

# Oaklands

Catholic School and Sixth Form College

A Specialist Humanities College



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# Mission Statement

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We believe that the essential nature of the school is one of a Christian community following the Catholic tradition. At the heart of what we do is the life and teaching of Jesus Christ which highlights the value and uniqueness of each individual in the eyes of God. It is this conviction and within it, the responsibility to develop in each child an awareness of the principal teachings of the Catholic Church, which is at the heart of this statement.

**Within our Christian family we strive to achieve the highest standards by creating an environment that enables us to:**

- nurture Gospel values of faith, hope, love, forgiveness, justice and peace
- appreciate and respect each individual as a person
- educate the whole person in terms of spiritual, academic, social and cultural development
- encourage the realisation of potential and personal qualities
- contribute to the school community by participation, support and co-operation
- celebrate the gifts of every individual
- recognise the mutual support of home, school and church community
- encourage respect and responsibility for both the immediate and wider environment.

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# Welcome to Oaklands

Matthew Quinn



Oaklands is a Catholic Voluntary Aided School taking Catholic children from 11–18. Oaklands also takes in a number of children from other Christian denominations and other faiths, who meet criteria laid down in the Governors' Admissions Policy.

Oaklands is a community of nearly 1300 students including 180 in the Sixth Form. The School is well supported by parents and highly respected in the community. Oaklands offers a full range of GCSE, AS and A2 Level courses. The School's success is rooted in a strong academic tradition.

The School stands within attractive and extensive grounds including woodlands and playing fields. In recent years the School has undergone a major expansion to provide modern facilities in many areas of the curriculum.

The aims of the School emphasise the importance of each student as an individual. To this end, the teaching staff, who also have important roles as Form Tutors, endeavour to create a Christ centred learning community whose primary aim is to ignite a passion for faith and learning. At Oaklands we recognise that students have special and different gifts. We aim to develop them in a climate where they can be shared and personal achievement can be maximised, where difference is not just tolerated but celebrated. Students need to work within an environment where they can develop their unique God given gifts and feel lovable, loved, capable and valued members of the community.

The School also recognises its responsibility to foster a Christian atmosphere, to equip the young students in its care to face the adult world with confidence and to play a responsible part in a society which is rapidly changing and holds a variety of different standards. This confidence is shaped through a deep understanding of the relationship between faith and culture. Students are encouraged to further their faith journey. To this end Religious Education, Form and Year Assemblies, Year Masses and Liturgical services, Full School Masses, Residential Experiences, and Community Service are all important aspects in the life of the School.

At Oaklands extra-curricular activities are an essential part of a young person's development and all students are encouraged to profit from the wide range of activities on offer. Whatever their talents and abilities there are opportunities to succeed.

The successful pastoral system at Oaklands is built on the strong partnership between the School, home and parish enabling each student to flourish. We believe that parents have a key role to play in the education of their child. The Year Head and Form Tutors, through the pastoral curriculum at Oaklands, emphasise with students the importance of self-discipline and responsibility and also the importance of care, concern and respect for each other at all times.

Students at Oaklands will find a warm and caring environment in which they can grow in confidence and trust, and achieve their true all round potential.

# A community that worships together



- Christ centred learning community
- Enrichment activities including spiritual retreats
- Daily opportunities to meet Christ in prayer



# Students are safe and enjoy school life



- Variety of opportunity available at lunch and breaktime
- High quality catering
- Open resources available to all



*“Oaklands is a very special school and gives good Christian teaching as well as being a good school academically”*

OFSTED 2008



# A community that celebrates the individual



- Supported and committed staff
- Fostering responsibility
- Personalised learning



# Dynamic Sixth Form



- Large range of post 16 courses
- High rates of progression to university and FE
- Significant contribution to school life



*“students are keen to take on a range of responsibilities both in school and in the wider community”*

*OFSTED 2008*



# A wide and varied curriculum



- Personal development and success a priority
- Students enjoy learning
- Talents are developed



# Enriching extra curricular experiences



- Sporting fixtures provide a competitive edge
- Drama provides opportunity for expression
- Extensive variety of educational visits and retreats

*“The school offers an excellent range of extra curricular activities that are closely linked to students’ interests.”*

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# Opportunities for all to achieve



- Collaboration with other providers
- Challenging learning experiences to suit all abilities
- Provision for the gifted and talented





The process of application for a place at Oaklands commences in the year prior to entry i.e. when a child is in the summer term of Year 5 at their primary school. In addition to the procedures required by the Local Authority, additional supplementary forms are required to be completed for the school. Please contact our Admissions Secretary for full details of the application process.

**Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College**

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Diocese of Portsmouth