



Welcome to St. Columba's College

St. Columba's College is a Voluntary Secondary school under the trusteeship of CEIST (Catholic Education, an Irish Schools Trust). The Trustees determine the ethos of the school. St. Columba's seeks to form a community of students, teachers, assistants, parents, management and ancillary staff. Founded in 1968, the community tries to live by Gospel values that recognise the dignity of each individual.



'Pursuit of Excellence in a Caring Environment'

College Programmes

The school programme is divided into two cycles:

- **Junior Cycle: 1st year, 2nd year and 3rd year.**
- **Senior Cycle: 5th year and 6th year.**

After they have taken their Junior Certificate examination and in between Junior and Senior Cycle, students may take **Transition Year**. In Junior Cycle students are given a broad education and sit the new Junior Cycle after three years. Some students may follow the **Level 2 Learning Programme**. This is the new Junior Cycle programme with added supports.

For Senior Cycle, students can take either (1) The Leaving Certificate Examination Course, (2) The Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme. (This is the Leaving Certificate Course with additional modules) or (3) The Leaving Certificate Applied Programme. (This is an alternative practical Leaving Certificate).

The First Year Curriculum

The following subjects are currently on offer to first year students

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|-------------------------|---|
| 1. Irish | 12. Physical Education |
| 2. English | 13. Social, Personal and Health Education |
| 3. Maths | 14. Civic, Social and Political Education |
| 4. History | 15. Visual Art |
| 5. Geography | 16. Music |
| 6. Science | 17. Graphics |
| 7. French | 18. Wood Technology |
| 8. German | 19. Engineering |
| 9. Spanish | 20. Home Economics |
| 10. Business Studies | 21. ICT |
| 11. Religious Education | |

Senior Cycle Subjects

The subjects currently on offer at senior cycle are:

Core Subjects: English, Irish and Maths

Choice Subjects: Geography, History, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Agricultural Science, Business, Economics, Accounting, Home Economics, Construction, Engineering, Design & Communication Graphics, Art, Music, French, German, Spanish, Applied Maths, LC Computer Science and LC Physical Education.

The Daily Schedule

Students who arrive at the school can get a light breakfast and study in the warm and comfortable school canteen which opens at 8.00am each morning.

8.55 First bell - students should collect books from their lockers

9.00 School starts with Class Tutor time or Assembly

9.05 Class begins (Twenty-minute break from 11.05 to 11.25)

1.25 Lunch – students may eat their packed lunch in the canteen, where hot lunches, soup, sandwiches and drinks are also served. The school has a healthy eating policy

1.55 Bell rings – students collect books from their locker

2.05 Afternoon classes until 4.05pm

Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care team comprises the Principal, the two Deputy Principals, Year Heads, Guidance Counsellors, Learning Support Teachers and Class Tutors. There is a Student Support Team for each year group who meet on a regular basis to assist and support students who are having difficulties.

The School Completion Programme for the area covers nine primary schools and three post-primary schools, of which St. Columba's is one.

Each class has an assigned Guidance Counsellor, who meets with them and assists them with settling in. Students can arrange to meet with their Guidance Counsellor at any stage throughout their time in St. Columba's, should they have any difficulties.

Additional Needs

Children who have additional/behavioural needs receive additional support from the Learning Support Teachers in small groups or on a one to one basis. Assistants also provide additional support for students. Parents who wish to discuss issues around additional needs should contact the Principal.

Transfer Programme

The college invites the 'new' first years to take part in the Transfer Programme at the end of August before the term begins. Students have the opportunity to meet some of the staff and senior students and get to know the school during these three days. This assists in a smooth and successful transition.



**Baking Club
which runs on
Wednesdays.**



**Coding Club
which runs at
lunch time.**



**Some members
of our school
choir who
perform at
various school
events during
the year such as
school masses
and the annual
Christmas Carol
service.**



Pauric Gillespie, Diarmaid O'Donnell, Cathal Cannon and Ruairi Callaghan who secured a place in the final of the Bank of Ireland Money Smarts quiz held in Trinity College, Dublin.



Aisling Mullen, Sine Ryan & Katie Dowds who won the PE EXPO National title with their Transition Year mini company 'Mind Over Matter'.



Student Council 2023



Senior Prefects 2023



**Ruairi Callaghan, Head Boy,
&
Ella Mc Laughlin, Head Girl**

Student Wellbeing



Student wellbeing is important to us at St. Columba's College. We participated in Jigsaw's 'One Good School' initiative and were awarded the Gold Award in September 2023. The programme aims to raise awareness about mental health. Our One Good School team is made up of students, parents and staff. This group of students completed the Peer Mentoring training and delivered workshops to the 1st year students.



The 'One Good School' Team

Prize – Giving Awards 2023



Michael Meenan and Adrienne Gallen – Winners of Student of the Year 2023.



Abbie Mc Granaghan, overall Sports Girl and Conor Mc Ginty, overall Sports Boy of the year for 2023 and all sports award winners.



Hannah Murray, winner of the Barry Mc Cool Award for Modern European Languages.



Luke Browne, winner of the Charlie Mc Groarty Award.



Leanne Lynch and Lauryn Doherty, winners of the Music awards.



Emma Neeson who won the Irish award.



Sarah Gavigan and Maoliosa McCabe, winners of the Catherine Mc Cauley Award.



Ryan Galvin, winner of the Patrick Kavanagh Award.

Extra –Curricular Activities

The college offers a range of sporting activities, which includes Soccer, Gaelic, Golf, Rugby, Basketball, Athletics, Camogie, Hurling, Futsal and 'Girls Active'. In addition to the variety of sports, there are various activities and competitions in many other interest areas such as Art, Music, Business and Enterprise, Coding, Debating, Leadership, Maths and Science competitions, Field Trips, Tours, Guest Speakers and Visits Out.





Tea Foy, Rhianna Doherty & Charlie Kelly at the CEIST Student Leadership Conference.



Laura Farry who won the TATA TCS goIT Global Innovator of the year award, which had over 40,000 competitors from across the globe.



Current 1st year students enjoying activities during the Transfer Programme.



6TH Year students fundraising for the Irish Cancer Society on Daffodil Day.



TY students
in London on
their tour.



Five students travelled to Cyprus for the European Ambassador
School's Programme

**1st years
taking part in
cross-country
athletics in
the Finn
Valley
Centre.**



**A group of
Transition
Year students
who took
part in
'Strictly
Come
Dancing'**





St. Columba's Girls Camogie Team.



St. Columba's Senior Boys Soccer team – Ulster Champions 2023



School Principal: Mr. T. Rowan
Deputy Principals: Mr. J. Sweeney
 Ms. G. White
 Ms. A. Timony

Telephone: (074) 9131246 **Facsimile:** (074) 9132528

Email: admin@stcolumbasstranorlar.ie

Website: www.stcolumbascollege.ie

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