

September 2023

Herringthorpe Valley Road  
Rotherham S65 3BE

**Telephone:** 01709 828183

**Email:** [schooladmin@sbch.org.uk](mailto:schooladmin@sbch.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.sbch.org.uk](http://www.sbch.org.uk)

**Acting Principal:** Kate Crawford

Dear Parent/Carer,

This term, we are excited to be launching the **St Bernard's Award** with our Year 9 students.

This Award is aimed at rewarding the many talents our students have, ensuring they grow to be rounded individuals who make the most of their God-given gifts.

To achieve the Award, students will have to demonstrate that they have engaged successfully in a range of development activities each term, for example, a physical activity, a skill, and doing something to serve and give back to their community. There are many more categories they must show evidence for which can be found in their Award booklet. If they complete these tasks each term, they will be eligible for the St Bernard's Award, and subsequent reward activities, in July.

Every child is unique and has different strengths and talents. We feel we should recognise these and instil in students that achievement and success can be demonstrated in a wide array of ways. It is hoped this will also benefit student's mental well-being and pastoral development as they develop internal-personal skills required for future success.

It is expected that achieving the St Bernard's Award will take time. Therefore we will be removing homework tasks for Year 9 apart from revision for assessments. Our balanced curriculum, with GCSE's beginning in Year 9, ensures there is sufficient curriculum time for students to cover the content and have appropriate time to prepare for GCSEs.

For any student who wishes to push themselves further academically, their teachers will be supporting them with a range of tasks which will be uploaded to Go4Schools each term - these are optional for students should they wish to go above and beyond.

If you have any questions or thoughts regarding this change to home-learning for Year 9, I would be delighted to discuss them with you. We believe that this Award can help our students have



Outstanding  
2011-2012



'life to the full' in line with our mission statement, and are excited to see what wonderful things they can achieve in the coming year!

Yours Sincerely

*N Lovell*

Mr N Lovell  
Curriculum Leader for History.



St Bernard's  
**Lead Partner**  
of the Sheffield SCITT



**Ofsted**  
raising standards  
improving lives

Outstanding  
2011-2012