

# Our Lady's Catholic High School

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Headteacher: Mr R Charnock

Being One of Ours

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are delighted to invite your child to take part in what promises to be a very special and memorable beginning to their time at Our Lady's Catholic High School—a residential retreat at **Castlerigg Manor** in the Lake District.

This retreat is a wonderful opportunity for your child to grow in friendship and faith, and to begin their journey at Our Lady's alongside the classmates with whom they will share the next five years. Set in the beautiful surroundings of Keswick and run by the Lancaster Diocese, Castlerigg offers a warm and welcoming environment where young people are encouraged to reflect, connect, and grow—spiritually, socially and emotionally.

As part of our school's chaplaincy programme and induction for Year 7, we have arranged for each form group to attend the retreat as follows:

- **7O and 7U:** Monday 29th September – Wednesday 1st October 2025
- **7R and 7L:** Monday 6th October – Wednesday 8th October 2025
- **7A and 7D:** Monday 13th October – Wednesday 15th October 2025

The retreat will be led by a dedicated team of young adults and includes a range of engaging activities such as art, drama, games, walks, and times of prayer and reflection. Themes such as friendship, human dignity, and self-worth are explored throughout the programme, which many pupils look back on as a highlight of their time at Our Lady's.

The total cost of the retreat is **£150.00**, which covers transport to and from Castlerigg, full board accommodation, all activities, and insurance. To secure your child's place, please complete the medical form available on our website: [www.olchs.lancs.sch.uk/parents/school-trips](http://www.olchs.lancs.sch.uk/parents/school-trips) and pay a **non-refundable deposit of £50.00** by **Tuesday 8th July 2024** via our online payment system: [www.scopay.com/olchs-lancs](http://www.scopay.com/olchs-lancs).

Payment can be made in full if desired, however a payment plan to spread the cost is available for the following dates; the second instalment of **£50.00** is due by **Tuesday 5th August 2025**, with the final payment of **£50.00** due by **Tuesday 2nd September 2025**.

If you foresee difficulty in meeting the cost of the deposit, please do not hesitate to contact me to request a financial support application form by emailing [gsl@olchs.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:gsl@olchs.lancs.sch.uk) or telephoning **01772 326900**.

Please note: this visit is covered by Lancashire County Council public liability insurance, but no personal insurance is provided for individual pupils. If you wish for your child to be personally insured, we kindly ask that you arrange this privately. Pupils are advised not to bring valuables or personal devices, as we cannot accept responsibility for any lost or damaged items.



Artsmark  
Gold Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England

**Pupils will need to bring a sleeping bag** for this retreat.

We very much look forward to welcoming your child on this inspiring and joyful experience at the start of their time with us.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Slater', with a small mark above the 'r'.

**Mrs G Slater**  
**Principal Teacher of RE**