



Our Lady Catholic Primary School



School Prospectus 2026/27

'We learn to love and love to learn with Jesus'

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WELCOME....

The children, staff and Governors at Our Lady Catholic Primary School offer you a warm welcome. Our Lady is a Catholic school and the teachings of Jesus Christ are at the very centre of the daily lives of the children. The aims of the school are contained in our mission statement: 'We learn to love and love to learn with Jesus.' We work in close partnership with parents and our parish, recognising the unique nature of each child and celebrating what every individual adds to our school family.

I hope our prospectus will give you some insight into what we try to offer through a challenging and rich curriculum. Children who join our community are encouraged to achieve high academic standards, to work independently and as part of a team, as well as participating in the rich extra-curricular life of our school. We endeavour to equip children with the skills for lifelong learning. Our children, we trust, are prepared to take on the challenges that they will face in an ever-changing world with confidence, integrity and good judgement.

It is our aim that all children will be happy at Our Lady School and will flourish in our caring environment. I hope you will take the time to visit our community and find out about us from others who are already part of our school. When you visit and as you read through this prospectus, what should you look out for to enable you to make an informed decision? Each family will have its own priorities, but I would suggest that the caring ethos, the confident spirit and the happiness of the children are just as important as the first class education we strive to provide.

I hope you will find this prospectus helpful in gaining an impression of our school and I look forward to meeting you. Thank you for your interest.

Mr. Richard Curry (*Headteacher*)



MEET OUR STAFF TEAM

Here is a list of all of the current staff who work hard to provide the very best education for your children:

Mr R Curry

Headteacher

Mrs L Avery

Assistant Headteacher

Mrs A Blass

Assistant Headteacher

Miss J McDonald

Inclusion Manager

Office Staff

Mrs J Young

School Business Manager

Mrs M Hobbs

Office Assistant

Mrs V Stevenson

Inclusion Lead

Mr T Shields

EYFS teacher

Miss N Cole

Early Years Practitioner

Mrs H Ashcroft

Early Years Practitioner

Miss P McNamee

Year 1 teacher

Mrs M O'Donnell

Teaching Assistant

Mrs Ampem/Mrs Avery

Year 2 teachers

Mrs N Green

Teaching Assistant

Mrs Ashley

Year 3 teacher

Mrs S Caswell

Teaching Assistant

Mrs C Ampem & Mrs L Avery

Year 4 teacher

Miss K Mitchell

Teaching Assistant

Mrs T Valentine & Mrs L Pearce

Year 5 teacher

Mrs V Hill

Teaching Assistant

Miss N Ashman

Learning Support Assistant

Mrs M Foster & Mrs L Pearce

Year 6 teachers

Mrs L Digby

Teaching Assistant

Mr C Nicolaou

Sports Coach

MEET OUR GOVERNORS

As a faith school, the Governors are committed to supporting all staff to draw out the light in every child. The school will nurture the children's personal development, to equip them with the academic, social and emotional skills to make a successful transition to secondary school. We will endeavour to ensure that your child will have joyful and enriching experiences, beyond the academic excellence offered, in a personalised learning environment. Here is a list of all of the school's Governing Body for 2025/26:

Mrs K Donkor
Fr Norbert Fernandes
Mr Richard Curry
Mrs L Felicien
Mr P McKenna
Mrs H Meyer
Mrs H Ashcroft
Mrs T Valentine
Mrs L Avery
Mrs A Blass

Chair of Governors
Vice Chair of Governors
Headteacher
Foundation Governor
Foundation Governor
Parent Governor
Parent Governor
Staff Governor
Staff Governor
Staff Governor



OUR AIMS & ETHOS

our mission statement.

We learn to love and love to learn with Jesus

The Community of Our Lady Catholic Primary School owes its special character to our belief in God and our commitment to Him. School life is inspired by the teachings of Jesus Christ. We work together to create a happy, secure and caring environment; where everyone is of equal importance, is valued and is given every opportunity to develop their spiritual, academic, physical and social potential.

Our Mission Statement is centered on the core teaching of Jesus that we 'learn to love and learn to love with Jesus' is at the very centre of our mission statement. We want Him to be at the very centre of our school. This love of Jesus for every human person can be understood from Reception all the way through to our Year 6 children. Our school mission statement includes everyone.

We have agreed our aims for the Catholic Education of our children as follows:

- To reflect the teachings of Jesus in both relationships with children, the wider community, the curriculum and in the environment we provide for them.
- While recognising the need for academic achievement, we promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of every child in order to prepare them for life beyond Our Lady Catholic Primary School.
- To provide a safe, secure and welcoming environment for children, staff, parents and visitors.
- To provide high quality teaching in the context of a lively and stimulating environment where learning is enjoyable and challenging.
- To celebrate the multicultural nature of our community.
- To encourage a culture which celebrates success and one in which children can participate with confidence.

A HAPPY START...

On confirmation of your child's Nursery or Reception Class place with us, you will receive an invitation to our stay and play sessions, which are held in late June or early July. The sessions take place on three mornings, spread over three weeks. During the last session, parents/carers are invited to the school to meet and talk to our senior leadership team, Governors, Parent Teacher Association and others. We also encourage you to tell us about your child's particular needs which you can do at any time.



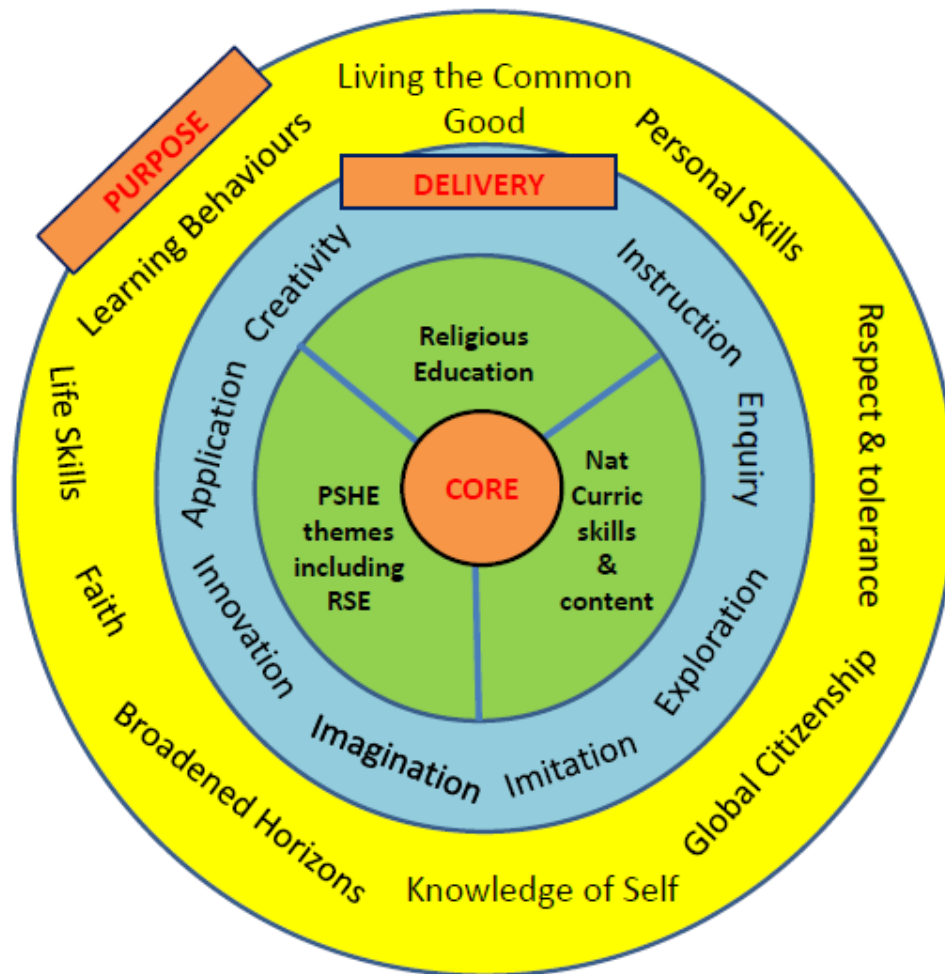
Our welcome pack is available and includes material you may find useful when helping your child to prepare for the experience of starting school. Before your child starts school, staff from Our Lady Catholic Primary School may meet with staff from your child's preschool setting. This is to gain information about your child and help us to have a greater understanding of their needs. You are also invited to an induction session with your child in September to get to know the staff working with your child better. Our aim is to make starting school a happy and memorable experience for everyone.

OUR CURRICULUM

We aim to provide a curriculum that is broad, balanced, relevant and responsive to the needs of the pupils, the wider community and the society in which they operate. Our curriculum, underpinned by our Catholic ethos, aims to be responsive to the needs of all pupils, regardless of ability or other factors, and develops essential knowledge and skills alongside key skills of resilience, resourcefulness, reflectiveness and reciprocity, which are developed as the building blocks for all learning.

The curriculum is at the heart of everything we do in our busy learning environment. Every day provides an abundance of learning opportunities and we seek, therefore, to match the learning to the child so that they can excel in all that they do.

We have developed our own curriculum model at Our Lady Catholic Primary School, which can be visualized as follows:



The **Core Curriculum** at the centre determines the key aspects of the curriculum content that must be delivered. A yearly overview, broken into terms, will ensure that the content is delivered across the year group and over time within the Key Stage.

This overview is published on the school website. A range of **delivery** models will inform how the key skills and knowledge are developed and will impact upon the pedagogy deployed to ensure learning and the **purpose** will set the learning in its context and may shape the whole learning experience.

There are three Key Stages of education in the primary school:

- (i) The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS): Nursery & Reception Class
- (ii) Key Stage 1 (KS1): Years 1 and 2
- (iii) Key Stage 2 (KS2): Years 3 to 6



We believe that every day should be used to the full and we want every child to be challenged and keen to learn.

We view the time the children spend with us as a developmental process, whereby the curriculum gradually acquires greater depth and expands as the children mature.

The curriculum aims to increase their knowledge, develop concepts and skills and encourage positive attitudes towards learning.

We want the children to strive for excellence in every aspect of our broad and balanced creative curriculum and to think for themselves, exercise their imaginations and enjoy their learning.



Our Nursery and Reception classes work as a unit and follow the Early Years Foundation Stage programme, which covers all aspects of development in the Government's Early Years Foundation Stage Guidance.

Children are assessed regularly through observation (not testing) and opportunities are given for learning through carefully planned play situations, as well as through more formal (but fun) teaching times.

The Foundation Stage programme includes three prime areas:

- Personal, Social and Emotional development.
- Communication and Language.
- Physical Development.

There are also four specific areas:

‘Literacy’, ‘Mathematics’, ‘Understanding of the World’ and ‘Expressive Arts.’



Our Curriculum Framework includes the following in Key Stages 1 & 2.

The Core Subjects comprise of Religious Education, English, Mathematics and Science.

The Foundation Subjects comprise of Computing, Design & Technology (DT), History, Geography, Art & Design, Music, Physical Education, Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE) and French.



OUR EARLY YEARS...

The Early Years Foundation Stage is the phase of learning from a child's birth to the end of their Reception Year in school. If your child is attending a nursery or playgroup, this Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is the continuation of their learning. The main aim of this phase is to underpin all future learning.

We work with each unique child, building positive relationships and creating an enabling environment, in which they will learn and develop. We regularly monitor and evaluate our work. The curriculum is always under review and our aim is to constantly improve our school for our children and for our community.

The EYFS Framework explains how and what children will be learning to support their healthy development during Nursery and Reception class. Children in the EYFS learn skills, acquire new knowledge and demonstrate their understanding through **7 areas of learning and development**.

Children should mostly develop the **3 prime areas** first. These are:

- Communication and language;
- Physical development; and
- Personal, social and emotional development.



These prime areas are essential for the child's healthy development and future learning.

As children grow, the prime areas will help them to develop skills in **4 specific areas**. These are:

- Literacy;
- Mathematics;
- Understanding the world; and
- Expressive arts and design.

The seven areas are used to plan the learning and activities for individuals and groups. The curriculum is designed to be really flexible so that staff can follow the child's unique needs and interests. Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active and following their own lines of enquiry in a supportive and stimulating environment.



Learning is often through carefully designed play and exploration opportunities, alongside more formal adult led activities or 1:1 work. The learning environment, inside and outside of the class, aims to be fully enabling and stimulating, encouraging children to explore.



Tasks may be child initiated, using a continuous provision that has been carefully planned to enhance the next steps and interests of learners.

During this time the adult role is to enable, observe and intervene with further enhancements that will enable learning to move on or interest levels to be sustained.

At other times, a direct skill may be taught 1:1 or in a small group with the aim that during CIL (Child Initiated Learning) these skills might then be used independently.

On other occasions, a whole class session may be used to engage all of the children in a key learning moment or series of moments.

High levels of engagement are key as is expert intervention at the right time and for the right period by the adult, ensuring that children's learning is uninterrupted.

Throughout the EYFS, the following characteristics of learning underpin all engagements:

1. Playing and exploring

- Finding out and exploring
- Playing with what they know
- Being willing to 'have a go'



2. Active Learning

- Being involved and concentrating
- Keeping trying
- Enjoying achieving what they set out to do



3. Creating and thinking critically

- Having their own ideas
- Making links
- Choosing ways to do things



The EYFS curriculum themes are mapped across the year, broken down into each term and is available to all parents on the website.

The aim, however, is not to be rigid with this context, but rather to respond to the needs and interests of all learners, ensuring that the characteristics of learning are a key focus.

Throughout the EYFS, staff release an 'EYFS Insight' which includes information about what children are learning at school, what parents can do to support this learning at home and photos of the children's learning. Staff also track progress in relation to the seven areas of learning and the characteristics of effective learners. This information is then shared with the receiving Year 1 teacher in order that accurate assessments can be used to plan early next steps at the start of KS1.

Ofsted Report:

'Children love going to school and they encourage and support each other so that children of all ages and abilities thrive.'



KEY STAGES 1 & 2

The curriculum is carefully planned by the teachers based upon the expectations laid down in the National Curriculum (2014) and the Curriculum Directory for Catholic Schools (2012).

Religious Education is taught as a separate subject and is considered as a **Core Subject**, with a minimum allocation of 10% curriculum time, as required by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

The **National Curriculum** for KS1 and KS2 is comprised of the following **Core Subjects**:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Computing

The following **Foundation Subjects** are also included:

- History
- Geography
- Art
- Design Technology
- Music
- Physical Education
- Modern Foreign Languages



OFSTED & DIOCESAN INSPECTIONS



Our Diocesan inspection was carried out on 23rd September 2021, and was swiftly followed by our Ofsted inspection, which took place on 20th and 21st October, 2021.

Our Lady Catholic Primary School is a '**GOOD**' school with some '**OUTSTANDING**' features and we also provide a '**GOOD**' level of Classroom Religious Education and an

‘OUTSTANDING’ Catholic life to our pupils. We are truly delighted with these outcomes and feel very proud of our whole school community for playing such an important role in our ongoing improvement journey.

To download the full Ofsted report, please click on the following link:

<https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50173184>

To download the full Diocesan report, please click on the following link:

<https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/our-lady-catholic-primary-school/UploadedDocument/2492f9e5-ee5c-4db7-b7d4-42110f1e6ec3/urn-117464-our-lady-wgc.pdf>

The Ofsted team’s final judgements in the Section 5 inspection were as follows:

OFSTED AREA	GRADING
Overall Effectiveness	GOOD
Behaviour and Attitudes	OUTSTANDING
Personal Development	OUTSTANDING
Leadership and Management	GOOD
Early Years Provision	GOOD

The Diocesan team’s final judgements in the Section 48 inspection were as follows:

DIOCESAN AREA	GRADING
Overall Classroom Religious Education	GOOD
The content of classroom religious education	GOOD
Pupil achievement	GOOD
The quality of teaching	GOOD
Effectiveness of leadership and management	GOOD

DIOCESAN AREA	GRADING
Overall Catholic Life of the School	OUTSTANDING
The place of religious education as the core of the curriculum	OUTSTANDING

The experience of Catholic worship	OUTSTANDING
The contribution to the Common Good	OUTSTANDING
Partnership with parents, school, parish & diocese	OUTSTANDING
Effectiveness of leadership and management	OUTSTANDING



Diocesan Inspection Report:

“It is clear from the moment of entering the school that religious education is at the heart of the community.”

We were delighted with much of the phrasing in the Ofsted report, which refers to the school as a ‘**happy and inclusive place.**’ They talk about behaviour in lessons and around the school as being of a ‘**consistently high standard.**’ They also comment on the fact that our children ‘**love going to school...[and they] encourage and support each other so that children of all ages and abilities thrive.**’ These comments are very much echoed by the Diocesan team who carried out our Section 48 inspection. They comment that the “**positive behaviour and positive relationships between pupils and staff acts as a visible reminder of how we treat each other.**” The lead inspector also stated that “**it is clear from the moment of entering the school that religious education is at the heart of the community.**”

The sense of positivity that flows through both of the reports really is testament to the hard work of the children, staff and governors. The fact that the school is described as ‘**a community**’ and ‘**a family**’ and that the ‘**overwhelming majority of parents would recommend the school to other parents**’ is evidence of how far we have come as a whole school community.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We are a Catholic school and the teaching of our faith is of paramount importance to us in the curriculum we offer.

It is our aim that children will come to learn about God's love and compassion for everyone.

Through example, commitment and instruction, the children are led to develop a loving and trusting relationship with God the Father and His Son, Jesus, through the grace of the Holy Spirit - a process which should influence their attitude to life and their relationships with other people.

In order to assist the teaching of our faith, we currently use 'The Way, the Truth and the Life' scheme; taking into account the Curriculum. Directorate for Religious Education, which outlines learning objectives and outcomes as defined by the Bishops of England and Wales.

The Way, the Truth and the Life is at the very centre of our curriculum, which is rooted in an understanding of life based on Gospel truth and values.

Parents have a statutory right to withdraw a child from all or part of religious education or worship but are reminded that the school has no facilities for the supervision of children who are withdrawn. Parents, who wish to exercise this statutory right, are requested to discuss the matter with the Head teacher.



THE SCHOOL DAY

In the morning, children should arrive at school between 8:40am and 8.50am and make their way straight to their classroom, where they will begin their morning activities. Children should not be left before this time as we are unable to supervise them. An adult will be on duty on each school gate and there will also be an adult in both the infant and junior playgrounds from 8:40am to ensure that children make their way to their classroom safely.

Morning activities are a range of tasks which children should be able to complete independently, such as reading, spelling, a mental maths activity or finishing off work from the previous day. The register is taken at 8.50am in the classroom. If children arrive after this time, they must report to the School Office in order to be entered into the late registration book and be marked in for lunch.

At home time, children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 are brought to the Key Stage 1 playground to be collected by parents. Children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 are brought

to the front KS2 playground by their teacher and are collected from there. All children must be collected by a known adult.

7.45am-8.45am	Breakfast Club
8.40am - 8.50am	Soft start - Children walk to classrooms
10:15am - 10:30am	Key Stage 1 playtime
10:30am - 10:45am	Key Stage 2 playtime
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunchtime
3:15pm	Home time
3.15pm - 5.30pm	After School Club



ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

Parents have a legal responsibility to make sure that their child is in school every day and arrives on time. It can be upsetting for children who arrive late, they miss that sense of belonging that comes with being part of the routine at the start of the day. If children arrive after 8:50am, you are required, for health and safety purposes, to sign your child in the late registration book at the reception desk.

If your child is absent, please inform the school, preferably before the start of the school day, on the first day of absence. You will be asked to give a reason for the absence. We consider absences to be authorised if your child is sick. Other types of absences may be considered as unauthorised. The school is obliged to keep a record of absences and these are recorded on your child's report. Unauthorised absence and persistent lateness will be reported to the Attendance Investigation Officer.

Parents are requested not to organise holidays during term time as it disrupts your child's learning. Children attend school for 195 days a year and the rest of the year is available for holidays. Under Government legislation, leave of absence taken without authorisation may be referred to the Attendance Investigation Officer.



Parent comment:

'Our Lady's is a small school with a big heart.'

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

The school has no selection criteria based on ability and therefore we cater for an extensive range of abilities. We recognise that many children, at some stage in their education, may have a special educational need which may be evident in their learning or other aspects of their development - such as behaviour. We are committed to a whole school approach and aim to ensure that each child has access to the curriculum by adapting our teaching methods and resources to the needs of the whole child.

The class teacher, together with Miss McDonald, the Inclusion Manager and Mrs Stevenson, the Inclusion Lead and the parents concerned, will work out a programme of support for the child, which will be regularly monitored and reviewed. At Our Lady we aim to identify the special educational need as soon as possible and we encourage parents to contact us at any stage if they feel their child has a particular problem or difficulty.

To find out more about our provision for children with special educational needs, please view our 'Local Offer' which you can find on the school website.



*Pupil comment:
'Everyone at Our Lady is one big family
and everyday is filled with joy!'*

PUPILS WITH DISABILITIES

At Our Lady, we are committed to providing an accessible environment which includes all members of our community - regardless of their age, gender, education, physical, sensory, social, emotional and cultural needs. We are further committed to challenging attitudes about disability and accessibility and developing a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion.

SCHOOL TRIPS

At Our Lady School, our curriculum is enhanced and enriched by experiencing study opportunities outside of the classroom. At our school, we encourage every year group to participate in a school trip every term. We believe this will:

- Develop the child's knowledge, skills and understanding of the wider world outside school and home.
- Emphasise links between various areas of the curriculum, and to put into practice skills learnt in the classroom.

In Year 6, the children also embark on a 4 day residential visit to Caythorpe Court, which has a major geographical focus.

It is the governors' policy to follow the guidelines of Hertfordshire County Council in such matters as charging and remissions.

Parents will be asked to make a voluntary contribution towards the costs of educational visits and activities. No child will be excluded because their parents/carers do not wish to make a voluntary contribution. However, the school will need financial commitment from at least 95% of parents to fund trips in order for them to take place.

The school reserves the right to cancel any proposed activity/visit if there is insufficient financial support.



HEALTH & WELLBEING

Children who are unwell should not be sent to school, with the exception of asthma, whereby inhalers should be at school so that children have them available to them at all times and which they use themselves. If your child becomes ill during the school day or has an accident, we will make every effort to contact you. We therefore need up-to-date home, work and mobile telephone numbers, as well as names and numbers of additional adults for emergencies. The welfare of your child is our primary concern and parents who work outside the home must be contactable and be prepared to come and collect the child if they are unwell. It is vital to remember to notify the school of any changes of telephone numbers at home or work.

Communication with the school will be key this academic year – so please make sure that the school office have the most up-to-date contact details for key family members. Thank you for your support with regards to this.



Parent comment:

'The school is so warm and welcoming.
My child loves coming into school every day.'

BEING HAPPY & HEALTHY

Ensuring a happy, healthy environment in which our children enjoy learning is central to our ethos. We do our utmost to make it easy for children to approach staff with their problems or concerns.

We teach that bullying is never acceptable behaviour. We promote healthy eating, provide fruit snacks for children in Key Stage 1 and encourage everyone to drink water throughout the day. We make the most of our outdoor space and, weather permitting, head outside as often as we can.



Our Lady's Catholic Primary School are proud to be an OPAL school. The OPAL Primary Programme transforms playtimes so they provide the most active, fun and sociable play opportunity possible for your child.

Our motto is 'Every child should have an amazing playtime every day, without exceptions'.

OPAL is the only programme of its kind that has been independently proven to sustainably improve the quality of play in primary schools. The programme is based on the idea that, as well as learning through good teaching, children also learn when they play. As 20% of their time in school is playtime, we want to make sure that this amount of time (equivalent to 1.4 years of primary school) is as positive as possible.

There are many proven benefits for schools that take part in the OPAL Primary Programme. These include increased enjoyment of school, less teaching time lost to disputes between children, fewer accidents and greatly improved behaviour.



What makes good play?

Play is not messing about. It is the process that evolution has come up with to enable children to learn all of the things that cannot be taught, while also having fun.

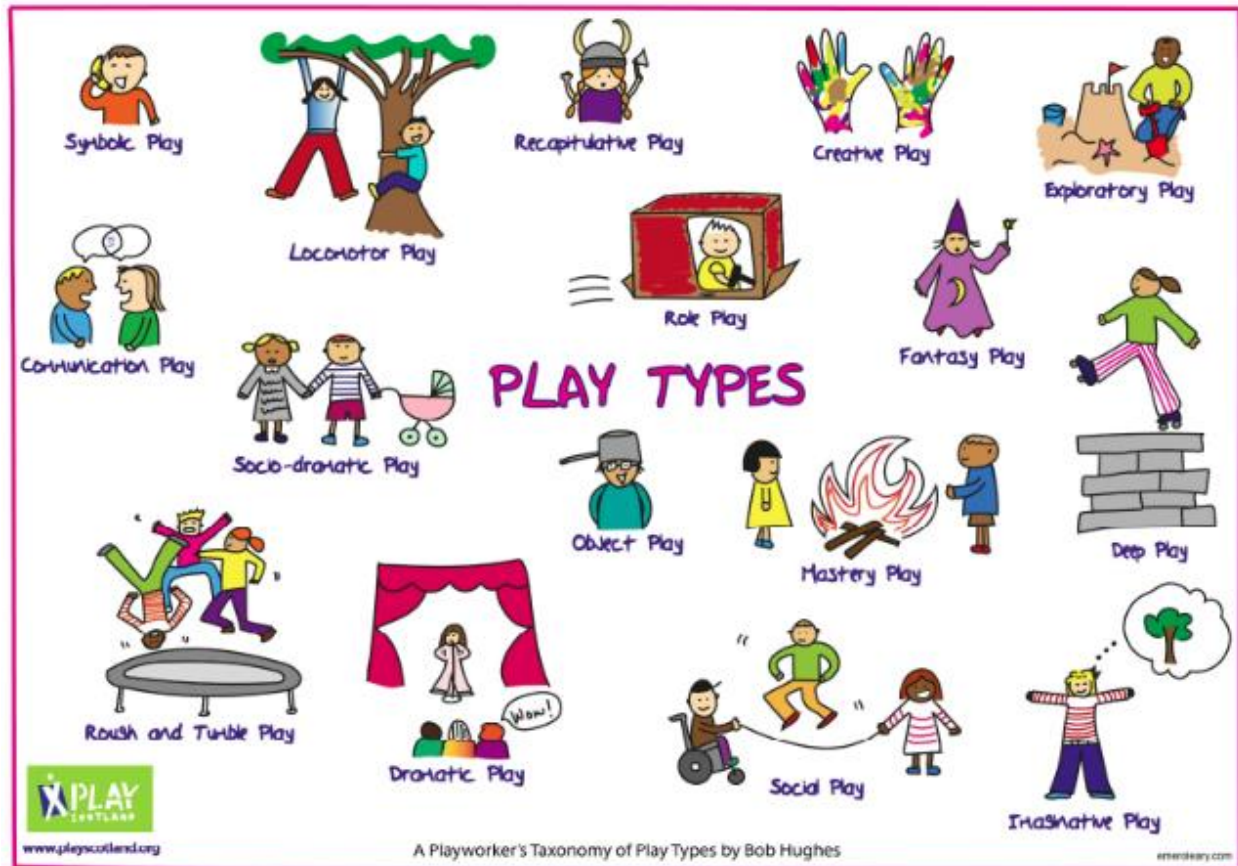
As the school improves play opportunities for children, you may find we ask you for resources and that we also make changes about how the children use the school grounds. They may use more of the grounds for more of the year.

Your child may get a little messier, be exposed to more challenges and have greater freedoms to play where, with whom and how they like.

The experiences the school are fostering are essential for children's physical and mental wellbeing and are in line with all current good practice advice on health and safety, wellbeing and development.

'Play times are so much more fun now and I love doing all the different activities with my friends. I cannot wait to go to play time now. It makes me so excited to be here.'

Year 3 child – November 2025



SCHOOL LUNCHES

There are very high nutritional standards for school meals and they consistently offer children a third of their nutritional requirements every day, which is essential to their growth and development. Having a meal at school has been proven to help children settle to learning quicker, improve their concentration and help with their energy levels to get them through an active school day. Our school dinners are cooked on the premises. Menus are displayed in the school and a copy is also sent home. We provide a choice of meals and a vegetarian option is always available.

Under the Universal Free School Meals scheme, all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be entitled to have a free school meal at our school.

Payment for dinners should be made on-line via the School Gateway, which is our preferred method of payment. Parents are able to select their child's lunch on www.schoolcomms.com by 9am daily. If you think you may be entitled to free school meals, please make enquiries at the office.

You may prefer for your child to bring a packed lunch. Children having a packed lunch should bring it in a box with their name clearly marked on it. We ask parents and carers to support the school by providing healthy packed lunches and we ask that no sweets, chocolates, juices, fizzy drinks, glass bottles, cans or anything containing nuts are sent in. Water is provided for all the children. It is not possible for packed lunches to be kept in refrigeration in the school.



SCHOOL & HOME

Our school has a 'be the best you can be' attitude to learning. We believe in letting parents and carers know what and how we are learning and teaching. We encourage a two-way dialogue between school and home and support this through parents' evenings, curriculum information, Reading Record Books and invitations to many of our assemblies.

We also believe that homework can help reinforce what we learn at school. All our children get homework, but our teachers are careful to ensure that it is kept to an appropriate level. We have an expectation that children complete the work they have

been given because it is essential in supporting their learning.



The teachers are pleased to see parents about any matter concerning their children. They are available for a brief word either at the start of the school day or straight after school. However, if it is a lengthy or private matter, please make an appointment for a mutually convenient time. Open evenings are held twice during the year, in which parents are given an appointment to discuss their child's progress with their class teachers. Written reports are sent out in the spring term.

THE DIOCESAN FUND

As a voluntary aided school within the Diocese of Westminster, each family is asked to make a termly contribution to the Diocesan School Fund. This goes towards the building and insurance costs of the schools in the diocese. The school has been able to undertake substantial improvements and repair, including KS1 and KS2 external doors, roofing and KS2 heating.

OUR PTA

The Parent Teacher Association's main function is to raise extra funds for the school for the exciting extras that will benefit the children directly, which are not covered by school funding.

Last year, the PTA raised £8500 as a direct result of our school community's support, which helped to pay for the re-designing of our Jubilee Garden (including new flower beds), new playground equipment, new carpets for the classrooms and a music station and bug hotel for the younger children to enjoy!

Like most PTAs, the majority of their funds are raised through the events that they voluntarily run. The most popular events last year included the Summer fete, the

Christmas and Valentines disco, Christmas card sales, Ice-cream Fridays, Movie nights and Quiz nights.

Meeting Information: When and Where?

The PTA meets regularly in the school.

We need your help

We are always delighted to welcome new volunteers.

Who should I contact?

Please contact Darleen Maguire via the school office. Just a few minutes is enough to help – and we have a lot of fun along the way!



SCHOOL UNIFORM

Our school uniform can be purchased on-line from 'Smarty Schoolwear' on the following website: www.smartyschoolwear.co.uk/search/our-lady-school

The uniform is as follows:

- Navy sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo on.
- Sky blue polo shirt with school logo on.
- Grey trousers/skirt/or pinafore dress.
- Light blue and white checked dress (summer)
- Tights and socks should be navy or grey.
- Black school shoes; no trainers, boots, high heels, sandals.



Jewellery/Hair

Ideally there should be no jewellery worn at school. If jewellery is worn, please take note of the following guidelines:

- Small plain studs, one in each ear.
- Small watches (at your own risk).
- No logos or shapes in boys' hair.
- All girls with hair below the shoulders must be tied back.
- Hair bands; light blue or navy scrunchies or elastic bands.
- No make-up or nail varnish.

P.E. KITS

We ask children to keep their PE kits in school during term time (apart from swimming kits). PE kits should be as follows:

- Blue PE top with our school logo.
- Navy shorts (navy jogging trousers for the colder months).
- Black plimsolls/trainers.



PUPIL VOICE



We have an active School Council who have regular meetings to discuss ideas about how they can improve the school. Each year group has two representatives who are elected by the class to represent them. The representatives have meetings where they voice the opinions of their class. Decisions are made and actions are taken, the representatives then feedback the information to their class. The children undertake an annual questionnaire so that they have the opportunity to give us feedback on every aspect of the school. We refer to this when we plan developments for the school.



MINNIE VINNIES

Our Mini Vinnies continue to flourish in the school and meet regularly to further develop the positive impact that they have made on the Catholic life of the school.

The Society of St Vincent de Paul has been engaging with young people and education

for many years, which can be highlighted through the development of the 'Mini Vinnie' programme. Mini Vinnies are seen as having *"the potential to significantly contribute to the future of our Society."*

This aim also fits in perfectly with the key principles of Catholic Social Teaching which we are teaching at Our Lady. Our Mini Vinnies are represented by pupils in Year 5 and 6 and are elected at the start of each academic year. They help to embed the Catholic life across the school by living their lives in the way that Jesus instructed us to - by loving our neighbours.

Last year, our Mini Vinnies raised a sensational £987 for charities around the world.



WRAPAROUND CARE

At Our Lady Catholic Primary School, we are proud to deliver our Wraparound Care Package, provided by Premier Education, tailored to the needs of our school community. Our Wraparound offer begins at 7:45am and finishes at 5:30pm.



Premier Education provide a Breakfast Club, each morning in the school dining hall. The club begins at 7.45am each morning and costs £7.70 per child per session. A choice of breakfast cereal, followed by toast, fruit and a drink, is provided for each child and a range of supervised activities are set up each day for the children to participate in once they have had their breakfast.

Breakfast Club bookings can be made via the Premier Education website: www.premier-education.com Please note that if your child is booked into our Breakfast Club but does not attend, parents and carers will still be charged for the session. If you would like any further information about the Breakfast Club, please contact Premier Education.



Our successful After School Care programme runs from 3:15pm until 5:30pm during term time and is run by Premier Education. They run a range of exciting activities each day which children can choose to take part in. These include physical activities in the hall,

field and playground, arts and crafts (including painting and sculpture), use of the computing suite, gardening, drama and role-play, reading and setting out a range of toys/games which children can imaginatively play with.

Our desire is for children to have fun but also rest if they need to, and for parents to be reassured that their children are being well-supervised and enjoying their after school time. We also recognise that many children would like to take part in the range of fantastic after school clubs on offer and so the programme has been designed to take this into account. Sessions for our after school club can be made from either:

- 3.15pm to 4.30pm or 3.15pm to 5.30pm. Price from £8.00

If you would like any further information about our Breakfast Club, please contact Premier Education.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS

Throughout the year, our children have the opportunity to take part in various after school activities. Parents are informed in the school newsletter of what is available and when they begin. These currently include football, modern dance, netball, multi-skills gymnastics, yoga and piano. Please speak to the school office for more details.



OUR CONTACT DETAILS

Our Lady Catholic Primary School
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AL7 3TF

Tel: 01707 324408

Please do keep an eye on our website for updates & announcements at:
<http://www.ourladys527.herts.sch.uk>

Email: admin@ourladys527.herts.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mr Richard Curry

Please make sure you sign up to receive our regular newsletters to parents & guardians, and check our website on a regular basis.

