



# Our Lady of Lourdes National School

Hospital Hill, Bunclody, Co. Wexford, Ireland





## Fáilte

Thank you for taking time to consider Our Lady of Lourdes National School for your child. I offer you a cordial invitation to visit us on our Open Day.

Our school boasts a warm, welcoming atmosphere where positive relationships between our staff, students and parents are of paramount importance. We firmly believe in offering a progressive academic curriculum as well as a very extensive range of extra-curricular activities which promote the holistic development of all our pupils.

We are a happy school and take great care to ensure that our pupils are challenged and enjoy their education with us.

We view education as a partnership, involving everyone – children, parents, staff and the wider community. We work closely with parents keeping them involved and informed about our school so that together we can provide the best education for every child in our school.

I look forward to meeting you and your child.

James Roberts  
(Principal)

## About Us

Our Lady of Lourdes NS is a Catholic primary school operating under the patronage of the bishop of Ferns. Our current enrolment is over 275 students with a dedicated staff of 23. Our teachers are a highly qualified, dynamic group who inspire our students to succeed. They are innovative and undertake new initiatives every year. We are a strong academic school with streaming for both literacy and numeracy throughout the school and for Gaeilge in the middle and senior classes. Our pupils achieve top places in entrance & scholarship examinations to secondary schools every year. We have a dedicated More Able & Talented Programme to ensure we meet the needs of all our pupils. We actively promote bullying awareness and the positive self-esteem of pupils is promoted through a variety of innovative programmes.



# Infant Education

At Our Lady of Lourdes National School we realise the importance of the first two years of your children's education in forming a firm foundation for their years in primary school. We value highly the importance of childhood and endeavour to give each child the opportunity to develop and mature at his/her own pace. Teachers and staff make every effort to expose the children to the best methodologies, offering the students every opportunity to become involved in their own education and learning. The children are offered a variety of fun and memorable experiences throughout the year including:

Halloween Walk	Easter egg hunt
Christmas Concerts	Planting bulbs
Trip to the Post Office to post letters to Santa	School Sports Day
Visit of Santa	Gymnastics Programme
Prayer Service to mark start of Spring	Teddy Bears Picnic
Mass to mark opening of school year, Christmas & end of school year	

Of paramount importance is the happiness of each child under the care of the infant staff. On a daily basis we strive to cater for the physical, spiritual, emotional and educational welfare of each child.





“The school’s strong academic focus and record of attainment was a deciding factor for us in choosing Our Lady of Lourdes NS and the genuine care and support that is shown by every single member of the school staff is not something that can be quantified. It is this that we have come to appreciate most of all.”

Tony & Gillian Markey

# Achievements

- Excellent academic reputation
- Three Green Flags awarded
- Wonderful tradition of school musicals / concerts
- Participation and success in Gaelic games with both boys and girls
- Outstanding success in wide variety of national competitions
- First school in Ireland to have a dedicated More Able & Talented Programme
- Award winning school website: [www.bunclodysn.com](http://www.bunclodysn.com)



# Our Building

- State of the art facilities through a €2 million upgrade
- Computer Room
- Interactive whiteboards & laptops in all rooms
- Soundfield systems in all rooms
- Wonderful School Library
- Very large PE/Assembly hall
- Four large playing pitches
- Two basketball courts
- Designated play areas for each class
- Play Therapy Room
- Home School Community Liaison/Cooking Room
- Secure building with CCTV – entrance gates locked during all play breaks

# Support for Pupils:

- Very small numbers in both literacy and numeracy classes
- More Able & Talented Programme
- Reading Recovery Programme
- Comprehensive screening programme by Support Team
- Five Support Teachers
- Touch Type Read & Spell Programme for pupils with dyslexia
- School Care Team which meets every fortnight
- Counselling/Play Therapy service for pupils
- After school Homework Club
- Dedicated Virtual Learning Environment
- Support for pupils during out of school hours
- Healthy Eating Programme
- Book Rental Scheme

## Numeracy scores:

We are 5% above the national norm for pupils above the 98th percentile and are 8% above the national norm for pupils in the 85th – 98th percentile.

## Literacy scores:

We are 3% above the national norm for pupils above the 98th percentile and are 6% above the national norm for pupils in the 85th – 98th percentile.



# Extra Curricular Activities

- Concerts
- Club Gaeilge
- Debating Club
- French Club
- Gaelic Football (boys and girls)
- Camogie
- Hurling
- Volleyball
- Soccer & Futsal Soccer
- Basketball
- Rugby
- Gymnastics for Infants
- Chess Club
- Scratch Computer Programming Club
- Music Lessons
- Draughts for Infants
- Table Quizzes
- Spelling Bee Club
- Homework Club

“The balance between academic excellence and caring for and nurturing each individual child is a difficult one to achieve, and staff at Our Lady of Lourdes NS make this task seem effortless.”

John & Sandra Murphy

# More Able & Talented Programme

We provide a More Able & Talented Programme to provide the support, inspiration, encouragement and information learners need to help them maximise their gifts and talents, whatever they may be.

The programme caters for the academically bright pupils who need to be challenged but crucially it also includes those pupils who display talent in such areas as music, sports, singing, art, performing arts, leadership and display creative thinking skills. Some of the elements of the programme include:

- Scratch Computer Programming
- Ancient Maths & Physics
- Cryptology & Code Breaking
- Digital Stories
- Debating
- Brainology Programme
- Podcasting

“The school’s targeted teaching and learning allows every pupil to flourish and reach their true potential. It’s amazing how this builds the self confidence and self esteem of every child.” George & Louise Raleigh



# Our Lady of Lourdes National School

Hospital Hill, Bunclody, Co. Wexford, Ireland



“We have had the privilege of getting to know James Roberts and the staff at Our Lady of Lourdes NS over the past ten years that our children have attended the school. While many schools have a vision for themselves and their pupils, Our Lady of Lourdes NS manages to achieve and even surpass these aspirations. The passion and dedication to teaching and learning and the constant focus of the entire team on ways to improve the whole school experience of every child is inspirational. The standards of educational attainment they achieve are outstanding, and the level of self belief and motivation they instil in pupils is amazing.”

Raymond Byrne & Lorna Moorhead

“The number of extra-curricular activities organised for pupils is fantastic. From sport to debating, languages to computer programming, chess to music, the range of activities the school offers is hugely diverse and enjoyed so much by pupils (and their parents).”

Tony & Anne Lonergan