**A CHARTER FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

***Catholic schools are communities inspired by the spirit and message of Christ. Christ’s commandment to ‘love one another as I have loved you’ promotes an ethos which is:***

**Gospel-inspired:** It gives living witness to the Gospel values of love, respect, truth and justice in every aspect of school life.

**Person-centred:**  It promotes the dignity, self-esteem and full development of all, as persons made in the image and likeness of God.

**Life-affirming:** It promotes a positive culture of respect for life at all its stages, proclaiming the ‘Good News’ of life to the full and an eternal life of love to come.

**Reflective and Worshipping:** It encourages an open and inquiring approach to faith and learning, promoting opportunities for reflection, prayer, and celebration of the sacraments.

**Welcoming and Inclusive:** It welcomes and is respectful of people of all faith traditions, personal circumstances and community backgrounds, contributing actively to the work of peace, reconciliation and sharing.

 *(Insert School name)*

provides high quality, holistic education for all our pupils so that they can develop their full uniqueness and potential. In our school the person and message of Christ find expression in:

* A ‘Living Community’ of Faith, Love and Service;
* A reflective and worshipping community, where the presence of Jesus is celebrated in prayer, worship and the sacraments;
* A school Leadership which models Gospel values and is committed to the promotion and celebration of the Catholic Ethos;
* A school community committed to:
	+ Preparing pupils to lead fulfilling and purposeful lives, becoming responsible citizens, respectful of diversity, who will contribute positively to the Common Good.
	+ The development of each person’s full potential in a climate of joy, freedom, respect, co-operation and celebration.
	+ The holistic enrichment of every pupil – intellectual, spiritual, physical, moral, social and emotional.
	+ The promotion of a spirit of charity, social justice, global awareness and concern for the marginalised and vulnerable, leading to practical outreach and partnership.
	+ The promotion of a positive, joyful and caring attitude to life and others, reflected in a respect for the sacredness of every human life at all its stages.
	+ A culture of mutual respect and understanding in which people of all faiths, traditions and personal circumstances are welcomed and respected.
	+ A climate throughout the school of collegiality, listening, trust, collaboration, healing and peace.

Each member of our school community, governors, staff, pupils and parent/carers, is asked to sign the School Charter and, in doing so, to commit to upholding the aims and values expressed in the Charter, so that **together** we may realise the vision and mission of our school.

I agree to uphold and promote the principles expressed in this charter.

*Signature: Date:*