions in life with a welcoming atmosphere that encourages everyone to get involved. The Debating Society holds a mixture of informal debates throughout the year, as well as taking part in competitions. Previously we have participated in the Bristol University Schools' debate; we also reached the finals of the English Speaking Union's Mace debate and competed in online debates.

Topics we have looked at previously include:

- should we have non-custodial sentences for non-violent criminals?
- the EU referendum
- should we only allow people who pass a simple current affairs test to vote?
- the death penalty
- Saturday school
- are governments ever justified in using force against their citizens?

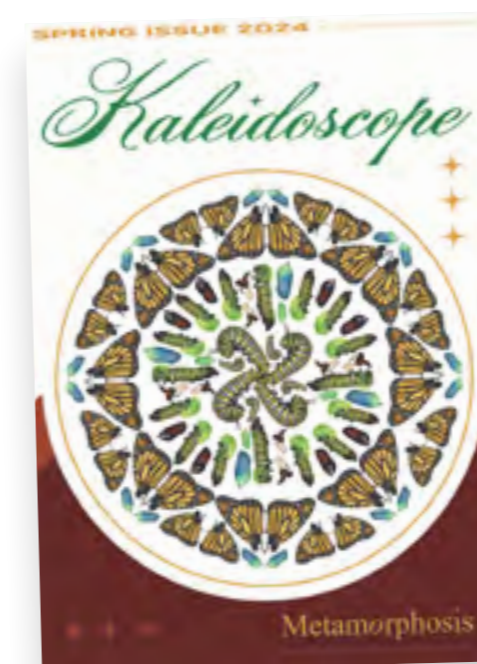
Debating is the best place to learn not just how to debate, but how to debate well – and win!

CRITICAL THINKING

Critical Thinking is a fundamental academic competency akin to reading and writing. All subject teachers aim to develop their candidates' critical thinking ability – the ability to interpret, analyse and evaluate ideas and arguments – but they do this in the process of teaching their particular subject:

- To give girls the opportunity to develop their critical thinking skills which are central to the process of arriving at reason-based judgment.
- To improve critical thinking skills by attending to them explicitly and in ways which enable girls to transfer them to other academic studies and to everyday life.
- To stimulate creative and lateral thinking.

Critical Thinking is useful for candidates taking a wide variety of A Level subjects as well as being an essential skill required for further and higher education. It is valuable for many professions: law, medicine, journalism, the civil service and those aspiring to any kind of leadership position.



SCIENCE JOURNAL CLUB

Science Journal Club takes place regularly throughout the year for Sixth Formers studying science subjects. A cross-curricular science topic is taken such as 'The Science of Colour' or 'Getting to Mars' and journal articles on the latest developments in the field are sent to the students in advance. Throughout the year, each student will have the opportunity to present and lead the discussion. We explore the scientific methods that have been used, the scope of the research and the possible future implications. Besides a portfolio of academic literature that they have read and discussed, Journal Club allows the students to gain a far better understanding of the nature of science and scientific research before applying for university courses.

SCHOOL MAGAZINE

Girls in the Sixth Form set up and launched the digital school magazine, *Kaleidoscope*. Each edition is based around a theme chosen by the girls and they oversee every element of its production during their weekly editorial meetings. They determine what they would like to write, what the design will look like and take inspiration from the issues which are important to the wider student body. The result is an informative, eye-catching and high quality publication that is enjoyed by the whole school community.

DONALDSON ELECTIVES

A core part of the Donaldson Award and Sixth Form Curriculum, the LVI Form have the opportunity to select from a range of short courses designed and delivered internally. Alongside the depth of A Level subjects, they are designed to enrich and complement these whilst adding interest and variety.

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ - Level 3)

Why Study an EPQ at St Mary's Calne?

Opportunities offered to students choosing the EPQ

- The main opportunity is for students to develop into independent learners which will benefit them both academically and outside the classroom.
- Development of critical thinking and reflective learning skills.
- Development of decision-making and problem-solving skills.
- Extension of a range of transferable skills such as planning, research, analysis, synthesis and evaluation.
- Development of presentation skills to small and larger audiences.
- To support student aspirations for higher education and career development.

Course Content

The EPQ is an independent investigation in which the student chooses an area of academic interest which lies beyond the confines of the A Level specification. All students will attend a series of lessons in which they are taught skills needed to undertake this piece of research. Each student is assigned a Supervisor, with whom they arrange meetings to discuss their findings and research thinking. The student can choose to write a Dissertation, develop a Performance, or create an Artefact. Students will maintain a Reflective Log throughout which documents the challenges and successes that they have encountered as part of their journey. Once the project is complete, students will present their research findings and reflections about the process, firstly to a small audience, and then in an academic showcase in the Autumn Term. They will be invited to answer questions about their project on both occasions.

The EPQ is an excellent way for students to demonstrate their ability to pursue independent study and manage a research project. It helps students to develop their analytical and research skills which are necessary for success as an undergraduate and in their careers. Student are assigned an academic grade between A* and E at the end of their project. Many top universities will make alternative offers for students who have successfully undertaken an EPQ.

Recent EPQs at St Mary's Calne include:

- In Kenya, is ecotourism simply a marketing tool or is it an achievable concept?
- Can renewable energy sustainably supply the growing population of the UK?
- Was Andy Warhol the main impact on contemporary art in New York during the post war period?
- To what extent does progressive taxation lead to redistribution of wealth and income?
- To what extent would compulsory organ donations from living or deceased donors be ethical?
- To what extent are women rightly portrayed as villains in Greek mythology?
- Would Kuwait cope without the oil and gas industry?
- Is the breeding of Brachycephalic dogs causing a health issue with welfare and is the Kennel Club tackling the issue effectively?

Assessment Objectives

All candidates are required to meet the following Assessment Objectives. The Assessment Objectives are weighted as indicated below:

	Objectives	Weighting
AO1	Manage Identity, design, plan, and carry out a project, applying a range of skills, strategies and methods to achieve objectives.	15%
AO2	Use Resources Research, critically select, organise and use information, and select and use a range of resources. Analyse data, apply relevantly and demonstrate understanding of any links, connections and complexities of the topic.	24%
AO3	Develop and Realise Select and use a range of skills, including, where appropriate, new technologies and problem-solving, to take decisions critically and achieve planned outcomes.	46%
AO4	Review Evaluate all aspects of the extended project, including outcomes in relation to stated objectives and own learning and performance. Select and use a range of communication skills and media to present evidenced project outcomes and conclusions in an appropriate format.	15%

What makes a good EPQ student?

The best EPQ students have a passion for the subject they choose to explore. They are curious, inquisitive and work independently, whilst seeking advice and discussion from their supervisor. They are organised and manage their time efficiently, and are logical in their approach to solving problems. They are critical thinkers and have the ability to view all sides of an academic argument, by challenging the information they rigorously research. All these skills are developed and enhanced throughout the EPQ process.



SCHOLARSHIPS

At St Mary's, we place the highest value upon the ideals and virtues of Scholarship. To be a Scholar brings with it important responsibilities and we expect our award holders to:

- enhance and enrich the school community and its daily life
- show dedication and commitment in the area(s) in which they have won an award, without detracting from their capacity to be involved in other aspects of the school
- act as role models for their peers and encourage others to aspire to excellence
- be ambassadors for their particular subject(s).

We offer Scholarships and Exhibitions to talented girls for entry into the Sixth Form.

All Academic Scholars participate in the Scholarship Programme – a series of challenging and enriching academic sessions led by members of staff and outside guests and includes an annual supper with a former scholar [CGA]. It aims to stretch the most able students across a broad spectrum of subjects and disciplines, to foster excitement and ambition, and to nurture and satisfy their intellectual curiosity.

Internal Academic Scholarships will be awarded to selected pupils after the GCSE results have been published in August. External Academic Scholarships will be awarded based on the girl's performance in the Scholarship exams. Scholarships for Art, Drama, Music and Sport may be awarded to internal or to external candidates for the duration of the Sixth Form.

For further information on the nature of each specific Scholarship and the dates for Scholarship examinations and practical assessments, please request a copy of the Scholarship Prospectus.



THE ACADEMIC SCHOLARS' PROGRAMME

There is a vibrant community of Academic Scholars who contribute to the fortnightly Academic Scholars' Programme. They wholeheartedly engage with sessions that are designed to stretch and challenge them and to inspire independent thought and research. Furthermore, the sessions help girls to develop and showcase the skills that will help them to shine in their university interviews and to flourish in their future studies.

The Academic Scholars' Programme is of particular relevance to Sixth Form girls because it is designed to help them sparkle in their university applications. Moreover, we are keen for Sixth Form Scholars to seize the initiative and to take ownership of the Academic Scholars' Programme. Current Scholars are doing this under the the leadership of our student Head of Scholars.

Here are some recent examples of Academic Scholars' Programme sessions:

- Protest – discussing modern protest by exploring the techniques of Extinction Rebellion, Insulate Britain and Just Stop Oil.
- Pattern Recognition – looking at patterns in data, the natural world and life in general. This topic segued into a look at the ethics of the Men's Fifa World Cup in Qatar.
- Cryptic Crossroads – girls discovered how to solve cryptic crossword clues. For example, God hurt back [4].
- Gapminder – a look at the work of Hans Rosling. Girls explored his book Faithfulness, used the Gapfinder website and watched 'the best four minutes of TV ever'.



GLOBAL AWARENESS

Understanding that we have responsibilities as global citizens.

Developing a global outlook happens within and beyond the school community in myriad ways; from the variety of daily Chapels to the range and quality of speakers invited to our Lecture Programme, perspectives broaden at an astonishing rate during your time in the Sixth Form. Cultural Week celebrates diversity and awareness alongside cultural activities, international trips and exchange programmes, and the Model United Nations society learns in different ways how the whole world works to deepen awareness and understanding.



MODEL UNITED NATIONS SOCIETY

MUN (Model United Nations) is a school, college and university-based organisation and is a simulation of the work of the United Nations. Students form delegations and represent the policies of their given country on such issues as Human Rights violations, the exploitation and use of natural resources, the use of child soldiers, cyber security, the reform of the Security Council, and disputes between neighbouring countries. Real UN procedure and etiquette is followed and girls learn how to draft resolutions and present them in committees at conferences.

MUN provides a unique opportunity for young people to investigate the background to, and origin of, many of the problems and issues in the world today.

St Mary's girls attend conferences hosted by a variety of schools. Each conference requires the girls to research both their committee's particular issues as well as the position their country would adopt on that issue. Working independently on their research beforehand and then collaborating effectively in committee, making alliances with other countries and having to compromise their own position, means the girls must develop a wide-ranging skillset which will stand them in excellent stead for future life; inquiry, critical thinking, research, negotiation, communication, collaboration, the ability to listen to others and be empathic to their views yet still remaining principled, all whilst gaining a deep insight into world affairs and problems and their concomitant solutions.

Not only do the girls gain and develop fabulous transferable skills but they also become more rounded, worldly people with a broader understanding and perspective of the world in which they live. This kind of enrichment is invaluable and considered to be extremely beneficial by universities and employers alike.

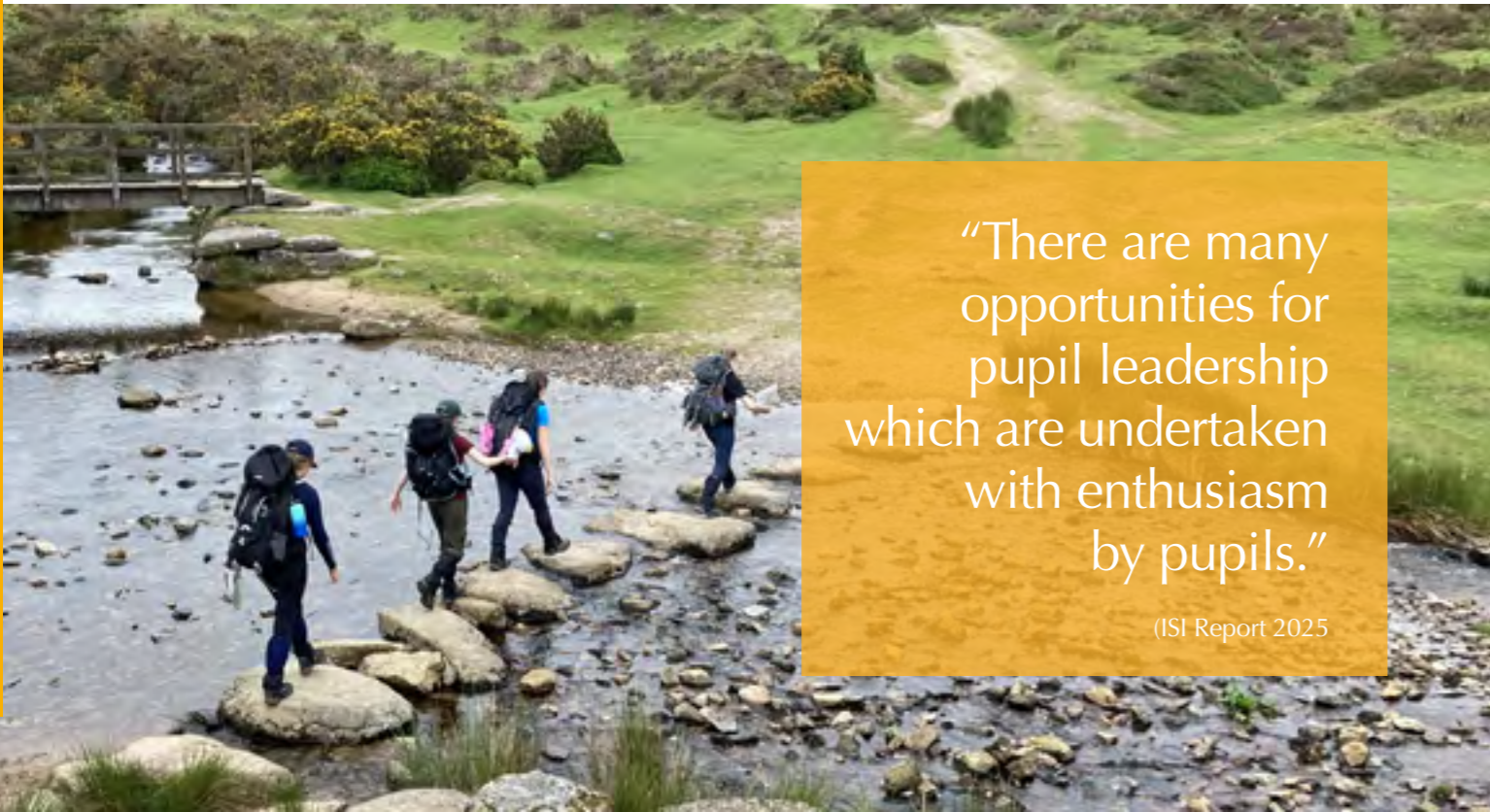




SKILLS FOR LIFE

Expanding interests and honing expertise.

The popular Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award encompasses many of the skills and activities on offer, and in the Sixth Form very many of our opportunities could come under this broad heading. From financial understanding and Personal Development lessons continuing throughout the Sixth Form to car maintenance and cooking activities in House, skills for independent living and future success are highly valued. A wealth of co-curricular activities, sport and wellbeing develop understanding and expertise for life throughout your time in the Sixth Form.



“There are many opportunities for pupil leadership which are undertaken with enthusiasm by pupils.”

(ISI Report 2025)

CO-CURRICULAR

The Co-curriculum - Endless Possibilities

High-quality co-curricular activities form a significant part of school life at St Mary's Calne and are a vital component of the delivery of a broad education that develops skills, character and resilience in students who will go on to excel in the wider world.

There is an extensive and broad range of co-curricular activities on offer. Many are student-led and participation in the programme is strongly encouraged in order to make the most of life at St Mary's Calne. As a flavour of what is on offer, there is everything from cooking to computing, frisbee to first aid, ski racing to swimming, and Young Enterprise to yoga. The problem you might face is which activity to choose!

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award

As a licensed centre to deliver the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, Sixth Form students have the opportunity to undertake and complete the Gold Award. This world-renowned award presents incredible opportunities and challenges that will stay with participants for life. We facilitate the Volunteering, Physical, Skills and Residential elements of the award, and the Expedition, for most the culmination of the award, takes place annually in one of the stunning National Parks in the UK.

Sport

Sport is an integral part of Sixth Form life and we expect students to be active. Whatever your sporting ability, we are confident that we have something to offer you. We have an extensive sports fixture list and the Sixth Form take on significant leadership roles in both individual and team sports. We aim to participate at the highest level and St Mary's Calne students enjoy competing whenever possible. We also offer a specific fitness and conditioning programme for the Sixth Form that includes the use of our modern Sports Complex which features an indoor swimming pool, fitness suite and group exercise classes.

Drama

Drama in the Sixth Form is equally diverse and many students will get involved. We have a fantastic theatre that is home to productions that range from classics to

self-devised work; moreover, a group of Sixth Formers perform at the Edinburgh Fringe each summer. The Sixth Form also write a play for the staff to perform during the Autumn Term and this is a highlight for the rest of the school community!

Music and Art

But the co-curricular programme does not stop there; music is also a fundamental part of Sixth Form life and students are renowned for their impressive talents in this arena. We have a large number of choirs, orchestras and ensembles that perform regularly, within school and in the local and national community, as well as on international tours.

At St Mary's Calne we enjoy taking Art seriously. Most evenings, there are activities which offer some specialisation in activities such as pottery, life drawing, decorative arts and time for independent study in the studios.

Trips

In the Sixth Form you will be offered a number of trips that provide academic enrichment, challenge and experience of the wider world. For example, Art Historians have visited Florence and Paris; Classicists have headed to Pompeii, Greece or Rome, while Geographers have explored Dartmoor and Tenerife. There have been lacrosse tours to America, ski racing in Flaine and Music tours to Poland, as well as outdoor expeditions both within the UK and abroad. We could go on!

Weekends

The weekends in the Sixth Form are flexible and it is up to you how you decide to use them. One thing you can be certain of is that you will never be bored! You are able to organise your own transport for day trips to the local area and many girls enjoy exploring Bath, Bristol and Oxford. There is also a Sixth Form weekend programme that includes many activities including socials with boys' schools. If you want something to happen, then we work hard to ensure that it does.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION, SPORT, EXERCISE AND WELLBEING

Aims

- To encourage and motivate the Sixth Form to actively participate in sport and exercise.
- To develop their skills, tactical awareness, and teamwork to fulfil their potential in their chosen sports and activities.
- To understand, recognise and appreciate the value of a healthy lifestyle through sport and exercise.
- To enjoy being part of a team developing confidence, self-esteem and building resilience.
- To develop their leadership skills and be an excellent role model for the younger girls.
- To promote and celebrate achievement.

Sixth Form Sport

Sixth Form Sport is composed of four main elements.

1. Fixtures

There is a full fixture programme for Sixth Form pupils. This includes matches on Saturday and Thursday afternoons throughout the year.

We run multiple teams in Lacrosse, Hockey, Netball and Tennis as well as competing in Athletics Meets and Swimming Galas. Weekly timetabled team practices are scheduled throughout the year.

- Term 1: Lacrosse and Hockey
- Term 2: Lacrosse and Netball
- Term 3: Tennis, Athletics and Cricket

Swimming Galas, Athletics Meets and Equestrian events take place at various times throughout the year. The school is developing its provision for cricket. Girls regularly represent the County, Southwest and often National Teams in Sport.

2. Games Afternoon Activities

On a Thursday games afternoon there is a full and varied programme of activities for pupils to participate in each week. These include:

- Games Rotation
Badminton, Handball, Basketball, Climbing and Swimming
- Dance and Fitness
Dance, Fitness Suite, Exercise Classes (Spin and Zumba), Yoga

We also invite outside partners to enhance our provision. These include Scuba Diving, Bath Rugby, and Softball, to name a few.

3. Additional Activities

- Ski racing (additional charge)
- Individual Tennis lessons through our St Mary's Calne Tennis Academy (paid extra)
- Equestrian organised by our Equestrian Co-ordinator at local stables (paid extra)
- Swimming lessons (paid extra)
- Dance including an annual Dance Show
- Sports Tours, trips and pre-season training camps
- Termly programme of co-curricular activities.

4. St Mary's Sports Centre

In the Sixth Form, St Mary's pupils gain complimentary full membership to the Sports Centre. This allows access to the swimming pool, fitness suite and fitness classes outside of lessons. Pre-bookable classes such as Zumba, Spinning, Pilates and Aerobics are also available.





THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S GOLD AWARD

The Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award is available in Sixth Form and consists of five sections of activity: Volunteering, Physical, Skill, Expedition and Residential. It is offered to all girls on a voluntary basis, whether or not they have participated in DofE before.

It is hoped that participants will:

- develop their interests with enthusiasm and commitment, pursuing them to a high standard
- learn to work in a team, seeing the best in others and coping with their own and other people's strengths and weaknesses
- learn the value of good organisation, planning and time management in achieving goals
- meet varied challenges, including the physical challenges of expeditions, thus building confidence and self-esteem
- demonstrate increasing self-reliance, initiative, problem solving and leadership skills
- broaden horizons through varied experiences and contact with people outside school
- be of service to others in school and in the community.

SATURDAY FUTURES PROGRAMME

We have a unique Saturday morning programme for the LVI Form which focuses on providing girls with a range of life skills that will equip them for university and beyond.

The programme is designed to motivate the girls and inspire them to look beyond the curriculum and to conduct their own independent research.

The key areas are:

- Careers,
- Critical Thinking,
- Current Affairs,
- Extended Project Qualification (EPQ),
- Personal Development,
- Higher Education Pathways.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

At St Mary's we recognise the importance of equipping students with essential skills for life in the modern world. We make Personal Development a core part of the curriculum for both LVI Form and UVI Form, adapting our curriculum each year in consultation with the Sixth Form girls to cover the areas most important to them. This includes taught sessions, discussion groups and workshops on the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) agenda, especially around racism and sexism, sexual harassment and assault, pregnancy, mental health, First Aid and personal finances.

The Personal Development and Wellbeing curriculum in St Mary's Sixth Form supports the wider work of the school in helping to foster pupil wellbeing and develop resilience and character which we know are fundamental to pupils being happy, successful and productive members of society. Central to this is the pupils' ability to believe that they can achieve goals, both academic and personal; to stick to tasks that will help them achieve those goals, even when the reward may be distant or uncertain; and to recover from knocks and challenging periods in their lives.

The core programme for our Sixth Formers is supplemented by talks and workshops from external specialists on a range of topics including:

- Nutrition
- Sexual Health
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
- Teenage Cancer
- Exploitation
- Safe Driving and Car Maintenance
- Self-Defence and Teenage Mental Health.

Aims of the Programme

- To develop skills of enquiry and communication, make effective transitions and develop positive relationships.
- To develop emotional wellbeing, self-reliance and resilience when facing difficulties, coping with pressures and resolving conflict.
- To equip each pupil with the knowledge and skills to make informed choices to manage risk, stay safe and enhance and enrich their own and others' lives.
- To provide opportunities for pupils to reflect on their own values, attitudes and identity.
- To promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, increasing their self-confidence.
- To develop the ability to know, articulate and manage their own emotions and to empathise with those of others.
- To develop personal attributes including kindness, integrity, generosity and honesty.





GIVING TO THE COMMUNITY

Embracing an outward-facing perspective.

The multiple communities that everybody belongs to at school form the basis of starting to give back and fulfil responsibilities to others. The Sixth Form embrace their responsibilities and trailblaze prolific and profitable charity events for worthy causes close to their hearts.

Regular volunteering has established links with local schools, hospitals, care homes and countless local organisations, from refugee centres to the Calne Foodbank.

Diverse opportunities, including contributing to high quality school publications, mean that there is something for everybody to get involved in beyond themselves.

VOLUNTEERING AND PARTNERSHIPS

St Mary's is an outward-facing school where students in the Sixth Form volunteer in the wider community on a weekly basis for a significant period, usually in their LVI Form year. Many students choose to support pupils at either the neighbouring academy which specialises in enabling young people with ASD to learn effectively, or to help younger children in local primary schools where they may listen to children read or run a Spanish or Classics club, for example.

We continue to develop partnerships in the local community, and to this end a variety of placements are possible, including ones in a local hospital, Girl Guides and residential care homes. Through planning and leading activities, in addition to supporting others, our students in the Sixth Form develop a broader awareness and understanding of the world around them and themselves. We hold the concept of service in high regard and are deeply committed to helping the girls become compassionate and resilient leaders.

Charity is an important feature of our Volunteering and Partnerships Programme, and all Sixth Form students can expect to play a significant role in raising funds in addition to motivating and mentoring younger girls in this area. Sixth Formers frequently team up to raise awareness for chosen causes and organise events and activities for charities and many complete individual challenges in addition. As a school community we support The Doorway Project, a local charity for those who are homeless and moving on from homelessness, Calne Food Bank and The Harbour Project, a Swindon-based charity which supports refugees and asylum seekers and more recently, Swindon Domestic Abuse Support Services. Students have in the past secured grants from the Calne Foundation Trust which has enabled them to travel overseas to carry out extended charity project work.



Sponsored Sleepout for Doorway Wiltshire



Volunteering with 1st Calne Brownies



Lyme Disease UK – Nominated Charity for 2024



HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAREERS

Preparing for the next stage.

At this exciting and critical stage of their education, very many opportunities are offered during the Sixth Form to pave the way for future success. From Careers Seminars to Networking Events; our *Inspiring Futures* Conference and Alumnae contributions to the Lecture Programme; events and Information Evenings are woven throughout your time. All LVI Form have Careers lessons as part of the Futures Programme, covering transitions, skills and university introductions, where they build self-awareness and evolution of individual interests alongside regular Tutor meetings and direct preparation for diverse and competitive university entrance programmes in the UK and overseas.



HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAREERS

At St Mary's we offer an exceptional programme of Higher Education support for our students. We are here to help you take ownership of your future and make your own informed decisions about what you want to achieve and how you are going to get there. There is a wealth of expertise amongst our staff and your Tutor will help guide you through the university application process. We encourage you to attend university Open and Taster Days to help you decide on your chosen courses and if you are applying to Oxbridge and specialist courses such as Medicine or Veterinary Science, then you will have additional support including subject enrichment sessions, discussion evenings and practice interviews. We offer tailored guidance for girls applying to US universities through our partnership with Vela Education, as this application process is very different to UCAS in the UK.

We have a proven track record of success and each year our UVI Formers gain places on competitive courses at a wide range of universities – both in the UK and abroad – so you should be confident that we will help you get to where you want to be.

As part of the Saturday Futures Programme, all LVI Form have Careers lessons in which they have the opportunity to reflect on their own skills and attributes and explore a wide range of career sectors, developing understanding of the world of work. These lessons also introduce and prepare girls for Higher Education, introducing different career paths, exploring universities and courses, conducting guided personal research and explaining the application processes.

The Sixth Form have their own individual Careers Programme, which includes a number of events throughout the year focusing on exploring the opportunities which are available to you once you

have left St Mary's. Our Inspiring Futures Conference (held in the Spring Term for the LVI Form) allows you to quiz a panel of eminent women, who have excelled in their respective fields, about any aspect of their careers. You are then able to interact with them in a range of seminars, in which you can seek their advice on how to be successful in the world of work.

We run informal lunch time careers seminars where you can learn more about specific professions and we have held networking dinners and events with our alumnae association, the CGA, to encourage networking and shared expertise, including online through Calne Connected (www.calneconnected.org).

Our extensive network of alumnae regularly come back and talk to the Sixth Form about their experiences at university to give insights into the wide range of career paths that they have followed. We have strong links with a number of universities, whose academics visit the school to give talks on their specific areas of research. We run a number of different workshops throughout your time in the Sixth Form to help make you ready for life beyond Calne.

We are deeply committed to supporting students so that you are able to adapt to change and hone the skills that you will need to succeed in a rapidly globalising world. The key to success, throughout the Sixth Form, is ensuring you maintain an open dialogue about your aspirations with your teachers so that we can be proactive when meeting your needs.

Above all, we aim to equip you for the next phase of your life so that you are able to make informed choices that suit you.

LECTURE PROGRAMME

Another highlight is our Tuesday night Lecture Programme via which we invite speakers into school to present on a broad range of interesting topics which aim to broaden your outlook beyond the curriculum. The list below is a sample of recent topics presented as part of the Lectures Programme.

Speaker	Title of Lecture
Shaun Pascoe - Former RAF Squadron Leader	<i>Aspiring Leadership</i>
Anna Wills - Founder and Director of ARC Events	<i>Hospitality and Management</i>
Alex Hibbert - Arctic Explorer	<i>Icebergs, Dogs & The Dark</i>
Dr Rosie Wyles - Classicist	<i>Greek Tragedy and Athenian Civic Identity</i>
Charlotte Patrick - Independent Analyst and Consultant	<i>Making Career Choices in Technology</i>
Rob Bassett Cross – Founder of Adarga	<i>AI: A Challenge or The Future</i>
Emily Sandbach	<i>Kilimanjaro, a Beautiful Destination and Challenge</i>
Kess Eruteya, Founder of Inclusionz	<i>Diversity and Inclusion in the Workplace</i>
Beatrice Forshall - Author and Illustrator	<i>The Book of Vanishing Species</i>
Kate Allenby, MBE - Olympic Bronze Medallist, Modern Pentathlon	<i>What Is Impossible?</i>
Dr Carolyn McNabb, Psychologist, Cardiff University	<i>Research in Schizophrenia</i>
Alex Lewis – Founder of the Alex Lewis Trust	<i>A Minor Set Back – Overcoming Adversity and Taking on Challenges</i>

ALUMNAE

As an alumna of St Mary's Calne, girls become members of the Calne Girls' Association (CGA) on entering the school. They are thereafter considered Calne Girls for life, irrespective of how long they might stay at St Mary's.

By the Sixth Form, the real benefits of this dynamic and valuable membership become apparent, as girls are asked regularly to participate in a whole raft of activities that involve alumnae.

Throughout the academic year, we host a series of CGA talks, networking events and careers initiatives, where alumnae covering a wide range of professions are invited to inspire and encourage current pupils with experiences of their life choices, entrepreneurial spirit and career successes. In many cases, our speakers go on to offer girls mentoring and work experience.

With the launch of Calne Connected – a website and networking platform exclusively for our school community, CGA members have access to a network of over 3,500 contacts worldwide. Our UVI Form pupils and alumnae are able to access career news and updates, a mentoring directory offering professional advice, work experience opportunities and career development. Recent Leavers also share university guidance, gap year travel tips and social connections.

Calne Connected aims to harness the talents and expertise of our incredible Calne Community, from graduate to senior leadership level. We host virtual 'clubs' which offer the opportunity to connect with those in similar professions, link up with alumnae at universities, as well as join special interest groups.

Our alumnae include award-winning writers, journalists, CEOs of multinational companies, renowned artists and actors, doctors and scientists, and even Gold Medallist Olympians.

As an alumna, you will also be regularly contacted about events and reunions, whether the venue be a London venue, a private home or country garden, local restaurant or the Library at Calne – your CGA membership ensures that Calne Girls will stay connected.



Elan Fryar and Grace Law (2022 Leavers) pictured with Laura Holloway, Director of Sixth Form



Emilia Flack (2014 Leaver) and Roya Nikkhah (1996 Leaver) at 2023 Founders' Day pictured with Simon Knight and Sara-Jane Sorcha (standing)



Sienna Wong - Head Girl 2022-2023

What did you study at A Level and what are you aiming to read at university?

I studied Biology, Chemistry and Maths at A Level, and hope to study Veterinary Science at university. I have always loved working with both animals and people, and being able to bring science into everyday work is why I want to be a vet.

What will you miss the most about St Mary's?

I will miss being with all my friends the most. Having lived with the same group of people for the past five years, I have formed strong relationships with my friends. We've always supported and been there for each other no matter what. However, I am sure we will keep in touch, just like the former Head Girls I've spoken to at the St Mary's 150th Anniversary Celebrations who still visit their school friends from time to time!

What advice would you give to girls joining the Sixth Form?

I would say that you should take every opportunity that you get and enjoy those final two years at secondary school. Time really goes by so quickly, especially when there are countless deadlines, exams and responsibilities dotted out throughout the year. My biggest advice would be to sit back, take a deep breath, and really enjoy the moment and time spent with everyone around you.



Katya Casey – Head Girl 2023-2024

What did you study at A Level and what are you aiming to read at university?

I am doing History, Politics and French and hoping to study History and Russian at The University of Edinburgh.

What advice would you give to girls joining the Sixth Form?

LVI is the best year, make the most of it! UVI has also been great despite UCAS and A Levels and it's your final year with everyone so make sure to spend time with your friends alongside working. Also, it is worth reading a lot in LVI as wider reading will be so helpful for your subjects and when writing your personal statement for university applications.

Finally, make the most of everything the school has to offer! There are hundreds of things to do, and hundreds of different people to chat to right at your doorstep!

SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM - UNIVERSITY COURSES

The following is a very brief summary of usual A Level requirements for different courses at UK universities. If you are interested in study abroad, for example in the US, please arrange a conversation with the Director of Sixth Form.

Course	A Level Requirements
Architecture	A combination of Arts and Sciences is very useful including Art, Maths and Physics. You will also need a strong portfolio of drawings.
Chemistry	Many universities will require Maths alongside Chemistry.
Classics	Whilst Latin or Greek are not always essential it would help your application as you need to demonstrate a capacity for language learning.
Computer Science	Computer Science is increasingly encouraged for Computing courses. Maths is usually required.
Economics	Maths. Also useful are Economics, Politics, and Geography. Further Maths is required by a few universities.
Engineering	Maths, Further Maths and Physics are likely to be required. Chemical Engineering will require Chemistry.
Geography	Some universities will require a Science A Level in addition to Geography.
History	History. Also useful are English, RS, Politics and Economics.
History of Art	No specific requirements but History of Art would be strongly advised.
Law	Most combinations of subjects will be acceptable but it is important that you are able to demonstrate your powers of analysis and the ability to express yourself clearly. An essay-based subject is likely to be required.
Mathematics	Maths is essential and Further Maths would be highly beneficial as would supporting subjects such as Physics. For Maths you may also be required to take the STEP paper and/or the TMUA.

Medicine or Veterinary Science	At least two Sciences are essential, usually Biology and Chemistry and perhaps Maths. Oxford states no preference for the third or fourth A Level subject. A broad range of work experience is also necessary to strengthen your application.
Modern Languages	For French, German and Spanish courses you will be required to have an A Level in your chosen language; you may begin other languages 'ab initio'.
Music	Music. You may also be required to submit a portfolio of work, and have obtained grade VII/VIII main instrument.
Physics	Maths, Physics and Further Maths is recommended.
Psychology	Usually requires a science as well as a minimum grade in English and Maths at GCSE. Studying Psychology A Level will be very useful.

For the latest information, you should always check the relevant Admissions pages on university websites.

What about entry to universities?

Admissions Tutors at leading universities are clear that the entry to most courses will continue to be through three very good grades at A Level. They are firmly against the idea of breadth at the cost of depth. The best Sixth Form programme will have a balance of rigorous academic study in three, or occasionally four, subjects complemented by the broader experience of their Supra Curriculum and co-curricular activity. Girls are encouraged to be aware of the profile created by their choices of academic subjects, as well as wider studies and activities, and will be guided on how to present those choices in the most positive way.



2022 Leaver, Rosie George, is now studying at Cornell University, part of the prestigious Ivy League.

UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS

Leavers of the Sixth Form at St Mary's are highly successful in securing competitive places on courses at a wide range of leading universities, including the Russell Group and Oxbridge, as well as at leading universities around the globe. In addition, each year some students decide to study a Foundation Diploma in Art or Design before deciding which Higher Education path to follow or attend a Conservatoire or Performing Arts School.

You can be assured that, whether you apply to university during your UVI Form Year or as a Post-Qualification Applicant whilst on your Gap Year, we will be here to support you every step of the way.

The destinations of our 2018-2024 Leavers are shown in the following table. These destinations are correct at the time of going to print.

University	Course
ASTON BIRMINGHAM	Medicine
BATH	Architecture Civil Engineering
BATH SPA	Creative Writing
BIRMINGHAM	Business Management Computer Science Dentistry Geography Geology History of Art Liberal Arts & Sciences Medicine Psychology Sociology & Criminology Sports, Exercise & Health Science
BOURNEMOUTH	Film Psychology with Forensic Investigation
BRADFORD	Chemical Engineering
BRIGHTON & SUSSEX MEDICAL SCHOOL	Medical Neuroscience
BRISTOL	Biomedical Science Business & Management with Study Abroad Childhood Studies with Study Abroad Classics Economics Economics & Management Engineering Design English Geography History History of Art History of Art & French Law Maths with Study Abroad Mechanical & Electrical Engineering Medicine Philosophy & Politics Politics & Spanish Zoology
CAMBRIDGE	Archaeology Economics Engineering History & Russian History & Politics Land Economy
CARDIFF	Biological Sciences Biomedical Sciences Business Economics English Literature & Archaeology English Literature & Creative Writing Medicine Philosophy Philosophy & Politics Physiotherapy Psychology with Professional Placement Sociology
CENTRAL SAINT MARTINS	Art Foundation
CHICHESTER	Musical Theatre & Cabaret Performance Music & Musical Theatre
CITY LONDON	International Politics
COURTAULD INSTITUTE OF ART	History of Art
DURHAM	Anthropology Archaeology Archaeology & Ancient Civilisations Archaeology of the Historic World Biological Sciences Business & Management with Study Abroad Chemistry (International) Chinese Studies Classics Criminology Economics English Literature Environmental Geoscience Geography History International Relations Mathematics Modern Languages & Cultures Natural Sciences Philosophy & Theology Psychological & Behavioural Science Psychology Science with Foundation Sociology Sport & Exercise Sciences Theology & Religion

University	Course
EAST ANGLIA	History of Art
EDINBURGH	Applied Sport Science Art Biomedical Sciences Chemistry Classics Computational Physics Ecological & Environmental Science English Language & Literature Fine Art French Geography History History of Art International Business International Business with Chinese International Relations Philosophy Russian Studies & History Social Anthropology Sociology Veterinary Medicine
EXETER	Ancient History Anthropology Archaeology Art History & Visual Culture Biological Sciences Business & Management Classics with Study Abroad Computational Physics Business Economics Business Management Data Science Economics English English & Modern Languages Flexible Combined Honours with Study Abroad French & Arabic Geography History History & Modern Languages International Relations International Relations with Study Abroad Law Liberal Arts Medicine Modern Languages Philosophy Philosophy & Sociology Politics PPE Psychology Sociology Sociology & Criminology Sociology & Criminology with Study Abroad Sports Science Theology & Religion
GOLDSMITHS	Business Management
IMPERIAL COLLEGE	Biological Sciences Chemistry Materials Science & Engineering
KING'S COLLEGE LONDON	Biomedical Science Classical Studies Economics & Management English with Film Studies European Studies – Spanish Pathway International Relations Law Maths with Statistics Sport Exercise & Medical Sciences
KINGSTON	Fine Art
LANCASTER	Geography
LEEDS	Liberal Arts Medical Microbiology Medicine Politics Sociology Theology & Religious Studies
LEEDS BECKETT	Sport & Exercise Science
LIVERPOOL	Veterinary Science
LONDON COLLEGE OF FASHION	Fashion Management
LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS	Anthropology & Law Economics Geography International Relations & History Law Management Philosophy & Economics
LOUGHBOROUGH	Fine Art Materials Science & Engineering

University	Course
MANCHESTER	Aerospace Engineering Civil Engineering Computer Science Drama & English Literature Film Studies & History of Art Geography Master of Planning Nursing Social Anthropology & Sociology Sociology
NEWCASTLE	Ancient History & Archaeology Biomedical Sciences Business Management Combined Honours Computer Science Digital Cultures & Media Education Geography History & Archaeology Modern Languages & Business Studies Sociology
NORLAND	Early Years Development & Learning
NOTTINGHAM	Accounting & Finance Architecture Law Product Design & Manufacture Psychology & Cognitive Neuroscience
NOTTINGHAM TRENT	Fashion Design
OXFORD	Biological Sciences Chemistry Classics Classics & English English English & Italian English Language & Literature Fine Art French Geography History History & Economics Modern Languages Philosophy & Theology Physics & Philosophy Psychology
OXFORD BROOKES	Anthropology & Geography Interior Architecture
QUEEN MARY LONDON	International Relations Law Medicine.
READING	Business & Management
ROYAL HOLLOWAY	Law Modern Languages & Classical Studies Music & English
ROYAL WELSH COLLEGE OF MUSIC AND DRAMA	Music
SHEFFIELD	Computer Systems Engineering
SOAS	Chinese International Relations Social Anthropology Social Sciences, Arts & Humanities with Foundation
SOUTHAMPTON	Medicine
ST ANDREWS	Ancient History Biochemistry Chemistry Classics Computer Science English History International Relations & Modern History Italian & Spanish Materials Chemistry Molecular Biology
SUSSEX	Psychology
UAL	Contemporary Media Cultures

University	Course
UCL	Anthropology Architecture Engineering with Architectural Design Geography German & Latin History of Art Law Law with German Law Philosophy
UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS	Animation
WARWICK	Chemistry Data Science Law Mathematics Politics & Sociology
YORK	Biology Film & Television Production Music

INTERNATIONAL DESTINATIONS

University	Course
CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG	Architecture Economics
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK	International Relations
CORNELL UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK	College of Human Ecology
FLORENCE DESIGN ACADEMY	Interior Design
IE UNIVERSITY, MADRID	Dual Degree Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor in International Relations
RICE UNIVERSITY, USA	Architecture
TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN	History & English
TRINITY UNIVERSITY, USA	Liberal Arts
UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY	Electrical & Electronic Engineering
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, CANADA	Psychology
USC	Business Technology & Art/Design
VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY, PENNSYLVANIA	Languages

SIXTH FORM LEARNING

Life in the Sixth Form at St Mary's is distinctly different and marks a new beginning. St Mary's is an exceptional school and the Sixth Form offers a stimulating, vibrant and challenging environment for learning. We have high expectations of all of our Sixth Formers and aim to foster a life-long curiosity and excitement for your chosen subjects as well as the necessary skills to succeed in a rapidly globalising world.

By the time you enter the Sixth Form, you are studying the subjects that you love and you have taken responsibility for your learning. This is not simply about the accumulation of knowledge and knowing how to pass exams – it is so much more than this. Our Sixth Formers have enquiring minds and we enjoy facilitating academic debate within the St Mary's framework of fostering Academic Buoyancy and our 'Win Your Own Race' ethos.

'There is an enthusiastic spirit amongst pupils to seize new opportunities.'

(Director of Sixth Form)



Win Your Own Race

St Mary's Calne is proud of its culture of academia that comes from the high aspirations, industry and flair shown by pupils throughout the school. Teachers, Houses and Support Staff all help pupils to do their very best academically and achieve excellent outcomes, both in relative and absolute terms.

Pupils are empowered to be the best version of themselves and to 'win their own race.' We celebrate a breadth of fantastic achievements in a variety of subject disciplines and across the whole attainment range.

The Win Your Own Race strategy aims to challenge all pupils in all areas of their academics to strive for their very best. It builds on our vision of pupils being connected across subjects, digitally, with their teachers and with the wider community. This allows pupils and teachers to break free from silos and collaborate to achieve excellent learning outcomes.

Win Your Own Race's key message is that at St Mary's Calne, we celebrate success in a variety of subjects and all its forms.

Academic Buoyancy

We believe that, by fostering *academic buoyancy* in our Sixth Form, you will leave us with five key strengths that will prepare you for the academic and wider challenges beyond school:

Confidence

To complete a given task and accept challenge as a good thing.

Coordination

To set and pursue goals, plan, monitor and manage tasks within a specific timeframe.

Control

Of your own learning and the understanding of your ability to impact the success of a project.

Composure

To remain calm in stressful situations.

Commitment

To stay on task, resist distractions, act on feedback and recover from setbacks.

You will find that we value, just as highly, the learning that takes place during your experiences outside the classroom and beyond your chosen A Level subject curricula, be they academic, sporting, community, or arts based.

The Sixth Form at St Mary's is not simply about deepening the interests you have already developed, but also about challenging yourself to get involved in all that we have to offer. Our Sixth Formers are keen to share their enthusiasm in their areas of interest with the wider school community and ours is a co-curricular programme that would rival that of many universities.

SIXTH FORM FACILITIES

Boarding Houses

We are incredibly proud of our first-class Sixth Form Boarding Houses which aim to facilitate the transition to university life by developing your independent living skills. Your accommodation is ideally located so that you have your own distinctive Sixth Form space within the St Mary's site whilst also being able to remain fully involved in all aspects of school life. Our horizontal boarding system means that you board with your whole year group and are able to experience Sixth Form life together.

A short stroll across the new Lime Kiln Garden from the main school, the Florence Dyas and Helen Wright Sixth Form Houses both provide outstanding facilities for your exciting transition to Sixth Form.

The spacious en-suite study bedrooms, communal kitchens, tutorial areas, private gardens, lounges and flexible seminar spaces provide you with the perfect environment in which to live and study more independently in a vibrant and supportive community. You also have your own dining area and a Sixth Form menu for breakfast, break and lunch. The communal kitchens are fully equipped and in the evenings you are able to try out your cookery skills as you learn to cook for yourself. There is always the option of heading to the main school dining room for supper too!

As you move into the UVI Form, you will gain Sixth Form Bar privileges. The bar is open on a Friday and Saturday evening and is an inclusive and sociable space where the Sixth Form can come along and relax with their friends. You also have the option of using the state-of-the-art fitness suite, tennis courts and indoor swimming pool in your free time.

Library

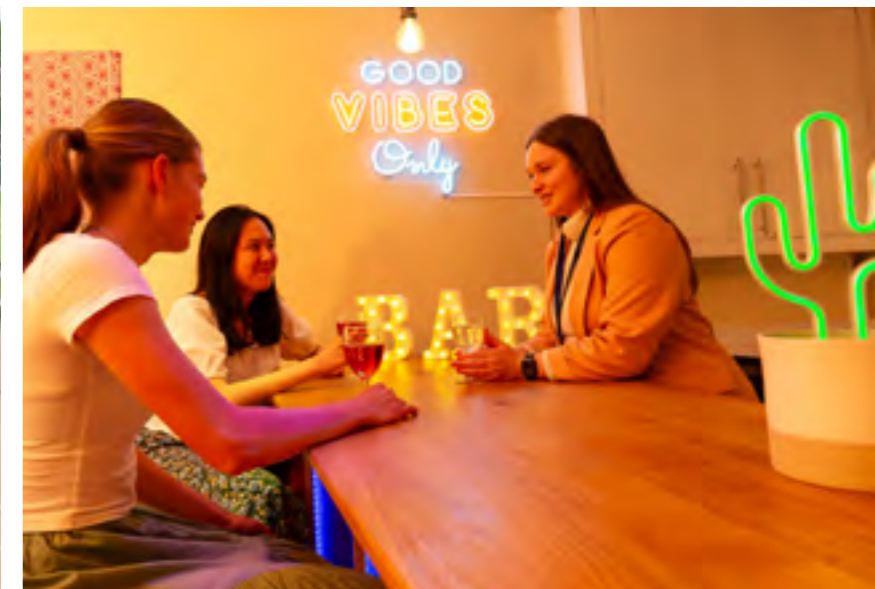
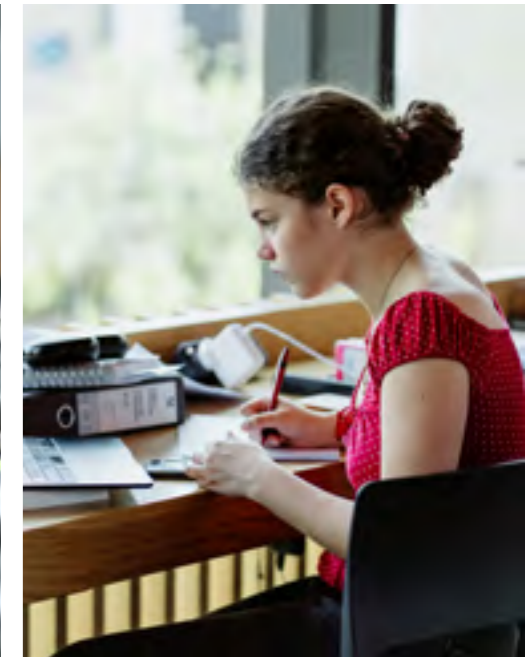
The St Mary's Library aims to be a resource centre for staff and students alike, to support teaching, learning and research; extending individuals both academically and personally by housing quality resources in welcoming facilities. It is open every day during term time and houses a variety of resources to entertain, support and stretch our students and staff.

The ground floor of the Library provides an array of varied seating, allowing you to browse and enjoy the latest new releases and bestsellers as well as current issues of publications, graphic novels, manga, gothic novels and more.

On the first floor of the Library the study desks, with a fabulous view over the orchard, provide a tranquil setting for individual study. The first floor also houses the vast majority of our 14,000-plus books, both fiction and non-fiction.

The Library also contains a number of varying sized collaborative spaces fitted with the latest interactive technology, allowing the girls to work jointly on projects. In addition to the physical books students can access a range of online resources. These include The Day online newspaper for schools, the online encyclopaedia Britannica, the A Level Review Magazines collection, Grove Art, MASSOLIT, the complete Connell Guides collection, and the journal databases JSTOR, all allowing the use of these resources both remotely as well as when on school grounds.

Girls are always encouraged to read for pleasure, nurturing their love of the written word. This is supported by regular author visits.



PASTORAL CARE

St Mary's has a reputation for outstanding pastoral care and you will find the Sixth Form community both nurturing and supportive. Whilst you will notice the increased independence and freedom, you can also be assured that you are surrounded by staff who are committed to ensuring that you fulfil your potential; the Sixth Form team is a very experienced one. House Staff help to create a home-from-home in the Sixth Form boarding Houses and, along with your teachers, are always on hand to offer salient advice when it is needed.

You will also be assigned a Tutor who will meet with you, individually, every week to check in with you about your progress in all areas of school life and, importantly, your wellbeing. We recognise that every student is different, so you can expect a programme of guidance and support that is specific to you. Rest assured that you will be in the best possible position when it comes to making your university application in the autumn of the UVI Form.

Living with your year group also enables a profound sense of community and allows strong friendships to develop. The atmosphere in the Sixth Form promotes a belief that you can achieve whatever you put your mind to and it really is a time in which you can look forward and embrace your future potential. Ours is a diverse community in which everybody is encouraged to be themselves. There is a strong commitment to helping each other and this translates into a happy and purposeful environment in which successes are readily shared and celebrated.



THE COMPANY SYSTEM

The Company System gives girls in the Sixth Form the chance to act as leaders and role models to the younger years in the school. There are numerous competitions and charity events throughout the school year from the Inter-Company Shout and Music Competition to Inter-Company bake offs and Quizzes. Girls are able to organise big or small events not only learning valuable skills in the process but also enabling them to talk about leading events in their UCAS applications. The weekly Company Meetings give the Sixth Form girls the opportunity to speak in front of a relatively large group of people without the pressure of a specific competition. The interaction between year groups allows the girls to act in a pastoral way to the younger girls, giving them advice on everything from A Level choices to co-curricular opportunities.

“The support network really encourages independence and confidence which then impacts upon your work, your sport and your friendships and overall makes you a better person.”

SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM

In view of linear A Levels and the admissions criteria of universities which will continue to base their offers on three A Level grades, we are entirely clear that studying three subjects is the best option for the vast majority of our girls. Even so, it may be appropriate for some girls to study four A Levels, and we shall consider this on an individual basis. We are therefore asking girls to choose three A Levels to study, and engage fully in our Supra Curriculum.

Grade Requirements

Pupils are required to have achieved a minimum of six Grade 6s to progress into the Sixth Form. It is expected that you will achieve a Grade 7 or above at GCSE in the subjects that you wish to continue to A Level. If a pupil is not on track to meet these requirements, she is invited to discuss the most appropriate curriculum for her with our Deputy Head Academic, Mr Michael Smyth. A Level Courses which you may not have studied at GCSE have their own requirements which are outlined below:

New A Level Subjects

- Economics – GCSE Maths and English at Grade 7 or above.
- Politics – GCSE English at Grade 7 or above.
- History of Art – GCSE English at Grade 7 or above and either History/Geography/RS at Grade 7 or above.
- Physical Education and Psychology – GCSE Maths, English and Biology at Grade 7 or above.

Our Supra Curriculum

A broad and varied Supra Curriculum enriches, complements and diversifies the knowledge and skills taught in core A Level courses. On top of the EPQ offered to all Sixth Form girls, you can choose to undertake an additional qualification in Photography, Geology or Italian at GCSE Level, or AS Level Mathematics. The advanced ICDL (International Certification of Digital Literacy) is offered to develop IT competency to a high skill level.

Furthermore, the Donaldson Electives programme offers all girls the opportunity to try a series of short courses throughout the LVI Form year, from School of Rock to Cultural Anthropology or learning British Sign Language.



Subject Combinations

In the LVI Form it is our expectation that the majority of girls will study three subjects to A Level. To provide additional breadth we would expect all girls to engage fully with our Supra Curriculum. There are other compulsory courses which all girls follow so it is important for them to talk to their Tutor about overall workload, ie everything which they do regularly and which takes up some of their time.

We consider our approach to be a good balance for most girls since Sixth Form studies involve the need for considerable private study outside the timetabled lessons.

Which Subjects?

This will depend on many factors. Some girls will be guided by potential future career paths, and it is important that time is spent exploring this. There are implications, for example, for those girls considering Medicine, Veterinary Science, Engineering, Architecture and Law. Two subjects that support each other should be at the core of the choices made (eg two sciences, two arts subjects or two languages) enabling the acquisition of common skills and ensuring a stronger university application. As always at St Mary's, there is help and advice for each girl to ensure the best combination is chosen to suit her talents and strengths and to decide which of those subjects she plans to take to A Level.



A LEVEL COURSE OPTIONS

We are pleased to offer our Sixth Form pupils a wide range of A Level course options, all of which are listed below. To explore A Level course content in detail you can request an A Level course outline of the subjects you are interested in from the Admissions Team (admissions@stmaryscalne.org), visit the Sixth Form section of the school website (www.stmaryscalne.org) or scan the QR code below. You may also wish to contact Heads of Departments to work out the best A Level subject choices and combinations for you, always with our full and personalised support. Their details are listed with each A Level subject course outline.

The Arts

Drama and Theatre
Fine Art
Music

Classical Civilisation, History, History of Art and Philosophy

Classical Civilisation
History
History of Art
Religious Studies

Languages and Literature

English Literature
Latin/Greek
Modern Languages

Science and Mathematics

Biology
Chemistry
Computer Science
Mathematics/Further Mathematics
Physical Education
Physics
Psychology

Social Sciences

Business
Economics
Geography
Politics



A LEVEL EXAMINATION BOARDS

Subject	Examination Board
Drama and Theatre Studies	Pearson Edexcel
Fine Art	OCR
Music	Pearson Edexcel
Classical Civilisation	OCR
History	AQA
History of Art	Pearson Edexcel
Religious Studies	Eduqas - WJEC
English Literature	OCR
Latin	OCR
Greek	OCR
French	Pearson Edexcel
German	Pearson Edexcel
Spanish	Pearson Edexcel
Mandarin Chinese	Pearson Edexcel
Biology	AQA
Chemistry	Pearson Edexcel
Computer Science	AQA
Mathematics	Pearson Edexcel
Further Mathematics	Pearson Edexcel
Physical Education	AQA
Physics	Pearson Edexcel
Psychology	Pearson Edexcel
Economics	AQA
Geography	OCR
Politics	Pearson Edexcel
Extended Project Qualification	Pearson Edexcel

LOCATION

St Mary's is located in the market town of Calne which is situated in the heart of the beautiful Wiltshire countryside. This means that you are able to enjoy the outdoor space whilst also being able to use the local facilities which are within a short five minutes' walk from the school.

There is much to explore in the local area with Bath, Bristol, Marlborough, Oxford and Salisbury all easily accessible via excellent transport links. London can be reached in 90 minutes via the car or train. The freedom afforded to you in the Sixth Form means that you will be able to visit these places and enjoy all that they have to offer - further enriching your time with us.

From M4 Westbound

Exit the M4 at Junction 16 and, at the roundabout, take the second exit onto the A3102 towards Calne, which is 13 miles away. Follow sat nav directions to SN11 0DF.

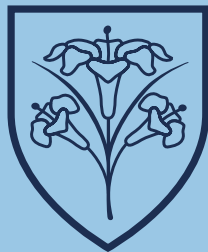
From M4 Eastbound

Exit the M4 at Junction 17 and, at the roundabout, take the fourth exit signposted for Chippenham. Calne is 17 miles away. Follow sat nav directions to SN11 0DF.

By Train

The nearest station is in Chippenham. We are a short taxi ride from the station. For further information on train times and fares, please call National Rail Enquiries on 08457 48 49 50, or visit: www.nationalrail.co.uk





ST MARY'S CALNE
GIRLS' BOARDING & DAY

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