Painsley Catholic College

National Teaching School Hub
National Maths Hub

WE ARE PAINSLEY

Your child's future at Painsley

St Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Academy Trust

We are delighted that you have decided to consider Painsley Catholic College for your child. The College is part of the newly-formed St Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Academy Trust. The Academy has a clear vision of how our family of schools can operate effectively, ensuring that each and every one of our students achieves their full potential in a caring and disciplined environment.

We are blessed to have outstanding staff, outstanding leaders, outstanding support from parents and parishes and, crucially, outstanding and respectful students. We take the trust that you, as parents, put in the Executive Leaders to care, guide and educate your child very seriously. We assure you that we will work tirelessly to ensure that your child's ambitions and God-given talents are realised. We look forward to welcoming your child to Painsley Catholic College in September.

The Board of Directors and Executive Leaders
St. Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Academy Trust

> "Painsley is a wonderful College - it provides a first-class education."
>
> - Parent

Welcome from the Principal

I am privileged and honoured to welcome you to Painsley Catholic College. At Painsley, we live the mission statement of our College: "In our College we value and respect every person as a child of God, as we grow together in faith, knowledge, understanding and love to serve the community." Our mission is summarised in the motto to "Know yourself". As part of the Painsley Way, we guide and encourage all students to achieve academic excellence and ensure their God-given gifts and talents flourish through a rich tapestry of extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities.

Painsley Catholic College is first and foremost a Catholic school and our vocation is to guide all those entrusted to us to a life rooted in gospel values and shaped by Catholic social teaching to recognise all as children of God, made in his image and likeness. Education is a unique opportunity to create beauty and truth in all those we encounter and a foundation to enable our students to work in the world and prepare for their future vocations.

All of our staff are committed to the pursuit of excellence with high expectations and a caring and supported learning environment. We have a proven record of success. We are committed to build on past success, to strengthen the values and achievements of the present and to embrace the challenges of the future. We pride ourselves on being at the forefront of developments, and as such, have been recognised as a National Teaching School Hub & Maths Hub.

We welcome all students to Painsley and in return, we expect our students to have high expectations and personal standards and embrace any opportunity that comes their way. As we journey together through these most important years of formation, we ask for parents' support in the mission, values and ethos of Painsley Catholic College. We look forward to welcoming you. In the words of Pope Francis, "Educating is an act of love, it is life-giving." We are truly blessed in being entrusted with this vocation.

We are happy to show parents around our College at any time and will be delighted to speak to you. Please do not hesitate to contact us to make an appointment or to seek further information.

Mrs R. A Waugh, BA (Hons), PGCE
Principal

"My daughter **enjoys being at school** - she enjoys all of her subjects and **the overarching ethos** of the school."

- Parent

passionnant
génial
brilliant
difficile
facile
easy
énervant
affreux
STAFF

Our Mission Statement

In our College, we value and respect every person as a child of God, as we grow together in faith, knowledge, understanding and love to serve the community.

Painsley's Diocesan inspectors rate Painsley as OUTSTANDING in every way.

In February 2025, Painsley Catholic College was judged to be 'outstanding' in all areas of the national Catholic schools inspectoral framework, the standard to which all Catholic schools aspire. A team of diocesan inspectors concluded that Painsley is outstanding in all areas of Catholic Life, Religious Education and Collective Worship. Comments included:

'Painsley Catholic College provides a holistic education that respects the dignity of every community member and is underpinned by gospel values.'

'The school motto is 'know yourself', and a well-established culture of support encourages all students to be the best version of themselves in every aspect of their lives.'

'Painsley Catholic College is a very special workplace with an unmistakable spirit of collaboration among staff members.'

'The school has successfully created an environment where students can celebrate together with a deep sense of joy.'

The outcomes of our efforts are plain for all to see. Our GCSE results are outstanding and place the College among the top performing schools in the country. Similarly, at A Level, the results are testimony to the dedication of our specialist teachers. We believe in an all-round educational experience for our students and we have won a plethora of sporting fixtures and are county champions in many sports. We have also attained the prestigious Arts Mark Gold Award, recognising our excellence across the arts.

The College has a variety of national accreditations, including: Arts Mark Gold, Geography Quality Mark and Centre of Excellence, Quality in Careers Standard, The Bell Foundation Centre of Excellence, Wellbeing Award for Schools and 360 Degree Safety Mark. Painsley also has 'World Class School Status'. We are proud to be judged, as a World Class school.

The award's uniqueness lies in the fact that the students are assessed with regard to whether they are world class, rather than the school itself. The premise being that if a school is truly world class, then its students should be able to demonstrate this in whatever context they find themselves. Our students were described as 'exceptional students' and thus Painsley Catholic College is recognised as a World Class School.

"The students are challenged and encouraged to work to the best of their ability."

- Parent

Excellence

Painsley Catholic College - A Centre of Excellence

Students play an active role in the religious life of the College, saying daily prayers, leading Celebration of the Word, attending special Masses and other liturgical/spiritual events. The Chaplain and Lay Chaplain have a particular pastoral concern for all students. Diocesan inspectors commented: "Students are encouraged to show respect for themselves and others and feel highly valued for who they are and their achievements. They thrive through their holistic education and consequently feel a genuine sense of care."

There is an obvious nurturing ethos within the college, leading to a sense of belonging. Both staff and students show mutual admiration and respect for each other and this results in a very positive atmosphere around the College. Visitors frequently comment that Painsley is a very special place, which is extremely welcoming.

Leaders and staff are passionately committed to enriching the cultural capital of every learner, continually seeking new ways to enhance experiences across all subjects and extra-curricular activities. Thanks to this inspiring drive, the College calendar is filled with a wide variety of exciting curricular and extra-curricular opportunities for students to enjoy and grow from.

National Teaching School Hub

Painsley has the honour of being a National Teaching School Hub, which is a prestigious recognition of our excellence and commitment to outstanding teacher training, induction and continuous professional development for the benefit of our staff and students. Furthermore, we became one of only 35 schools in the whole of the country to be awarded "Maths Hub" status. This is in recognition of our excellence in Maths. Painsley has developed a national reputation in science education but we are equally proud of our commitment to all of our other subject areas.

Outstanding Creative Arts

There is an outstanding programme of musical groups and events throughout the year, culminating in many prestigious awards. Painsley enjoys an enviable reputation in drama with our annual productions and drama showcases. The art, textiles and technology exhibitions receive much acclaim for the exemplary work on show.

Success For All: Personalised Learning

All students follow a broad and balanced curriculum, which will enhance their prospects for success and provide them with opportunities to progress to the next stage of their learning. Our curriculum prepares students for lifelong learning and for the opportunities, responsibilities and challenges of life in the 21st century.

Each one of our students is expected to do their best and all achievements are recognised in a positive way through the extensive arrangements for monitoring individual progress.

Teachers respond flexibly to the needs of the students because of their capacity to assess how well the students understand the lessons, using a blend of innovative and traditional teaching methods based on the latest educational research.

At Key Stage 3, students engage in a broad and balanced curriculum which enhances cultural capital, cross curricular learning and complies with the National Curriculum requirements.

Students complete a wide range of GCSE (or equivalent) courses, ensuring appropriate progression for the completion of work to the highest standards and the opportunity to take part in extra-curricular and a variety of enrichment activities.

Each child is assessed in all subjects regularly. This includes assessment of knowledge, understanding and skills that has a focus on mastery and ensures that they develop excellent revision techniques. It also allows us to recognise achievements and provide support where necessary.

Post-16 courses are extensive and varied in our Painsley Sixth Form. Painsley's Sixth Form is based in a separate, fully modernised building with outstanding facilities.

Outstanding

The College Day

The College day starts at 8.40am and is made up of five lessons, each lasting at least an hour. Students are expected to remain on the premises for the whole day, which ends at 3.25pm.

Each day begins in Emmaus time, a ten-minute focused start to the day for prayer and activities with an Emmaus tutor. The Emmaus tutor is the first link between parents and the College. Parents are encouraged to maintain regular contact with the tutor. Painsley is proud of the supportive and caring atmosphere we provide for our students.

Outstanding Extra-Curricular Activities

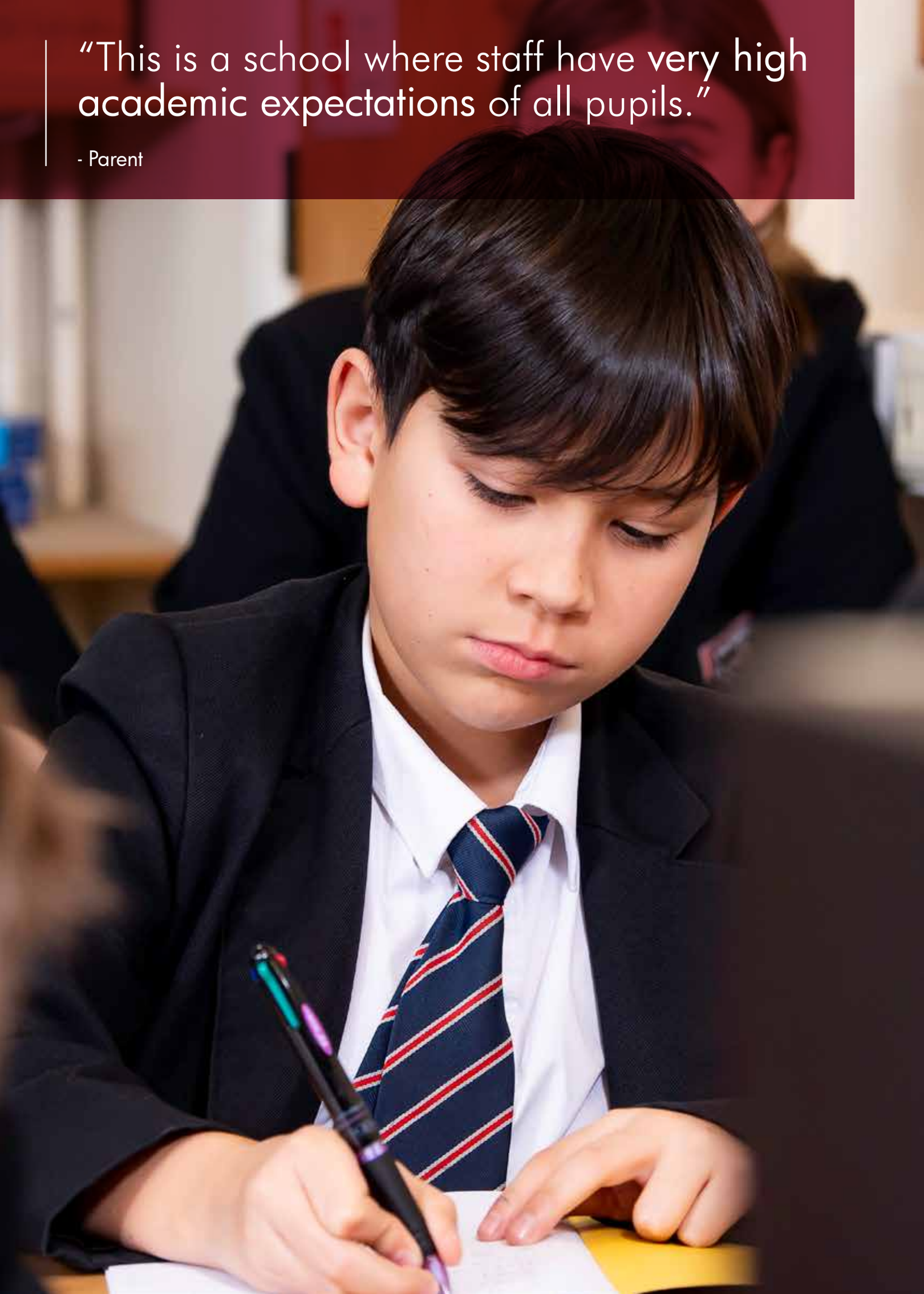
The extra-curricular programme, including the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, as well as numerous clubs, gives students the chance to complement and extend their education. These range from sports and hobbies to community work. We are justifiably proud of our successes in sport, including gymnastics, cricket, athletics and football.

There are many trips, both locally and internationally. There is an annual pilgrimage to Lourdes. Indeed, every year group has a retreat day, including sixth form.

Painsley is accredited with the prestigious Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) Award in recognition of the quality of support that is given in terms of preparing students for the next stages of their learning and the workplace. Indeed, Painsley enjoys close working relationships with universities, including Russell Group/Gold Standard institutions such as Oxford, Cambridge and Nottingham. We also have excellent links with industry to ensure readiness for Higher Education and/or work.

"Staff care deeply about pupils' welfare."

- Parent



"This is a school where staff have very high academic expectations of all pupils."

- Parent

"The school has a well-established and ambitious academic curriculum for all pupils."

- Parent

Partnership

Success For All: Learning Through Individual Support

There is individualised support for students with additional needs. For example, students with Special Educational Needs receive in-class support and/or withdrawal from classes where appropriate. Our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator and the SEND team work very closely with parents and external agencies.

Painsley has a Gifted and Talented provision, which ensures that all students with a particular skill and/or ability have their needs fully met, achieving to the highest potential. We provide challenging opportunities and enrichment activities for all of our students.

Student performance is monitored closely and regular meetings are held to agree goals and individual action plans.

Homework is set according to a homework schedule on a homework app. This allows students and parents to access the homework online.

"Painsley is more than just a great College. It is a College family which provides the educational, social and spiritual platform to catapult students to reach for the stars."
- Parent

Partnership and Progress

We make the transition from primary to Painsley as secure and happy as possible. We go to great lengths to get to know you and your child even before your child joins us and arrange many induction events throughout the primary years, culminating in three full days at Painsley during the summer term of Year 6.

Parents work in partnership with the College to support their child's education and enter into a Home/College Agreement at the beginning of Year 7, which sums up our intention to work together so that each student can gain maximum benefit from their time here.

Regular newsletters, frequent letters, a Facebook page and a calendar of events are important forms of communication. The website contains detailed information, including a curriculum statement and learning journey for each subject.

Parents receive progress reports throughout the year and are welcome to come and discuss their child's progress at any time. There is a parents' evening held once per year (twice in Year 11), during which parents can liaise with subject teachers and formulate targets for future success.

Painsley enjoys very high rates of attendance, a fact that has a major impact on the outstanding achievement of the College. We operate a first-day contact system for absenteeism - if your child is absent, please telephone in the morning or we will contact you at home or work. Parents are requested not to take their children out of College for appointments (wherever possible). Annual holidays are not permitted in term time.

We firmly believe in listening to the views of our students and have many opportunities for student voice, including the annual survey, student leader discussions and student change team.

Flourishing

Painsley: A Flourishing Learning Experience

All our students wear full uniform. At Painsley, we believe that a smart and distinctive uniform, worn neatly and tidily, helps to instil pride and a sense of loyalty to the College and is an essential element in ensuring that Painsley continues to enjoy a high reputation in the local community. In the long run, it is both practical and economical. One of the many advantages of uniform is that it makes it quite clear to all concerned that each of our students belongs to one community: Painsley. It is this "belonging" which helps to make the attitude and cooperation inside the College very special and also impresses so many people who visit and know about Painsley. Correct uniform is firmly enforced, both at College and as students arrive or leave the premises. We rely on parents to help us maintain these high standards.

Encouraging the Best Behaviour

Maintaining clear codes of behaviour is a vital factor in providing a secure environment and students are left in no doubt about our view of proper conduct towards staff, each other and property. Our Attendance and Values and Expectations Policy is a fair and easily-understood system, which balances out values and expectations.

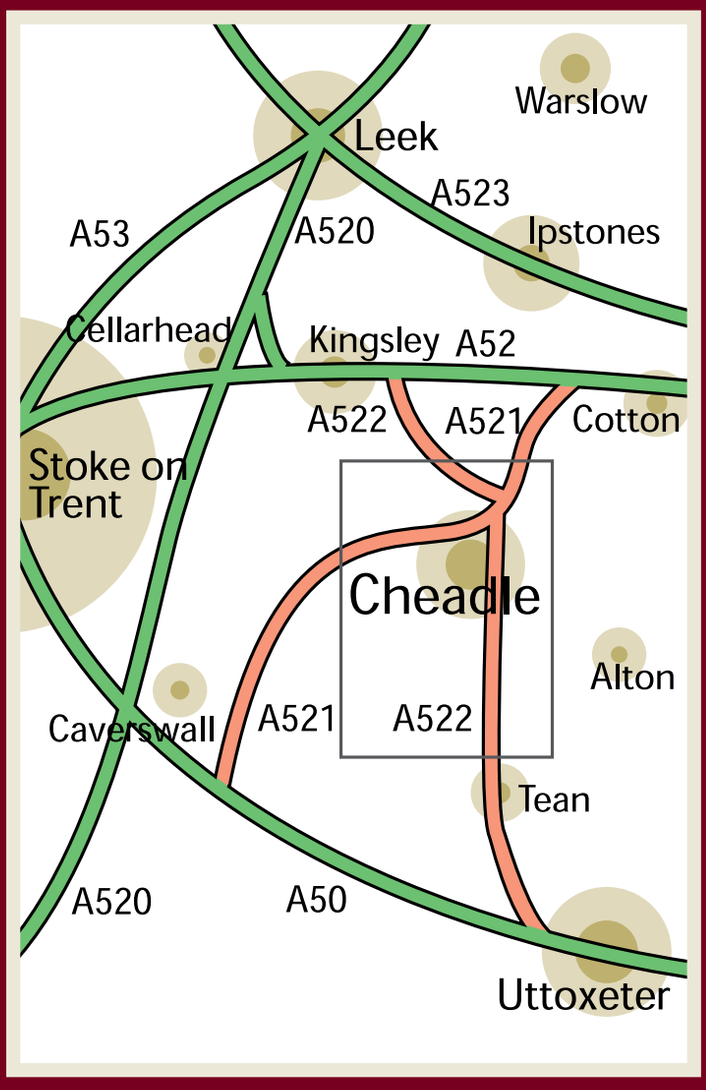
Transport

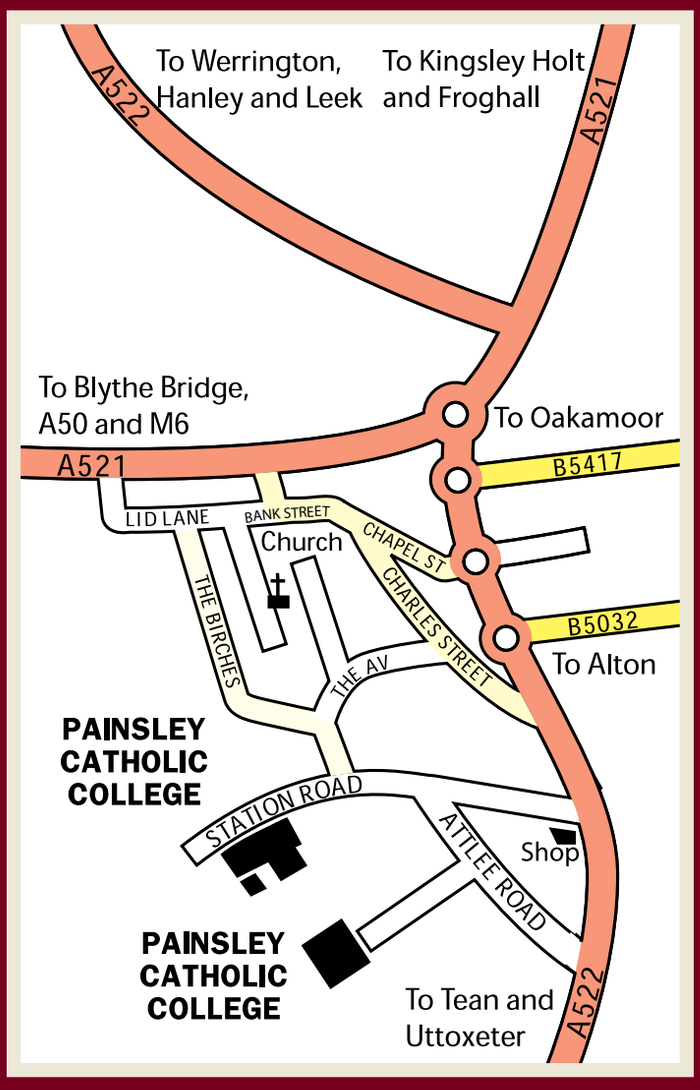
Special bus services are available from our feeder parishes and surrounding areas.

"Staff are **supportive and nurturing** when dealing with children with additional needs."

- Parent

MATHEMATIC
The science of str
order, and relation
evolved from el
practices of c
measuring, and
the shapes
Student Leader





Painsley Catholic College

Station Road, Cheadle, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, ST10 1LH

Telephone: 01538 493777
Email: office@painsley.staffs.sch.uk Web: www.painsley.co.uk

St Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Multi-Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales with company number 08146661. Registered office address: c/o Painsley Catholic College, Station Road, Cheadle, Staffordshire ST10 1LH.

Designed and produced by MBDM Limited, Web: www.the-creativeagency.co.uk