



# Laleham Lea

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

School Prospectus



# WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL

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## Our Brief History

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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. 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.

## Our Learning Environment

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*'The quality of the pupils' academic and other achievements is excellent.'*

ISI Inspection

The school houses eight well equipped classrooms, Nursery, a Long Room for assemblies and concerts, a Lunch Room, a Library, Music and Performing Arts Rooms, Art Room, Computer Suite and STEM Science Room.

Our Library and Computer suite and classrooms have been upgraded to include Chrome Books and iPads as well as desk top computers which can be used by each class for all subjects to enable a more exciting and varied approach to learning.

Our Nursery and Reception Class (EYFS) is housed in excellent facilities, with the EYFS Lawn, Sensory Garden, Amphitheatre

and outdoor learning area. The school benefits from an ample play area with two large playgrounds, a substantial lawn, a well-equipped adventure playground and a Nature Trail with 'Bug Hotel' at the front of the school.

The school also enjoys the use of the excellent facilities belonging to the nearby John Fisher School and Purley Sports' Club; these include the JFS Chapel, playing fields and concert hall and playing fields, tennis courts and indoor courts at Purley Sports Club.

Pupils from Year 1 upwards swim on a rotational basis at a local swimming pool.



## Our School Day

*'Pupils are highly enthusiastic learners.'*

ISI Inspection

The school door opens at 8.20-8.40am for children from Nursery to Year 6. Assembly and Liturgy takes place twice a week on Tuesdays and Fridays in the Long Room for children in Reception to Year 6. Hot School lunches and a

healthy break time snack are prepared on site daily by our Catering company and included in our School fees. The school offers a choice of after school clubs. Where possible the school offers free clubs to support our students.



## Early Years at Laleham Lea

The Early Years 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 Early Years 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 Years Framework and Early Learning Goals. From the outset great emphasis is placed on music, creativity and sport. Children in the EYFS take part in all areas of the EYFS Framework including singing, percussion and music and movement. 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 as members of their House. Parents are invited to attend these very enjoyable occasions.







## Our Nursery Class

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In order to provide the best possible experience for our children and prepare them fully for transition into our Reception Class, we offer full day sessions with a minimum of three days attendance. A fruit snack at break time and hot lunch are included in the fees.

Nursery children enjoy a varied day which covers all areas of the EYFS Framework Curriculum including Computing, Spanish, Music and Movement and Phonics as well as exploring the Sensory Garden and amphitheatre.

Our aim is for every child attending Laleham Lea Nursery

to benefit from the continuity of teaching and learning to ensure they are best prepared for our Reception Class; we believe that a minimum attendance of three full days is required to effectively achieve that goal and support our young learners.

The Nursery Class provides a safe, friendly, happy and stimulating environment. A close partnership with parents is promoted and the Nursery staff are available before or after each session to talk with parents. Nursery Fees are payable in advance at the beginning of every term.

## Our Reception Class

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Our Reception Class provides a welcoming, supportive, and stimulating environment, where students 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) aiming to achieve the Early Learning Goals by the end of the Reception year.

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 assemblies, 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

*'Pupils show excellent development of their spiritual understanding in their everyday lives.'*

ISI Inspection

Recognising that Gospel 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 and fostered; 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. *ISI February 2022 'Pupils have high levels of self-understanding for their age and show notable resilience.' 'Pupils show outstanding respect for each other and are highly inclusive.'*

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 extracurricular activities
- excellent results at Key Stages One and Two
- specialist teaching in Science, Maths, Music, PE, Drama, MFL and Art
- specialist teaching and excellent facilities in Computing
- 11+ preparation Booster Classes and Accelerated Maths.
- 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













## The Laleham Lea School Prayer

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This is our school.  
 Let peace live here,  
 May love live here,  
 Love of one another,  
 Love of mankind,  
 Love of life,  
 Love of God.  
 Let us remember, that as many  
 hands build a house, many  
 hearts make our school.  
 Amen

## Our Curriculum

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*'The quality of the pupils' academic and other achievements is excellent.'*

ISI Inspection



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, Spanish, History, Geography, Music and Drama, Computing, Design and Technology, STEM, PE and Art and Design. A Foreign Language is also studied from Nursery to Year 6.

Class sizes are small with the average number of pupils being 18.

Religious Education at Laleham Lea is at the heart of the curriculum, enriching and informing all other areas of learning. Assemblies are held twice each week and we either celebrate Mass or attend Liturgy regularly.

Great emphasis is placed on Music and the Performing Arts. Instrumental concerts are held throughout the year allowing children to perform

publicly, both individually and as members of a group. From Nursery to Year 6 children are encouraged to sing, act and to make music. A variety of musical instruments are taught by our many Peri Music Teachers including Piano, Guitar, Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Violin and Trumpet.

PE and Sport also play an important part in the curriculum. Sports on offer at Laleham Lea include Rugby, Football, Netball, Swimming, Tennis, Table Tennis, Hockey, Cross Country, Athletics, Cricket, Squash, Baseball, Basketball, Gymnastics and Ballet. Both boys and girls compete successfully against other schools in many of the above sports. Our Partnerships with The John Fisher School and Purley Sports' Club provide excellent off site facilities for Junior Students and professional coaching.



## Pastoral Care

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*'The quality of the pupils' personal development is excellent.'*

ISI Inspection

Our outstanding pastoral care provides for a happy, caring community for all and we invite you to come and visit Laleham Lea where you can be assured of a very warm welcome. Our Pupils are supported through the care, respect and values of our Mission Statement. Each individual pupil is extremely well known by every member of our community. We ensure that the child is at the centre

of everything we do here at Laleham Lea. Our butterflies symbolise the qualities of Independence, Resilience and Respect.

The key strength of our school is the excellent knowledge that the Teachers have of every student. Each class is supported pastorally by their class teacher, other teaching staff and our support staff.

## Assessment and Results

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*'(Pupils) develop strong numerical skills and are excellent communicators. Pupils successfully meet the school's aim to fulfil their maximum potential and to be educated through a broad and balanced curriculum.'*

ISI Inspection

In the EYFS, pupils build quickly on their experiences, developing confident and enthusiastic attitudes to learning, sometimes showing exceptional progress in writing and independent thinking skills.

The rate of pupils' progress in Mathematics, English and RE is maintained at well above the national expectations throughout the school and is considerably above those expectations in the final two years.

The school does not take part in the National Curriculum tests, but the available evidence shows attainment in Mathematics and English to be well above national age related expectation.

The standards of excellence achieved at Laleham Lea mean that many of our students go on to the local Grammar Schools, obtain scholarships for leading Independent Schools or many of our Catholic families prefer to remain in a Catholic environment similar to that of Laleham Lea and go on to one of the many

excellent local Independent and State Catholic Senior Schools where they achieve many great things.

*'School leavers have been highly successful gaining entry to schools with competitive academic requirements and have achieved a high proportion of scholarship awards to senior independent schools. This reflects a successful fulfilment of the school's aim to recognise pupils' talents and foster and nurture them to achieve their potential.'*

Early intervention, assessment and target setting provides personalised, accelerated learning for all. We offer additional Booster Classes in both in English and Maths for all students from Year 1 onwards in preparation for the 11+ and Independent School examinations as well as Verbal and Non-Verbal reasoning Club for Year 4 students and access to online 11+ preparation learning programmes from Year 3.









# Reports

(Reception –Year 6)

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' Consultation 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 wellbeing or progress in any area of the curriculum.

# Extra-Curricular Activities

*'Pupils have high levels of self-understanding for their age and show notable resilience.'*

ISI Inspection



Education is not just about academic learning and Laleham Lea offers a variety of specialist Lunchtime and After School Clubs to support and enhance our curriculum. Our timetable includes something for all

interests from Music and Sports to Latin and Art. Many clubs are included in the school fees, however those which are run by external providers do attract an additional charge.

Clubs can include (*amongst others*):

- STEM
- Accelerated Maths
- Verbal and Non Verbal reasoning
- 11 + Booster Classes in English and Maths
- Orchestra
- Latin and Classical Civilization

- Art (two clubs)
- Performing Arts
- Fencing
- Football
- Chess
- Creative Problem Solving
- Tennis
- Spanish
- Reading
- Bollywood Dancing

## Homework

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Homework 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. Homework is also set using a variety of online learning resources including Atom Learning and Language Nut.

## Admissions

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Pupils are admitted to School between the ages of 3 and 11 years; most of our Nursery Students progress to our Reception Class, we also have a limited number of external Reception places available. On your visit to Laleham Lea we will provide a tour where you will meet with our Head Teacher and Staff who will be happy to show you the 'Laleham Lea Journey'. Our team of staff is highly skilled,

experienced and dedicated and are looking forward to meeting you. A non-refundable registration fee of £100 should accompany all applications for admission. Following receipt of your application, we will invite your child to enjoy as Taster Day with us to ensure we can meet their individual needs and informal assessments will be undertaken during the day.

## Fees

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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.





# Why choose Laleham Lea for your child?



Our warm welcome and caring community make our school a very special place. 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. The PTA traditionally had a very social role in the school, from events such as film afternoons

and discos to the popular Parents' Quiz Nights and other evening events that allow parents to come together and connect with friends, or make new ones. New families are always welcome to join the PTA. Our events for parents and pupils help to raise money for important extras for the children, such as new playground equipment. The PTA also funded the Nature Trail, equipment for the STEM Room and Chrome Books.



Laleham Lea School offers:

- 'The quality of the pupils' academic and other achievements is excellent.' ISI Inspection
- a broad, balanced, well-planned and challenging curriculum tailored to the needs of the individual child
- excellent results in EYFS, Key Stages One and Two with a number of Grammar School/Grammar Stream and Independent School Offers along with Scholarships
- small class sizes
- specialist teaching in Science, Maths, Music, PE, Drama, MFL, Computing, Art and a wide

range of musical, sporting and other extra-curricular activities, many of which are free of charge

- Differentiation and personalised learning with booster classes for all pupils in English and Maths to assist with 11+ preparation
- the highest standards and expectations for all children
- close partnership with parents
- an emphasis on firm discipline, good behaviour, adherence to school rules and respect for others
- a happy, safe and well-ordered learning environment



## What our parents say

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'Laleham Lea is an outstanding school that cares deeply for each of its pupils. It is a school that goes the extra mile to ensure happiness, safety, wellbeing and religious identity, which it sees as just as important as academic progress. The school is not just an education forum but a family'

'Small class sizes mean that every child gets their chance to shine and each child's talent, whatever that may be, is developed and encouraged. From Cross Country races to Choir performances or learning an instrument, all pupils are encouraged to take part and you can see their confidence grow'

"...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 Mass"

"...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"

## What our pupils say

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"Laleham lea is like my second home and second family who I love. I feel like when I am there, I'm at home."

"This lovely school is an important part of me and it ever shall be. This has built me up to be the great, confident student I am today. The teachers have guided me to the path of

possibly a brilliant future leader for our country and even the world."

"...I was made to feel very welcome and a part of the Laleham Lea Family!"

"I loved Laleham Lea School, I've had the best time. I'll never forget the great years with you all. I will really miss it."





# Laleham Lea

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