

Sixth Form

The Cambridge school for girls

Independent day and boarding school

stmaryscambridge.co.uk/sixth-form

Your new home: St Mary's Sixth

No.2 Brookside is our dedicated Sixth Form home. Designed to support independent study, it is also a social hub for busy Sixth Form life.

Located just ten minutes from the station and Cambridge city centre, No.2 Brookside offers:

- Dedicated classrooms
- Silent study space
- Social study space
- Careers and Higher Education advice suite
- Spacious common room
- Kitchen facilities
- Gym and weights room
- A large private garden
- On-hand support from our Sixth Form teaching team



Rebecca Landshoff Head of Sixth

Welcome to St Mary's Sixth

Choosing the right Sixth Form is a significant step. While A Level results matter, these two years are about more than just grades. It's a time to grow in independence, develop your self-confidence, and prepare for the future ahead.

At St Mary's, we offer a Sixth Form experience that will empower you to face the world with confidence whether your next step is university, a career, or life's many adventures. You'll benefit from the dedicated support of our subject teachers, who are committed to helping you achieve your full potential.

This is a place where real friendships flourish, and life in the Sixth Form is filled with laughter, discovery, and unforgettable moments.

I warmly encourage you to visit us and see for yourself why St Mary's is the perfect place for you.

Visit St Mary's Sixth

Our Open Events and tours offer the perfect opportunity to explore our unique Sixth Form first hand.



"Receiving my offer from Oxford was amazing! I was so shocked but am so delighted. I am so grateful for my time at St Mary's - all my teachers were so dedicated and passionate about their subject, and everyone pushes you to achieve your potential, whilst being kind and encouraging above all." Amelie A.

This is where you will discover who you are, and who you want to become

From our prestigious Cambridge location to our outstanding academic results, St Mary's offers an experience like no other. Here, young women are not only educated - they are empowered, uplifted, and inspired to reach beyond what they thought possible.

Independence In a school that champions the growth of young women, your intellectual and personal independence will flourish. You will be surrounded with leaders, bold thinkers, and confident young women – just like you.

Unlock your potential With dedicated teachers who are passionate about your success, you will be encouraged to pursue your dreams with confidence, courage, and creativity.

Reach for excellence At St Mary's, there are no glass ceilings. In 2024, **72%** of our A Level students secured their first-choice university.

A sisterhood that cares When you join St Mary's, you become part of a supportive, inclusive community guided by our HEART habits: Hard Work, Empathy, Adaptability, Responsibility and Thoughtfulness.







Destination universities and courses '24

Each year, we are proud to see our students follow their own unique paths, choosing courses that match their ambitions and interests in a variety of fields.

What is the path you want to take? Maybe you will be inspired by one of our alumnae, or perhaps you will be daring enough to create your own journey.

Here are some of the excellent courses and destinations from our Class of 2024 - what could your future look like?

| Destinations | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Anglia Ruskin University | University of Cambridge |
| Apprenticeship in Law at Shoosmiths | University of Durham |
| Bournemouth | University of East Anglia (UEA) |
| Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London | University of Essex |
| Imperial College London | University of Exeter |
| King's College London, University of London | University of Hertfordshire |
| Lancaster University | University of Leeds |
| Leeds Art University | University of Nottingham |
| Norwich University of Arts | University of Oxford |
| Oxford Brookes University | University of Reading |
| Plymouth University | University of Southampton |
| Royal Holloway, University of London | University of the Arts, London |
| University College London (UCL) | University of York |
| University of Brighton | |

| Courses | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Accounting and Finance | Marketing Management |
| Biochemistry | Maths |
| Biology | Medicine |
| Biomedical Science | Pharmacology and Drug Discovery |
| Creative Writing | Photography |
| Environment, Economics and Ecology | Psychology |
| Film and Media | Social Policy, Sociology and Crime |
| Forensic Science | Sociology and Criminology |
| Geography | Sports Therapy |
| History | Textile Design |
| History of Art | Theology and Philosophy of Religion |
| Law | Therapeutic Radiography |
| Liberal Arts | Visual Arts and Film |

A personalised path to success

In our small classes, you will receive personalised academic support from teachers dedicated to helping you reach your full potential. Our future skills and guidance teaching encourages discussion and independent thinking, preparing you for university and beyond. As you advance, you'll have the freedom to deepen your knowledge through self-study and exploration.

Most students study three A Levels, excelling across disciplines from humanities and languages to creative arts and STEM.

A Levels+

Beyond A Levels, you'll have opportunities to expand your skills through the Extended Project Qualification, additional GCSEs in languages, leadership experiences, our Philosophy, Ethics and Religion course, and a variety of enrichment activities

Digital Sixth Form

You'll receive access to our online learning platform, allowing for independent and flexible study. Use it to collaborate, receive personalised teacher feedback, and enhance your learning.

Academic Scholars' Programme

Students are offered opportunities to push their learning, including cross-curricular days, mentoring others, leading workshops, and STEM outreach.





Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Completing an EPQ allows you to enhance your creative thinking, resilience, and independent research skills, while earning up to 70 UCAS points. You'll have the freedom to explore a topic of your choice and produce one of the following:

- A research-based written report
- A production (e.g. charity event, sports event, fashion show)
- An artefact (e.g. artwork, composed music, computer game)



"The environment, teachers, culture, and everything about St Mary's was the right fit for me and gave me the confidence to pursue the studies and career I wanted to, even when it felt very distant or out of reach – and I met my best friends there." Jenifer E.

Enriching your Sixth Form journey

You have the power to tailor your Sixth experience to suit you with enrichment opportunities that match your passions and goals.

Inspiring Cambridge

Benefit from Cambridge's unique resources, with guest speakers, lectures, and exhibitions enhancing your A Level studies.

Learn beyond the classroom

Expand your learning on trips to places like Rome, Amsterdam, and Iceland, while taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and annual Lourdes trips. Local experiences include theatre visits, STEM competitions, and field trips.

Track your progress with an E-journal

Document your academic growth through an E-journal, showcasing activities like trips and enrichment experiences.

"At St Mary's we believe in the power of integrity, community and empathy in order to maximise each students' personal growth, and as head girl I strive to work with the entire student body to make the school into a place where everyone is heard, valued and supported."

Cecilia V-F. Head Girl

Personalised tutoring, pastoral care, and life skills

Tutor groups

Our small tutor groups provide you with personalised support, giving you regular one-on-one time with your tutor, who will get to know you personally and help you stay on track to achieve your goals.

Tutorial programme

Every two weeks, you'll dive into a range of practical and relevant topics that will equip you for life beyond school. These sessions cover everything from

career planning and revision techniques to building self-esteem, overcoming procrastination, exploring gap year options, digital safety, financial literacy, and even the importance of sleep. Each topic is designed to help you grow and succeed both academically and personally.

Holistic support for your growth

Your wellbeing is a priority at St Mary's. We're here to help

you find a healthy study/life balance with support from your tutor, subject teachers, and pastoral care team, including access to nurses and a

Whether it's yoga, working out in our on-site gym, or participating in competitive sports, we offer a range of activities to keep you active, no matter your ability or interest. Life in the Sixth Form is also filled

with co-curricular activities, social events, trips abroad, and fundraisers—perfect for building friendships, creating memories, and exploring new opportunities.

Support when you need it

Transitioning to A Levels can be challenging, but you'll have regular checkins with your tutor to review progress and work towards your goals. Subject teachers provide engaging tasks to enhance self-study, deepen knowledge, and support you beyond lessons. Our Learning Support team is also available to offer additional guidance when needed, ensuring you reach your full potential.



93% of girls' school graduates say they were offered greater leadership opportunities than their peers at co-ed schools.

Goodman Research Group

HEART-led leadership

We believe in supporting the potential of every girl to make a meaningful impact on the world, just as our visionary founder, Mary Ward, did. She championed the strength and brilliance of women, believing deeply in education, justice, and the power of women to change the world. Inspired by her legacy, we continue to uphold our **HEART values - Hard Work, Empathy, Adaptability,** Responsibility, and Thoughtfulness so that you will be equipped to challenge the status guo and shape a future where women lead with purpose.



Many of our students participate in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. an internationally recognised programme that builds independence and responsibility. With a high completion rate, our Sixth Formers serve as Ambassadors. inspiring younger participants across Cambridgeshire.

Whether you are pursuing the Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award, you'll grow in confidence and leadership.

We are involved in the Cambridgeshire Student Forum for the first time this year and we are proud to be hosting the summit this winter

Leading the way in sustainability

St Marv's is also home to the Environment Action Group (EAG). where girls take the lead in promoting sustainability and biodiversity. Through initiatives like the weekly 'ways to eco-engage.' you will tackle critical issues such as fast fashion. climate change, and microplastics.

Leadership, responsibility, and making your mark

As you grow more independent in the Sixth Form, you'll take on greater responsibility-not just in your studies, but in shaping the wider school community. Leadership at St Marv's is about leading with compassion, kindness, and the confidence to inspire others.



Leading by example

Take on roles like Head Girl, prefect, or captain in Music or Games, and help shape school life through community outreach and event planning. As a leader, you'll embody our values and inspire younger students.

Student voice and initiative

Join the School Council to engage in decision-making that impacts the whole school. Or, take the initiative by creating a club or societyprevious student-led projects have included the MedVet Society and clubs for Drama, Music, and Politics.

Enterprise and innovation

If business is your passion, participate in the Student Investor Challenge or School Enterprise Challenge, and for aspiring accountants, the 'BASE' competition offers practical experience in the world of finance.

Becoming a mentor and role model

Through our mentoring scheme, you'll guide a younger student, developing key skills in empathy and leadership that will serve you well in future careers and life as a responsible citizen.







"The School has brought out the best in me and motivated me to excel in my passions. St Mary's recognised my potential and provided numerous opportunities for me to pursue my objectives, such as volunteering at art scholars' meetings and collaborating with the drama department for my EPQ."

Sara I-U.

Your future starts here

Your journey to success begins now, and we hope it starts with us. With countless opportunities to explore, develop, and shine, we are here to help you create a future that is uniquely yours. From expert careers guidance to hands-on experience, we will give you everything you need to dream big, aim high, and achieve more than you ever thought possible.

Tailored careers advice for your aspirations

Your future is limitless, and our Careers
Department is
dedicated to helping
you unlock it. With
personalised advice,
exclusive resources,
and connections to
leading universities,
specialist colleges, and
top apprenticeship
schemes, you will have
the guidance and
support to confidently
navigate your path.

Whether it is building a standout CV, finding your passion, or acing interviews, we will ensure you are prepared to take on the world

Real-world experience with top organisations

We believe in learning by doing. You will gain invaluable experience with work placements that match your ambitions, from dynamic start-ups to world-renowned organisations like
Addenbrooke's
Hospital, BBC Radio,
Microsoft Research,
and the University of
Cambridge. Imagine
yourself working
alongside industry
leaders—these
experiences will give
you the edge and
insight to stand out
wherever you go next.

University preparation that sets you apart

Your university journey is important

to us. During our Year 12 UCAS Day, we will equip you with the knowledge and skills to choose the right course and craft a personal statement that truly reflects your potential. With ongoing support from your tutor and subject teachers, you will feel confident to take the next step toward your dream career

With a proven track record of securing places at top UK and international universities, conservatoires, and art schools, we know how to help you get where you want to go.

Your journey as a confident, capable young woman starts here. Where will it take you?



Alumnae network across **63 countries** from Albania to Zimbabwe

A global sisterhood for life

Leaving St Mary's isn't the end of your journey – it is simply the next chapter. Once you become an alumna and a member of our alumnae network, Pastonians Connect, you will join a global community of supportive learners, professionals, and friends spanning 63 countries.

Through special events, reunions, and opportunities to give back, you will remain an integral part of the St Mary's family. As one of over 4,000 St Mary's alumnae, you will stay connected with old friends, forge new relationships, and build a powerful network of women who share your values and ambitions.







A Level results 2024

25% of grades at A*

52% of grades at A* - A

74% of grades at A* - B

89% of grades at A* - C

A Level courses for 2025-27

The Arts

Fine Art

Explore the world through visual, tactile, and sensory experiences, while developing your skills with traditional and contemporary media.



Photography

Explore how photographers convey ideas and feelings while honing your skills in darkroom, film, and digital techniques to create impactful work.



Textile Design

Unleash your creativity through weaving, embroidery, knitting, printing, painting, embellishment, and construction techniques.



Drama and Theatre Studies

Explore innovative theatre from Frantic Assembly and Shared Experience while creating an original piece that showcases your skills in performance or design.



Music

Choose this dynamic course to study iconic music like Hitchcock's *Psycho* and compose your own symphony. Develop skills in performing, composing, listening, and analysis at A Level.





STEM

Biology

Unlock the mysteries of life by exploring key biology concepts, while building problem-solving, mathematical, and practical skills across topics like disease, biodiversity, genetics, and ecosystems.



Physics

Explore the universe from quarks to stars while studying mechanics, electricity, and waves, building your analytical and problem-solving skills.



Chemistry

Chemistry is essential to life and solving global challenges. Choose A Level Chemistry to develop practical, analytical, and problem-solving skills.



A Level courses for 2025-27

STEM

Mathematics and Further Mathematics

Develop problem-solving, analytical, and research skills. This course blends abstract concepts like calculus and algebra with real-world applications in statistics and mechanics.



Computer Science

Use creativity, innovation, and analysis to tackle complex real-world challenges through computer science. Explore logic, algorithms, abstraction, and coding as you learn to make problems 'computable' in this engaging course.



Languages

Chinese

This course is an additional option for native Chinese speakers, focusing on Chinese language, culture, and practical language and study skills.



Classical Greek

Explore Ancient Greece through works by Herodotus, Plato, Homer, and Euripides, while developing language skills and expanding your vocabulary.



French

Explore topics like technology, multiculturalism, crime, and music while developing your French language skills. An Independent Research Project also prepares you for higher education.



German

From the Berlin Wall to German film, literature, festivals, and architecture, this course offers exciting ways to develop your German language skills.



Latin

Step into the ancient world, building language skills through Cicero's politics and Virgil's *Aeneid*, exploring themes of heroism, war, and justice.



Spanish

Immerse yourself in the Hispanic world by exploring its art, music, politics, history, and more, while honing your reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills.







A Level courses for 2025-27

Humanities and Science

Business

What makes a leader or entrepreneur? Why are people loyal to Apple? Why do ads appear at the right time? Whether you want to lead or innovate, this course is for you.



Classical Civilisation

Explore ancient Greece and Rome through translated works, while developing critical thinking on themes like heroism, war, justice, love, and the role of the gods.



Economics

Why has a Freddo gone from 10p to 30p? What drives unnecessary purchases? Is technology a risk or opportunity? In today's fast-paced world, there's no better time to study Economics.



English Literature

Love reading and debating? Explore the thoughts of history's greatest minds on love, happiness, madness, pain, God, and the meaning of life.



Geography

If you want to understand our planet and help secure its future, Geography provides the knowledge and skills to make a difference. You'll explore human and physical topics while developing research, critical thinking, and practical skills.



History

Develop critical thinking as you explore the Cold War, the Tudors' impact on UK politics, and the US Civil Rights movement, examining struggles for equality.



Psychology

Explore your thinking, memory, social influence, mental health, and psychological disorders, diving into topics like gender, schizophrenia, and forensic psychology.



Religious Studies

Deepen your understanding of religion, philosophy, and ethics by exploring topics like God's existence, free will, ethical debates, and religious thought on wealth, equality, and more.



Sociology

Explore how society functions by analysing how gender, race, class, age, and belief systems shape opportunities and behaviour.



Other

Physical Education

A Level Physical Education offers insight into the scientific, psychological, and social aspects of sport, enhancing both your knowledge and performance.



Leiths Level 3 Extended Certificate in Professional Cookery

Gain essential skills with this professional qualification from the UK's top cookery school. Master techniques, time management, menu planning, food presentation, and more, preparing for a dynamic career in the food industry.







"As a regular flexi-boarder, we feel she has got the "best of both worlds". She has enjoyed ready companionship with other boarders and a sense of community. At the same time, she has had access to the familiarity and comfort of home ..."

Flexible boarding options to suit your family life

Boarding at St Mary's provides not only a welcoming, vibrant community but also extended academic guidance to support your learning journey and independence. With access to additional study time and tailored academic support, you will have the resources you need to excel both inside and outside the classroom.

We offer a range of flexible boarding options to suit both you and your family's needs:

- Full-time boarding: Student live at school throughout the term, returning home for half terms and holidays.
- Weekly boarding: Students can enjoy school during the week, returning home on weekends

- and rejoining on Sunday evening or Monday morning.
- Flexi-boarding:
 Whether it's an
 occasional night, a
 regular evening each
 week, or several
 weeks at a time, this
 option offers flexibility
 for busy schedules.

In our boarding community, girls form a new sense of independence, guided by a caring and dedicated team. Alongside their academic growth, boarders take part in a variety of enriching activities across Cambridge—punting on the River Cam, attending Evensong at King's College, enjoying cream teas, and exploring the city's historic and cultural sites

Applying to St Mary's

1. Visit us

We warmly invite you to arrange a **personal visit** or to attend an **open event**, to understand more about life at St Mary's and to meet our leadership team, staff and students.

2. Apply for a place
To apply, simply complete
our online application form at
stmaryscambridge.co.uk/apply
and return it to our admissions team.

Contact us with any questions you may have on +44 (0)1223 224 167 or at admissions@ stmaryscambridge.co.uk

3. Assessment

If you are taking GCSE/iGCSE courses, we will offer a Sixth Form place based on your predicted grades. Alternatively, you will take a written assessment for each of your selected A Level subjects and attend an interview in person or via Zoom with a member of

our Senior Leadership Team. We will also request a reference from your current school.

Next steps

Arrange your personal visit or to attend an open event stmaryscambridge.co.uk/visit or call +44 (0)1223 224 167

Scholarships:

stmaryscambridge.co.uk/scholarships

Bursaries:

stmaryscambridge.co.uk/bursaries

Admissions FAQs:

stmaryscambridge.co.uk/admissionsfaq

Assessment and sample papers: stmaryscambridge.co.uk/

assessment

Fees:

stmaryscambridge.co.uk/fees

Application deadlines:

stmaryscambridge.co.uk/application

Joining our Sixth Form

We welcome girls with a broad range of academic abilities, who are enthusiastic and have a desire to engage in learning.

We accept applications to Year 12 (Lower Sixth) all year-round.

Find out how to apply at: stmaryscambridge.co.uk/joinus +44 (0)1223 224 167 admissions@stmaryscambridge.co.uk

Open Event

Book an open event or arrange a personal visit today:

stmaryscambridge.co.uk/visit or call +44 (0)1223 224 167





ADMISSIONS

St Mary's School

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