

Our Lady of Lourdes

Catholic Nursery and
Primary School

Live, Love, Learn



Nisi Dominus Frustra

Notice of Consultation to extend the age range of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Nursery and Primary School

Dear parents, carers, local residents and other interested parties.

The Governors of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Nursery and Primary School intend to extend the age range of the school from 4-11 years as it currently is to 2-11 years. This would enable the school to provide a 2-year old offer where children would be able to access their free nursery education entitlement.

School currently runs a baby and toddler group and we have identified that there is a demand to access 2-year old provision at our school.

Starting from April 2024, existing childcare support will be expanded in phases. By September 2025, most working families with children under the age of 5 will be entitled to 30 hours of childcare support. From April 2024, eligible working parents of 2-year-olds will be able to access 15 hours childcare support. With this in mind we want to be able to offer our families a 2-year old offer starting in September 2024.

Although there is current provision in the local area there is sufficient demand for spaces, coupled with the extra funding available from the government to warrant the extra provision. We feel that with our community centred ethos and our highly trained staff we are able to provide those eligible children with the high-quality nursery education they are entitled to. Our current site offers us ample space to accommodate an extra class of children.

There would be minimal disruption to the children we already cater for and no disruption to the local community in terms of building works.

Research highlights the important role of parents and the importance of high-quality early education in supporting children's learning and development. The foundation years (pregnancy to age five) are critical to children's life chances and most children who are developing well at the end of their foundation years go on to achieve well in school.

In the immediate locality there is no Catholic school led provision offered for 2 year olds, so we would be able to offer this choice for parents. This would be especially advantageous for parents with children currently on our roll as it would ease transition into the school and support progress for children with an increased continuity of care.

The consultation period for this proposal will take place between: **Monday 8th January 2024 and 5th February 2024**. We very much welcome all views on this proposal and would invite you to respond within four weeks of this notice. Please contact school by emailing **admin@ololprimary.co.uk** with any comments/views by 5th February 2024.

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr D McCann

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All responses will be considered. For more information, or if you require clarification on any of the above points, please contact the school office on 01704 568375.

Many Thanks

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. McCann', is positioned above the printed name.

Mr D. McCann
Headteacher