



St Monica's RC High School

Prospectus 2010

Number on roll : 1126

St. Monica's is a voluntary aided school in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Salford. It is a comprehensive establishment taking boys and girls from 11 – 16 years. It is based at Bury Old Road, Prestwich, Manchester, M25 1JH.

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Monica's is a Catholic community working in partnership with families, schools and parishes to teach the Catholic faith as a way of life. We provide a caring, supportive environment where everyone is of equal worth. Jesus Christ is central to our school and our main aim is that everyone can develop their God given talents and gifts to the full, while growing in faith through prayer and service.

As a Roman Catholic school, St. Monica's is conducted in accordance with the rites, practices and observances of the Roman Catholic Faith. Religious Education is given according to the doctrines and practices of the Roman Catholic Church.

In addition to the many liturgical celebrations and activities, a daily act of collective worship also takes place each day. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from daily worship.

GOVERNING BODY

CHAIRMAN OF GOVERNORS

Mr. M. Browne
C/o St. Monica's R.C. High School
Bury Old Road
Prestwich
Manchester
M25 1JH
Tel: 0161-773-6436

Clerk to the Governors

Mrs. P. Wilson,
C/o St. Monica's R.C. High School,
Bury Old Road,
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Tel : 0161-773-6436

Foundation Governor

Mr. P. Singleton (Deputy Chairman)

Foundation Governor

Right Rev. Monsignor J. Allen

Foundation Governor

Mrs. C. Austin

Foundation Governor

Mr. D. Kirkpatrick

Foundation Governor

Mrs. J. Hales

Foundation Governor

Mrs. B. McKelvey

Foundation Governor

Mrs. A.M. O'Rourke

Foundation Governor

Mr. S. Thorpe

Foundation Governor

Mr. V. Joyce

Foundation Governor

vacancy

Headteacher

Mr. F. McCarron

Parent Governor

Mrs. A. Haig

Parent Governor

Mrs. K. Wright

Parent Governor

vacancy

Parent Governor

vacancy

Staff Governor

Mrs. E. Crutchley

Staff Governor

Mrs. J. Murray

L.E.A. Representative Governor

Mr. D. O'Hanlon

L.E.A. Representative Governor

Mr. R. Caserta

The Governors' Report has been replaced by The School Profile which is accessible at <http://schoolsfinder.direct.gov.uk>

Select "Secondary School".

Enter school name St Monica's High School

Choose "School Profile" from menu on left hand side of screen.

NB. The school name should be entered exactly as above (ie no dot after St - do not enter RC – just High School.)

School Security

St. Monica's has a CCTV system covering areas inside and outside of the school, as well as the use of a number of hand held walkie-talkies. St Monica's works in close liaison with the security services of the LEA. Security is constantly being reviewed. We have recently built an exterior fence and wall around the school at a cost of £60,000

Admission Criteria 2010

St. Monica's R.C. High School is a Roman Catholic Secondary School provided by the Diocese of Salford and is maintained by the Bury Local Education Authority as a Voluntary Aided School. The school's Governing Body is the Admissions Authority and is responsible for taking decisions on applications for admissions. For the school year commencing September, 2010 the Governing Body has set its planned admissions number at 210.

The Governors recognize that the first responsibility of the school is to serve the Roman Catholic community for which it has been established. This is focused on designated parish communities and the Roman Catholic primary schools that are partners in providing for those communities. In establishing their oversubscription criteria the Governors have also taken full account of the Code of Practice produced by the Department for Education and Skills and the emphasis placed on supporting children in public care.

The parish communities served by the school are :

Our Lady of Grace
Our Lady of Dolours
St. Bernadette's
St. Michael's
St. Mary & St. Philip Neri

The associated primary schools are :

Our Lady of Grace
St. Philip's
St. Bernadette's
St. Michael's
St. Mary's

Admission to the school will be made by the Governing Body in accordance with the stated parental preferences it receives and subject to the following set of criteria which will be used to form a priority order if there are more applications for admission than the school has places available.

- (a) Roman Catholic children who are in public care.
- (b) Roman Catholic children living in a contributory parish and who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme.

- (c) Roman Catholic children attending an Associated Roman Catholic primary school and who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme.
- (d) Other Roman Catholic children who have a brother or sister at the school at the time of transfer and who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme.
- (e) Other Roman Catholic children in Maintained Roman Catholic primary schools and who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme.
- (f) Roman Catholic children in other Maintained primary schools and who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme.
- (g) Other children in public care.
- (h) Other children.

Footnotes

1. All applicants will be considered at the same time, after the closing date for admission on 11th December, 2009.
2. The Governors will require evidence in support of a claim that the child is a Baptised Roman Catholic and has completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme or equivalent.
3. The Governing Body reserve the right to admit children with proven and exceptional medical or social needs where admission to the school might best help satisfy those exceptional needs : e.g. if the school is adapted to accommodate physically handicapped pupils and such a pupil seeks admission. Children with a statement of SEN, that names the school, will be given a place.
4. **Siblings.** A brother or sister will be defined as a sibling who resides in the same residence as a pupil who occupies a place in the school, if the sibling will still be in attendance at the date of admission of the applicant.
5. **Parish Boundaries.** Parents should check carefully whether they are resident within the parish boundary of one of the designated parishes. Maps illustrating these boundaries are available in the information provided by the primary schools and at this school.
6. **Shared Parenting.** Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of the week, the home address will be decided by using the address on the Child Benefit payment book.
7. **Waiting List.** St. Monica's operates a waiting list for one term in the academic year of admission, in accordance with published criteria.
8. **Tie Breaks.** If there is a tie break decision e.g. only one place left in category (f) and four children fulfil the criteria for category (f), then the tie break will be decided by the shortest walking distance from the school. Distance will be measured (in a straight line/by the shortest walking route) from the front door of the child's home address (including flats) to the main entrance of the school (using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system), with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.
9. **Late applications.** Late applications can only be considered in accordance with the policy. Further offers can not be made if the school is oversubscribed.
10. **Appeals.** In an application for admission has been turned down by the Governing Body, parents can appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel. This appeal must be sent in writing to the Clerk to the Governors at the school within 14 days of refusal. The parents must give reasons for appealing in writing and the decision of the Appeals Panel is binding on the Governors.

Race
School Improvement Planning (2)
Coursework KS4
Performance Management

GCSE Examinations - Examination Board Training

All subjects - one day

Whole School Training - designated staff

School Improvement - Senior Leadership training	
Preparation for Ofsted - Senior Leadership Team	
Catholic Schools	Performance Management
Pastoral Care	ICT
Teaching & Learning	Data management SIMS
First Aid	SEN
Assessment	Child Protection/Safeguarding
PSHCE	Pupil Tracking and monitoring
Work related learning	Curriculum development
Newly qualified teachers	Governor training
Health & Safety	
Leadership & Management at middle and senior levels	
Specialist School Development – Language College/Applied Learning	

Subject Specific Training

Courses took place in all curriculum areas, involving members of all departments.

Reports on Activities for the 2008/09 School Year

Liturgy

As we look back over the past year St. Monica's has, once again, experienced a rich liturgical life. Each week has been directed by a particular theme and we have celebrated key occasions and festivals together. Each fortnight we have been fortunate to have a form Mass which our senior prefects have organised and prepared with each form group from Years 7-10.

Our Liturgy group have also made a valuable contribution to the Liturgical life of the school; this group of pupils from different Year groups has been responsible for planning and leading reflections throughout the year and have played a key role in our Liturgical celebrations. They have also been responsible for looking after the school Chapel to ensure it is a spiritual environment for all who use it.

Our first big celebration was at the end of September. Following a day of working together with classmates and form tutors, we officially welcomed our Year 7 pupils and their families into the community of Saint Monica's with a special Welcome Mass. As we journeyed through November we began to prepare ourselves for Christmas. Pupils led Advent reflections focusing on different themes, taking part in different activities. Just before Christmas we held special assemblies for each year group to watch and participate in. These assemblies focused on Christmas as a celebration around the world and involved many pupils, joining together the RE, Music and Drama departments.

Once the new year began, we started to focus on Lent and our preparations for Easter. Lenten preparations began with special services on Ash Wednesday for the whole school and then reflections were held each lunch time throughout Lent. Just before we broke up for Easter we celebrated with the Sion Catholic Community for Evangelism. The Mission team took over the school to bring the entire school together as a community. They presented

dramas, music, dance and many other fun ways to develop the pupils faith in God. The Mission Week ended with very special Easter liturgies that all the school became involved in. As we journeyed towards the end of the year, our year 11 students celebrated their time together at St. Monica's. Parents and staff joined the students for the Leavers Mass to give thanks for their five years at St. Monica's.

Our final celebration together was the end of year Mass. This took place on the last day of term. Once again we came together to remember and reflect on what has been a very special year.

Performing Arts

Beyond the classroom, the department has been very busy entertaining the public and taking a leading part in musical and dramatic activities throughout Prestwich and beyond. This gives opportunities for the students to get involved in so many of the disciplines of Performing Arts from Acting to Stage Management, from Lights to Sound.

The school has employed a full time technical tutor this year. Workshops have been held weekly to offer students a chance to learn about lighting and sound. This has led to students operating technical equipment at various shows at The Lowry Theatre and The Dancehouse Theatre.

In the Autumn term at the Year 7 Mass we had the full orchestra and the Festival Choir leading the Year 7s in their Mass and welcoming them to the family of St. Monica's. In October we performed a Year 8 and 9 Gifted & Talented production of Macbeth which was made into a musical, featuring songs by "Queen". The production was held in school with two casts of students and then transferred to The Dancehouse Theatre. It was greeted with much critical acclaim by members of the school Shakespeare Festival due to such a polished, entertaining and mature performance. The Christmas season saw the usual high class Carol Services held by the Festival Choir at Nazareth House and The Hidden Gem Church. Our annual Carol and Advent service was held at school with the school choir and orchestra and various musical ensembles providing such a high standard of music. Our wind ensemble were invited to perform at the Royal Exchange Theatre in a pre show event and the choir performed on Channel M Breakfast Show.

In January we held the AQA Performing Arts examiners meeting in school. They saw excerpts from Macbeth and Moulin Rouge. In February, Lunch in Venice, which was directed entirely by a Year 11 student, and Moulin Rouge were performed in school. Two shows, two venues, two casts and two technical crews. In March, the school performed the premier production of The Dummy Tree, a new musical written by the critically acclaimed Irish composer Connor Mitchell. This was probably the most demanding piece of musical theatre we have ever attempted at St. Monica's. The show transferred to the Lowry Studio Theatre in May. It was then performed at the National Theatre in London, after being selected from performances across the globe. We were delighted to have the composer himself play the piano for the performance. An outstanding achievement to be allowed to premier such an acclaimed production in such a prestigious venue.

Throughout the year the students took part in many exciting activities such as Drama Workshops at The Palace Theatre during the show "We Will Rock You", they created a jingle for the Manchester Barcelona game for Key 103, Year 7's had an African Drumming Day, Year 8's had a Chinese Lion Dance Workshop and Year 9's had a Samba Day.

In June, the choir sang at Prestwich Festival, performing 1950's/1960's music. Our annual summer concert saw the orchestra and choir showcase the wide and varied talents of the

students at St. Monica's, which included musical ensembles, solos and full orchestra and choir pieces. The Performing Arts department then set off for Paris where both the orchestra and the choir had the opportunity to perform in different Paris venues, including Euro Disney Theme Park.

Mathematics Challenge

240 Pupils took part in the Junior and Intermediate challenges. These are national competitions entered by 240,000 pupils. A gold certificate is awarded to the top 6% in the country.

Astronomy Club

The club has been without our Meade LX200 telescope this year, it broke down after ten years excellent service. We are looking for a replacement from the Astronomy Research Council.

Our young astronomers have instead been researching the web and doing powerpoint presentations of their top ten celestial objects. Some have their own telescopes or have been taught how good binoculars are for astronomy. The good news in this International Year of Astronomy is that we are visiting the European Space Agency for a week of Space Studies to celebrate the Astronomy Club's 21 years of research.

Wildlife Explorers Club

Our club has had two residential trips this year, one to Scotland's Caerlaverock reserve and this year for the first time to Wales. We visited South Stack on Anglesey, as featured on BBC Springwatch.

We had a cake sale which raised £102 for the RSPB Sumatran Rainforest Appeal. Some pupils asked if this meant they could go there on holiday, as they had bought a part of this rainforest !

In the summer term we visited Martinmere and Southport's excellent reserve to see the waders and other birds with their chicks. We have had local trips too, we saw woodpeckers and a Kingfishers in Heaton Park.

Language College

It has been another dynamic and exciting year for the Language College both within the confines of the school and far and wide.

Exchanges

This year we have continued our Work Experience Exchange with Le Mans in France where 13 pupils worked in Primary schools and stayed with their French host families and also visited Paris and Chartres.

Having secured substantial funding from the British Council, we began a new exchange as part of our Comenius partnership with Anta Maria-Marianistas School in Valencia, Spain. Their students stayed with 17 of our families in February, 2009 and went to Liverpool, York and The Peak District. We made the return journey in April where we received a warm welcome visiting the Arts and Science Museum, Paniscola and the historic City of Valencia. Students from St. Monica's have built their own website at www.anglosle.com/joomla Currently St. Monica's is waiting the outcome of another Comenius bid called "Together in Europe" which links us with schools in France, Germany and Poland. In December Mr. Mallalieu, our Careers Co-ordinator, represented the school at a meeting in Hanover to help write the bid.

Our link with Elms Bank Special School flourishes with pupils attending Spanish lessons on our site as well as staff providing Spanish taster days at their site.

We have had three excellent MFL assistants from Spain, France and China who have enriched the learning experience of all our students. A group of Year 9 students have been preparing for the Asset Languages Breakthrough Level in preparation for a visit to Beijing. The Sumer School for Gifted & Talented Students provides 50 hours of enrichment activities. We have had the support of a variety of partners. These include :

- Manchester Airport
- Pizza Express, Prestwich
- Slattery's, Whitefield
- Instituto Cervantes/Italian Consulate, Manchester
- Roma, Whitefield

Community

The adult classes in French, Spanish, Italian and Chinese prove ever-popular as we see an increasing number of adults who are keen to learn and develop their language skills. This year the French group have enjoyed trips to the Cornerhouse to watch French films along with meals in Chez Gerard to practice their French in real life contexts, and, of course, ruin their waist lines !

Internationalism

European Language Learning Day was another wonderful celebration of cultural diversity, giving Year 7's the opportunity to dress up in all their finery. Having been awarded International School Status in June of last year, we organised an International week in June. The topic was "Climate Change" and involved more than eight different departments. We look forward to taking part in more exciting projects next year including a cross-curricular trip to Rome.

Charity & Community

As a school community St. Monica's has raised over £3,000 for various charities over the past year. Our school charities include CAFOD, Francis House and Catholic Children's Rescue Society.

During Advent, many charitable events took place including our participation in operation Christmas Child, 126 parcels were sent from St. Monica's to children all over the world in need of love and support.

Once again all pupils made a contribution to the food parcels delivered by Year 11 pupils to those in need in our parish groups. During Advent our SVP group also organized a Christmas lunch for the community inviting elderly people from Nazareth House and Sealon House. The event was a great success and planned again for Advent 2010.

During Lent, the school once again became a busy community with various fundraising activities taking place. A few ideas included various individual sponsored events, raffles, cake sales, karaoke and a talent show, as well as make up and wacky hair day !!

A new addition to our charity work this year is the establishment of our Fair Trade Group. The team of Year 9 pupils run a fair trade shop in school selling Tradecraft products. The group help to promote the ethical issue of fair trade in school assemblies and through the "tuck shop" to help people in developing countries secure a fair price for their work.

This year has also seen the development of the St. Monica's Youth St. Vincent de Paul Group. They meet weekly each Friday for a meeting and go over to Nazareth House once a week to spend about an hour with residents who don't have family and friends to visit. There

are so many volunteers for this that they have to have a rota. They also volunteer to help the cleaners in school which was inspired through Mission Week with the Sion Youth Community. They regularly try to organise group activities like Bingo Nights, and organised a Christmas Party for the residents of Nazareth House including residents from other sheltered accommodation, which incorporated a three course meal and entertainment from the choir and music groups. The aim of the group is to help the needs of our local community through a Christian organization.

School Form and Year Council

Another busy year for the Year and School Councils with the school looking increasingly to interact with the wider community as well as continuing to debate issues which are of importance to our own school community.

Councillors have once again been involved in the selection process for new teaching staff – they have become very skilful and accomplished.

They also lead consultations regarding the presumption bid for our own 6th Form, helped organise and supported the Youth Parliament Election, gave their views on the design of the new build classrooms, re-visited the content and use of the journals, made recommendations for the use of the LRC and room 27, evaluated the impact of the newly introduced Peer Mentoring scheme and had a lengthy meeting with Bury's elected member of the Youth Parliament where issues discussed included the Borough's leisure facilities, parks, safety, public transport, the re-development of Bury town centre and the Youth Opportunity Fund. A number of councillors have attended local and national conferences on student voice.

Mr. Rodger has formed a student voice research sub-committee from Year 10 school council members which will focus on teaching and learning. So far they have researched how pupils feel they learn effectively and their preferred learning styles. This was done by questioning all the Year 7 pupils using questionnaires during assemblies and form time and analysing the results. The findings were then presented to the teachers. Next time the sub-committee will continue their research and track the current Year 7 cohort to support the development of teaching and learning at St. Monica's.

Sports Report

It has been another wonderful sporting year for the school with success both within Bury and Greater Manchester in a variety of sporting competitions. Over 300 pupils represented the school in sport this year and the gymnastics and dance display was again an undoubted success with its highest ever number of participants. The highlight of the year was the department being voted Secondary School PE Department of the Year at the annual Bury Sports Awards for its continued dedication to the school sport and its outstanding success in extra-curricular activities.

Sports Awards 2008-09

Football

Year 8 Bury Metro Cup Winners

Year 9 Bury 5-a-side Champions

Rugby

Year 7 Bury Rugby Union Champions

Year 11 Bury Rugby Union Champions

Athletics

Year 7 Bury indoor Athletics Champions
Year 8 Bury indoor Athletics Champions
Year 7 Greater Manchester Indoor Athletics

Cross Country

Year 8/9 Boys Catholic Schools Champions
Year 10/11 Girls Bury Schools Champions

Netball

Year 11 Manchester District Champions
Year 7 Bury Rally Champions

Rounders

Year 8 Catholic Schools Rounders
Victor Ludorum 2008
Victrix Ludorum 2008

Other extra-curricular activities (not previously mentioned)

GCSE Revision classes and drop-in sessions are held for every subject in the school, mostly after school and during the lunch hour through individual departmental arrangement.

Homework clubs operate in Years 7, 8 and 9 on a year group and subject basis.

A wide variety of clubs and activities take place throughout the year including Art, ICT, Games, Chinese, Animation, Cheerleading, Dance and SVP. In addition, various departments organise educational trips such as Quarry Bank Mill, Malham, Ski-ing, Chester Zoo, museums and the theatre.

Year 11 Leavers "Prom"

Maths have lately developed a special relationship with King David High School involving our high achievers and pupils have the opportunity to take part in the UK Maths Challenge. The Governors wish to place on record a thank you to the staff of St. Monica's who give up their free time to enrich the lives of their pupils.

Responsibility for Trips

While staff or other approved persons in charge of the party will take such care of the pupils as is reasonable in all circumstances, they cannot be held responsible for death or personal injury which does not involve negligence on their part, either during the visit or whilst travelling in connection therewith, nor can they be held responsible for any loss or damage to any child's property suffered either during a visit or whilst travelling in connection therewith. The school reserves the right to determine the composition of the party and the payment of a deposit does not guarantee permission to take part.

CHARGING & REMISSIONS POLICY

St Monica's Roman Catholic High School Specialist Language College

Additional Activities Organised for Pupils: Charging & Remissions

Introduction

The Governing Body recognises the valuable contribution that the wide range of additional activities, including clubs, trips, and residential experiences can make towards pupils'

education.

While the Governing Body aims to promote and provide such activities, it recognises that some activities may not take place if they are not supported by parents.

Charges

The Governing Body reserves the right to make a charge in the following circumstances.

1. The cost to the pupil for providing individual instrumental tuition.
2. The cost of using public transport between home and work experience.
3. The cost of ingredients and materials when parents have indicated in advance a wish to own the finished product.
4. Optional extras provided wholly or mainly outside school hours.
5. Board or lodging on residential visits where the activity is deemed to take place in school hours or where it forms part of the syllabus for a prescribed public examination or the National Curriculum or fulfils statutory duties relating to religious education.
6. Checking by an examining body of public examination results at parental request and where the case for checking is not strongly supported by the school.
7. Where a pupil has not been prepared for a prescribed public examination by the school, the Governing Body may make a charge for the cost of entering the pupil for the examination and for the incidentals in respect of the examination, as they can for entries for non-prescribed examinations whether or not prepared by the school.
8. If a pupil fails without good reason to complete the examination requirements for any public examination for which the school has paid (or is liable to pay) an entry fee, then the Governing Body may recover the fee from the parent.
9. The Governing Body may charge for breakages, damage and loss of books, materials, equipment and school fabric and fittings resulting from pupils' behaviour, taking into account the age and condition of the item which has been broken, damaged or lost and the circumstances involved.

Note

The Governing Body may, from time to time, amend the categories of activity for which a charge may be made. Nothing in this policy statement precludes the Governing Body from inviting parents to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of providing education for pupils.

Remissions

1. Where the parents of a pupil are in receipt of income support or family credit, the Governing Body will remit in full the cost of board and lodging for any residential activity that it organises for the pupil, if the activity is deemed to take place within school hours, or where it forms part of the syllabus for a prescribed public examination or the National Curriculum or fulfils statutory duties relating to religious education.
2. Where remission of costs is sought by a parent or guardian in connection with foreign travel for the purpose of improving linguistic skills, the school may be able to access funds from the British Council or HSBC through the Specialist Schools Status. If so, some cultural trips may be subsidised.

THE CURRICULUM

The school works in close partnership with families and parishes in the religious formation of our children. It offers a secondary education which is broad, balanced, relevant and appropriate to pupils' abilities and aptitudes. It aims at the highest standards of attainment and provides a disciplined, ordered and caring environment in which children can be happy and secure, so that they can learn and develop. All pupils have value and are valued equally.

In Year 7 all pupils take the following :-

Religious Education	English
Mathematics	Physical Education/Games
Science	French
History	Geography
Music	Art
Design Technology	Information Technology
Citizenship	Spanish

Higher up the school opportunities are offered to take up the study of Electronics, Information Technology, Business & Information, Performing Arts, Food Technology, Health & Social Care, Media Studies and Resistant Materials. Economic and Industrial Understanding and Environmental Education are dealt with by many subject areas, and from time to time are given a special place in the timetable. The school provides accommodation for the teaching of instrumental music by the staff from Bury Music Centre and one other agency. The lessons are by private arrangement between the agencies and parents, and generally prepare pupils for the Associated Board Examinations.

A Citizenship Programme incorporating Personal, Social, Health and Career Education is offered. Work Experience is offered to pupils in their last years at school. Counselling is undertaken to help pupils make wise choices and parents can discuss these choices with the teaching staff and a member of the Connexions Service before making a decision. Our aim is to provide a balanced curriculum, which will leave open the options to young people, when they enter employment or continue their full-time education beyond high school.

Homework will be set throughout the school according to a published timetable. During a normal school week, 25 hours are spent on teaching; sessions are from 8.30a.m. to 1.00p.m. and from 1.55p.m. to 3.00p.m.

Arrangements for dealing with formal complaints about the curriculum or any related matter will be explained on application to the school.

GROUPING AND SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS :

Organisation of Education

- (a) Year 7 - 8: Form groups for registration and Daily Acts of Worship, Pastoral Care and Citizenship, Religious Education, Information Technology, Physical Education, History and Geography. Setting in Mathematics, English, Modern Languages and Science. Smaller groupings for Art, Music and Design Technology.
 - (b) Year 9: Form groups for registration and Daily Acts of Worship, Pastoral Care and Physical Education. Smaller groups in all subjects. Setting in Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography and Modern Languages.
 - (c) Years 10 -11: Form Groups for registration, Daily Act of Worship and Pastoral care; Physical Education is taught in mixed ability groups; broad ability grouping occurs in English and English Literature, setting occurs in Mathematics, Religious Education and Science; Citizenship is delivered in one half-day session per half term; other subjects are set where appropriate and practical;
- Core :
- (i) Religious Education
 - (ii) English
 - (iii) English Literature
 - (iv) Mathematics
 - (v) Science

(vi) A Modern Foreign Language, chosen from :
French
Spanish

3 choices from the following :

Art

Art (BTEC)

Business & Information Systems

Design & Technology : Resistant Materials

Design & Technology : Food Technology

Geography

Health & Social Care

History

Information Technology - single award

Media Studies

Music

ICT OCR National Award

ICT OCR National Certificate

Other Modern Languages subject

Performing Arts (Drama & Theatre Arts) – single or double award

Physical Education (GCSE)

Physical Education (BTEC)

SEX EDUCATION

The school's policy for sex education is conducted in accordance with the rites, practices and observances of the Roman Catholic Faith. Sex education in school is within the moral framework of Christian teaching which reflects a positive view of God's care and provision for the individual and the community. A whole school approach is adopted and the teaching aims to complement and support the role of the parent. All information given to our pupils is based on sound moral principles and helps pupils develop an appreciation of the values embraced in Catholicism.

The Roman Catholic Church has always recognised that it is the privilege and responsibility of the family to inform and educate their children in all matters relating to sexual development. However, it is also recognised that parents often need a commitment from schools and their parishes to collaborate with the family. Sex Education cannot be reduced to simply the giving of biological fact. St. Monica's ensures the information is firmly rooted in Christian values and based on sound moral principles. Sex Education is a discrete part of the R.E., PSHCE and Science curriculum, although the responsibility for sex education is shared by the whole staff, with the whole range of the curriculum contributing to the formation of right attitudes in the children in our care. The Salford Diocesan Just Youth Team also assist us in the delivery of SRE as part of their chaplaincy role in the school. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the programme.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

Admission arrangements

The school's Governing Body is the Admissions Authority and is responsible for taking decisions on applications for admissions. All pupils are considered in line with the criteria as outlined in the school's Admission Policy. In establishing the criteria the Governors have taken full account of the Code of Practice produced by the Department for Education and Skills which includes reference to pupils with special educational needs and those with

disabilities as defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. The Governing Body has reserved the right to admit children with proven and exceptional medical or social needs where admission to the school might best help satisfy those exceptional needs. School is almost 100% accessible for wheelchairs (ie chair lifts, main lift, two disabled toilets) and many doors have been adjusted to allow access for wheelchairs.

Equal Opportunities

St. Monica's applies an Equal Opportunities Policy to both the curriculum and extra-curricular activities. All pupils are encouraged to take part in a wide range of extra-curricular activities.

Access to the curriculum

The school has adopted the Graduated Response Levels as laid down in the revised Special Educational Needs Code of Practice. Classroom teachers are responsible for differentiation of the content of lessons taking into consideration a pupil's special educational need. The classroom teacher may seek advice from the SEN Co-ordinator.

At School Action Plus additional support is available. This may, for example, be in the form of classroom support; access to specific IT programmes; support from external agencies. Should a pupil have a Statement of Special Educational Needs the Local Authority, following consultation with school, parents and external agencies, will specify the provision to be allocated to ensure full access to the curriculum.

Parental involvement is perceived as crucial if support strategies are to have maximum impact.

As far as possible pupils are supported in the classroom. However, in certain cases, provision may involve individual/small group teaching from a specialist teacher or supported study with a member of the school's Special Needs Team.

School works closely with outreach staff from the Pupil Learning Centre in order to support those pupils whose special needs are emotional or behavioural.

Facilities to assist access to the school by pupils with disabilities.

- The ground floor to the school is accessible via ramps.
- A lift provides access to the first floor.
- There are disabled toilets/bathing facilities in the PE area and in the main building.
- Chair lifts to stairs in the main areas of the school.
- Carpet in language rooms and new classrooms.

The School's SEN Policy

A copy of the SEN Policy is available from school.

Successful implementation of the school's SEN Policy is evident throughout the school.

A whole school approach to supporting pupils with additional needs has resulted in excellent GCSE examination results. 30 Year 11 SEN pupils entered a total of 296 GCSE examinations. 60% achieved 5 or more A* - C grades and 97% achieved 5 or more A* - G grades.

The SEN team have worked hard to raise awareness and acceptance of special needs. All pupils are welcome to Club 22, which is now so popular that we are considering overflowing into a second room. The focus of the club is to offer curriculum support and to provide an opportunity for social interaction for those pupils who are emotionally and socially vulnerable.

PASTORAL CARE AND DISCIPLINE

Aims - Our principal aim is to create a well-ordered school community in which all members function happily, safely and co-operatively, engendering respect not only for oneself, but for one another.

The school has a home-school agreement. This is a statement explaining the school's aims and values, the school's responsibilities towards its pupils who are of compulsory school age, the responsibilities of the pupil's parents and what the school expects of its pupils.

The school's procedures for discipline, its code of conduct and its rewards and sanctions encourage good behaviour and promote self-discipline which in turn will provide a secure, positive, safe and effective learning environment allowing each individual the opportunity to reach his or her full potential.

All members of staff are involved in the pastoral care of pupils under the overall direction of the Headteacher. A high value is placed on contact between home and school, and parents are very welcome in school. The school liaises with Bury Education Welfare Service which can be contacted on 0161-253-5000.

The pastoral system is founded on the form structure with each Form Teacher taking responsibility for a class of approximately thirty pupils. The Year Tutors each have oversight of a particular year group, comprising seven or eight classes and are available to discuss matters of pupils' education/behaviour if necessary.

The Year Teachers are Mrs. McCann (Y7), Mrs. Walker (Y8) Mr. Bridge (Y9), Mrs. Coburn (Y10) and Mrs. Little (Y11).

Pupils may be charged an appropriate sum for repair or replacement of materials, equipment and school fabric damaged as a result of their behaviour.
A copy of the school code of conduct is published in the pupil journal.

Discipline

Sanctions are imposed according to individual situations. School discipline is re-enforced by

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Reprimand | 7. Contracts of good behaviour |
| 2. Detentions | 8. Short periods working away from class |
| 3. Letters home | 9. Parent accompanying pupils to class |
| 4. Form Teacher pastoral support plans. | 10. Exclusion from school trips/teams |
| 5. Daily pastoral support plans. | 11. Fixed term exclusion from school. |
| 6. Post exclusion pastoral support plans. | 12. Permanent exclusion |

School works closely with the Learning Mentor, Educational Welfare Service, the School Psychological Service, the Pupil Learning Centre and Connexions in an endeavour to bring about change in pupils' behaviour which is giving cause for concern and which puts them at risk of exclusion.

Teaching staff should inform parents of initial concerns by writing comments in the journal or by posting home a completed "yellow slip".

School employs Relateen to offer a confidential counselling service to pupils. The school

Health Advisor is available to pupils and parents each Monday lunchtime and at other times by appointment. We also have a full time Learning Mentor who assists pupils with further education, work experience, social skills and behaviour issues.

Detentions

From 1st September, 1998 schools have clear legal authority to detain pupils on disciplinary grounds after the end of a school session without the consent of the parent. (Section 5, Education Act 1997). 24 hours notice will be given in writing using a school detention slip which the pupil takes home.

Pupils will be properly supervised and will be given suitable work to do in detention.

Pupils will be dismissed at the time previously notified to the parents.

Isolation from Peers

The Headteacher and the Deputy Headteachers, in consultation with the Year Tutors, can remove pupils from normal lessons for serious persistent misbehaviour.

Accompanied Pupils

In extreme cases where other sanctions have failed to resolve the difficulties, the Headteacher or Deputy Headteachers may invite parents to accompany their child to lessons.

Exclusion

Exclusions will be used for serious breaches of the behaviour policy, including assaults on staff or fellow pupils, intimidation, persistent disruption, fighting, drug offences, bullying, theft and vandalism.

Exclusion will be used when other sanctions have failed to result in positive improvement.

There will, however, be occasions when it is necessary to impose an exclusion without having used any other form of punishment or intervention due to the very serious nature of the incident.

Fixed term exclusions will not exceed 45 days in any one school year. The majority of fixed term exclusions should not normally exceed 15 school days in a single period. Exclusions send a clear message to pupils that particular behaviour is not acceptable in a school environment. It also informs the parents of the seriousness of the situation and should indicate the need to assist in changing behaviour through exercising their parental responsibility.

From September 2007 parents are responsible for ensuring that their child is not present in a public place in school hours during an exclusion unless there is reasonable justification.

Parents must be advised that they may receive a penalty notice from the local authority if their child is present in a public place during school hours on the specified dates. If so, it will be for parents to show reasonable justification.

Parents are expected to attend their child's re-integration interview on request. Failure to attend a re-integration interview will be a factor taken into account by a magistrates' court if, on future application, they consider whether to impose a parenting order.

After Health & Safety issues have been satisfied fixed term exclusions will be applied for :

- (i) persistently smoking on the premises
- (ii) being found drunk on the premises or when alcohol is found on a pupil
- (iii) being on the premises under the influence of solvents
- (iv) being on the premises under the influence of controlled drugs.

- It would not be unreasonable to permanently exclude if there have been earlier concerns of a similar nature.
- The Governors reserve the right to permanently exclude any pupil found in possession of class A, B or C drugs or illicit substances.

THE SCHOOL UNIFORM

All pupils must wear a suitable black or navy outdoor coat to and from school. Tracksuit tops, denim and fleeces are not considered suitable. .

GIRLS

Blazer, Bottle Green with school badge on pocket

Skirt, Plain Grey

Trousers, Black

Blouse, White polyester/cotton

Tie, green with white and gold stripes

Socks/Tights, White socks, black unpatterned tights, or black socks only to be worn with uniform trousers

Shoes – Plain black, sturdy, suitable shoes - no trainers, boots, sandals or high heels allowed

P.E. Netball Skirt, Bottle Green (for Games)

P.E. Gold polo shirt

P.E. Socks - Amber

Bottle Green Gym shorts (to be worn under Netball Skirt)

Trainers

Black shadow striped shorts

Coats Black or Navy - no logos.

N.B. All kit must have initials visibly sewn onto all items, including socks and the full name of the pupil on the inside (preferably a name tag).

BOYS

Blazer, Bottle green with school badge on pocket

Trousers, Charcoal Grey

Shirt, White polyester/cotton

Tie, green with white and gold stripes

Socks – Plain black/grey (no patterns or logos)

Shoes, Plain black suitable shoes - no trainers or boots allowed

Soccer shirt, green/gold stripes

Soccer shorts, Black shadow stripes

PE socks, Amber

Rugby shirt, Green, reversible, with gold panels

Football boots

Athletics vest - green with gold trim

Trainers

Coats Black or Navy - no logos

No sweatshirts, fleeces or denim jackets allowed

No jewellery, nail polish, make-up or fake tan is allowed.

The school reserves the right to decide what is considered to be suitable in terms of uniform - including haircuts and colours. Shaved heads are not allowed. A no.2 cut is the shortest acceptable cut, unnatural and/or extreme hair colours are not allowed.

Pupils who fail to comply with the school's dress code will be sent home.

Suppliers

Monkhouse, 116 The Rock, Bury

PTs, Unit 14, Bury Market Hall, Bury.

PTs, 7 Radcliffe Road, Radcliffe, M26 1LS

Public Examinations – 2009

St Monica's recorded a record 92% 5+ A* - C. St Monica's had previously held the record of 87% 5+ A* - C. It was the best year in the school's history for both boys and girls results with the girls recording 95.45% and the boys achieving 89% 5+ A* - C. 32 Students gained A* or A grades in at least 9 subjects. The school is delighted that 43.1% of its entries resulted in A*/A grades. Children with special educational needs, once again, achieved excellent results with 60% gaining 5+ A* - C grades and 96.67% 5+ A* - G grades. The younger students in the school were not to be outdone. 114 students, as young as Year 7, entered GCSE examinations early in Polish, Italian, German, French, Science and Performing Arts, recording a staggering 98% A* - C pass rate.

Public Examinations - 2009

Subject	Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	X
English Language	210	25	81	59	31	8	4	1	1	0	0
English Literature	209	26	82	70	16	4	7	3	0	1	0
Mathematics	209	12	37	49	57	37	12	5	0	0	0
Science Core Award	210	30	47	59	58	13	3	0	0	0	0
Science Additional Award	91	21	28	16	16	7	3	0	0	0	0
ALAN Literacy	182	182 achieved Level 2 Pass									
ALAN Numeracy	182	172 achieved Level 2 Pass 10 achieved Level 1 Pass									
Art & Design	27	1	8	8	9	1	0	0	0	0	0
Art and Design Textiles	5	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
BTEC 1 st Cert in Sport	1	1 achieved Distinction*									
BTEC 1 st Diploma in Sport	26	25 achieved Distinction* 1 achieved Distinction									
Business & Communications	53	3	8	10	26	4	1	1	0	0	0
CIDA	1	1 achieved Credit									
CIDA Plus	17	12 achieved Merit 5 achieved Credit									
D&T Electronic Products	14	0	1	1	5	3	2	2	0	0	0
D&T Food Technology	9	1	1	2	3	1	0	1	0	0	0
D&T Resistant Materials	16	0	2	0	11	2	1	0	0	0	0
Drama	18	3	9	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Expressive Arts: Dance	12	0	0	1	2	5	3	1	0	0	0
French	142	10	26	43	31	19	9	4	0	0	0
Geography	58	9	14	15	12	5	2	0	1	0	0
German	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Health & Social Care	15	0	3	4	2	3	2	0	0	1	0
History	83	9	27	14	16	5	4	4	2	2	0
Information Technology	17	0	5	7	4	0	1	0	0	0	0
Italian	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Media Studies	18	0	7	4	5	1	1	0	0	0	0
Music	11	4	4	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
OCR National ICT Level2	27	20 achieved Distinction 7 achieved Merit									

Performing Arts (Voc)	70	27	7	23	13	0	0	0	0	0	0
Physical Education	30	12	9	1	2	5	1	0	0	0	0
Polish	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Religious Studies	209	33	53	61	35	12	11	3	0	1	0
Spanish	113	7	24	27	32	18	2	1	2	0	0

PROVISIONAL SUMMARY OF G.C.S.E. RESULTS 2008/09

Pupils entered for 5 or more G.C.S.E.s			Pupils achieving 5 or more A* - C Grades		
National	St Monica's	LEA	National	St Monica's	L.E.A.
94.5%	99.5%	N/A	69.7%	92.4%	74.7%

Pupils achieving 5 or more A* - G Grades			Pupils entered for 1 or more G.C.S.E.s		
National	St Monica's	L.E.A.	National	St Monica's	LEA
92.5%	99.5%	96.9%	99.6%	100%	N/A

Pupils achieving 1 or more A* - G Grades			Pupils who failed to obtain any Grades at A* - G		
National	St Monica's	L.E.A.	National	St Monica's	L.E.A.
99.2%	100%	99.3%	0.8%	0%	0.7%

Capped Average Points Score (Section 96)		
St. Monica's	L.E.A.	National
385.3	334.7	318.1

S.E.N. Examination Results 2008/2009

30 pupils, from this year group were identified as having a Special Need at the time of the G.C.S.E. examinations.

The 5 A*-C pass rate was 60.0%

The 5 A*-G pass rate was 96.67%

