

Appendix 1

Our Lady's Grove Acceptance Charter

Any reference to "parents" is understood to include all parents and guardians

Parents are required to indicate in writing their willingness to support the characteristic spirit of the school, its values and traditions and abide by all School Rules

Our Lady's Grove, is a girls' Catholic school and as such will partake in Catholic liturgies in accordance with our ethos. We aspire to promote personal responsibility, mutual respect and collegiality in a disciplined, caring and just environment. We welcome all cultures within our defined framework as evidenced by and in all our policies.

Our school operates within the regulations laid down by the Department of Education and Skills.

Mission Statement

Jesus and Mary College, Our Lady's Grove is a Catholic Community in keeping with the educational philosophy of St. Claudine Thevenet and the stated ethos of the school. We are committed to providing a quality education in pursuit of excellence.

We endeavour to provide a teaching and learning environment which encourages the school community to develop to its full potential cognisant of all its talents and skills. We aim to work together in a safe, respectful, caring and just environment.

We value the principles of mutual respect, equality and tolerance encouraging positive self - image, confidence and pride in all achievements.

The Curriculum

As Our Lady's Grove is a recognised school under the Education Act 1988, the school's academic curriculum is prescribed by the DES. Accordingly, all students enrolled in the school must undertake the curriculum provided and are prepared for the State Examinations.

The curriculum programmes provided, include the Junior Certificate, the Transition Year and the Leaving Certificate all of which are compulsory for any student beginning in First Year in the school.

Junior Certificate compulsory subjects: Irish, English, Maths, French, History, Geography, Music, Science and CSPE plus one optional subject from the following Art, Business Studies and Home Economics. All subjects are provided to Higher Level. Chinese is taught to certain year groups and externally accredited. Non examination subjects R.E., S.P.H.E., I.T. and P.E.

Leaving Certificate – Students study seven subjects of which Irish, English, Maths and French are compulsory.

Code of Behaviour

The school publishes in accordance with the Education (Welfare) Act 2000, a Code of Behaviour. This emphasises a positive approach to behaviour and discipline thus supporting the ethos of the school. As a condition of registration, the school will require parents to confirm in writing that the Code is acceptable to them and that they will ensure that their daughter will comply with all rules and regulations for the duration of her studies.

Please be advised that we operate a zero tolerance policy in relation to Substance Abuse.

Expectations of our Students and Parents

We expect all our students to display a positive attitude to their educational experience and be regular and punctual in attendance.

A strong study and work ethic, with an ambition to maximise potential, is required. This is shown through participation in all aspects of class and completion of homework. In this regard all parents will support their children, ensuring that all homework and study is undertaken to a high standard and submitted on time. It is important that all students work consistently to achieve their potential.

There is no automatic right of progression to the next year of study if attendance is so unsatisfactory that it has hindered progress.

Parents are required to support the characteristic spirit of the school, to respect our cultural values and traditions (e.g. shaking hands upon meeting regardless of gender) and abide by this Charter.

Note

*No head coverings including Hijabs may be worn in the P.E. hall for sports activities as it is an all- female environment. Long hair should be tied back.

* Students who have a written exemption from the Department of Education and Skills in Irish will be excused studying Irish and will sit at the back of the Irish class to undertake their own study.

* A parent of a student wishing to be excused from studying Religious Education must apply in writing in advance of the school year. The student will sit at the back of the religious education class and undertake her own study.

*The school does not provide prayer facilities for any religion during the school day.