



# Our Lady of Peace Catholic Primary and Nursery School



*With Christ in our hearts, together we grow*





# Welcome to Our Lady of Peace Catholic Primary and Nursery School

## Foreword: Mrs Jean O'Keeffe, Headteacher

It is with great pride that we welcome you to our wonderful school.



*'With Christ in our hearts, together we grow'*

We are a Catholic Primary and Nursery School where our values, beliefs and practice permeate every aspect of school in line with our mission statement 'With Christ in our hearts, together we grow'. The Catholic ethos and values of the school is strong, caring and nurturing. We have strong links with the Church and other Catholic Schools in the area and we are part of the St Peter's Partnership which helps us provide an outstanding teaching and learning environment.

## Our achievements and projects

Our happy and successful school is only made possible with the support of our dedicated team of hardworking staff, Governing Body and Parent Teacher Association. Some of our upcoming initiatives include:

- Working towards the Arts Mark, celebrating art, design and music.
- Our Primary Writing project.
- An Achievement for All Project.
- Hosting Maths courses within the school which are delivered by a Maths Consultant.

## Everyone matters

Our aim is to promote the best interests of each child and celebrate their individuality and uniqueness' so that they are able to meet their full potential by working in partnership with parents as a community that follows Christ. Everyone matters, everyone is respected, parents,

children and staff, everyone helps, prays, works and takes care of each other. Every child is provided with the foundation to become a life-long learner growing in confidence and self-esteem as well as developing a positive attitude to learning.

## Our fantastic facilities

We have excellent learning facilities inside and outside and we place a special value on the Arts and physical education. Our grounds provide great opportunities for outdoor learning, as well as play, sport and family events. We also use them to celebrate as a community in our outside whole school Mass.

## Igniting an interest in the world

Our teaching is stimulating and creative, encouraging our children to continue their education outside of school, and become lifelong learners. We want to ignite an interest in the world around them, and for that interest to lead to fulfilling and imaginative lives. Learning should be fun!

## Parent partnership

Our school also values the school-home partnership as essential in helping pupils achieve their best. By working and communicating effectively with parents and carers, we ensure students' achievements and needs are recognised, celebrated and met in a positive, inclusive learning environment. We have established an environment that is welcoming and accepting of parents and work very hard to involve you in every step of your child's time here and increase your child's enjoyment of learning.

## Get in touch

I hope that our prospectus gives you an insight and understanding of our core values of ambition, responsibility, citizenship, creativity, empathy and faith. We would be delighted to welcome you to our school. Please call the school office on 01628 661886 to arrange a visit and see why our school is so special.



## School day: settling in

Our school day starts at 8.45am and the school day ends at 3.10pm EYFS/KS1 and 3.15pm KS2.

### Extended school provision

Our extended school provision comprises a Breakfast Club and an After School Club each evening. Both clubs are based on the KS1 site in the 'Green Rooms' and are term time only. If you would like your child to attend, please complete an application form and return it to the school office.

#### Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club runs from 7.45am - 8.45am. The daily charge is £4.00.

#### After-School Club

Our After-School club runs from 3.15pm - 6.00pm. Snacks are provided. The daily charge is £9.00.

### Uniform

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform. Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform gives the children a sense of belonging to the school community. The school uniform is kept as simple and practical as possible and the colours are:

- White blouse, shirt (not polo shirts)
- Tie (Cyclamen Pink)
- Grey trousers or pinafore or skirts
- Grey (with cerise stripe) cardigans and jumpers.

Nursery children wear a similar uniform but have white polo shirts without ties.

### Where to buy

Uniform items can be bought from School Days Direct, 652 Bath Rd, Taplow, Maidenhead SL6 0NZ, they can be contacted on 01628 665353.

### School meals and snacks

Children have the choice of either a hot nutritious school dinner or bringing a healthy packed lunch into school. Our school lunches are provided by Taylor Shaw. Their menus use high quality, healthy and nutritious ingredients, which are prepared fresh on site, on the day of consumption, by suitably trained and child focused employees. Menus are available on our school website within the 'Parent Info' section.

### Free school meals

For children in the Foundation Stage, and Years 1 and 2, the government provides free school meals. Children in Year 3 and above can qualify for free school meals if their family are in receipt of certain income related benefits.



### Break-time and drinks

All Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 classes have a morning break time snack of fresh fruit or vegetables. Older children can bring their own fruit or join our fruit club for which a termly charge is made. Chewing gum, sweets and chocolate bars are not allowed in school. We encourage children to drink water regularly during the day. Children should bring a bottle of water each day.

We are a nut free school.





## Creative Curriculum: foundations for success

### Broad and balanced education

We aim to provide an excellent, broad and balanced education to help our children grow to their full potential. We offer every child equality of access to the Foundation Stage and the Primary National Curriculum. We also support each child on their spiritual journey as well as promoting and developing their physical wellbeing and academic achievements.

### Confidence, communication and physical development

We believe that a happy child is a successful one, so we work together to present a curriculum that is exciting, challenging and enjoyable. We plan the curriculum based on our knowledge and the ongoing observations about how each child learns best. We look in depth at each learner's needs, interests and developmental stages.

### Encouraging creativity

Learners are provided with a range of rich, meaningful first-hand experiences in which they are encouraged to explore, think creatively and be busy and active within a range of environments.

### The curriculum is divided into three stages

1. Early Years Foundation Stage: from ages 3-5
2. Key Stage 1: from ages 5-7
3. Key Stage 2: from ages 7-11

#### Early Years Foundation Stage

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is based on seven areas of learning:

1. Personal, Social and Emotional Development.
2. Communication and Language.
3. Physical Development.
4. Literacy.
5. Mathematics.
6. Understanding the World.
7. Expressive Arts and Design.

### Key Stages 1-2

Areas of the curriculum are:

- Mathematics.
- English.
- Science.
- Design Technology.
- History.
- Geography.
- Art and Design.
- Music.
- Physical Education.
- Religious Education.
- Computing.
- French.
- Personal Social, Health and Education (PSHE).

### Music

Music is an important part of school life. We often find it easier to learn through songs, sounds and rhythms and music forms an integral part of our Curriculum. We also teach music as a discrete subject which has lots of benefits for our pupils.

#### Singing

The children enjoy a regular singing session where hymns, carols, traditional and new songs are learnt and enjoyed by all. Our pupils use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes.

#### Instruments

They will also play a range of musical instruments and listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music.



## Enriched curriculum: trips and visitors, P.E and clubs

### Trips

Every year group has an opportunity to undertake educational visits which complement their learning in school. Recent school visits have included:

- Lookout Discovery Centre, Bracknell.
- The Verulamium Museum
- Living Rainforest.
- Beale Park.
- Windsor Castle.
- Hampton Court Palace.
- Gunnersbury Park.
- Year 6 Residential Trip to PGL Liddington.

### Visitors

Visitors to school have included:

- Zoolab.
- Learning Dome.
- Local Fire Service.
- Clergy from local churches.
- Representatives from local organisations etc.



### Life experience

Visitors provide our learners with real life experiences that can help them relate what they learn at school to the world around them and develop their confidence.

### Sport and P.E.

We believe that physical development is a key component to success across the whole curriculum and we have excellent PE provision. Children at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Primary and Nursery School take part in a varied range of sports within class PE lessons, as well as clubs, intra-school and inter-school events. We strive to provide new and varied physical activities for children as we believe that PE and sport enhances academic learning and leads to healthier, happier and more productive lives.

We also develop flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance through gymnastics and performing dances using a range of movement patterns. Our aim is that all children participate in physical and sporting activities for two hours each week. The P.E. programme includes gymnastics, rounders, football, swimming, multi sports, games and more.



### Clubs

The school offers a wide range of extracurricular activities and clubs such as:

- Football.
- Ballet.
- Chess.
- Drama.
- Sewing.
- Multi-Sports.





## Inclusion: a curriculum for all

### Special Educational Needs

At Our Lady of Peace we consider the needs of the whole child. We strive to raise the aspirations and expectations for all pupils with SEN. Our school provides a focus on outcomes for children and young people.

#### Our Aims

- To create an atmosphere where the aspirations and expectations for all children with SEN are raised.
- To ensure adequate resources and staffing are available for these children as far as is possible within the school budget.
- To ensure that all staff, parents and children create a close partnership to identify the objectives and plan a programme. All parties involved will review and assess progression regularly.

- To ensure that the information, confidential or otherwise, is easily accessible and transferred with the child.

### Working individually with a child

Particular consideration is given to the specific needs of the child and support is offered relevant to each child's needs. Therefore, staff may consider it appropriate to engage in small group activities, i.e. 1:1 work or differentiation of the curriculum, within the classroom, to make it readily accessible for the child. Parents are encouraged to be a part of this process and support staff meet regularly with parents to report on progress. If you are concerned that your child has additional needs please contact the Class Teacher or the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator.

### How accessible is the school environment?

Adaptations have been made to the school environment to ensure it is fully accessible for anyone with a disability.

### Gifted and talented children

We recognise that all children are individuals with their own specific needs, gifts and talents. Children who are identified as being exceptionally able or talented, are monitored and provided with stimulating and enriching lessons appropriate to their needs.







## Admissions...and getting involved

### Admissions arrangements

The Governors hope to offer places to every child baptised into the Roman Catholic faith, who applies. Applications for the school can be made to Slough Local Authority from the 1st September every year.

Where the admission number is reached or exceeded in any criterion, distance from the school will be the deciding factor when offering a place. Proof of residence will be required and where two children meet the same criteria, the shortest distance from the school will be the deciding factor when offering a place. Proximity to the school will be by using the Slough Geographical Information System from the Local Authority. Distances are measured from the map reference of the child's home to the front gate of the school, using a computerised Geographical Information System. All measurements must be consistent and fair. Therefore, the Governors will not accept any other measuring device such as Google Maps. In the event of two or more children being equally qualified for a single vacancy, a random allocation tie breaker will be used, supervised by a person or persons, completely independent of the school.

There are 90 places available in each year group - Foundation Stage/KS1/KS2 and 60 in nursery 30am and 30pm. Children will be admitted into Nursery at the start of the academic year in which they will be 4 years old. Applications must be received by the Spring half-term (February) of the previous academic year, after which they will be deemed late. Applications must be made via the schools own application form. Late/ in year applications will only be considered after those received by the due time, subject to availability and the standard Admissions Criteria. In the event of over subscription, priority will be given to applicants in the following order:

- 1 Looked after Children and previously looked after children.
- 2 Practising Baptised Catholic children with a sibling attending the Infant/Junior school at the time of application.
- 3 Practising Baptised Catholic children.
- 4 All other Baptised Catholic children.

In the event of there being vacancies after all the above applicants have been admitted, the Governors will admit children, whose parents wish their children to be educated in a Catholic environment.

Priority will be given to applicants in the following order:

- 5 Children of Christian faiths.
- 6 Children who have brothers and/or sisters in at Our Lady of Peace Primary School at time of application.
- 7 All other children.

### Getting involved

#### Voluntary helpers

We always welcome parent volunteers from our school and the wider community to help with activities such as school visits, helping in the school library or supporting children in class etc. If you are interested in volunteering at the school, please speak to your child's Class Teacher or the School Office for more information.

#### Our Lady of Peace Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

The PTA (Parent Teacher Association) is a group of parents and staff that organise exciting school events to raise money to enhance learning in school. The PTA provides an opportunity for everyone to work together towards a common goal and is open to all parents, grandparents and carers. If you are interested in learning more about us or have any suggestions, please contact the School Office.

### Governorship

We have a full and active Governing Body, which includes Parent Governors as well as representatives from staff and the local community. The primary responsibility of the Local Governing Body is to act as 'Champions for the Children' and it is their educational experience that is paramount. We discharge this responsibility by supporting and challenging every aspect of school activity from the highest academic aspiration to everyday housekeeping to ensure there is overall improvement, progress and achievement and that each child is encouraged to realise fully their individual potential. Vacancies for Parent Governors are advertised as they arise.



## Our School Ethos and Values

Our Catholic faith, which is lived out in our daily lives, will be taught by example and explicitly through the "Come and See" programme and supporting resources. The children also will be helped towards an awareness and better understanding of other faiths and cultures.



### Our Ethos and Values

Our ethos and values support and build upon our Catholic faith which will be affirmed through meaningful and relevant collective worship appropriate to the age and understanding of the individuals, in partnership with the Chaplaincy team, Father Andy and the local church.

We offer a wide range of spiritual, intellectual, moral, physical, aesthetic, emotional and social activities which will develop respectful, loving, confident, well balanced individuals, who are enabled to reach their full potential.

We ensure that every member of our school has respect for self, others, all living things and their environment.

We welcome every visitor to our school and every member of our community will have a sense of belonging and pride and act as ambassadors for our school.

### Our Vision and Aims

Our Vision and Aims of the school include:

- To ensure Our Lady of Peace Catholic Primary and Nursery School is an Outstanding School promoting a strong Catholic ethos.
- To be recognised as an outstanding employer. Our staff members are crucial to the school's success.
- To strengthen links with the local community, and further afield, particularly working in partnership with local schools, our Parish and Diocese and the Local Authority.

### Our School Creed

This is our school,  
let peace live here.  
Let the rooms be full of happiness  
Let love be all around,  
love of one another,  
Love of all people,  
love of life and living,  
Let us remember,  
that as many hands build a house,  
So many hearts make a school.



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