Our Lady's Roman Catholic Primary School

We ASPIRE that through the love of Jesus; everyone should have life and have it to the full. John 10:10

Acting Headteacher: Mrs A Flint
Acting Deputy Headteacher: Mr S Revell
Chair of Governors: Mr Mark Slane

The information in this Prospectus applies to the academic year 2018/2019 and although the particulars are correct in relation to this year, it should not be assumed that there will be no change affecting relevant arrangements before the start of, or in relation to, subsequent years.
Welcome to Our Lady’s Primary School.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of all the staff and governors, to welcome you and your family to Our Lady’s School.

Choosing a school for your child is one of the most important decisions parents make. At Our Lady’s we firmly believe that education is a partnership between home and school and regard you as an active partner in your child’s education and we very much value your interest and support.

I hope you find the information in this brochure helpful. If there is any other information you may require, may I strongly recommend a visit to the school website or feel free to contact school directly.

We believe our school is a happy “family school” with high expectations and is forward thinking and has a very caring atmosphere that is welcoming, calm and purposeful. Above all we want it to be a school that children really want to come to and one that supports them in a long lasting passion for learning.

We have a strong, enthusiastic and committed staff with a wide range of talents and a great deal of experience and a highly dedicated set of Governors. Everyone works for the benefit of the school and to provide the best education for all our children.

Our school has very strong links with our Parish Church, Our Lady’s Queen of Martyrs, which is situated adjacent to the school site, the parish and wider local community.

Be assured that your child is at the heart of all we do and we look forward to this being the start of a long and happy association with our whole school community.

Mrs A Flint
Headteacher
Welcome to Our Lady’s RC Primary School.

I am writing to introduce myself as the Chair of Governors at Our Lady’s. It is an honour and a privilege to be appointed Chair of Governors at Our Lady’s as I was a pupil here myself and my own 3 children also attended the school. I have been part of the Governing Body since 1994 when I was elected as a Parent Governor. In latter years, I was appointed as a Foundation Governor by Cardiff Diocese and have been Vice-Chair for the last 2 years.

As a part of the Governing Body I share a common objective which is, the wider school community – working in partnership with you as parents and carers and staff to ensure that every child can succeed and reach their full potential. The Governing Body has 3 specific roles, which are:

- To be strategic
- To act as a critical friend in the development of the school
- To be accountable to the whole school community

We work closely with Mrs. Flint and the school staff to ensure that your children receive the highest standard of care and education.

We are a ‘voluntary aided school’ which means that in order to enjoy the opportunity of educating our children within a Christian setting we are obliged to pay 10% of any building projects. By sending your child to Our Lady’s, you accept that you have a responsibility which you cannot leave to others. Parents and Carers are asked to help the Governors meet these responsibilities with a termly donation of up to £15.

Finally, in order to carry out our role as Governors effectively, we need to know what issues are important to you. If you have any views to share please let us know – we can be contacted via the school office or by email: admin@our-ladys.hereford.sch.uk

Yours sincerely,

Mark Slane
Chair of Governors
**WELCOME TO OUR LADY’S R C PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Our Lady’s School is classified as a Voluntary Aided, Roman Catholic, Primary, and Co-educational Day School and is under the trusteeship of the Archdiocese of Cardiff.

**The Staff**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mrs A Flint</td>
<td></td>
<td>Acting Headteacher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr S Revell</td>
<td></td>
<td>Acting Deputy Headteacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss E Payne</td>
<td>YR</td>
<td>Data Assessment/RE Co-ordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs J Samuel</td>
<td>Y1</td>
<td>Pupil Premium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs S Thompson</td>
<td>Y2</td>
<td>SENCO/Sports Premium/Looked after Children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr W Hall</td>
<td>Y3</td>
<td>PE/Science/History Co-ordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss R McPherson</td>
<td>Y4</td>
<td>Computing/Geography Co-ordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs R Bryan</td>
<td>Y5</td>
<td>English/MFL Co-ordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr R Freeman</td>
<td>Y6</td>
<td>Maths/D &amp; T Co-ordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs S Anderson</td>
<td></td>
<td>Child Specific Teaching Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss C Arthur</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lunchtime supervisor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss L Clark</td>
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<td>Y1 Teaching Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs L Deakins</td>
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<td>Child specific Teaching Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs T Evans</td>
<td>Y2</td>
<td>Y2 Teaching Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs R Gabrielides</td>
<td></td>
<td>Intervention specific TA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs K Gainey</td>
<td>YR</td>
<td>YR Teaching Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs L Good</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs T Harris</td>
<td>Y3</td>
<td>Y3 Teaching Assistant/Lunchtime</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs S Johnston</td>
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<td>Child specific Teaching Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs K Kinsella</td>
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<td>Speech/language &amp; communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs F Moverley</td>
<td>YR</td>
<td>YR Teaching Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs L Slane</td>
<td></td>
<td>Administrator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs A Sztandera</td>
<td></td>
<td>Intervention specific TA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs J Winter</td>
<td></td>
<td>Intervention specific TA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr D Short</td>
<td></td>
<td>Site Manager</td>
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GENERAL INFORMATION

Our Lady’s Catholic Primary School
Boycott Road
Hereford
HR2 7RN
Tel: 01432 274814
Fax: 01432 276467
e.mail: admin@our-ladys.hereford.sch.uk
Website: www.our-ladys.hereford.sch.uk

Cardiff Diocese
Commissioner for Schools & Colleges
Mrs A Robertson
Archbishops’ House
43 Cathedral Road
Cardiff
CF11 9HD
Tel: (029) 2023 3838

Local Authority
Children & Young People’s Directorate
Plough Lane
Hereford
HR4 0LE
Tel: (01432) 260000

Acting Headteacher: Mrs A Flint

Chair of Governors: Mr M Slane

Clerk to the Governors: Mrs Lesley Good

School Governing Body

Mr. M Slane Chair of Governors
Mrs. C Thompson Vice Chair of Governors
Mr. A Oliver LEA Governor
Mr. S Thompson Foundation Governor
Mrs. C Sharland Foundation Governor
Fr. Matthew Carney Foundation Governor
Dr B Kusakose Foundation Governor
Mrs. Janet Winter T A Governor
Mrs. A Stojewska Parent Governor
Mrs L Joynt Parent Governor
Mrs. A Sztandera Associate member
SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Our Lady’s is situated in a spacious site adjacent to Our Lady’s Parish church. There are two sports fields. The larger sports field is used by all the children at playtime – weather permitting. There is an environmental garden which includes a pond and various habitats. The school has 7 class rooms and a learning support room. There is an open plan library which promotes reading and pupil independence. There are 2 play-grounds; one is for Key Stage 1 and the other for Key Stage 2 children.

CYCLING PROFICIENCY FOR Y5

Children performing at Grandparents day
SCHOOL ORGANISATION
Our Lady's School Term and Holiday dates 2018-2019

Autumn 2018
Monday 3rd September 2018 Teacher day – School closed
Tuesday 4th September, 2018 School opens
Friday 26th October 2018 School closes for half term
Monday 5th November 2018 School opens
Friday 21st December, 2018 School closes for Christmas

Spring 2019
Monday 7th January and Tuesday 8th January Teacher days – School closed
Wednesday 9th January 2019 School opens
Friday 15th February 2019 School closes for half term
Monday 25th February 2019 School opens
Friday 12th April 2019 School closes for Easter

Summer 2019
Monday 6th May 2019 May Bank Holiday - School closed
Monday 29th April 2019 School opens
Friday 24th May 2019 School closes for half term
Monday 3rd June 2019 School opens
Thursday 18th July 2019 School closes for Summer

Infants (KS1): 08.55 – 11.50
13.00 – 15.15
Juniors (KS2): 08.55 – 12.00
13.00 – 15.15
Number of hours taught, excluding registration, assemblies, playtimes and lunchtimes:

| Infants (KS1) | 21 hours per week |
| Juniors (KS2) | 23.5 hours per week |

Arrival at school
Children should not be on the school premises before 8.40 a.m. A member of staff is on duty in the playground from 8.40 a.m.
All children must be on the playground before the bell at 8.50 a.m.

Parking
The Church car park is the designated area for parent parking.

Wet Playtimes before school
Pupils will be supervised in their classrooms from 8.40 a.m.
OUR LADY’S VISION & MISSION STATEMENT

As a Catholic school community we work together to provide our children with a high quality education through a curriculum and environment which has Gospel Values at its heart.

The ethos of the school is founded on Gospel values which mean that we live by the teachings of Jesus and the example he set for us.

We ASPIRE that though the love of Jesus everyone should have life and have it to the full.

Our aim is to build happy, confident children through:

- Teaching and fostering the Catholic Faith and encouraging all pupils to live this faith in their daily lives
- Valuing ourselves, our families and other relationships, the wider groups to which we belong, the diversity in our society and the global environment in which we live
- Committing to every learner’s success, making them feel included, valued and secure, aiming to raise their aspirations and the effort they put into learning, engaging, where appropriate, the active support of parents or carers
- Helping pupils to appreciate the achievements and aspiration of others
- Believing it is essential that all children feel included, secure and valued
- Believing education, at home and at school, is a route to the spiritual, moral, social, physical and mental development and thus the well-being of the individual.
- Building respectful teacher-learner relationships that take learner’s views and experience fully into account
- Developing pupils’ ability to think systematically and independently, manage information, learn from others and help others learn

We invite all parents to co-operate with us, under God, in our work for the spiritual, intellectual, moral, and physical development of their children.
CLASS LED ASSEMBLY
At Our Lady’s, we believe that you, our parents, are the first educators of your children. It is vital to the success of your child’s education that we keep in good communication. There are many opportunities for communication with our parents both formal and informally throughout the year. Here are some of the opportunities:

**Admission Policy**
Admissions policy is available from the school website [www.our-ladys.hereford.sch.uk](http://www.our-ladys.hereford.sch.uk)

**Year R Induction**
There is an Induction program for all new YR children and their parents and carers. During the summer term we hold a series of Story Time sessions at the end of the school day and a taster day. We also hold one-to-one appointments with parents and carers and the class teacher.

**Informal Meetings**
Parents are welcome to assemblies on Fridays and School Masses. There are also yearly events, such as Christmas Concerts, Easter Assemblies and other productions, Sports Days, etc, to which parents are always warmly welcomed. Occasionally there are exhibitions of work, curriculum evenings for parents, and other Whole School information evenings. These evenings give parents the opportunity to find out more about the education that their children are receiving.

**Formal Meetings**
We hold termly Meet and Greet sessions for individual classes where parents can learn what will be happening in their child’s class each term.

During the Autumn Term (October) and Spring Term (March) the parents have the opportunity to meet the teachers through formal one to one appointments.

If a parent has any concern over their child, they can always ask for an appointment to see the Class Teacher at any time during the year.

**Annual Report**
In the Summer Term parents receive a detailed written report on their child’s progress and the opportunity to discuss the report with the class teacher.

**Mini Reports**
Mini reports are provided for parents in the autumn and spring term.
Children with Special Educational Needs
We recognise that during their time with us, some children may need extra help and support for a wide variety of reasons and for different periods of time. The Headteacher, staff and governors at Our Lady’s are committed to the integration of children with special needs. The overall aim of our SEN policy is to provide structures within school which will enable each child to reach their own individual potential, and full access to the National Curriculum in line with our statutory requirements.

As a Catholic school, we aim to develop an ethos of care, empathy and understanding. This is essential when dealing with children with additional needs. All children are valued as individuals and we aim for all children to experience success, to achieve across the curriculum and to reach their full potential.

Children with Disabilities
The building is on one level with an access ramp at Reception and there are specially adapted toilets. As and when the need arises, arrangements for admission of children with disabilities will be made in liaison with the Local Authority. The school has a long term disability access plan available to view.

Extra Curricular Activities
Our Lady’s School is able to offer a broad range of extra curricular clubs. They take place at appropriate times in the school year. Some are lunchtime clubs but most take place after school from 3:15pm until 4:15pm. These clubs are likely to be offered in 2017/2018.

Netball, Athletics, Football, Rounder’s, Dance, Cricket, Tag Rugby, Choir, Multi-skills

Charges for these activities vary with the nature of the club and materials required but most are free. Children who sign up to a club make a commitment to attend every week for the duration of the course.

Picking raspberries in the school garden
Breakfast Club and After School Club
Our Lady's also has a Breakfast Club and After School Club catering for all children. Further details and application forms can be obtained from the school office.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

All school policies are available in full from the school office.

Healthy Eating Policy
We encourage healthy eating in school as much as possible at Our Lady’s. KS1 children are given a piece of fresh fruit or vegetable every day for their break time snack.

School Dinners
YR, Y1 & Y2 children all receive Free School Meals. We also offer other children a hot school meal each day provided by The Iron Rice Bowl Catering Service. Hot lunches are currently £11.00 per week or £2.20 per day. Children receive a main course and a choice of dessert, fruit or yoghurt. Order and payment must be given to the school office by the FRIDAY before 10am of the previous week. Children can also choose to bring in a healthy lunchbox from home.
Applications for free school meals, which are based on parental income, are dealt with by the County Education Officer, PO Box 185, Hereford. Forms for application are available from the school office on request.

Fruit Scheme
Infant children at school are provided with a piece of fresh fruit every day.

Drinks
We actively encourage children to drink lots of water during the school day, including in class. It is helpful if children have a drinking bottle which they can fill up from the water taps in each classroom as and when they need to. Children’s hydration levels are extremely important to their health and to their ability to concentrate and there is no substitute for water. Children also have the option of a daily carton of milk.
In the interests of health and hygiene we ask that these water bottles are taken home to be cleaned regularly.

Medical Care
Parents are requested to inform the Headteacher of any relevant medical history that may affect their child’s general development and education in school.

From time to time children will receive routine vision and hearing tests. A consent form is issued by the Child Health Department asking permission for these. Parents are not usually involved in the tests unless the results require further action to be taken.

**Infectious Illness**

Please inform the class teacher if your child has an infectious condition such as head lice, impetigo, threadworms etc... All information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

The Local Education Authority has an informed list of Notifiable Diseases:
Chicken Pox, Diphtheria, Food poisoning, German Measles, Hepatitis, Measles, Mumps, Poliomyelitis, Smallpox and Whooping Cough.

In the event of contraction of one of these or any other serious infection, please contact the school as soon as possible to establish exclusion periods.

**Head Lice**

It is very important to inform the class teacher if your child has head lice. Parents are advised to carry out the appropriate treatment as recommended in the Health Authority guidance. School will notify parents of any instance of head lice in school. It is important that all members of the family are treated.

**First Aid in School**

If your child requires First Aid during school hours, treatment will be carried out by a trained First Aider. Parents will be informed, usually by letter for minor accidents, or telephone for more serious incidents. Should emergency action be necessary, parents will be contacted immediately by telephone, if possible, to be fully informed of the situation. Every effort will be made to contact parents, but if contact can not be made the School will take action to seek medical aid for the welfare of your child. In case of emergency we do ask for an emergency telephone contact number for every child. It is extremely important that parents let us know promptly of any changes of telephone numbers.

**Attendance**

It is essential that children’s attendance is regular. Children soon fall behind in their work and miss valuable teaching even if they are absent for the odd day.

**Holidays in term time**

Holidays are not permitted in term time unless for exceptional circumstances. Parents are asked to consider the implications for their child before they decide to take holidays during term time.

Parents choosing to take a holiday during term time must write to the Headteacher with their request which will be examined on an individual basis, as approval is not granted automatically.
Parents are asked not to take their children out of school at such times as Year 2 and Year 6 tests, the beginning of terms.

**Absence from School**

The Education (Pupil’s Attendance Records) Act 1996. Absences must be considered by the school as “authorised” and “unauthorised” and clearly distinguished in the register. To avoid your child being
marked as “unauthorised absence” please inform the school of the reason in advance, i.e. phone if your child is ill, rather than waiting until your child returns to school and send in a letter.

The absence letter is still necessary, however, as this is the written record of absence. For health and safety reasons, school will contact you in the event of failure to notify us of an absence.

Late for registration is also an “unauthorised absence” – please inform the school if your child is likely to be late. It is very important that children arrive on time for registration as this is an important part of the routine of the school day.

Record of School Attendance available for autumn and Spring Terms

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>% Attendance</th>
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<tr>
<td>2015/16</td>
<td>96.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>96.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017/18</td>
<td>95.55%</td>
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**Behaviour and Discipline**

Staff encourage the highest standards in behaviour and self discipline. The ethos of the School and the planning of the broad curriculum, promote the attitudes and values necessary for individual children to contribute positively to their own personal development and to that of the School. These attitudes and values are further encouraged through a system of rewards and sanctions.

**Assessment and Reporting**

The school aims to ensure that each child’s progress is assessed regularly so that teachers and parents are aware of what the child knows, understands and can do. We aim to have a clear picture of the child, which is passed on from one class to another. We give each pupil personal targets in both Literacy and Numeracy, which are shared with parents at Parents Evenings. Each child is also given a full annual progress report during the summer. There is an opportunity for parents to discuss the annual report.

All children are also assessed using both school-based and statutory tests. The results of these tests are used to carefully track each child’s progress so that any cause for concern can be quickly picked up and assistance given.

**Bullying**

We are, in the main, free from bullying. But, of course, it does occur from time to time. If you have reason to believe your child is being bullied, the sooner we know about it the sooner we can deal with it, so please do not hesitate to contact the headteacher.

**Building Funds**

Parents are asked to help the governors meet their responsibilities with regard to the structure of the building by contributing to any appeals that might be made. This money goes towards the maintenance of the school building. A balance sheet is issued at the Governors Annual Parents meeting. We ask parents to donate up to maximum of £15 per term. We can arrange payment through a Standing Order through your bank if you wish.

The school has adopted, through Action Aid (a registered charity), a little Nepalese boy called Sujan. He is the fourth such child we have adopted during the last twenty years. Children are asked to bring in every Monday a small amount, i.e. coppers, for Sujan and to write to him occasionally.

**Personal Possessions**
Children are not allowed to bring valuable personal possessions into school. If they do, it has to be realised that the school cannot accept responsibility for anything lost or stolen. Children are not allowed to bring any toys into school. No mobile phones are allowed in school.

**Parent Helpers**
Traditionally, we have a strong response from parents as volunteer helpers. They help with school trips and listen to children read. If parents have a particular skill or interest they are welcome to contact the Headteacher to discuss working with the children and where best to place their help in the school. Volunteers must agree to a CRB check and undergo an informal induction process with the Headteacher.

**PTA**
All parents become members of Our Lady’s Parent Teachers and Friends Association on the admission of their children to the school. The Committee are elected annually. Parents are encouraged to support the activities organised by the PTA.

**Charging**
Charges are made for school trips but, obviously, if not enough money is donated we may have to cancel the trip. If making a contribution would cause you some difficulty, please contact the Headteacher in confidence to discuss the matter.

**School Leavers**
Our Lady’s is one of the feeder schools to St Mary’s High School, Lugwardine.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>St. Mary’s</th>
<th>Bishops</th>
<th>The Academy</th>
<th>Other</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>2014</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>20</td>
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**Complaints**
Our Lady’s aims to promote a close relationship with all parents, in the interests of the children, and in support of our School Mission Statement. Initial concerns should be shared with the class teacher. In the unlikely event of the issue not being resolved, parents may approach the Headteacher. If the issue remains unresolved after the Headteacher's intervention then parents may contact the Chair of Governors, c/o Our Lady’s School, Boycott Road, Hereford HR2 7RN.

Please ask at the School Office for a copy of School Complaints Policy.
UNIFORM

Parents are requested to send their children to school in the correct uniform, which has been carefully chosen to be as little a financial burden upon you as possible. Apart from ties, book bags, caps and water bottles, which are obtainable from school, items may be purchased from the School Uniform shop in Hereford.

Our boys, other than those in the upper junior classes (Y5 and Y6), wear grey shorts in the summer from Easter to the end of July.

Please make sure all items are clearly marked in such a way that your child can recognise them as their own!

Boys Indoor Uniform
   In winter - Grey school long trousers (regular fit not fashion or drainpipes). Grey socks, white shirt, school tie* and v neck jumper.

   In summer – Grey school shorts, except Years 5 & 6 who are permitted to wear long grey trousers. Plain gold polo-shirt, v neck jumper, grey socks.

Girls Indoor Uniform
   In winter – Grey skirt or pinafore dress, white blouse, school tie, v neck jumper or cardigan, white or grey knee length socks. Cold weather – plain tights in grey, black or navy may be worn.

   In summer – Pale blue check dress, v-neck jumper or cardigan, plain white socks.

PE kit, book bags, ties, baseball caps and PE bags can be obtained from the school.

Coats, hats, scarves and gloves
Brown, blue or plain dark coloured coats or anoraks or Our Lady’s school fleeces/jackets are preferred. It is important that during the summer months pupils have a waterproof jacket with a hood. This may be rolled up and kept in their school bag or PE bag.

Footwear/sandals
All children should wear sensible black shoes NOT boots or trainers or fashion shoes. If the child’s anklebone is not visible then the shoes will be classified as boots. In summer, sensible sandals may be worn – brown, black, navy or white. They should not be cloggish or flimsy nor have platform soles or high heels for health and safety reasons.

Hair styles
Pupils should have neat hair styles and in their natural colour. Fashion cuts such as steps or shaved patterns are not permitted. Shaved hairstyles should be no shorter than a number 4. Hair gel is not permitted. Long hair should be tied back for health and safety reasons. Hair ribbons and slides must be kept to a minimum. They may only be blue, yellow/gold, white, brown or black.

Jewellery
It is safer if children do not wear earrings at all for school. However, if necessary, children with pierced ears may wear gold or silver studs only. They must be flat and plain to a maximum of one in each ear. These are for the purpose of retaining pierced ears and not to be regarded as decorative items. Earrings must not be worn at all for swimming or PE lessons. If your child has just had their ears pierced and cannot, therefore, remove their studs, tape should be used to cover the earrings. This prevents them from being caught or pulled and provides a cushion for the skull. No rings or chains of any sort are allowed. Nail polish is not permitted. Only KS2 children may wear plain watches.
THE CURRICULUM

Some of the arts and humanities are delivered with cross curricular activities. Educational visits are promoted to consolidate and broaden the children’s understanding of topics they have been studying.

At Our Lady’s we emphasise the importance of developing good literacy, numeracy and ICT skills to enable our children to be lifelong learners and to contribute positively to society. We also encourage positive development through the following:

- Be healthy – we encourage our children to participate in a healthy lifestyle through curricular activities, such as, PE
- Be safe – our school is safe and secure thanks to our:
  - Behaviour policy
  - Access to after school care
  - Strong links with other agencies
  - Clear procedures to ensure children are safe from harm
  - Risk assessments
- Enjoy and achieve – we hold a weekly celebration assembly (see photograph below)
- Achieve economic well being
- Make a positive contribution, e.g. school council.

The school promotes learning through local trips and visits are arranged to promote and enhance pupils learning and access to the curriculum in all areas and subjects.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE)

Religious Education is a core subject in a Catholic School and is given equal importance alongside Maths, English and Science.

RE is taught predominantly through the recommended ‘Come and See’ Scheme. This focuses on areas of faith through different topics spread over a four year cycle. Through this scheme the children learn about the history of their faith, the main festivals and celebrations and the stories of the Bible. They learn about the life of Jesus and how it is so relevant to their lives today.

Religious Education is reinforced through the school’s strong connection with our local Church and the Parish Priest. The children attend regular masses at the Church and welcome the Priest to school for assemblies and class visits.

Our commitment to our faith is further reinforced through daily class prayers, and a variety of forms of liturgy - for example daily collective worship, class assemblies and whole school assemblies.

Under the Section 9 of the Education Act 1988 parents have the right to withdraw their children from RE lessons and assemblies. Such withdrawal would mean the giving of an alternative RE lesson at the times specified for such lessons by the school, on premises other than the school.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH EDUCATION AND CITIZENSHIP

In P.S.H.E. and Citizenship we aim to support and promote understanding of good practices conducive to health, to enhance health related skills and to provide accurate information on health related issues.

We encourage the development of self-esteem and self-confidence in individuals and also an awareness of the needs and values of others. We recognise the role that the school has in the wider community and aim to raise children’s awareness of the contributions they can make within the wide community and we prepare children to play an active role as citizens.
P.S.H.E. comes into all aspects of the curriculum, but during their time at Our Lady’s all pupils will have covered aspects such as drug and sex education, safety, health related exercise, food and nutrition, personal hygiene and relationships.

The belief in the unique dignity of the human person made in the image and likeness of God underpins the approach to all education in a Catholic school. We, therefore, aim to present role models of good relationships and promote the values, attitudes and behaviours that underpin healthy relationships.

**EDUCATION IN PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS**

**Sex and Relationship Education and EPR**

The school follows the guidance of Cardiff Diocese in fulfilling the legal requirement that every school has a Sex Education policy. Any approach to sex and relationship education in school is always presented in a positive framework of Christian ideals and values and as part of the Church’s teaching about what it is to be truly human in Christ. We seek the close co-operation of parents in sex and relationship education – the Church has always recognised that it is the privilege and the responsibility of parents to educate and inform their children in all matters pertaining to personal growth and development, particularly in the sensitive area of their moral education and sexual development.

**Child Withdrawal**

It is our hope that parents would wish pupils to be involved in the schools’ programme of sex education. However, we recognise parents have the right to withdraw their children from this but not from those areas which are required by National Curriculum Science.

Parents with concerns are invited, in the first instance, to arrange an appointment with the school to discuss these concerns and see if they can be resolved. If the matter remains unresolved, parents need to notify the Governors of their intention to withdraw their child from the sex education programme. Significant aspects of sex and relationships education remain part of the national Curriculum for Science. These must be taught to all pupils and parents cannot withdraw pupils from such lessons.

**LITERACY**

We place great emphasis on the early acquisition of literacy skills; reading, writing, speaking and listening.

**Reading**

We use the Read Write Inc program to teach our children to read. We have a range of tools to ensure careful assessment and monitoring of children’s progress as they move from learning to read towards reading to learn. Children are grouped according to their individual ability for literacy with lessons taking place every day. The children are assessed daily by their group teacher and if required, extra one-to-one support is given to them in the afternoon. Through whole school book weeks and class sharing of books, we hope that as the children progress, they are encouraged to develop as enthusiastic, independent and reflective readers who read extensively for both interest and pleasure.

We have a wide range of reading resources available for both individual and group guided and shared reading sessions. In addition to this, children will have individual reading books following our book band structure. These books are taken home and we encourage and support parental participation in reading regularly with their children and completing the individual reading records. We are constantly adding to our reading resources which allow children to engage with diverse text types for both learning and pleasure.
Writing
Our aim is to give children the tools which they will need to enable them to express their ideas in writing efficiently and imaginatively. Our teaching of spelling, grammar and punctuation is embedded in our daily literacy lessons which cover a wide range of genres. We strive to give children a wealth of experiences from which to write about though outings, visitors, drama, theatre groups, art, music and much more. We regularly assess children’s writing and track their progress throughout the school.

Speaking and Listening
We recognise that language is an integral part of learning and that talk is an underlying key factor in the developing of literacy skills. We, therefore, aim to enhance children’s learning and raise standards by teaching a range of vital speaking and listening skills. We encourage all children to express themselves clearly and provide many opportunities across the curriculum and beyond the classroom for them to express their feelings and opinions. Through our explicit teaching of speaking and listening skills, children also understand and develop as listeners and understand the value of listening to the contributions of others and responding accordingly.

NUMERACY
We encourage both confidence and competence with numbers. We aim to achieve this goal through lively, engaging learning that is directed at the children with an aim to develop their individual thinking skills.

We endeavour to support pupils when necessary whilst at the same time encouraging them to develop their independence.

The pitch and pace of the work is sensitive to the rate at which the child learns whilst keeping our expectations of each child challenging so that progress is maintained.

Children are actively encouraged to discuss, seek help and use appropriate resources. We seek to challenge the pupils and give plenty of opportunity to practise and apply their learning.

Children are encouraged to support one another in group activities and are encouraged to share their ideas, explaining their reasoning and methods. Every class has a daily maths lesson with great emphasis placed on the importance of mental strategies. Children are encouraged to learn number facts and tables to enable them to calculate with ease and confidence. The skills are practised through problem solving activities and applying concepts learnt through practical application.
SCIENCE
The study of Science helps children to develop their understanding of the world around them. Through Science they will develop ways of exploring and investigating, checking ideas, using evidence and communicating their findings to others. Our aim is to encourage children to actively explore the world around them using a multi-sensory investigative approach and a wide range of resources.

The key elements of National Curriculum Science are Experimental and Investigative Science; Life Processes and Living Things; Materials and their Properties and Physical Processes.

At Key Stage 1 of the National Curriculum, Science is largely taught through a thematic approach with cross-curricular links with other subjects.

At Key Stage 2, Science is taught mainly as a discrete subject, but the emphasis on practical activities and investigation is still very important.

We are fortunate to have a garden area, within the school grounds and areas which the children can cultivate. This means that they have access to their immediate environment all year round and can investigate, experiment, monitor, and record and evaluate on an individual, group or class basis as part of a flexible programme of study.

Further information on foundation subjects is available on the school website www.our-ladys.hereford.sch.uk
Here are some views from the pupils of Our Lady’s.

**What we like most about Our Lady’s Year 1**
- We learn independently, when we play maths games (Ettie)
- I love playing on the field we have lots of space (Ryley)
- I like it because Mrs Woolaway takes us to Church (Lola)
- The dinners are always yummy (Emily)
- We learn and make French together (David)
- I like everything about Our Lady’s I love doing geography and writing with Mrs Samuel (Kacper)
- School teaches us about sharing and being caring to others (Bailey)
- I like playing and having fun with my friends (Mollie)
- We love doing art club with Miss Payne, she is happy and fun (Finley)
- I am looking forward to doing cooking club with Mrs Samuel (Ettie)
- We do PE every Wednesday with Mrs Samuel, its fun. My favourite game is spiders and scorpions (Noelle)

**What we like most about Our Lady’s Year Y2**
- I find the work interesting (William)
- You get to learn about science, habitats and maths and make lots of friends (Nicola)
- Challenging work to test my mind (Joshua)
- Writing and reading and working hard on our whiteboards (Rhian)
- Love playing with friends (Julia)
- Teachers let us have golden time of a Friday (Theo)
- Everyone is kind and helpful (Lily G)
- Lots of things do (Owen)
- Golden time and fun work (Gracey)
- Think about Jesus and be kind to each, forgive and pray to God (Erica)
- We have lots of friends and lots of nice teachers (Lara)
- People care about each other and that we are loving (Aleks)
- The teachers look after us and help us learn (Hubert)

**What we like most about Our Lady’s Year 3**
- I like English because I like writing stories (Susannah)
- I like the school as I learn history at mu level (Matthew)
- Teachers help me understand when I find something difficult (Ben M)
- PE lessons are fund and I like playing tennis (Sophie)
- I like school warm up activities during lessons as they are fun and I like the meditation that we do (Brooke)
- All like thus school as all the teachers and staff are kind to you.
- I like maths as it is really fun and you get help with maths you don’t know (Victoria)
- It’s really easy to make friends in every class (Jamari)
- The Sports we do at school are lots fun (Toby)
- I like school as we earn a reward which we get on Friday (Julia)
- If we’re really good at our English we get a pen licence (Oliwia)
- Every Thursday I enjoy learning French (James)
- I like the after school clubs as you can get faster and better at sports (Borys)
- If you fall over during break, staff help you (Ben R)
- I like school because I like doing experiments in science (Charlie)
What we like most about Our Lady’s Year 4

I like school because we do work every day and we do fun things in classes. (Nathaniel)
I love my school because I have the best teacher and very good friends. This is my school and I don’t like it I LOVE IT (Marley)
I feel safe in this school, there is always someone to help you (Ellie-Mae)
I feel happy at this school because I have friends (Jaylon)
You get to learn lots of new things like Romans (Maiklas)
I love Our Lady’s and I love maths (Mason)
I like school because there are so many fun activities to do (Shevon)
This is a lovely school and when you are new someone always plays with you (Morgan)
I love school because all the teachers make you feel better if you are upset (Amelia B)
I like school because if you are alone you’re not because Jesus is always by your side and he will be with your every step of the way through your life and school times (Leyton)
Everyone is nice (Enya)
Everyone is kind and always help you especially the Head teacher she is fabulous (Amelia P)
We have the best teachers in the world (Xena)
My teachers are the most encouraging and funniest teachers ever (Molly)
Teachers always make you feel safe (Madeleine)
Everyone is so nice. (Ellie)
Everyone tells the truth (Viktoria)
We have the best teachers (Charlie)
The staff always look after you and help you (Sienna)
You learn lots of new things (Viktoria Z)
When you are sad everyone makes you feel better (Grace)

What we like most about Our Lady’s Year 5

The school is very kind and always expecting Good behaviour. I like maths because I get to learn new things in problem solving (Jordan)
I like that everyone are friends and including. I especially enjoy RE. (Ella)
Every child gets treated equally (Jet)
I love art because we get to discover new skills (Connor)
I feel safe at school and everybody is included no matter what they look like or what they do, I love art and even if you don’t think yours isn’t good the teachers are always proud of you (Molly)
Our Lady’s lets everyone know they are special and unique and never leaves anyone out. U love maths because the teachers always help you out and get you to be the best you can be (Maddy)
The school is very good because everyone is friendly and the teachers are very kind. Eva
I like school because there are lots of opportunities to make friends (Daniel)
All the children are equal here. Art is really fin but I would like to do it more. (Maggie)
Everyone is unique in their own way and we respect this. I really like maths because we learn fun things. (Anna)
You learn something new every day (Susan)
Teachers are friendly, (Madison K-B)
We go on exciting trips (Gaia)
Our school has lots of visitors and they teach us new things. (Natalie)
Our school is full of love and we love each other. (Zuzanna)
Everyone including the teachers are nice and generous. We get to do fun science. (Aliyah)
This school expects good behaviour, we learn different styles of drawing in art. (Dru)
Everyone will learn something new with the great teachers. I like History. (Toby)
We do inter house sports day and I like hockey and football. (Kai)
I like sports (Xavier)
I feel safe at school and the teachers are really friendly. People respect your differences not matter what. (Poppy)
This is amazing because teachers treat you how you treat them and they are funny (Patryk)
There’s lots of love for everything. (Troy)
I love technology in this school, it’s really fun. (Mia)
I love school and it is like my home (Lillie-Mae)
I really like school because everyone is friendly. I love golden time because you get extra time and fun to play with your friends. (Vinnie)

What we like most about Our Lady’s Year 6

I really like this school the teachers are really nice (Ethan)
This school is very safe and the teachers keep an eye on you (Dorian)
I make a lot of friends (Harry)
I like that it’s safe and in school there is no physical fighting (Aimee)
It’s a great place for education (Gregorz)
The teachers are very helpful (Kacper)
I like this school, the dinner ladies keep us safe outside (Alex K)
The quality of education here is amazing (Nikola)
I like this school because they keep you safe and you make new friends (Daniela)
I really like the hot dinners and all the amazing teachers in this school. I also feel really safe with all my friends around and teachers (Marta)
I like the hot dinners and all the teachers (Oliwia)
I like when you can make new friends (Sheries)
This school is amazing because at the end of the week you have a break and have fun, play board games, draw, read and chat (Victoria)
I liked when we worked hard then got a reward like free time (Gabija)
I like the education (Luke)
I like this school everyone is friendly (Jack)
This school is safe (Rhys)
The positive mental attitude in the school is amazing everyone helps everyone and the atmosphere has been created by great people (Alex D)
I like this school because of the food and when you get extras (Max)
I liked the science and teachers (Christopher)
Everyone is friendly (Julia)
All the teachers make me happy (Reuben)
I like school because we are always safe (Jakub)
I have enjoyed my time here but especially like the teachers, staff and food and the subjects are always fun (Jayden)
I like that you can tell the staff all of your worries and they won’t tell anyone (Olivia P)
I like that the hot dinners are really delicious and you get to make your own nominations on other people during lunch and during class in your own time (Sharona)
This school is very complementary about all talents and always works together to make this community a better place (Sasha)
I like school because of the education (Dylan)
I like school because the teachers are nice and fun education (Przemek)