



*'With grace and humility,
glorify the Lord by your life.'*

Our Schools



Our Lady & St Joseph Catholic Academy
Riversley Park, Coton Road, Nuneaton, Warwickshire CV11 5TY



St Anne's Catholic Academy
Camp Hill Drive, Nuneaton, Warwickshire CV10 0JX



St Benedict's Catholic Academy
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St Francis Catholic Academy
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The Holy Spirit Experience

Experiences for Everyone

Introduction

It is a great pleasure to introduce the second edition of this document that we have come to call The Holy Spirit Experience. Over twenty years ago, Professor Tim Brighouse, Chief Education Officer of Birmingham introduced the concept of the Primary and Secondary Guarantee to the City. It detailed the educational provision that every child and young person in a Birmingham school would experience beyond the National Curriculum. It was ground breaking work at the time and led to huge benefits but, inevitably, in a city the size of Birmingham it had limitations. The success of the guarantees was entirely dependent on the enthusiasm and commitment of each individual school and the primary and secondary documents were separate from each other.

The Holy Spirit Experience has been considerably updated to reflect the current educational context but, crucially, it is also based on the concept of a seamless transition at the age of eleven. We are extremely fortunate that nearly every child from Year 6 in our four MAC primary schools transfers to St Thomas More for their secondary education. That has allowed the senior staff from all our schools to work on the basis that a child at three will enter one of our nurseries and begin a fifteen-year journey culminating in leaving Year 13 as a young man or woman ready to take their place in the adult world.

Tim Brighouse's Guarantees formed the basis of the concept but as a Catholic MAC we were especially interested in the work of the Catholic Partnership in Birmingham which produced the Catholic Secondary Guarantee in 1998. Building on the LEA's commitment this document set out for the first time what it meant to join one of the City's nine Catholic secondary schools. Similarly, in developing The Holy Spirit Experience we have focused very clearly on prayer, sacramental preparation, collective worship, charities and social action.

In this second edition of The Holy Spirit Experience we have added a sixth category that we think should be central to the education of every pupil in our MAC. The additional section is called "Vocations, Journeys and Destinations" and reflects our belief that every child and young person is a unique person called by God to be the best person they can be. It is our job to work with parents and families to help them on their life's journey to achieve their potential in every way. And we spell out precisely the way in which the Holy Spirit MAC will support them to reach their goals as they progress from the nursery to the sixth form.

Last year we sought feedback on the progress we have made following the introduction of The Holy Spirit Experience. We sought the views of all pupils, staff and parents across the MAC and we have been very encouraged by the feedback so far. We shall be sharing the outcomes with you and our response to them by the end of this term. And at the end of this school year in July 2020 we shall be consulting with you again to ensure we really are delivering what we outline in this document.

We hope you as parents welcome The Holy Spirit Experience and share our excitement in what it contains but we also know that we must deliver what we promise. We look forward to hearing your feedback in the months and years ahead.

Jim Foley - Chair of Holy Spirit MAC

Experiences for everyone



The Format of the Holy Spirit Experience

We have chosen to focus on six key areas of school life as follows:

Catholic Life

As a Catholic MAC, we play a key role in the faith formation of every child. A pupil's experience of the Catholic life of the school will undoubtedly influence their faith as an adult and so it is important we offer an experience which is truly outstanding.

Charities and Social Action

Our aim for every pupil in the Holy Spirit MAC is to ensure that they are compassionate young people who recognise and support the needs of those who are vulnerable. For this reason, we place great emphasis on charities and educating all pupils about their potential to make a positive contribution to society.

The Residential Experience

One of the greatest experiences a young person can have is the opportunity to take part in a residential trip. For many pupils a residential school trip will be their first experience of being away from home and it is a memory which lasts a lifetime. We aim to ensure that every pupil experiences a residential at primary school and at least one more at secondary school.

Sporting Opportunities

Whether pupils demonstrate a natural aptitude for sport or whether they just enjoy occasionally experiencing the enjoyment of competing against their peers, we believe that every student should have access to high quality sporting opportunities.

Cultural and Creative Experiences

We place huge importance on providing numerous opportunities for our pupils to experience as many cultural and creative experiences as possible. Beyond school we aim to broaden pupils' horizons by regular visits to art galleries, the theatre, museums, musical performances, historical sites and places of educational interest. Within school we are passionate about art, drama, music, physical education and technology and at St Thomas More we have created a faculty to ensure all students receive their full entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum.

Vocations, Journeys and Destinations

We want to ensure that every pupil in the Holy Spirit MAC aspires to achieve their full potential. We encourage all pupils to recognise and develop their unique skills and talents and to know how they can make a positive difference in the world. For this reason we have included a range of commitments which support each pupil's understanding of their personal vocation and the possible destinations and career paths available to them.



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Experiences for Everyone

Catholic Life

The Holy Spirit MAC is a Catholic multi academy company. From the moment your child joins the MAC at the age of three or four, they will become active members of a Catholic community.

They will be involved not only in the Catholic life of the school but in the life of the parish and the wider Catholic community across the MAC. Along with opportunities within each school to engage in daily acts of collective worship, regular attendance at Mass and provision of outstanding catechesis, all children will have the opportunity to come together with their peers across the MAC to experience Mass and collective worship as part of a much larger MAC community.



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Early Years (age 3-5)

Your child's journey in The Holy Spirit MAC begins when they are three years old. On joining one of our MAC schools, each child begins a unique journey designed to ensure they achieve their full potential. As the first educators of your child in the faith you as parents will be supported by the staff in each primary school to build a strong partnership with you and your wider family. We know how important a child's first years at school are for the whole family and we understand how important it is to build positive relationships with a child's family, enabling us to celebrate each child's successes together.

During Nursery & Reception each child will:

- **Be actively involved in a daily act of worship**
This will be in the form of class liturgies and assemblies. During Advent and Lent, family members will have the opportunity to join their child for collective worship when they are invited to 'Stay and Pray'.
- **Be invited to attend a termly parish Family Mass with their family**
This is a great way for families within The Holy Spirit MAC to become part of the wider parish community.
- **Be allocated a prayer partner**
The older pupils in the school will take on the role of prayer partners and will actively work with children in the Early Years Foundation Stage to support them in learning how to pray and how to contribute to the prayer life of the school.
- **Be given a class prayer bag to share at home with their family**
By using the prayer bag to pray at home, parents will be able to support their child's faith development and to encourage the formation of a relationship with Jesus through prayer.
- **Attend Mass fortnightly**
By the end of the Reception year, children will attend a whole school Mass fortnightly and will be able to contribute to the Mass with increasing confidence. Parents will be invited to attend all whole school Masses.

Key Stage One (age 5-7)

During Key Stage One, all children will continue with the provision offered in the Early Years. However, as they grow in maturity they will be encouraged to have a more active role in key liturgical events. Key Stage One sees the increase in opportunities for children to become leaders in certain aspects of the Catholic life of the school and the development of these emerging leadership skills will be nurtured and encouraged by all staff in The Holy Spirit MAC.

During Key Stage One each child will:

- **Lead a whole Mass with their class**
Each class will lead a whole school Mass at least twice each year. This will include children reading in the Mass, preparing the liturgical music and participating in the offertory procession.
- **Contribute to the class prayer focus**
Children will be invited to bring items from home which are special to them to place in the class prayer area. They will also have the opportunity to ask the class to pray for any intentions which are personal to them by placing their petition in the prayer area.
- **Plan and lead collective worship**
Children will be taught to confidently use The Holy Spirit MAC collective worship planning format to plan for class collective worship. They will choose a theme for collective worship, along with music, scripture readings and prayers and will lead the whole class collective worship.
- **Independently use the school prayer area**
All children will be encouraged to develop their confidence to pray by independently visiting the school sacred prayer space. Here they can also leave their private petitions to encourage other children to pray for them. During key points in the liturgical year, children will also contribute to the prayer area. For instance, during November children will be encouraged to pray for the dead and will leave the names of deceased loved ones in the prayer area, asking the whole school community to pray for them.
- **Learn to meditate**
Christian meditation will be introduced in Key Stage One and will be used each day to enable children to reflect and to learn to be silent and still.



Key Stage Two (age 7-11)

The firm foundations laid in EYFS and Key Stage One mean that expectations of pupils at Key Stage Two are high. Having learnt how to plan and lead collective worship and having contributed widely to the prayer life of the school, a more diverse range of opportunities will be offered to pupils from Year Three to Year Six to enable them to actively contribute to the development of outstanding Catholic life at each school.

During Key Stage Two all children will:

- **Receive a bespoke Holy Spirit MAC sacramental preparation programme for the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation**

These preparation programmes were designed by senior leaders and clergy in The Holy Spirit MAC to meet the needs of pupils within our MAC community. Each programme is based on the catechism of the Catholic Church and so provides a knowledge base which enables children to confidently receive the sacraments with maturity and understanding.

- **Participate in a sacramental preparation MAC retreat day**

All pupils in Year Three and Year Six in The Holy Spirit MAC will come together each year for a retreat day which will be led by a visiting youth ministry team. Pupils in Year Three and Year Six who are not receiving the sacraments will be just as involved as those who are and will be encouraged to offer support to their peers during their preparation.

- **Become a 'Mini Vinnie'**

St Vincent de Paul Society was founded in 1833 by a group of students in Paris. They were challenged to serve the poor of the city and inspired by the example of St Vincent de Paul, they served the local population face to face, as part of their spiritual formation. In The Holy Spirit MAC, children will join the St Vincent de Paul Society during Key Stage Two and will be offered lots of opportunities to serve the local community and to give to those in need.

- **Go to confession during Advent and Lent**

All those who have received the sacrament of reconciliation will go to confession twice each year and will be supported by the staff at each school to do so with confidence.

- **Develop an understanding of vocation by participating in an annual Vocations Day**

We encourage all pupils to foster a sense of vocation and a calling to be the person God wants them to be. With this in mind, there will be an annual opportunity for all pupils to learn about different vocations and the possible routes they might wish to pursue in the future.

- **Have the opportunity to evaluate the Catholic life of the school**

We have a firm belief in the power of pupil voice and so all pupils will be invited to join a liturgy team whose job it is to work with the Senior Leadership Team at each school to evaluate the effectiveness of the Catholic life of the school.

- **Join the Parish hospitality team**

Each MAC school is part of a thriving, diverse parish. During Year Six, pupils will be given the opportunity to become involved in serving the Parish by joining a hospitality team. The hospitality team will organise different events within the parish and will actively work to forge strong links between the parish and the school.



Key Stage Three & Four (age 11-16)

Each year, over 80% of the pupils entering St Thomas More Catholic Secondary School come from a primary school in The Holy Spirit MAC. This means that the vast majority of pupils begin their journey of faith together at the age of three or four and will continue to journey together throughout Key Stage Three, Four and Five. Those students we welcome into Year Seven from non MAC schools are quickly immersed in the Catholic life of the school and are supported by staff and their peers to develop the knowledge and confidence to participate in all aspects of school life and to contribute to the Catholic life of the school.

The distinctive change when pupils enter Key Stage Three is the growing expectation and opportunity for each student to independently develop their faith. The regularity of collective worship established in Key Stage Two continues in to the secondary phase of education but students are also encouraged to voluntarily explore their faith and recognise the value of increasing the frequency and variety of their involvement in liturgical services. From Key Stage Three, students have access to a school chaplain who not only leads regular Mass but is also available to offer spiritual guidance and pastoral support.

During Key Stage Three and Four all students will:

- **The daily Angelus**

Every lunchtime a bell is rung and all students and staff stand reverently in class to say the Angelus together.

- **Attend a Parish Mass**

Whilst the majority of Masses will take place in the school chapel, we recognise the importance of students maintaining strong links with our four MAC parishes. For this reason, all students from Key Stage Three will have the opportunity to attend a parish Mass at least once each year.

- **Attend a residential retreat**

All students in Year Seven will be invited to attend a residential retreat in the UK. This will provide a fantastic opportunity for those entering Key Stage Three from a variety of settings to get to know each other and to form a clear identity as a new year group in our Catholic secondary school.

- **Have the opportunity to go on a pilgrimage to Lourdes**

Whilst we know not every student will participate in this pilgrimage, The Holy Spirit MAC is fully committed to supporting all those who wish to attend to do so and so will work to overcome any potential barriers.

- **Contribute to the liturgical music**

A large number of the students entering St. Thomas More have had peripatetic music tuition before the age of eleven. As music is a fundamental part of the Catholic life at St. Thomas More, students who have musical ability, or those who would like to be involved in the liturgical music, are encouraged to do so.

- **Regularly participate in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Students throughout The Holy Spirit MAC have the opportunity to participate in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. During Key Stage Three and Four, the frequency of opportunities for students to participate in adoration increases but they also have the opportunity to voluntarily attend adoration in the school chapel several times per year.

- **Attend voluntary Mass**

Our aim is to support all students in establishing a relationship with Jesus through the Eucharist. With this in mind, pupils are encouraged to recognise the value of voluntarily attending Mass during their free time.

- **Independently use the school chapel**

The school chapel provides a place for quiet prayer and reflection and a chance for students to briefly escape the fast pace of school life. The chapel is open every break and lunch for students to visit.

- **Attend voluntary rosary**

The rosary is routinely prayed during curriculum time but pupils are also provided with the opportunity to come together during lunches and breaks during May to pray the rosary.

- **Attend voluntary confession**

Key to the school behaviour policy is our commitment to ensuring pupils are able to reflect on their own behaviour and the impact their behaviour has on other people. Pupils are encouraged to understand the power of confession and absolution and are offered the opportunity voluntarily attend confession on a regular basis.



Key Stage Five (age 16-18)

Many students from St. Thomas More School choose to stay at the school for their Sixth Form education. Our aim is to further increase the retention of students from Key Stage Four to Key Stage Five in the coming years to enable more students to experience Catholic post 16 education. We are also joined by a number of students from a variety of settings, both Catholic and non-Catholic. In light of this, we provide all students from non-Catholic settings with an induction programme to ensure they have the knowledge and understanding to enable them to confidently participate in liturgical events and contribute to the Catholic life of the Sixth Form, the wider school and the MAC.

The focus for Key Stage Five is increased responsibility and leadership. Students are encouraged to be aware of the needs of others and to consider how they can contribute to local parishes and wider society. Students are encouraged to recognise the need for an active faith and the extent to which they can respond to the needs of the vulnerable. Many of these opportunities are provided through provision of charitable works and so are covered in the next section.



In addition to continuing the practice outlined for Key Stage Four, all students in the Sixth Form will have the opportunity to:

- **Lead Children's Liturgy within a Parish**

Key Stage Five provides a perfect opportunity for students to not only learn how to articulate their faith by sharing it with younger children but also to understand the value of contributing to Parish life.

- **Become a Eucharistic Minister**

Students who regularly practise their faith by attending Mass and actively engaging in both the Catholic life of the school and parish life, will be offered the opportunity to become a Eucharistic Minister. This will enable them to distribute Holy Communion during school Masses but also during Parish Masses.

- **Lead collective worship for younger pupils in the MAC**

Younger pupils in The Holy Spirit MAC undoubtedly look up to our oldest students and enjoy opportunities to learn from them. The opportunity to plan, organise and lead collective worship for younger pupils also provides an excellent opportunity for Sixth Form students to build confidence and develop a range of leadership skills.



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MAC Mission

Throughout a student's time in The Holy Spirit MAC, we will actively work to ensure the ongoing faith formation of every pupil. We strive to shape of the whole person, to take up and carry on the mission of Jesus Christ in the world.

To support the faith formation of every pupil, we commit to ensuring that over the course of their education they will be part of a MAC Mission at least twice, once at primary school and again at St Thomas More. To be part of a Mission can prove transformational for many people and can provide a true call to discipleship.



Experiences for Everyone

Charities and Social Action

In The Holy Spirit MAC we have a commitment to ensuring that we educate our pupils to actively live their faith. We are undoubtedly living through a time when there is great need, both within our local community and beyond. We encourage all pupils, from the youngest to the oldest, to recognise how they can play a part in supporting vulnerable members of society. By ensuring every pupil recognises that small contributions can make a difference to the lives of others, we aim to develop true Christians who, when leaving the MAC at eighteen, will go on to continue to make a positive contribution to society into their adult life.

Each year, the Board of Directors will consider applications from each school specifying which charity they would like the whole MAC to support. In addition, each MAC school will also choose to support charities which have a specific relevance to the school community.

“A faith without works, a faith that doesn’t get you involved, isn’t faith, it’s words and nothing more than words.”

Pope Francis



Target

Each year we will set a fundraising target for the MAC.

Our target for 2019/20 is: £22,000

We recognise the high levels of need locally and so will also be supporting the Foodbank by receiving weekly donations from students, families and staff within the MAC. In 2018/19 we donated over 8 tonnes to the local food banks.

Our target for 2019/20 is: 7.5 Tonnes

Early Years (age 3-5)

In Nursery and Reception, we teach children to consider the needs of other people. Learning to understand that you can help other people by sacrificing something you might prefer to keep is an essential life skill! When our youngest pupils raise money for a charity, they do so in lots of different fun ways. However, we also encourage them to understand that their effort and contributions have made a difference.

During Nursery & Reception each child will:

- **Participate in at least three whole school fundraising events**

Children will be introduced to the concept of giving by being actively involved in whole school events which raise money, whilst also learning about where the money raised will go.

- **Learn about the Foodbank and how it helps people in our local community**

Alongside understanding how fundraising can help other people, our youngest children will learn about other ways of providing practical charity.

- **Invite family members into school to share in a fundraising activity**

We work closely with our families within the MAC to support a range of charities and so we create opportunities for family members to go into their child’s school to get involved with the fun of fundraising.

Key Stage One (age 5-7)

In Key Stage One, children will learn more about the positive impact they can have by supporting charities. They will become increasingly independent in deciding which charities to support and how they will raise money to support those charities. Both within the curriculum and the Catholic life of the school there will be opportunities to enable pupils to learn more about our responsibility to give to those in need.

Pupils in Key Stage One will:

- **Choose a charity to raise money for**

For many children, negotiating which charity to support will be one of their first experiences of democracy and compromise. Pupils will be encouraged to explain their reasons for wanting to support a particular charity and will present their reasons to their peers to enable them to make an informed decision.

- **Visit the local Foodbank**

Children will get to see first-hand where their donations are going and how they will be used.

- **Record the Foodbank donations for Early Years and Key Stage One**

All pupils in Year Two will take a turn at maintaining a record of the weekly donations to the Foodbank. They will then have the opportunity to report to the whole school about the donations at the weekly assembly.

- **Be encouraged to sacrifice as part of Lenten almsgiving**

Children will begin to learn what it means to sacrifice something they enjoy during Lent. They will also reflect on how they can purposefully use their personal sacrifice to enable them to give to others.



Key Stage Two (age 7-11)

In Key Stage Two, pupils will begin to take a more active role in fundraising and will learn to be more reflective about the charities they choose to support and the rationale behind the decisions they make. They will begin to learn to articulate the reasons for their opinions.

All pupils in Key Stage Two will:

- **Have the opportunity to join a fundraising committee**

All pupils will be invited to join a fundraising committee which will be tasked with monitoring the funds raised and their distribution to the chosen charities. They will collate all charity nominations from their peers and will share them with the Senior Leadership Team and provide feedback to the wider school.

- **Make a delivery to the Foodbank**

All children in Year Six will have the opportunity to deliver the food donated to their school to the Foodbank over the course of the year. This will provide the opportunity for them to see where the food is going and to speak to the volunteers at the Foodbank about any particular foods they need in future collections.

- **Submit a fundraising application to the school's Senior Leadership Team**

As part of a programme of home learning, all pupils will be asked to discuss a charity they feel would be a worthy recipient of funds raised by the school. Each child will then outline the reasons they would like their chosen charity to be supported in a letter of application which will be submitted to the fundraising committee for them to share with the Senior Leadership Team.

- **Get involved in the Operation Christmas Child project**

Throughout October, all families will be invited to contribute to Operation Christmas Child. This involves children decorating a shoebox in Christmas wrapping and filling it with small gifts for a child in Africa who is unlikely to receive any Christmas gifts. The Fundraising Committee will then deliver the boxes to the distribution centre.

- **Decide how much money to give to charity**

Each year, pupils in Key Stage Two will plan, organise and run an Enterprise Afternoon which is designed to raise funds for a class treat. Each class will be encouraged to choose a percentage of their income to donate to charity... which will undoubtedly lead to some high quality debate!



Key Stage Three and Four (age 11-16)

As students enter Key Stage Three, they will have a good understanding of the purpose of charity and the difference it can make. Our aim throughout Key Stage Three and Four is to encourage students to take a more independent and active approach to fundraising. We also encourage students to develop more of a world view by creating links with children of a similar age in different parts of the world.

Students in Key Stage Three and Four will:

- **Make a link with a child in a school in India and raise funds to buy resources for that school**

This provides a great opportunity for students to learn how different the educational experience of those in more economically challenged countries can be. By maintaining a link with a child in a school which has received the support of resources donated by The Holy Spirit MAC, students will develop a good understanding of the impact their donations have had.

- **Take responsibility for the MAC wide coordination of donations to the local Foodbank**

Students in Key Stage Four will assume responsibility for coordinating donations across the MAC to the Foodbank. They will keep a record of the weight of the food donated and liaise with the Fundraising Committee in each school to gather relevant information and provide monthly feedback on MAC donation totals.

- **Make applications to the Board of Directors for consideration to be given to their chosen charity to be selected as a MAC charity**

All students will be invited to write a letter of application to the Board of Directors to ask them to choose their preferred charity as one of The Holy Spirit MAC charities of the year. Students will be expected to give good reasons for their choice and to articulate the impact they believe raising funds for their chosen charity will have. The chosen charities will be announced by the Chair of the MAC Board in October.

- **Organise a MAC wide day of charitable events to raise funds for MAC charities**

All students in Key Stage Four will be invited to get involved with organising a MAC charities day. Students will plan and organise the event independently, liaising with the appropriate staff in our MAC primary schools.

- **Make winter night shelter packs**

Students in Key Stage Three and Four will coordinate the donation of items needed to make packs containing essential items for homeless people to use throughout the winter. The Fundraising Committee at St. Thomas More will be responsible for communicating the appeal to pupils and families within the MAC, along with contacting local businesses to ask for donations. Packs will then be distributed to local charities which support homeless people in North Warwickshire.

Key Stage Five (age 16-18)

By Key Stage Five, students have developed a good understanding of the impact they can have by contributing in a variety of ways to charities and engaging in social action. During their time in Sixth Form, students are encouraged to volunteer to support charities during their non-study time. We encourage practical involvement and giving of each student's time, rather than just money.

During Key Stage Five students will:

- **Volunteer at a local charity of their choice**

Students will be expected to give five hours of their time over the course of the year to support a charity of their choice. Their support could be given in the form of fundraising or by volunteering to work for their chosen charity.

- **Volunteer at Nuneaton Foodbank or the Winter Night Shelter**

Students will be given a choice of charities to support during their non-study time. They will be able to choose to support either the Nuneaton Foodbank by volunteering at the distribution centre or at the Winter Night Shelter by preparing and serving meals to those in need.

- **Support Community Christmas**

By collecting ingredients and preparing meals, students will support those who are alone and vulnerable at Christmas. Students will be able to choose how they support this charity and will designate a committee to coordinate the work within the Sixth Form.

- **Undertake a Christian Mission in Kenya**

Every student in Key Stage Five will be invited to take part in this life changing trip. Whilst the cost of the trip is significant, there is an expectation that students will raise the funds needed to undertake the mission through a variety of fundraising activities.

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Experiences for Everyone

The Residential Experience

The residential experience is an experience which stays with students long after they have left school. A child's first experience of being away from home can be daunting but they so often return with a new sense of confidence... and a bank of very happy memories!

For younger pupils in the MAC, there will be a range of day trip experiences which will complement the curriculum. Every child will experience at least one day trip per year, along with several local trips which do not involve any cost to parents. The residential experience starts in Year Four and an opportunity for a residential trip will be offered every year from this point. We obviously don't expect that every student will want to take part in every trip but our aim is for **every student to have one residential experience in Key Stage Two and one in Key Stage Three or Four.**

We recognise that the cost of residential trips can place a financial burden on families. For this reason, we have outlined the residential opportunity available for each year group to enable families to plan ahead. We will also be offering the facility to pay into a ParentMail account several years in advance of your child's preferred residential trip. Parents can choose to save as much or as little as they decide from the time their child joins the MAC in Reception. We also welcome any family experiencing financial difficulty to speak to a member of the school senior leadership team in confidence about any financial support that might be available.



The residential experiences available are as follows:

Year Four

One night residential retreat in the United Kingdom.

For many children, this will be their first night away from home without their family and possibly their first experience of a retreat away from school. During the retreat, pupils will spend two days and one night with their friends, teachers and other members of our school community being actively involved in a retreat which will enable them to deepen their faith and develop their understanding of the Catholic faith. In preparation for the trip, the staff at each school will work with the children to build their confidence, ensuring they know what to expect.

Price: Under £100

Year Five

Two night outward bound residential trip in the United Kingdom.

This fantastic trip to Yorkshire will see all pupils trying activities and sports they have never tried before and exploring their new found skills and talents. They will have the opportunity to participate in caving, canoeing, taking a leap of faith on the zip wire or the giant swing, along with using their problem solving skills to find their way out of the Piranha Pool!

In the evening, after a delicious home cooked meal, the children get involved in team building activities and orienteering, learning to work collaboratively, listening to their team mates and learning how to reach a compromise.

Price: Under £200

Year Six

Three night cultural trip in the United Kingdom.

This residential experience in Cornwall really encapsulates the quality of memories we aspire to provide all primary school pupils with. The opportunities to learn about culture and history are abundant. From visiting Stonehenge and Tintagel Castle to exploring St Michael's Mount, the children will have endless opportunities to develop their natural curiosity for learning about the past. When pupils are not learning about history, they will spend their time learning new skills on the beach! Opportunities such as bodyboarding and surfing are followed by a well-earned beach barbeque or a particular favourite with the children... a silent disco! In addition to all of these fantastic experiences, there is the opportunity for children to make memories with their friends during a visit to a theme park in Newquay, a trip to the Sealife Centre and a tour of the Eden project.

Price: Under £350



Year Seven

Overnight camping experience.

The opportunity arises for our children, from our MAC schools and other external providers, to spend a fun filled evening together under the stars. As a way of meeting new friends and being inducted into a new year group in secondary school this experience is second to none. Pupils will be able to experience arts, crafts, sport and music as well as enjoying a barbeque dinner together. Here they will bond with new friends over fun and games before spending the night camping. We are certain this will live in the memory and give our new year 7 great confidence as they move forward in their new school environment. This event is excellent for team building, positive thinking, collaboration and making new friends!!!

Price: Under £20

Three night European residential trip.

To continue the wonderful experiences offered in our primary schools pupils are given the stunning opportunity to experience European culture and language. In this trip they go to Paris and experience the sights, sounds and cuisine of our Gallic friends. Pupils will be able to use their French language skills in shops and cafes, see the awesome Eiffel Tower as well as the Louvre, the Arc de Triomphe and the Notre Dame church. There will be cultural delights to take in as well as the educational opportunities of hearing and using the French language in its homeland!!! This experience is sure to make our students smile more widely than the Mona Lisa. For some of our pupils it may be their first visit abroad or across the English Channel to France.

Price: Under £200



Year Eight

Four day European residential trip to learn about culture and language.

Spanish is a popular curriculum subject at St Thomas More and we are delighted to offer this four day residential to Spain. During the four days pupils sample the sumptuous Spanish landscape, architecture and culture in Barcelona, Cordoba and Seville. In Barcelona pupils will experience the fantastical art and modernist landmarks designed by Gaudi. In Cordoba pupils will experience the stunning Mezquita-Mosque cathedral alongside landmarks from the 8th to the 15th century. In Seville the breath taking royal palace of Alcazar, built by Castilian Christians, awaits our pupils as a world heritage site which never fails to impress and capture young imaginations. All of this happens in the beautiful Mediterranean climate and enables our pupils to experience Spanish language, food and culture. A trip that will last long in the memories for our young people and is an outstanding educational opportunity.

Price: Under £400

Year Nine

Four day European residential trip to learn about key events in European history.

Much of our modern European history has been shaped by the events of World War Two, the Cold War and the reunification of Germany. This visit to Berlin is an all action residential which will educate our youngsters about the dramatic events which have underpinned changing history in the last 70 years. Students will visit the site of Hitler's bunker and will see for themselves the Castle at Wannsee where, so tragically, the fate of millions of Jews was decided in World War Two. In central Berlin the world renowned Holocaust memorial will give students the chance to reflect quietly on the enormity of the events they may be understanding for the first time. Focusing on the Cold War there will be an opportunity to see the remnants of the Berlin Wall, climb Communist watchtowers, learn about the Brandenburg Gate and straddle the stones which de-mark the old East and West Germany. In the old Eastern sector the Stasi Museum provides a unique window into the Communist control of the East and methods of propaganda which were used by the state to control their people. Finally, a tour around the stunning gardens of the Potsdam Cecilienhof will allow our students to retrace the steps of Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin at the Potsdam Conference which effectively saw the beginning of the Cold War. A stunning educational experience for all of our young people.

Price: Under £500

Year Ten

Retreat to Lourdes.

As one of the most important Catholic pilgrimage sites in the world, it is fitting that we offer this retreat to Lourdes in France. Visited twice by Pope John Paul II, Lourdes' position as a leading Marian shrine was founded on 11 February 1858 when, a 14-year-old local girl, Bernadette Soubirous, saw a beautiful lady appear to her in the remote Grotto of Massabielle. This lady later identified herself as "the Immaculate Conception" and the Blessed Virgin Mary. The lady appeared 18 times, and by 1859 thousands of pilgrims were visiting Lourdes. A statue of Our Lady of Lourdes was erected at the site in 1864. Our students will embark on a pilgrimage which will ensure that they experience the power of prayer and reflection as well as the healing water of the Lourdes baths. This is a wonderful opportunity for our young Christians to reflect on themselves, their spiritual growth and their relationship with God in one of the most reverential and moving shrines anywhere. Added to this is chance to experience Southern France and the astounding scenery of the Pyrenees.

Price: Under £500

Year Eleven / Twelve

Trip to America, visiting New York and Washington.

We are delighted that we offer our students the chance to travel across the Atlantic to experience a city residential in New York and Washington DC. In New York, its skyline forever etched with memories since that tragic day on September 11th 2001, students will climb the Empire State building to view the Statue of Liberty, picnic in the urban oasis of Central Park and zoo and see the bright lights of Times Square. Time will be spent in reflection at the

site of Ground Zero hearing stories about that tragic day of 9/11 and visiting memorials to the victims. As arguably the most explosive global event of the last 20 years, this is a stunning opportunity to further understanding and to appreciate the way New York was forever changed by that day. In Washington students will visit the Capitol building, see the White House, visit Kennedy's grave at Arlington Cemetery and see the Lincoln Memorial. At the National Mall where the lives of Martin Luther King and the soldiers of the Vietnam War are remembered, students will learn about the struggle for civil rights and its relationship with the anti-war feeling surrounding Vietnam. This residential will ensure students gain a much greater understanding of the political power of the United States, 9/11 and its global and local impact and they will acquire a greater insight into the tumultuous recent history of this nation.

Price: Under £1,500

Year Thirteen

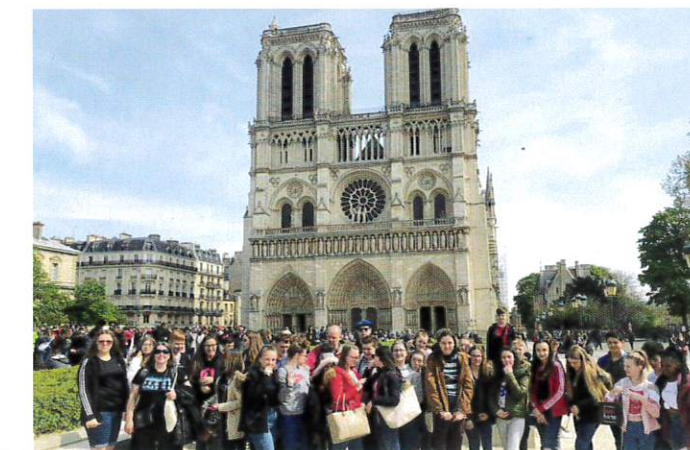
Christian mission to Kenya.

(funded by the students through their own fundraising)

This residential is a unique and exciting opportunity for our sixth formers to realise their place in the World and to change their lives whilst changing the lives of others. Students will have two years to do voluntary work and create events to raise funding to undertake a Christian, ethical mission to Kenya with Camps International. Jetting into Kenya at the end of July, students will be driven to their camp in a Kenyan village where they will undertake work alongside the local villagers. This could include building schools, wells, houses and teaching Kenyan children. The full experience of African culture and food is something that will never be forgotten and students will be telling stories about their time in Kenya for many years to come!

It is not all work though because students spend the final week of their mission undertaking a mountain expedition, going on safari and experiencing sea diving. The numbers of students that have been on this residential in previous years have all been resounding in the view that the mission has changed their lives positively and altered their world view as Christians. This is a wonderful opportunity to crown the Holy Spirit MAC experiences with a mission to a new continent, to share these incredible moments with friends and to find out more about yourself.

Price through fund raising: £4,000



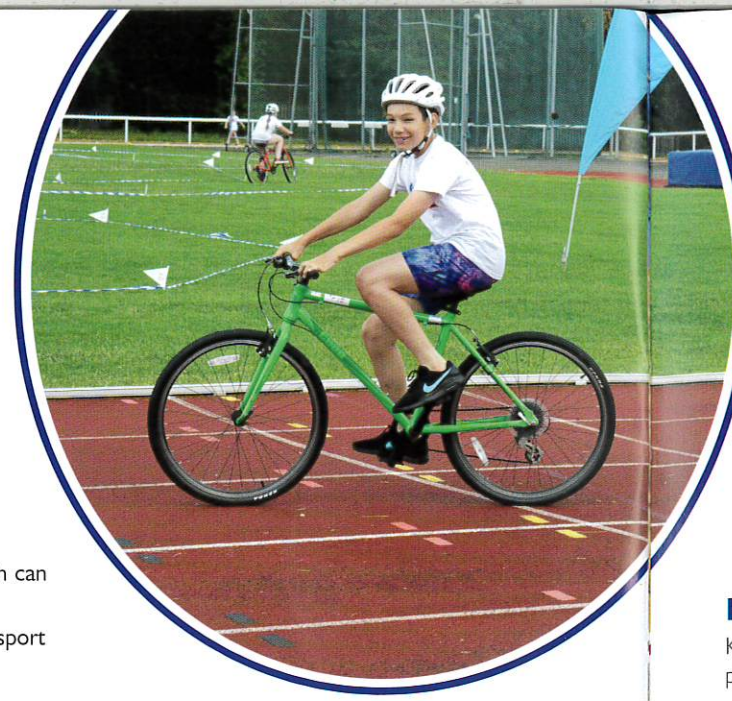
Experiences for Everyone

Sporting Opportunities

We know the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle and being active. Enabling pupils to find a sport they enjoy makes it much more likely they will continue to be active into their adult life. We also want to encourage healthy competition for students who enjoy competing, regardless of their sporting ability.

We recognise that creating a lifelong enjoyment of physical activity is more likely if students also get involved in a sport outside school and we are committed to supporting pupils to engage in sports beyond the school day. We have set a target of 75% of our students getting involved in some form of extra-curricular sport and we will provide the following support to students to achieve this:

- Signposting pupils to local sporting opportunities
- Organising an annual 'introduce your friend to your sport' event
- Inviting professional coaches to coach the children and identify sporting potential which can be shared with parents
- Developing an active interest in sports by providing opportunities for pupils to watch live sport



Early Years (age 3-5)

Children in the Early Years are naturally active. We aim to harness this enthusiasm for being physical by providing lots of opportunities for children to get moving. From provision of high quality outdoor learning spaces to opportunities to learn dance, we will ensure that our youngest pupils get involved and stay fit. We will also focus on teaching skills of coordination, ensuring children are taught how to throw, catch, climb and balance.

All children in Nursery and Reception will:

- **Begin to learn how to ride a balance bicycle**

The trick to riding a bicycle is to be able to balance. For this reason, we have invested in balance bicycles which will be used by all children in the Early Years. We will also use specially trained coaches to teach the children how to ride the balance bicycles.

- **Experience a taster session of one new sport each term**

Even the youngest pupils can begin to learn the rules of games like rugby and netball. Each half term every child will have an introduction to a new sport to help them to discover what kind of sport they most enjoy.



Key Stage One (age 5-7)

Key Stage One will provide the first taste of competition for all children. We continue to ensure that children have mastered all of the basic skills needed to play a range of sports and we will begin to identify children with sporting aptitude and provide opportunities to develop their potential further.

Every child in Key Stage One will:

- **Participate in a house team sports competition**

Each child will be in a house and will have the opportunity to compete against their peers in other houses in a variety of sporting events to win points for their house.

- **Have the opportunity to attend sports after school**

All children will be offered a range of after school sporting opportunities which will be delivered by trained coaches.

- **Compete in a whole school sports competition**

Every child will compete in at least two events, either individual or team. Family members will be invited to come along and watch too.

Key Stage Two (age 7-11)

In Key Stage Two the range of sporting opportunities is extended to include opportunities for children to try new sports and to learn how to work as part of a team. We also focus on some specific lifesaving skills such as the ability to swim at least 25 metres.

Children in Key Stage Two will:

- **Learn to swim at least 25 metres**

In Year Three every child will take part in swimming lessons which will be paid for by the school. Every child who is not able to swim at least 25m by the end of Year Three will receive further lessons later in Key Stage Two, with the aim of ensuring every child is a swimmer by the time they enter Key Stage Three.

- **Receive specialist coaching to develop the ability to play the following sports: boxing; netball; football; hockey; rugby; athletics; rounders; cricket; tennis; dodgeball; dance**

PE lessons will be differentiated at least three ways to ensure all children make the maximum progress. Every child will benefit from being taught by specialist coaches and qualified sports teachers.

- **Participate in inter-school sports competitions**

All pupils will be given the opportunity to compete against other local or MAC schools in at least one sport each year.

- **Learn one alternative sport/activity**

By providing a range of opportunities which are above and beyond curriculum requirements we aim to ensure that every pupil has had the opportunity to learn an alternative sport or activity. Opportunities might range from joining the local gym to rock climbing or horse riding!



Key Stage Three and Four (age 11-16)

At Key Stage Three and Four, our aim is to continue to harness the skills and enthusiasm the pupils have gained at Key Stage Two. To do this we will provide opportunities for students to be inspired by the experiences of successful sports people, along with developing their interest in watching live sport.

Every student in Key Stage Three and Four will:

- **Watch a live sporting event**

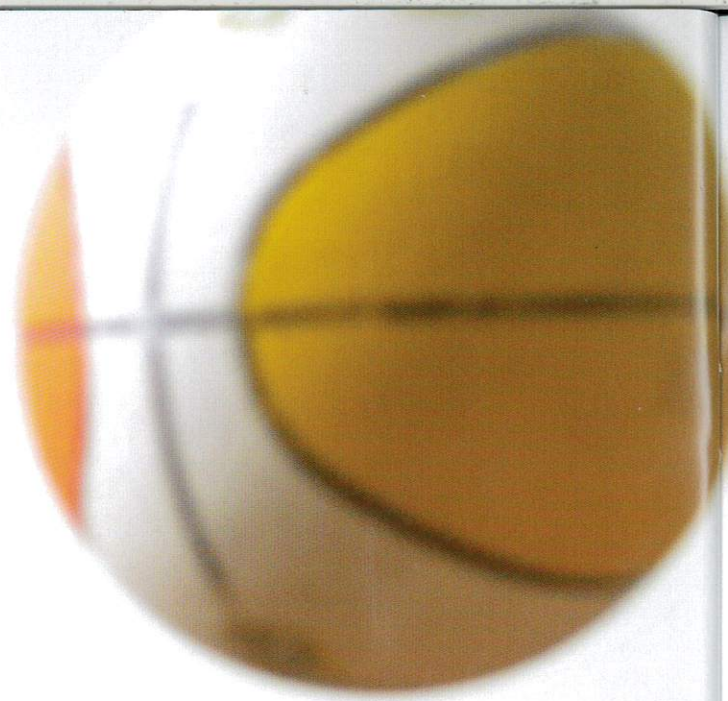
Many young people have been influenced by seeing their favourite sport played professionally and so we will ensure that every child has the opportunity to experience a live sporting event during their time in Key Stage Three or Four.

- **Meet and hear the experience of a professional sports person**

We also want to inspire students by hearing the journey of people who have been successful in their chosen sport. This will give students the opportunity to hear about the extent to which successful sports people have had to persevere and be resilient.



*'With grace and humility,
glorify the Lord by your life.'*



- **Use the school gym independently**

From Key Stage Four pupils will have the opportunity to use the school gym in their own free time.

- **Become an accredited sports leader and undertake a sports leadership programme**

Pupils in Key Stage Four will be given the opportunity to apply to become a sports leader and will be supported by the school to gain recognised accreditation by completing an official sports leadership programme.

- **Participate in a health week to learn about healthy lifestyles and the benefits of exercise**

During health week students will learn about how to ensure their diet is balanced and how and when to exercise to achieve the maximum positive impact on their health.

- **Plan, lead and officiate the MAC sports day**

Students in Year Nine will be able to get involved in the MAC sports day in a variety of ways. From liaising with the primary schools to plan events to preparing resources and refereeing on the day, there will be lots of opportunities for students to practise their sports leadership.

- **Compete in a sports competition at least once per year**

The house system provides the perfect opportunity for all students to get involved with a sports competition in a friendly, fun environment.

Key Stage Five (age 16-18)

In the Sixth Form, students have established a good understanding of how to stay healthy. They will be encouraged to use the school facilities regularly and to access fitness opportunities outside school. Those taking sports related courses will be offered a range of diverse opportunities to enhance their learning but these opportunities will also be opened up to other interested students.

Students in Key Stage Five will:

- **Receive a guest pass for the Empire Gym**

All students will be given a free pass to attend the Empire Gym at the start of the year to encourage them to get active in their own time.

- **Take part in a termly fitness day**

Once a term students will be taken off timetable and will spend the day at the gym participating in a range of classes, gym activities and health workshops.

- **Officiate at a national sporting competition**

Students will be offered the opportunity to get involved with competitive sport at a very high level by officiating at a national event. Whilst this opportunity will naturally be most suited to more accomplished sporting students, all students will be offered the opportunity to learn the skills needed to officiate.

- **To lead sports coaching sessions for other students**

All students will be given the opportunity to work within one of our primary schools in their non-study time to coach younger students or, for less confident students, to work alongside a sports coach to deliver a sports lesson.



Experiences for Everyone

Creative and Cultural Experiences

We believe that every child in the Holy Spirit MAC should experience a broad and balanced curriculum which enables them to develop a range of skills and qualities. Whilst we place great importance on academic achievement, we know that each pupil is unique, with individual skills, talents and potential. For this reason, we greatly value creativity, artistic ability and the confidence to perform and have created a specific faculty at St Thomas More known as The Arts, PE and Technology Faculty. In doing so, we are mindful that the government's stated preference for an EBACC route is not appropriate for many students at St. Thomas More and, therefore, will not be a priority for the Holy Spirit MAC.

Technology

The title Technology refers to a broad and diverse set of curriculum learning opportunities. From Resistant Materials to Construction and Electronics, Technology offers a range of varied and valuable learning experiences. We recognise that the Midlands is one of the few areas of the country which offers many employment opportunities in manufacturing and engineering. With this in mind, we want to ensure our students have the necessary skills and experience to make the most of these opportunities, by offering them outstanding learning in Technology. Outcomes in our technology courses at Key Stage Four and Key Stage Five are some of the best in the country and our aim is for all students, regardless of their chosen GCSE subjects, to benefit from the diverse learning opportunities Technology can provide.

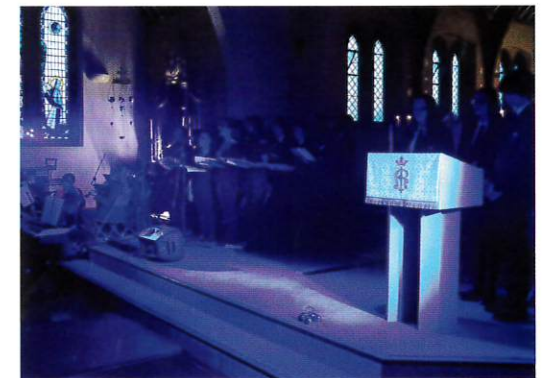


The Arts

The ability to think and work creatively has many benefits, both in supporting pupils with their wider learning and in enabling them to be approach challenges in their later working life. Art, drama and music are central to the broad and balanced curriculum we provide for all pupils in every year group. We aim to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to develop their creative talents and are confident to share them with other people.

Performance

We have undoubtedly all experienced anxiety when having to perform or speak in front of an audience, however big or small. Learning to perform and present confidently at school has an impact on the confidence students will have beyond their time at school. For this reason we are committed to providing a range of opportunities for all students which enable them to experience performing and presenting. We also encourage our students to question confidently and to be curious about the wider world. We teach students to understand democracy and the power they can have to make changes in the world. In doing so, we provide opportunities for pupils to understand leadership and to take on leadership responsibilities, enabling them to see the impact they have on their school community.



During each Key Stage, every pupil in the Holy Spirit MAC will have the opportunity to:

- Visit an art exhibition or gallery
- Visit the theatre to watch a live performance
- Visit a museum
- Watch a live musical performance



Early Years (age 3-5)

During a child's time in Nursery and Reception in the Holy Spirit MAC, each child discovers their likes and dislikes and the areas of school life which they feel confident with and those areas which make them slightly more nervous. The staff in each of our Early Years settings will work with parents and their child to ensure that by the end of Reception, every child is as confident as they possibly can be.

Every child in Nursery and Reception will:

- **Take part in at least one public performance**
Each child will experience bringing a smile (or tear) to their parent's face as they perform in their first school performance. This is a great opportunity for our youngest children to learn to be confident in front of an audience.
- **Have a piece of their art work displayed publicly**
Children in the Early Years love to create pieces of art and to have them appreciated by other people. Each child in the Early Years will have at least one piece of their artwork displayed as part of an exhibition which will be visited by parents, parishioners and members of the wider public. Our visitors will be asked to leave feedback on the art they have seen so the children can have a real sense of pride in their achievement.
- **Present to their peers about something which interests them**
As part of their home learning, each child will be supported by their family to put a short presentation together about something they are interested in. They will then present to their friends at school and answer any questions they might have. This not only develops confidence presenting and speaking aloud but also encourages the children to take an interest in other people.
- **Work with a professional artist to create a lasting piece of artwork**
Learning from a professional is often the best way to learn! From Nursery and Reception, each child will have at least one opportunity during each Key Stage to work with a professional artist to create a piece of artwork which will be displayed in the school. We have some fantastic examples of this in our primary schools, with beautiful sculptures and collages on display.



Key Stage One (age 5-7)

As children move into Key Stage One, we aim to build on the natural creativity and curiosity which has been harnessed during their time in Nursery and Reception. We know that continuing to reinforce self-belief and confidence will enable every child to maintain a love for creative learning. During Year One and Two, children will also have their first experience of leadership through the process of democratically electing leaders to represent them in the school community.

All children in Key Stage One will:

- **Participate in the process of electing (or becoming) a School Councillor**
Children take the role of School Councillor very seriously because they know that School Councillors can make a difference in their school. From Key Stage One, children are enabled to campaign to become a School Councillor. All children can then make an informed decision about who they think the best person is for the role and vote for their preferred candidate. Children are taught to give well thought out reasons for their choices.
- **Perform for a wider public audience**
Once the children are confident performing for their family members, we give them the opportunity to perform for a less familiar audience. At least once each year, members of the parish will be invited to watch the children perform. This helps to build confidence and to show the children how much the hard work that goes into preparing a performance is appreciated.
- **Create a collaborative piece of artwork**
Working with a professional artist, the children in each school will work collaboratively with children across the MAC to produce a piece of art. Not only does this provide a great opportunity for children in the MAC to get to know each other but it also reinforces our sense of community in the Holy Spirit MAC.
- **Learn to programme a basic robot**
The world of technology is fast paced and changes rapidly. We want even our youngest children to develop an interest in different forms of technology and to see their purpose. One fun way to do this is to teach the skills of programming. Children will work collaboratively to programme their robot and to articulate the process they went through to bring their robot to life. Each group of children will then have the opportunity to introduce their robot to the Senior Leadership Team in their school!

Key Stage Two (age 7-11)

By Key Stage Two, pupils will have a good understanding of the foundation skills which enable them to excel in creative areas of the curriculum. They will be able to use a range of art techniques, understand the principles of performance and will have developed a plethora of musical skills.

During Years Three to Six, the emphasis is on developing more sophisticated skills in each area and ensuring that differentiated opportunities allow those with aptitude to excel. The variety of opportunity on offer will enable pupils to apply their learning in a range of contexts, supporting them to develop a creative approach to problem solving and resilience when faced with a challenge.

All pupils in Key Stage Two will:

- **Put on a musical performance for residents of a local retirement home**
Taking the children out of the comfort of the school building to perform in a different setting provides a new challenge and a new experience. In preparation for the visit to the retirement home, the children will have the opportunity to learn about some of the residents and their life experiences. On the day they will have the opportunity to stay and chat with the residents after the performance.
- **Participate in the MAC Festival of Arts**
In 2019, we are launching the MAC Festival of Arts! Our aim is to involve every child in the festival and so we will provide a range of roles and responsibilities for those who do not want to perform. Students across the MAC will have the opportunity to compete in a variety of categories, from poetry recital, creative writing and song writing to musical theatre and instrumental performances... there will be something for everyone!
- **Interview and debate with a local politician**
In Year Six, the children learn about politics. To really bring this learning to life, all pupils will have the chance to meet and question a local politician. They will be encouraged to think carefully about the questions they ask and to form a reasoned opinion which will enable them to pursue their questions and debate effectively.
- **Campaign to be appointed to a range of responsibilities, including House Captain**
The oldest pupils in Key Stage Two are trusted with undertaking a range of roles and responsibilities, which they understandably take very seriously. As their first taste of recruitment and selection, pupils apply for the posts they are most interested in and are selected by the Senior Leadership Team with the support of the School Council.
- **Complete a robotics programme**
We are very fortunate to have some fantastic robotics resources which are available to all schools in the MAC. Working with Technology specialists from St Thomas More, the children will follow a bespoke programme which will enable them to develop skills of programming and electronics.
- **Be taught by specialist Technology, Music and Drama teachers from St Thomas More**
We have some outstanding subject specialists at St. Thomas More and the beauty of collaborative working is that they can share their skills and expertise for the benefit of all pupils in the MAC, long before they reach St. Thomas More. Through Year Five and Six, there will be several opportunities for all children to be taught by subject specialists- this is not only a great way to ensure the children make excellent progress but it also supports transition from Key Stage Two to Key Stage Three as pupils arrive already knowing several of their teachers and vice versa.



Key Stage Three & Four (age 11-16)

During Key Stage Three and Four all students will continue to be encouraged to participate in the annual MAC Festival of Arts, along with other voluntary events such as charity performances at local hospitals, retirement homes and the town centre. They will be encouraged to continue to pursue areas of talent and to maintain an active interest in opportunities beyond the school day. Our aim is to ensure that no student's learning is restricted by the curriculum subjects they choose to study at GCSE. Those students who do not choose to study a creative subject will still be enabled to develop skills learnt through Technology, Performance and the Arts through the provision of a range of diverse opportunities.

Pupils in Key Stage Three and Four will:

- **Have the opportunity to audition for a professional performance**

All students, regardless of whether they are studying drama or music, will be invited and encouraged to audition for a biannual performance which will be produced to a professional standard. This year we have invested in new stage curtains and a revamp of the school hall so our performances will undoubtedly be more dazzling than ever!

- **Have the opportunity to be involved in the technical support of a professional performance**

We know that stage performance is not for everyone. However, there is so much more that goes into creating a professional performance than just acting. All students will be offered the opportunity to contribute by supporting backstage, preparing props, operating the sound and lighting etc.

- **Work with street artists and visit an exhibition of their work at the Nuneaton Street Art Festival**

This year's Nuneaton Street Arts Festival was a huge success! We aim to build on this success and to tap in to the wealth of local talent by inviting street artists in to work with the students. The work created by street artists displayed around Nuneaton provides the perfect inspiration for students.

- **Plan, prepare and deliver a presentation to the public**

Students at St. Thomas More have so many varied skills and interests. We want to make the most of each student's talents by allowing them to choose a topic on which to prepare a presentation. The opportunity to attend the presentation will then be opened up to the public. This is a great opportunity for students to develop the confidence to speak publicly and to see the value in thorough planning and preparation.

- **Experience Prime Minister's Question Time in Parliament**

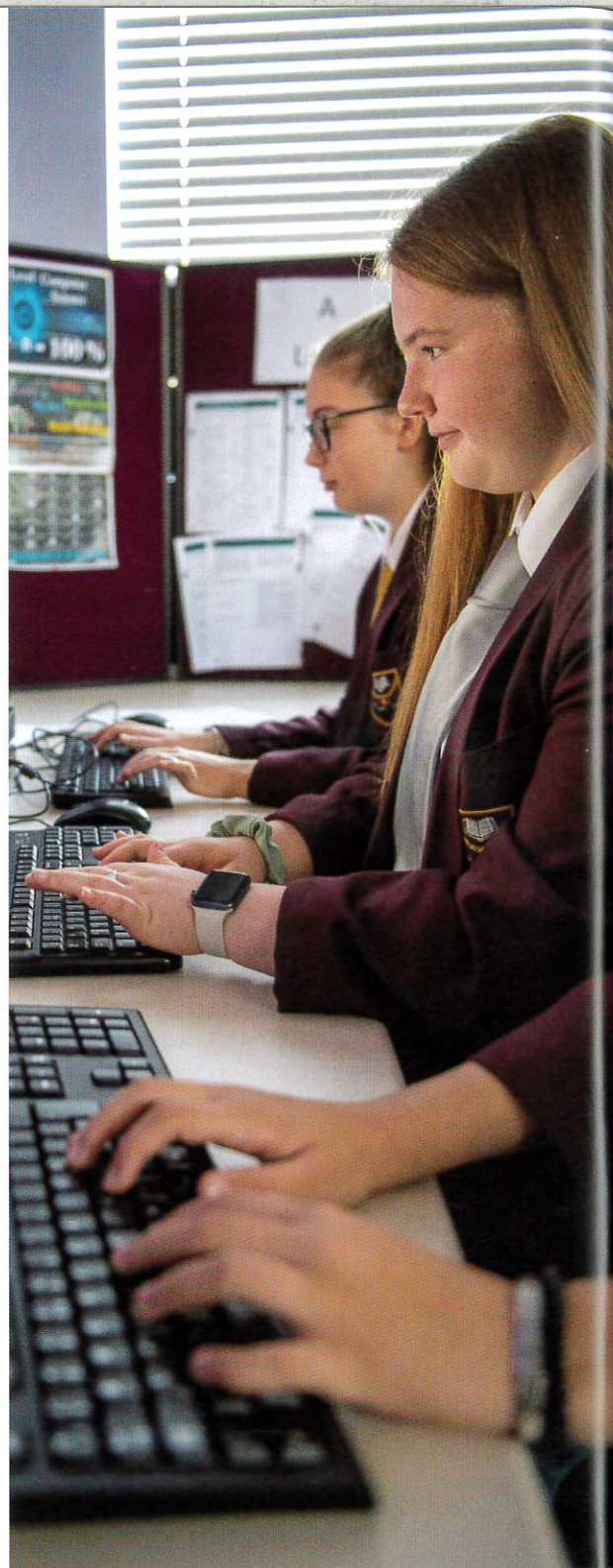
This is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn about the inner working of politics in Britain. Whilst parents will be asked to make a contribution towards the cost of the trip, we are committed to overcoming any barriers which prevent students from attending.

- **Compete in a music competition**

A large number of the students in Key Stage Three and Four have outstanding musical ability. This year we aim to build on the existing opportunities for musicians to compete by introducing a higher profile competition which will be supported by local businesses who will provide some very sought after prizes! All pupils will be encouraged to get involved if they would like to and those with talent will be encouraged to display it with pride!

- **Participate in Careers Day**

During Key Stage Three and Four, pupils give a lot of thought to possible careers they might explore in the future. To help them think about what they may like to choose as a career, we will be inviting a number of local professionals and tradespeople to speak to the students to give them an insight into their career path.



Key Stage Five (age 16-18)

Opportunities at Key Stage Five focus on new experiences and new technologies. We aim to ensure every student is offered a range of opportunities beyond academic learning encouraging them to be curious about the wider world and their place in society.

During Key Stage Five students will:

- **Take part in a Business & Enterprise project with an external company**

As part of Young Enterprise students set up their own business idea and work on developing transferable skills relevant for the workplace as they complete the project.

- **Create an Arts, Music and Technology festival "Tom Fest"**

Students will celebrate the practical outcomes of their work in Technology and in the Arts with a live performance from the Music department and an Art gallery of student work with live drawing. This will include an exhibition of practical work.

- **Perform in a Christmas re-telling of a scene from a famous play**

Students will work together to re-enact a scene or two from a well-known play. This will be performed to the community and all monies raised will go towards a charity of their choice.

- **Visit the National Portrait Gallery**

Students will have the opportunity to visit the gallery to study style and genre.



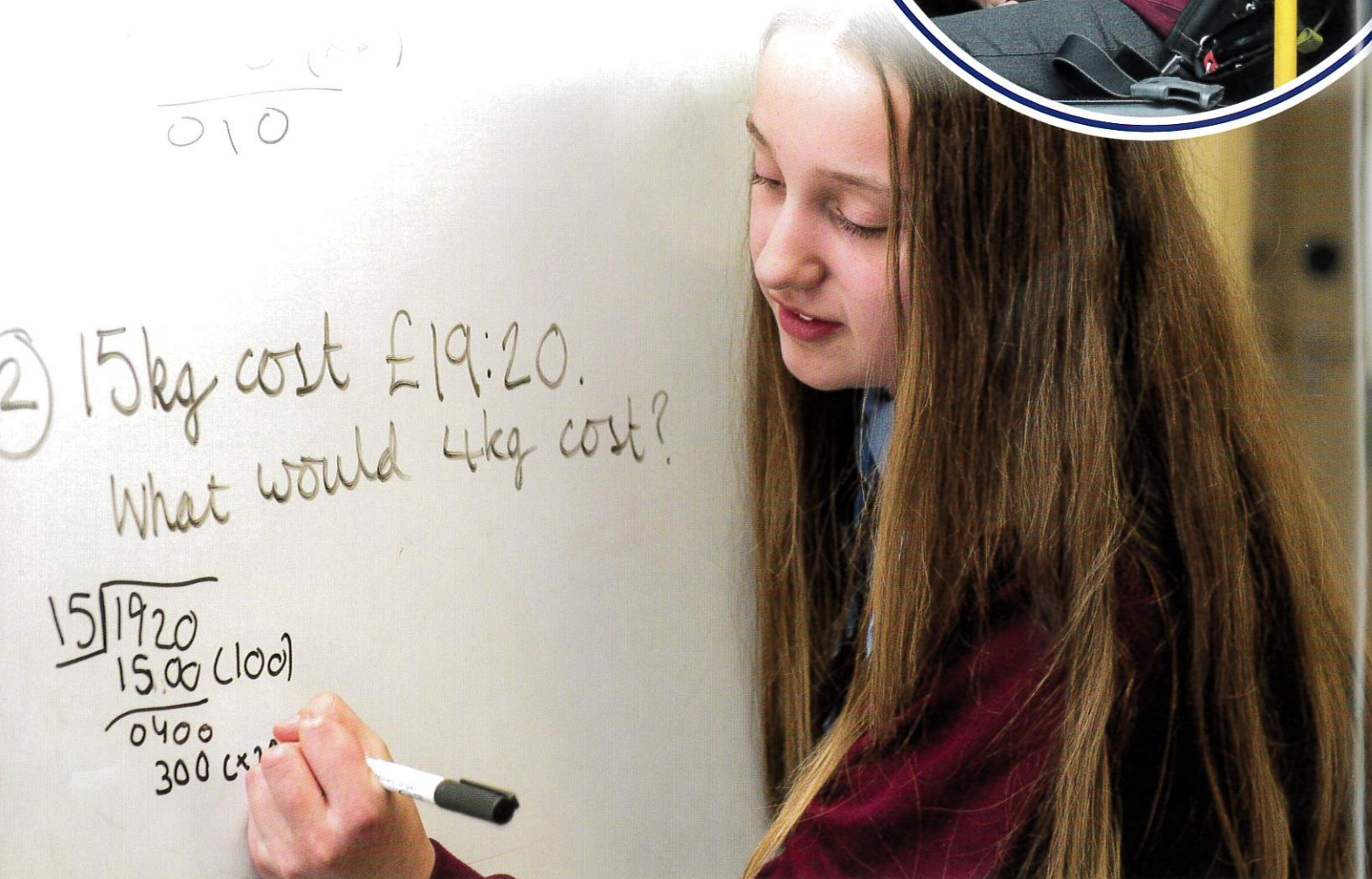
Experiences for Everyone

The future ...

Vocations, Journeys & Destinations

Early Years, Key Stage One and Key Stage Two

From the moment each pupil enters the Holy Spirit MAC we encourage a sense of aspiration and calling. We know that each child, right from the age of three or four, is called to take up a special place in the world and we know it is our job to ensure that every child has high personal aspirations.



Vocations

From the Early Years, children are routinely encouraged to consider the question, 'who is God calling me to be?' In enabling the pupils to reflect in this way, we develop an understanding that God calls us to take up many different roles in life, ranging from our chosen career to the calling to friendship and family life. In the Catholic Life section of this booklet, you will read about many of the ways in which our youngest pupils explore their vocation, including participating in our annual Vocations Day and learning how to demonstrate the values and virtues outlined in the Jesuit Pupil Profile.

Journeys

Once each pupil is enabled to know they have a calling in life, we recognise the importance of mapping the journey for each child to achieve their goals and aspirations. Pupils will be provided with a range of opportunities, from setting up their own mini enterprise to spending time at St. Thomas More to understand their path through the MAC. The journey for each pupil will be unique but all pupils will be supported to have high expectations of what they can achieve at each stage of their journey through the Holy Spirit MAC and beyond.

Destinations

Whilst we understand that young pupils will consider a range of career and life paths as they learn, grow and discover more about themselves, our aim is to open their eyes to a world of future possibilities. The opportunities provided range from taking part in our annual Career and Aspirations Day or Hopes and Dreams event, to actively participating in our programme of charitable and social action.



Key Stage Three & Four

At Key Stage Three and Four we want students to think about life beyond school and to consider what contribution they aspire to make when they take up their place in the world. In the Charities and Social Action section of The Holy Spirit Experience you will read about how students learn to make a positive difference to those in need and these opportunities are crucial in supporting the students to consider the person they are called to be. However, we also want students within The Holy Spirit MAC to aspire to personal success and to know they can achieve anything they put their mind to. With this in mind, we aim to provide students with opportunities which enable them to explore life skills, academic routes and career paths. Throughout Key Stages, Three, Four and Five, students will be given the opportunity to:

Year 7

- **Complete a survey of interests and careers aspirations**

All students will use a software program to share their aspirations for the future with staff at St. Thomas More. In doing so, we are able to support students as they begin to experience a broad and varied curriculum, considering which options will best suit them when it comes to choosing subjects to study in Key Stage Four.

- **Learn from the world's greatest...**

Through a series of engaging, interactive sessions, subject specialists will reveal how their subject can lead to different careers and vocations by demonstrating how some of the world's greatest contributors have used their knowledge of specific subjects to make a difference in the world. From historians to scientists... the impact of learning at school will be brought to life to inspire and motivate students to achieve.

Year 8

- **Visit a Careers and Vocations Fair.**

All students and parents will have the opportunity to attend a careers and vocations event attended by universities and employers. There will be an opportunity to find out more about how their option subjects can benefit them in the future.

- **Attend a Careers interview**

All students will receive a careers interview in which they can share their ideas and plans for the future. These will be shared with their tutors so that they can provide support and work with each student to help them achieve their dreams for the future.

Year 9

- **Experience a Vocations Day**

All students will reflect upon, discover for themselves and recognise God's calling. Central to this will be an understanding of how they can serve God in their everyday lives.

- **Visit a University**

All students will visit a university and will have the opportunity to have a tour of a campus, along with gaining experience of a lecture. They will hear first-hand what university life is like and will learn about the different opportunities and possibilities a university education can offer.

Year 10

- **Attend a national skills event**

All students will attend this event to learn about the changing job market and gain an understanding of which career paths are most likely to lead to successful employment. They will also be able to speak to representatives from the most important multi-national companies about employment opportunities.

- **Receive guidance from Coventry Building Society on how to manage their personal finances**

All students will learn about managing money and will gain an understanding of how to manage their personal finances, including developing an understanding of the benefits of saving and the impact of debt.



Year 11

- **Be supported by a personal mentor to achieve success**

All students will be allocated a personal mentor who will guide them through this very important year. Mentors will ensure a personalised learning plan for each student and will support them to achieve their longer term goals by maximising their achievement at the end of Key Stage Four.

- **Learn to write CVs, personal statements and applications**

All students will receive advice and support in writing their personal CVs, statements and in completing application forms. This will help them as they seek to apply to colleges and apprenticeship providers.

Year 12/13

- **Complete a meaningful work experience**

All students will arrange a work experience which is relevant to their career or chosen university course. This will help to support their references for their next steps.

- **Gain accreditation through the Award of Personal Effectiveness (AOPE)**

Students will gain additional UCAS points whilst also learning how to work effectively as part of a team to plan an event and how to improve their personal learning and performance, whilst also exploring their personal career expectations.

- **Attend a UCAS fair**

All students will have access to over 150 university and apprenticeship providers. This experience enables them to ask questions about universities, courses and careers.



Feedback and Review

We hope you share our excitement at the vast range of opportunities we have committed to providing for all our pupils through "The Holy Spirit Experience". However, we know that it is not the rhetoric but the reality of every pupil's daily experience that really matters. We would be delighted to hear what you think of this document and we invite you to let us know by contacting our Chief Operating Officer, Katy Dunnion on katy.dunnion@holyspiritmac.co.uk

Towards the end of the school year we intend to consult all parents in the Holy Spirit MAC to let us know how you think we are doing in delivering on our promises and what you think we could do better. We will also be consulting all pupils and staff across the MAC as well as the wider community. Once we have collated the responses the MAC Board is committed to considering all recommendations and publishing an annual progress report on "The Holy Spirit Experience". We are determined to ensure this becomes a dynamic working document which will form the template for everything we do. We look forward to working with you as parents to achieve the very best for your children wherever they are on the fifteen year journey from Nursery to Year 13!

SEPTEMBER 2019

