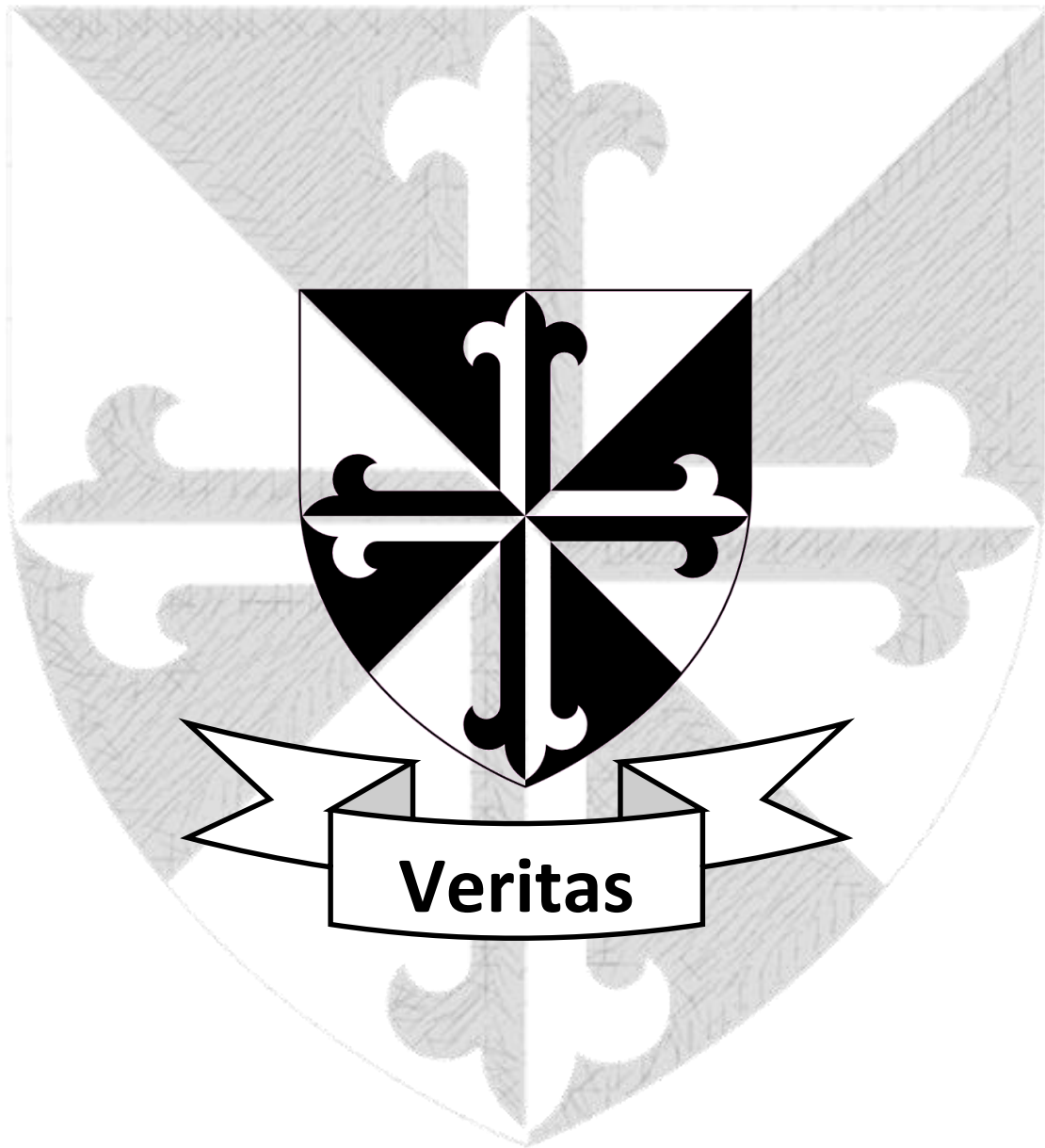


Saint Dominic's College Wanganui



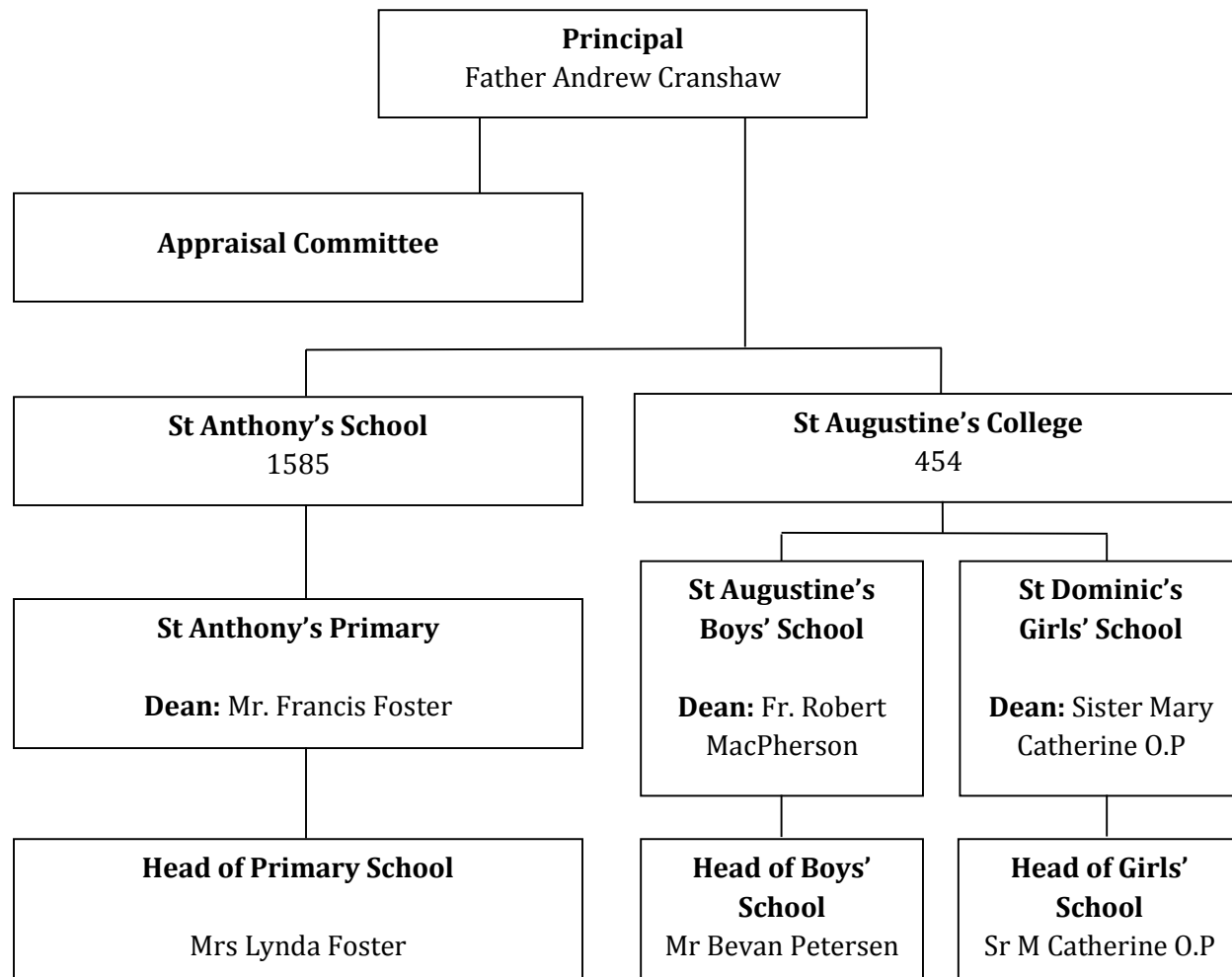
College Prospectus

A Traditional Catholic Girls High School owned and operated by
The Priestly Society of Saint Pius X

COLLEGE INFORMATION

ST DOMINIC'S COLLEGE
12B York Street
PO BOX 7123

Ph: (06) 344 3814 (School office)
Fax: (06) 344 2087
Email: stanthony@spx.com WANGANUI



St Dominic's Girls owned and operated by the International Priestly Society of Saint Pius X. It is a private Catholic College for the purpose protecting the freedom and purity of Catholic education. It operated in conjunction with St Anthony's Primary and St Augustine's Boys.

Dear Parents/caregivers,

I am delighted to know that you are considering enrolling your child in our school. I hope that this booklet will provide some of the information you require in order to make an informed decision.

Our school is one of many schools run by the priests of the Society of St Pius X throughout the world. We are the only fully Traditional Catholic school in New Zealand and very blessed to have both priests and Dominican teaching Sisters as well as a full body of Catholic lay teachers on the staff. We are wholly dedicated to offering our children the very best of education and Catholic Tradition.

Our school is centred on Christ and the family. We work closely with Christian families and parents/caregivers to ensure the best possible outcomes for our students. We require of all families attending the school that they be willing to practice and promote the Catholic faith at home as much we do at school. The unity between home and school practices is part of the holistic approach to Traditional Catholic Education that has produced such great achievers of all ages, and which will continue to do so.

If you need to know more, and wish to see the School in progress, you are most welcome to contact us to arrange a visit to the school. It would be our pleasure to show you around, because we are very proud of our School, its spirit, its staff and its achievements; the result of hard work, faith in Christ, prayer, and full dedication to authentic Catholic education.

As you can see, we place great emphasis on our Catholic character and the establishing of good relationships between staff, children, home and school. Working together we can build upon these relationships to promote our children's learning in a challenging, happy, industrious and truly authentic Catholic environment.

Sincerely yours in Christ and his most blessed Mother,



Fr Andrew Cranshaw
Principal



MISSION, PRINCIPLES, VALUES

SCHOOL'S MISSION

To offer a thoroughly Catholic education, in fidelity to the Tradition of the Church, to the children of Traditional Catholic families who share our principles; so that the whole person may be submitted to the reign of Christ the King.

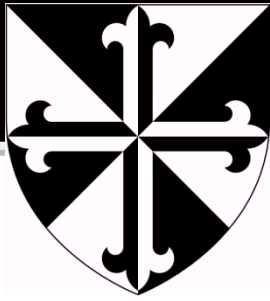
According to the Dominican tradition, this education will first of all so teach the truths of Faith as to develop the spiritual life of the pupils, a life of Faith, Hope and Charity, with all the moral virtues. It will prepare the Catholics of the future, strong in the Faith, ready to promote and defend the Faith for the extension of the Kingdom of God, who will be the leaven of New Zealand society (Mt 13:33), leading their fellow citizens to the Church and eternal life with the Charity of Christ who came “not to condemn but to save” (Jn 3:17). Enkindling the ambition of perfect holiness in their heart, it will foster vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

This education will also provide a complete and well-balanced formation in all spheres of the pupil's life, not only spiritual but also intellectual, moral, social and physical, all penetrated by the light of Faith and proper Thomistic philosophy.

This education will aim at academic excellence, helping each pupil to reach his full potential according to his own talents. It will provide a general education in English, Math, Languages, History, Sciences, Arts, Physical education, etc... teaching the eternal truths, even at the natural level, which offer a solid anchor in a changing world. It will give an appreciation of culture, worthy ideals, love of the truth, the beautiful and the good, refinement of taste, nobility of heart and sympathy with national traditions.

This education will form the character and the will: perseverance and resilience, sense of order and of responsibility, self-control and prudence, social skills and respect, good manners and affability.





SCHOOL'S PRINCIPLES

According to the Papirectives, the specific and immediate purpose of Catholic education is to operate with divine grace in forming the true and perfect Christian, to form Christ Himself (Gal. 4:19) in those who have been regenerated by Baptism... Therefore its education embraces the whole sum-total of man's activity, sensible and spiritual, intellectual and moral, individual, domestic, and social... to ennoble that activity, guide it, and perfect it according to the example and teaching of Jesus Christ. It so prepares the pupils for what they must be in this mortal life that they will be able to reach their last end for which their Creator has destined them. For this purpose, at St Augustine's the whole of the training and teaching, the whole organisation of the school is so impregnated with the Christian spirit under the guidance and motherly vigilance of the Church, that religion comes to provide the foundation and the culminating perfection of the whole training (See Pius XI, *Divini Illius Magistri*, 31st December 1929, n° 118-119, 7, 98.).

Authority

The college acknowledges the good of authority. "All authority comes from God" (Rom 13:1). God has given such natural authority to parents/caregivers, in which the teachers share, for the good of the children. For this reason the school wishes to maintain contact and communication with the parents/caregivers at all times in order to ensure that the school's authority, an extension of their own parental authority, is respected and nurtured throughout the child's education.

Moral Formation

As Pope Pius XI reminds us, the dogma of original sin is an important principle in education: there are disorderly inclinations in the children that ought to be corrected, by both discipline and instruction. Therefore, children being first accustomed to act rightly out of obedience, and then, by gradually growing to understand why, start to act rightly by themselves, allow external control to be gently replaced by internal control and virtue.

Purity is held in the highest regard and much care is taken by the College to avoid any scandal for the girls, while protecting and strengthening them against the preserve, degrading and liberal attitude to sex so prevalent in today's world. The frequent reception of the sacraments and a great devotion to Our Lady, the Virgin of virgins, will obtain for them all the necessary graces for the combat, while carefully developed units taught by the College on the virtue of purity will inculcate in the minds of the girls the high esteem they must have for chastity. The school seeks to convey a high esteem for consecrated virginity and will not neglect to point out the superiority of the religious life over the married life, the latter being good but the former being better. (See 1 Corinthians 7:38.)

SCHOOL'S VALUES

FAITH

"Iustus ex fide vivit "
The just lives by faith
(Rom 1:17)

The children exercise this Faith not only in the chapel, but also throughout the day, by seeing the authority of God in their parents/caregivers and teachers, seeing Jesus in their fellow-pupils, and seeing themselves as the temples of the Holy Ghost. They learn not only the truths of Faith, but also to see the work of God in the whole creation, and His Providence in History.

HOPE

"Spe gaudentes"
Rejoicing in hope
(Rom 12:12)

The desire to go to Heaven is the source of all desires of perfection and of excellence in doing their present duty of studying and growing in virtues; hope also includes that trust in the Help of God.

CHARITY

"Veritatem facientes in charitate"
Doing the truth in charity
(Eph 4:15)

Charity must animate all their action: *"omnia in gloriam Dei facite – do all to the glory of God"* (1 Cor. 10:31), their prayers, their studies, and their recreations. Charity is the *"bond of perfection"* (Cor 3:14) that binds together all the pupils and teachers and makes them one with Our Lord Jesus Christ.

STUDIOSITY

"Quid fortius desiderat anima quam veritatem?"
What does the soul desire more strongly than Truth?
(St Augustine)

This is the fundamental virtue of pupils. It consists in a strong desire for and application to learning, with docility and efforts. It includes a real love for the Truth, as it shone in St Augustine, St Dominic and St Thomas. It leads to integrity and competence.





DISCIPLINE

"Sapientia enim et disciplina, timor Domini"

For the fear of the Lord is wisdom and discipline
(Eccli 1:34)

Prompt and joyful obedience to teachers, personal discipline in orderly work habits, respect of persons and things. "Educate illos in disciplina et correptione Domini – Educate them in the discipline and correction of the Lord." (Eph. 6:4)

PURITY

Under the protection of the Virgin of virgins:

"Beati mundo corde quoniam ipsi Deum videbunt "

Blessed are the clean of heart: for they shall see God
(Mt 5:8).

This purity is the fruit of sacrifice.

Purity is essential in a good Catholic school, to prepare the youth for a virtuous life, either consecrated to God or in holy marriage. Purity also frees the mind for the contemplation of the truth and thus helps for better studies.

There is no purity possible without self-denial, the spirit of sacrifice, which ought to be fostered from the tenderest youth.



BEAUTY OF THE SOUL

Beauty of the soul, which shines over the body by **MODESTY**:

"Whose adorning let it not be the outward plaiting of the hair, or the wearing of gold, or the putting on of apparel: but the hidden man of the heart, in the incorruptibility of a quiet and a modest spirit which is rich in the sight of God. For after this manner heretofore, the holy women also who trusted in God adorned themselves" (1 Pet 3:3-5)



That sense of the interior beauty is essential in a good Catholic girl and woman. It gives them the only true beauty which does not fade away. This supernatural life manifests itself in an atmosphere of **HONESTY, JOY AND TRUST.**

School History and Status

The crest is the crest of the Dominican Order. The crest consists of quarters of black and white and a cross in the same colours blossoming into the fleur de lis at the ends. These are the arms of the Guzman family (St Dominic's family), the colours of the Dominican habit, and the fleur de lis of France where the Order was founded.

The motto is "Veritas", Truth. The education imparted at St Dominic's aims to be faithful to the truth in all its aspects, to the truths of the Catholic Faith in particular and to lead the pupils to the Supreme Truth Who is God Himself.

History: St Dominic's College has grown organically in response to the need of children graduating from St Anthony's Catholic Primary school to be able to continue their Catholic Education in a Traditional Catholic Secondary school which shares the same values. St Dominic's began in the year 1999 with a small role and a handful of staff. Today, it is staffed by a body of 2 priests, 8 sisters, and 2 lay teachers in the endeavour to offer the highest standard of education possible.

Dominic's College (MoE 454), is a secondary school owned and operated by the International Priestly Society of Saint Pius X. It is a private school, in order to protect the freedom of 100% Catholic education.

Separate Education: The different mission of men and women in life require different and therefore separate education. Men are called to be leaders in good; they need challenge and virility in their education. Women are called to be mothers (naturally or supernaturally); they need the sense of true beauty and of the beauty of truth, not living by their emotions but in the light of Christ. For this reason St Dominic's College goes to great length and expense develop these respective masculine and feminine qualities in its pupils. For this reason separate campuses have been established for the boys and girls, and the staff approaches the education of the boys and girls with their differing life missions always in mind.



Passing On What We Have Received

"The thoroughly Catholic education we are giving to our pupils consists in forming their whole being to the supernatural life: in order that the whole person may be submitted to the reign of Jesus Christ in the spiritual, moral, intellectual and physical sphere."

Fr Franz Schmidberger ~ Superior General, 1982 to 1994 ~ Society of St Pius X

Traditional Values and Culture

Spiritual Formation

Archbishop Lefebvre, founder of the Society of Saint Pius X wrote that he wished "Schools, truly free and unfettered, able to bestow on youth a thoroughly Christian education ... From these will come vocations and Christian homes." (Statutes III, 4) It is towards this ideal that St Dominic's direct its Catholic Education. The school deems it a duty to promote the spiritual growth of its pupils with the hope of fostering vocations. To this end, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and Confessions are available daily. However, these efforts, in order to be lasting, must begin in the home. Therefore, the school needs the parents/caregivers to order the home life in such a way that it is in harmony with the Catholic ideals of the school. Families are greatly encouraged to attend together daily Mass, recite as a family the daily rosary, and spend time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, the fountain head of grace.

Patriotism

Patriotism and a healthy respect for the bicultural makeup of New Zealand society is instilled in the children from the beginning through such means as the National Anthem sung in English and Maori at all school assemblies, prayers for the country, teaching units on New Zealand history and Maori heritage. All subjects are taught in the light of the Faith, in line with the purest Traditions of the Catholic Church.

Community involvement

Yearly school involvement in the local community by way of fundraisers, parish galas, visits to rest homes, community support ventures, ANZAC memorial attendance, interschool sports competitions and much more, offer our children various opportunities to see and serve Christ in their neighbour, express their patriotic loyalty and represent the school in the larger community.





Discipline

In its approach to discipline the school follows Catholic Traditional practices expressed by Pope Pius XI in his Encyclical Letter *Divini Illius Magistri*:

Disorderly inclinations must be corrected, good tendencies encouraged and regulated from tender childhood, and, above all, the mind must be enlightened and the will strengthened by supernatural truth and by the means of grace, without which it is impossible to attain the full and complete perfection of education intended by the Church, which Christ has endowed so richly with divine doctrine and with the Sacraments, the efficacious means of grace.

The school follows St John Bosco in promoting an atmosphere of positive discipline, aware that the child is best disciplined by paternal guidance. As a small school, we are able to create a family atmosphere in which the girls are cared for in a friendly yet disciplined setting, which helps then to respond well to correction. In matters of discipline the school requires the parents/caregivers' support in upholding school's authority, standards and expectations.

Recognising & Rewarding Success

St Dominic's College encourages students to attain their highest potential and recognise effort and success in a variety of way:

Students achieving high academic result are given the possibility of attaining an academic tie if they achieve an A average across all their subjects. The academic tie replaces the school tie and is worn daily by the successful pupil.

Students demonstrating leadership and responsibility are offered the role of school prefect and/or house captain for the duration of the year.

Students excelling in sport or musical ability are given special mention at school assemblies and if their success is of a regional or national level they are given special mention at the end of year school prize-giving.

Parents, Caregivers & College

As established by God, the family holds primary responsibility in the education of its offspring. Therefore, the School does not envisage replacing the family but completing the process of education. Thus it is indispensable that a fundamental agreement on essential matters exists between parents / caregivers and the school on faith, morals and discipline. It is for this reason that the school requires as indispensable for enrolment that the parents/caregivers be practicing Catholics, or at least ready to become so with the support of the parish priest.

Milieu

The atmosphere in the classroom and playground must be one of honesty, joy and trust, where bullying and aggressive or discriminatory behaviour is never tolerated. This Christian climate of the school requires both charity and respect, also an acknowledged understanding between parents/caregivers and teachers and between teachers and children that Catholic values take first place in all aspects of life.





College Houses

The House System is common in many private schools. It is an enhancement of the existent school structure designed to foster a love of school and build stronger bonds among students. By providing an additional level of interaction among pupils and allowing for leadership (and followership) opportunities, the House System cultivates a true sense of belonging within the school, providing that sense of “ownership” that always accompanies increased responsibility and accountability.

St Dominic’s College employs the house system throughout its school. St Dominic’s is divided into three houses of multi-level composition. The houses compete annually in a variety of inter-house competitions ranging from musical to cultural, sporting to performing arts events which offer the pupils opportunities to develop leadership, teamwork, initiative and creativity. The inter-house events are usually very competitive but always complimentary to the Catholic ethos of the school.

Academic Matters

Small School Approach

St Dominic's College being a small school has the benefit of small classes at all levels. This allows staff to focus more on the individual learner's needs, but is also limits the number of subjects available at any one time in the school. For this reason all subjects taught are compulsory for each student. The subjects provided reflect the schools intention to offer a classical education which will give the pupil a well-rounded formation for life rather than a specialised preparation for any one career path.

The study of the Catholic Faith, commonly termed Catechism, is the most important subject studied at St Dominic's, thus progress in the school will be determined, at least in part, by the pupil's application in this subject. All girls receive daily Catholic instruction as part of the curriculum which is given by the Priests and Sisters. In recognition of the pride of place the Church liturgy holds in the life of a parish, the girls are also taught to sing the hymns and Gregorian chant.





CAMBRIDGE

International Examinations

Qualifications Framework

St Dominic's College offers Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) as its main framework for state recognised qualifications. This allows the school to maintain high academic standards, to avoid the dummied down effect of NCEA, and to enjoy greater freedom in Catholic education.

University of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) are administered by the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES). UCLES is one of the world's leading examining bodies. Established in 1863 it provides examination services in over 180 countries around the world. Although CIE is based in the United Kingdom, and the structure of the CIE awards is the same as the UK awards, its courses are designed for the international community.

CIE qualifications are recognised internationally. They can be used as University Entrance qualifications in New Zealand and overseas. Currently 44 New Zealand secondary schools are registered to offer CIE.

CIE offers three general secondary qualifications:

- International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) - usually taken in Year 11.
- Advanced Subsidiary Level (AS) - usually taken in Year 12.
- Advanced Level (A Level) - usually taken in Year 13.

CIE courses are generally assessed through external examinations. The different course components of each subject are assessed by separate examination papers, including practical work in the sciences. Pupils receive grades and percentage marks for each subject.

Examinations are held twice a year in May/June and in October/November. Pupils will generally sit their examinations in the October/November session. In a small number of courses the May/June session will be selected as the more appropriate.

For further information on the nature of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) please visit either of the two websites:

England CIE website:

www.cie.org.uk

New Zealand CIE Website:

www.acsnz.org.nz



Subjects Offered

Years 7-10

The following subjects are offered to all pupils at St Dominic's College from years 7-10 inclusive:

Catholic Doctrine, English, Mathematics, Science, History, Latin, French, Geography, Physical Education, Music Practical and Music Appreciation, Home-Economics (year 7 and 8 only).

Year 11

The following subjects are offered to all pupils at St Dominic's College for year 11.

Catholic Doctrine, English, History, Mathematics, Combined Science, Latin, French

All subjects are compulsory. Students sit IGCSE level examinations in all subjects excepting Catholic Doctrine, at the end of the academic year.

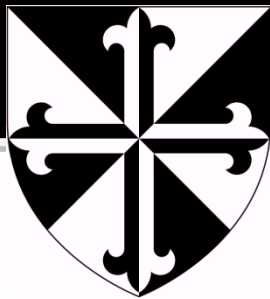
Years 12-13

The following subjects are offered to all pupils at St Dominic's College for years 12-13.

Catholic Doctrine, English AS/A, French AS, History AS, Classical Studies AS, Mathematics AS, Biology AS, Art History AS (last examinations 2016), Food Studies A (first examination 2018), Ecclesiastical Latin, Computer Studies, Music practical and Music appreciation.

The above Year 12-13 subjects are run over a two year cycle which involves 4 AS/A level papers per year and depend on teacher availability. The result achieved is a broad and general education preparing the pupil for life, rather than a specialist education only preparing the pupil for a particular carrier path.

For all years, a pupil who obtains passing grades is promoted to the next form or subject level the following year. A pupil repeats a form level if their final end of year results indicates serious difficulties in core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science. Repeating a grade is determined on an individual basis, and is based upon academic results, teacher recommendations and administrative review.



CURRICULUM AT ST DOMINIC'S COLLEGE

Catholic Doctrine – To make known and loved, the written word of God and the teaching of the Magisterium of His Church. To make known and loved the true theological doctrine, and to show how it should nourish one's prayer life and how it should enlighten all other fields of knowledge.

Church History – To teach pupils that the hierarchical Church is indivisibly the society of saints and the Spouse of Christ, the guardian and the messenger of Truth and Grace, and to make it loved.

Philosophy – In continual relation with Catholic Doctrine, in the school of thought of St Thomas Aquinas to discern, deepen and explain the immediate principles of common sense.

Apologetics – To teach the perfect conformity of reason with Faith by exposing the many rational proofs for the existence of the God, the soul, Revelation and more. To develop a solid base of knowledge and arguments from which the student will be able to defend the Faith in modern society.

English – To discover what works are beautiful, through literary expression and to know what man is, in order to live better. In reading good literature we can see that in the world there is a coherent society which must be Christian if people are to be happy and to save their souls. Of course grammar and spelling are important. We hope to teach them not only from the excellent grammar books we use but also by alerting the pupils to what good writers do in the carefully chosen texts they study. To accustom the pupils to express their thoughts, in a beautiful and personal manner, whether in speaking or in writing.



Latin – Through the study of this language and the translation of important texts, to become rooted in a tradition, to perceive the aspirations and the misery of the Latin humanity before Jesus Christ, to make easier and more fruitful the contact with Holy Scripture, the liturgy, the Fathers and theologians of the Church, and to grasp the universality of the Latin thought, which was providentially destined to be the instrument for the dogmatic writings of the Holy Church. Latin has influenced every other language in Europe and it is also the language of the Church by which she has been able to express exactly her theology and to offer her unchanging liturgy. Latin carries a treasure of culture and civilization and religion to be imparted to the students lest they grow up unconscious of their own rich and deep heritage, which western civilization seems to allow to slip away all too easily.

Mathematics – Arithmetic helps one to gain accuracy and ease in calculation. Geometry and algebra help to acquire the necessary knowledge to be profitably initiated to the physical sciences, and to obtain a certain understanding of methods. Becoming accustomed to abstract reasoning in the mathematics field can help improve the rigour and precision of reasoning in other domains as well.



Science/Biology – To acquire a proper knowledge of living and inanimate and animate nature, accompanied by accurate philosophical and religious knowledge. To teach science in the light of theology and to defend true science against modern errors such as Evolution.

History – Not only to learn the chronology of political history, but also, through the knowledge of events, of political regimes and institutions, to acquire a sense of natural law, of a just political life, of homeland, of collaboration among nations, of the submission of our earthly homelands to Christ the King.

Modern Languages: French – Our aim is to impart the ability to communicate by speech, writing and reading with the French speaking world. To have access to the foreign literature, culture, and ideas of the Catholic French heritage.

Classical Studies - The field of Classical Studies encompasses the cultures of Ancient Greece and Rome - their languages, literatures, histories, philosophies, arts and architecture. The intellectual treasures of the Classical civilizations are called Classics because of their unmatched beauty and intelligence, their continuing relevance to the present world, and their ongoing influence. Classical cultures are the very origin of the Western world. Classical education provides keys to understanding Western civilization. It imbues pupils with a historical perspective. It is by studying Classics that we understand the development of Western literatures, history, philosophies, religions, societies, politics, sciences, arts, laws, and languages. With training in Classics we come to see the world of today from a wider, richer and deeper perspective - one which enables us to value fully and to critique accurately the culture we grew up in, and to be more aware of the way we think and live. The multi-disciplinary nature of the subject, combining different types of study such as literature, art history, history, philosophy and others, leads to an understanding of the relationship between different intellectual disciplines and fosters a greater appreciation for our traditional Roman Catholic Faith.

Music – To develop the gifts received in the musical domain, with neither vanity nor aestheticism, and to use one's voice in the service of the Church's liturgy. To develop and appreciation of the various forms of music of the great composers.



Geography – To take interest in the house God has given to men in our own country and in the world, to see how man has settled or unsettled it, and to recognize the material goods, with their limits, which must be respected while being exploited if man wishes to subsist honestly and fraternally.



Physical Education – To discipline the body and make of it a good and worthy servant; in the Catholic life, this means a certain militant austerity.

The Church desires the birth and restoration of Catholic institutions. The first institution required for the rebirth of Christendom is the Catholic Family. Hence, one can see the role of the man and woman. One can also see the importance of their formation, and the importance of Catholic schools.

Cambridge International Examinations (CIE): Course descriptions

Parents and caregivers interested finding further information about course descriptions for any CIE subjects offered at St Dominic's should consult the CIE website which provides the most up to date information on each subject.

www.cie.org.uk *See tab Programmes and qualifications at the top of the home page.*