



St Norbert's

Catholic Voluntary Academy





Headteacher's Welcome

I am happy to welcome you to our school and hope that you experience St Norbert's Catholic Voluntary Academy as the very special place we believe it to be with Catholic education at its heart.

St. Norbert's has been striving for excellence for its children in this part of the county, since its inception in the 1960s. We are proud of our history, our young people and invite you to share in our journey as a successful, thriving and vibrant Catholic School.

We are proud to have our school's foundation rooted in the Gospel Virtues and Values and strive to ensure these permeate through all we do. We are committed to Catholic education and seek to create a supportive and friendly environment, where each child has the opportunity to develop spiritually, intellectually and socially.

Our school is a happy and secure place where children are encouraged to aim for the highest possible standards in all they do. We strive to develop open, co-operative and positive relationships between the home and the school with parents and carers becoming active partners in their children's education. Where such relationships exist, then the best foundations for a true education have been laid. The partnership we develop is important to the growth of your child. We recognise that a child is deeply influenced by their parents and a Catholic school can only build upon what you are already doing at home.

The Church's declaration on Christian education states: 'Parents must be acknowledged as the first and foremost educators of their children'. With your help, and through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we, at St. Norbert's, will endeavour to educate the heart, mind and body of the child you have entrusted to us. On behalf of all the governors, staff and children, I welcome you to be part of our school community.

Mrs Jenna Withers
Headteacher



Our primary Mission

We strive to nurture and develop
the whole child through;
A love of God,
Love of one another,
And a love of life itself.

Our entire school community strives to demonstrate and exemplify 'a love of God, love of one another and love of life itself'.

Pupils are courteous and polite, keen to share their pride in their school. Staff are warm and welcoming, creating a happy atmosphere for all.

Our leaders at all levels, including governors, are a strength of the school across Catholic Life, Religious Education and Collective Worship; their drive, passion and commitment, along with high levels of efficiency, which leads to continual, positive change.

'The Catholic Life of St Norbert's is outstanding. The mission of the school is understood and furthered by all members of the community: as well as being displayed throughout the building, pupils can articulate the school's values and principles.'

Diocesan Canonical Inspection Report 2022

At St. Norbert's we foster a happy, dynamic learning environment, built on a tradition of care and excellence, where children are encouraged and nurtured to achieve their best.

Throughout the school, children benefit from the vibrant learning centred classrooms and the cosy, well-resourced library complete with a storytelling wood and Narnia area, enables children to enjoy reading for pleasure. Our nurture spaces for pastoral support include a well-resourced classroom space, where children benefit from drawing and talking, art and Lego therapy sessions when needed. In addition, The galaxy sensory room provides opportunities for pupils to regulate in a safe sensory environment.

Our beautiful grounds include a nature area equipped with outdoor classroom, storytelling circle and fruit and vegetable garden, perfect for facilitating outdoor learning. The playground is well-equipped with a trim trail, climbing wall and exercise equipment, as well as a spacious sports field.

In addition, our youngest children in early years have a safe and stimulating environment in which to learn in a well-resourced classroom and a dedicated early years area with water play, gardening, bikes and trikes and mud kitchen.

'The environment is beautiful: this is testament to the high regard shown for the Catholic Life of the school.'

Parent quote 2024

'I love coming to school it's exciting, fun and I learn new things but mostly how to be the best person which makes me ready to be a grown up.'

Pupil quote 2024



Our learning
environment

Our curriculum

At St. Norbert's we strive for a curriculum that is accessible to all and develops the whole child. It nurtures spirituality, curiosity, creativity and enjoyment.

Our golden threads of equality, excellence and ambition weave through all areas of our curriculum and enable children to secure knowledge and skills and deepen their conceptual understanding.

To enable everyone to flourish and achieve their ambition at our school, our knowledge rich, rounded and coherent curriculum, aims to equip our children with the information, skills, vocabulary, and personal characteristics which will help to ensure they can become lifelong learners and make a positive contribution to the communities they belong to.

We strive to provide practice in which our pupils develop that capacity to assess and improve work, sustain effort over time, exceed what they thought was possible and work well with others to combine ideas and approaches.

'Pupils' achievement is outstanding. They make rapid and sustained progress over time.'

Ofsted 2015

Teaching and Learning

At St. Norbert's teachers endeavour to plan exciting, memorable learning experiences, which enable our pupils to have a depth of knowledge and understanding. Children are taught as a whole class, in sets, groups and as individuals.

As an inclusive school, we work in partnership with parents to identify and support children with additional needs, whether their needs are around communication and interaction, cognition and learning, social, emotional and mental health or sensory and/or physical difficulties.

The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENDCO) works closely with the class teachers and outside agencies to ensure that the child's needs are met. Parents are encouraged to engage with school as we support children through an individualised program.

All children with SEND are fully integrated into school life and are educated within the classroom setting to ensure they have access to a full and broad curriculum.



Catholic social teaching and British values

At our school, we think about how the values of our society are fundamental as we live in an increasingly growing diverse and vibrant society. We know that it is possible to live together peacefully, each of us a valuable part of our multicultural world.

British Values are a fundamental part of the PHSCE and also wider school curriculum. We have British Value and Protected Characteristic of the Week and Friday Celebration Worship is underpinned by a 3 year Reading Spine with quality texts that bring these themes to life for our pupils.

Democracy:

School Eco Council and Year 6 Leadership Mini Vinnies are democratically elected by pupils each year. We collaborate, discussing what we want to find out and help plan topics.

Individual Liberty:

We celebrate achievements in whole school celebrations, in class and using different forms of media.

Mutual Respect:

We are a rights respecting school that is proud to have an understanding of how we can respect each other and uphold the rights of others at school and in our world.

Rule of Law:

Through Catholic Social Teaching and virtues and values that underpin the mission and behaviour policy of our school, we support children to learn right from wrong and understand that our actions have consequences.

Tolerance of other faiths and beliefs:

The curriculum actively supports citizenship and stewardship through our p4c and Global Citizenship sessions within our PHSCE curriculum.

'Collective Worship at St Norbert's is outstanding. Liturgy takes many forms, providing a rich diet for pupils throughout the school.'

Diocesan Canonical Inspection Report 2022

Beyond the curriculum

At St Norbert's, we value the uniqueness of all our pupils and establish an ethos that develops the 'whole child'.

Our pupils are encouraged to take risks and build resilience. They are encouraged to be inquisitive lifelong learners who question and explore the world around them.

Our nurturing staff recognise and support a diversity of needs relating to learning, health, mental wellbeing, behaviour as well as emotional and physical requirements ensuring that all our pupils feel safe, secure and are able to aspire to be the very best they can be.

Developing the whole child



Trips and Experiences

At St. Norbert's we believe that our children benefit significantly from visiting places of interest and we know these experiences will broaden children's horizons and deepen their learning. We run regular trips to residential facilities, museums, local points of interest, theatres and sports venues. In addition, we aim to provide enriching workshops to further enhance our children's experiences and complement our curriculum.

After School Clubs

We are always looking at new and interesting ways to extend and enrich the learning. Across the school year, staff provide a range of clubs which focus on developing skills, furthering knowledge and having fun.

Clubs run from 3.15pm until 4.15pm. There is an expectation that children will remain in the same club for the term. This will enable them to fully participate in the activities and gain from the experience.

Some clubs that we currently offer include; football, multi-sports, choir, computing, crafts and reading. We also offer children the chance to learn to play musical instruments such as the piano and guitar.

Wrap-around care

We offer childcare from 7.30am until the start of the school day where children can enjoy sporting activities, games and crafts. Children are served breakfast including cereals and toast.

Places can be booked directly through our external provider, Discovery Sports. Please see the school's website for further details.

'Grown-ups in our school see all our talents shining out whatever they are and they help us to grow then even more!'

Pupil quote 2024



Achieving full potential and personal development

There are several opportunities for our children to exercise their leadership skills and action our British Values by showing commitment to roles throughout the school, parish and wider community.

School Councillors

Each year, representatives from each class from Year 2 upwards are voted by their peers to become School Councillors. These pupils attend a termly meeting to discuss school initiatives, consult on school policies and support whole school events.

Reading Ambassadors

Reading Ambassadors apply for the role each year to actively work within our school to share their love of reading. Our Reading Ambassadors take on a number of roles including lunchtime story time with Early Years and Key stage 1 and leading on whole school reading initiatives including Poetry Day and World Book Day.

Chaplaincy Team

The Chaplaincy team play a vital role in enhancing and promoting the school virtues and Gospel values alongside our faith to pupils, staff and the wider community. All of our chaplains take joy in carrying out their responsibilities.

This will establish deep rooted and uncompromising attributes that will permeate through our local community and beyond to create intercultural understanding and respect.

Mini Vinnies

Our Mini Vinnies lead on local and global community outreach. They are a group of the eldest pupils in school made up each year by elected Year 6 representatives who are our:

- Head Boy and Girl
- Deputy Head Boy and Girl
- Two additional Prefects

'My children have felt loved and part of the St. Norbert's family since they stepped through the door for the very first time. It has been amazing to see them supported in every way possible to achieve their full potential both within their learning and as part of wider sporting teams.'

Parent quote 2024



Our Community

Friends of St. Norbert's are a registered charity, run by a group of volunteering parents, working closely with teachers and pupils. We organise fundraising events throughout the school year to raise as much money as we can for those extra things that tight budgets may not stretch to.

We meet once a term to share ideas and plan fun activities for all to enjoy. The Friends group is also a great way for parents to get involved with the school and meet other parents, whilst making a valuable contribution to the whole school.

All the money that you help us raise goes back in to the school to support and enhance the children's learning experiences. Donations over the years have also helped to fund the fantastic Outdoor Classroom. In the past five years, The Friends have used funds to transform the school library, creating a wonderful area for teachers and children to share story times, including a fantastic area that transports children into the fantasy land of Narnia.

Joining St. Norbert's

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust is the admission authority for all the schools within the Trust and is responsible for determining the admissions policy.

Applications must be made on the Common Application Form provided by the Local Authority, Lincolnshire County Council : www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-admissions

Our admission policy and privacy notice can be found on the school website: www.st-norberts.lincs.sch.uk/parents/admissions

You are warmly invited to visit our school and see the children involved in their learning; this can be arranged by calling the school office and making an appointment.

Visits to the school can be organised via the Main Office by calling 01775 722889 or emailing enquiries@st-norberts.lincs.sch.uk

In addition in November we host open mornings and evening events for prospective parents to attend.



'The school day is exciting and varied, with a wide range of subjects. Literacy and numeracy are emphasised, and the developing links in other subjects, for these essential skills, have proved successful in helping pupils to do even better.'

'Pupils' behaviour is outstanding and their attitudes to learning are exemplary. Excellent arrangements are in place to ensure all pupils are safe.'

'Pupils' achievement is outstanding. They make rapid and sustained progress over time. As they move up through the school, pupils are consistently well supported to overcome any difficulties and to achieve as well as they can.'

Ofsted 2015

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Part of
**OUR LADY
OF LOURDES**
CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST