

Pope Benedict Rome June 2007

‘Pastoral Care of the Intelligence’

‘By educating in the faith,
a very important task is entrusted to Catholic schools.
Indeed, they must carry out their mission
on the basis of an educational project
which places the Gospel at the centre
and keeps it as a decisive reference point
for the person’s formation
and for the entire cultural programme.’

Pope Benedict UK 17th September 2010

As you move higher up the school, you have to make choices regarding the subjects you study, you begin to specialize with a view to what you are going to do later on in life. That is right and proper. But always remember that every subject you study is part of a bigger picture.

Never allow yourselves to become narrow. The world needs good scientists, but a scientific outlook becomes dangerously narrow if it ignores the religious or ethical dimension of life, just as religion becomes narrow if it rejects the legitimate contribution of science to our understanding of the world.

We need good historians and philosophers and economists, but if the account they give of human life within their particular field is too narrowly focused, they can lead us seriously astray.