



Ethos/Mission Statement

A good ethos evolves over time and reflects the individuality of the population of the school. The population of any school reaches beyond the students to include their families, the local community, the staff, Board of Management and ancillary services associated with the school.

Our vision is to provide an environment that is exciting, stimulating, enjoyable and caring at all times. Central to this is the provision of an excellent quality of education based on the individual needs of each student. We support this aim by trying to provide facilities and resources of the highest possible standards.

We believe that parents should be as fully involved as possible in the education of their children and we operate an open door policy where parents are very welcome to visit the school to discuss their child's progress. School and home are the two major focal points in any child's life and it is important that both work closely together for the benefit of the child.

Neighbouring schools have welcomed us and have been very supportive. The concept of integration and inclusion is shared by all and many imaginative programmes are in place whereby the students of local schools and Our Lady of Good Counsel School meet regularly. We will continue to work together to expand on these links.

The school has a commitment to all staff working here and the provision of a positive, stimulating, safe working environment will always be a high priority. A motivated, confident staff will go a long way towards having motivated, confident children.

Our school motto "**Together we learn**" sums up the philosophy/ethos of our school. The 'We' refers to all stakeholders in the school – Pupils, Parents, Staff, Board of Management, Trustees, DES and all others that interact with the school in any way. If this expectation prevails from day to day, we will be enabled to see opportunities in each new challenge, enjoy our achievements, be on good terms with all we come in contact with, speak the truth quietly and clearly and listen to all others.

Our mission statement is as follows:

Our Lady of Good Counsel School aims to promote the intellectual, emotional, spiritual, social, physical and sensorial development of each child, maintaining and respecting their rights and dignity at all times. The school endeavours to do this by providing a structured, supportive, environment which facilitates learning within the context of individual abilities and accommodates different learning styles.

The school follows the practices and procedures as listed in the Equal Status Act 2000 and does not discriminate on the 9 grounds identified in this act, namely; gender, marital status, family status, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, race and member of the traveller community.