



St Alban's

Catholic Primary and Nursery School

Member of St Clare's Catholic Multi Academy Trust, Diocese of Hallam

Let God's love shine in our lives as we grow and learn together

Our Distinctively Catholic Curriculum - How are our subjects sacred?

How is English a sacred subject?

Through the study of English, we enable our pupils to discover the multi-faceted beauty of communication, understanding, and exploration of relationships with themselves, each other, and the mysterious nature of God's world; to recognise that language plays a fundamental role in the growth of our identity and self-image, leading to human flourishing which transcends limitations and barriers. Exposure to a rich variety of literature and the development of high-level literacy skills gives them the tools to participate as a global citizen.

How is Art a sacred subject?

Art is a spiritual encounter exposing the learner to a profound level of communication and expression which transcends the spoken word, it offers the artist and the observer the opportunity to transcend the here and now. Through artistic expression the learner is enabled to comment on profound social issues and spiritual experiences offering a window into God's divine creation. Art, incorporating a wide variety of craft and design embodies some of the highest forms of human creativity.

How is Computing a sacred subject?

Computer science opens up for the learners the possibility of being key influencers and transformational leaders at a local, national and global level.

The development of computational thinking and operational skills calls for the formation of learners who prioritise the importance of justice, equality, truth and the common good of all people at a global level.

How is Design Technology a sacred subject?

Design Technology incorporates innovative creativity and risk-taking leading to a high level of resourcefulness enabling learners to become channels of divine inspiration. Design Technology calls forth imagination, resourcefulness, and creativity whilst drawing on a wide variety of complementary disciplines. Design Technology challenges students to engage with issues of inclusion, stewardship, the dignity of the human person and ecology.

How is Geography a sacred subject?

Geography enables all learners to experience the beauty, awe and wonder of God's world and to develop an awareness of their place in it. All places and spaces have a history behind them shaped by humans, location, climate, and politics. Geography gives us a spatial awareness of the globe and serves to form respectful attitudes that serve to remind students that we are stewards and not masters of creation. Theological influences help to shape the cosmological understandings of the world as we recognize that we are a global community with a global interdependence, accountability, and responsibility for the common good of all people. Our Stewardship must reflect our understanding that the planet is our irreplaceable home.

How is History a sacred subject?

History encourages all learners to discover the truth of the past and to have a deep

understanding of the present, which in turn will enable them to make informed and wise decisions for creating a better future. History helps students find their place in the story of humankind. Students are helped to develop critical thinking skills as they delve into the rich variety of available sources. Learning to analyse and critique information and data encourages the ability to discern facts and reach conclusions, matching evidence with truth. Learning from the past helps to facilitate a better future for the common good of all God's people .

How is Maths a sacred subject?

The ultimate purpose of Maths is the pursuit of truth. The thinking skills inherent in the maths curriculum should inspire and enable learners to be innovative, creative, critical and analytical learners. Exploring the beauty of mathematics enables all learners to engage with the transcendent dimensions of life, freeing them to be pioneers, trailblazers and the inventors needed today and in the future. The real-world context comes first, and the theory comes second.

How is MFL a sacred subject?

The sacred endeavour of Modern Foreign Languages enables pupils to appreciate and learn from the diversity and richness of other cultures. MFL provides a unique opportunity to bring about communication, inclusion, reconciliation, peace and understanding and the beauty of diversity and unity of all God's family.

How is Music a sacred subject?

The universal language of Music embodies and gives expression to one of the highest forms of creativity and communication. The transformational power of music offers all learners a channel to discover their God-given talents. Music endeavours to enable pupils to give expression to the heights and the depths of their emotions, hopes and longings and may transcend the limitations found in other forms of communication.

How is PE a sacred subject?

PE enables children to unleash their full potential, both spiritual and physical, so that they transcend the limitations of the human body. PE provides a unique opportunity for students to recognise and appreciate the need for relationships based on trust and interdependence. It promotes the sanctity of life - the appreciation of the beauty, dignity and reverence of the human person made in the image and likeness of God.

How is Science a sacred subject?

Science enables us to plummet the mysteries of the mind of the Creator of the universe and inform our world view through a deeper understanding of the inter-connectedness of all levels of creation. Scientific exploration and discovery help students to recognise their potential and responsibility through the development of humility and the dependence on their ability to discern how to make the right choices. Science encourages students to respond to the big questions of the purpose and meaning of life as it works in collaboration with other disciplines within the curriculum.

How are communication and drama sacred subjects?

The performing Arts call forth creativity, empathy, good communication and leadership. Engaging with performing arts enables the student to see the world through a variety of different lenses engaging with the big questions of purpose and meaning in life. Self esteem and thinking skills are enhanced so that the student grows in their ability to recognise their own giftedness and potential as someone who has been created for a definite purpose and can challenge and change situations of injustice, discrimination, marginalisation, and poverty in all its guises. Performing arts

seeks to show students how to improve the quality of life and develop a sense of community pride and hope for the future. Performing arts celebrates diversity through the promotion and understanding of other people and different ways of life. Performing arts celebrate spiritual and cultural heritage.