



GRACE DIEU OFFERS ALL THE RIGHT FOUNDATIONS FOR YOUR CHILD TO THRIVE

Whilst we are proud to be rated Leicestershire's leading Prep School by the Sunday Times (2018), we offer so much more than just academic excellence.

All that we offer, both inside and outside of the classroom, is rooted in our goal to develop the whole child. As a Catholic School that welcomes all families, this has been our focus for nearly 90 years, and will certainly continue to be our focus for the next 90!

Our 'all-encompassing' ethos is carefully woven into daily life at Grace Dieu. Your child's artistic, dramatic, musical, outdoor and sporting interests and talents will all be nurtured and developed. We also actively encourage important character skills – such as being thoughtful and considerate, as well as, crucially, developing confidence and valuable communication skills.

Do come and visit Grace Dieu to see for yourself just how much we can offer your family - discover the hidden gem that is situated right on your doorstep!

M. Lawell.

Margaret Kewell, Headmistress

OUR OUTSTANDING NURSERY

SPACE TO EXPLORE



Our Nursery is a nurturing space for children aged from 12 weeks. Open all year (51 weeks) from 7:30am-6pm, the Nursery is an incredibly safe, homely and fun setting with spacious rooms specially designed to cater for the needs of each age group and, as they get older, to encourage school readiness.

As well as having our own large, secure garden and playgrounds, the children have everything they could ever need just a short walk away! Each day they can spend time adventuring and playing in the woods, visiting our chickens, or using the School's sports hall for soft play sessions. Children also take part in weekly Outdoor Learning sessions, in one of our forests run by specialist Forest School staff.









CYGNETS PRE-SCHOOL CLASS

Each week during term time, children are able to benefit from our specialist Music, PE, Swimming and French classes, all taught by qualified teachers and all included within the daily fees!

PRE-PREP

A SPACE TO GROW

Swans (Reception) to Year 2

Our Pre-Prep is absolutely focused on getting the right academic foundations in place – for every child. We build upon each child's innate curiosity and we instil a real love of learning.

Our purpose built Pre-Prep is an inspiring, fun and secure environment, with spacious, bright and colourful classrooms, as well as lots of outdoor space — it really is a wonderful place to learn! The children also benefit from using our Science Lab, ICT suites, Library, Art and Music rooms — along with all of our sports facilities!

Learning really does come to life at Grace Dieu – through an exciting topic-based curriculum, as well as specialist teaching every week in French, Music, Outdoor Learning, PE and Swimming. Each and every child's progress is constantly and carefully monitored – meaning that support and stretch can be given at all times.





JUNIOR PREP SPACE TO PREPARE

Year 3 to Year 6

In our Junior Prep classes, we begin to give pupils the space to prepare for their move to secondary school.

We do this through our small class sizes (approximately 16) and a broadening of the curriculum. Pupils study Art & Design Technology, Computing, Geography and History – all part of our topic-based curriculum. Specialist teaching continues in French, Music, Sport and Outdoor Learning.

English and Mathematics are taught in sets from Year 4, and in Years 5 and 6 Non-Verbal Reasoning is taught. In Year 6 Study Skills are added to the curriculum in order to best prepare our pupils for Entrance Examinations to Independent Senior Schools.

Powerful assessment tools ensure our pupils are above national averages in Maths and English. Pupils are monitored through termly testing, which not only adeptly prepares them for exams, but also ensures that each and every child's progress is carefully tracked, and, where needed, supported and developed.



Preparing Pupils for Senior School

As an independent Prep School we are able to help prepare pupils to pass entrance tests and win scholarships to a wide range of senior schools – meaning that our families have a wider range of options available to them.

As well as pupils moving on to our Collegiate School, Ratcliffe College, typical destination schools for Year 6 pupils include Dixie Grammar School, Loughborough Amherst, Loughborough Grammar School, Loughborough High School, Nottingham High School, Oakham School, Twycross School and Trent College.

In the last three years, pupils have won a range of Scholarship Awards — 12 in total — seven of which were Academic Scholarships, two Sports Exhibitions, two Drama Scholarships and one All Round Exhibition.







ALL ENCOMPASSING

Our Aim, for the last 90 years, has been to develop the whole child. We continue to do this each and every day by focusing on the five areas identified by our founder, Antonio Rosmini:

- Intellectual Development: to encourage minds and academic excellence
- Physical Development: to promote a healthy lifestyle
- Moral Development: to ensure that pupils mature into responsible, caring adults
- Spiritual Development: to assist the formation of personal beliefs
- Aesthetic Development: to promote an appreciation of the arts.

This gives Grace Dieu its distinctive identity – all that we offer both inside and outside of the classroom is rooted in our goal to develop the whole person. The space that we enjoy at Grace Dieu – both physically and as a stand-alone, independent Prep School – allows us to truly fulfil these aims and to ensure that your child has the very best allround foundations in place before they move on to the senior school of their choice.









OUTDOOR LEARNING

Our Outdoor Learning provision is unrivalled, with specialists running muchloved weekly sessions for all pupils.

We have dedicated Outdoor Learning spaces in our forest, along with 120 acres of parkland to use and explore. We have animals to look after, a pond for pond dipping and a well-used vegetable garden! There is also an Outdoor Learning classroom for when the weather is too severe to venture outside.

Our Outdoor Learning Curriculum carefully blends developing outdoor knowledge and skills with a whole host of other skills that pupils can take back into the classroom – such as confidence, problem solving, and the ability to work as part of a team.



ALL INCLUSIVE

FAITH

We are a Catholic school that actively welcomes all families. Our community is made all the richer by having families who follow a variety of different faiths, and for those who profess no faith. Whatever your belief system, Grace Dieu has at its core the values of love, service, generosity, compassion, humility, kindness and forgiveness. We are a happy school not because of what we believe, but by the living out of these beliefs every single day.



FEES

We are proud to offer a simple, all inclusive approach to School fees.

OUR SCHOOL FEES INCLUDE:

- Wraparound care (8am-6pm)
- The cost of lunch, snacks, books and stationery
- Weekly swimming lessons



All of our food – lunches and snacks at break and after School are included in the fees. It is all freshly cooked and the menus are packed with healthy, nutritious options for different ages, and for those children with special dietary requirements. As well as only cooking with fresh, sustainable produce, sourced locally, some of our vegetables are even grown on-site!





WE ARE WORKING-FAMILY FRIENDLY:

- Our breakfast club runs from 7:30am
- Parents can pick up their children any time up to 6pm
- The Nursery is open 51 weeks, 7:30am-6pm
- We offer a range of school holiday clubs
- Our minibus service collects children from local villages and we will happily adapt the route, to best suit parents, where possible.



ALL ON YOUR DOORSTEP

Grace Dieu nestles in 120 acres of idyllic parkland in Thringstone. Our pupils have acres of space to grow, learn and play. All of our extensive facilities are on-site, giving our pupils more time in the sports hall, on the pitch or in the pool!

We are easily accessible and offer ample parking – so our school run is stress free! We are conveniently located on the A512 between Loughborough and Ashby.











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