



St Ciaran's College
Coláiste Naomh Ciarán



Choose St Ciaran's

PROSPECTUS 2021

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Including



g everyone, inspiring all to succeed

Welcome to St Ciaran's

Dear Primary Seven students, parents and carers,

I thank you for taking the time to get to know St Ciaran's a little better; I hope that you will find our prospectus informative in offering you an insight into the life of our school. It, together with our promotional video, will give you a flavour of the wonderful opportunities St Ciaran's affords each one of its pupils. Due to the pandemic we have not been able to have our Open Night which is usually one of the highlights of the year. During a 'normal' year our partner primary schools would have engaged in taster activities which would also give pupils an opportunity to meet our staff and experience the unique St Ciaran's atmosphere. Unfortunately, we have been unable to engage in such activities this year.

St Ciaran's is an inclusive, all ability, Catholic school, catering for students from 11-18 years of age. At present we have 784 pupils and this year we accepted 120 new pupils into our Year 8 cohort. We provide a broad and balanced curriculum which meets the needs of all learners. As well as securing excellent academic results our students also have opportunities to nurture their gifts and talents in a wide range of extra-curricular activities, where the main emphasis is on learning through enjoyment.

St Ciaran's is a school where pupils, in partnership with parents and the community, fulfil their potential in all areas of school life. We continue to be a beacon for Catholic education through our nurturing, caring and inclusive ethos. Pupils of all abilities benefit from

an educational experience which is inspired by the school's motto 'Fortis in Fide', 'Strong in Faith'. Relationships are the key to a successful school and St Ciaran's is recognised for its friendly, family atmosphere. Our Pastoral System aims to ensure that each student is known and supported, enabling them to progress academically and, perhaps more importantly, to immerse themselves fully in the life of the school. We encourage an atmosphere where our students and their parents feel that they can talk freely to any member of staff and know that they will be dealt with in a sensitive, confidential way.

Our students, parents and carers are very important partners in the educational experience, and we encourage good communication between school and home for the benefit of our students. We appreciate that transferring from Primary School can be an anxious time, particularly this year, so if there is anything that we can do to make the process easier please feel free to get in touch.

I very much hope that you will choose to become a member of the St Ciaran's family. I wish all young people transferring from Primary School this year every success in their future studies.

Yours faithfully,

Plaveny





Mr Paul Lavery, Principal



Our mission

As a Catholic school community St Ciaran's College provides high quality, holistic education for all our pupils so that they can develop their full uniqueness and potential in a climate of mutual respect, support, challenge and celebration.

St Ciaran's prepares pupils to lead fulfilling and purposeful lives, becoming responsible citizens who will contribute positively to society.

Our vision





**“New friends
(and old!) can help
support you on your
journey throughout
school life.”**

Simon Mandik
St Mary's PS Cabragh



The Curriculum

The school aims to provide a broad and balanced curriculum for all pupils. As a Catholic school, Religious Education is central to the pupil's education and is a compulsory subject throughout all years. The other time-tabled subjects comply with the learning areas as laid down by the N.I. Curriculum.

Key Stage 3 Learning Areas

The Arts	Art and Design Drama Music
Environment and Society	Geography History
English	English
Mathematics	Mathematics
Modern Languages	French Irish
Physical Education	Physical Education
Science and Technology	Science Technology and Design ICT
Religious Education	Religious Education
Learning for Life and Work	Personal Development Employability Citizenship Home Economics

Key Stage 4 Learning Areas

GCSE Core (compulsory) Subjects	English Mathematics Religious Education
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In addition to the above core subjects all pupils study Learning for Life and Work and have classes in Careers Education and Physical Education.

The following are optional GCSE subjects offered:

Optional GCSE Subjects	Agriculture and Landuse Art and Design Business Studies Drama Digital Technology (Multimedia/ Programming) Engineering and Manufacturing French Further Mathematics Geography History Home Economics (Child Development/Food) Irish Learning for Life and Work Media Studies Motor Vehicle and Road User Studies Moving Image Art Music Physical Education Science (Single/Double Award) Technology and Design Occupational Studies OCN (Open College Network Qualification)
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Post 16 Curriculum

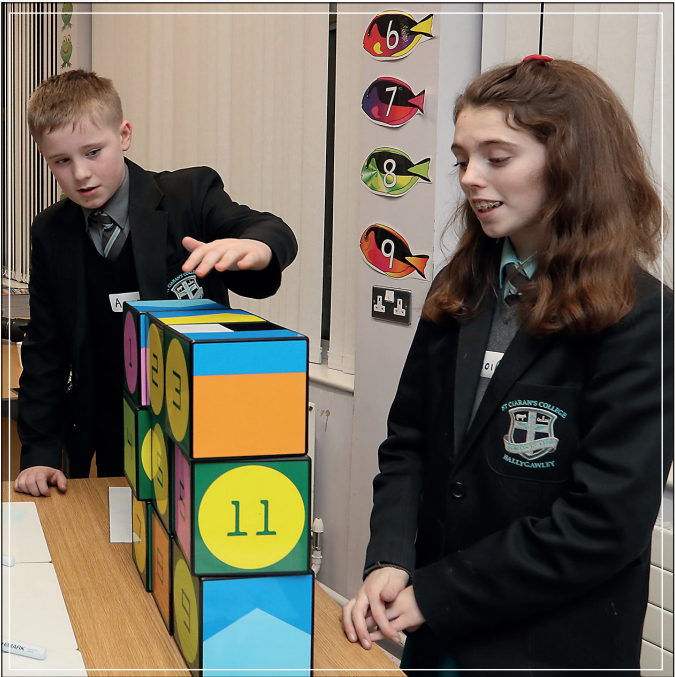
St Ciaran’s College offers a range of courses for Post 16 students with excellent results over many years. Students are offered three or four post 16 subjects. Subjects offered include:

GCE AS/A2 Courses	Art and Design Biology Chemistry English Literature French Geography History Irish Mathematics Moving Image Arts Music Nutrition and Food Science Physics Religious Education
GCE Applied Course	Health and Social Care (Single/Double Award) Software Systems Development
BTEC National Awards	BTEC in Applied Science Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Business Level 3 National Award in Children's Learning and Development Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Sport Level 3 Diploma in Sport Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Engineering Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in IT

Students can sample many extra curricular activities such as GAA coaching awards in Gaelic Football and Handball, Paired Reading and many career oriented activities.

Admission Criteria for Post 16:

- (a) Six GCSEs (Grades A*-C) including English and/or Mathematics
- (b) Students must have a record of good attendance, good conduct and application to study





"The new uniform is a big change from primary school! This is my first time wearing a school blazer."

Emma Coyle
St Patrick's PS Aughadarragh



"Getting around the school is easy, once you get used to it."

Cadhlá Girvan
St Joseph's PS Galbally



"You should always record all your homework in your diary so you don't forget it."

Michael McCrystal
St Mary's PS Ballygawley

Periodic Table of Elements

Philip Harris Education

Year Planner 2020

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Week 1												
Week 2												
Week 3												
Week 4												
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Week 52												

WIKTOR

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JAKUB

JOSIEA

HLOE

OL

ROISE

JAMES

RAFAL

A little PROGRESS each day adds up to big results





**“Pack your bag
every night!”**

Rory McCann
St Mary's PS Altamuskin

The School Day

Assembly/Registration	9.15am - 9.30am
Morning Lessons (1-3)	9.30am - 11.00am
Break	11.00am - 11.20am
Lessons (4-6)	11.20am - 12.50pm
Junior Lunch (7)	12.50pm - 1.30pm
Senior Lunch (8)	1.30pm - 2.10pm
Afternoon Lessons (9-11)	2.10pm - 3.40pm

Uniform

Boys Uniform (compulsory for all years)

Grey Shirt
 Black Trousers
 Black, Fine Knit V-neck Trutex Jumper
 School Tie (clip-on)
 Black Shoes
 Black Blazer with School Crest
 School Scarf (optional)

Girls Uniform (compulsory for all years)

Turquoise Blouse
 Kingfisher Blue Skirt
 Silver Grey, Fine Knit V-neck Trutex Jumper
 School Tie (clip-on)
 Black Shoes
 Black Blazer with School Crest
 Grey Socks/Black Tights in Winter
 School Scarf (optional)

P.E. Uniform (Boys and Girls)

St Ciaran's PE Jersey
 St Ciaran's Navy Shorts
 Navy Socks
 Trainers (non-marking sole)
All PE Kit is available to purchase from Begley's Sports, Dunganon



“ Since joining the student council in Year 8, I have presented numerous assemblies and have become a ‘Be Strong Online Ambassador’. We have regular monthly meetings. In these meetings we discuss issues that affect students in St Ciaran’s. I feel being on the student council is a great privilege and I honestly feel it is one of the best aspects of school life.

Rebecca Mellon, Year 11, Secretary





St Ciaran's Student Council

The Student Council

The Student Council is the 'voice' of the student body at St Ciaran's College. It gives members of the school community a chance to voice their views and opinions about any issues in the school with the aim of making the school as good as it can be.

The Student Council consists of members from Years 8 to 14 who have been elected by their form classes to represent them and they generally meet up once a month. Any issues or questions raised by the students concerning areas of school life are addressed to the Council.

“

In order to get elected to St Ciaran's Student Council I had to complete an application form detailing why I would be a suitable member. I was delighted when I got elected! I was so excited and proud of myself. Being a student council member has given me the opportunity to meet new people, develop new friendships outside of my class setting, and bring forward ideas as to how the school can be improved.

Matthew O'Donnell, Year 8

“

I feel very proud to be given an opportunity to represent my peers and my form class at the student council meetings.

Conain McVeigh, Year 8

“

I was a little nervous going to my first meeting. But my nerves were soon put at ease as I was made feel very welcome by the older students. I can't wait until the next meeting!

Aimee Molloy, Year 8

“

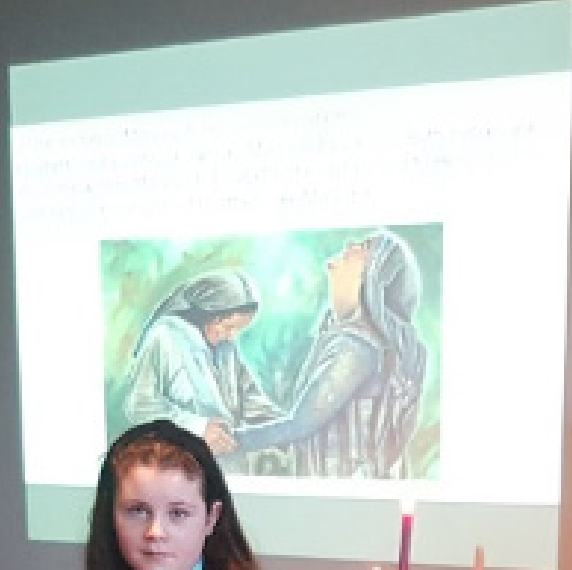
I was thrilled to be elected into the Student Council. I know that being in the student council will help me to make friends with people in other classes in my year group.

Mollie Daffy, Year 8



New Year 8 Council Members in December 2020





“Try not to get stressed.”

Conáin McVeigh
Blessed Patrick O'Loughlin
PS Castlecaulfield

Religious Education

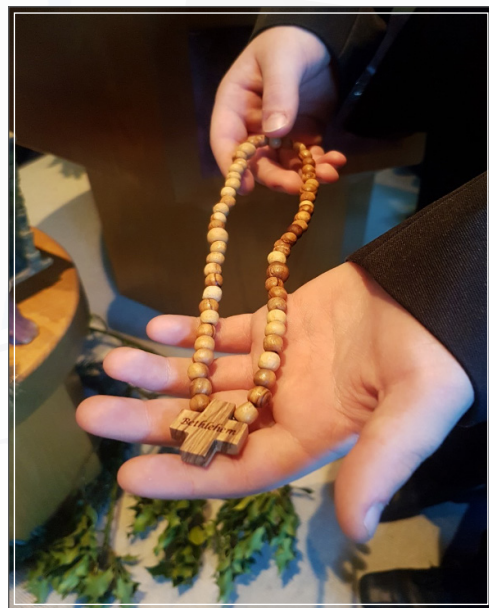
The RE programme revolves on three key principles. Our relationship with God, how we connect to others and how we see ourselves. These three different forms of love provide balance and perspective in our lives. In St Ciaran's, faith is nurtured through a challenging academic curriculum, and developed through our involvement in a wide range of local and international outreach programmes.

Giving young people the confidence and vocabulary to speak openly and publicly about their faith is an important element of the RE programme. In recent years St Ciaran's have won the Knights of Columbanus All Ireland Public Speaking competition. Pupils prepare for the Knights competition as well as Concern debates and the Youth Philanthropy Initiative, all of which invites them to speak publicly on issues connected to their faith.



2020 was a very challenging year for all. However, we also look back on this year with great pride. We have witnessed many current pupils adapting with great ease to online learning, producing quality pieces of work. We have also watched in awe and admiration at many of our past pupils responding as carers and frontline staff to the Covid crisis.

On 4 October 2020, the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, Pope Francis released an encyclical called "Fratelli Tutti." This letter is a timely reminder that we are all "brothers and sisters" with a common goal of building a better, more just and peaceful world.



"Faith, if not accompanied by good works, is dead"

JAMES 2:17



“If you choose to come to St Ciaran’s, you will be in very capable hands – all your teachers wish for you is to do well. As our year head Miss McKenna would say: we are all one family here.”

Niall McKenna
St Macartan’s PS Clogher



Annual School Mass





**"As the saying goes
"give respect, get
respect"**

Ethan Battle
St Mary's PS Cabragh



**"First years always
have their own
canteen, which is
really nice."**

Susie McCrory
St Joseph's PS Galbally



**"I hope you are ready
to start a new chapter
in your life!"**

Aimee Molloy
St Mary's PS Cabragh

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care is concerned with the well being of all students and is the responsibility of all staff within our school.

Our Pastoral system:

- Actively supports the aims of the school;
- Contributes to the personal, social and emotional development of each individual through Personal Development class and throughout the curriculum;
- Delivers the Personal Development Programme in line with our ethos and values;
- Acknowledges and celebrates the achievements of all.

Each pupil has a Form Teacher who provides guidance and support to their form class, monitors progress and encourages success. As well as teaching, form teachers meet with their form classes on a regular basis and with individuals when the need arises.

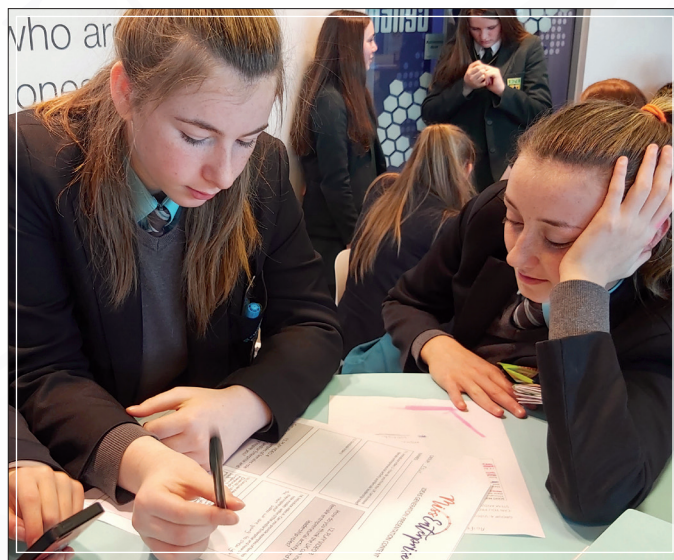
Form Teachers in each year group are led by a Year Head who coordinates the work of the Year Group and becomes involved where particular student issues give cause for concern. These areas are regularly monitored by the Pastoral Team in addition to daily monitoring by subject teachers.

St Ciaran's College stresses the importance of full attendance, regular homework and hard work. Good links between home and school are vital to ensure

that our students achieve their full potential. The pastoral team encourages parents/carers to contact them with their concerns and to arrange a time to meet that suits everyone.

We are supported by Family Works Counselling Service provided by the Department of Education who come into the school on a Tuesday from 9.30am to 3.30pm. They aim to listen to and support our young people in a caring and confidential way. Parents/carers should feel secure in the knowledge that we will always consult them and keep them informed when a young person is in need of help.

Detailed policy available on request.





“There is really nothing to be nervous about P7s – try to enjoy this new experience!”

Connall Monatague
St Patrick's PS Eskra

Code of Conduct

St Ciaran's strives at all times to maintain a harmonious atmosphere and so expects:

- respect for self;
- respect for others;
- courtesy and good manners;
- respect for school property;
- commitment to consistent hard work;
- a high standard of dress, punctuality and attendance.

While recognising the importance of rules and regulations, St Ciaran's places great emphasis on rewards and providing opportunities for students to take personal responsibility for their own behaviour and learning.

Drugs Education

St Ciaran's College is committed to protecting and promoting the health and safety of all members of the college. The protection of all college members will be achieved through the general ethos of the college, through an effective pastoral care programme and a comprehensive Drugs Education Programme. By working in partnership with parents and outside agencies, we have a vital preventative role to play combatting the misuse of drugs by young people.

Health Education

St Ciaran's College is a Health Promoting School. We encourage our students to make healthy food and lifestyle choices which play a crucial role in the development of all pupils. We believe that all students should be encouraged to eat a healthy balanced diet and therefore the food we provide is nutritious, varied and appealing for pupils. All food served complies with current guidelines for healthy eating and our whole school Food Policy complies with current guidelines for healthy eating.

All staff are aware of pupils with food allergies. Nuts or nut products are not used or served anywhere in the school and parents have been asked not to use foods which contain nuts when sending packed lunches.

Cashless Canteen

The canteen operates a cashless system and students can add funds in the morning when they come into school or parents/carers can add money via the new online school App. The menu is varied and complies with our healthy eating policy. Year 8 students in St Ciaran's have their own dining room.





Post 16 Mental Health Ambassadors





**“Be yourself, and
do not change for
anyone!”**

Molly McDonald
St Mary's PS Ballygawley

eSafety

St Ciaran's College is committed to the protection of pupils online. Pupils are educated on the safe use of the internet and social media through the Personal Development Programme for each year group. We also invite experts in e-safety to present guidance and advice to pupils and parents/carers in an attempt to promote safe internet use among all pupils. We participate in activities for Safer Internet Day each year and have a range of pupils from all year groups, fully trained, as "Be Strong Online Ambassadors" to promote safe use of digital technologies and campaign about online issues that are most relevant to our school population. All online information available in St Ciaran's is monitored by the C2k internet filtering system.



Child Protection & Safeguarding

St Ciaran's College accepts and adheres to the principles of Child Protection as outlined in DENI Safeguarding & Child Protection In School Guidance (2019). The school provides a safe and caring environment which allows students to feel safe and secure. The school has designated teachers who will deal with all issues raised by individual students, parents and outside agencies.

BOOKS

blurb

MIEEIONS

information

UNIQUE

RE: DING gives your imagination wings...

X marks the spot

Educational Health Warning
None of these poems to be used
in connection with any examination
whatsoever!

Y is a poet
I don't know
Y is a poet
I don't know
Y is a poet
I don't know



"I found it useful to talk about my hobbies when making new friends. I also recommend that you put all your subject books into different folders"

**Vanessa McKenna
St Mary's PS Aughnacloy**





SCC Year 8 History

Class code: Turned off

Meet link: Generate Meet link

Upcoming

Due today

08.01.21 - BEN - The Norm...

08.01.21 - BSC - The Norm...

The Norman Conquest

[View all](#)



Announce something to your class



B Rodgers posted a new assignment: The Norman Conquest

12:04



M Owens posted a new assignment: 08.01.21 - BEN - The Norm...

09:39



M Owens posted a new assignment: 08.01.21 - BSC - The Nor...

09:32



M Mulgrew posted a new assignment: SAG work 07/01/2021

12:04

Mentor note

Good evening everyone! All have been well.

I can go to the Mentoring room if the morning. Break time.

Back now or go home when I go morning.

I have the 10-12:30 and I can go to the 12:30-2:00.

Good afternoon to everyone!

Learning Support

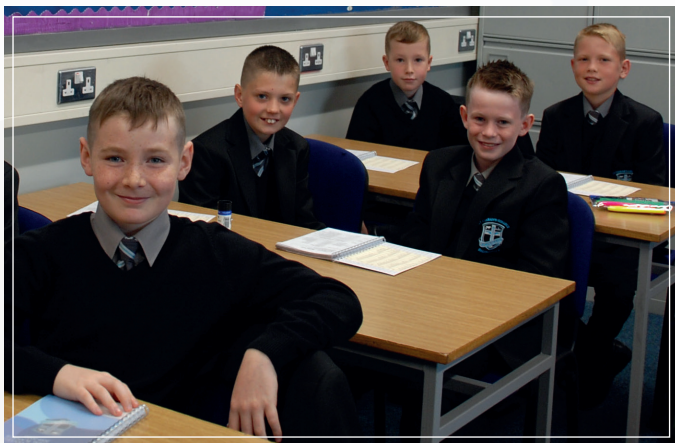
Transition from Primary School to Secondary School can be a worrying time for Primary 7s, but there is no need to worry! At St Ciaran's College we offer an integrated model of Learning Support so students can experience all aspects of school life. Classes are smaller so students will be given all the help they need.

When Primary 7s come to St Ciaran's College they will be provided with expert support from all staff. They will be assisted by an experienced team who will help them settle in and support them throughout the

year. If they need extra help with reading, spelling or maths they can join our daily Spelling Club, Reading Partnership, ICT Club and Tables Club.

Students are encouraged to make enquiries about any other support they need. Pupils are also offered the opportunity to join the Learning Support Student Voice committee. Classroom assistants have been trained on how to use the Texthelp software Read Write to support pupils with literacy difficulties.





Sólás

In September 2017 Mr Lavery and Mrs McMahon along with the help of support staff were delighted to set up and open the “Sólás” room which aims to provide nurturing provision for all pupils who experience barriers to learning due to identified “social, emotional or behavioural difficulties (SEBD).” The name “Sólás” means solace, tranquillity, comfort and relief.

THE SIX PRINCIPLES OF NURTURE:

- Children’s learning is understood developmentally;
- The Nurture room offers a safe base;
- Nurture is important for the development of self-esteem;
- Language is understood as a vital means of communication;
- All behaviour is communication;
- Transitions are significant in the lives of children.

The “Sólás” room is managed by specifically trained staff with dedicated assistance from support staff. “Sólás” is similar to a home environment including a comfortable and relaxing living area, a work area, kitchen area and recreational area. It provides pupils with a safe environment promoting positive behaviour, positive thinking, relationship building skills, social skills, self-esteem and self-confidence. It is designed to cater for individuals and small groups. Identified pupils engage in individual programmes and group activities depending on their needs. Pupils can access support in the Sólás room at any time during the school day. It reflects our school motto which is “Including Everyone, Inspiring All to Succeed.”





"Be confident in yourself, show an interest in school life, and remember that everyone is in the same boat as you!"

Matthew O'Donnell
St Mary's PS Ballygawley



"You do not have to do homework all on the same day, but try to spread the tasks out, and hand in your work on time!"

Kevin Rafferty
St Mary's PS Ballygawley



"There are lots of lovely teachers and pupils, so don't feel lonely and just be yourself."

Aoibhin Hackett
St Macartan's PS Clogher







2020 Arthur's Cup Under 16 Ulster Champions

Sport

Sporting activities are central to life at St Ciaran's. All students are expected to take part in Physical Education classes (one hour per week) and there are many opportunities for our students to take part in our sporting extra curricular activities.

Our students benefit greatly from our excellent sports facilities which include:

- Sports Hall
- Fitness Suite
- Tennis/Netball Courts
- Handball Courts
- Gymnasium
- 3G Pitch
- Basketball Court

Students have the opportunity to participate in the following sports throughout their years in St Ciaran's:

- Athletics
- Basketball
- Gaelic Football
- Gymnastics
- Minor Games
- Rounders
- Tennis
- Rugby
- Badminton
- Boxercise
- Netball
- Soccer
- Dance
- Table Tennis
- Volleyball
- Handball

Students participate in team games such as Gaelic football, netball, soccer, basketball, handball and in individual sports. In recent years our school has enjoyed success at local, County and All-Ireland level.





St Ciaran's 5K Sponsored Run



ST. CIA



COLL

cga

oneills
20



ST CIARAN'S
Teregrini

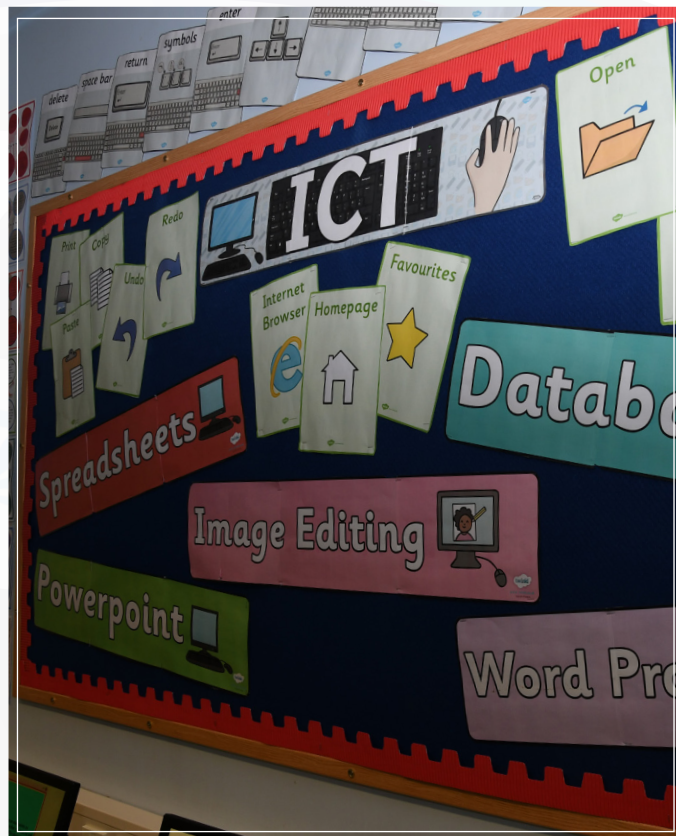
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CQ





Information and Communication Technology

St Ciaran's College recognises the importance of developing ICT skills not only through the curriculum on offer, but also through extra curricular activities. We have state of the art ICT facilities which are constantly being updated and extended. Each classroom is equipped with at least two computers and has an interactive whiteboard or data projector. We have five large ICT suites in addition to rooms comprising up to date Apple Mac technology. iPads are also available in the Learning Support Department. Furthermore we have video conferencing equipment and G-Suite for Education (comprising Google Drive and Google Classroom) is used extensively throughout the school.







Annual Carol Service

Music at St Ciaran's

St Ciaran's College has a thriving Music Department and students in all years have the opportunity to be involved in music in a variety of ways. Opportunities for all students to come together and perform are provided and instrumental tuition is available. Lessons in Guitar and Drums are available from private tutors who visit the school and the EA Music Service offers lessons for Brass, Woodwind and String instruments and also Voice and Piano. In addition to Junior and Senior Choirs and the Traditional Group, there are other musical ensembles that perform at a wide range of events both local and beyond. In October 2017, the school's senior choir travelled to Rome and performed in the Vatican's St Peter's Basilica.

The school enjoys an excellent reputation for musical productions. Past shows have included 'Joseph and His Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat', 'Blood Brothers', 'Hairspray', 'Made in Dagenham' and most recently we presented the West End hit musical 'Legally Blonde'.





Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance

The College CEIAG and employability programmes are an important element in the school's curriculum. The careers team provides a high quality programme which is relevant, up to date and gives impartial career information to everyone. The careers team along with all staff take a great interest in their students to ensure that they develop the personal qualities, skills, knowledge, understanding and attitudes needed to give them a strong foundation for the world of work in a rapidly changing economic environment. There is lots of careers information available to all students via computer networks in school, specialist software and the internet.

The school has strong links with local industry, commerce, the professions, all the Higher and Further Education establishments and the Local Area Learning Community Career Teams. Advisers from the Northern Ireland Career Service assist in making appropriate career decision and choices, which are informed and considered. Each year the Careers Department and subject departments arrange visits to industries, universities and colleges and there are lots of visiting speakers from various professions. Students get the opportunity to participate in planned and appropriate experiences in the world of work to increase learning, motivation and to develop their employability skills and give relevance to the learning programme.



**“ Assembly Hall on Day One,
I think it is going to be fun.
Fresh faces turning round;
New friends to be found.
Form Class – 8AG
That is where I will be!
St Ciaran’s is very full,
And I have a heavy bag to pull.
Waiting for the bus – in a rush.
Home at last;
First day past!**

**Alana Howland
St Mary’s PS Cabragh**





Legally Blonde





Extra-curricular Activities

- Literacy Club
- Social Club
- Coding Club
- Film Club
- French Club
- Sports Training
- Be Strong Online Ambassador Programme
- Miss Enterprise Competition
- Numeracy Club
- ICT Access
- Maths Club
- Science Club
- Drama Club
- Choir



Primary School Links

We aim to forge strong relationships and close links with our partner primary schools by participating in projects such as the Extended Schools Programme, PE Outreach Programme, Post 16 Languages Tuition and reviewing our Literacy & Numeracy curriculum content across key stages so that pupils can make continuous progress both academically and in terms of their soft skills. These close links enable teachers and schools to learn from best practice across the key stages. We also work together to ensure KS2 pupils from our partner primary schools experience a smoother transition when they transfer to St Ciaran's College.

Coding Club – Extended Schools Programme

“The Coding Club definitely benefited the KS2 curriculum. My pupils learned the skills in the Scratch programme. They designed their sprite, created backgrounds, generated codes which allowed the sprite to move therefore creating a short story.”

A Primary School Teacher's Feedback

“The KS2 pupils thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated the Coding Club. The workshop was introduced and led very well by the host teacher. The sessions were fun.”

A Primary School Teacher's Feedback

Gymnastics

“The KS2 children were able to expand and develop their skills with particular focus on their balance, coordination, movement, flexibility and core strength. It also incorporated aspects of each of the thinking skills and personal capabilities, including working with others, problem-solving and decision making along with opportunities to socialise and communicate with students outside their own school.”

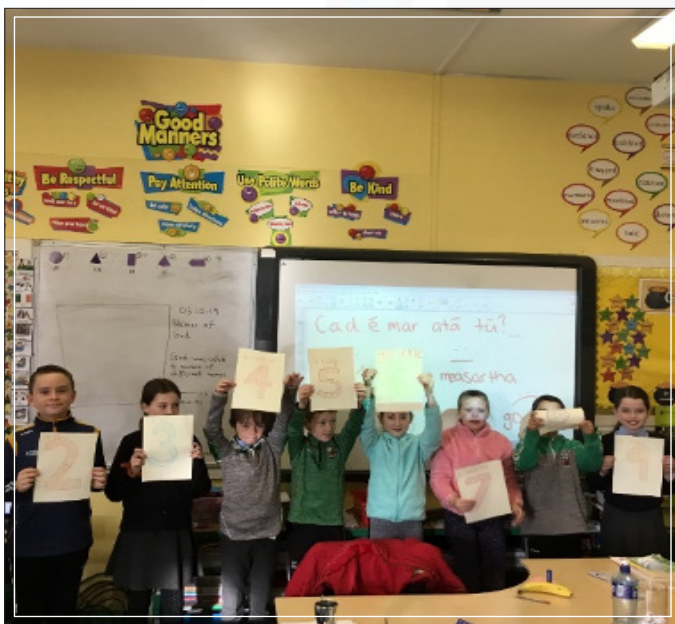
A Primary School Teacher's Feedback

Technology

“KS2 students produced and created their own piece of equipment for a purpose. The children developed their self-esteem through the process of this workshop especially by being given the opportunity to make a product of their own.”

A Primary School Teacher's Feedback





STEM

STEM influences nearly every part of our daily lives and it has already become an important aspect of the curriculum in secondary schools. Here at St Ciaran's we also include Art, so STEAM is an important part of our teaching and learning. Within many subjects across the curriculum, there are opportunities to talk about STEAM during lessons. Each subject allows students to use different skills and showcase their range of talents. We also endeavour to engage students and foster an enthusiasm for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths through extra-curricular activities. There are opportunities for students to enter competitions, such as the annual BT Young Scientist and Technology exhibition, Young Innovators and SciFest competitions, Nuffield placements and Sentinus workshops. These all give students fantastic experiences and help develop skills that they carry with them throughout their lives.



Eco-Schools

Young people today are more aware of their environment and they care deeply about current environmental issues. This awareness encourages them to make positive contributions to the environment around them. The Eco-Schools Programme within St Ciaran's College aims to provide opportunities that will foster environmental awareness within the whole school community. Eco-Schools endeavours to extend learning beyond the classroom walls and develop responsible attitudes and commitment, both at home and in the wider community. The primary aim of our Eco-Schools Programme is to educate our pupils to make positive, responsible decisions that will contribute to an environmentally sustainable world.



Junior Leadership Team



Aoibheann Christie • Head Girl
St Patrick's Primary School, Donaghmore

Dia duit. My name is Aoibheann Christie. I attended St Patrick's Primary Donaghmore. I am proud to be the Head Girl at St Ciaran's College. I am studying Irish, Art and Religion. I hope to study Law with Irish. As part of our school's Primary Links Programme, I have taught Irish in some of our partner primary schools. Over lockdown, I won an essay competition entitled, "Faith is the antidote to fear" set by the Knights of St Columbanus. Writing the essay actually opened my mind to how I could possibly use faith to guide me through those difficult times, and it

certainly did. My advice to those joining St Ciaran's College would be to work hard and make your own path. It's up to you to take the opportunities that are offered to you. Finally, you will enjoy your time here as it is a fantastic school and you will be lucky to be a pupil at this school.



Ciarán Heaney • Head Boy
St Oliver Plunkett's Primary School, Beragh

My name is Ciarán Heaney and I am Head Boy at St Ciaran's College. I attended St Oliver Plunkett's Primary School in Beragh. I am currently studying

Music, IT and Business. I would like to pursue a career in screen production as I have a strong passion for film and TV, especially the production side. I take part in extracurricular activities, such as the choir and the latest musical production of Legally Blonde. I even got the chance to take part in the BBC Choir of the Year Competition, which was a fun and exciting experience. I have been given the opportunity to attend multiple talks and lectures from outside companies, such as Sandvik and Deloitte. I would like to wish all pupils the best of luck in these unusual times. I hope that all pupils achieve their full potential and strive to be the best they can be.



Emma Gartland • Deputy Head Girl
St Brigid's Primary School, Augher.

My name is Emma Gartland. I am the Deputy Head Girl. I attended St Brigid's Primary School, Augher. I am currently studying Maths, Chemistry and Biology at A-level. I hope to pursue a career in Medicine next year. I am a member of the school choir. It has enabled me to become much more involved in the school community and form a number of new friendships. It provided me with the opportunity to travel to Rome with the school in 2017. Throughout the trip, we visited many different historical and holy sites and sang in a number of different churches. The highlight of the trip was no doubt singing at morning mass in St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. This was an incredible experience and one that will stay with me forever. Although I know that you are transitioning at an especially difficult time, I encourage you to consider the following: "Stay positive, work hard and make it happen" - Joel Osteen.

A Message from our Head Girl to P7s



January 2020

Hi P7s, or as I would like to say “dia daoibh”.

My name is Aoibheann and I am Head Girl here at St Ciaran's College. I'm sure you are all excited to be moving to a new school, but it's okay if you're a little nervous, I was too! I sat where you are now as a shy, quiet girl but now I can definitely say that St. Ciaran's has moulded me into a strong young woman! I promise you that St Ciaran's will welcome all of you with open arms and friendly smiles so it won't take you long to feel at home.

One thing I love about St Ciaran's is how they include everyone! You will hear the saying “Including Everyone, Inspiring All to Succeed”, quite a lot here, especially from our principal Mr Lavery, but the staff at St Ciaran's truly live this out. Within the classroom, everyone is cared for and we can't forget the endless opportunities in extra-curricular activities such as sport, music, school council and much more. To make the most of your new school life, try these all out! There is something for everyone.

Our school motto is “Fortis in fide” meaning “strong in faith” and we certainly hold faith at the centre of our school life. We take part in Masses and visit the Oratory on a regular basis, to reflect. Trust me, it is truly special.

I am sure you have heard about St Ciaran's Peregrini, where our students travel to Zambia to help the local community! We have also had trips elsewhere like Rome,

France and we even go up to the Gaeltacht too! For all you football fans, we also take trips to football stadiums such Old Trafford! So much on offer.

Speaking of the Gaeltacht, we value and preserve the Irish language and culture here at St Ciaran's. With visits to the Gaeltacht, fun class time, singing and dancing, it won't take you long to fall in love with our culture...I certainly have!

We are like a family here at St Ciaran's. I have met friends for life and teachers that I will never forget. They aren't like any other. Our school community will provide you with support, love and a great education that suits you.

That is only a snippet of the life here at St Ciaran's. I really do hope you decide to join our family here at St Ciaran's College.

Aoibheann Christie
Head Girl



Enrichment

Mental Health Ambassadors

Post 16 students take part in Mental Health Ambassador Training Programme, organised and delivered by Action Mental Health, and supported by Mrs Owens. The aim of the training programme is to be committed to raising awareness of mental health problems. Thirteen Year 14 Ambassadors are taking this initiative further by displaying key messages throughout the school to raise awareness of Mental Health support.

New Driver NI Presentation

Stephen Savage from New Driver NI presents to our Post 16 students on useful information for those who are starting out on the road for the first time.

The presentation discusses the following topics:

- Learning to Drive;
- Passing the test;
- Buying a car;
- Insuring a car;
- Avoiding penalty points;
- Staying safe on the roads;
- New Driver Pledge.

The students are encouraged to sign up to the 'New Driver Pledge' and to raise awareness with their friends and family. Each student receives a copy of the booklet entitled 'New Driver NI - Northern Ireland's Guide for New Drivers'.

Transitional Skills Training

The QUB Transitional Skills Training Programme is offered to Post 16 students. The Library at QUB has developed the Transitional Skills Online Training Programme to assist students making the transition from school to HE. Aimed at Post-16 students, the content is of relevance to those embarking on HE but the skills are transferrable and of value to those choosing to enter the working environment too. There are five components including Academic Expectations followed by four modules: Undertaking Research Literature, Searching the Web, Plagiarism and Referencing, Social Media and Email Etiquette.

The Firs

Each year Post 16 students have the privilege of working with the staff and residents of The Firs Services Ballygawley with their programme of support each year. The students attend The Firs on a weekly basis and are recognised for their valuable contributions made to the day care service/activity programme. The students are so fortunate in being afforded the opportunity to take part in such a worthwhile programme and they certainly gain a wealth of experience from the programme.

Buddies

The Buddy Scheme is set up especially to help the incoming Year 8 students settle into school life at St Ciaran's. The Buddies are Year 14 students who have volunteered their time and undergone training involving listening skills and team building. This consequently equips them with the know how to offer



practical support, a friendly face and be approachable to Year 8 students in these formative days within the first term.

Unlike the staff, who may not remember as easily the first time they started secondary school, the Buddies do have a better working knowledge of what it is like to be on the corridors at break time, of not knowing where each room is located, and of what to do if lunch money has been forgotten. The Buddies are there to help allay any fears the Year 8 students may have. Two buddies will be allocated to each class in KS3.

Anti-bullying Ambassadors

Post 16 students take part in an interactive Anti-Bullying Ambassador Training Programme, organised

and delivered by Mrs Owens and Mr Rodgers. The aim of the training programme is to develop confidence in the students in challenging bullying behaviours. They learn several strategies on how to respond to low-level bullying behaviour and they understand the need to, and mechanisms for, reporting bullying concerns to appropriate school staff.

Paired Reading

Last year, eleven Year 13 students were actively involved in a Paired Reading Programme with KS3 students. This was in conjunction with the Mid Ulster Community Planning Schools Together Initiative and facilitated by Learn Spark (Training and Facilitation Programmes for Education, Charities and Business).

Paired Reading is when pupils (mentors) work with other pupils (mentees) to help improve their reading and understanding of what is being read. The aim of the programme is to increase the mentees' interest and ability to read for enjoyment and to gain better access to their subjects across the curriculum, improving outcomes. The Year 13 mentors met with their mentees on a weekly basis. All eleven students were highly commended for their enthusiasm, support and professionalism.

Three of the mentors, Caitlin, Andrea and Shannon, volunteered to take part in a promotional training

video entitled 'Learn Spark Paired Reading : Talking Heads' - this will be used in promotional and training videos for schools this year.

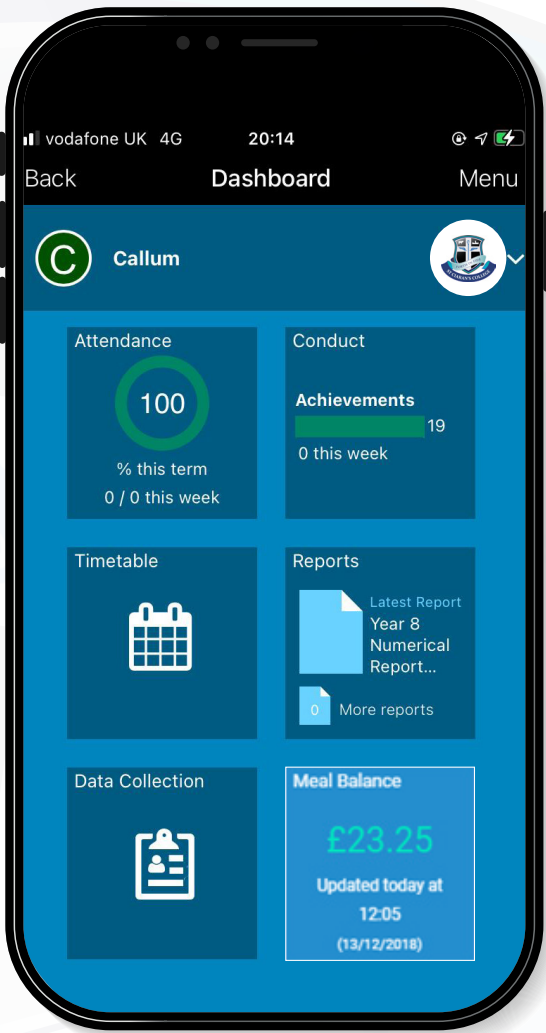
We are delighted, once again, to be able to avail of a Virtual Paired Reading Programme delivered by Learn Spark and funded by the Mid Ulster District Council. Our students have volunteered to take part in this valuable and rewarding programme and they will be trained this academic year to continue the excellent practice within our school - Students Supporting Students.



School App

SIMS Parent App is the latest tool of our parental engagement. All parents who installed it have found it extremely useful and we would encourage all parents to sign up to this system when your child comes to St Ciaran's in September. The app will give you important information about your child at the click of a button. The school uses the App to provide parents with electronic copies of reports, student attendance details, achievements from teachers and timetable information. Parents can also use the data collection facility to inform the school of any changes in parental or student personal information.

SIMS Pay is an online payment system, which enables St Ciaran's to collect payment for items such as school meals, trips, events, clubs and other school activities, in a safe and secure way. You will be able to view your child's school meal balance via the app. Messages from SIMS pay will be sent to the app to inform of low school meal balance, new products, payment confirmations and when payment instalments are due.



St Ciaran's Youth Centre

St Ciaran's Youth Centre is an afterschool facility for young people between the age of six and sixteen. It provides a suitable environment for our youth in which to develop and grow, physically, intellectually, spiritually and emotionally. The Centre opens weekly from Monday to Wednesday 6.30pm to 8.30pm. Junior Night (P2 to P7) operates on Wednesday. Senior Night (Yr 8 to Yr 11) operates on Monday and Tuesday.

The members are encouraged to join in as many of the varied programmes as possible:

- Arts & Crafts (seasonal – Christmas, Easter, Halloween);
- Baking;
- Sports – Football, volleyball, dodgeball, table tennis, obstacle course;
- Trampolining class;
- Gymnastics;
- Pretzel Play – Kids Yoga;
- Jiving classes;
- Tae Kwon-do;
- Movie nights;
- Cheerleading class.

Themed parties are always a 'hit' with our members including charitable events i.e. Children in Need, Red Nose Day.

Unfortunately, until further notice, the Youth Centre will have to remain closed due to Covid-19 restrictions but we are ready to open when we get the 'go ahead'. However, we are mindful of the need for our members to remain positive and focused both in their school work and their own personal health and welfare. We put together a little pack which we hope will be useful for the winter months. It comprises of; sports bag, water bottle, hat, sanitiser, handball and resistor bands. Those who register can receive a pack (while stocks last).

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook. Watch out for Fiontann's online functional fitness programme which you can do at home.

We're always on hand to help. Our helpful team are on hand to answer any questions you might have:

- Call us on 028 85568640 and ask for Fionntan or Tina (Mon-Wed 9am-5pm)
- Call Cathy (Youth support Worker) on 07902144145 for all programme enquiries
- Email fdevlin085@c2kni.net or tmcgeary361@c2kni.net and we'll respond as soon as we can
- Speak to any one of the supervisors at St Ciaran's Youth Centre (Mon-Wed)





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Dear P7,

Here are some top tips and information for St Ciaran's:

You always need to be kind to everyone.

Get to know everyone in your class.

Always ask for help when needed. When you do need help, ask a trusted adult or friend.

Always try your hardest in class.

Just remember to include everyone!

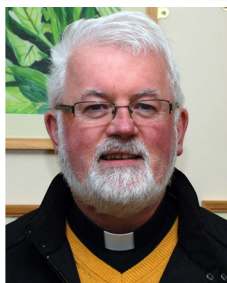
**Berneen Gilroy
St Patrick's PS Eskra**



Board of Governors



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Academic Performance

Performance in Public Examinations 2015-2020

	2015/16		2016/17		2017/18		2018/19		2019/20	
	St Ciaran's	N.I. Average	St Ciaran's	N.I. Average	St Ciaran's	N.I. Average	St Ciaran's	N.I. Average	St Ciaran's	N.I. Average
% Achieving 5+ GCSEs at Grades A* to C (or equivalent)	94%	73%	87%	74%	96%	80%	80%	80%	94%	N/A
% Achieving 2+ A Levels at Grades A* to E	100%	66%	99%	59%	98%	98%	100%	72%	100%	N/A

Attendance Rate

Total attendance rate for school year 2019-2020 was 94%.

Further information on all our policies can be found on our website.

Leavers' Destinations

Ulster University, Coleraine
 Ulster University, Magee
 Ulster University, Belfast
 Ulster University, Jordanstown
 SWC, Dungannon Campus
 SWC, Omagh Campus
 Queen's University, Belfast
 University of Dundee
 Gap Year
 St Mary's University College, Belfast (BEd)
 Liverpool John Moores University
 PWC, Higher Level Apprenticeship
 University of Arkansas, USA, Golf Scholarship
 Coalisland Training Centre
 St Mary's University College, Belfast (Liberal Arts, BA)
 Harper Adams University, Newport
 University of Liverpool
 Employment



Admission Criteria 2021

The following admission criteria will be applied by the Board of Governors of St Ciaran's College to Primary 7 students applying for admission in September 2021.

In the event of over-subscription in the case of the first or subsequent criteria the next criteria will be applied in order.

1. Resident in the parish of Aghaloo, Aughavea/Aughentaine, Beragh, Clogher, Errigal Ciaran, Eskra, Killeeshil.
2. Applicants for whom a sibling is currently attending.
3. Children who attend St. Joseph's Primary School, Galbally
4. Children who are not a resident of a contributory parish but who attend;
*Blessed Patrick O'Loughran, Castlecaulfield Derrylatinee P.S.
Drumduff P.S.
Roan P.S.
Roscavey P.S.
St Brigid's P.S., Altamuskin
St Joseph's P.S., Caledon
St Joseph's P.S., Galbally
St Lawrence's P.S., Fintona
St Macartan's, P.S., Clogher
St Malachy's P.S., Glencull
St Mary's P.S., Aughnacloy
St Mary's P.S., Ballygawley
St Mary's P.S., Cabragh
St Mary's P.S., Fivemiletown
St Oliver Plunkett P.S., Beragh
St Patrick's P.S., Aughadarragh
St Patrick's P.S., Donaghmore
St Patrick's P.S., Eskra*
5. The eldest of the family.
6. Child of a staff member.
7. Age - The eldest applicants established by date of birth as entered on a birth certificate.

When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is detailed on or attached to the Transfer Form. Parents should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the school's admissions criteria is stated on the Transfer Form or attached to it including whether the child attends a contributory primary school and which parish they belong to.

Duty to Verify

Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any Transfer Form.

The provision of false or incorrect information or the failure to provide information within the deadlines set by the school can result in the withdrawal of a place and the inability to offer a place on the part of any school nominated on the applicant's Transfer Form.

Applications and Admissions to Year 8

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/2020
Admission Number	125	125	125	125	125
Total Applications All Preferences	101	131	130	133	140
Total Admissions	101	131	130	131	134

Criteria for Transfer Between Schools

In the event of St Ciaran's falling below the total enrolment number attributed to it by The Department of Education Northern Ireland, (i.e. being undersubscribed) transfer of students from another secondary/grammar school into St Ciaran's College, Ballygawley, during Year 8 or into other years i.e. Years 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, may be possible. In such an event, the Board of Governors has determined that the criteria set out below will apply if there are two or more suitable applicants for a place.

1. Resident in the parish of Aghaloo, Beragh, Errigal Ciaran, Clogher, Eskra, Killeeshil, Aughavea/Aughentaine.
2. Applicants for whom a sibling is currently attending.
3. Children who attend St Joseph's Primary School, Galbally.
4. Children who are not a resident of a contributory parish but who attend the Primary Schools listed above.
5. The eldest child of the family.
6. Child of a staff member.
7. Age - The eldest applicants established by date of birth as entered on a birth certificate.

Candidates must provide sufficient information at the time of application to allow the admissions criteria to be fairly applied. They must also indicate acceptance of all school rules and regulations. Incorrect information may lead to the withdrawal of an offer of a place.





St Ciaran's College

Coláiste Naomh Ciarán

Principal: Mr Paul Lavery
Chairperson: Mrs Deirdre McSorley

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