

Our Lady of Lourdes Secondary School



Literacy Policy

School Name	Our Lady of Lourdes Secondary School
Address	Our Lady of Lourdes Secondary School Rosbercon, New Ross, Co Wexford
Telephone	051422177
Email	lolsecretary@gmail.com
Website	https://www.olol.ie

Literacy Policy

School

Our Lady of Lourdes Secondary School, Rosbercon, New Ross, Co. Wexford is an All- Girls Voluntary Secondary School under the trusteeship of the Diocese of Ossory, funded by the Department of Education and Skills.

Mission Statement

“Our school is a learning Community based on faith, hope and love, where respect, responsibility and Christian commitment grow, allowing all our students to prepare for a meaningful life.”

Aims

Our Lady of Lourdes will adopt a whole school approach to literacy to ensure that:

- Literacy skills are embedded across the whole school curriculum
- An environment is developed in which positive attitudes towards reading, writing, speaking and listening skills are developed and monitored.
- All teachers have a crucial role in the development of students’ literacy skills.
- An awareness of literacy skills is regarded as a key skill in all aspects of teaching and learning. These skills are clearly linked to success in state examinations.
- We are all conscious of the fact that good competence in language skills is central to a student’s sense of identity, belonging and growth.
- We can identify areas of strength and weakness and use this information to assist in our planning.

Scope

This policy pertains to all of the following partners in Our Lady of Lourdes involved in the enhancement of literacy within the school. Their roles and responsibilities are outlined below.

- School Management
- All Teachers
- Learning Support Teachers
- Special Needs Assistants
- Students
- Parents

Definition of Literacy

Literacy is the term used to embrace all forms of language learning. It includes the capacity to read, understand and critically appreciate various forms of communication, including the spoken language, traditional writing, printed text, broadcast media and digital media.

Role and Responsibilities

Senior Management

The Principal and Deputy Principal will:

- Monitor the implementation of the policy by liaising with the relevant bodies involved.
- Facilitate CPD for staff if necessary.
- Establish structures and procedures (perhaps with the literacy team) to aid the implementation of the literacy policy.
- Make financial supports available to support the implementation of literacy initiatives.
- Ensure the policy is reviewed after an appropriate length of time/in line with other policy reviews.

Literacy Core Group will:

- Gather baseline data to facilitate the setting of yearly literacy targets and to devise initiatives to help reach targets.
- Encourage the embedding of literacy across all subjects.
- Evaluate the progress of literacy strategies at various time intervals (to be decided in conjunction with senior management)

All Teachers will:

- Ensure that the agreed actions of the Literacy Plan are implemented in teachers' practice
- Ensure that Literacy is included in subject planning and reviewed annually as a subject department
- Have a print rich environment in classrooms
- Where possible avail of CPD training that is literacy focused

Learning Support Teachers:

The school recognises the significant and important role of the learning support department in the area of literacy.

The Learning Support teachers will identify students in need of support in the area of literacy from the administration of entrance exams, CAT testing and shared results from standardised testing in primary school. It is envisaged that individuals in need of extra support will be identified from the aforementioned testing/results and helped accordingly. It is also envisaged that specific targets in relation to literacy will be set for individuals identified and embedded in these students' Individual Educational Plans. Teaching and learning support strategies will be put in place for such students during

- One to one tuition
- Small group teaching classes

Students will:

- Openly engage with the schools literacy initiatives.
- Adopt a positive attitude to all aspects of literacy.
- Be fully committed to the schools ethos on literacy.
- Familiarise themselves with the schools designated literacy strategies

Parents will:

- Engage in positive dialogue with their daughters around literacy.
- Encourage their daughters' effort in the area of literacy.
- Familiarise themselves with the schools literacy policy and literacy strategies and to fully support them.
- Engage in regular communication about literacy with teachers at parent teacher meetings.

Review

Senior School Management will ensure that this policy is regularly reviewed and evaluated.

Approval

This policy has been approved by Our Lady of Lourdes Board of Management.

Signed: 

Date: 19-6-19.

Chairperson,

Board of Management