



# St Augustine's

Catholic Voluntary Academy



Part of  
**OUR LADY  
OF LOURDES**

CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

**Let all that you do be done in love.**

# Headteacher's Welcome



It is my pleasure to welcome you, on behalf of the pupils, staff and Governors, to St. Augustine's. Thank you for reading our prospectus, I hope it provides a window into our warm, welcoming and friendly school where we work together as a family to live out our mission statement every day.

I joined St. Augustine's in 2021 and feel privileged to lead such a dedicated and compassionate staff team. Working together through a shared vision, we model our virtues and give our best selves to our pupils each day, to ensure that they feel happy, nurtured and cared for, confident to challenge themselves and aspire to fulfil their God-given potential in all they do. Through a rich curriculum, dynamic teaching and a nurturing environment, our pupils thrive and are motivated to achieve endless possibilities.

We are part of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi Academy Trust – offering a one-form entry school for children 4-11 years of age, located within the beautiful town of Stamford.

At St. Augustine's, our vision is to provide the highest quality education within a Catholic ethos. As the only Catholic primary school in Stamford, we take pride in our inclusive approach and welcome children from all faith backgrounds and none. We want our pupils to know and spread God's love while respecting the beliefs and cultures of others. Through daily prayer and reflection, we help each child to encounter Christ, developing their own unique gifts and talents, supporting them to be confident lifelong learners and responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society.

From the moment you step into our warm and welcoming school, we hope that you will feel the essence of our Catholic ethos and see our virtues in action in each of our wonderful pupils. If you would like to experience this in person, please get in touch - it would be my privilege to share my pride and passion for St. Augustine's with you.

**Mrs Tina Cox**  
Headteacher





# Our primary Mission

'Let all that you do be done in love.' 1 Corinthians 16:14

At St. Augustine's our mission is for all pupils, regardless of their faith background, to learn to act in service of Christ, by showing love for themselves and others in everything they do. In turn, our pupils feel loved and respected for their individual and unique selves, made in God's image.

We encourage our pupils to strive for excellence and this begins with the choices they make each day. Our school virtues underpin everything we say and do; through the daily practice of **Love and Respect, Friendship and Kindness, Honesty and Forgiveness, Hope and Confidence, Love of Neighbour and Self Control, Love of Learning and Determination**, our pupils nurture and develop aspects of their character that ensure they will become positive, successful citizens of the future.

## Encounter

By providing an exciting, immersive curriculum rooted in progressive knowledge and skills, we aim to provide our pupils with experiences that foster inquisitive and resilient learners who challenge themselves to excel.

## Discipleship

Through their excellent learning and social behaviours, our pupils demonstrate their commitment to being role-models in all they do. By recognising, rewarding and restoring virtue-based behaviours, we aim for all pupils to work together to create an excellent learning environment where everyone is enabled and championed to succeed.

## Missionary Discipleship

Through a strong commitment to 'Faith in Action', we provide our pupils with regular opportunities to serve their local community and the wider world. By fostering an understanding of sustainability, charity, and kindness to all, we nurture in our pupils a yearning to take their loving mission out into the World and truly make a difference.



St. Augustine's has extensive grounds with large, well-equipped playgrounds and sports fields. Children in all year groups take advantage of our fantastic outdoor facilities including a nature area, perfect for facilitating Forest School learning, trim trails and an outdoor storytelling garden. All outdoor learning opportunities provide for the differing learning styles and needs of all pupils.

In addition, our youngest children in early years have a safe and stimulating environment, a well-resourced classroom free flows into a dedicated early years garden with water play, allotments, bikes and trikes, a mud kitchen and our very own conker tree! You will see our children playing and exploring, being active and creating and thinking critically whilst developing a rich vocabulary.

Our classrooms are modern, bright and welcoming spaces where we encourage children to be autonomous with their use of well-stocked resources, ensuring they are readily accessible to all. Every classroom has up-to-date Smartboards and access to both laptops and iPads, along with a separate learning space for computing lessons.

Our extensive library is well-stocked with the latest accelerated read books, also providing some cosy spaces where children can foster their love of reading. Our dining hall has a kitchen space for cookery sessions, and our large multi-purpose hall has gymnastics bars, a stage and multi-media systems to enhance performances and productions.

***St Augustine's has a wonderful library with lots of choices, times and places for quiet reflection and I enjoy my learning every day.***

Pupil quote 2023

***Children flourish academically  
to the nurturing environment***





*Academically, socially and emotionally, thanks  
to the environment provided by the school.*

Parent quote 2023

A photograph of three children in school uniforms crouching in a wooded area, examining the ground. The child in the center is a young boy with blonde hair, wearing a dark blue hoodie with "ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC MOUNTAIN" visible. To his right, a taller boy with dark hair is leaning over, and another child is partially visible in the foreground. The ground is covered with fallen leaves, and the background shows trees with some autumn foliage. The text "Our learning environment" is overlaid in white at the bottom of the image.

Our learning  
environment

# Our curriculum

Our curriculum has recently been entirely redesigned by our skilled subject leaders. Rooted in the National Curriculum expectations with progression from EYFS to Y7, each subject has been carefully planned and sequenced to provide subject-specific knowledge and skills which foster an understanding and love of each individual area of learning.

Teachers skilfully encourage the children to 'think and link' across all areas of the curriculum in order to fully embed their learning as a whole. Subject leaders also plan for opportunities to embrace diversity across the curriculum, whilst ways to support, scaffold and challenge are considered in every lesson.

We intend for pupils to know more and remember more with every lesson, thinking and linking their new learning with previous knowledge and skills in order to foster a broader and deeper understanding of the curriculum as a whole. We ensure that our pupils are given the exciting, real-life experiences they need to fully embrace new concepts and develop a life-long love of learning.

As part of our commitment to high-quality learning

experiences, Music, French, and PE are delivered weekly by staff with specialisms in these areas. We also have trained Forest School teaching assistants who plan for immersive, child-led outdoor learning experiences across the year.

Children get off to a great start in our award-winning Early Years department, recognised by the Pearson National Teaching Awards with a 'Certificate of Excellence'. From the very start of their education and throughout their time with us, teachers endeavour to plan exciting, memorable learning opportunities, which foster curiosity, encourage confidence and embed a depth of knowledge, skills and understanding.

As an inclusive school, we work in partnership with parents and professionals to identify and support children with additional needs across the four areas of SEND. The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENDCO) works closely with the class teachers and outside agencies to ensure that children's needs are identified early, accurately assessed, carefully planned for and that progress is regularly reviewed. 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 underpins the essence of our daily school life and the curriculum. It is based on the belief that God has a plan for creation, a plan to build his kingdom of peace, love and justice. Pope Francis emphasises that it is our duty to work together to bring about a more just and peaceful world: to put love into action. At St. Augustine's, we believe this is a vocation for the common good, a call to treat everyone as brothers and sisters and is something that we live through our mission statement.

The British Values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance are matched with our school virtues, which underpin our behaviour system. By practising these daily, we teach our children that they are not something just to learn but something to 'live out' and we reflect at the end of each day on the way in which we have done this. We also link these together with the NHS '5 Ways to Wellbeing', ensuring that our children understand the importance of protecting their mental health and that by living in a way that respects both ourselves and each other, we can truly flourish.

***I am always encouraged to keep going and I can ask for help whenever I need it. I have fun with lots of friends across the school. Chaplaincy Team is a chance to share your ideas and show your talents. I like being a voice for other people and bringing my own ideas to help our school community and others around the world.***

Pupil quote 2023

## Catholic social teaching and British values



# Beyond the curriculum

Developing the whole child



***I like the classrooms because they are always welcoming, and they encourage us all to do our best. One of the topics we have studied this year has been finding out about the world's diverse cultures.***

Pupil quote 2023





## Pastoral and Wellbeing Support

At St. Augustine's we feel that the pastoral welfare of our children is the essential foundation on which learning can take place. Our dedicated pastoral team comprises of a SENCO, Family Support Worker, Three Emotional Literacy Support Assistants (ELSA) and our two nurture dogs, Bonnie and Baxter. We have a sensory regulation space and a wellbeing room which children can visit if they are feeling overwhelmed, need a quieter space to learn or if they need pastoral support or interventions.

## Trips and Experiences

We run regular trips to residential facilities, museums, galleries, theatres and sports venues. In addition, we aim to provide enriching workshops and regularly invite visitors to school, to further enhance our children's experiences and complement our curriculum.

As a Catholic school we also regularly visit our parish church of St. Mary's and St. Augustine's. The children thoroughly enjoy participating in Mass and Liturgies in the beautiful and spiritual surroundings, led by our priest, Canon Peter Vellacott who plays an active part in the Catholic Life of the school.

## After School Clubs

Across the school year, staff and volunteers provide a range of clubs which focus on developing skills, furthering knowledge and having fun. Each term, children are allowed to sign up for at least one club. Clubs run from 3.15pm until 4.00pm.

Clubs offered continue to grow and include a range of team sports and multi-skills, choir, computing, crafts, gardening, cooking and reading. We also offer children the chance to learn to play musical instruments such as the recorder, piano and violin.

## Wrap-around care

We offer childcare from 7.30am until 6pm every day. Based in our 'Wellbeing Room', we have created a "home from home" for the children called 'Little Stars'. Children are served breakfast and a light tea in the evening; a range of activities are planned both indoors and outdoors, supported by our Sports Coach.

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## 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, with the elected Year 6 pupils becoming our Head Students. These pupils attend a fortnightly meeting to discuss school initiatives, consult on school policies and support whole school events and fundraising. Our Year 6 School Councillors are also part of the local Youth Council which meets termly with town councillors and the mayor's secretary to plan youth initiatives in Stamford.

***The curriculum is engaging and well-rounded, fostering not only academic growth but the development of important life skills***

Parent quote 2023

### 'Laudato Si Team'

'Laudato Si' (Praise be to You) is a Papal encyclical that focuses on 'care for our common home'. Our Laudato Si Team is a special kind of council made up of one elected pupil from each class, designed to enable the school to help the environment. The team meet fortnightly with their staff lead, to discuss and plan how to improve both the school environment and that of the wider world. The Eco-team members feedback on the key highlights of their meetings in their classrooms to keep everyone informed of their plans.

***In the Chaplaincy team I have been able to help others, including raising money for others in need and encouraging everyone to be part of our school mission.***

Pupil quote 2023

### 'Future Saints' 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. 'Future Saints' meet weekly with our school Chaplain to review the action plan they helped to write and consider different ways in which they are strengthening mission, deepening prayer and enabling communion. This will establish deep rooted and uncompromising attributes that will permeate through our local community and beyond to create intercultural understanding and respect.





## **Our community**

At St. Augustine's our mission centres on love for our community. Through our Virtues Passport incentive, every class plans a 'Faith in Action' outreach project each year which aims to benefit our local community or environment. We are also very proud of our on-site community food hub named 'George's Food Hub', which aims to distribute surplus produce from local supermarkets, bakers and organic growers to our community on a 'pay as you feel' basis.

We believe that parents are their child's first teacher and therefore we hold our partnership with parents in great importance. Parents can stay connected with their child's learning via a safe online community called Seesaw which enables teachers to share photos and videos of wonderful classroom moments with parents throughout the school week. Our school 'Arbor' app also shares information about pupil attendance and behaviour along with school letters and newsletters, payment facilities and first aid information.

There are also many face-to-face opportunities for parents to engage in their children's learning and school life, including attending class worship and liturgy, special assemblies and drama/music productions, parent consultation evenings, PTA events and more.

## **Joining St. Augustine's**

You are warmly invited to visit and see the school in action; this can be arranged by calling the school office and making an appointment or emailing [enquiries@st-augustine.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@st-augustine.lincs.sch.uk) We look forward to welcoming you and hope that you are excited to see it in person, all that our school has to offer your child and family.

Please visit our website for more information on how to apply for a place at St. Augustine's [www.st-augustine.lincs.sch.uk/parents/admissions](http://www.st-augustine.lincs.sch.uk/parents/admissions)

***Pupils like learning and spending time together at this warm and welcoming school. The dedicated leaders are ambitious for all pupils. Staff care for pupils and get to know them all as individuals. The new headteacher has provided dynamic leadership since taking up her post.***

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Catholic Voluntary Academy

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