



November 2018

Dear Students and Parents / Carers,

Admission to Year 12 in September 2019

It is a very important time for Year 11 students as you begin to consider your options Post 16. At St Laurence we aim to make students’ choices of Sixth Form, further education or the world of work as well informed as possible.

The choice of route after GCSEs at 16 has far reaching consequences. In industrialised nations such as Britain, the percentage of young people continuing their full-time education has risen dramatically over the last twenty years. In today’s global economy, young people need to be more highly qualified and better prepared than ever before. At St Laurence our goal is to ensure that students are not only academically equipped but also possess the personal skills required to be successful in an increasingly competitive world.

Over 90% of Year 11 continue in full time education with over 70% joining our Sixth Form to follow a wide range of A Level courses. We also continue to welcome a significant number of students from other schools in the area – making a substantial contribution to the positive ethos and standards of Sixth Form life.

In a Sixth Form of approximately 275 students, St Laurence is large enough to offer well over 20 A Levels but we are also small enough to make a difference to the academic and personal development of students and provide you with the personalised support you may require. There are some wonderful enrichment opportunities available within particular courses but there is also a strong tradition of extra-curricular activity – inter-school sport, the Romania Project, ski trip, Auschwitz and Iceland visits, mentoring...to name but a few.

Academic standards have remained high over recent years as a result of very good teaching by a hugely committed staff and some real priority given by our young people to the task. Indeed our results in 2018 were among the best in the local area. Over 80% of our students have moved on to university, including those who take a ‘gap-year’, and others have made wise decisions by going into the world of work or onto a Further Education course. Enrichment, Careers and University guidance are provided through a weekly Core programme. Our bespoke Sixth Form Centre allows the students to access a large Common Room and Sixth Form Private Study Room complete with computer access.

| St Laurence Sixth Form 2018 Exam Statistics | |
|--|------------|
| Average Grade per student | B |
| % Grades at A* - A | 29% |
| % Grades at A* – B | 54% |
| % Grades at A* - E | 99% |



A special programme is organised for students transferring from other schools during February/March. An induction day in June, after GCSEs helps to establish the high expectations we have for all our students in our Sixth Form and to set the students summer work to prepare them for the subjects of study in September.

Finally, the choice of subjects and courses is very much a process rather than an event. The need for considering formal and informal sources of information/advice throughout Year 11 is paramount. An interview with senior staff in January combined with taster visits to A Level classes should also help to concentrate the mind. We therefore look forward to working with many of you over the next 12 months to plan transition into our thriving Sixth Form from September 2019.

Yours sincerely,

Will Penny
Director of Sixth Form
Assistant Headteacher