



## ARE YOU AND YOUR FAMILY NEW TO THE UNITED KINGDOM?

DID YOU KNOW THAT YOUR CHILD CAN GO TO A LOCAL CATHOLIC  
SCHOOL FREE OF CHARGE?



*“Our schools are to be centred in the person and message of Jesus Christ.”*

*Right Reverend Bishop Séamus Cunningham*

### WHY ARE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS FREE?

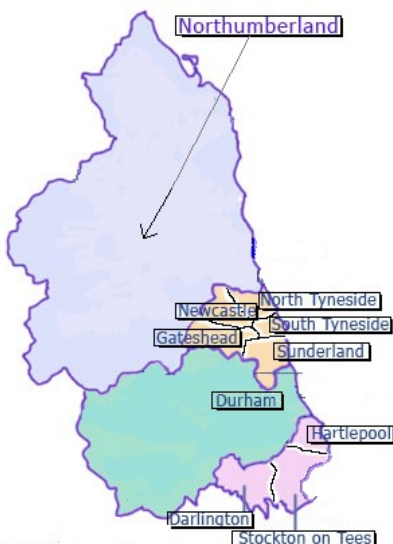
England is one of the very few countries in the world where parents have the right to choose to send their child to a Catholic school which is funded by the state.

For over 100 years Catholics in England raised money to build their own schools. They did this because they wanted their children to be educated in schools where they would learn about and experience Catholic beliefs and values.

Then in 1944 the Catholic bishops reached a historic agreement with the state. From that time onwards the state has met the running costs of Catholic schools.

### KEEPING THEIR CATHOLIC CHARACTER

The governors of Catholic schools are responsible for their school's Catholic identity. They employ all the staff. In other schools it is the Local Authority who is responsible for this.



**Catholic governors always appoint a Headteacher who values the school's Catholic nature and is dedicated to its Catholic life, including prayer.**

In the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle there are 156 Catholic schools with pupils aged from 4 –19 years

Governors also ensure that education for sex and personal relationships is in line with the Church's teachings.

Religious Education is given more time than in other schools, using text books written by Catholics for use in Catholic schools. By law, whenever the school has a government inspection, the diocese also inspects the school on behalf of the Bishop.

### HOW WELL DO PUPILS ACHIEVE?

Catholic schools in the diocese and nationally are judged to be excellent.

### WHAT WILL YOUR CHILD EXPERIENCE?

He or she will be part of a Christian and Catholic community where each child is valued and loved as God's unique creation.

Every aspect of a Catholic school's life is formed by Gospel teaching and Christian principles. Good relationships based on respect for each other are at the heart of a Catholic school. Prayer and worship are at the centre of school life, so our young people can develop spiritually as well as academically and socially.



### WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR CHILD TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY?

Contact the school of your choice by letter or telephone to talk about enrolling your son or daughter.

Your parish priest can give you the names and addresses of your local Catholic primary and secondary schools. You can also get this information from the Diocesan Department for Education (details below).

**Diocesan Department for Education**  
St Cuthbert's House, West Road,  
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 7PY  
Tel: 0191 2433313  
education@diocesehn.org.uk  
www.edurcdhn.org.uk