



Laleham Lea School



P R O S P E C T U S

A Catholic Independent Primary School
for boys and girls aged 3 to 11 years



Laleham Lea
is a Catholic
Independent
Primary School
situated in Purley,
Surrey and provides
education for boys
and girls aged 3 to
11 years. The school
aims to provide a
broad, balanced
and challenging
curriculum within
a happy learning
environment. The
majority of pupils
are Catholic but
we warmly
welcome children
of other faiths who
are sympathetic
to our ethos.



Welcome to our School



Our Brief History

Laleham Lea School has been in existence for over a hundred years. It is a traditional and attractive building, which has been improved and extended over the years to provide an excellent learning environment.

From 1963 until 1977 it served as the Preparatory School for the nearby John Fisher Boys' School. It became a mixed school in 1994 and the Nursery was introduced in 1997.

Our warm welcome and caring community make our school a very special place for all.



Our Learning Environment

Our school houses eight classrooms, a Long Room for assemblies and concerts, a dining room, a library, two music rooms, an art room and offices. It also incorporates an up to date computer suite, an extra classroom to cater for the increasing demand for infant places, our staff room and toilet facilities. The Nursery is very well established and together with the Infant Department provides an excellent foundation for future learning throughout the school.

Laleham Lea has two large playgrounds, substantial lawn and a well-equipped adventure playground.

The school also has full use of excellent facilities belonging to the nearby John Fisher School. These include the Chapel, playing fields, new sporting facilities and concert hall. We also avail of local swimming facilities all year round.



Our School Day

The school day begins at 8.55am for all children.

School finishes at the following times:

3.00pm for Nursery

3.10pm for Reception, Lower Transition (Year 1), Upper Transition (Year 2)

3.15pm for Pre-Prep (Year 3) and Lower (Year 4)

3.20pm for Middle (Year 5) and Upper (Year 6)

There are also various after school clubs on offer.

These normally end at 4.30pm.

Children are supervised in the playground before school from 8.30am.

For a small charge, an additional supervised 'Early Birds' start is available for Nursery and Infant children from 8.00am.





Early Years at Laleham Lea

An introduction to the Foundation Stage

The Foundation Stage is the period in a child's education from the age of 3 to 5 years. At Laleham Lea this time is spent in the Nursery and Reception classes. It is called the Foundation Stage because it gives children secure foundations for later learning. Early experiences inspire attitudes to learning and create a basis for later learning in school and beyond. With this in mind, at this early stage of their education at Laleham Lea, the children in Nursery and Reception are given a programme, which is broad, carefully structured and stimulating and is designed to develop the whole child across all areas of the Early Learning Goals.

From the outset great emphasis is placed on music and sport. Children in the Foundation Stage take part in singing, percussion, music and movement and games lessons. They also join with Reception and Years 1 and 2 in music and drama productions at least twice a year and take part in Sports Day in the summer term. Parents are invited to attend these very enjoyable occasions.



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Our Nursery Class

Our Nursery Class is open Monday to Friday during every school term and follows the school holiday calendar. Your child is eligible to attend the Nursery Class from his/her third birthday. The day is divided into two sessions: –

The morning session 9am – 12.00pm

The afternoon session 12.00pm – 3pm

There is also an option for children to attend the Nursery Class for a full day.

Your child can be enrolled for any number and combination of morning and afternoon sessions, subject to availability. An adult must accompany his or her child into the Nursery Classroom at the beginning of each session. A supervised 'Early Birds' start is available at 8.00am by prior written arrangement (an application form is available on request). An extra charge for this facility is payable with the term's fees, in advance. Children require a snack, drink and packed lunch.

The Nursery Class aims to offer a safe, friendly, happy and stimulating environment. A close partnership with parents is promoted and the Nursery Teacher is available before or after each session to talk with parents.

Nursery Fees

Fees are payable in advance at the beginning of every term. Please see enclosed information for current rates.

Regrettably, fees cannot be refunded for absences or sessions granted in lieu. A term's notice in writing is required. In the event of this not being received, a full term's fees will be charged.

Outings

During the Early Years Foundation Stage, children are taken to a number of interesting and exciting places. Details of each outing will be issued in advance in writing.

Our Reception Class

Our Reception class provides welcoming, supportive, and stimulating environment, where children are given equal opportunities to develop and learn, in a way and pace appropriate to them as individuals.

During their time spent in the EYFS, children will be following the Early Years Foundation Stage framework (EYFS) achieving the Early Learning Goals by the end of the Reception Year. The Early Learning Goals set high expectations in the related areas of learning and at Laleham Lea we aim to meet the diverse needs of all children so that most will achieve and some, where appropriate, will exceed the goals by the end of the Reception Year.

The aims of the curriculum are to help develop the whole child and to secure the foundation for happy, confident, well-adjusted, independent and educated individuals. Children will be encouraged to explore, question, reason and communicate – also to express their ideas and feelings through music, drama and imaginary play. At Laleham Lea, Religious Education is given priority; it pervades the whole ethos of the life and work of the school. Our pastoral support provides warmth and encouragement to nurture each and every child.





Our House System

A system of four Houses operates in our school:

Alban (blue)
 Edmund (green)
 Mayne (red)
 Wulstan (yellow)

A large number of House activities are held including competitions in all the major sports. House points are also awarded for effort, good behaviour and academic achievement. House Captains and Vice Captains are appointed from pupils in Year 6 and cups and shields for a variety of activities are awarded each year.





Our Mission Statement

Recognising that Christian values are central to the life of the school, we at Laleham Lea aim to create a loving, welcoming environment in which our children may grow intellectually, socially and emotionally; an environment in which their talents are recognised, fostered and treated with compassion; an environment which provides quality teaching and learning within a balanced curriculum framework and which helps every child to reach their true potential.

Together with parents, who are the first educators, we aim to lead our children towards tolerance, understanding and sensitivity to the needs of others so that they may grow up as well balanced individuals with a strong sense of personal identity and an awareness of God's love.

Laleham Lea achieves its mission:

- by offering a broad, balanced, well-planned and challenging curriculum tailored to the needs of the individual child
- by setting high standards and expectations for all children
- by providing a happy, safe and well ordered learning environment
- by maintaining small classes
- by offering a wide range of musical, sporting and other extra-curricular activities
- by maintaining a close partnership with parents
- by demonstrating our belief in the teachings of Jesus Christ by the way in which we live and worship in our school

Laleham Lea offers:

- a wide range of musical, sporting and other extra curricular activities
- excellent results at Key Stages One and Two
- specialist teaching in Science, Music, French, Art and Sport
- specialist teaching and excellent facilities in ICT/Computing
- an emphasis on firm discipline, good behaviour, adherence to school rules and respect for others
- first class provision for early years education available in the Nursery and Reception classes and an excellent OFSTED Report







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Our Curriculum

At Laleham Lea, we offer a broad and balanced curriculum, concentrating not only on the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science but also on Religious Education, French/Spanish, History, Geography, Music and Drama, ICT, Design and Technology, Games and Art. Full details of the content and organisation of all curriculum subjects can be found on our website at www.lalehamlea.co.uk

Religious Education at Laleham Lea is at the heart of the curriculum, enriching and informing all other areas of learning. Infant assemblies are held once a week and Junior assemblies three times each week. Weekly Mass is celebrated in the John Fisher Chapel or in school.

Great emphasis is placed on Music. Instrumental concerts are held throughout the year and allowing children to perform publicly, both individually and as members of a group. From Nursery to Year 6 children are encouraged to sing and to make music. From Year 1 to the end of Year 6 the recorder is taught progressively. Peripatetic staff give individual tuition in a variety of instruments including clarinet, violin, organ, cello, flute, oboe, brass instruments and guitar. Children who learn an instrument take part in school musical activities such as the orchestra, string and wind ensembles, church services and school concerts and are entered for public examinations when they have reached the required standard. The Nursery and Infant classes perform annual Nativity and summer musicals. The Year 6 class stages an end of year summer production. The school choir regularly performs with success at local festivals.

Sport also plays an important part in the curriculum. Sports on offer at Laleham Lea include rugby, tag rugby, soccer, netball, swimming, tennis, table tennis, hockey, cross country, athletics, cricket, baseball, basketball, gymnastics and ballet. Both boys and girls compete successfully against other schools in many of the above sports.



Our Teaching Structure

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There are eight classes in the school; Nursery and Reception in the Foundation Stage (age 3 to 5), Lower Transition (Year 1), Upper Transition (Year 2), Pre- Prep (Year 3), Lower (Year 4), Middle (Year 5) and Upper (Year 6). There is a form teacher for each of the eight classes. Specialist teachers teach Science, French, Music, Art, Games and ICT/Computing. There are in addition peripatetic music teachers.

Class sizes are small with the average number of pupils being 20.

Children in Reception to Year 4 are taught mainly by their class teacher in the belief that the development of a close relationship with the class teacher is essential at this stage of their education. Classroom assistants are also employed in the early years. When appropriate, pupils in Years 5 and 6 are set for Mathematics and in these classes the curriculum is mainly taught by subject specialists. Learning support outside the classroom is also available for a small number of children who need extra help.



Assessment and Results

Assessments for Years 3 to 6 are held in November and June of each year and reported to parents. In addition regular assessment is carried out with pupils throughout each year. In May Year 6 take the Key Stage 2 (SATS) tests in English and Maths levels 3-5. More able pupils are now entered for the Level 6 Mathematics tests. These tests are marked externally. Throughout Years 4-6 Science is assessed at the end of each topic using Rising Stars and an average level given. Year 2 take the Key Stage 1 (SATS) tests in English and Mathematics. These are marked internally.

The school has maintained its highly successful record in all of these external tests. In the Year 6 tests pupils consistently achieve at least Level 4 (the nationally expected standard for 11 year olds) in English, Mathematics and Science with a large proportion achieving a level 5 and level 6 Mathematics (the nationally expected standard for 14 year olds).

Key Stage 1 results are also excellent with all children reaching at least the required level and a good proportion achieving Level 3 (the nationally expected standard for 9 year olds).

The school also obtained an excellent OFSTED report for Early Years Education in the last inspection.



Reports

Written reports are sent home twice during the school year – Autumn and Summer. They give parents information on academic effort and achievement. From Years 3 to 6 they include the pupil's examination mark, effort and term grades and a comment on the pupil's general attitude.

Verbal reporting to parents, in the form of Parents' Meetings, takes place twice a year. Longer appointments are possible at any time and parents are welcome to contact the school if they have concerns regarding their child's well being or progress in any area of the curriculum.

Homework

This provides pupils with the opportunity to practise and consolidate the work covered in class. It is set daily to a homework timetable and the amount given is appropriate to the age and ability of the child.

Reading Record Books and Homework Diaries, signed by parents, also serve as effective channels of communication between home and school.





Senior Schools

Laleham Lea School leavers transfer to the following senior schools: for the boys;

John Fisher, Wallington County Grammar, Wilson's, Whitgift, Trinity, Worth, Caterham and London Oratory schools. For the girls: Coloma Convent Girls School, St Philomena's, Wallington High, Woldingham, Sutton High, Croydon High, Old Palace and Croham Hurst schools.

The track record of acceptance at the end of Year 6 for all of the above senior schools is excellent, with many children being awarded scholarships by the Independent schools.

Extra Curricular Activities

Visits and outings are made to places of educational interest throughout the year. The choice is usually in connection with a current curriculum topic. These include visits to galleries, museums, theatres and historical sites. In addition, pupils in Year 5 have the opportunity to spend a few days at a special activity centre and pupils in Year 6 visit the Isle of Wight for a five-day adventure holiday.

Lunchtime and After-School Clubs include Art, Baseball, Chess, Choir, Soccer, Dance, Drama, Football, Instrumental Lessons, Library, Netball, Orchestra, Rounders, Rugby, Table Tennis, Journalism Club, Gymnastics and Ballet.

Calendar

A calendar, published at the start of each term, shows the dates and times of church services, term start and finish, meetings, sports events, outings and other activities for that term. The most recent calendar is enclosed and is also available on our website.

Admissions

Pupils are admitted between the ages of 3 and 11 years. Those children entering at Year 3 and above are asked to take a short test in English and Mathematics. The majority of pupils are Catholics. However, children from families of other faiths who are sympathetic to our ethos and values also receive a warm welcome. A non-refundable registration fee should accompany applications for admission (see enclosed information). An interview to meet the Head Teacher and view the school in progress is then arranged.

Fees

Fees are payable before the beginning of each term and the current rate is enclosed. The fees include tuition, stationery, books and equipment. They also include all lunchtime and most after school clubs. One term's notice in writing is required for any pupil leaving the school. Otherwise a full term's fees will be charged.





Our Parents

Laleham Lea parents participate in a very active social calendar. There are regular activities throughout the year, which are organised by our PTA. These are extremely well supported by parents, friends, staff and past parents. It is not only children, but also parents, who benefit from life long friendships begun at Laleham Lea. As well as being very popular and enjoyable occasions, the funds raised have provided the school with many additional facilities and equipment.

Parents' Comments

"...a happy, welcoming, family atmosphere"

"...your child is treated as an individual"

"...small class sizes allow each child's needs to be recognised and catered for"

"...a Christian caring atmosphere infuses the whole school. This stems from staff commitment, daily prayer, good RE teaching and a weekly Mass for Juniors"

"...school fundraising events which are very popular and enjoyable social functions for parents"

"...the overwhelming impression of Laleham Lea is of a happy and productive school run by a very professional and approachable staff"

"...I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your professionalism and dedication in providing a first class education for both my children while they were at Laleham Lea School"

"I believe that my children's happiness and success at their new school are due largely to all the staff at Laleham Lea. You all give so much more than just a good academic start in life. I believe that Laleham Lea also provides vital life skills such as how to socialise properly, mix with other children and adults with confidence and a good moral foundation."

"All in all, Laleham Lea has provided an excellent all round education at amazing value for money."

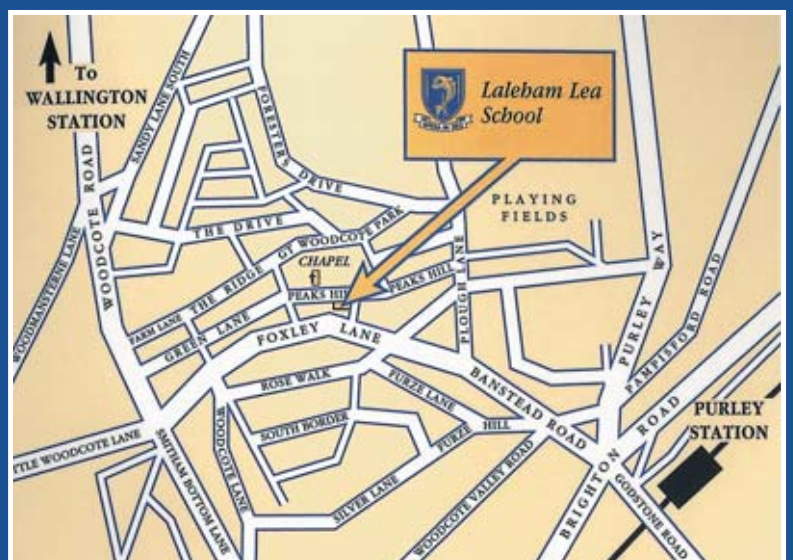
Our parents and families work closely with us to make Laleham Lea School a happy home for everyone.





Location

The school is situated in the pleasant residential area of West Purley; 20 minutes drive from the M23 and M25 motorways and within a mile of Purley railway station with a 25-minute journey time to Central London.





Laleham Lea School

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