

# INNOVATION IS OUR TRADITION

The purpose of a Stonyhurst 3-18 education has always been, in the words of St Ignatius, to 'set the world on fire' - to propel our young people into a global future with a restless desire to live purposefully for the Greater Glory of God and the Common Good. This calling is as strong today as when the English Jesuits founded their College in Saint-Omer, now Stonyhurst, in 1593.

Critical to this is ensuring that a Stonyhurst education anticipates the needs of a changing world. Over the past decade we have invested over £20M to ensure a nurturing and inspiring environment for our community. We have also introduced some bold innovations, including: the International Baccalaureate, the return of the College to 11+ entry, the provision of a Higher Line Centre, the creation of the Stonyhurst Foundation (2020) which has already raised over £18M for bursaries, and the founding of Stonyhurst International School Penang in Malaysia, to name but a few.

These milestones illustrate our commitment to becoming a truly global school—one that thrives on innovation and exciting opportunities for all. As the oldest continuously operating Jesuit school in the world, we recognise both the privilege and responsibility of our position. In a time of challenge and change, the Governors and Executive of Stonyhurst

are committed to ensuring the long- term sustainability of the charity and deepening the culture of innovation that characterises all Jesuit schools globally.

Central to this commitment, is our goal of widening access for all who wish to study at Stonyhurst. Over the next five years, we plan to grow the Stonyhurst Endowment significantly, with the aim of reducing the cost of a Stonyhurst education for all families and ultimately opening our doors to even more young people who would flourish here.

The world continues to evolve at an extraordinary rate and in ways that we could never have anticipated. With this in mind, we are sharing our updated strategic vision with you. With so much already accomplished and more to look forward to, this sets out the roadmap for how we will further establish our position as a global Catholic and Jesuit school, foster innovative thinking, and honour the culture that shapes us as we prepare our young people for their future.



I wish I could show you this place. It is upon my word worth seeing... There is a garden with a bowling green, walled in by massive yew hedges, a bowered yew-walk, two real Queen Anne summerhouses, observatories under government, orchards, vineries, greenhouses, a mill, a farm, a fine cricketfield besides a huge playground; then the old mansion, ponds, towers, quadrangles, fine ceilings, chapels, a church, a fine library, museums, manuscripts illuminated and otherwise.

Letter of Gerard Manley Hopkins SJ to his friend Robert Bridges in 1882



## STONYHURST MISSION

Stonyhurst is a Jesuit and Catholic school with a tradition of excellence that seeks to develop the full human potential of its pupils to live lives of faith and justice as citizens of the world.



Ferwick at Dover Sending Student to S' Omers Popish Plot Playing Card, 17th century

a Society that needs to have, so to speak, one foot in the air, ready to hasten from place to place, according to our vocation and the Institute which we follow in our Lord.

Letter from St Ignatius to Mateo Sebastián de Morrano, Rome, 22nd February 1549



# A SUSTAINABLE & ACCESSIBLE SCHOOL

**Guiding principle** We will be financially sustainable, with a growing Stonyhurst Endowment to support the education we provide.

**5-year focus** Ensure a sustainable business model and develop new income streams in order to invest in the education of young people and make a Stonyhurst education accessible to more young people.

6

We come together to take charge of this home, which has been entrusted to us. **Laudato Si, Pope Francis** 

Stonyhurst Estate, gift of Thomas Weld 1809

- We will grow our Stonyhurst Endowment, originally provided by the Society of Jesus in 2008, by a further £30M by 2030 with the aim of reducing the cost of a Stonyhurst education for all families and ultimately ensuring greater access to young people who will flourish here.
- We will continue to develop the Stonyhurst Foundation to provide bursaries, empowering young people to achieve their full potential.
- Building on the success of Stonyhurst International School Penang, Malaysia we will continue to develop a group of international schools to generate new income streams.

# A ROMAN CATHOLIC & JESUIT SCHOOL

**Guiding principle** We will form young people of competence, conscience, compassion and commitment who are rooted in justice and see the face of Christ in others.

**5-year strategic focus** Deepen the daily encounter our community has with Christ



The world is charged with the grandeur of God.

**Gerard Manley Hopkins SJ** 



- We will deepen the tradition of Examen, to foster growth and reflection, across the Stonyhurst family.
- We will be audacious in the scope of our service projects to maximise their impact.
- We will form a Magis Community drawn from members of the Stonyhurst Family to support the spiritual formation of our young men and women.
- We will invite Jesuits and other collaborators to Stonyhurst to support the work of our own Jesuit chaplain and the Christian Formation team.



Age and Youth, Sir John Lavery, 1885

# A SCHOOL FOR GLOBAL CITIZENS

**Guiding principle** We will help each young person to become a global citizen and understand their role in the world.

**5-year focus** Deepen the intercultural understanding of the diversity of our community and empower young people to be agents of positive change.



The world is our house.

Jerome Nadal SJ
(1507-1580)



- We will introduce an optional hybrid course for pupils the term after finishing their A levels/ International Baccalaureate
   Diploma to include preparation for elite university applications, Jesuit volunteering, and global internships through the
   Stonyhurst family.
- We will expand and deepen our links with Jesuit schools worldwide supported by our Stonyhurst Association Ambassadors.
- We will establish short professional development secondments for teachers in our link Jesuit schools.
- We will create a Stonyhurst Global Shared Vision course delivered on 3-year cycle to all staff.

# A SCHOOL OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

**Guiding principle** We will work with every pupil to meet their academic potential. We will strengthen our reputation as a centre of academic excellence.

**5-year strategic focus** Ensure that all pupils at Stonyhurst are offered a bespoke and ambitious curriculum which combines tradition and innovation. Become renowned in the sector for excellence in teaching and learning. Refocus the curriculum on the optimisation of academic outcomes.



Do not be content with anything save the highest attainable excellence in every branch of your work.

Hints offered to young masters in the Colleges of the English Province, 1882

#### **INNOVATIONS**

- We will deepen the St Mary's Hall learning experience with enhanced specialist facilities and curriculum inovations for our younger pupils.
- We will further develop the International Baccalaureate learning styles and concepts blended with our Ignatian tradition across the schools.
- We will create a sector leading department for Art and Design integrated with our Historic Collections and linked with global leaders in design. Courses from September 2025 will include: Fashion and Textiles; Fine Art; Photography and Product Design. This is a major investment and we will recruit expert practitioners and new facilities will be created during 2025 and 2026.
- We will build on our expertise in Economics, Business and Modern Languages to create a Stonyhurst Business School.
- We will introduce English Language A level into the curriculum.
- We will establish Stonyhurst as a centre for Catholic and Jesuit teacher training.
- We will introduce a two-term International Language School at Stonyhurst from September 2025.



First Folio, Shakespeare, 1623



## A VIBRANT COMMUNITY & FULL BOARDING PROGRAMME

**Guiding principle** We will form men and women for others and ensure that each pupil thrives in keeping with our school motto - 'Quant Je Puis', meaning 'as much as I can', in every activity.

**5-year strategic focus** Ensure a safe, kind and fun community with joyful hearts.

6

Tu me parais subtil: il semble que tu aies étudié à Saint-Omer.

Lady Alton to the hero Frélon,
L' Écossaise by Voltaire, 1760

The strictest, orderlyest, and best bredd in the world.

Sir George Chaworth on a visit to St Omers College, 1623

- We will recruit boarding staff globally and develop our family accommodation.
- We will maintain and further enrich a full seven-day programme including Saturday school.
- We will further develop and embed the Stonyhurst Line Families.





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The avenue opened into a broad expanse of turf, and the house lay before us. In the fading light I could see that the centre was a heavy block of building from which a porch projected. The whole front was draped in ivy, with a patch clipped bare here and there where a window or a coat of arms broke through the dark veil. From this central block rose the twin towers, ancient, crenelated, and pierced with many loopholes.

The Hound of the Baskervilles, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, OS 1875