



From the School Chaplain: Rev Dr Simon Steer

1 February 2024

Dear Parents,

Confirmation Class

I am delighted to inform you that we will soon begin a Confirmation Class for those pupils who would like to consider becoming full members of the Church of England. Classes are open to all pupils in the third year and above and will take place every Thursday from 12.50-1.30pm, beginning on Thursday 22 February 2024. I will teach the class (with input from other staff) and we will meet in the Avernus dining room. Students can bring their lunch to the class if they would like to.

The sessions will be informal (and hopefully enjoyable!) and we will use the excellent book, *Faith Confirmed*, by Peter Jackson and Chris Wright, a copy of which will be provided to each member of the group. There will be plenty of opportunity for discussion and interaction. The classes will run for 6 weeks, either side of the Easter holiday.

For those pupils who decide to seek full membership of the Church of England, there will be a wonderful confirmation service on Monday 29 April 2024 at 6pm, led by Bishop Gavin, Bishop of Dorchester. The service will take place in the Chapel of St Helen and St Katharine School (Faringdon Road) and a number of pupils from SHSK will also be confirmed. Parents and other family members are warmly invited to attend this service and the reception that will follow.

In order to be confirmed, candidates will need to have been baptised. For those pupils who have not been baptised, this can be arranged as part of the Confirmation service.

I would be grateful if you would discuss with your child whether they would like to be a part of this process. It is important to say that there is no obligation on the part of those who attend the classes to proceed to confirmation. It is quite acceptable to begin the course on an exploratory basis and to make a final decision regarding confirmation later on.

If you have any questions about any of this, please email me, simon.steer@abingdon.org.uk. I would be grateful if you could let me know if your child intends to join the course. The pupils are, of course, welcome to contact me as well.

We look forward to a stimulating and enjoyable class.

Yours sincerely

Simon Steer
School Chaplain
simon.steer@abingdon.org.uk

Abingdon School, Park Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 1DE

Tel: +44 (0)1235 521563

Fax: +44 (0)1235 849079

www.abingdon.org.uk