



**LORETO PREPARATORY SCHOOL**  
Dunham Road, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 4GZ  
Telephone: 0161 928 8310

## **Admissions Statement**

### **Mission Statement**

At Loreto Preparatory School  
We are eager and inspired to do our best,  
Meeting the challenges and opportunities of a changing world  
With love in our hearts.

We are called to be joyful and prayerful,  
Living the Gospel and the Catholic faith  
And celebrating the values of Mary Ward  
With our parents and the whole Loreto family.

*Women in time to come will do much.*  
*Mary Ward*

*This policy has been written with regard to and in the spirit of our school aims.*

*This policy applies to the whole school, including the Early Years Foundation Stage.*

### **Admission to our Early Years Foundation Stage and Infant Department**

Admission to the Foundation Stage and the Infant Department is by informal interview. The object of the interview is to confirm the needs of the child and the ability of the school to meet those needs. No formal assessment of children entering the Early Years Foundation Stage or Years 1 and 2 is undertaken, although parents will be asked about their child's general development and any identified special needs prior to a place being offered.

EYFS children are usually admitted at the beginning of the school year during which they have their fourth birthday. They may be admitted to the class the term after their third birthday, subject to places being available and if they have the ability to eat independently and toilet themselves without any assistance.

Most Infant children enter the school at the beginning of the school year, but may enter mid-year, if there are places available.

### **Admission to the Junior Department**

Admission to the Junior Department is by interview and assessment. Assessments are made to identify potential and a willingness to engage in the tasks, rather than mere academic prowess. We understand that children come to us with differing school experiences, and at varying stages of development. Children who do not reach the required standard may be

considered for admission after consultation with the parents or guardians to ascertain whether the school can fully support the needs of the child.

## **Allocation of Places**

Priority is given to children who are siblings and to those baptised in the Roman Catholic faith. Subject to places being available, children of other Christian denominations and children of other faiths may be admitted.

All children are required to follow the Religious Education Programme in the school but, at the same time, appreciation, respect and tolerance of other faiths is exercised and encouraged.

In the event of the number of children registered for any year group exceeding the places available, the following will be taken into consideration:

- The presence of siblings within the school or requiring entry
- The length of time the child has been registered for entry

All applications will be considered in the order in which they are received by the school and where a year group is already full, this will determine the child's position on the waiting list.

Preference may be given to families who are relocating.

Most Junior children enter the school at the beginning of the school year, but may enter mid-year, if there are places available.

## **Children with Special Educational Needs**

Children with Special Educational Needs are welcome in Loreto. However, we advise parents of children with special educational needs or physical disabilities to discuss their child's requirements with us in detail before registering for a place. This will enable the school to determine if their needs fall within the scope of our learning support provision. It is necessary to clarify the needs of the child and the ability of the school to meet these needs before a place is offered in order to ensure that she has the best education possible.

## **English as an Additional Language**

Children with a home language other than English are welcome in Loreto. We value this linguistic diversity and aim to provide opportunities for these children to develop. The needs of the children and the ability of Loreto to meet these needs will be discussed with parents before a place is offered.

## **Equal Treatment**

Our aim is to encourage applications from candidates from a diverse a range of backgrounds. This enriches our community and is vital in preparing our pupils for today's world. The criteria for admission to the School apply equally for all children. Loreto Preparatory School

is committed to equal treatment for all, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or social background and this commitment is carried through in our curriculum provision, our planning and our pastoral care.

There is one class for each year group throughout the school.

### **Appeals Procedure**

Parents who wish to appeal against a decision to refuse admission should write to the Head Teacher at the school.

*Reviewed Summer 2016*

*Next review Summer 2018*