



RATED GOOD
by the Diocese
of Northampton

PROSPECTUS 2022/23



Christ's Love is our Foundation



RESPECT



TRUTH



COMPASSION



JUSTICE



FAITH

“

**Education is an act
of hope that from
the present looks
to the future.**

Pope Francis





Welcome to Thomas Becket Catholic School and Sixth Form, the only Catholic Secondary School in Northamptonshire.

Our safe and thriving school community is built on our 5 core values of faith, justice, compassion, truth, and respect. Our Catholic faith and values underpin everything that we do here.

As Headteacher I see it my mission to serve this community as it grows from strength to strength so that pupils are prepared for the next steps in life.

Our ambitious curriculum invites pupils to develop into independent learners with a clear pathway to success. As a school we are a reflective and considerate community. Our mandate is to care for our pupils; this is done through setting high expectations and celebrating success. As a community we look forward to working with you in partnership and in faith. We look forward to meeting you.



Paul McCahill, Headteacher



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Leaders have consistent expectations about how teachers should deliver the curriculum. They make this clear to teachers using the ‘every lesson, every day mantra’.

Ofsted – May 2022



MISSION AND VISION

Mission Statement:

Christ's Love is our Foundation

A Catholic Community: Christ's presence comes through us, it follows that therefore we are creating:

A Learning Community: Learning is at the heart of what we do. We want our school to be a place where outstanding learning takes place; the pupils learn, the parents learn, and the staff learn. As professionals, we are responsible for setting the culture and the climate, this learning culture is down to us. We want to be the best school we can possibly be.

A Listening Community: St Thomas Becket was the man who listened to his conscience - we listen to the pupils, the parents, each other. If we listen hard enough to them we will know how to move forward.

Our Core Values:

RESPECT



TRUTH



COMPASSION



JUSTICE



FAITH +






CURRICULUM INTENT



*“Building new horizons through
love faith and excellence”*

Our curriculum is engineered to ensure pupils are equipped with the qualifications, knowledge, experiences and skills to succeed in life and progress onto meaningful employment, training or further education. We aim to ensure that all pupils leaving us, no matter what their starting points, are given the opportunity to explore new horizons and experience learning through a variety of different contexts, so that their sense of awe and wonder helps to develop their capacity for faith and love both in themselves and for others. It is this love and faith in oneself that will ultimately give them the confidence and resilience they need to strive for excellence in whatever they do.





Curriculum Key Principles

- **Broad, ambitious and grounded in the national curriculum** – so that all groups of pupils have access to both academic and vocational programmes of study where challenge, achievement and progress are expected for all.
 - **Knowledge rich** – so that all pupils acquire the core knowledge they are entitled to and the powerful knowledge they need to expand beyond their own experiences.
 - **Intelligently planned** – sequenced to incrementally build long-term knowledge and develop cross-curricula schema, using evidence-based strategies to maximise learning.
 - **Culturally rich** – broadening horizons and exposing pupils to the vast wealth of experiences in the wider global society be that the arts, music, sport and extra-curricular pursuits.
 - **Character building** – providing opportunities to develop pupils' spiritual and individual understanding that they are created in the image of God.
 - **Context-specific** – so that pupils who are not yet secondary ready, or not yet confident in the English language can rapidly catch up and access the full curriculum, and those with limited opportunities to explore the world beyond Northampton can broaden their horizons.
 - **Values-driven** – to develop principled young people who respect others in all their diversity to model our Core Values of faith, justice, compassion, truth, and respect in their daily lives. This allows pupils to meet face to face with Christ.
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LEARNING WITH US

We have designed a broad and balanced curriculum that is challenging and accessible to all.

At Thomas Becket Catholic School we want our pupils to be aspirational, meet our high expectations so that they can achieve their true potential. To ensure that pupils have the best possible chance in life, our 'Excellence for All' and 'Be the best version of yourself' mantras are motivational and highlight the importance of self-regulation, resilience, and diligent application to all pursuits. The foundations of all that we do are built on our values of Justice, Respect, Truth, Faith and Compassion. These values are interwoven into our behaviour and approaches from the classroom to the interactions we have with one another in the corridor. Learning with us will equip pupils with the skills for their future as they join the world as confident, independent, inquisitive young people.





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The practice of prayer and worship has created a real community where teaching and learning can flourish and individuals realise their potential.

Catholic Diocese of Northampton

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PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

There are ample opportunities for pupils to get involved in enrichment activities through the school's 'electives' programme.

Ofsted - May 2022





CHAPLAINCY

As a Catholic school, our mission is to always put Christ at the centre of everything we do in school life and to recognise the spirit of the risen Lord being present and alive in our school community.

This of course begins with our school mission statement, 'Christ's Love is our Foundation'.

At Thomas Becket, we recognise that we are all very different. We are an incredibly diverse and multi-talented community, where each pupil is supported to be the very best version of themselves. We want to encourage pupils to know themselves, to play to their strengths and to develop their talents in every way possible.

Prayer is an important aspect of the life of our school and we worship together as one community.

The truth I have come to realise is that God does not have favourites.

Acts of the Apostles 10.34





SIXTH FORM

We are Northamptonshire's only Catholic VI Form. It is a community rooted in love and respect for each other, with our students being at the very heart of everything we do.

It is a really exciting time to join Thomas Becket VI Form, with our new **'Pathways to Success'** that have been designed to ensure that whatever dreams or aspirations our students have for their future they are supported. We encourage and motivate students to pursue academic excellence whilst also acknowledging that VI Form is not just about academia but about developing the whole person.

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum to enable individual passions, skills and talents to be fulfilled. We recognise that there isn't a 'one-size fits all' approach to this and as such we use our expertise, experience, and know-how to help get our students to where they want to be.

Find out more



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Pupils know about the different pathways they can follow to support their career aspirations.

Ofsted - May 2022



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Teachers check pupils' knowledge carefully to make sure there are no gaps. Immediate feedback from teachers during lessons helps pupils learn from their mistakes.

Ofsted – May 2022



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**Staff know what to do if they have a concern ...
Leaders act swiftly in response to these concerns to keep pupils safe.**

Ofsted – May 2022

CARE, GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT

Seeing pupils as individual learners and promoting a fully rounded education is at the heart of what we aim to achieve. We work in close partnership with pupils and parents to raise pupils' expectations and standards of achievement in a loving, caring, and secure environment. Here at Thomas Becket Catholic School, we strive to be beacons of faith and excellence in Catholic Education. We commit to tending to the needs of the whole child with care and diligence so that whatever their starting point our pupils can achieve standards of excellence with strong and caring staff who know them individually.

I cannot fault the support and encouragement the staff have given my daughter.

Year 11 parent





I have come
that you may
have life and
have it to the full.

John 10: 1-10





Thomas Becket
Catholic School

JOIN US

If you would like to find out more
about our school community
please contact us:

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#MissiontoExcellence