



Welcome to
St. Columba's College



**Information for Parents and 6th Class
Primary School Students**

November 2021



Timetable structure

- **40 minute classes**
- **42 x 40 minute classes per week (28 hours)**
- **9 class periods on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 6 class periods on Wednesday**
- **Classes begin at 9.05 everyday and finish at 4.05pm (except Wednesday when they finish at 1.20pm)**
- **Our canteen is open every morning from 8 am**

Timetable structure

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.05 - 9.45					
9.45 - 10.25					
10.25 - 11.05					
Break (15)					
11.20 - 12.00					
12.00 - 12.40					
12.40 - 1.20					
Lunch (45)					
2.05 - 2.45					
2.45 - 3.35					
3.25 - 4.05					

Assigning Classes

- **The Principal assigns students to classes based on subject options rather than on ability**
- **The purpose of the assessment tests on 29th January 2022 is to get a profile of the students and screen for learning difficulties**
- **The tests are usually multiple choice IQ type tests and a reading test.**
- **Classes are set in ability groups in Maths based on this test.**
- **Students cannot prepare for it - no need to worry**
- **The range of subjects on offer each year is dependant upon the teaching resources available. A broad range of subjects and programmes are available in the college**

1st Year Curriculum

Compulsory Subjects	Periods per Week	Notes
1. Irish	5	Students who are entitled learning support, receive learning support at that time.
2. English	5	
3. Maths	5	Classes streamed in based on January Assessment.
4. History	3	
5. Geography	3	
6. Science	3	
7. Religion	3	Non examination subject
8. CSPE	1	Non examination subject
9. Physical Education	2	Junior Cycle Short Course
10. SPHE	1	Non examination subject
11. Lifeskills	1	Non examination subject
12. ICT	1	Junior Cycle Short Course
	33 (out of 42)	

Wellbeing



1st Year Curriculum

Modern Foreign Language Option 3 periods per week

Optional Subjects	Notes
12. French	Students may choose <u>one</u> of the Modern Foreign Language (MFL) or they may opt not to do a language. If they choose not to study a MFL, they can opt for one of the subjects listed below
13. German	
14. Spanish	
Non language Option	Choose one subject from the following: 15. Art 16. Business Studies 17. Home Economics 18. Engineering 19. Music 20. Graphics 21. Wood Technology

1st Year Curriculum

Finally, there are two Option Block on the timetable where students can opt for two of the seven option subjects listed below (3 periods per option per week)

Subject	Please select in order of preference e.g. 1,2,3,4.....
15. Art	
16. Business Studies	
17. Home Economics	
18. Engineering	
19. Music	
20. Graphics	
21. Wood Technology	

1st Year Curriculum

- **Students will make subject choices when completing enrolment form to be returned by 17th December 2021**
- **Please choose carefully – follow your interests and allow yourself a broad experience.**
- **Option blocks will be decided by student choices and resources available**
- **Subject choice forms are dated and filed – any written requests for subject changes will be accommodated where possible. However, this may not always be possible**



*St. Columba's College
Stranorlar, Co. Donegal*

First Year Choice of Subjects 2020

Student Name: _____

Address: _____

Each student will take the following subjects:

Irish	History	S.P.H.E.	Physical Education
English	Geography	Science	I.C.T.
Mathematics	C.S.P.E.	Religion	Lifeskills

Please select a language of your preference below. However if you prefer not to do a language please insert one of the following option subjects at '**Non Language Subject**' below.

Art, Business Studies, Home Economics, Metalwork, Music, Graphics, Wood Technology.

We recommend that students with an exemption from Irish due to a specific learning difficulty should consider the '**Non Language Subject**'

Subject	Please select in order of preference e.g. 1, 2, 3, 4
French	
German	
Spanish	
Non Language Subject	

Please note – a **foreign language** is an entry requirement for a number of courses in the four NUI Universities (UCD, NUIG, NUI Maynooth, & UCC) and a number of NUI colleges.

In addition First Year Students will study 2 subjects from the list below. Please select 1, 2, 3, 4 in order of your choice. **Note – do not select the same subject as at 'Non Language Subject' above.**

Subject	Please select in order of preference e.g. 1, 2, 3, 4
Art	
Business Studies	
Home Economics	
Engineering	
Music	
Graphics	
Wood Technology	

While every effort will be made to give students their first preference, this may not always be possible.

Books for language and options should not be bought until September.

ART



Example of art work by a third year student

2D presentation skills are also taught which is very useful for other subjects and also for College and University courses.

ART

What is it all about?

Art is a key element in almost everything that surrounds us.

For example : furniture, cars, mobile phones, clothes, toys.

All of these items have to be designed before production.

In the art room you can experience a variety of techniques such as:

- **Painting**
- **Drawing**
- **Calligraphy**
- **Graphics**
- **Clay modelling**
- **3d construction**
- **Weaving**
- **Artist research**

CAREERS IN ART

- ✘ Fashion
- ✘ Graphic design
- ✘ Computer games
- ✘ Animation
- ✘ Architecture
- ✘ Animation
- ✘ Illustration
- ✘ Teacher
- ✘ Art history lecturer
- ✘ Curator in an art gallery
- ✘ Film making
- ✘ Photography



TRASH 'N' FASHION COMPETITION



All of these garments have been made from recycled materials by TY and 4th Year Students.



Art students get the opportunity to participate in a number of events and competitions, for example:

- Sùile na Nòg – Junior certificate art exhibition
- Texaco art competition
- Doodle for google
- Credit Union art competition



Business

Students may be eligible for the Leaving Cert Vocational Programme where students may use this as one of their 6 best subjects for CAO. Business is a good foundation for this.

There is a wide range of business courses offered at Third Level Colleges e.g. Business and Law or specialise in Marketing, Financial Mgt.

Business Studies provides you with the knowledge and skills for everyday life e.g. Insurance, banking, consumer rights, letter writing, budgeting



Business holds the key to success

Knowledge of the World of Business e.g. Different forms of business, marketing, transport, report writing etc.

Junior Cert Business provides the knowledge and skills for students who do Transition Year. For example the mini-company, where they set up and run their own company

Students who study Junior Cert Business will have a choice of subjects at Leaving Cert. You will be in a better position to choose one of the 3 business subjects – Business, Economics and Accounting

Book-keeping and accounting elements are invaluable for students who one day may want to set up their own business or be self employed. Farm accounts are also included.



Home Economics - Life Skills

1. Food & Nutrition Studies

2. Consumer Studies

3. Social & Health Studies

4. Resource Management & Home Studies

5. Textile Studies

Home Economics

Home Economics:

✘ allows students to gain marks for a range of skills;

✘ through practical and project work carried out over a period of time, rather than all the assessment in one final exam at the end of 3rd year.

A) Craft Project	15%
Students complete 15% of their Junior Cert. in 2 nd year by making a textile based craft project.	
B) Cookery Exam (Easter 3 rd year)	35 - 45%
This means going into a Junior Certificate Exam students have already completed 50 - 60%	
C) Written Exam	40 - 50%



Music

There are three main elements to the music syllabus these include:

Aural

Composition

Practical

Aural skills

This includes the active listening, appreciation and interpretation of various musical styles. Musical styles include:

1. Classical
2. Traditional
3. Modern
4. Popular

Composition

Students will learn how to compose a four-bar melody and create a suitable accompaniment for various tunes and melodies.

Practical

Students will be actively involved in learning how to play the recorder. They will be required to play 2-4 pieces in their Junior Certificate examination, this will count for 25% of their total result. It is also expected that all music students will participate in the all school liturgies.

Some students believe that music is a subject that is only for those with a musical background.....this is quiet simply NOT THE CASE....we welcome all students to the music department.



Engineering



- Metalwork provides an introduction to materials and process engineering and an insight into associated technology. It is founded in practical activity that seeks to link observation and action within a problem-solving context.
- In 1st and 2nd Year students have 3 classes per week on practical/project work and covering health and safety, materials, design and hand/machine tools.

Engineering – assessment modes

- Engineering is assessed, at Ordinary and Higher levels, by means of a terminal examination paper and a student project. At Higher level, in addition, there is a practical examination
- Students can progress to LC Engineering in 5th year





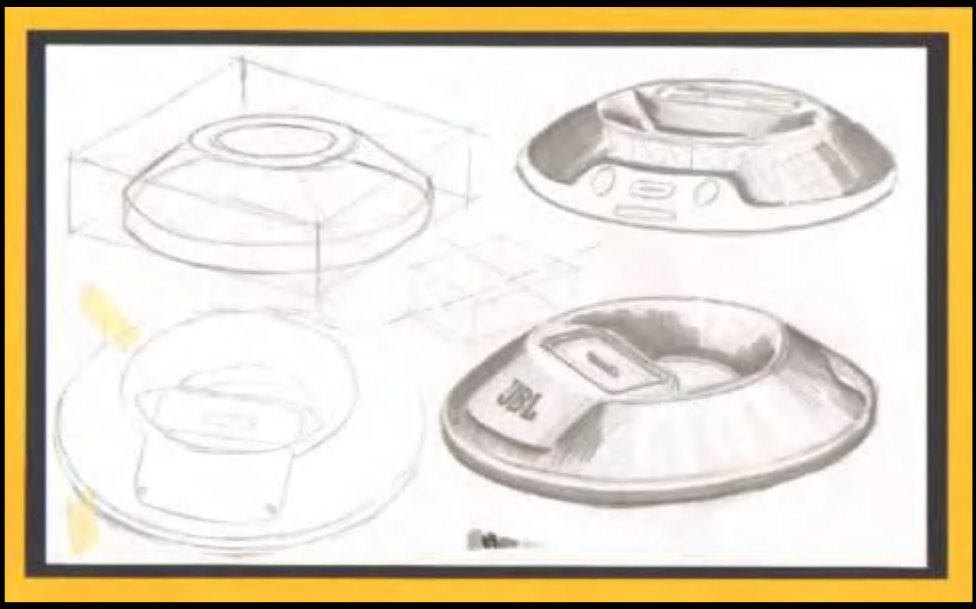
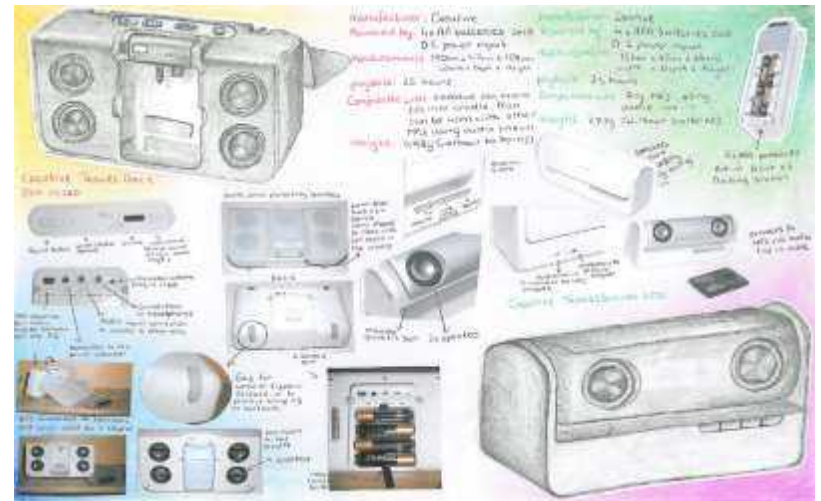
Graphics

- Helps to develop problem solving and creative thinking skills through the solution of graphical problems.
- Communicate information using diagrams and sketches
- You will learn how to represent 3-D objects in 2-D and on computer.
- Helps you to think in a more logical and creative way

Graphics

- At Leaving Certificate, you will be able to study Design and Communication Graphics.
- There is an increase of 30% opting for this subject at Junior Cert level which is attributed to the relationship of this subject and Project Maths.
- Career Options: *Engineering, Game Development, Architecture, Electronics, Mathematical Science, ICT and a variety of related Trades and Professions.*

Graphics



Wood Technology

- Wood Technology places particular emphasis on the development of cognitive and practical skills through the design and manufacture of wooden projects
- In first and second year students will do both theory and practical work.
- In 3rd year students have a choice of 3 projects to choose from in response to design briefs issued by the State Exams Commission. The projects choices are received by the students in early November, and must be completed by the end of April.

Wood Technology





1st year Transition Programme

- 3 day programme
- 1 day is out of school activity
- 2 day in school experience
 - Meet teachers
 - Make new friends
 - Explore the school
 - Engage in many new subjects

1st Year Tutor Groups

- 9.00-9.05 Monday to Thursday
- Contact each day with Class teacher.
- Journals checked
- Notes are collected.
- Concerns addressed.
- Reminders.
- Class competitions
- Friday is year group assembly

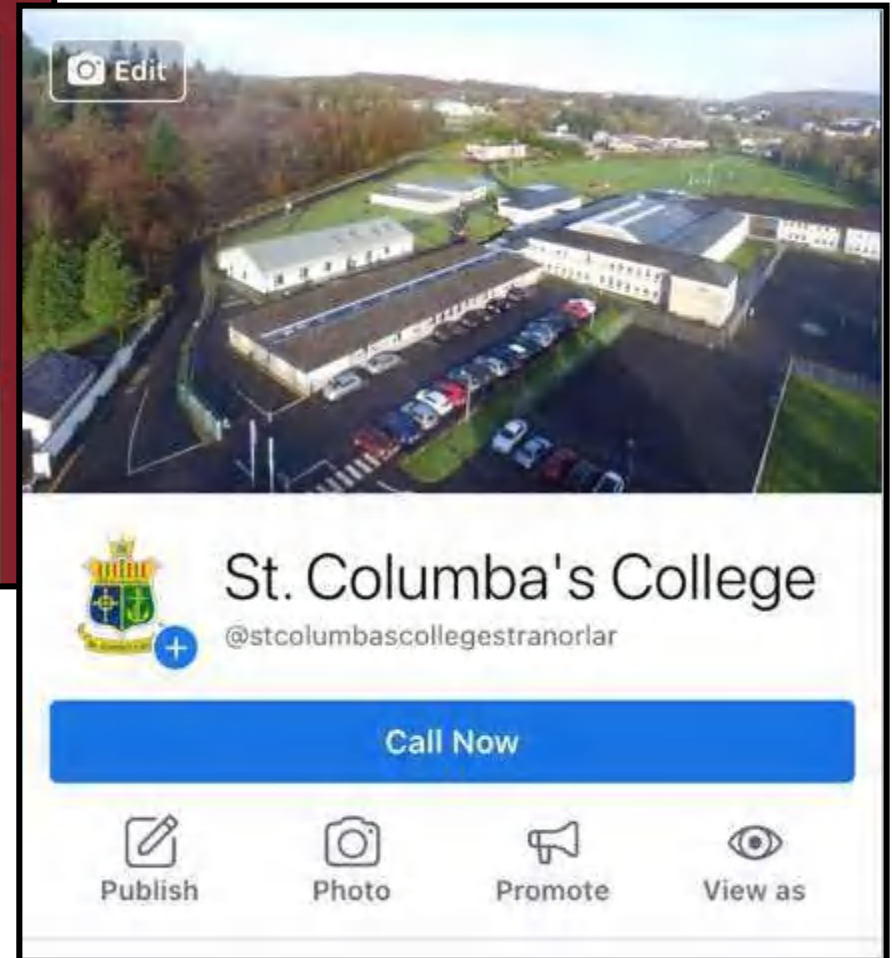
Further information.....

- **College website – www.stcolumbascollege.ie
- College activities, Policies, list of staff, range of subjects, programmes, facilities**
- **Facebook Page – highlighting activities and student achievements**
- **Twitter – follow us @StColumbasStran**
- **Instagram – follow us @stcolumbascollegestranorlar**
- **Text Message Service**
- **Email messaging service via VSware**

Website and Facebook Page



The screenshot shows the website's header with a dark red background. At the top, a navigation menu includes links for Home, The School, About, Development, Education, Gallery, Publications, Activities, and Contact. Below the menu is the school's crest and the name "ST. COLUMBA'S COLLEGE" in white serif font. A large central image shows a wide view of the school building. To the left of this image is a vertical menu with four options: "New Wing", "Interior", "St. Columba's Hallway", and "Plaza Fields". Below the main image, there is a short paragraph of text. At the bottom of the page, there are three news items with titles and brief descriptions, and a sidebar with social media icons for Facebook and Twitter, a "LOGIN" button, and input fields for "Username" and "Password".



The screenshot shows the Facebook page header for St. Columba's College. At the top is a large, high-angle photograph of the school campus with an "Edit" button in the top-left corner. Below the photo is the school's crest and the name "St. Columba's College" in a large, bold font, followed by the handle "@stcolumbascollegestranorlar". A prominent blue button labeled "Call Now" is positioned below the name. At the bottom of the page, there are four icons with labels: "Publish" (pencil icon), "Photo" (camera icon), "Promote" (megaphone icon), and "View as" (eye icon).

Twitter and Instagram...



[Edit profile](#)

St Columba's College

@StColumbasStran

Stranorlar, Co.Donegal stcolumbascollege.ie

Joined January 2015

36 Following 860 Followers

[Tweets](#) [Tweets & replies](#) [Media](#)



stcolumbascoll...  



22	721	28
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www.stcolumbascollege.ie/

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