



St Bede's and St Joseph's Catholic College

21 September 2026

Dear Year 5 and 6 Parent/Carer

St Bede's and St Joseph's Catholic College Open Evening Wednesday 23 September 2026 17:30 – 19:30

We very much look forward to welcoming all Year 5 and Year 6 parents to our annual Open Evening on Wednesday 23 September. This is an important and significant event in helping Year 5 and Year 6 students and their families to discover what's special about our community. As you decide on a secondary school for the next stage of your child's education, I am sure you'll see that SBSJ is the natural first choice for you.

As a Catholic school, we put special emphasis on our mission to create *"Happy, confident, spiritually awake, lifelong learners"* and we invest in this particularly through our expert Religious Education team, our Lay Chaplain, our House system, our Welfare team and our Behaviour support team. Our June 2025 Catholic Schools Inspection report awarded us "Outstanding" for Catholic Life and Mission and comments,

"The school provides a full and rich Catholic life experience."

In May this year, the Ofsted team noted,

"This school makes a positive difference to pupils' lives . . . Joining the school means becoming part of the St Bede's and St Joseph's family. This connection lasts a lifetime for many pupils."

On the Open Evening, you'll see for yourself that we have dedicated teachers, pastoral staff and support staff who care for every aspect of your child's development. Subject teachers will be on hand to explain what they teach at each stage and the teaching strategies they use, and House teams will be there to talk about student support. More importantly, you'll also have the chance to speak to our student tour guides and subject assistants who will tell you first-hand what it's like to be a student here - they are always our best ambassadors!

As you make your way around on Wednesday evening, I have no doubt you will be impressed by the excellent facilities at Ignis - our junior site. From the purpose-designed theatre to the swimming pool, the gym, the astro-turf, the dining hall and Our Lady's Hall, the College is very well provided for with sports facilities and large gathering spaces, in addition to well-equipped science labs, technical workshops, up-to-date classrooms and recreation spaces.

As you arrive, as you listen to the Headteacher's address, and as you make your way around the site, talking to staff and students, you will not be able to help noticing the strong sense of pride in our school which is shared by all. The College has been on an upwards trajectory since Yorkshire Martyrs, St Bede's School and St Joseph's Catholic College merged in 2014, but recently this trend

has accelerated and, as well as our outstanding Catholic ethos and our strong pastoral care, we have beaten our own best public exam results for the last two years in a row!

I will be speaking to Year 5 and Year 6 and their parents in Our Lady's Hall at 17:45 and again at 18:45.

Come and see us and judge for yourself!

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Mulligan". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Mr Paul Mulligan
Acting Headteacher