



St Mary's School  
CAMBRIDGE

# GCSE COURSES 2022/23

Results  
and Leavers'  
Destinations

[stmaryscambridge.co.uk](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk)

#InspiredGirls

## GCSE results

# 2021

★ **47%** A\* (9-8) grades

★ **66%** A\*/A (9-7) grades

★ **92%** A\*/B (9-6) grades



## Inspired girls make great women

Each summer we celebrate our exceptional academic results with great pride. They represent the hard work of our students and the dedicated support of our teachers and parents.

At St Mary's, academic excellence is balanced by the value we place on characteristics and talents that examinations cannot measure. We see the stories behind every A\* (8-9) grade: the girls who possess great courage or kindness, those who champion change, light up a stage or take the lead with confidence.

As this year's students enter our Sixth Form, I look forward to watching their individual stories evolve. Looking to the future, I feel great optimism about the potential held within this compassionate, capable generation of young people.

**Ms Charlotte Avery**  
Headmistress





## Which path will you choose?

When choosing your GCSE options it is important to think about your future. Our subject-specialist teachers and dedicated careers department will be happy to support you in your decision-making.

St Mary's girls go on to secure places on renowned courses at leading UK universities, conservatoires, art schools and international universities.

## Destination universities and courses 2021

### **Birmingham**

Chemistry  
International Law and Globalisation

### **Bristol**

Geography  
History

### **Cambridge, Peterhouse:**

Classics

### **City, London**

Actuarial Science  
(with Professional Placement)

### **Durham**

Geography  
Edinburgh  
History  
Physics

### **Goldsmiths, London**

Fine Art (Extension Degree)

### **Imperial, London**

Biological Sciences

### **King's College London**

Computer Science  
with a Year in Industry  
Economics  
Electronic Engineering

### **Kent**

Psychology with a Year Abroad

### **Leeds**

Business Management  
Psychology with Education

### **Loughborough**

Fine Art (with placement year)  
Sport and Exercise Science  
(with placement year)

### **Manchester**

Planning and Real Estate

### **Manchester Metropolitan**

Textiles in Practice

### **Newcastle**

Environmental Sciences  
(Ecosystem Management)  
History  
Politics and History

### **Nottingham**

Architecture and Environmental  
Design

### **Oxford Brookes**

Nursing (Adult)

### **Queen Mary's, London**

Dentistry

### **Royal Agricultural University**

Agri-food Business Management

### **Royal Conservatoire of Scotland**

Stage Management

### **Royal Holloway, London**

Business Management

### **Strathclyde**

Biomedical Science

### **UCA, Canterbury**

Art Foundation

### **UCL**

Biological Sciences  
Biomedical Sciences  
Management Science  
Pharmacy

### **UEA**

Physiotherapy  
Psychology

### **Warwick**

Accounting and Finance  
Biomedical Science  
with Placement Year  
Management

### **York**

Accounting, Business Finance and  
Management with a Year in Industry  
English

### **International universities:**

#### **Academy of Fine Arts at Antwerp**

Fashion

#### **HKU**

Bachelor of Law  
Bachelor of Business Administration

#### **Sydney**

Physiotherapy

#### **Toronto**

French and Spanish

# GCSE and IGCSE courses 2021/23

Follow in the footsteps of our brilliant class of 2021. Gain the grades, support, confidence and skills you need to achieve your future goals.

## CORE SUBJECTS

**English Literature, English Language, Mathematics, Religious Studies**

Students for whom English is not their first language have the option to choose English as an Additional Language (EAL).

## OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

Choose **six options**, including **two or three science** subjects.

SCIENCES	OPTIONAL SUBJECTS		
<p><b>Three science IGCSEs:</b> Biology/Chemistry/Physics OR <b>Two science IGCSEs:</b> Science Double Award covering Biology, Chemistry and Physics</p>	<p>Art and Design Classical Civilisation Computer Science Drama English Language Support (ELS)</p>	<p>French Food Preparation &amp; Nutrition Geography German History Latin</p>	<p>Learning Support Mandarin Chinese Music Spanish Design and Technology</p>

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR SUBJECTS

Consider adding **one** additional off-timetable subject to your selection: Additional Mathematics, Classical Greek, Latin (Level 1 Certificate), Dance, Physical Education (Short Course 1/2 GCSE)

## EXTEND AND ENHANCE

Alongside your academic studies, St Mary's is full of opportunities to extend learning, gain experience and to explore your interests. Further off-timetable options include the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and Arts Award schemes.

Visit: [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/extend](https://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/extend)

Details correct at time of going to print, October 2021

GCSE course details: [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcse](https://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcse)

## Core subjects

 59%

 59%

 46%

 69%

**9-7 (A\*/A) grades in English Literature**

**9-7 (A\*/A) grades in English Language**

**9-7 (A\*/A) grades in Mathematics**

**9-7 (A\*/A) grades in Religious Studies**

### English Literature

This course invites you to consider human behaviour and our complex world through the exploration of literature. With texts including poetry, 19th century writing, Shakespeare, contemporary fiction and drama – there is plenty to spark curiosity and inspire discussion.

[stmaryscambridge.co.uk/english](https://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/english)

### English Language

Develop your ability to express ideas clearly, engage in discussions and to consider different points of view. Using the English language to communicate effectively is a vital life skill, no matter what your future career path!

[stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcseenglishlang](https://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcseenglishlang)

### Mathematics

Master the mathematical tools you need for everyday life through this engaging, varied course. Key topics include algebra, statistics, geometry and probability – skills that will prepare you for higher level study across a wide range of subjects.

[stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsemaths](https://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsemaths)

### Religious Studies

Explore Christianity and Judaism, as you deepen your understanding of religion in society. You will consider religious, societal and personal responses to moral themes including: relationships; the environment; medical ethics; war and peace; human rights and social justice; and the origins of the universe and life.

[stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsers](https://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsers)



## ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE (EAL)

If English is not your first language, you can opt to study EAL as an alternative to GCSE English qualifications. Our EAL course leads to the internationally recognised Cambridge English qualifications.

[stmaryscambridge.co.uk/eal](https://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/eal)

“St Mary’s empowered and encouraged me. They are really strong on women in science so I felt really supported.”

St Mary’s student

## Optional subjects: Science

Your course selection must include **two** or **three** science IGCSEs.

 83%	<b>9-7 (A*/A) grades in Biology</b>
 83%	<b>9-7 (A*/A) grades in Chemistry</b>
 78%	<b>9-7 (A*/A) grades in Physics</b>

### Option 1: Three separate science IGCSEs

#### Biology

Choose IGCSE Biology to understand the structures and functions that underpin life itself, from the tiniest cell to complex ecosystems and topical issues such as genetic modification and food production.

 [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsebiology](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsebiology)

#### Chemistry

Study atoms, chemical equations, metals, atmospheric gases and more! As you perform practical experiments to test, separate, identify and titrate you will reveal key patterns and themes in chemistry, across different contexts.

 [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsechemistry](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsechemistry)

#### Physics

From creating electrical circuits to exploring the Big Bang, IGCSE Physics will develop your problem-solving and analytical skills as you explore how our world works, through topics such as electricity, waves, astrophysics and magnetism.

 [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsephysics](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsephysics)

### Option 2: Science Double Award

#### Science Double Award (worth two IGCSEs)

The Double Award course covers all three science subjects. This option is ideal if you are uncertain if you want to continue studying science post-16, or plan to pursue science but wish to include other subjects in your overall selection.

 [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsescience](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsescience)

## Optional subjects: STEM

 75%	<b>9-7 (A*/A) grades in Computer Science</b>
 79%	<b>9-7 (A*/A) grades in Food Preparation and Nutrition</b>

#### Computer Science

Develop problem-solving and creative thinking skills to tackle real-world problems using computational thinking. Computer science is the UK’s fastest growing employment sector and through this GCSE you will gain valuable skills for the workplace of the future, including coding with Python, HTML, systems architecture, software and data representation.

Please note: if you are studying three separate science IGCSEs, you can choose Computer Science as an additional seventh option.

 [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsecomputerscience](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsecomputerscience)

#### Food Preparation and Nutrition

Be creative and collaborate with others as you develop your technical skills in this rewarding, practical subject. As well as producing delicious food, you will study nutrition to understand the science that underpins cookery and deepen your knowledge of healthy eating.

 [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsefood](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsefood)

#### Design Technology – Fibres and Textiles

Study a wide range of fibres and textiles to ensure that you have a broad knowledge and understanding of design and technology and that you are able to make effective choices in relation to which materials, components and systems to use within ‘design and make’ activities.

 [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsetextiles](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsetextiles)



“The music department is pretty amazing at St Mary’s and they have been enthusiastic from the get go.”

St Mary’s student

## Optional subjects: Arts

 75%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in Art and Design
 77%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in Drama
 100%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in Music

### Art and Design

Build your technical skills as you respond visually and critically to the world, developing creative ideas using a range of media. This course enables you to express your own identity, as well as exploring how art provides a unique window into other cultures and historical events.

 [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcseart](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcseart)

### Drama

Broaden your knowledge of drama by studying contrasting works including the brilliant play ‘An Inspector Calls’. This varied course invites you to experience and respond to live theatre, as well as creating your own work and showcasing your skills as a performer or designer.

 [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsedrama](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsedrama)

### Music

Explore traditional and contemporary musical styles through this accessible, flexible course – including classical, pop, jazz and film music. With freedom to compose your own music, you can explore your own creativity, alongside developing experience as both a solo and ensemble performer.

 [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsemusic](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsemusic)

## Optional subjects: Languages

 100%	9-7 A*/A grades in German
 100%	9-7 A*/A grades in Mandarin Chinese
 77%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in Spanish
 67%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in French

### French

Develop your reading, writing, speaking and listening skills, through a range of relevant, engaging topics. Learn to convey key information in French, covering a variety of aspects of your life.

 [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsefrench](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsefrench)

### German

From enjoying meals with a host family, to travelling on public transport, booking holidays and sharing your hobbies, daily routines, career ambitions and views on social issues – this course offers all the skills you need to communicate effectively in German.

 [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsegerman](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsegerman)

### Latin

Discover the influence of Latin on the English language, as you translate key mythology and historical texts from ancient Rome. Delve deeper into this fascinating world of gods and gladiators using translated work, written by some of Rome’s greatest thinkers.

 [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcselatin](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcselatin)

### Mandarin Chinese

Chinese is the world’s most prevalent language, with one trillion native speakers, and is an official language in Singapore, Malaysia and Taiwan. Learning this language will place you one step ahead.

 [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsechinese](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsechinese)

### Spanish

Develop Spanish language skills to communicate in a variety of situations, including the workplace. As your skills develop, you will also explore aspects of Hispanic culture and its traditions and festivals.

 [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcspanish](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcspanish)



## ENGLISH LANGUAGE SUPPORT

If English is not your first language, this option provides extra assistance with language skills to aid progression in other subjects. It can be taken as an alternative to a Modern Foreign Language and support will be tailored to match your individual learning needs.

**This option does not lead to a qualification.**

[stmaryscambridge.co.uk/els](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/els)

## Optional subjects: Humanities



86%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in Classical Civilisation
81%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in Geography
95%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in History

### Classical Civilisation

Explore the story of Hercules and Theseus, the foundation of Rome and the great battles, beliefs and cultural artefacts of the ancient world. You will also study the gods, monsters and cannibals of *The Odyssey*, as you consider themes of vengeance, love, justice and fate.

[stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcseclassics](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcseclassics)

### Geography

Discover more about our awe-inspiring world, from rainforest destruction and extreme weather, to the impact of man-made developments such as Eko Atlantic. Closer to home, a fieldwork trip to Snowdonia National Park will develop your data collection and presentations skills – all part of the diverse geographer's skill-set.

[stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsegeography](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsegeography)

### History

Interpret and understand how historical events have shaped our world, through questions such as: 'What happens when democracy fails?' or 'Why did the Holocaust take place?'. By studying international relations, not only in Western Europe but in Russia, Asia and the Middle East, you will gain vital insight into the events that shaped the 20th century.

[stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsehistory](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsehistory)

## LEARNING SUPPORT

If you undertook Learning Support lessons in Key Stage 3, you can choose to continue these in Years 10 and 11. These lessons will respond to your individual needs and typically include support with coursework, revision and key topics.

**Learning Support can be selected in place of one GCSE option, but does not lead to a qualification.**

[stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcselearningsupport](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcselearningsupport)

## Extra-curricular options

91%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in Latin
100%	9-6 (A* to B) grades in Greek

### Additional Mathematics

Talented mathematicians can further their skills beyond the GCSE syllabus with this free-standing qualification, introducing higher level skills which form part of the A Level Mathematics course. Open to students in Mathematics Set 1 or 2 at the start of Year 10. Taught on Tuesday, Period 6.

[stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcseaddmaths](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcseaddmaths)

### Classical Greek GCSE

Study this fascinating language through engaging stories of the ancient world. This qualification makes an impressive addition to any CV and is particularly valuable for aspiring medics and dentists. Please note: This course is taught after school, with students from St Bede's Inter-Church School.

[stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsegreek](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsegreek)

### Latin Level 1 Certificate

If you are keen to study Latin, but have a full selection of other subjects, this Level 1 qualification will add another string to your bow. Applying your language skills, you will learn to translate and comprehend key ancient texts.

[stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcselatinshort](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcselatinshort)

### Dance GCSE New for Sept 2022

The study of dance is active, physically demanding, intellectually stimulating and fun. This course places huge emphasis on practical dance work across a range of styles, as well as on the analysis of professional choreography. Please note this course is taught after school by our Dance Coordinator.

[stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsestance](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsestance)

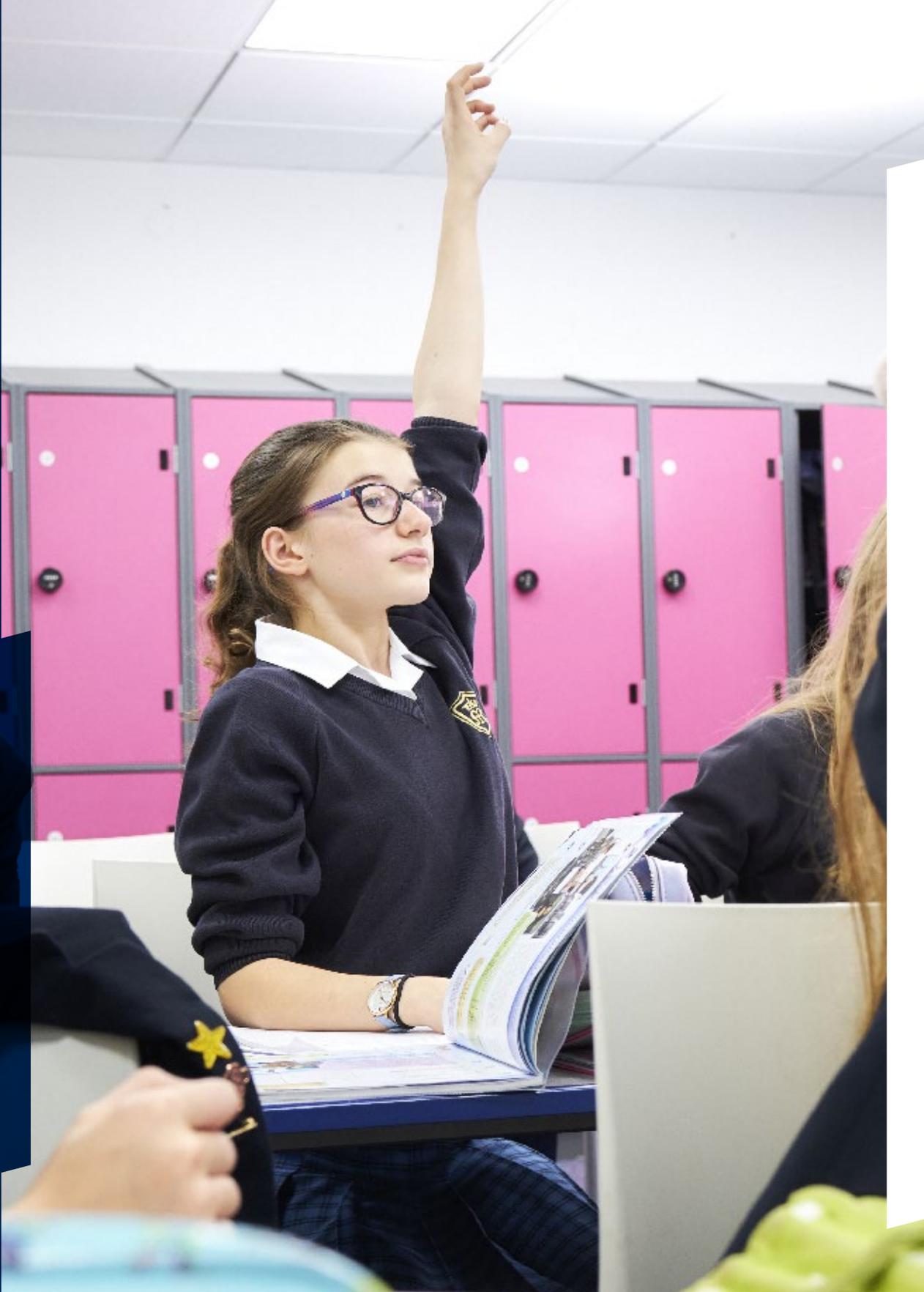
### Physical Education Short Course GCSE

If sport and exercise are your passions, this course, which is taught in Friday enrichment sessions, covers health, training and exercise, movement analysis and exercise physiology. Comparable to half a full GCSE.

[stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsepeshort](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsepeshort)

“ I feel I have come full circle. These results couldn't be a better ending to being at a school that teaches you to be yourself rather than anyone else. ”

St Mary's student



“ I feel I have been pushed at St Mary’s to reach my full potential and I am very happy with my results! I’m excited to stay for St Mary’s Sixth Form.”

St Mary’s student

## Next steps

We welcome girls with a broad range of academic abilities, who are enthusiastic and have a desire to engage in learning.

We accept applications to all year groups except Year 11, but typically girls join us:

- In **Junior School** for the complete St Mary’s experience
- In **Year 7** (age 11+) to build towards Key Stage 4
- In **Year 9** (age 13+) to begin GCSE studies

### Visit us

We warmly invite you to arrange a **personal visit** or to attend an **open event**, to understand more about life at St Mary’s and to meet our leadership team, staff and students.

Contact us for further information:  
[admissions@stmaryscambridge.co.uk](mailto:admissions@stmaryscambridge.co.uk)  
[stmaryscambridge.co.uk/visit](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/visit)  
+44 (0)1223 224 167

### Your choices

For further information about each GCSE course, please visit:  
[stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcse](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcse)

Download and complete the following forms:

**Preliminary choices form** – complete and return by **26 January 2022**

**Individual guidance interviews** – scheduled in January

**Final choices form** – complete and return by 7 February 2022

Download forms at: [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsechoices](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsechoices)

### Further information

Academic results: [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/results](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/results)

Leaver destinations: [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/destinations](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/destinations)

Extension and enrichment: [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/sixthextend](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/sixthextend)

Annual review: [stmaryscambridge.co.uk/magnolian](http://stmaryscambridge.co.uk/magnolian)



“ St Mary’s encourages you in all aspects of school life: academia, extra-curricular and creative subjects.”

St Mary’s student

## Admissions

St Mary’s School, Bateman Street, Cambridge CB2 1LY

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stmaryscambridge.co.uk



World Class School

