

Judged by Ofsted as a **GOOD**
school - November 2019



Judged as an **OUTSTANDING**
faith school — October 2019

*'There is a strong sense of
community in the school and pupils
say that they are very proud of the
school.'*

Our Lady Star of the Sea RCVA Primary School



Thorpe Road
Horden
Peterlee
Co. Durham
SR8 4AB
Tel: 0191 5863895
E-mail: p3501.admin@durhamlearning.net

What can we offer you?

LOCAL AUTHORITY

Durham County Council
County Hall
Durham
DH1 5UJ
Tel: 03000260000



DIOCESE

Hexham and Newcastle
St. Vincent's Diocesan Offices
St. Cuthbert's House
West Road
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE15 7PY

Tel: 0191 2280111

DIOCESE OF **Hexham & Newcastle**



School Mission Statement

Together, may we create a home for God inside our hearts.

We are unique and strive to be accepting of all.

We do our very best to follow the path of God and together, we walk in the light of Jesus.

We are special in our own ways and believe that anyone can achieve anything!

We are kind, loving and respectful of everyone.

We are growing in God's love...achieving our dreams.



Breakfast Club

Every morning, between 8:00am and 8:45am, during term time, we run a Breakfast Club.

Children are provided with a hearty breakfast at the cost of £1:00 per day.

Children are provided with a selection of drinks and cereals, as well as toast, bagels, waffles, pancakes, fruit and yogurts.

Once a week bacon or sausage sandwiches are on offer and children enjoy socialising with their friends and playing games.

Mrs Conroy and Miss Burrell run the Breakfast Club.



Our School

Our Lady Star of the Sea is a voluntary aided Roman Catholic Primary School catering for children between the ages of 4 and 11 years of age. The school currently has 105 children on roll.

Our school is a smaller than average primary school which has 4 classrooms, an Early Years Outside Play area, Computer Suite/Library, Group Room and school hall. There is also a school kitchen where meals are cooked each day and a designated Breakfast Club area.

The school grounds provide ample space for the children to play in as well as being a resource area for children to explore and apply their learning. There is a playground and large playing fields in which children enjoy developing their understanding of the environment as well positive social interaction and games skills.

Staffing:

Miss J. Jones	Exec. Headteacher
Mrs C. Taylor	Deputy Head/ Year 6 teacher/SENCO
Miss B. Reineck	Reception teacher
Miss H. Hutton	Year 1/2 teacher
Mrs E. Lusardi-Smith	Year 3/4 teacher
Miss J. Cribbin	Year 5 teacher
Miss G Thompson	Intervention Teacher
Mrs M. Watt	School Business Manager
Mrs T. Fullard	Admin/Cleaner /Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs L. Huntington	HLTA
Mrs K. Mann	EYFS/Class 1 HLTA support
Mrs C. Bentham	TA (part time)
Ms E. Jenkinson	TA
Mrs T. Sanderson	TA
Mrs M. Conroy	Cleaner –in-charge/ Lunch Supervisor
Mrs C. Burrell	Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs M. Griffiths	Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs C. Gash	Counsellor

Governing Body

Foundation Governors:

- ◆ Mr D. Dunleavy—Chair
- ◆ Mrs V. Bramley
- ◆ Fr. S Neylan
- ◆ Miss P. Faill
- ◆ Mr D. Mann
- ◆ Mr W. McCafferty
- ◆ Miss R. Parker

LA Representative:

- ◆ Mrs C. Scott—Vice Chair

Parent representatives:

- ◆ Mrs L. Sanders

Teacher representative:

- ◆ Mrs C. Taylor

Exec. Headteacher:

- ◆ Miss J. Jones

Co-opted Representative:

- ◆ Mrs M. Watt

All governors may be contacted via the school office or e-mail address:

*tel: 0191 5863895
E-mail: p3507.admin@durhamlearning.net*

Visitors and School Trips

Staff and children enjoy welcoming visitors into our school.



Class 2 re-enacted The Great Fire of London!



KS2 children enjoyed earning about life in Tudor times.

They also enjoyed going to the Sunderland Empire to see 'Terrible Tudors'.

School trips are enjoyed by everyone and are used to stimulate children's learning.

Sports

Our Lady Star of the Sea School is eager to provide our children with a wide range of sporting opportunities.

In 2020-2021 children received the following coaching:

- ◆ Football
- ◆ Multi-skills
- ◆ Athletics
- ◆ Yoga

Children normally participate in the following tournaments:

- ◆ Football –Peterlee and District league
- ◆ Skipping Festival
- ◆ Cricket Festival
- ◆ Hoopstaz

However, due to COVID19 restrictions the children were unable to participate in tournaments this year.

Our children are always eager to develop their skills and we are keen to provide a wide variety of opportunities.



2018-19 Results

86% of our children reached the 'expected standard' (Good Level of Development) at the end of their first year at Our Lady Star of the Sea. This ensures that children have the very best start to their education.

The results for KS2 (Year 6) children at the end of 2019 can be seen in the table below.

KS2 %	Reading		Writing		Maths		GPS		RW M
	AS+	HS	Exp +	GD	Exp +	AS+	Exp +	AS+	
School All	89%	39%	83%	17%	83%	17%	94%	44%	72%
NA	73%	27%	79%	20%	79%	27%	78%	36%	65%

Key:

AS+ = At the Standard or above

GD = Greater Depth

GPS = Grammar Punctuation and Spelling

This shows that our school is performing well above the National Average for children reaching the expected standard in Reading, Writing, Maths, GPS as well as Reading, Writing and Maths combined.

Phonics Screening

75% of Y2 pupils achieved the Phonics Standard in 2020 and 100% achieved the standard in 2021.

Due to COVID19 pandemic there were no SAT tests in 2020 and none planned for in 2021.



Our school aims to give the best possible education to all our children.

We want children to enjoy their learning!

Work outside the classroom

Staff at our school are keen to develop children's knowledge of the world around them.

Children enjoy exploring the school grounds and growing plants in our school garden.

The school offers:

- ◆ Forest School Activities
- ◆ Cross Curricular Orienteering



Children from Reception (RY) to Year 6 are provided with the opportunity to explore, investigate and learn through hands-on experiences which engage and enlighten.



Music

Staff and children at our school love music and drama.

Children are provided with lots of opportunities to develop their skills and they love to perform for their parents.



Playing the ocarina

KS2 End of Year Productions such as:

A Lad in Trouble

Alice in Wonderland

Cinderella Rockafella

Robin Hood
BOPIN HOOD

Case law has identified certain characteristics which describe the meaning of religion for the purposes of charity law, which are characterised by a belief in a supreme being and an expression of belief in that supreme being through worship.

Applicants must provide a letter of support to confirm their faith membership from their minister or faith leader.

A child's "**home address**" refers to the address where the child usually lives with a parent or carer, and will be the address provided in the Common Application Form ("CAF"). Where parents have shared responsibility for a child, and the child lives for part of the week with each parent, the home address will be the address given in the CAF, provided that the child resides at that address for any part of the school week.

Sibling includes:

- ◆ all natural brothers or sisters, half brothers or sisters, adopted brothers or sisters, stepbrothers or sisters, foster brothers or sisters, whether or not they are living at the same address; and
- ◆ the child of a parent's partner where that child lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same home address as the child who is the subject of the application.

A **parent** means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility for a child, and any person who has care of a child (having care of a child means that the child lives with and is looked after by that person).

This policy should be read in conjunction with the local authority's admission guidance for parents.





OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, HORDEN

ADMISSION POLICY 2022-23

Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School was founded by the Catholic Church to provide education for children of Catholic families. Whenever there are more applications than places available, priority will be given to Catholic children in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed below. The school is conducted by its governing body as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its trust deed and instrument of government, and seeks at all times to be a witness to Our Lord Jesus Christ.

As a Catholic school, we aim to provide a Catholic education for all our pupils. At a Catholic school, Catholic doctrine and practice permeate every aspect of the school's activity. It is essential that the Catholic character of the school's education be fully supported by all families in the school. We therefore hope that all parents will give their full, unreserved and positive support for the aims and ethos of the school. This does not affect the right of an applicant who is not Catholic to apply for and be admitted to a place at the school in accordance with the admission arrangements.

The admission policy criteria will be dealt with on an equal preference basis.

The governing body is the admissions authority and has responsibility for admissions to this school. The local authority undertakes the coordination of admission arrangements during the normal admission round for reception year admission in September.

Children of other Christian denominations means children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledge God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves: to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is his body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An ecclesial community which on principle has no credal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above.

All members of Churches Together in England and CYTŪN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis.

Applicants must provide a baptismal certificate or where child baptism is not practised, a letter confirming their church membership from their minister or faith leader.

Children of other faiths means children who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definition of 'other Christian denominations' at 6 above and which falls within the definition of a religion for the purposes of charity law. The Charities Act 2011 defines religion to include:

A religion which involves belief in more than one God, and

A religion which does not involve belief in a God.



Catholic means a member of a Church in full communion with the See of Rome. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of baptism in a Catholic Church or a certificate of reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church. For the purposes of this policy, it includes a looked after child living with a family where at least one of the parents is Catholic.

For a child to be treated as Catholic, evidence of Catholic baptism or reception into the Church will be required. Those who have difficulty obtaining written evidence of baptism should contact their Parish Priest who, after consulting with the Diocese, will decide how the question of baptism is to be resolved and how written evidence is to be produced in accordance with the law of the Church.

Catechumen means a member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church. For the purposes of admissions this refers to the child on whose behalf the application is being made. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of reception into the order of catechumens.

Eastern Christian Church includes Orthodox Churches, and is normally evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church. Those who have difficulty obtaining written evidence of baptism or reception should contact the Diocese who will decide how the question of baptism or reception is to be resolved and how written evidence is to be produced in accordance with the law of the Church.



Parishes served by the school

The school serves the parish of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish (Horden and Easington).

Published Admission Number

The governing body has set its published admission number (PAN) at 17 pupils to be admitted to [the reception year] in the school year which begins in September 2022.

Application Procedures and Timetable

To apply for a place at this school in the normal admission round (not in-year applications), a Common Application Form (CAF) must be completed. This is available from the local authority in which the child lives.

The parent will be advised of the outcome of the application on 16 April or the next working day, by the local authority. If the application is unsuccessful (unless the child gained a place at a school the parent ranked higher) the parent will be informed of the decision, related to the oversubscription criteria listed above, and has the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel.

If the parent is required to provide supplemental evidence to support the application (e.g. a baptismal certificate), this evidence should be provided at the time of application. If not provided, evidence may be sought by the governing body following the closing date for applications. This information must have been correct at the date of closing for applications.

All applications which are submitted on time will be considered at the same time and after the closing date for admissions which is 15 January 2022.

Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (see note 1)

The admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan that names the school must be admitted. Where this takes place before the allocation of places under these arrangements this will reduce the number of places available to other children.

Late Applications

Late applications will be administered in accordance with the home local authority Primary Coordinated Admissions Scheme. Parents are advised to ensure that the application is submitted before the closing date.

Admission of Children below Compulsory School Age and Deferred Entry

A child is entitled to a full-time place in the September following their fourth birthday. A child's parents may defer the date at which their child, below compulsory school age, is admitted to the school, until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age, or beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year for which an offer was made. A child may take up a part-time place until later in the school year, but not beyond the point at which the child reaches compulsory school age. Upon receipt of the offer of a place a parent should notify the school in writing, as soon as possible, that they wish to either defer their child's entry to the school or take up a part-time place.

Admission of Children outside their Normal Age Group

A request may be made for a child to be admitted outside of their normal age group, for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health.

Any such request should be made in writing to the headteacher of the school. The governing body will make its decision about the request based on the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child. In addition to taking into account the views of the headteacher who has statutory responsibility for the internal organisation, management and control of the school, the governing body will take into account the views of the parents and of appropriate medical and education professionals.

Tie Breaker

Where there are places available for some, but not all applicants within a particular criterion priority will be given to children living closest to the school determined by the shortest distance. In assessing home to school distance the LA uses a Geographic Information System (GIS) to identify and measure the shortest route utilising only the Ordnance Survey Integrated Transport Network (ITN) and Urban Paths Network (UPN) which are national recognised datasets. The LA will not include any other routes or any other method of measurement. Routes are measured from the centre point* of the child's house, or in the case of a flat from the centre point* of the building, to the nearest school site entrance. In all cases the GIS identifies the route to be measured by connecting in a straight line the centre point* of the child's house to the closest point on the nearest route on the ITN/UPN.

* In accordance with the co-ordinates of the Basic Land and Property Unit on the National Land and Property Gazetteer.

In the event of distances being the same for two or more children where this would determine the last place to be allocated, random allocation will be carried out in a public place and supervised by a person independent of the school.

Notes and definitions

An **Education, Health and Care Plan** is a plan made by the local authority under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014, specifying the special educational provision required for a child.

A **looked after child** has the same meaning as in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989, and means any child who is (a) in the care of a local authority or (b) being provided with accommodation by them in the exercise of their social services functions (e.g. children with foster parents) at the time of making application to the school.

A **previously looked after child** is a child who was looked after, but ceased to be so because he or she was adopted, or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order.

Oversubscription Criteria

Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the following order of priority.

First priority in each category will be given to children who will have an older sibling attending the school in September 2022.

1. Catholic looked after and previously looked after children. (see notes 2&3)
2. Catholic children who are resident in the parish of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish (Horden and Easington) (see note 3)
3. Other Catholic children. (see note 3)
4. Other looked after and previously looked after children. (see note 2)
5. Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church. (see notes 4&5)
6. Children of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister or faith leader. (see note 6)
7. Children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a minister or faith leader. (see note 7)
8. Any other children.



Our Lady Star of the Sea

Summer Born Children

The parents of a summer born child, i.e. a child born between 1 April and 31 August, may request that the child be admitted out of their normal age group, to the reception class in the September following their fifth birthday and that that the child will remain in this cohort as they progress through school.

Parents who want to make this request should make an application for their child's normal age group at the usual time. The application to the local authority should include this request and in addition it should be made in writing to the headteacher of the school. The local authority will liaise with the governing body that will make its decision about the request based on the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child. In addition to taking into account the views of the headteacher, who has statutory responsibility for the internal organisation, management and control of the school, the governing body will take into account the views of the parents and of appropriate medical and education professionals.

Parents will be informed of the outcome of the request before primary national offer day.

If the request is agreed by the governing body, the application for the normal age group may be withdrawn before a place is offered. If the request is refused, the parent must decide whether to accept the offer of a place for the normal age group, or to refuse it and make an in year application for admission to year one for the September following the child's fifth birthday.

Where a parent's request is agreed, they must make a new application as part of the main admissions round the following year.

One admission authority cannot be required to honour a decision made by another admission authority on admission out of the normal age group. Parents, therefore, should consider whether to request admission out of the normal year group at all their preference schools, rather than just their first preference schools.

Waiting Lists

In addition to their right of appeal, applicants will be offered the opportunity to be placed on a waiting list. This waiting list will be maintained in order of the oversubscription criteria set out below and not in the order in which applications are received or added to the list. Waiting lists for admission will operate throughout the school year. The waiting list will be held open until the last day of the summer term. Inclusion on the school's waiting list does not mean that a place will eventually become available.

Infant Class Size Regulations

Infant classes may not, by law, contain more than 30 pupils with a single qualified teacher (subject to the provisions in the School Admissions Code for 'excepted children'). Parents do have a right of appeal in accordance with the infant class size regulations if the school is oversubscribed and their child is refused a place.

The governing body will, where logistically possible, admit twins and all siblings from multiple births where one of the children is the last child ranked within the school's PAN.

In-Year Applications

An application can be made for a place for a child at any time outside the admission round and the child will be admitted where there are available places. For information on making an in-year application, parents should contact the local authority admission team at School Places and Admissions, Children and Young People's Services, County Hall, Durham, County Durham, DH1 5UJ on 03000 265 896 or by email at schooladmissions@durham.gov.uk. Parents will be advised of the outcome of their application in writing.

Where there are places available but more applications than places, the published oversubscription criteria, as set out above, will be applied.

If there are no places available, a request can be made that the child is added to the waiting list (see above).

The parent has the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel if refused a place.



Right of Appeal

Where a parent has been notified that a place is not available for a child, every effort will be made by the local authority to help the parent to find a place in a suitable alternative school. Parents who are refused a place have a statutory right of appeal. Further details of the appeals process are available by writing to the chair of governors at the school address.

Fair Access Protocol

The school is committed to taking its fair share of children who are vulnerable and/or hard to place, as set out in locally agreed protocols. Accordingly, outside the normal admission round the governing body is empowered to give absolute priority to a child where admission is requested under any local protocol that has been agreed by both the diocese and the governing body for the current school year. The governing body has this power, even when admitting the child would mean exceeding the published admission number (subject to the infant class size exceptions).

False evidence

The governing body reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place or, where a child is already attending the school, the place itself, where it is satisfied that the offer or place was obtained by deception.

