



We are St Cuthbert's



St Cuthbert's  
Catholic High School

*Live life in all its fullness*

# Punctuation Practice

## Brackets and Dashes





Brackets and dashes are a really useful way of adding extra detail to a sentence.

They work in a similar way to commas when adding a subordinate clause, and so they are a great way of varying your punctuation!

# Brackets

Brackets go around the extra information in a sentence to keep it separate.

World War I (1914-1918) had many causes.

This is the extra information, so the brackets go around this bit.

If you take out the bit in between the brackets, the sentence should still make sense.

# Brackets

**Brackets can also be used to separate an explanation or definition.**

Most Hindus worship at home, but some also visit a mandir  
(Hindu temple).

This part explains what a mandir is, so it  
goes inside the brackets.

If you take out the bit in between the brackets, the sentence  
should still make sense.

# Dashes

**A pair of dashes can be used instead of brackets to separate extra information.**

The farmers – **Andrew and John** – had to get up very early.

**This is the extra information, so it goes  
inside the dashes.**

If you take out the bit in between the dashes, the sentence should still make sense.

# Dashes

A single dash can be used to create a dramatic pause in a sentence.

We thought we were completely alone — until we heard footsteps behind us.

This dash creates a pause just before a crucial piece of information is revealed.



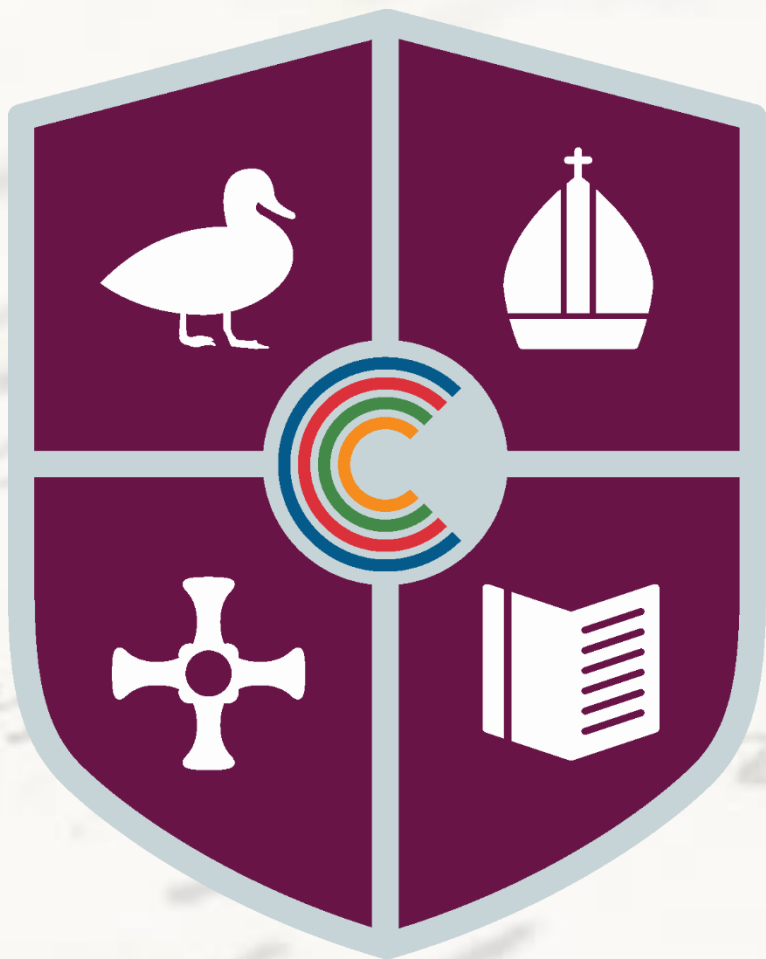
**KEEP  
CALM**

**AND**

**REMEMBER YOUR**

**PUNCTUATION**





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