

















It's Your Story Tell It Well

Every child has a story waiting to be told. A - and the journey to get there. A story of challenges faced and of opportunities seized.

At the College we are very fortunate to benefit from a purpose-built and fully equipped award-winning building. However, I believe that great schools are not made by the buildings they occupy, but by the people who work story of goals achieved within them. We are proud at Catmose College to have committed staff and talented, hardworking students whose contributions make our College truly exceptional.

> Our primary aim is to encourage each student to become a mature, independently minded individual who has the necessary skills and knowledge to be of value to themselves and society. We know that every student is talented, so our role as educators is to ensure these talents are fully realised. To achieve this, we have high expectations of every student, emphasising the importance of hard work and doing one's best in every circumstance.

We offer an extensive curriculum both inside and outside the classroom to ensure that every student can develop their existing strengths as well as discover new ones. Our academic courses are complemented and enhanced by an 'Electives' programme which encompasses the creative arts, sports, music and drama, with many further opportunities also available in our flourishing extracurricular programme. These experiences offer a sound preparation for our students who go on to higher education, including Oxford and Cambridge.

A visit to experience our outstanding facilities and to meet staff and students will leave you in no doubt that this is the right place for your child.

I look forward to welcoming you to our College soon.

Every Good Story Begins With Character

Character is who you are when no-one is looking. We teach maths and science, literature and sport, but achievement always comes down to the same thing; character.

At Catmose College, we believe that the true measure of success is found not just in grades, accolades, or trophies, but in the kind of person a student becomes along the way. From the moment they arrive in Year 7, students are immersed in a culture that encourages ambition, kindness, and a love of learning.

Across scholarship programmes, musical ensembles, dramatic productions, sports teams, and international exchanges, our students discover what drives them. They learn to step forward with confidence, whether performing on stage, solving complex problems in class, or leading with integrity.

Every opportunity is designed to challenge and support them, allowing each individual to flourish in their own unique way.

As one student shared, "Catmose offers lots of wonderful opportunities, such as the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and foreign exchanges, all of which have helped me build lasting friendships and grow in confidence and maturity". Whether stepping onto a stage, pushing academic boundaries or exploring creative passions, our students begin shaping their future from the very start. Because at Catmose, we believe that achievement begins and ends with character.

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Student survey





















Calm, Purposeful & Happy

These are three words that visitors to the College often use. We believe that students should work in an environment where each student is committed to learning and where mutual respect is the norm.

The College is fantastic at building confidence in students. Supporting students to progress and fulfil their potential. Praising students when they are doing well, which in turn builds their confidence. The emails and letters regarding progress are always wonderful to receive.

Parent Survey

We want students to enjoy their time at the College because lessons are engaging and the curriculum is interesting. The College building was designed around these principles.

Our students have access to a state of the art information technology network which includes a wireless connection for laptops and iPads. Our facilities, including the library and IT, are available for students to use from 8.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Thursday, with an earlier close of 4.30pm on Friday; this is to enable all students to fully engage with everything on offer.

Students in Year 7 are assigned to a form tutor who will take responsibility for them, look after their interests and be the first point of contact between the College and parents throughout their five years with us.

We also have a dedicated Client Services Team who support and develop the partnership between College, student and parents. With such close links, every student is supported and cared for, ensuring they are able to benefit both from their experience at Catmose College and the excellent progress they make.

Academic Excellence

Our curriculum offers both breadth and depth, challenging our students to succeed while creating a framework of support so that they learn from their mistakes and go on to experience the exhilaration of success.

Our academic programme aims to instil in all students a lifelong love of learning which is achieved by encouraging each student not only to strive for the highest possible academic standard, but also to engage with and enjoy their learning. In the first three years at Catmose College, students follow a core curriculum including mathematics, English, the sciences, a modern foreign language, history and geography. For the last two years at the College, students can personalise the course they study, recognising their strengths and interests, and pursue traditional academic subjects which also include religious studies and computer science. There are also a full range of applied courses including sport, business studies, food technology, product design and engineering. To complement these, we offer a range of expressive and performing arts courses, including painting and drawing, photography, drama and music. We have found that these skills and competencies make our students particularly attractive to sixth form providers, universities and employers.







Electives

We aim to ensure that
all students leaving
the College are ready
to tackle any of life's
challenges, therefore
developing skills such as
good decision-making

In order to make new challenges available to students, the College offers an extensive range of extracurricular activities.

We are very proud of the Electives programme we offer our students, it forms a central part of the extracurricular and enrichment life of the College. Electives take place on Wednesday afternoons and are led by our own teachers, support staff and visiting tutors who are experts in their field.

Programmes have been designed to broaden student experience and develop skills that universities and employers find attractive in potential candidates. There is a strong link between students who take part in a range of extracurricular activities and successful outcomes in examination results.

Students can choose to take part in activities such as the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, cooking, chess and basketball. The full list of Electives can be found via our website www.catmosecollege.com/electives























Sporting Success

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Within the core sport curriculum, every student is given the best possible opportunity to achieve a high standard and to develop a wide range of skills, tactics and strategies over a range of team and individual sports.

Extracurricular sport is a vibrant part of College life, with teams at all ages participating in a full range of sports and physical activities in local, regional and national competitions. Enrichment clubs, team practices and competitive fixtures operate during lunchtimes and after school, whilst the wide range of sports and physical activities remain popular choices within the Electives programme.

The House system also aims to enrich students' lives by promoting friendly competition within the College. All students are placed in one of four houses and events take place throughout the year, with students encouraged to participate and represent their House according to their strengths and abilities. Each House is led by a House Captain.

In total, there are over forty inter-house competitions, including football, basketball and cross-country.

The College offers a Sports Scholarship programme to support, stretch and challenge our most gifted and talented sports performers. Each year it has continued to go from strength to strength with a number of students now competing at a national level.

The College is proud of its pursuit of sporting excellence and in preparing students for a lifelong involvement in sport and physical activity.

Stuart Williams, Principal

Trips, visits & extracurricular

Explorations, excursions and extracurricular pursuits are where we excel, and we encourage all students to take part in these enriching activities.

Some trips are linked to the academic curriculum, such as the John Clare trip to Helpston that runs alongside the study of his poetry in Year 7 English. Other trips develop cultural understanding, tolerance and enlightenment such as the Year 8 trip to a cathedral, mosque and gurdwara to complement the religious studies curriculum. We also offer once-in-a-lifetime experiences to explore parts of the world that combine volunteering projects with cultural tourism such as trips to Sumatra and Nepal.

From Oakham to Malaysia, day trips and tours of exotic locations, Catmose invests heavily in seeking as many opportunities as possible.

Our staff relish the chance to witness and help our students develop in very different ways to those seen in the classroom, and in Year 11 it is these memories that our students recall as some of their most memorable learning.

We believe these experiences offer opportunities to develop young people's cultural awareness and independence, so that skills encouraged within the College can be applied and improved outside their normal environment.







The Performing Arts

Our performing arts lessons are a lively and integral part of life at Catmose College.

We are very fortunate to have state of the art facilities, including a fully equipped theatre, separate dance and drama studios and a music technology suite which includes a professional recording studio. Students are involved in a variety of drama clubs and have the chance to devise and direct their own plays to perform to many different audiences

There is a proud tradition of music and singing at the College. All new students are encouraged to take up, or continue learning an instrument. Tuition is provided for around 25% of students who take the opportunity to improve their confidence and enhance their overall musicianship. As well as one-to-one tuition, Catmose College believes strongly in the importance of nurturing a musician through group performance so offers a variety of ensembles which rehearse each week. These include; junior and senior orchestra, choir, jazz band, flute and wind ensembles, rock band, plus guitar and keyboard club.

We compete successfully at both local and national music drama festivals, while the music ensembles and drama groups perform annually at the popular Christmas concert at All Saints' Church in Oakham.



Our students also have the opportunity to go 'on tour' around Europe or the UK performing music, dance and drama to audiences across the continent.

Our whole-school performances form one of the highlights of the school year, often involving over 200 students and invariably sell out well in advance. As well as performing on stage, our students are involved in arranging the choreography, constructing the set and organising the backstage and technical functions.

There are three tiers of music scholarship on offer to students, which offer varying levels of financial assistance towards music tuition and personal mentoring. Our music scholars also benefit from unique performance opportunities, which include taking part in a workshop with visiting members of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra



Scholarships

Scholarships recognise exceptional talent in a specific subject area, offering resources and enrichment activities to help students reach their full potential.



The scholarships are designed to recognise exceptional talent and to provide the facilities, resources and staffing to allow high-ability students to achieve their potential.

Our Academic Scholars have enjoyed a programme of cultural and intellectual enrichment, having visited exhibitions, theatres, universities and much more.

Our music scholars benefit from subsidised instrumental lessons and exciting workshops throughout the year.











Admissions & Transition

Catmose College is the first choice for many parents, with us being oversubscribed for many years in each year group. If you wish to apply for a place for your child please do so via your home local authority.

The College does not have a catchment area; we have in the past accepted applications from Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Lincolnshire and our home county of Rutland.

TRANSITION

We believe that a smooth, positive and exciting transition from Year 6 to Year 7 is crucial to the start of students' time at Catmose College.

Our key aims for transition:

- To reassure Year 6 pupils about the transfer to College and to prepare them for College life.
- To inform parents of their choices and to enable them to fully support their child through the transition process.
- To give primary school staff the opportunity to pass on key information about their Year 6 cohort.
- To enable the College to gather relevant information about each individual student.
- The period for transition can be difficult for students and parents alike. If handled correctly, students can begin life at their new school confidently and are in a position to develop socially, emotionally and academically. Parents can feel informed and confident that their child will move smoothly onto the next phase of their educational life.

Further information on the transition programme, how to apply and details of our Admissions Policy can be found on our website www.catmosecollege.com/admissions.

The College has given my daughter confidence and focus. All of her teachers and teaching assistants have been super, the intervention team are impressive and beyond my expectation. I feel very fortunate that my daughter is at Catmose College and that the positive environment will develop her academically and socially.

Parent Survey













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Stuart Williams, Principal







