



Open Evening Letter



28th September 2015

Dear Parent/Carer,

A very warm welcome to the Community that is St Damian's!

Open Evening Monday 28th September 2015

As a parent myself, I realise that choosing the right secondary school for your child is a very important and often difficult decision. On behalf of the governors and staff, I warmly welcome you to tonight's Open Evening and to see for yourself the impressive building and all its facilities. These really make for an environment that is calm, safe, purposeful and conducive to learning.

However, it is not the building itself that makes St Damian's special but the outstanding staff, both teaching and support, and Governors, who are committed to ensuring that your child is cared for, supported and encouraged to achieve their potential. We really are a caring Community where *every* child really does matter.

This year we achieved **record** academic outcomes with 79% of our pupils achieving at least five A*- C grades, including English and Maths. On this measure we were the **TOP** performing school in Tameside! Our core subjects achieved record results; RE was 83%, English Language 82%, Maths 90% and 91% of our pupils achieved at least one GCSE in Science. These results are quite simply outstanding. Furthermore in both our non-core and vocational subjects the outcomes were brilliant with many records being broken in a range of subjects. Additionally, our Ofsted report, March 2014, vindicated our collective belief that it is only a matter of time before we 'officially' become outstanding! I say 'official' as many aspects of our school are already outstanding! I hope that you read the report and the above results and agree that this is a school with ambitions; these ambitions are for the children of the school. **Watch this space as nothing is impossible for the St Damian's Community!**

Since my appointment, I have been relentless in the pursuit of excellence and I, along with my Leadership team and teaching staff are determined to raise the standards and aspirations of ALL our children. I have the highest expectations of all pupils in terms of work, uniform and behaviour and I am absolutely delighted with the school's development and progress over the recent past. The school is inundated with requests for places, reflecting the confidence in St Damian's.

I am really excited at the prospects that lie ahead. St Damian's has momentum and there is NO limit to what we can achieve. Without exception, every visitor tells me that the school not only has a welcoming and calm feel but also a purpose and focus on learning and teaching. They notice that pupils and staff have a clear sense of pride in being part of the St Damian's Community.

Apart from this evening there will also be two open mornings where I will tour prospective parents around the school. These are by appointment only and will take place on; Wednesday 8th October and Wednesday 15th October at 9:30am, please contact my PA, Mrs Biggs (0161 331 4752) if you would like to attend.

Finally, I am a Head Teacher that believes great schools have children at their heart. As such I believe ***"that if this school isn't good enough for my children, then it isn't good enough for yours"***. As a parent myself, I can say with a resounding YES that I would be extremely proud to send my two children to St Damian's: the staff here really are exceptional and I am very proud, and privileged, to be Head Teacher of such great pupils and staff.

My staff and I look forward to meeting you tonight and will be delighted to answer any questions you may have.

Yours sincerely

Sheldon Logue
Headteacher



Schools Curriculum Award



