



Upton Hall School FCJ



Welcome to Year 7
We are proud to have you as members of
Upton Hall School, FCJ

A welcome from Mrs Young, Headmistress

Do you like music, dancing, drama, gymnastics or sport? Are you interested in protecting our environment, eliminating poverty or recycling? If your answer is yes to any of these you will find something to enjoy and get involved in at Upton Hall School. At Upton as well as learning many interesting subjects in lessons you will have plenty of opportunities to participate in clubs and activities outside of lesson time. You will be able to discover new and exciting interests that will help you to develop into a confident and capable young woman.

You are joining our school in a very special year as this year we celebrate our 160th Anniversary. The school was founded in 1849 and was sited in what is now Lingdale Road in Birkenhead. In those days it was known as **Lingdale House**. That is why we named our Science Building, opened in 1999 by Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal, the **Lingdale Building**. In the 1860s the school moved to its present site. Since then the school has increased in size and many new facilities have been developed to ensure that our pupils have the best possible environment in which to work. In 2006, Cherie Blair, the wife of the former Prime Minister, opened our new building which we have called the **Holt Building** after the FCJ Convent school that used to be sited on Holt Hill in Birkenhead

Our school is Upton Hall School FCJ, which reminds us that the original building was a house named Upton Hall and the school was founded by the Sisters, the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). In Year 7 you will learn about the FCJ Society, which was begun in France by Marie Madelaine d'Houet and now has members all over the world working with courage and confidence to help other people and serve God.

Some people that you may have heard of were pupils at Upton including Sally Nugent the BBC sports reporter and Berlie Doherty, the famous author whose books include **Dear Nobody**, **Granny was a Buffer Girl** and **How Green You Are**. Berlie visited the school and opened the library and resource centre, which we have named after her. What will you become when you leave Upton?

Events to Welcome You

The **Induction Evening** for you and your parents will take place in the Sports Hall on **Tuesday 7 July 2009** at 7.00pm. Come in through our main gates on the corner of Saughall Massie Road. On this evening you will have the opportunity of meeting all the other girls who will be starting in Year 7 in September. You will also meet the Year 7 Form Tutors, Mrs Lyons, Head of Year 7, Mr Quinn, Deputy Head responsible for Key Stage 3 and Mrs Young the Headmistress.

Your **Induction Day** takes place the following day on **Wednesday 8 July 2009**. You need to arrive at Reception by 9.00am that morning. You will spend the day doing lots of different activities and you will also meet your Year 8 'Buddy' who will look after you and help you to settle in. The day will finish at 3.35pm when your parents are invited to collect you. We will give you more details of these events nearer the time.



Your First Weeks

Your first day is Friday 4 September 2009. Starting secondary school is exciting and challenging. There is no reason to be worried. There are plenty of people at Upton to look after you. You will start the day in the School Hall so you may enter the grounds from the gates at the crossroads in Upton Village. You will be met by your new Form Teacher, Mrs Lyons and Mr Quinn. Your Form teacher will show you to your classroom where you will be given a copy of your timetable and a locker for storing your books.

Dining Room



The Dining Room is open from 8.00am when breakfast is served. This is very convenient if your parents want to drop you off early. Cereal and toast is on sale or for those who are hungry a cooked breakfast is available. All our menus are well balanced and designed to keep you fit and healthy. Fruit, drinks and snacks are available at break-time. A wide range of menus are available at lunchtime, including hot traditional lunches, salads and rolls from the deli-bar or a freshly toasted panini. A variety of freshly made sandwiches are available each day. These dishes are carefully priced so they are excellent value for money.

Uniform



Wear your uniform with pride. Visitors to the school and members of the public frequently remark on how smart Upton girls look in their uniform. Make sure you continue in this tradition by keeping your uniform smart and clean. Your hair should be tied back if it is shoulder length and hair bands and ribbons must be either black or green. Keep your best pink ribbon for the weekend! Make sure that your shoes are comfortable as you will do much more walking than you do in Primary School. There are many flights of stairs so do not wear high heels which could make you trip.

Library

The library is open each day from 8.00am. You can also visit the library at break and lunchtimes to sit and read, choose a new book or use the computers. You are most welcome to stay in the library until 5.00pm to start your homework. Sometimes this might be convenient for your parents. The photograph shows Berlie Doherty opening the new library.



Special events in Year 7

You will be involved in a range of special events throughout Year 7. Some of the highlights will include a Year 7 Welcome Mass, a day of fun and reflection at Ness Gardens, an outdoor pursuits day with the PE department and a Year 7 Musical Concert. You will be given details about these events and much more besides in the first few weeks of the new term in September.

Website

Don't forget to take a look at our website which has a special section to welcome you as the newest members of Upton Hall School. You can keep up to date with everything that is going on and what you have to look forward to once you join our community. Visit www.uptonhallschool.co.uk

Finally

Remember the school motto is '*Age quod agis*' which in Latin means '*do what you do*' in other words '*Just do it*'. For us at Upton this means work hard, have confidence in yourself and look after those around you. You are expected to make the most of your time here. When the girls in Upper Sixth left in 2004 they donated a sundial to the school and placed an inscription on it which reads; '*We hope you have the time of your lives*'. They had a great time at Upton and they wanted all the girls that followed them to have a good time too. So look forward to starting what we hope will be seven very happy and successful years at Upton Hall.

Holiday Dates 2009 – 2010

Autumn Term 2009

2 September 2009	School Development Day
3 September 2009	School Development Day
4 September 2009	Years 7, 12 and 13 return
7 September 2009	All pupils
23 October 2009	School Development Day

26 – 30 October 2009

Autumn Half-term

18 December 2009	Term ends 1.00pm
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Spring Term 2009

4 January 2010	Pupils return
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15 – 19 February 2010

Spring Half-term

26 March 2010	Term ends 1.00pm
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Summer Term 2010

12 April 2010	Pupils return
28 May	School Development Day

31 May - 4 June 2010

Summer Half-term

16 July 2010	Term ends 1.00pm
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