



# Blessed Thomas Holford

Staff Prospectus



Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College

May God's love be our guide 



01

# Our College





## Our College

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We are an 11-18 Catholic College with 1,600 students on roll, including 220 in the Sixth Form. GCSE and A level results have been consistently excellent over several years and we are determined to make ourselves an exceptional educational provider. Our college is highly popular with parents/carers, and we are oversubscribed every year.

Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College is a bright beacon of hope, learning and faith in the heart of Altrincham. Our light shines out to all our partner primary colleges, our parishes, Trafford Council and the Catholic Diocese of Shrewsbury.

As a Catholic college we are proud to worship, and follow the teachings of Jesus Christ. At BTHCC you will 'witness' our underpinning Catholic ethos in all that you experience – the way we talk to one another, the way we support and trust each other and the way we are driven to succeed in our mission. The staff team at BTHCC promote a dedication to excellence which empowers our students to excel and achieve whilst expanding their horizons in a nurturing environment. Our commitment to high-quality teaching, focus on mastery of knowledge and partnerships with parents and the local community provide a richness of experience that enables all to develop their God given talents.

02

# Catholic Life





## Catholic Life

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Many of the day-to-day activities will not be different from other colleges and colleges you have worked in. A key difference is that regardless of your own faith, you are invited to and encouraged to contribute to the whole college ethos. This has nothing to do with converting to Catholicism or forcing you to believe anything. It means that the Local Governing Body and the Headteacher expect you to do what you can to contribute to all aspects of the college's life including the faith life of the college.

Remember you are part of something that is bigger than the BTHCC. What you are doing is valued and supported from the very top of the Church. You are on a journey with your own faith and at the heart of the Catholic education is Jesus Christ.



03

# Our Staff





## Our Staff

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Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College is led by Mrs Clare Hogg. She is supported by the Senior Leadership Team, including the Deputy Headteachers and Assistant Headteachers, who oversee key areas such as Teaching and Learning, Behaviour, Pastoral Care, Catholic Life, Inclusion and Achievement plus the Business Manager is also part of the Leadership team.

Our curriculum areas are led by Heads of Department, supported by Assistant Heads of Department, ensuring high-quality teaching and learning across all subjects. The pastoral care of each year group is overseen by a Head of Year, who is supported by a dedicated team of highly skilled and experienced pastoral staff.

We have a large team of committed teachers, supported by excellent administrative, clerical and technical staff who help the college run smoothly each day.

At BTH, our staff are well-qualified, experienced and deeply committed to the wellbeing, development and success of every child in our care.



04

# Professional Development





*When we grow as educators, we deepen our ability to reveal Christ's love in every lesson we teach."*



At Blessed Thomas Holford, we place a strong emphasis on the ongoing professional growth of every member of staff. We are committed to providing high-quality development opportunities that allow colleagues to deepen their expertise, gain further accreditation and continually refine their practice.

Our programme of professional development is wide-ranging and responsive to the needs of our college community. Staff benefit from regular training sessions, collaborative learning opportunities and access to both internal and external expertise. Many of our sessions are led by our own talented staff, reflecting the strength and depth of knowledge within our college, while specialist partners are invited in to support specific areas of development.

Teaching and learning sits at the heart of everything we do at BTH. We are committed to ensuring that our classroom practice remains ambitious, engaging and rooted in the principles of excellent pedagogy. Staff work together to share best practice, explore new approaches and continually reflect on how to provide the very best education for our students.

We also recognise the vital role of technology in modern education. As such, we continue to invest in our digital infrastructure and ensure that all staff are supported in developing strong ICT skills that enhance teaching, learning and communication across the college.

BTH is a community built on high expectations, professional generosity and a shared commitment to the success of every child. We believe that the opportunities we provide make our college a rewarding and inspiring place to work. Our aim is that every colleague who joins us grows in confidence, skill and ambition during their time here.



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# Pastoral Care & SEN





# Pastoral Care and SEN

At Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College, our focus is firmly on meeting the needs of every individual student. We are proud of our highly skilled Learning Support team, who work closely with students who require additional help, including those with an EHCP. Our Teaching Assistants provide tailored support, ensuring that every young person is able to thrive academically and personally.

To best support learning, our class sizes are deliberately kept small, with around 24 students per class which allows teachers to adapt lessons to the needs of all learners. With approximately 280 students in each year group, this structure enables us to maintain high levels of care, attention and challenge for every child.

Pastoral care is central to life at BTH. The form tutor plays a vital role in guiding, supporting and mentoring students each day. Form groups run from Years 7–13, with smaller groups in the Sixth Form to ensure even more personalised support. Almost all full-time staff take on the role of form tutor, reflecting our whole-college commitment to pastoral excellence.

Each year group is led by a Head of Year, who oversees both the wellbeing and academic progress of their students. The Heads of Year work closely with the Senior Leadership Team, including the Assistant Headteachers responsible for Pastoral Care and the Sixth Form, ensuring that every student is known, valued and supported.

At BTH, we believe that strong relationships, high expectations and a nurturing environment allow every child to flourish, academically, socially and spiritually.

06

# Behaviour





## Behaviour

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As a Catholic family we have the gospel values and Catholic Social Teaching at the core of all we do and we live our values every day. We provide a nurturing, caring and loving environment where spirituality and Catholic ethos and faith permeate everything we do.

We expect our college family to be **kind** at all times. We aim to develop respectful, compassionate students who are kind to everyone. This reflects the gospel values of Compassion, kindness, service of our neighbour, gentleness, love and generosity. This means that we think of others before we think of ourselves. Being kind is an intrinsic part of what we do at Blessed Thomas Holford. As a Catholic college we are proud to worship, and follow the teachings of Jesus Christ. Walking around our college you will 'feel' our Catholic ethos in the air – the way we talk to one another, the way we support and trust each other and the way we are driven to succeed in our mission.

We **work hard**. Being successful does not happen without hard work. Everyone must give 100% effort in all subjects, all the time. We promote the values of resilience, perseverance, and determination as qualities to be admired and rewarded, at college, as they will be in life. We expect our students to respond to feedback, improve and not give up. Our students will learn that success needs hard work and effort. The rewards for this hard work and effort will be knowledge learnt from expert teachers as well as making exceptional progress in all areas. At Blessed Thomas Holford we continually celebrate the success of our students because we know that success only comes with hard work.

The staff at Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College promote a dedication to all students which empowers our students to excel spiritually and academically whilst expanding their horizons in a nurturing environment. Our commitment to high-quality teaching, focus on mastery of knowledge and partnerships with parents and the local community provides a richness of experience that enables all to develop their God given talents.

We **develop our whole selves**. This means that, as well as developing academically, we also expect students to develop personally, spiritually and emotionally. For example, applying for and holding a student leadership position; training to be a peer mentor; attending an after-college club; supporting one of the charities we work with; become a member of the St Vincent d Paul group; being active in worship; joining our College Choir; or playing for one of our sports teams. There are many, many ways to develop your whole self. This is vital because, although achieving academic success is important, we are not defined by this. We are defined by who we are as people of Christ: we develop our whole selves. Our total love for the child ensures that all individuals are given the opportunity to succeed. Our consistent approach provides clarity for all students and instils strong lifelong learning habits, thus, aiding every student to become better qualified, more successful, and happier. We have the highest expectations for all.

This means that we will do whatever it takes to ensure that every student achieves their full potential both academically and personally. We aim to develop young people who treat others with dignity and respect and have high expectations of themselves and others, encouraging each other to succeed.



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# Academic Monitoring



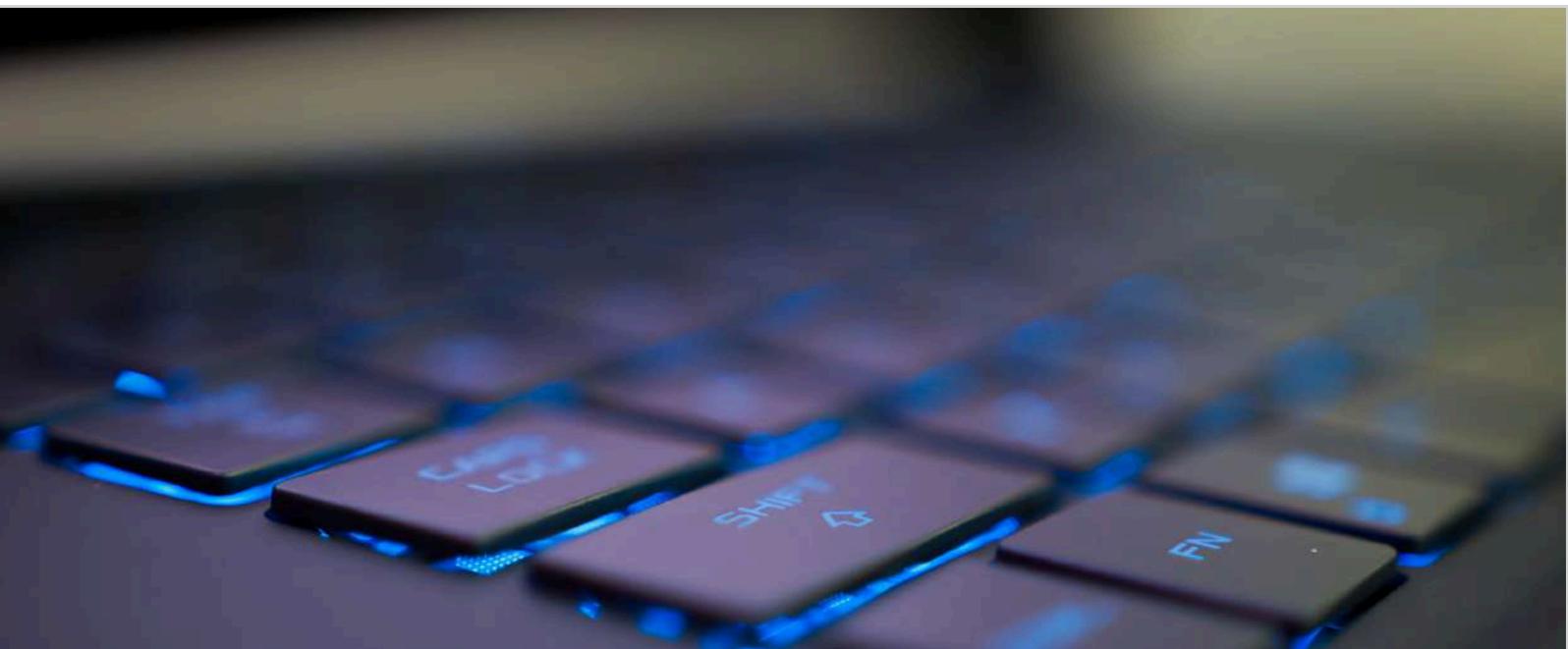


# Academic Monitoring

At Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College, assessment data is collected regularly across all year groups to ensure we have a clear and accurate picture of every student's progress. We use Bromcom as our management information system, supported by our dedicated Data Manager, to process, analyse and report this information efficiently and effectively.

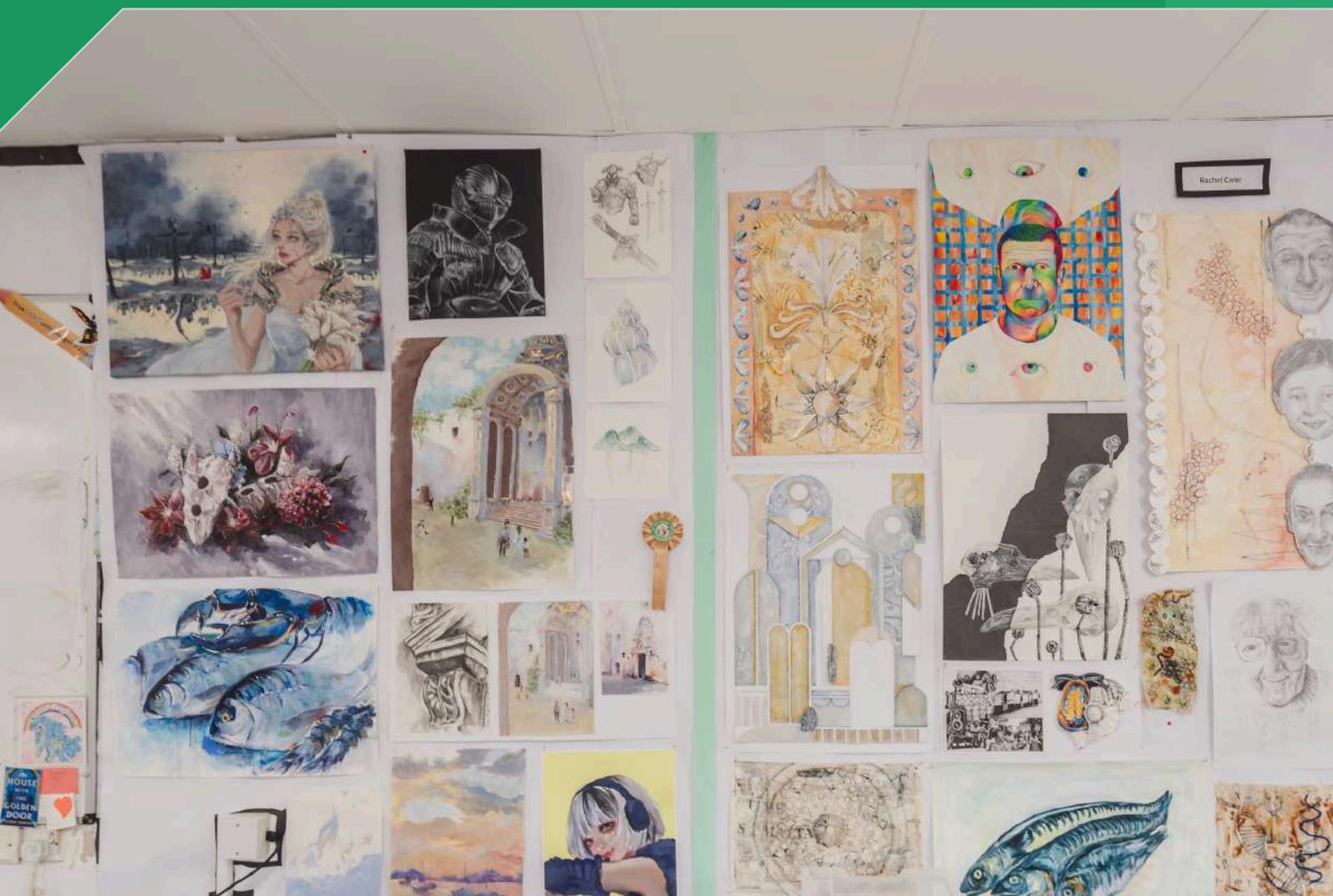
Our reporting systems are well established, enabling students, parents and staff to monitor academic progress with clarity and confidence. The progress of every student is closely tracked throughout the year, allowing us to identify emerging issues quickly and put the right support in place.

We place great importance on making data accessible and easy to understand. Our systems are designed so that staff can focus on what matters most – using the information to inform teaching, support students and drive improvement – rather than spending unnecessary time analysing data. At BTH, our approach ensures that every student is known, supported and challenged to achieve their full potential.



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# Our Curriculum





*A Catholic curriculum forms not only the mind, but the heart – shaping young people to live with wisdom, compassion and courage."*

Our college curriculum is rooted in our college Mission Statement 'May God's Love Be Our Guide', which outlines the faith and values that drive the work of our college. There are some shared beliefs taken from our Mission:

- The curriculum should promote the spiritual and the academic equally
- The importance of aspiration and high expectations for all learners
- Aspiration must lead to a strong ethos of social mobility
- Achievement and success is for everybody in our college

The curriculum has been designed to inspire and challenge all learners and prepare them for adult life. The college aims to develop a broad and balanced curriculum that helps all our students to become successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens.

Specifically, we want our curriculum to ensure our students:

1. Achieve strong outcomes to provide opportunities to progress in life
2. Enjoy and engage in their learning
3. Showcase and develop their talents & employability skills
4. Help students develop lively, enquiring minds, an ability to question and debate rationally and apply themselves to challenges
5. Develop values and respect for different views, beliefs and ways of life
6. To become global citizens

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# Our Facilities





# Our Facilities

Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College is proud to offer a modern, well-equipped and continually developing site that supports outstanding learning, personal growth and the full life of our college community.

Over recent years, our campus has expanded significantly to meet the needs of our growing college and to ensure that every student has access to high-quality spaces in which to learn, flourish and thrive. Our teaching accommodation is of an excellent standard, with specialist rooms across all departments. Many subjects are taught in suites of classrooms, creating purposeful, attractive and well-resourced environments for both staff and students.

Key facilities include:

- A 500-seat Main Hall with a full stage, lighting and sound system
- A newly built Sports Hall alongside a gym, fitness suite and extensive PE facilities
- A dedicated Sixth Form Centre with study areas, social spaces and access to dining facilities
- A full-size 3G pitch, supporting PE, extra-curricular sport and community use
- Newly refurbished Science laboratories, designed to support practical, ambitious science teaching
- A new building housing the RE and Maths departments, providing modern, specialist teaching spaces
- Enhanced ICT suites and digital learning facilities
- Pastoral support spaces to ensure students receive the care and guidance they need

We are committed to maintaining our site to the highest standard. Our ongoing investment ensures that BTH remains a vibrant, welcoming and inspiring environment for students, staff, families and visitors. At BTH, we believe that exceptional facilities help create exceptional opportunities and we are proud of the environment we offer to every young person who walks through our doors.



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# Our Results





## Our Results

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At Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College, we are proud of the strong academic culture that defines our college. Our students consistently achieve excellent outcomes at both GCSE and A-Level, reflecting the high expectations we set and the commitment shown by staff, students and families.

When we look at progress from each student's starting point, our results show that young people at BTH make exceptional strides across a wide range of subjects. This strong value-added performance demonstrates the impact of high-quality teaching, personalised support and a curriculum designed to help every learner thrive.

We take great pride in the strength of every curriculum area. Across the college, subjects deliver consistently strong outcomes, ensuring that all students whatever their interests or aspirations receive an education that enables them to succeed and flourish.

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# Our Values





# Our Culture & Values

At Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College, our culture is shaped by a simple but powerful set of values that guide everything we do. Rooted in our Catholic mission, we believe every young person is created in the image of God, gifted with potential, dignity and purpose. Our role is to nurture that potential so each student can flourish academically, personally and spiritually.

## Work Hard

We set high expectations because we believe every student is capable of excellence. Working hard is not just about effort in the classroom – it's about resilience, ambition and pride in doing things well. At BTH, students are encouraged to:

- Strive for their personal best
- Embrace challenge with confidence
- Take responsibility for their learning
- Celebrate progress as well as achievement

We create an environment where hard work is recognised, supported and valued.

## Be Kind

Kindness is at the heart of our community. Inspired by the teachings of Christ, we encourage students to treat others with respect, compassion and understanding. Being kind means:

- Looking out for one another
- Speaking and acting with integrity
- Showing empathy and patience
- Building positive relationships

We want every student to feel safe, valued and known – and kindness is the foundation of that.

## Develop Your Whole Self

Education at BTH is about more than grades. We are committed to helping students grow into confident, thoughtful and well-rounded young people. We support students to:

- Discover their talents and passions
- Build character, confidence and leadership
- Grow in faith and understanding
- Develop healthy habits and emotional resilience

Through our curriculum, enrichment opportunities, pastoral care and Catholic ethos, we help students become the very best version of themselves.



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Catholic College

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