

Friday 08th July 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will read in the attached report, following their most recent visit, Ofsted has confirmed that Trinity Catholic College has continued to improve and highlights key areas where significant progress has been made under the leadership of Mrs Dwyer and the committed staff at the college.

This report reflects the assessment of improvement as set out by the NPCAT Standards team, who continue to offer support across all areas. I wish to thank Mrs Dwyer for her leadership of the college and for ensuring that the rhythm of change has been continuous.

Our judgement that Trinity continues to improve has been validated by Ofsted, with inspectors noting significant improvements and acknowledging that Covid has impacted efforts to make further strides forward. Ofsted recognises that we understand the school well and have a clear vision of what needs to be done to get where we want it to be.

Over the two-day visit, Ofsted said it "saw clear evidence of strengths and improvements in the quality of education and leadership, behaviour and attitudes, attendance and the sixth form".

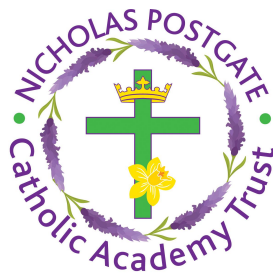
Our journey is about genuine, meaningful school improvement putting pupils at the heart of what we do, which is assessed as part of our secondary school improvement framework, led by Angela White.

Positives highlighted by inspectors include effective safeguarding and teaching about respect and tolerance and online safety and cyberbullying.

Ofsted commented: "Leaders from the trust and governors have a clear view of the school's challenges and priorities. They are introducing a range of supportive measures to tackle behaviour and attendance."

As with schools nationally, the impact of Covid is everywhere, and is perhaps most evident in larger institutions. Ofsted acknowledged that the pandemic has significantly hampered the ability for improvements to take root.

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However, there is a strategic plan in place for how leaders are moving the school's improvement forward. It was pleasing to have the commitment of staff praised, with leaders at trust and school level being highlighted for their passionate determination and for improving the school in difficult circumstances. Leaders have high expectations of pupils' conduct and academic potential.

Over the last number of years, significant work has ensured that the curriculum at Trinity Catholic College today is ambitious and designed to allow all pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), to build knowledge over time. The launch of the T6 programme and the campus investments is recognised and leaders' ambitions for developing the sixth form further are very much applauded.

Under the leadership of Mrs Dwyer, school leaders have worked persistently with a range of external agencies to ensure that pupils and families who need additional support are able to get it, and that the recently implemented trust behaviour systems have introduced a range of strategies to encourage a calm environment. New lunchtime systems and lining up routines are beginning to have an impact.

As we have recently announced, current Unity City Academy headteacher Andy Rodgers will take over the reins of Trinity Catholic College and we are confident he will ensure the momentum of improvement initiated under Mrs Dwyer will be built upon and sustained.

Mr Rodgers is well placed to take the school forward. He is well known for his sterling work at Unity City Academy, having turned the school around and taken it from being rated Inadequate to Good in its latest inspection.

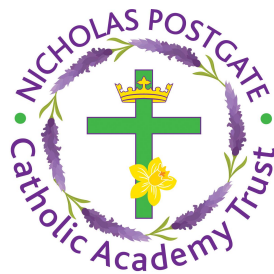
Mr Rodgers will be the latest addition to the suite of talented leaders already within NPCAT who bring a richness and authenticity that has already seen all of them make a significant impact within their own school communities.

He will continue to grow the Catholic identity of the school that has flourished under Mrs Dwyer, increasing involvement in our parishes and championing and celebrating our children's successes at every level.

I am delighted to let you know that St Francis Xavier, an Outstanding-rated secondary school in Richmond, will join the trust in September. This will provide additional expertise and support as we continue to strive to offer the very best for our pupils.

We still face a challenge in terms of improving attendance, but we know the causes and have a strategy and team of dedicated staff in place to address this.

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We do recognise, as Ofsted has stated, that exclusions are high as some pupils find it difficult to meet our high expectations of behaviour and conduct. However, significantly, Ofsted confirmed leaders are taking action to address areas of challenging behaviour.

We know that building on the firm foundations we now have in place, our school leadership teams will continue to have the positive impact we want for every pupil and all staff.

Yours sincerely

Hugh Hegarty CEO  
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Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust

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