

School Handbook

St John's RC High School



St John's RC High School

All visitors must report to reception at main entrance

Vehicle access only

Unless by prior arrangement all deliveries report to reception

Images are being recorded for the purposes of crime prevention and public safety. The CCTV system is controlled by the Head Teacher, St John's RC High School, 1032A KINGS.

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Section 1: Welcome and Vision

Dear Parent/Carer,

A very warm welcome to St John's Roman Catholic High School. Our aim is to ensure that every young person entrusted to our care always feels happy, safe and secure and is able to develop their gifts and talents in the fullest possible way.

Our handbook is designed to give you as parents and carers some useful information about St John's RC High School.

If after reading this you would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mr Seán P Hagney
Head Teacher

Section 2: School Ethos

St John's RC High School is a Catholic community committed to providing the highest quality of education for our young people and offering formation through the promotion of our Gospel values. Our aims reflect our strong Marist traditions focusing on the importance of family, love and building community.

Our Aims are:

- To develop a community built on Gospel values where our young people feel safe, valued, cared for and nurtured.
- To provide an inclusive environment where all young people have the opportunity to develop and grow into confident individuals, successful learners, responsible citizens and effective contributors.
- To provide a positive learning environment which encourages every young person to achieve the highest standards of attainment and achievement.

In our Catholic High School we are fortunate in being able to base our strategic vision for the curriculum on the rich heritage of the Church's teaching. Our values and vision reflect the Gospel values and the young people in St John's will experience on a daily basis the significance of Gospel values and faith in their lives.

Together we will build a community of faith and learning which reflects our Gospel values and work to ensure that:

- The needs of our pupils are at the centre of everything we do.
- The same dignity and respect is accorded to every member of our community.
- There is a culture of high expectations and praise to promote the best possible conditions for learning and teaching.
- Everyone has the opportunity and are encouraged to achieve their full potential

Section 3: School Information

School Address:	St John's RC High School Harefield Road, DUNDEE, DD3 6EY
Telephone:	01382 307060
Email Address:	stjohnsrchigh@dundeeschools.scot
Website:	www.stjohnshigh.ea.dundee.city.sch.uk
Senior Leadership Team	
Head Teacher:	Mr Seán P Hagney
Depute Head Teacher:	Mrs Wendy Sinclair Mr Kenneth Black Mrs Claire Lang Mr Scott McLaren
Business Manager:	Joanna Lesslie
School Status:	Roman Catholic High School S1-S6
School Roll:	1070
School Hours:	Mon & Tue: 08.45 - 15.50 Wed - Fri: 08.45 - 15:00
Parent Council Contact Info:	Chair: Mr George McIrvine pcstjohnsrchigh@dundee.npfs.org.uk
School Chaplain:	Monsignor Ken McCaffrey

Section 3: School Information

Office Hours

The school office is open from 08.15 – 16.30 (Monday – Wednesday) and 08.15 – 15.30 (Thursday and Friday.) Please help us by making routine telephone calls within office hours. The answering machine is switched on for your convenience when the school office is unmanned. Please do leave a message and we will return your call as quickly as possible.

Parents can contact the school by telephoning the main office on 01382 307060 where they will be directed to either a member of the Guidance Team or the Senior Leadership Team. They can also write to either the pupil's Tutor Teacher, Guidance Teacher or member of Senior Leadership Team. Individual meetings can also be arranged.

Text messages are used as a means of communication with regard to attendance. Other information is sent via email. Please ensure that the school holds the correct email address. Parents Information Evenings are held for each year group using the School Cloud System. Information evenings are also held for pertinent topics for specific year groups e.g UCAS.

The school website is also updated with information both on a whole school basis and by departments.

Section 4: School Policies & Practical Information

School Terms and Holidays

AUTUMN TERM

Monday 12 August 2024 - In Service Day (Staff resume)

Tuesday 13 August 2024 - Term starts (Pupils resume)

Friday 4 October 2024 - Term ends

AUTUMN HOLIDAY

Monday 7 October 2024 - Holiday starts

Friday 18 October 2024 - Holiday ends

WINTER TERM

Monday 21 October 2024 - All resume

Thursday 14 November 2024 - In Service Day (schools closed)

Friday 15 November 2024 - In Service Day (schools closed)

Friday 20 December 2024 - Term ends

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

Monday 23 December 2024 - Holiday starts

Friday 3 January 2025 - Holiday ends

SPRING TERM

Monday 6 January 2025 - All resume

Friday 14 - Monday 17 February 2025 - Mid term, All break

Tuesday 18 February 2025 - In Service Day (schools closed)

Friday 28 March 2025 - Term ends

SPRING HOLIDAY

Monday 31 March 2025 - Holiday starts

Friday 11 April 2025 - Holiday ends

Friday 18 April 2025 - Good Friday (schools closed)

SUMMER TERM

Monday 14 April 2025 - All resume

Monday 2 May 2025 - May Day (schools closed)

Friday 23 May 2025 - In Service Day (schools closed)

Monday 26 May 2025 - Victoria Day (schools closed)

Friday 27 June 2025 - Term ends

Section 4: School Policies & Practical Information

School Uniform

In St John's RC High School we look 'Ad Coelos', to the heavens, seeking to be the very best we can be. We are proud to be part of our community and we have agreed a uniform which we are proud to wear. We recognise that through wearing our uniform we are demonstrating that we are ready to work and ready to learn. We also believe that our uniform helps everyone to belong—it is an important symbol that we are a community, a family, and that each of us contributes to making our community great.

S1 - S4 Uniform

- Black dress trousers, shorts/culottes or skirt
- White school shirt
- Black jumper/cardigan/hoodie (with or without the school badge) which allows the school tie to be seen. Plain black only
- School tie (S1-4 tie) should be visible at all times. Ties can be bought at reception or via ParentPay.
- Black shoes/trainers with black laces. Plain black only.
- Blazers (Optional)
- Black outdoor jacket (Optional)

S5 - S6 Uniform

- Black dress trousers, shorts/culottes or skirt
- White school shirt
- Blazer with appropriate braiding
- Black jumper/cardigan (with or without the school badge) which allows the school tie to be seen. Plain black only.
- School tie (Senior tie) should be visible. Ties are available at reception or via ParentPay
- Black shoes/trainers with black laces. Plain black only
- Black outdoor jacket (Optional)

Section 4: School Policies & Practical Information

PE Uniform

Information about the PE uniform is provided by the department. We encourage, rather than require, this. However, please always come with appropriate kit for PE, eg no football teams, age appropriate.

For clarity, the following are **NOT** part of the school uniform:

- Jeans, leggings or other non-dress materials.
- Ripped clothing.
- Clothing with logos or that are not plain black.

Supplier

Our current uniform supplier is Be Schoolwear, 1-3 Meadowside, Dundee, DD1 1LW. 01382 200926 or visit St Johns RC High School (border-embroideries.co.uk).

PE uniform is available from: https://www.directsoccer.co.uk/club-shops/s_-_v/st-johns-rc-highschool

Section 4: School Policies & Practical Information

School Clothing Grants

If you are in receipt of Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance - Income Based, Income Related Employment and Support Allowance, Universal Credit (where take home pay is not more than £796 per month), Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, Housing Benefit, Council Tax Reduction or Child Tax Credit with an income of less than £19,995 (as assessed by HMRC), you may be entitled to receive a grant towards the cost of buying essential clothing to enable children up to the age of 16 to attend school.

Grants are paid directly into your bank account. If you do not have a bank account we will contact you to discuss other payment options.

The current value of a Clothing Grant is £125 per primary school child and £155 per secondary school child.

Support for school clothing is available at: <https://www.dundeeicity.gov.uk/service-area/children-and-families-service/school-clothing-grants>

Online form to apply for Free School Meals and Clothing can be accessed at [https://forms.dundeeicity.gov.uk/victoriaforms/Viewer-VicForms.asp?user=anon&Form=Free%20School%20Meals%20and%20Clothing%20\(1.0\).wdf](https://forms.dundeeicity.gov.uk/victoriaforms/Viewer-VicForms.asp?user=anon&Form=Free%20School%20Meals%20and%20Clothing%20(1.0).wdf)

School Meals

School lunches cost £2.20 per day and all children are provided with a lunch menu by Tayside Contracts.

All children staying for lunches within school will eat in the dining hall. Safety flasks containing hot food may be brought to school, but not the glass vacuum type, which may be dangerous, as they are liable to break. Glass bottles should not be brought to school.

Please inform us in writing if your child has any special dietary needs so that arrangements can be put in place to accommodate their needs. The dining room is supervised by support staff at all times. Please note that the school does not approve of pupils going out of school to buy their lunch due to safety reasons.

Section 4: School Policies & Practical Information

Free School Meals

Free school meals are available to all pupils whose parents receive Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance - Income Based, Income Related Employment and Support Allowance, Universal Credit where take home pay is not more than £796 per month, Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, Child Tax Credit ONLY with an income of less than £19,995, or BOTH Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit with an income less than £9,552 (as assessed by HMRC).

Application forms can be submitted online:

<https://www.dundee.gov.uk/eduforms>

Instrumental Tuition

You can find out about Dundee's instrumental music service at:

<https://www.dundee.gov.uk/service-area/children-and-families-service/instrumental-music-service>

EMA

EMA is part of the Scottish Executive's agenda of encouraging access to, and participation in, further and higher education by young people from low-income families.

EMA provides financial support for 16 – 19 year olds who stay on in full time non advanced education or a community/voluntary Activity programme after their statutory school leaving date.

Do you qualify for EMA?

- Were you born between 1 March 2005 and 28 February 2009?
- Do you attend a Dundee school or do you reside in the Dundee area and are you undertaking a programme of learning in a community or voluntary setting?
- Was your 2023-24 household income:
 - £24,421 per annum or less (for families with a single dependent child)
 - £26,884 per annum or less (families with more than one dependent child)?

Section 4: School Policies & Practical Information

EMA is a weekly allowance of £30 payable to eligible young people who have achieved 100% attendance per week. It is payable in arrears, generally on a 2 weekly basis.

How to apply for EMA?

Application forms can be submitted online:

<https://www.dundee.gov.uk/ema>

Payments to Schools

The school currently accepts payments online, using a secure website called ParentPay, for items such as school meals, trips and uniforms. The ParentPay system is easy to use and offers parents the freedom to make payments by debit or credit card, whenever they like, ensuring that monies reach schools safely and securely.

The system helps to remove the costs associated with having to manage cash securely on school premises and it frees up time to better support the smooth running of the school. The more parents use the service, the greater the benefit to the school, the parents and the pupils alike.

If you already have a ParentPay account you don't have to do anything. If you haven't yet activated your ParentPay Account, please contact the school office who will reprint your activation letter to enable you to set up your ParentPay account ready for the start of the new term.

Leaving Dates

Summer Leaving Date

A pupil whose sixteenth birthday falls on or after 1st March and before 1st October, is judged to have reached school leaving age on the 31st May.

Section 4: School Policies & Practical Information

Winter Leaving Date

A pupil whose sixteenth birthday falls on or after 1st October and before the last day of February, is judged to have reached school leaving age on the first day of the Christmas holidays.

Emergency School Closure Procedures

In exceptional circumstances the school may be unable to function normally. The school may be affected by severe weather or power failures. We shall do all we can to let you know about the details of closure and re-opening through the local radio, press, text messages and letters home. You can be assured that we will never send a child home without first checking that there is an adult at home.

Placing Requests

If you wish to apply for a school place, whether you are moving into Dundee or moving between two Dundee schools, you are required to complete a placing request form. To do this, you should go direct to the school you wish your child to attend and apply there. The child's full birth certificate and a proof of address, in the form of a Tenancy Agreement, Council Tax book or recent (within two months) utilities account must be shown. If you are moving into the area, applications can be made 4 weeks prior to your arrival. Applications are dealt with in date order and the process may take up to 60 days.

Parents of prospective Primary 1 pupils who reside in the school's catchment area are asked to register their child's name at the school office between December and the February of the year the child starts school. The child's full birth certificate and a proof of address, in the form of a Tenancy Agreement, Council Tax book or recent (within two months) utilities account must be shown.

Parents of children living outwith the school's catchment area, who wish their child to attend the school, are asked to make a placing request. Forms can be obtained from Customer Services, 50

Section 4: School Policies & Practical Information

North Lindsay Street, Dundee.

Prospective parents who wish to come to see the school are invited to telephone the school office to make an appointment to visit.

School Absence procedures

Please contact the school as soon as possible if your child is absent. Please send a note to school with your child on their return explaining the reason for the absence.

If your child is absent and no contact is made by you, a text message will be sent from the school. If three days pass without explanation for an absence an Education Resource Worker will arrange to visit you and your child at home.

The following points are included in the Education Authority's

Attendance Initiative

- If your child is ill and cannot attend school please contact the school before, or as soon as possible after 9.00am on the first day of absence.
- If the absence is planned, e.g. a hospital appointment, we ask you to let us know prior to the absence.
- If your child is absent for more than three days please call again or write to tell us.
- If you have not contacted the school to say your child is absent and have received a text message please contact us as soon as possible.

Regular attendance at school ensures your child is receiving the continuous education they are entitled to. Dundee City Council asks that, where possible, parents do not take children out of school for family holidays during term time. In accordance with Scottish Executive guidelines for pupil attendance, most holidays are recorded as unauthorised unless there is proof from an employer that this is the only time when holidays could be taken.

Section 4: School Policies & Practical Information

A guide for parents about school attendance explains parental responsibilities with regard to children's attendance at school – <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/12/04134640/0>

Appointments

If your child has an appointment during the school day or needs to leave school for any other reason, please put this in writing. We would appreciate it if routine appointments could be made outwith school hours but understand that this isn't always possible.

If your child does need to leave school during the school day they must be collected by a parent/carer at the main reception. In the interest of safety we cannot allow children to leave the school unaccompanied.

Accidents/Illness at School

In the event of a child having an accident or becoming ill at school we will attempt to contact the parents so that they can collect the child from school. However, if we cannot contact the parents, we will contact the Emergency Contact whose name and telephone number should be given to us by the parents.

Therefore it is very important that parents inform the school of the name, address and telephone number of the Emergency Contact and advise the school immediately of any changes that occur.

Section 4: School Policies & Practical Information

Promoting Positive Relationships and Behaviour

Our relationships, our rights and our behaviour matter to all of us. We all want to feel happy, safe and respected. Together we create a school environment where we all can learn, grow and develop our skills for life. As a Catholic school in the Marist tradition, we are fully aligned with the Charter for Catholic schools and the values of our founders, the Marist Brothers. These values are: Simplicity, Presence, Family Spirit, In the Way of Mary, Love of Work.

Our expectations for everyone within our community are: Ready to Learn, Respectful, Safe. These expectations incorporate all the things we need from young people to be successful learners. For example, ready to learn includes arriving on time, in full uniform, with a good attitude.

Our goals are that each learner is present, participates fully, makes the best possible progress and earns success.

We have clear processes in place which recognise the positive attitudes and behaviours of our learners, as well as clear processes for when we fall short. When we don't get it right, we:

- Focus on repairing relationships and returning to learning as soon as possible
- Take responsibility for ourselves and our actions to make things right
- Accept that we may need help to put things right (from peers, teachers, parents or other adults)
- Accept that there may be consequences for our actions which may go beyond a restorative conversation, which will be specific to the situation and the needs of everyone involved

More information on our Relationships and Behaviour Policy is available at:

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/bRu62jF8pEAuH8k5?ref=Link&loc=play>

Section 4: School Policies & Practical Information

In St John's RC High School the Guidance system is organised on a vertical basis with a Guidance Teacher responsible for an allocated class in each year. This system allows for continuity of care for all young people as they progress through the school. Each young person will have ready access to a member of staff who can support his/her needs.

The role of the Guidance Teacher is to provide personal, curricular and vocational support and advice to all of our young people and their parents, throughout their school career. This is done in a number of ways:

- by encouraging high standards of appearance and behaviour
- by encouraging a positive attitude and organised approach to school work
- by encouraging our young people to form good relationships with staff and peers
- by advising on course and career choices at various stages
- by liaising with parents regarding individual needs and progress
- by liaising with other departments in school and key agencies outwith the school

The Guidance Team in St John's RC High School is committed to supporting the formation of all our young people in line with Gospel values. We take seriously our role in helping to develop the emotional, physical and spiritual wellbeing of all pupils. This is done formally through a well-structured PSE programme and more informally through day to day contact with the young people.

Section 4: School Policies & Practical Information



SFA Performance School

The programme is open to boys and girls currently in primary 7 who have shown exceptional talent in football and would benefit from an individualised programme. The programme is based at St John's RC High School and will require parents/carers to complete a placing request to attend the school if they are selected for the programme by the SFA. Parents/carers are responsible for transporting the successful candidates to St John's RC High School. The council do not fund travel costs, however, the Scottish FA may make a contribution depending on individual circumstances. The pupils' timetables will be produced to allow them to follow the programme during curriculum time.

The aim is to bring together the best young footballers from the area into a four year training and support programme designed by the Scottish Football Association and high quality specialist Performance Youth coaches who are employees of the Scottish FA. The partnership between the SFA and the Head Teacher will ensure pupils achieve the correct balance between sport and academic life.



Dundee FC Football Academy

A similar programme to the SFA Performance School exists at St John's RC High School which is affiliated to Dundee Football Club.

Section 5: Parental Involvement

School Concerns and Complaints Procedures

If you would like to talk to your child's teacher or a member of the senior staff it is generally better to make an appointment. This ensures that the member of staff is available, that classes are not disturbed and that pupils' lessons are not affected.

If you have made a complaint to the school and you are not satisfied with the outcome, you can have your complaint reviewed by a senior officer in the Education Department.

Education Department publications can be found at:

<http://www.dundecity.gov.uk/departments-publications/Education>

Parents are encouraged to become involved at every stage of the pupil's education. The quality of the pastoral care is extremely high and there exists very strong partnerships with parents/carers by Guidance staff, Support for Learning and the Senior Management Team.

Effective communications with the home are seen as key in supporting the learning of pupils and in engaging parents/carers in the pupil's education.

At key stages, e.g. course choices, parents/carers are formally invited to participate in a discussion with the young person and their Guidance Teacher which serves to offer advice and support on transition.

The School Support Team meets weekly to discuss and plan additional or targeted intervention for pupils who may require an extra level of support. The parents/carers are invited to this meeting which serves as a support mechanism in ensuring that the school gets it right for every child. This support is then reviewed regularly.

The Parent Council meets once a term to discuss current educational issues. All parents/carers are welcome to attend these meetings.

Section 5: Parental Involvement

The school provides parents/carers with a calendar of meetings specific to their child. Each year group has a scheduled Parents' Night. In addition, Information Evenings are held to ensure that parents have the opportunity to discuss current issues, SQA, UCAS and learning journey plans. Parents/carers are also invited to 1:1 meetings at transition points in the learning journey of their young people. Parents/carers are always welcome and can arrange appointments through our school office.

Section 6: The Curriculum

Curriculum for Excellence 3-18

Curriculum for Excellence has been introduced to raise standards of learning and teaching for all pre-school to 18 year olds. It aims to help prepare children and young people with the knowledge and skills they need in a fast changing world. As part of Curriculum for Excellence all children from pre-school to the end of S3 will receive a rounded education known as a Broad General Education. Curriculum for Excellence is all about bringing real life into the classroom and taking lessons beyond it.

Through the experiences we provide we want our children to become Successful Learners, Confident Individuals, Responsible Citizens and Effective Contributors. We are committed to providing children with a broad general education and focus on eight curriculum areas.

Expressive Arts	Health & Wellbeing	Languages	Mathematics
Religious & Moral	Sciences	Social Studies	Technologies

Progress in learning is indicated through curriculum levels as detailed below.

Level	Stage
Early	The pre-school years and P1 or later
First	To the end of P4, but earlier or later for some
Second	To the end of P7, but earlier or later for some
Third & Fourth	S1-S3, but earlier for some

Section 6: The Curriculum

At the end of the Broad General Education (BGE), learners are supported in planning a course of study through what is referred to as the Senior Phase. The Senior Phase curriculum, from S4 to S6 (from around ages 15 to 18) follows on from a young person's Broad General Education, building on the Experiences and Outcomes which they will have achieved to the end of S3. It enables them to extend and deepen their learning through more specialised study and to continue to develop skills for learning, life and work.

During the senior phase, young people will build up a portfolio of qualifications. It is the stage of education at which the relationship between the curriculum and National Qualifications becomes of key significance. The curriculum in the senior phase, however, comprises more than programmes which lead to qualifications. There is a continuing emphasis, for example, on health and wellbeing including physical activity and opportunities for personal achievement, service to others and practical experience of the world of work.

Learners have opportunities, at all stages, to gain recognition for learning and achievements which take place outside the classroom. The Senior Phase ultimately supports young people in moving on to the next stage – whether that is college, university, training or employment.

In the senior phase, schools and their partners (for example colleges, employers or community learning and development providers) now have flexibility to offer a range of pathways that meet the needs and raise the attainment levels of all learners.

As well as the new National Qualifications, which offer increased flexibility with a greater focus on skills and applying learning to real-life situations, there is also a wide range of SQA vocational qualifications and awards that young people can take as part of their senior phase curriculum.

These include skills for work; leadership and personal development.

More specific and individualised information about your child's learning can be obtained from the school.

Section 6: The Curriculum

Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC)

The GIRFEC approach is about how staff in all children's services meet their needs by working together to ensure that children reach their full potential.

www.scotland.gov.uk/gettingitright

Sensitive Issues

Part of our curriculum involves teaching the children about issues which could be considered sensitive i.e. sexual health and relationships education or drugs and alcohol awareness. Parents should be assured that whenever these topics arise, we will communicate as appropriate with home. On some occasions we may send a letter just to raise awareness that specific issues are to be covered, on other occasions we will actively seek permission to include your child/ children in a series of lessons. If any parent is concerned about what is being covered within the curriculum however, they should feel free to speak to a member of staff about this.

Religious Observance

Through the ethos and curriculum, we provide opportunities for pupils to explore morals and values. We help learners develop their own beliefs, values and a responsible attitude to others. Pupils are encouraged to develop an understanding of Christianity and other religions. Pupils develop skills of reflection, critical thinking and how to act when making moral decisions. The school welcomes diversity and individuality while emphasising our common commitment to moral values such as honesty, respect for others, compassion and justice. It is a fundamental principle of the school that all who are involved in the life of the school have the right to be respected as individuals and carry the responsibility to act in a considerate and respectful manner towards others.

Under the terms of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 "any pupils may be withdrawn by his/her parents from instruction in religious subjects and from religious observance" Parents wishing to exercise this right should discuss with the Head Teacher.



A Charter for Catholic Schools in Scotland

The mission of the Catholic school is to develop as a community of faith and learning, providing the highest quality of education, and offering formation through the promotion of Gospel values, through celebration and worship, and through service to the common good.

All Catholic schools in Scotland, in honouring Jesus Christ as the Way, the Truth and the Life, will feature the following characteristics:

- a commitment to the integrated education and formation of the whole person, in close partnership with parents as the first educators of their children;
- an inclusive ethos which aims to honour the life, dignity and voice of each person, made in the image of God;
- a commitment to the search for wisdom in life and to the pursuit of excellence, through the development of each person's unique God-given talents;
- a commitment to the spiritual formation of the school community, through the shared experience of prayer and liturgy, and in partnership with local parishes;
- the provision of religious education programmes which will enable young people to develop their understanding of Gospel values and of how to apply them to life;
- a commitment to uphold the moral teaching, faith tradition and sacramental life of the Catholic Church;
- a commitment to communicate Catholic social teaching and thereby to promote social justice and opportunity for all;
- a commitment to ecumenical action and the unity of Christians;
- the promotion of respect for different beliefs and cultures and for inter-faith dialogue;
- a commitment to support the continuing professional and spiritual development of staff.

All staff appointed to a Catholic school are expected to support and promote the aims, mission, values and ethos of the school, as illustrated in this Charter.

Section 6: The Curriculum

Assessment

Throughout their school career we track and assess pupils' progress (intimated to parents via reports and parents' meetings) and help them plan their future learning through discussions with their Guidance teacher, and their subject teachers.

Reporting to parents

At all levels, provision exists for comments from individual teachers to be sent home with the report form, and parents in turn are invited to discuss reports with Guidance staff and/or the appropriate House Head. If parents require a progress report at any other time, contact should be made with the appropriate House Head or Guidance teacher.

Leaving School

All pupils in S4-S6 are interviewed by their Guidance Teacher who discuss their aspirations for leaving school.

All university applicants follow a planned programme during the first and second terms and are given appropriated support by Guidance staff, House Heads and Skills Development Scotland.

College applicants are identified early in S4 and S5/6 and individual targeted support is offered at various levels by a core team of professionals.

Pupils wishing to follow a vocational path are also identified and opportunities for work experience are organised by the Positive Destinations Team. Opportunities for employment and apprenticeships are co-ordinated by a designated member of the Guidance Team in partnership with SDS.

Parents/carers are kept informed and involved at all stages of transitions and may wish to accompany their child on college visits or attend careers interviews when appropriate.

Section 7: Support for Pupils

Most children make satisfactory progress in school and their education can be fully supported by their class teacher. Some children may, however, need additional support to help them access learning in the classroom. Assessment and planning for their needs will be done through a Child's Plan which identifies their strengths, barriers to learning and what action or support required to meet their additional needs. A very small number of children with significant and long-term additional support needs may meet the criteria for a Co-ordinated Support Plan. These will be children who receive a lot of support from people outside education; for example, from health and social work staff.

Support for learning takes place in every class and is the responsibility of all staff in the school. All of our pupils are encouraged to work to the highest level of their ability and extra help is available for children who may require it to help them achieve their potential. The Head Teacher, teachers and other staff work closely to ensure that children and young people's individual learning needs are met.

The work of Support for Learning staff is co-ordinated by the Head Teacher, is regularly reviewed and is based upon pupil need. Support may be given within the class or within another setting, and may be within a group although it is always based upon the needs of the individual child.

The procedures and processes by which an individual child's needs are identified and addressed are set out in Dundee City Education Department's policy on Supporting Learners. Central to this is the assessment of need using a staged intervention model and the involvement of parents. We also maintain very valuable partnerships within education and with agencies beyond to support pupils who have additional needs of any kind.

To help assess the specific needs of any pupil who may require extra help the school is able to call upon the services an Educational Psychologist from Dundee Educational Psychology Service. Before such a step is taken, parents are always contacted and the reason for such a referral is fully explained and parental co-operation sought.

Section 7: Support for Pupils

As a parent/carer you can access a wide range of information with regard to additional support needs. The information is available both at your local school and on the Dundee City Council website on this internet page <http://www.dundee.gov.uk/education/support/>

The following are available for you at the above internet page.

- Assessing Additional Support Needs
- Attending Pupil Support Planning Meetings
- Co-ordinated Support Plan
- Dispute Resolution
- Dispute Resolution Referral Form
- Mediation - Parent to Parent leaflet
- Supporting Learning (Dundee City Council Education Department, Support for Learning Policy)
- Supporting Learning in Dundee

This internet page also has many other leaflets on related topics which might be of interest to you.

If you cannot access the internet, please ask the School Office if you would like a copy of any of these documents.

The Additional Support for Learning (Scotland) Act 2004 as amended by the 2009 Act came into force on 15 November 2010. The recommendations of the Children and Young People's Act (2014), in particular the Child's Plan and the responsibility of the Named Person, also affects how we assess and plan for all children and young people.

Section 7: Support for Pupils

Information on additional support needs is also available to you from outside Dundee City Council:

Enquire - The Scottish Advice Service for Additional Support for Learning

Operated by Children in Scotland, Enquire offers independent, confidential advice and information on additional support for learning through:

a telephone helpline - 0845 123 2303

an email enquiry service - info@enquire.org.uk

an online enquiry service

two websites - www.enquire.org.uk (for parents/carers and practitioners) and www.enquire.org.uk/yp (for children and young people)
Enquire also provide a range of clear and easy-to-read guides and fact sheets explaining everything from 'additional support in the early years' to 'what planning should take place for moving on from school'.

Let's Talk ASN

Let's Talk ASN is a free service for the parents of children with additional support needs who may require support in relation to a dispute or potential dispute with an education authority. It is a joint initiative of Govan Law Centre (Charity No. SC030193) and Kindred Advocacy (Charity No. SC000264). It provides support for parents and young people from the time they have grounds to make a reference to the Additional Support Needs Tribunal for Scotland (ASNTS).

Advice and information regarding this service can be obtained by email or phone-call:

letstalkasn@edlaw.org.uk 0141 445 1955

Scottish Child Law Centre

The Scottish Child Law Centre is a charitable body registered in Scotland under registration number SCO12741." It offers advice and support for families in regard of additional support needs.

Section 7: Support for Pupils

The Scottish Government website's Additional Support for Learning page also provides links to relevant legislation and guidance, including the arrangements that should be in place to support pupils with additional support needs: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Education/Schools/welfare/ASL>

The 'Supporting Children's Learning Code of Practice (Revised edition)' - provides Statutory guidance relating to the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004 as amended: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/04/04090720/21>

'Getting It Right For Every Child and Young Person', is essential reading for anyone involved or working with children and young people, including practitioners working in adult services with parents and carers. Find it at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Young-People/gettingitright>

'Supporting Learners - guidance on the identification, planning and provision of support' is at <http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/supportinglearners/>

Section 8: School Improvement

St John's RC High School's attainment data is improving over time after being significantly affected during the COVID period.

The development of literacy and numeracy skills are foundational to all learning, and the focussed work of our English, Mathematics and Support for Learning Departments, together with our Literacy Coordinator and colleagues from across the school, have had a positive impact on pupils' learning. The incorporation of additional dedicated time to support learning in these key areas has also been important in supporting our young people attain their best.

Table 1 below shows the S3 attainment of a level as a percentage over the last 3 years.

Table 2 and Table 3 relate to pupils who have left school from the previous session, whether in S4, S5 or S6. Table 2 relates to literacy and numeracy, and Table 3 indicates the high levels of young people who leave our school and enter a positive destination.

Table 1: BGE Achievement of a level

Cfe Level	Reading			Writing			Listening & Talking			Numeracy		
	20/21	21/22	22/23	20/21	21/22	22/23	20/21	21/22	22/23	20/21	21/22	22/23
2nd and above	96%	95%	94%	96%	95%	94%	95%	98%	96%	90%	91%	92%
3rd and above	79%	76%	78%	81%	77%	79%	80%	77%	82%	65%	67%	73%
4th level	44%	42%	50%	44%	39%	44%	57%	43%	46%	28%	50%	47%

Section 8: School Improvement

Table 2: Improvements in Literacy and Numeracy (Leavers)

Year	Establishment	% Level 4 Literacy and Numeracy	% Level 5 Literacy and Numeracy
2019	St John's RC High School	90.91	61.36
	Virtual Comparator	88.01	62.67
	Dundee City	85.77	58.69
	The Tayside Collaborative	88.04	62.61
	The National Establishment	89.27	66.55
2020	St John's RC High School	88.89	69.01
	Virtual Comparator	84.97	62.98
	Dundee City	85.43	63.92
	The Tayside Collaborative	87.58	67
	The National Establishment	89.58	68.53
2021	St John's RC High School	84.27	63.48
	Virtual Comparator	84.33	59.04
	Dundee City	85.04	65.33
	The Tayside Collaborative	87.93	68.22
	The National Establishment	90.08	70.23
2022	St John's RC High School	83.11	56
	Virtual Comparator	86.09	60.89
	Dundee City	85.22	59.9
	The Tayside Collaborative	86.44	63.63
	The National Establishment	89.58	68.16
2023	St John's RC High School	74.85	56.14
	Virtual Comparator	86.78	61.52
	Dundee City	84.52	62.66
	The Tayside Collaborative	86.48	65.2
	The National Establishment	89.01	68.01

Section 8: School Improvement

Table 3: Improving Post School Participation (% of school leavers in positive destinations)

Year	Establishment	% of Schools Leavers in a Positive Destination
2019	St John's RC High School	96.02
	Virtual Comparator	94.2
	Dundee City	94.31
	The Tayside Collaborative	95.8
	National	95.05
2020	St John's RC High School	94.74
	Virtual Comparator	91.87
	Dundee City	92.29
	The Tayside Collaborative	93.39
	National	93.36
2021	St John's RC High School	95.51
	Virtual Comparator	93.99
	Dundee City	93.7
	The Tayside Collaborative	95.41
	National	95.48
2022	St John's RC High School	93.78
	Virtual Comparator	94.93
	Dundee City	93.9
	The Tayside Collaborative	94.05
	National	95.74
2023	St John's RC High School	95.32
	Virtual Comparator	95.26
	Dundee City	95.56
	The Tayside Collaborative	95.34
	National	95.87

Section 8: School Improvement

School Improvement Planning

Following the successful introduction of several Skills for Work courses and National Progression Awards we continue to seek opportunities to widen the curriculum. Our partnerships with Dundee and Angus College and other schools in the city have ensured that young people have been given the opportunity to engage in the learning most suited to their chosen career aspirations. With the many pathways now open to young people we offer support and guidance to young people through Guidance staff.

Learning and Teaching

We continue to reflect and develop our classroom observation programme. Staff development and CLPL is reflective of the development needs agreed by staff. Further work is being undertaken through cooperative learning for differentiation to ensure that the needs of all young people are met. Our young people are also fully involved in our classroom observation programme.

Leadership

There are increased opportunities for all young people to be involved in leadership roles through the reorganisation of House Teams. Pupil Voice, Ambassador programmes, Mentors in Violence Prevention, Peacemaker Leaders, Buddy system, Marist Leaders and our Senior Leadership team building events. Almost all young people will have had the opportunity to work as part of a team or lead a team throughout the school session providing them with the opportunity to develop their skills and talents ready for the world of work.

Section 9: Extra Curricular Activities

We at St John's RC High School work closely with our Active School Coordinator and our staff to ensure a variety of extra-curricular activities are available to all our young people, allowing them to develop their individual talents and skills. Our Sports Ambassadors in S5 and S6 lead some of our activities and clubs after school and during lunchtimes. Our Active Schools Coordinator has developed a close working relationship with our associated primary schools, the young people from our primaries are invited to participate in Cluster Games which are held in St John's.

Badminton

Basketball

Book Club

Brass Ensemble

Cake Making

Drama Club

Duke of Edinburgh

Guitar Club

Interact Group

Jazzy Tappers Dance Group

Music Technology Club

Netball

Orchestra

Peer Education

Reading and Board Games

Respect

Revolution Dance Crew

Running Club

SFA Futsal

Street Dance

Street Soccer

Strings Group

Table Tennis

Urban Moves

Water Polo

Young Enterprise

Section 10: ScotXed Education Statistics Privacy Notice for Pupil and Teacher Data

These notices are intended to provide information to pupils, teachers and parents about data collected through Scottish Government Statistical Surveys including why it is needed, data policy and individuals' data protection rights. The changes in the latest version are intended to:

- Clarify that the information collected is about pupils/teachers in schools rather than solely related to the Pupil or Teacher Census.
- Continue to inform pupils, teachers and parents that the data may be shared with partners for statistics and research purposes and clarify that this could include linkage to other sources in line with the National Data Linkage Guiding Principles.
- Confirm that pupil/teacher names and address (other than postcode) are never collected.

Local authorities are responsible for ensuring pupils, teachers and parents are kept informed about how data will be used and that such information provided is reviewed regularly to ensure it is in line with best practice.

You can access the updated notices at the following link:

- Education Statistics Privacy Notice – Pupils – <https://www.gov.scot/publications/school-education-statistics-privacy-notices/>



...you can do so much more **ONLINE** at...
dundeecity.gov.uk