



St Mary's School
CAMBRIDGE

St Mary's

THE PLACE TO BE

ME

GCSE courses 2023-25

Results and Leavers' Destinations

#PlaceToBeMe

stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcse

GCSE RESULTS 2022

★ **50%** A* (9-8) grades

★ **65%** A*/A (9-7) grades

★ **90%** A*/B (9-5) grades



Scan to see talks
on each subject



PRIDE IN THE STORIES BEHIND THE SUCCESS

Each summer we celebrate our exceptional academic results with great pride. They represent the hard work of our pupils 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* (9-8) grade: the pupils who possess great courage or kindness, those who champion change, light up a stage or take the lead with confidence.

As this year's pupils 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.



Mrs 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 pupils go on to secure places on renowned courses at leading UK universities, conservatoires, art schools and international universities.



Destination universities and courses 2022

Bristol, University of the West of England
Fashion Textiles

Buckinghamshire New University
Costume Design and Making

Edge Hill University
Educational Psychology

Imperial College London
Biological Sciences

King's College London, University of London
Chemistry

Liverpool John Moores University
Pharmaceutical and Cosmetic Science

London School of Economics and Political Science, University of London
History and Politics

Newcastle University
Architecture and Urban Planning

Oxford Brookes University
Geography
Paramedic Science

Royal Holloway, University of London
Physical Geography

Swansea University
Biochemistry

The University of Edinburgh
Biological Sciences

UCL (University College London)
Astrophysics

University of Birmingham
Geography

University of Bristol
Accounting and Finance
History

University of Chichester
Musical Theatre

University of East Anglia UEA
History and Politics
Marketing and Management
Speech and Language Therapy

University of Exeter
Data Science
Psychology

University of Hong Kong
Physiotherapy

University of Kent
Biomedical Science

University of Leeds
Theatre and Performance
Psychology with Education

University of Nottingham
Modern Languages

University of Oxford
Chemistry
Classics

University of Reading
Geography (Human)

University of Sheffield
Medical Genetics

University of Southampton
Psychology

University of the Arts London
Interior and Spatial Design

University of Wales, Trinity St David
Illustration

University of York
Film and Television Production
French and Linguistics
Psychology (2 students)

GCSE AND IGCSE COURSES 2023/25

Follow in the footsteps of our brilliant class of 2022. Gain the grades, support, confidence and skills you need to achieve your future goals.

CORE SUBJECTS

English Literature, English Language, Mathematics, Religious Studies

Pupils 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		
Three science IGCSEs: Biology/Chemistry/ Physics OR Two science IGCSEs: Science Double Award covering Biology, Chemistry and Physics	Art and Design Classical Civilisation Computer Science* Drama English Language Support (ELS)	French Food Preparation & Nutrition Geography German History Latin	Learning Support Mandarin Chinese Music Spanish Design and Technology

*Computer Science can be selected as a 7th optional subject, if students select three separate science courses (biology, chemistry, physics).

EXTRA-CURRICULAR SUBJECTS

Consider adding **one** additional off-timetable subject to your selection:
FSMQ Additional Mathematics, Classical Greek GCSE, Latin (Level 1 Certificate),
Dance GCSE, 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 the STEM Award schemes.

Visit: stmaryscambridge.co.uk/extend

Details correct at time of going to print, September 2022

GCSE course details: stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcse

CORE SUBJECTS

 **59%**

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

 **64%**

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

 **47%**

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

 **55%**

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

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

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

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






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

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS: Science

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

 92%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in Biology
 87%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in Chemistry
 88%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in Physics

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

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

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



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/gcselearningssupport

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS: STEM

 62%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in Computer Science
 67%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in Design Technology

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 course 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

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



 50%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in Food Preparation and Nutrition
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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/gcselearningssupport

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St Mary's pupil

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS: Arts

 81%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in Art and Design
 84%	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

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

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

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS: Languages

 47%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in French
 69%	9-7 A*/A grades in German
 83%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in Latin
 75%	9-5 (A*-B) grades in Mandarin Chinese
 69%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in Spanish

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

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

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

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

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/gcsespanish



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

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THE MUSIC
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St Mary's pupil

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS: Humanities



 50%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in Classical Civilisation
 85%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in Geography
 60%	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

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

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?'. Explore international relations, the USA, British Society and Germany (1918-45) and understand some of the seismic shifts in 20th Century history.

 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

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS: Extra-curricular options

\sqrt{x} 71%	A-B grades in FSMQ Additional Mathematics (<i>A* not applicable for this qualification</i>)
Ω 100%	9-7 (A*/A) grades in Greek

FSMQ 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 pupils in Mathematics Set 1 or 2 at the start of Year 10.

 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 pupils from St Bede's Inter-Church School.

 stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsegreek

Dance GCSE

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/gcsedance

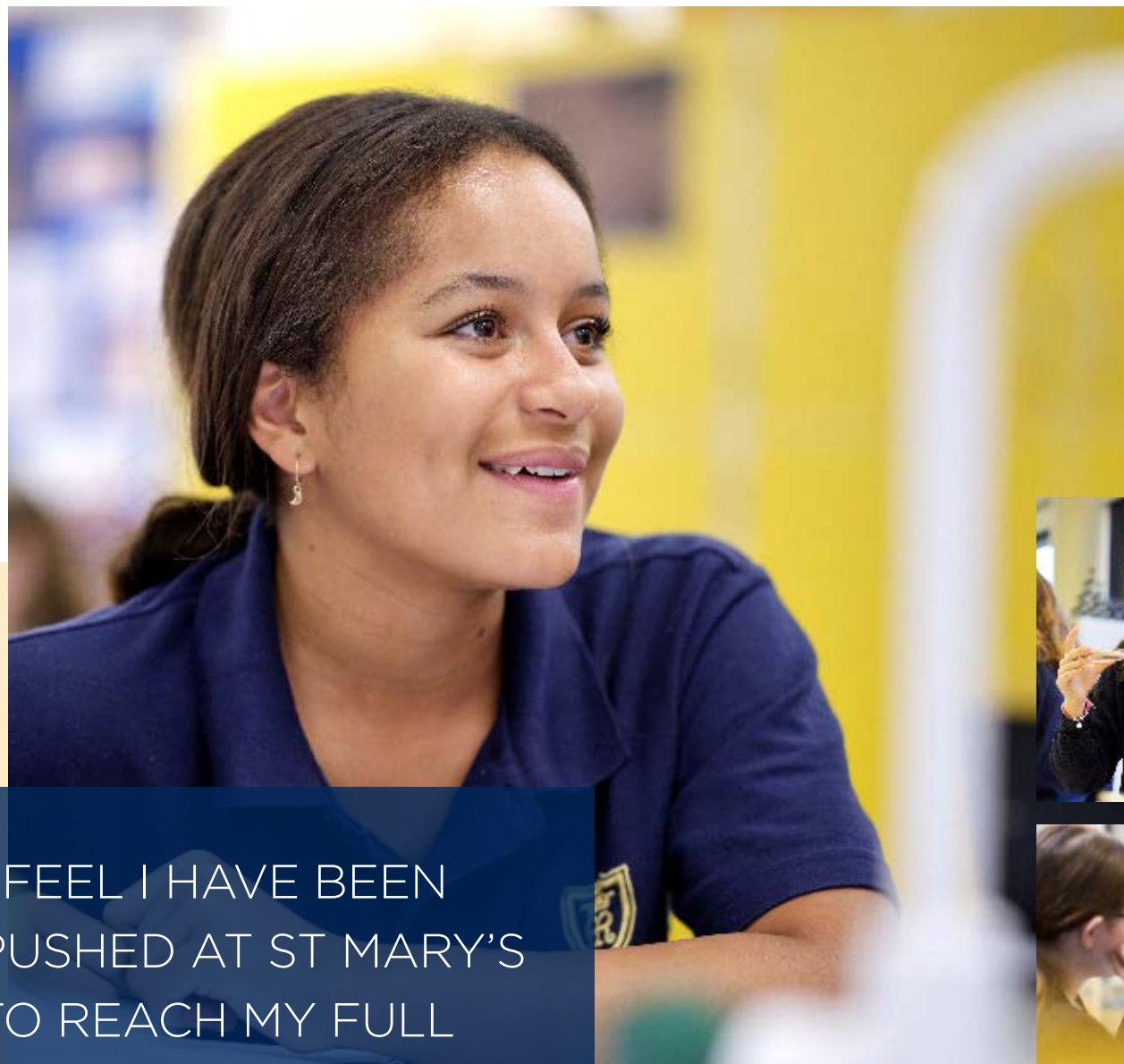
Physical Education Short Course GCSE

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

// ST MARY'S
ENCOURAGES
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ASPECTS OF
SCHOOL LIFE:
ACADEMIA,
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AND CREATIVE
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St Mary's pupil



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St Mary's pupil



NEXT STEPS

We welcome pupils 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 pupils.

Contact us for further information:

admissions@stmaryscambridge.co.uk
stmaryscambridge.co.uk/visit
+44 (0)1223 224 167

Your choices

For further information about each GCSE course, please visit: **stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcse**

Download and complete the following forms:

Preliminary choices form –

complete and return by **25 January 2023**

Individual guidance interviews –

scheduled in **January 2023**

Final choices form –

complete and return by **6 February 2023**

Download forms at:

stmaryscambridge.co.uk/gcsechoices

Further information

Academic results: **stmaryscambridge.co.uk/results**

Leaver destinations:

stmaryscambridge.co.uk/destinations

Annual review: **stmaryscambridge.co.uk/magnolian**

I FEEL I HAVE COME FULL
CIRCLE. THESE RESULTS
COULDN'T BE A BETTER
ENDING TO BEING AT A
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TO BE YOURSELF RATHER
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St Mary's pupil




#PlaceToBeMe



ADMISSIONS

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gsa Girls' Schools' Association

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independent schools council

GIRLS' SCHOOLS' CONFERENCE