



Northbourne Park School Educational Mission Statement

Northbourne Park School aims to provide all of our pupils with the highest quality learning across a wide range of academic, extra-curricular and pastoral experiences. Our pupils discover and develop their talents and interests to the full, in preparation both for their senior schools and for later life. They learn to flourish as happy, balanced and caring individuals. We respect the particular qualities of each child and inspire individual confidence, initiative, leadership, teamwork and enduring community values.

At Northbourne Park School, we believe that secure, happy and loved children work hard and participate strongly. Our pupils' health and happiness exist at the heart of our educational philosophy. The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and all staff members at the School fulfil their obligations and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

To achieve these aims we will:

- Strive for excellence in a culture of learning, across a broad range of experiences
- Through our Christian tradition, seek to encourage the individual's spiritual growth and nurture the development of tolerance, understanding and respect for others in a community open to different faiths, traditions and cultures.
- Attract pupils to the school who will both benefit from and contribute to the academic and extra-curricular purposes of the school, so that they will gain from all that Northbourne Park offers whilst enhancing its reputation for being a centre of excellence.
- Recruit and retain the best quality staff and support staff and ensure that they are all afforded the conditions of service and provision for training and personal development consistent with the best practice in independent boarding preparatory schools.
- Uphold the school's reputation as a top boarding preparatory school.
- Provide and maintain the best possible facilities to support all aspects of the School's academic, extra-curricular and pastoral objectives.
- Continue to operate our financial affairs so that we remain financially sound and generate sufficient cash surpluses to invest in the future.
- Review and develop our approaches in order better to meet the needs of the modern world.

Northbourne Park School defines its ethos by the outcome of its pupils as they leave the school, inspiring in every child the confidence to succeed.

Our pupils,

- Are happy, articulate and confident children, who develop strongly in our care.
- Want to get involved in a range of extra-curricular opportunities.
- Celebrate both their own individual successes and those of others.
- Learn how to learn.
- Look after each other and naturally understand the importance of leadership through service.

Our pupils will learn in partnership with us in their academic lives, to:

- become confident and independent learners.
- enjoy their educational journey.
- gain the confidence to think freely, imaginatively and creatively.
- access a wide range of learning skills and strategies.
- recognise how subjects and skills interrelate.
- engage in open dialogue of trust with teachers about their progress.
- be academically ambitious through the setting of realistic but stretching targets.
- develop excellent core skills in literacy, writing, numeracy, speaking and listening.
- read with an increasingly discerning and critical eye.
- recognise and balance the views and influences of others.
- research using a wide variety of skills and media, including the library and IT.
- revise and review work as an essential part of an effective learning process.
- take a pride in their work, presenting their work neatly, spelling accurately, and developing their written work.
- develop as articulate, confident communicators, one-to-one, in small groups and in public.
- recognise that learning does not just happen in the classroom but across the broader life of the school.

...in their Extra- Curricular / Pastoral / Spiritual Lives, to:

- enjoy a balanced and healthy lifestyle of work and play.
- discover and develop interests and talents in Music, Drama and Sport.
- manage successfully their physical and emotional development.
- work seamlessly towards short and longer-term goals.
- create a happy and productive environment in which to live and work.
- be increasingly self-disciplined and independent in approach to school life.
- develop positive community values, manners and integrity based on trust, empathy and respect.
- gain a growing awareness and respect for different people, wider environments, communities, cultures and traditions.
- grow spiritually within our school's Christian foundations.
- learn to manage considered risks and to make 'response able' decisions.
- learn to lead responsibly and through service to increasingly wider communities.
- transfer with confidence to their chosen senior school.

Northbourne Park School will:

- maintain small classes with a maximum of 18 pupils to every teacher.
- provide a single nominated tutor, responsible each year for overseeing the holistic welfare of each child.
- structure an exciting, varied and stimulating curriculum.
- deliver modern educational practice.
- differentiate lessons according to the individual needs of every child.
- develop an enrichment programme aimed at stretching the more able students further and faster.
- diagnose and offer remedial support, both individually and within the classroom, according to every pupil's need.

- engage in robust reporting systems.
- appoint highly qualified and dedicated staff.
- appraise and monitor the professional development of staff members annually, including peer review.
- maintain a diversity within the staff of ages, genders and religious and cultural backgrounds.
- work in close liaison with parents, encouraging them to be involved in the school.
- provide consistency of approach through clear policies and protocols.
- foster good relationships with a wide range of senior schools.

Our Staff will:

- foster natural inquisitiveness, curiosity, awe and wonder in every pupil.
- foster exciting and nurturing learning environments.
- stimulate quirky, non-linear and lateral thinking in classes.
- structure learning for pupils into a seamless, stimulating and challenging educational programme.
- reward and recognise good work, effort and attitude.
- develop responsible leadership skills.
- foster a respect for the environment.
- communicate with parents openly and honestly.
- test pupils where necessary against national assessment scales to chart progress.
- keep accurate records of achievements and other information pertinent to each child's progress and to review this regularly.

Our Parents will:

- support the school ethos and discipline policy.
- reinforce school learning objectives.
- encourage an environment of trust and open communication.