



St Mary's School
CAMBRIDGE

YES SHE CAN

St Mary's
Sixth Form

From Physics at Oxford and Music at Cambridge, to Art at Central St Martins, Chemical Engineering at Imperial, Architecture at Manchester, History at Leeds and Economics at LSE: our leaver destinations reflect the unique individuality of our students.

stmaryscambridge.co.uk/destinations

Latest A Level results

45% A*/A grades

68% A*-B grades

stmaryscambridge.co.uk/results

"St Mary's opens girls' minds to the world, to have not only knowledge and understanding of it, but to be able to reflect upon culture and society and to contribute significantly to it."

Rachel G. Alumna

Welcome

In our Sixth Form, students flourish academically and socially, as they gain independence and prepare for the future.

As a High Performance Learning School, our approach to learning develops skills and attitudes proven to help young people thrive at A Level, at university and in life.

At St Mary's every girl is known, supported and inspired. Our smaller class sizes allow us to offer each student the individual attention and academic support they deserve, through tutorial style teaching – a great preparation for further education.

As the only day and boarding school for girls in Cambridge, we offer a unique place where local students join boarders from around the world, forging friendships and learning from each other, as part of one supportive community.

Students leave us ready to pursue their chosen path; from joining a top university or leading art college, to embarking on their chosen career – we prepare our girls to aim high.

"Our smaller class sizes allow us to offer each student the individual attention and academic support they deserve through tutorial style teaching – a great preparation for further education."

Ruth Taylor
Head of Sixth Form





Be yourself at St Mary's

We empower our girls to believe in themselves, to aim high – not just in exams, but in life. our students become confident, compassionate women who make a positive contribution to society.

Learn your way

Our learning environment is designed to motivate and engage young women. In small classes, we create a space where intellectual independence thrives and each student can access exactly the right balance of support, inspiration and challenge.

Dream big

Free from stereotyping, our students dream big – because here, young women believe anything is possible.

Live your life

Sixth Form is full of opportunities to pursue individual interests; whether through our *Leiths Cookery School*, drama, rowing, music, debate, archery, Japanese or the *Duke of Edinburgh Award* – horizons are definitely expanded.

Build your future

In preparation for life, we encourage students to gain a broad skill-set, through initiatives such as the Extended Project Qualification, leadership opportunities and work experience. Our bespoke careers advice and university guidance enables each student to plan and secure their next steps.

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Our ethos

Traditional Christian values such as integrity, justice, hard work and freedom sit at the heart of our forward-looking approach to education.

Our aims:

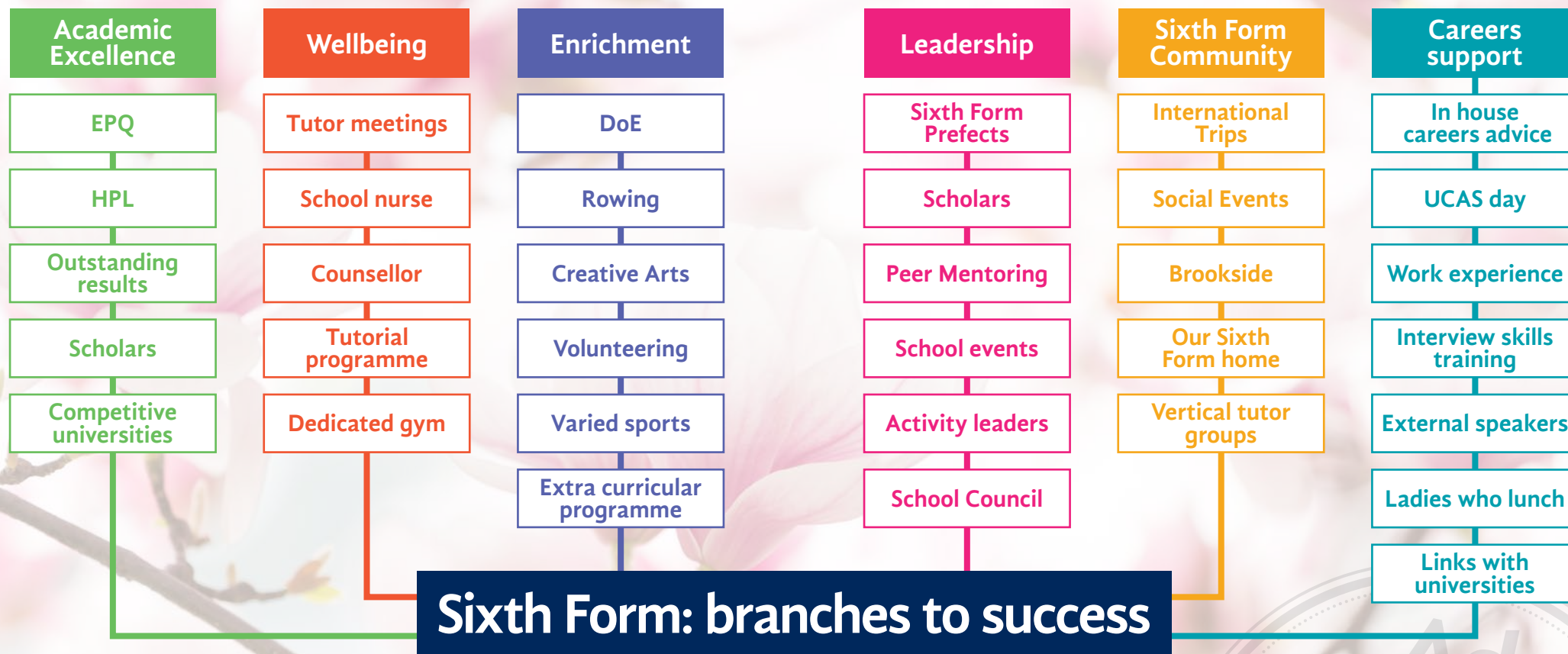
- To deliver an excellent, challenging and innovative academic education which fosters an independent love of learning, intellectual curiosity and knowledge.
- To provide an aspirational all-round education promoting creativity, enterprise, collaboration; building life-long skills.
- To encourage in each girl a sense of her own worth, talents and aptitudes so that she will realise these with courage and resilience.
- To provide a strong moral and spiritual framework underpinned by the core values of integrity, justice and respect for human dignity.
- To create an environment of love, hope and joy in which individuals are cherished and genuine relationships are nurtured.
- To develop confident global citizens by instilling a strong sense of responsibility towards others and through charity and service to the local and world-wide community.
- To walk alongside parents, valuing their role as the first educator of the child.

“I like the ethos of St Mary's School ... it has a holistic approach to education and I think that the staff are as concerned with the social and emotional development of the students as they are with the examination results.”

Parent

 stmaryscambridge.co.uk/ethos







Love learning at St Mary's

“Completing an EPQ requires creative thinking, resilience and independent research – skills highly-valued by universities and employers.”

Our approach to learning sparks curiosity, inspires enterprise and encourages creativity. At St Mary's students gain intellectual independence and a passion for knowledge, in readiness for university and life.

High Performance Learning

As a *High Performance Learning (HPL)* School, we believe more students can aim high. By teaching skills and attitudes proven to sustain intellectual improvement, we create 'room at the top' for students across a broad ability range.

Across our A Level subjects we encourage a breadth of HPL skills to help students thrive at A Level, at university and in life.

stmaryscambridge.co.uk/hpl

A Levels +

We go beyond A Levels, offering a breadth of education that develops critical thinking, independent study and practical life skills.

1. Think critically - Philosophy, Ethics and Religion (PER)

Our PER course is great preparation for university interviews and study. By exploring some of life's big questions and the challenges of modern-day society, students develop critical thinking and discuss ethical, philosophical and theological perspectives.

2. Stand out with an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

We encourage all students to complete an EPQ and it is worth up to 70 UCAS points. It develops key skills in a way that suits each individual's interests and learning style. Completing an EPQ requires creative thinking, resilience and independent research – skills highly-valued by universities and employers.

Starting in Year 12, students research a topic and produce one of the following:

- Research based written report
- Production (e.g. charity event, sports event, fashion show)
- An artefact (e.g. a piece of art, composed musical performance, computer game)

Previous topics include:

- *Should fracking be banned in North Yorkshire?*
- *Is abandonment syndrome a recognised syndrome?*
- *How English is the music of Henry Purcell, 'England's greatest composer'?*

stmaryscambridge.co.uk/epq

3. Academic Engagement Resource

All students receive an Academic Engagement Resource, tailored to their subject-choices and full of ideas, inspiration and support on moving from GCSE to A Level. This includes access to Cambridge University's Festival of Ideas and Public Lectures, Staircase 12 – University College, Oxford's online hub of resources, iTunesU resources, TED talks, MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) and more.

4. Digital Sixth Form

We believe technology only enhances learning when it doesn't distract the attention of either the teacher or student. Using Microsoft 365, supported by CloudBase, we:

- Support authentic, creative and collaborative learning
- Enable a wide range of assessment approaches
- Complement face-to-face contact
- Encourage productive learning outside the classroom

stmaryscambridge.co.uk/digital



Get life-ready at St Mary's

“As well as securing UK university places, we have expertise in supporting applications to conservatories, leading art schools and international universities.”

We prepare each student for their next steps in life, whether that be higher education or entering the work place.

stmaryscambridge.co.uk/beyondsixthform

Opening up possibilities

Making the right decision relies on knowing all the options. In Year 12, we offer a busy programme of guest speakers, visits from university representatives, as well as careers events – to open up a world of future possibilities.

University

Our students secure places at top universities as a result of our holistic approach to the UCAS process.

Our **Year 12 UCAS Day** focuses on the practical aspects of applying to university, from how to select the right university, through to writing a strong personal statement.

Through 1:1 tutor meetings and subject teacher advice, we provide bespoke guidance on university options. Each department has a university link who shares subject-related opportunities with students.

As well as securing UK university places, we have expertise in supporting applications to conservatories, leading art schools and international universities.

Careers support

Our Careers Department has strong links with universities, specialist Further Education establishments and highly-regarded apprenticeship schemes. They provide a wide range of resources and expertise – from exploring options to practical help with CV writing and interview techniques.

Work placements

All students undertake at least one work placement to gain valuable skills and to inform their decision-making. Placements range from dynamic small businesses to world-leading organisations such as: Addenbrooke's Hospital, the Babraham Institute, BBC Radio, Cheffins Fine Art, Jagex Games Studio, Microsoft Research, Mott MacDonald, Purcell Architects, SOS Children's Villages, University of Cambridge and WSP Engineers.

Skills for life

We encourage students to gain a breadth of practical life skills, from leadership and charity fundraising, to young enterprise and the Leiths Academy Cookery Certificate.

“Our Careers Department has strong links with universities, specialist Further Education establishments and highly-regarded apprenticeship schemes.”



St Mary's Sixth Form

Bateman Street, Cambridge, CB2 1LY

Reception: **01223 353253**

Admissions: **01223 224167**

admissions@stmaryscambridge.co.uk

stmaryscambridge.co.uk



"Having joined the school in Year 7, I've been aiming to study at the Royal Veterinary College since Year 9. St Mary's has encouraged and supported me to pursue my goal every step of the way."

Natasha C-C. studying at the Royal Veterinary College.

"The music department is pretty amazing at St Mary's ... As Music Captain, I was pleased to give something back to the school by running a string quartet for younger pupils."

Henrietta McF. studying at Emmanuel College, Cambridge.