



## Bishop Challoner School 2023 Vision

Bishop Challoner, a leading Catholic Co-educational Independent School, shares a vision for 2023 which offers strong pastoral support based on Catholic Christian values, and provides an excellent academic education for 3-18 years with a focus on the individual.

Integral to Bishop Challoner's vision is the pursuit of the continued development of the best possible educational and school experience for our children, where they are guided by the truth and love of Christ, sitting at the heart of everything we do.

At the core of Bishop Challoner's mission is educating the whole person and thereby providing for all aspects of their intellectual, creative, social, moral, physical, emotional and spiritual development with care and diligence.

Bishop Challoner is committed to upholding and embedding the principles of diversity, inclusion and equality. These principles are reflected in aspects of school life, policy and procedure and provide an environment which encourages all staff and pupils to feel valued, welcomed and supported.

Our goals encompass wider aspirations and priorities as part of our overall plan and are outlined in more detail below:

### **Our Priorities**

1. To continue to develop the distinctive Catholic nature of the school
2. Nurture a commitment to the integral growth and personal formation of a child
3. We will continue to offer excellent pastoral care
4. We will offer a creative and innovative learning experience for all pupils
5. Strengthening engagement between the school, parents and community
6. We are committed to the development and improvement of Bishop Challoner

#### **1. To continue to develop the distinctive Catholic nature of the school**

Our Catholic Christian values underpin everything that we do. Our school will continue to be a welcoming and vibrant school community with faith and spirituality at its centre.

We will encourage staff and pupils to live out the school's mission statement, 'To live, love and learn like Christ' and to ensure that our Christian values will be visible through our conduct and within the learning environment.

We will encourage the children to play a key role and participate in the worship and Catholic life of the school. The school being a place where all children are happy, safe and secure in a stimulating learning environment where the values of Jesus Christ are at the centre of all that happens.

We will ensure the teaching and learning of RE provision is given equal weighting that is applied to other areas of the curriculum, whilst recognising its unique place in the curriculum of a Catholic school.

Everyone in the school community will support the celebration of the sacraments and the liturgies of the Church's year.

Our Chapel of the Annunciation will continue to be the focal point of our spiritual life and a place where our pupils can reflect on the challenges of today and the wonder that God's creation will bring tomorrow.

## **2. Nurture a commitment to the integral growth and personal formation of a child**

With the professional skill and experience of the staff, they will strive to nurture the unique God-given gifts and talents of each pupil by drawing out the best in everyone.

The strong sense of unity amongst the staff and pupils will enable the achievement of all to be celebrated. We wish to create an educational foundation whereby pupils will be ambitious for self-improvement and 'dare to do their best'.

Pupils will leave Bishop Challoner empowered academically and vocationally as independent-minded, confident, positive and respectful individuals with a strong sense of integrity and moral purpose, allowing them to become promising members of the wider community.

## **3. We will continue to offer excellent pastoral care**

We will continue to build a caring community based on Gospel values and offer the highest standards of pastoral support for our pupils, including a greater awareness of issues of mental wellbeing and developing personal resilience.

We will provide more opportunities for our senior pupils to be ambassadors to lead and guide younger members of the community and we will strengthen our pupil voice.

We want all pupils to feel happy, nurtured and comfortable in their environment and to build positive relationships.

#### **4. We will offer a creative and innovative learning experience for all pupils**

We will encourage the pursuit of academic excellence and continue to deliver an inspiring, exciting and challenging education led by our exceptional and committed teaching staff. The curriculum on offer will balance academic rigour with creativity to ensure pupils achieve and play to their strengths.

Teaching and learning standards must remain high and successful, with an emphasis on enriching, stimulating, engaging, challenging and excellent teaching, rather than safe and traditional. In turn, academic performance at GCSE and A level should represent positive value added.

Investing in specific programs and technologies to offer innovative education to our pupils will be a priority. The effective use of ICT will underpin and inspire learning.

We will develop children's conceptual understanding of learning, to develop a love of learning and to take a proactive and lead role in their own independent learning and progression.

We will continue to explore excellent teaching practice, encouraging collaboration to stimulate innovative ideas, share good practice and coordinate specific professional development. We will provide leadership and management opportunities for staff who demonstrate qualities of initiative, drive, ambition and vision.

Bishop Challoner will offer a wealth of opportunities both curricular and extra-curricular to provide an enriching experience.

#### **5. Strengthening engagement between the school, parents and community**

We will focus on strengthening partnerships and links between our school, parents, parishes and the local community.

Independent State School Partnerships will continue to emerge particularly with Catholic State schools.

Our school is built upon a foundation of respect, where everyone feels they have a voice; we hear, listen, respond and inform with timely and appropriate means of communication. We will continue to work closely with parents through effective communication to ensure that our educational offer is of the highest standard.

The School will maintain and develop supportive, professional and open relationships between all those within our school community. We will have a high profile in the local community and Diocese, and this in turn will aid us in ensuring strong demand for places at Bishop Challoner.

We intend to develop our careers advice and further opportunities for the pupils by drawing on the expertise of parents, alumni and local organisations.

## **6. We are committed to the development and improvement of Bishop Challoner**

The school will be constantly seeking to improve itself and to secure its future with positive change.

The rich tradition of history that exists at Bishop Challoner will remain proudly rooted in its successful past but it will be dynamic and forward-looking. The mission is to transform the school and make it the best that it can be for all pupils.

Development of the Bishop Challoner site will only ever be a consequence of the need to deliver on our mission and to further create the conditions that enable effective learning to take place.

We will promote the school as a venue for the benefit and opportunities of our wider community.

Overseeing the monitoring, budgeting and implementation of strong financial controls and achieving the very best value will continue.

We value the upkeep of Bishop Challoner, its look and feel, so that it reflects our ethos, enabling staff and pupils to be successful within a building that boasts modernity, yet maintains traditional characteristics. Therefore, we will continue to enhance our physical learning environment, both indoors and outdoors.

We remain open to growing the numbers to ensure it maintains a healthy surplus in future years, but in doing so, it is important to remain a small school with all the positives this encompasses in terms of Catholic ethos and culture. Bishop Challoner

will be growing; the local market will know about the school's profile as a Catholic Independent Co-educational School and will reflect the excitement that both parents and pupils share.

P. Anderson  
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