

Cardinal Langley RC High School



An 11 - 18 Catholic Comprehensive

'Catholic Life & Mission is Outstanding'

Diocese of Salford, November 2024

Prospectus

Year 7 2027 Entry



'Serving the Catholic Community since 1959'

Cardinal Langley RC High School Mission Statement



I have come that they may have life and have it to the full. John 10:10



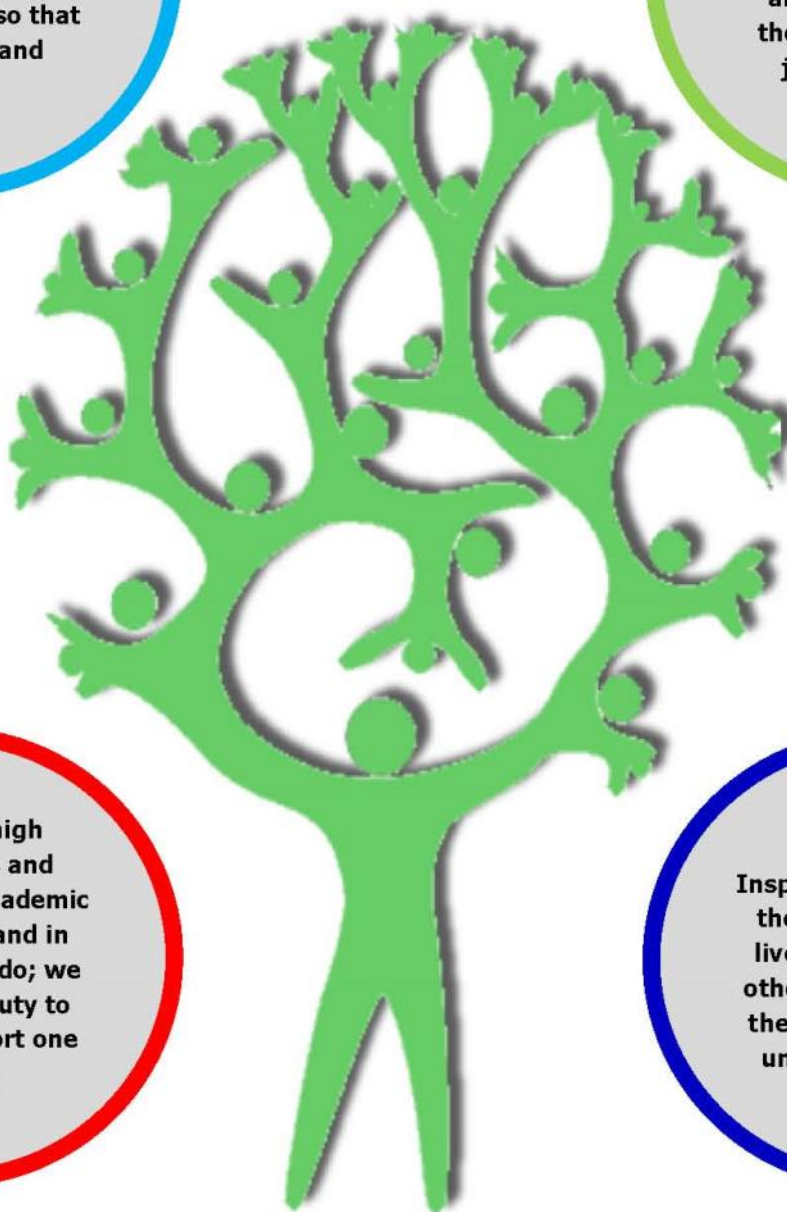
Living the values of:
love, respect,
forgiveness,
compassion, honesty,
fairness and
responsibility, so that
all feel safe and
valued.

Striving to recognise,
value and respond to
the needs of all, so that
they may take their
place in modern society,
acting justly, loving
tenderly and walking
humbly with God.

Celebrating the
presence of God, the
talents and abilities of
all and supporting
those in need as we
journey in faith.

Promoting high
expectations and
excellence in academic
achievement and in
everything we do; we
see it as our duty to
care and support one
another.

Inspiring children with
the Word of God, to
live in the service of
others and to develop
their full potential as
unique individuals.



Rooted in Christ and in the tradition of St Jean Baptiste De La Salle, Cardinal Langley is a school community in the Diocese of Salford where the Catholic faith is taught, lived and celebrated, so that all may have life and have it in abundance. It is our mission to educate the whole person in the footsteps of Jesus Christ.

Contents

Welcome	4
Spiritual Life	6
Admissions	8
Uniform	9
School Information	10
Religious Education	12
English	13
Mathematics	14
Science	15
Enrichment Activities	16
ICT & Computing	18
Design & Technology	19
Creative Arts	20
History	22
Geography	23
Modern Foreign Languages	24
Business Studies & Economics	25
Sport & Physical Education	26
Social Sciences	28
Life Skills	29
Sixth Form	30



Welcome

Hello, and a warm welcome from Cardinal Langley RC High School.

Cardinal Langley RC High School is a Voluntary-aided, 11-18 mixed comprehensive serving the Catholic community of Middleton. The school is successful and oversubscribed with over 1200 students on roll, including 140 in the Sixth Form.

The school was founded in 1959 under the direction of the De La Salle Brothers and the Diocese of Salford. It is named after Thomas Langley, Bishop of Durham, and later Cardinal. The Trusteeship is now held by the Diocese alone. Rooted in Christ, and in the tradition of St John Baptist De La Salle, Cardinal Langley is a school community where the Catholic faith is taught, lived and celebrated.

As a Catholic, all-ability school, we place great emphasis on our inclusive 'family' atmosphere in which all are nurtured to develop their 'God-given talents'. We have an outstanding pastoral care system, which is supported by a team of dedicated and specialised Key Workers and Learning Progress Assistants who work closely with parents and carers to develop personalised support for those with additional needs.

At Cardinal Langley, we seek to educate the whole person and provide excellent opportunities in sport, music, the arts, technology, and leadership development. We have outstanding facilities across the school, and our De La Salle Centre was opened in September 2016. This provides additional classrooms, yard and dining facilities, as well as acting as a dedicated Year 7 Form base.

We are honoured to have been serving the Catholic community of Middleton since 1959 and are proud of the achievements of many of our past students, including: Paul Scholes (ex-Manchester United & England footballer), Keri-anne Payne (Olympic Silver Medallist, Swimming), Liam Fray (Singer and Songwriter), Steve Coogan (Actor and Comedian), and Suranne Jones (Actress).

We are privileged that you are considering sharing the next step in your child's development with us at Cardinal Langley, and hope you find this prospectus useful and informative.

Please visit our website for further information: www.clrchs.co.uk



Mr Andrew Bridson

Headteacher



Prayer of St John Baptist De La Salle

God our Father,
may we look upon
those whom you have entrusted to us
as your sons and daughters.

May we take even more care
over their education
than if they were the children of a king.

Help us to show,
by the care we take of them,
that we have a real love for them,
a great tenderness towards them.

Inspire us to build on the affection
that the young people have for us
to lead them to you.

Amen



Spiritual Life

"God inspires us to walk in the footsteps of His Son"

St John Baptist De La Salle

The spiritual development of students is at the centre of our purpose as a Catholic and Lasallian school.

- Year 7 students take part in a retreat to explore their faith and cement new friendships.
- Students celebrate Year Group Masses throughout the year as well as our Advent celebrations and Lenten services.
- Voluntary retreats take place for students in other year groups at St Cassian's Centre in Kintbury.
- Our Genesis Groups are at the heart of the spiritual life of our school and are a model of collaborative ministry where staff and students work together as 'People of God'.
- Our Year 7 Welcome and Year 11 Leavers Masses celebrate the key events in the educational journey of our young people.

Confirmation



The Sacrament of Confirmation deepens an individual's faith and receiving it marks the transition into full membership of the Catholic Church.

Sr. Linda Pergega and Canon Tadhg Mullins lead our Confirmation Programme each year. All students in Year 8 receive an introduction to the sacramental programme and young people can then make the decision to complete the final sessions of the programme, both in school and their local parish.

Each year, our Year 8 students receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the summer term. Family and friends are invited to join the young people in their celebration.

Liturgy



Thanks to the support of Canon Tadhg Mullins and other local priests, staff and students have the opportunity to attend regular Mass in the school chapel.

Whole-school celebrations follow the liturgical year, with specific events for Advent and Lent. We also hold an annual Founder's Day celebration in July.

This year, we celebrate 67 years of Cardinal Langley serving the Catholic community of Middleton.

Genesis Groups



All students are encouraged to join one of our Genesis Groups. These are an integral part of our school community and take part in a range of spiritual, community and fundraising activities. Students lead our Lenten and Advent services, assemblies and liturgies with the guidance of staff, strengthening their own faith whilst contributing significantly to school life.

Our Genesis students have represented our school at major Diocesan events, including Flame and the annual St Joseph's Penny Appeal. Many of our Genesis students are also Caritas Ambassadors who inform the school community on Catholic Social teaching.

Our Genesis Groups are invited to the annual Lasallian Camp at St Cassian's Centre in Kintbury where they meet like-minded students from across the UK whilst participating in spiritual and enriching activities.

Charity Work



Students are encouraged to think of those less fortunate than themselves and are asked to give up their time to fundraise for a variety of charities throughout the year. In the past few years, thousands of pounds have been raised through our annual sponsored walk, which has gone to support the Good Life Orphanage and other local, national, and international charities.

During Lent there is a specific focus on St Joseph's Penny, which supports Caritas in their work across the Diocese. Our annual Easter egg collection also aims to ensure every child in Middleton receives an egg. Over 390 were donated by students and staff in 2026!



"The school has an exceptionally strong Catholic ethos and a charism which is faithful to the history and tradition of the school."

Catholic School Inspection, November 2024

Admissions

If your child is due to move up to secondary school in September 2027, you will need to apply for a place through the School Admissions Team in the Local Authority in which you live.

In your application, you can name up to four preferences of secondary school. You are advised to name at least three preferences, which should be in preference order. More information about Rochdale Council's online application process, including how to register for a parent portal account, can be found here: <https://www.rochdale.gov.uk/school-admissions-appeals/apply-secondary-school-place>

Please speak to your child's primary school if you need help completing the application. If you live outside of Rochdale Local Authority, details of neighbouring authorities can be found here: <https://www.clrchs.co.uk/school-information/admissions/>

The closing date for applications for September 2027 is: 31st October 2026.

Parents / carers should ensure that all relevant information is included on / with the application form.

Late applications, or applications missing key information, such as a child being a baptised Roman Catholic or having a sibling already attending our school, can affect the child's position on the admissions list and may result in him / her missing out on a place.

If your child is Catholic, a member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church, or a member of the Eastern Christian Church (including Orthodox Churches), you will need to provide evidence of faith at the application stage.

All applicants will be considered at the same time after the closing date for admissions and in a fair way based on the Published Admission Number (PAN) and the published admissions criteria.

Parents / carers will be informed of the Governors' decision to offer a place by Rochdale Local Authority on 1st March 2027 (National Offer Day).

Admissions / Oversubscription Criteria

The policy of the Governing Body is to admit pupils, on demand, up to the school's Published Admission Number. Where there are more applications than there are places available, places will be allocated and a waiting list maintained giving priority to pupils in the following order:

1. Catholic looked-after and previously looked-after children.
2. Catholic children who attend a feeder Catholic primary school or who live in the contributory parishes of St. Peter and St. Thomas More, Middleton and Alkington, and Our Lady's, Middleton; together serving the Catholic community of Middleton. Our feeder primary schools are:
 - St. John Fisher RC Primary School, Middleton
 - St. Peter's RC Primary School, Middleton
 - St. Thomas More RC Primary School, Middleton
 - St. Mary's RC Primary School, Middleton
3. Other Catholic children
4. Other looked-after and previously looked-after children
5. Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church
6. Children with a sibling on roll in Years 7-12 at the time of the application where Governors determine that there is an exceptional social, medical or pastoral need to keep the family unit intact
7. Other children

Within each of the criteria listed, the following provisions will be applied in the following order:

1. Applicants who have a sibling on roll in Years 7-12 at the time of the application will be prioritised within each criterion
2. Applicants will be further prioritised within each criterion according to distance from home to school, with those living nearer to school having priority over those living further away

Please refer to our 2027 Admissions Policy for further details.

School Uniform

Clothing

- Black blazer with school badge
- White school shirt with collar - must be tucked in all the way around
- School clip-on tie
- Plain, black, knee-length skirt (A-line, straight or pleated)
- Plain, black trousers (tailored / straight leg, waist band and zip) - no jeans, skinny-fit, leggings etc.
- Plain, black socks or tights
- **Footwear:** plain, black, low-heeled, low-cut shoes that do not come above the ankle
- **Optional:** A plain, black, V-neck, fine-knit sweater (worn under the blazer)
- **The following should not be worn:**
 - Boots
 - Canvas shoes or trainers (or shoes of similar appearance)
 - Shoes displaying designer names / logos / stripes etc.



Hairstyles, Accessories & Sanctions

- **Hairstyles** should be tidy and a reasonable length (no shorter than a number 1) with extreme hairstyles (e.g. shaved, shaved patterns, long spikes) not being allowed
- Plain clips, slides and bobbles may be used to keep hair tidy
- The only items of **jewellery** permitted are a watch and one pair of small, plain gold / silver coloured stud earrings in the lobe of each ear
- Students are **not** allowed to wear make-up or nail varnish, or have false nails or false eye lashes

Students are expected to comply with school uniform requirements. Those who do not, will face a consequence which may include removal / confiscation of items or isolation from lessons.

Uniform Suppliers

Our approved suppliers for official items of uniform, such as the school blazer, tie and PE kit are listed below:

Icon Clothing

F13/14 Middleton Shopping Centre
Middleton
M24 4EL
0161 643 2958

Broadbent's

65 Long Street
Middleton
M24 6UN
0161 643 5193

www.broadbentsofmiddleton.co.uk

Moses Schoolwear

21-23 Oldham Road
Rochdale
OL16 1UA
01706 644 447

School Information



Teaching & Learning

Cardinal Langley's success is built upon the philosophy of St John Baptist De La Salle, where emphasis is placed on community, relationships and the value of each individual. All that we do is rooted in Gospel Values and is designed to enable each individual to grow in maturity, faith and love.

“Pupils enjoy the interesting and inspiring opportunities beyond the academic curriculum.”

Ofsted, 2022



To achieve such aspirations, our expectations of all students are very high. Attitudes and values based on self-respect and respect for others are reinforced through clear guidance in relation to appearance, academic achievement, behaviour, and participation in extra curricular activities.

In Key Stage 3, students are taught across all National Curriculum subjects in either mixed ability groups or sets according to prior learning. GCSE choices are made towards the end of Year 9, and developing good habits and a positive attitude to learning are essential.



A distinctive feature of Cardinal Langley RC High School is the emphasis we place on learning experiences outside the classroom. Students benefit enormously from the extra curricular activities and enrichment opportunities that we offer when they engage with visiting speakers, theatre groups, external visits and residential experiences. This approach is reinforced through our commitment to developing within all students a capacity to act responsibly, show initiative and make a positive contribution to both the school and local communities.



In Key Stage 4, we offer a personalised curriculum which is tailored to the needs, abilities and aspirations of each student. A wide range of GCSE subjects is offered in addition to more vocational courses delivered on site.

“Cardinal Langley RC High School is a community where pupils feel happy and enjoy coming to school.”

Ofsted, 2022

Safeguarding

At Cardinal Langley, the safety and wellbeing of our students is our highest priority. All students are taught how they should keep themselves safe in the modern world. Anti-bullying week and Internet Safety week take place every year with information given in curriculum lessons and assemblies.

Parents and carers are also given information on how to keep their children safe. Any member of our community who has a concern about child safety must report it to a member of our safeguarding team.

Additional Needs

“Leaders work effectively with external partners to ensure that pupils and their families get the help that they need.” Ofsted, 2022

As a Catholic school, we are proud of our inclusive nature and are committed to providing the best possible learning opportunities for students of all abilities. We have a dedicated and highly experienced team working in our Additional Needs department to ensure all students receive the support they require to be successful.

The school conforms to the SEN Code of Practice and the Equality Act. A nominated member of staff has specific responsibility in this area and works with school-based staff, partner primary schools, the Local Authority, and other external agencies to ensure the right support is in place.

Academic Support & Pastoral Care

Students will be part of a pastoral Form Class and will normally have the same Form Tutor throughout their first five years at Cardinal Langley. The stable relationships which develop enable students to feel safe, secure and more confident.

Our House System runs alongside the Year Group and creates another family of staff and students whom come together for a range of activities to promote each individual's wellbeing and development.

There are over 170 members of school staff, including teachers, key workers, learning progress assistants, learning supervisors, administrators, librarians, technicians and premises staff. All staff are committed to working for the best interests of each individual student.

“The school cares deeply for individual students, particularly the most vulnerable.”

Catholic School Inspection, November 2024





Religious Education

As a Catholic school, Religious Education lies at the heart of our curriculum. All students study the Catholic faith alongside other world religions, developing a deep understanding of belief, values, and the wider world. Our curriculum is designed to be engaging, thought-provoking, and academically rigorous, encouraging students to discuss, question, and reflect together.

Key Stage 3

At Key Stage 3, Religious Education is an academic subject that nurtures the whole child - spiritually, morally, socially, and culturally. Students explore meaningful and challenging questions such as: How can we come to know God? What is the purpose of suffering? Why does every person have dignity? Our curriculum is structured around six branches, which students revisit each year to deepen their understanding:

- Creation & Covenant
- Desert to Garden
- Galilee to Jerusalem
- Prophecy & Promise
- To the Ends of the Earth
- Dialogue & Encounter

This spiral approach allows pupils to build secure knowledge of the Catholic tradition, while also learning about other faiths and recognising the shared values that connect humanity. Lessons are designed to develop curiosity, confidence in discussion, and respect for different viewpoints.

Key Stage 4

Students follow the *EdExcel GCSE Religious Studies Route A Catholic Christianity* course. This includes:

- Catholic Christianity: Beliefs & Teachings, Practices, Sources of Wisdom & Authority, Forms of Expression, and Ways of Life
- Judaism: Beliefs & Teachings, and Practices
- Philosophy and Ethics: Arguments for the Existence of God, and Relationships & Families

The course takes an issue-based approach, helping students to engage with real-world religious, philosophical, and ethical questions. Students develop the ability to think critically, construct well-reasoned arguments, and understand different perspectives. This equips them not only for examinations, but also for life as thoughtful and informed members of society.

Sixth Form

Throughout their time in Sixth Form, students continue to deepen their understanding of faith and the world around them. In line with the Diocese of Salford, they are encouraged to reflect on their own beliefs while engaging with other religious traditions and contemporary issues. Students explore how faith can inspire positive action and consider how they can contribute meaningfully to society.

Career Opportunities

RE develops valuable skills such as critical thinking, empathy, communication, and ethical reasoning. These are highly regarded in a wide range of careers, including: Education, Healthcare, Social Work, Law, Journalism, Charity Work, and Human Resources.

English

In today's fast-paced, information-based society, it is vital for young people to be confident communicators, skilful readers and effective writers. By studying English, you will develop an understanding of how language works by exploring and analysing a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts. It is important that you understand how language use has changed over time and so you will be looking at work that is very modern and reflecting on other similar pieces written many years ago.

A qualification in English is vital to your journey as a young person; you are enabled to engage with our world more confidently whilst also securing your access to Higher Education, future employment, and achieving your ambitions. There are a number of skills to develop that will ensure you succeed. The capabilities that you acquire through your study of English will support you to become highly skilled analysts of both language and literature, you will enjoy writing for a range of different audiences and purposes, in addition to becoming a confident speaker in group discussions and presentations. The skills secured in English can also be used in other subjects across your curriculum.

Key Stage 3

In Years 7, 8 and 9, students explore key themes in order to develop their key skills. Some examples include The Voice of Children, Comedy, Diversity & Responsibility, Dystopia, Gothic, Social Responsibility, Empowered Voices, Tragedy, and Family. Students will be supported to read widely for pleasure during guided reading time and sessions in our reading café, Starbooks.

Key Stage 4

All students will be entered for GCSE English Language whilst also completing an additional GCSE in English Literature. Texts currently studied include Macbeth, Blood Brothers, A Christmas Carol, and the Love & Relationships cluster of AQA's poetry anthology.

Sixth Form

All employers, colleges and universities will insist on a good pass in English at GCSE level. However, our A Level courses will help to further prepare you for University and employment. A Level English Literature and A Level English Language are popular and successful courses which can lead to University studies within English-based courses. Other options available to you could include Journalism, Creative Writing, Media Studies, Drama, History, Psychology, and Law.





Mathematics

Mathematics is a core subject that encourages students to develop problem-solving skills and become effective and independent learners. With the focus on the functional elements of mathematics, applying mathematics in context, problem-solving and reasoning, students learn to function mathematically in the world.

Key Stage 3

Students follow a scheme of learning that is based around the rigours of problem-solving. All students will learn fundamental skills in the areas of: number, algebra, shape and data. The main drive, however, is their choice and reasons for choosing which skills to use and when, whilst applying them in problem solving contexts.

Key Stage 4

Students follow the *Edexcel Linear Mathematics* qualification for higher tier, and *OCR Linear Mathematics* for foundation tier. They are examined in five areas:

- Using and Applying Mathematics
- Number
- Algebra
- Geometry
- Statistics

Students sit three exams at the end of the two years, one being non-calculator and two with. As with Key Stage 3, all students will know the importance of deep understanding and being able to apply the skills learnt in a wide variety of situations.

Sixth Form

A Level Mathematics and Further Mathematics can be chosen for those who achieve high grades in GCSE (required for some other A Level subjects too). It is a challenging and rewarding course that will stretch students' understanding and prepare them well for the rigour of top university courses.

Career Opportunities

A good grade in GCSE Mathematics can lead to many career opportunities. Medical, Financial and Engineering careers have a high mathematical content and a top grade is advantageous for students pursuing these.

Science

An understanding of Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) is of growing importance with the development of technology in modern society, and all students study core Science until the end of Key Stage 4. Science at Cardinal Langley uses the big questions, linked to the big ideas and mastery goals to equip students for success at GCSE.

Key Stage 3

Key Stage 3 students are taught in form groups in Year 7 and in sets / mixed ability groups for Years 8 and 9, with the emphasis on the fun, practical nature of Science, learning about the big questions Science poses. They learn the essential skills to allow them to carry out investigations and experiments. Topics across the main areas of Science enable students to appreciate the fundamental scientific principles, developing these ideas to apply in general life.

Key Stage 4

AQA GCSE Combined Science Double Award (2 GCSEs) is about how Science affects our lives and the decisions we take. Designed to broaden the students' understanding of the world around them, it gives them the skills needed to approach most matters in a reasoned, analytical manner.

Separate exams in Biology, Chemistry and Physics are taken. All exams are terminal; taken in the summer of Year 11. Some students can progress further to study the Sciences separately (3 GCSEs), so gaining a more detailed understanding of these subjects which makes the step up to A Level easier.

Sixth Form

A Level reveals the greater depth and detail of current scientific understanding. The pace and content of Biology, Chemistry and Physics A Levels make them some of the most demanding and sought after qualifications.

Career Opportunities

The value and reputation of Science A Levels make them a popular choice in Sixth Form and are an essential requirement for many university courses, including Medicine, Veterinary Science, Engineering and Pure Sciences. The study of Science is welcome in many other professions too.



Enrichment Activities

At Cardinal Langley, there are a wide range of learning opportunities and enrichment activities that take place outside the classroom. Here are just some examples of previous trips and activities:



Year 8 Activity Trip



Duke of Edinburgh

Ski Experience



Rewards Trip - Blackpool



Grasmere





Rome

Condoover Hall



Sixth Form - London

Disneyland Paris



Kintbury Retreat





Creative Media (ICT) & Computing

The ability to use computers and understand how they work is an essential skill for students to be able to take an active part in modern society. The school has state of the art equipment in five dedicated computer suites and offers a wide range of courses to suit the interests of all students.

Key Stage 3

In Years 7, 8 and 9, students are introduced to a wide variety of computer applications to develop their skills in using computer programmes. Computing explores the way that computers work and the programming techniques required for developing new applications. These courses are an ideal introduction to the world of computer science.

Key Stage 4

Three courses are offered to enable students to explore different aspects of Creative Media and Computing:

- *GCSE Computing* - This exciting course gives learners the opportunity to investigate and gain an in-depth understanding into how computers work, and how they are used.
- *The Edexcel Level 2 Creative Media Production* has been designed to engage and enthuse young people with an interest in creative computing; for example, digital graphics and web design, and interactive multimedia products. Students are able to develop competent IT skills throughout this course.
- *OCR National IT Level 2* enables students to use different applications and tools to design, create and evaluate IT solutions and products. E.g. Create a data manipulation solution and an Augmented Reality prototype. Students will develop competent IT skills to prepare them for the ever changing tech world we live in.

Sixth Form & Career Opportunities

Students who enjoy ICT or Computing at KS4 and are keen to continue can study A Level or other Level 3 courses, such as: A Level Computing and also CTECs in IT and Media.

Post, or even pre-university, there is a wide variety of lucrative careers involving computing for those with a passion for the subject and a willingness to keep learning. In fact, the growth and evolution of new technologies means there will be lots of jobs which require computing skills in the future. It is a subject that could awaken a passion that could lead anywhere and last a lifetime!

Design & Technology

Design and Technology is a family of subjects which includes: Product Design, Textiles, and Food and Nutrition. We aim to develop students' problem-solving skills and cultivate their creativity and ability to innovate in order to establish solutions for different groups of people. Students also develop their understanding of nutrition and diet, and develop practical food preparation and cooking skills through making a range of predominantly savoury dishes. Students are encouraged to shop for their ingredients themselves (with an adults help) so they can also learn about food selection and real life cost.

We actively encourage students to question and enquire, work both independently and collaboratively, and develop knowledge and skills that are useful in the wider world.

At Key Stage 3, students will complete 6 units per year, covering key material areas (timbers, polymers and textiles), food and nutrition, CAD / CAM, and core skills. At Key Stage 4, students can take one of 3 GCSE pathways: Design Technology (Product Design), Design Technology (Textiles) or Food Preparation and Nutrition. All areas cover both theory and practical elements.

Product Design

In GCSE Product Design students cover the breadth of multiple material areas (timbers, polymers, textiles, paper and board and metals) and they will specialise in two of these areas (timbers and polymers). Students will develop practical skills through a range of projects and will gain knowledge on a wider range of issues such as environmental issues, human factors in design and the development and impact of new technologies. Students will learn about real life designers and develop their skills in designing, and will follow the iterative design process to design and make a final project for their GCSE. Students will work with a variety of equipment and machinery including CAD / CAM (laser cutting and 3D printing) and specialised software to produce high quality computer models.

Product Design: Textiles

Pupils have the opportunity to work with a variety of materials, components and ICT to understand the working characteristics and properties of materials in design situations. Pupils will be able to create textile products from topics such as: Fashion Garments, Interior Design / Soft Furnishings, Children's-wear, Punk / 60's Style, Display Wall Hanging or Musical Theatre Costume. Pupils will get to learn how to use a sewing machine, and how to dye, finish and embellish fabrics. It also gives pupils an excellent opportunity to go into the design industry.

Food and Nutrition

This is an exciting subject that links closely to healthy eating and the wider issues that are associated with nutrition. Students will develop their skills in food storage and preparation and learn a variety of skills through cooking a wide range of dishes using different methods and ingredients, and will develop their knowledge on nutrition, food science, food choice and food sustainability through theoretical aspects of the course. Food and Nutrition can lead to a range of careers in the fields of health, nutrition and sport.





Creative Arts

Students develop their creativity and self expression in many areas of the curriculum but specifically through Art, Music and Drama which are offered as separate subjects in Years 7, 8 and 9, and as GCSE options in Key Stage 4. There is also a wide variety of extra-curricular activities that students are encouraged to take part in which will develop their skills and confidence, whilst preparing them for success at GCSE and A Level.

Art

Art and Design at Key Stage 3 is a practical and thought-provoking subject that explores themes such as culture, environment and identity. The course builds a strong foundation in core artistic skills, including tone, colour, texture, shape and form, while encouraging creativity and critical thinking.

Students work with a wide range of materials, including pen, pencil, paint, chalk, pastel, clay, wire and recycled materials, supporting the development of both two-dimensional and three-dimensional outcomes. They are guided through the creative process of researching, designing and making, enabling them to develop ideas into meaningful and personal responses.

Projects are centred around engaging themes such as Day of the Dead, environmental issues including pollution, art history, African culture, illustration and film prop design, and architecture. Through these, students explore both traditional and contemporary practices.

Students are introduced to a diverse range of historical and contemporary artists, craftspeople and designers, and begin to understand how creative skills can lead to careers in areas such as graphic design, set design and large-scale sculpture for festivals and carnivals.

The course encourages students to be independent, imaginative and reflective, while developing their ability to analyse and respond to the work of others and the world around them.

Music

Music is a predominantly practical subject that places strong emphasis on developing students' abilities to perform, compose, and critically listen to a wide range of musical styles. The course is designed to be inclusive, enabling learners of all abilities to participate and progress at their own level through the use of both instruments and voice.

A key focus of the curriculum is the continuous improvement of performance skills, which form the foundation of musical study. Students with an interest in singing or playing an instrument are encouraged to further develop their talents, with clear progression pathways to GCSE and A Level Music.

A rich programme of extra-curricular opportunities is available, including:

- Participation in the Vocal Group
- Build a Band
- Performances in School Productions
- Membership of the School Band
- Tech Club

Students may also opt for peripatetic instrumental lessons, delivered by specialist tutors from the Rochdale Music Service.

Throughout the year, students have numerous opportunities to perform in concerts and events, and the school has a strong record of success at the annual Rochdale Music Festival. Even for those who choose not to continue with Music beyond Year 9, the subject fosters a lifelong appreciation and enjoyment of music as a valuable leisure activity.

Music can lead to a wide range of career pathways, including:

- Performance
- The Recording Industry
- Teaching
- Television & Radio

Furthermore, colleges and employers hold musical achievement in high regard, recognising that learning an instrument demonstrates dedication, perseverance and self-discipline.

Drama

Drama is about learning how the dramatic process works, and how to use dramatic techniques to explore themes and issues that relate to a playwright's intention. It is also about how to create a character and perform as that character. You will explore themes, ideas and plays in a practical way, and your teacher will assess how well you have done.

There will be lots of opportunities to get involved with extra-curricular Drama activities, such as Drama Club, the school show, and theatre visits.

At BTEC, you will be required to perform in a play or contribute a form of design to a production, such as: costume, lighting or sound, and your performance will be assessed by a visiting examiner.

After you have completed BTEC Drama in Year 11, you can go on to study BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Performing Arts in Years 12 and 13.





History

History is full of intrigue, events and experiences. Students will explore a range of relevant, interesting and engaging topics which raise awareness of the moral, spiritual and cultural aspects of the past and relate them to the world today. Teaching is strong in History and students are successfully challenged with quality first teaching at the heart of the department. Students learn with interest and are encouraged to question as they navigate through the engaging topics. Expectations of all students are high and as a consequence students thrive.

Key Stage 3

Students are taught in mixed ability groups in Years 7, 8 and 9. The curriculum is designed to investigate and analyse key historical events across countries in the world at different time periods.

The Key Stage 3 History programme focuses on themes such as:

- Empire Building
- Social Changes
- Human Rights
- Conflict
- Power & Monarchy

Students will learn to understand political, economic and social history across years 7-9. We ensure that students are equipped with the knowledge, understanding and skills to successfully navigate GCSE History.

Key Stage 4

History at GCSE follows the *AQA specification*. It allows students to explore the modern world through a case study on Germany (1890-1945) and the Inter-War Years (1919-1939). Students also study the Health and the People of Britain c1000 to the present day, and the Normans (1066-1100). There is a strong focus on change and turning points within the studies with lots of opportunities to practice source evaluation and developed answers.

Sixth Form & Career Opportunities

A Level History is considered by all universities as a serious academic subject and many students who opt for it at GCSE go on to study History at A Level and university. We follow the *AQA specification* with Paper 1 focussing on Germany (1871-1991); Paper 2 focusses on the Making of Modern Britain (1951-2007).

It is a challenging A Level that encompasses political, social and economic factors that are building blocks for equipping students with transferable skills. Students are well prepared for life outside of Cardinal Langley post-18, whether embarking on a degree course at university or an apprenticeship or employment.

Geography

Geography develops a knowledge and understanding of places and environments throughout the world; how people interact with them; an understanding of maps and a range of investigative and problem-solving skills both inside and outside of the classroom.

By studying Geography, students discover societies and cultures, inspiring them to think about their own place in the world, their values and their rights and responsibilities towards other people and the environment.

Key Stage 3

Students are taught in mixed-ability groups in Years 7, 8 and 9. They will learn through a curriculum that has been organised into continents to consider the main aspects of human and physical geography in the context of a variety of locations around the world. We ensure that students leave Key Stage 3 equipped with the knowledge, understanding and skills to enable them to successfully partake in GSCE Geography.

Key Stage 4

Geography is a popular choice at GCSE and follows the *AQA specification*, which allows students to explore how people are involved in the ever-changing world. There is a strong focus on changes caused by natural forces and human processes and the ways in which they interact with each other, making for an intriguing and topical subject.

Sixth Form & Career Opportunities

A Level Geography follows the *AQA Specification* and builds on the foundations from GCSE. Offering both A Level Geography and BTEC Travel & Tourism, we contribute significantly to the development of students as they prepare for adult life and employment, whilst equipping students with skills and attributes that are transferable to many other subject areas. We have prepared many students in the past to go on to use their qualification beyond Cardinal Langley, be it on a Geography degree, an apprenticeship or in employment.





Modern Foreign Languages

The ability to be fluent in a foreign language is both useful for travel opportunities and enhances career prospects. Universities and employers value the skills that an additional language can bring. All students are encouraged to learn a language and come into direct contact with the countries where the languages are spoken.

Key Stage 3

We offer both French and Spanish, with the aim that whichever language is taught in primary school, will continue from Year 7.

As French is currently taught at most partner primary schools, we aim to stretch and challenge students from the start of Year 7, whilst incorporating retrieval practice of content already covered, in order to access prior knowledge and ensure it becomes embedded long term. At the start of Year 7 in Spanish, we utilise the language learning skills gained at primary school and apply these in Spanish lessons to enable pupils to make links and identify similarities between languages as they start learning Spanish for the first time.

In Year 7, students develop the basic language skills across the four key areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing. In Years 8 and 9, they develop and build on the skills acquired to gain a good understanding of key grammatical rules, tenses and cultures where the languages are spoken; to enable them to communicate effectively. French and Spanish lessons during KS3 encourage students to grow in confidence, enjoyment and become more culturally aware when speaking the language they are learning.

Key Stage 4

GCSE French and Spanish offer the opportunity to build on the skills students developed during Key Stage 3. The course is structured in an identical way in both languages, and is designed to give language practice for numerous "real life" situations. Students also develop a good knowledge of the vocabulary and grammar of the language, which are needed for practical communication.

Sixth Form & Career Opportunities

A GCSE in a foreign language is a qualification which is highly regarded by many employers and Further and Higher Education institutions. A good GCSE grade in French or Spanish will allow students to access the A Level courses in languages. Many skills acquired during the A Level course are also highly valued in many other subject areas, and in the world of work. Languages can be combined with almost any other subject area at both A Level and at university. Foreign languages are also considered to be facilitating subjects when applying to Russell Group universities.

Business Studies & Economics

Students all take part in a range of Enterprise activities in Years 7, 8 and 9 which prepare them for GCSE Business Studies which is offered from Year 10.

Key Stage 4

What we do on our GCSE course is to offer you the opportunity to study the real world of business, finding out along the way why businesses exist and what they do to be successful. By the end of the course you will have learnt about lots of different areas to do with business including aspects such as:

- Setting up as a sole trader
- Selling shares
- How you get paid
- Employing other staff
- How businesses go about convincing us to buy the goods and services they sell

So, if you do take our course, the final GCSE grade is achieved through completion of two written examination papers set by the *WJEC* exam board - both of which you will take towards the end of Year 11. Don't worry, you'll get plenty of help and support in preparation for these - it's what we are particularly good at!

Sixth Form & Career Opportunities

Business Studies has been one of the most popular options at GCSE for students at Cardinal Langley for many years. Along with Economics, it is also very popular at A Level, with many of our students going on to university to study it at degree level. GCSE Business Studies would be useful if you are also interested in going on to study or work in areas like Accountancy, Business Management, running your own business, Law, ICT, Retail Management, Leisure Management and the Travel Industry.





Sport & Physical Education

Development of the whole person is one of the key aims at Cardinal Langley, and all students are encouraged to take part in regular physical activity as part of a healthy lifestyle.

Students throughout Years 7 to 9 have two hours of core Physical Education per week, with those in Years 10 and 11 receiving three hours over two week timetable. This is complemented by an extensive extra-curricular programme. The activities offered are designed to stretch students at all levels and are geared towards students remaining involved in sport and physical activity for the rest of their lives.

Core PE aims to maximise student development through participation in a range of physical activities. The course aims to develop physical competence, promote physical development, and reflect the value of participation both at school and throughout life. It aims to develop technical understanding and help establish self esteem through the development of physical confidence. It also helps students cope with both success and failure in competitive and co-operative physical activities.

Key Stage 4

In Year 10 onwards, the core PE curriculum is complemented by optional courses in GCSE Physical Education and vocational sports course Cambridge National in Sports Science. These are available both for students who have an interest and aptitude for sport and for those who would like to further their understanding through taking an academic qualification. Students are expected to be committed to extra-curricular sport and regularly compete for school and local teams.

Sixth Form & Career Opportunities

Students can continue with this subject at A Level or BTEC Level 3. Possible University courses include: Sports Science, Physiotherapy, Sports Development and Sports Coaching.

Extra-curricular Sport

Designed for students who enjoy the competitive element of sport, or who simply want to try a new sport for fun. If you are looking to develop your skills further, or want to try something new, there is a wide range of activities to choose from. The following activities are just some of the sports on offer at Cardinal Langley:

- Football
- Athletics
- Netball
- Table Tennis
- Fitness
- Cricket
- Skiing
- Basketball
- Rounders
- Volleyball
- Badminton
- Rugby
- Gymnastics
- Dance

Clubs and practices take place at lunchtimes and after school. These create opportunities for you to represent the school in local, county and national tournaments and also to make new friendships and develop your skills whilst keeping healthy.

Below are just some of our recent sporting successes from 2025 and 2026:

Football

Year 7: Rochdale Cup and League winners and Catholic Cup finalist. Girls football 5-a-side champions and league winners.

Year 8: Catholic Cup finalists

Year 9: Rochdale Cup and League runners up.

Year 10: Rochdale Cup Winners.

Year 11: Rochdale Cup runners up. Catholic Cup finalists.

Dance: Rochdale Dance Festival Champions and English Schools north round finalists

Netball:

Year 7: Rochdale Schools League Winners, B Team - Plate Winners

Year 8: Rochdale Schools League Winners.

Year 9: Rochdale league finalists

Year 10: A Team - Rochdale Schools Cup Runners-up, B Team - Plate Winners

Year 11: Rochdale Schools Cup Winners

Athletics: English schools north west round finalists. Rochdale Schools Athletics Champions 2025.

Gaelic Football: U13's National Cup Winners

In addition to these successes, Cardinal Langley's PE department was recently awarded a Gold School Games Mark Award.





Social Sciences

Key Stage 4

Students who are interested in going into the caring professions have the opportunity in Key Stage 4 to study for a *BTEC Level 2 Tech Award in Health & Social Care*, which is equivalent to one GCSE. Health and Social Care includes three components: Human Lifespan Development, Health & Social Care Services, and Health & Wellbeing. Two of these components are internal examinations in the form of two controlled assessments, and one component is assessed by an external examination. The qualification recognises the value of learning skills, knowledge and vocational attributes to complement other GCSEs. Health and Social Care has been developed to provide a broad educational basis for further training, Further Education or for moving into appropriate employment with the health and social care sectors.

Sixth Form & Career Opportunities

Social Science subjects are a popular choice with students in the Sixth Form and are sought-after qualifications for university entry or employment. The Faculty offers the following courses in the Sixth Form:

- BTEC Level 3 in Health and Social Care
- A Level Psychology
- Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology

The BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care qualifies for UCAS points and is the equivalent to one A Level subject. It could be the basis of a degree or BTEC Higher National Diploma in a related subject. With further training and study, students go into careers such as Nursing, Paramedical Work, Social Work, Midwifery and Residential Care Management.

Psychology is the study of human thoughts and behaviour. The A Level course will give you an insight into being able to understand the behaviours of yourself and others. If you are interested in finding out about human behaviour or how the brain / mind works, then Psychology could be for you. Entirely exam-based, Psychology offers an exciting and engaging curriculum which is beneficial for future study and human interactions for the rest of your life.

Criminology is an Applied General qualification that qualifies for UCAS points and is the equivalent to one A Level subject. The *WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology* is assessed using a combination of internal and external assessments. Criminology is the study of crime from a social perspective: the causes of crime, the social impact of crime, and the criminals involved in the crime. This is a growing subject nationally and the first Criminology course offered at Level 3. Criminology is rooted in the field of sociology but also incorporates relevant aspects of psychology and law. Learners will study all aspects of criminality from explanations and theories of offending through to the Criminal Justice System and the role of agencies of social control. The qualification allows learners to gain the understanding and skills to be able to consider employment within the Criminal Justice System, Law or Police Force, the National Probation Service, the Courts and Tribunals Service. Criminology is an increasingly popular university course and the Level 3 Diploma will provide a solid foundation for Higher Education.

Life Skills

Throughout Key Stage 3 and 4, students will study Life Skills as their safeguarding curriculum which will help prepare them for the challenges they will face during their teenage years and beyond. The study of Life Skills complements the other subject areas in school, helping our students maximise their potential and live their life to the fullest.

Key Stage 3

In Years 7, 8 and 9, students are introduced to a wide variety of issues which teenagers face, with lessons covering the following overarching topics:

- Introduction to Life Skills
- Sex, Sexuality & Sexual Health
- Healthy Lifestyle
- Communities
- Growing Up
- Alcohol, Tobacco & other Drugs
- Risk & Safety
- Planning for the Future
- Relationships
- Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health
- Identity
- Money and Me

Key Stage 4

In Year 10, students are introduced to further issues which teenagers face, with lessons covering the following overarching topics:

- Relationships
- Healthy Lifestyle
- Identity
- Finance
- Sex, Sexuality & Sexual Health
- Risk & Safety
- Communities
- Business & Enterprise
- Alcohol, Tobacco & other Drugs
- Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health
- Planning for the Future

Careers Education

Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) at Cardinal Langley helps ensure that all young people can make informed choices about their future. Cardinal Langley works to meet the 8 Gatsby Benchmarks of Good Career Guidance:

1. A stable careers programme
2. Learning from career and labour market information
3. Addressing the needs of each pupil
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experiences of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance

Cardinal Langley does this through a planned programme of Careers Education as well as working closely with other education and training providers to ensure that all students have an understanding of the different post-16 pathways and providers available.

The Careers Education is complemented by the work of our dedicated Careers Adviser who works closely with students making crucial decisions about their future. Students explore the opportunities on offer at our in-house Careers Fair where they can find out about post-16 options available to them.



Sixth Form

At Cardinal Langley, we pride ourselves on providing excellent academic and pastoral support throughout your child's five-year journey but also in our highly successful and well-equipped Sixth Form college. Many of our students choose to continue their studies in Years 12 and 13 at our Sixth Form, completing a range of academic and applied general subjects.

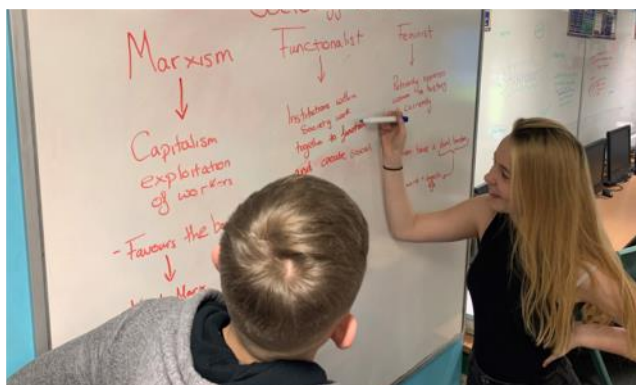
Mr Greaves (Head of Sixth Form) and Mr Gillespie (Assistant Head of Sixth Form) are expertly supported by a team of experienced and dedicated teachers, form tutors, and pastoral staff, including Mrs Farrell, our Sixth Form Ambassador. As students progress to our Sixth Form, they will have already established strong working relationships with these staff members, ensuring they receive personalised study recommendations and support, enabling them to thrive and succeed.

Students at Cardinal Langley RC Sixth Form excel in their A Level and Applied General courses. Many of our students go on to study at Oxbridge and Russell Group Universities or secure higher-level apprenticeships with some of the UK's largest organisations. Some of our 2025 results are below:

- 100% pass rate at A Level, with an average grade per entry of a B
- 42% achieving A* to B at A Level
- 68% achieving Distinction / Distinction* in vocational subjects
- 100% of the cohort went on to university, an apprenticeship provider or employment

We are proud of all of our students, and believe we offer a wide range of subjects for all students to enjoy and succeed in. Additionally, we provide a substantial enrichment programme that includes preparation for students' next steps, alongside many other opportunities such as charitable work, the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award, sports teams, and various educational visits.

If you would like to find out more information about what our Sixth Form has to offer, and hear from teachers and current pupils, we will be holding a Sixth Form Open Evening in the Autumn term of 2026. For further information, please see our Sixth Form website. <https://sixth.clrchs.co.uk/>





Notes...

Cardinal Langley RC High School Mission Statement

I have come that they may have life and have it to the full. John 10:10

Living the values of:
love, respect,
forgiveness,
compassion, honesty,
fairness and
responsibility, so that
all feel safe and
valued.

Promoting high
expectations and
excellence in academic
achievement and in
everything we do, we
see it as our duty to
care and support one
another.

Striving to recognise,
value and respect the
needs of all, so that
they may take their
place in modern society,
acting justly, living
hardship and making
humblely with faith.

Inspiring others with
the word of God, so
that they may
share with others
the joy of living
in a Christian
community.

Developing
personal skills
and talents
to enable
students to
contribute
to society.

Business Studies

Cardinal Langley RC High School

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"I have come that they may have life to the full" - John 10:10