



Home-School Agreement

FORMING LIVES READY TO FACE THE FUTURE

Our Trust

VISION

Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust has a Catholic identity in all its schools. We are a caring trust dedicated to academic excellence and the spiritual and moral development of our pupils. NPCAT is a faith-based community and plays a positive role in the life of all local parishes. We are a spiritually-centred community, living the Catholic faith as expressed through worship and service. The trust will create an environment which ensures the best use of all its facilities in a positive atmosphere which reflects and supports family values. We will endeavour to create modern facilities in order to offer the best educational experience for our pupils. We will encourage support of the alumni who value the strong commitment to academic excellence and spiritual formation.

“True education enables us to love life and opens us to the fullness of life.”

Pope Francis, address to Italian teachers, May 10 2014



MISSION

Within the Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust we envisage learning taking place in communities inspired by the Spirit of Christ, where Christ's commandment to love God and neighbour inspires a caring ethos which is expressed in relationships within and beyond our schools. All our schools promote the dignity, self-esteem and full development of each person who is made in God's image and uniquely loved by God. All our schools are inclusive and are respectful of, and engage with people of all beliefs. Our schools are communities of faith, service, prayer and worship. Within our schools we have a culture of tolerance where people of diverse identities are recognised, welcomed, respected and cherished. We seek to make a difference to all groups of children, especially ensuring the most vulnerable in our society are not disadvantaged. Our schools work in partnership with families and parishes to promote strong, positive links. Every school in the trust is on a journey of continual improvement, aspiring for excellence year-on-year.



PRINCIPLES

Within NPCAT we ensure:

- ✓ learning environments that allow for the academic, physical and spiritual development of all pupils.
- ✓ participation in worship and prayer in the school in cooperation with the parish.
- ✓ educational experiences that deliver better life opportunities.
- ✓ that we take collective responsibility for all our children.
- ✓ opportunities to make sustained progress, gaining in depth knowledge and understanding within acceptable timelines.
- ✓ recognition of personal skills and expertise that have been acquired and applied, thus preparing young people for the next stage of their educational or vocational journey.
- ✓ exceptional learning in all areas of the curriculum, having high levels of enthusiasm and a desire for further learning.
- ✓ access to excellent role models who are leaders in schools.
- ✓ resilience, independence and the ability to approach challenging situations with confidence and determination.
- ✓ all pupils share a positive learning environment where everyone understands the importance of behaviour in a range of social situations.
- ✓ a safe nurturing experience and an understanding how to keep everyone safe.
- ✓ opportunities to celebrate achievements and successes through the use of appropriate awards.



The NPCAT Promise

This Home-School Agreement is an integral part of NPCAT's approach to establish a genuine partnership between pupils, parents and carers and the trust. It defines the vital roles, responsibilities and expectations of all those involved.

We will:

- work in partnership for success.
- maintain a high standard of education, keeping in line with national government requirements.
- provide an exciting and creative curriculum, catering for individual needs, including the setting of appropriate homework.
- develop each child's sense of responsibility, self-discipline and independence.
- care for each child's safety and welfare.
- encourage each child to do their best at all times.
- value children and their families as members of the trust and wider community.
- promote high standards of work and behaviour.
- teach children to develop a positive attitude towards everyone regardless of difference in gender, race, culture, belief, values, age and need.
- be open and welcoming and offer opportunities for parents and carers to become involved in the life of the trust.
- listen and respond promptly to concerns and communicate effectively and sensitively with parents and carers.
- hold regular meetings to discuss the progress of children, indicating strengths and areas for development through individual targets.
- provide prompt information about behaviour or classwork that may be a cause for concern or celebration.
- provide information or training on how to support children at home in specific curriculum areas.
- provide opportunities for parents and carers to become involved in school life.
- provide information to parents and carers about academy activities through regular newsletters, website, open days, meetings and the annual report.
- make available all relevant trust policies for information.



School Responsibilities

We acknowledge our responsibility to support parents and carers in developing each child to their full potential.

Therefore we will:

- provide a friendly and welcoming atmosphere for your child and a secure, stimulating and caring environment in which to learn.
- ensure that your child is valued for who he or she is and helped to make good progress in their spiritual, moral, social, emotional, physical and intellectual development.
- do our best to provide a broad and balanced curriculum, which is well taught and relevant to your child's needs and their future.
- work in cooperation with parents and carers to resolve issues and problems that may arise.
- provide you with regular information about your child's progress and with opportunities, via open evenings, to meet with staff to discuss concerns or by appointment at other times.
- send home an annual report on your child's progress.
- keep you well informed about school policies and activities through regular letters and newsletters.
- set, mark and monitor homework suitable to your child's needs.
- contact you if there is a problem with your child's attendance, punctuality or behaviour in class or in the playground.
- inform you of any concerns regarding your child's work or health.
- challenge your child to strive for personal excellence in all he or she does or is asked to do.
- encourage success and recognise effort and achievement in all areas of pupil life.
- go beyond the requirements of the National Curriculum and meet, wherever possible, the individual needs of the child.
- try to develop clear lines of communication between home and school and treat parents, carers and pupils with courtesy and respect.
- work towards our vision and uphold our values.
- develop opportunities to develop faith in the context of a Catholic school.



Parent Responsibilities

We acknowledge that we, as parents and carers, are the primary educators of our children and have an irreplaceable role to play in supporting our children's learning at school.

Therefore I/we will:

- work with the school in supporting the education of my child.
- see that my child attends school regularly, on time, suitably equipped and dressed in full school uniform.
- support the vision and values of the school community.
- work in cooperation with staff to resolve issues and problems that may arise and let the school know of any issues that might affect my child's work, behaviour or attendance.
- encourage my child to be enthusiastic about learning, provide opportunities for home learning and support homework from school.
- support the school's policies and guidelines for behaviour and dress code, which are intended to promote the highest standards.
- encourage my child to show kindness and consideration to others and to always behave appropriately, when in school uniform, including on their way to, and from, school.
- participate in whatever way possible in school events.
- treat staff and pupils with courtesy and respect.

Pupil Responsibilities

I will try to:

- attend school regularly.
- arrive on time.
- attend all lessons punctually.
- be friendly, co-operative and thoughtful.
- remember books and necessary equipment.
- focus on making progress.
- be involved fully in activities.
- always do my best.
- complete and hand in homework on time.
- wear school uniform.





Nurturing
Perserverance
Courage
Ambition
Tolerance and Respect

Please note: Printed copies of this agreement are available from the school to sign and return.

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