

St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's College

CLAUDY



A Christ-centred educational community at the gateway to the Sperrins

College Prayer

Jesus is a True Friend

Lord Jesus, You are the best teacher of all.
Help me to do the best I can in my studies.
Help me to learn as best I can,
to maintain calm, to think clearly,
to remember accurately
and to express myself well.

Remind me to be: thankful
to those who care for me;
kind to my teachers;
a true friend to my companions and all
members of the school community.
Show me how to love others
and to serve them,
to serve You, Your Church
and all human persons.

Guide me as well in this great test of life,
and to never give up when things seem worst
but to trust in You completely,
knowing that today I can cope with anything
because You are with me.



Dear Parents/Guardians,

On behalf of the Board of Governors, I would like to thank you for expressing an interest in St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's College.

The college remains popular with pupils from the parish of Claudy and as far afield as Prehen, Culmore and Eglinton.

Examinations results at St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's College continue to be impressive and last year they were once again very good. It is a source of great satisfaction for the Board of Governors that the unrelenting focus on helping our pupils to get the best possible outcomes is paying off.

You will read from this prospectus and from when you visit that despite the fact academic qualifications are important at St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's, the college is much more than that with a focus on the holistic development of every child.

I really hope that you get an opportunity to visit the college. I think that you will find it interesting and you will certainly be made warmly welcome.

Yours sincerely,

Ms H. Crossan

Chairperson of the Board of Governors

I am delighted to welcome you to the prospectus of St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's College.

Founded in 1963, St Patrick's & St Brigid's College is a leading Catholic maintained co-educational school combining strong academic standards with exceptional personal development. We aim to create a Christian environment that is inspired by the life and teachings of Christ. We provide an education that is focused on the formation of the whole person.

Our motto is **Laudate Dominum**, 'O praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise him, all ye people' (Psalm 117). Coming to school here as a pupil or professional means that we should be thankful for all of the opportunities made available to us and for being part of such a successful educational organisation. We meet life's difficulties together, as a community and a family, using our Christian values of compassion, courage and service to achieve our very best. We believe that we should always show compassion to others, making decisions without self-interest and supporting all those in our community to be happy and successful. We must have courage, never being afraid of failure but embracing it to learn from our mistakes and better ourselves.

At St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's College we recognise not only the importance of helping pupils flourish academically but also socially, emotionally and spiritually so that they are equipped for life to be able to make the strongest possible contribution in their Parish and wider community.

The best schools are not made of bricks and mortar, but made of the people who work together, caring, supporting and encouraging each child to fulfill their God-given potential. The quality of the teaching and support staff in our college is outstanding and I am certain that this positively impacts on the lives of our young people.



In St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's College we work in partnership with pupils, parents/guardians, governors and the local community to ensure a positive learning experience for every child. Every child is unique, they are loved and valued. They deserve the best and that is what we aim to give them. They are our greatest ambassadors and they are supported by a team of staff united in encouraging, guiding, motivating and challenging each one of them to be the best they can be.

Please take the time to visit us, here in Claudy, the Gateway to the Sperrin Mountains, to sample a warm, inclusive, family environment and to get a feel for our welcoming college.

I am in my 10th year as a Principal and I have always been guided by the proverb that 'it takes a village to raise a child'. I know that together with the teaching team, support staff, parents/guardians and wider community, we can continue to grow as a school that we are truly proud of.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which reads 'P. McCullagh'.

Mr P. McCullagh BSc (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPOH
College Principal

Our Christian Vision

St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's College is an inclusive, non-selective, co-educational Catholic college which supports, nurtures and develops pupils academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually to enable all pupils to fulfil potential.

We provide a secure, happy, creative and challenging learning environment where all individuals are encouraged to respect themselves, others and the school environment.

We encourage pupils to maximise potential through embracing a variety of opportunities and experiences offered to them at the college and through the promotion of self-discipline and self-belief.



Our Christian Values

Belief

We identify our talents. We do our best.

Achievement

We prepare correctly. We flourish together.

Leadership

We take responsibility. We put others first.

Courage

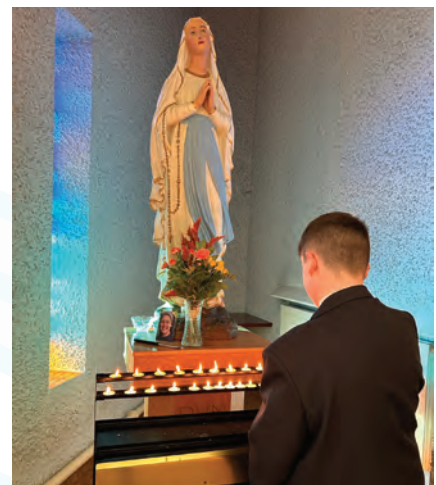
We take action. We never give up.

Service

We serve each other. We serve our community.

Thankfulness

We give without reason. We show praise.



Faith formation

The school's Catholic ethos is manifest above all in the conviction that, in the words of St John Henry Newman, God has created us "to do Him some definite service", that we find ourselves in giving ourselves through joyful service in the knowledge that we are children of God.

Our framework for understanding values draws on the example of Christ and his warmth of welcome and inclusion of all. We provide an education that is focused on the formation of the whole person. We are guided by our vision statement 'believers are achievers, creating tomorrow's leaders, today' and by the Christian values of courage, service and thankfulness.

Daily Prayers

Prayers are said every day during morning registration led by the Form teacher and the pupils.

Works of Charity

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.' (John 13:34-35)

St Patrick's & St. Brigid's College aims that all members of our school community are active in supporting charitable causes and should understand why this is central to our mission and purpose as a Catholic community.

As part of our ongoing work with our pupils, raising awareness for the needs of others both in our community and beyond is very important.

We encourage our pupils to be active in charitable organisations and fund raising activities.

On our college crest it states '**Laudate Dominum**' which translates as:

'O praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise him, all ye people.' (Psalm 117)



Our Christian vision and values underpin every aspect of the school day and provides an environment which prepares all our pupils as happy and confident learners. The school affirms that all pupils are unique and should have opportunities to achieve their full God-given potential to learn and to experience success and a memorable experience through a full, ambitious and differentiated curriculum.

Collective Worship

As a Catholic community gathering in prayer is central to our daily routine.

Jesus said '*Where two or more of you are gathered in my name, there I am also*' (Matthew 18:20).

We gather with Christ at the start of every day both as staff and pupils, at the beginning of every RE lesson and regularly throughout the year in keeping with the liturgical calendar.

We have whole school masses throughout the year and also have liturgies to mark important times in the Church calendar.

We make use of a wide range of media, resources and environments including our beautiful local parish church next door as well as online liturgies.

In addition, pupil leaders plan, prepare and deliver service on a theme each half term.

Safeguarding

St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's College is committed to providing a secure environment. All adults recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

We continue to ensure that all of our support and approaches give our pupils a positive sense of identity through the continued development of our PSE programme.

As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities our staff will be alert to:

- > Disclosures by pupils of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside of school.
 - > Parent/Guardian reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance.
 - > Pupils voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies.
- > Intolerance of difference, whether secular, religious or views based on, but not exclusive to gender, disability, homophobia, race, colour or culture.

The college has its own dedicated wellbeing lead, a dedicated learning mentor and has access to its own dedicated counsellor.



Pastoral Care

Pastoral care is at the heart of St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's College. We are renowned for the 'family' atmosphere that we nurture between our staff and pupils and will always go the extra mile to ensure all feel happy and safe. All staff have a role in supporting the wellbeing of pupils with Form Tutors being the key figure in the pupils' lives to support them through the many challenges of being a young person today. All pastoral care is provided with the full support of Year Leaders and the Senior Leadership Team to ensure that meeting the needs of pupils, both collectively and individually, is always at the forefront of our thinking.

We would always encourage parents and guardians to be in regular contact with their child's Form Tutor so that we are always working together to help and support them.



'...pupils feel safe in school and know what to do if they are concerned about their safety or well-being.'

Education & Training Inspectorate.

Anti-Bullying

Our role at St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's College is to provide a caring learning environment where each person feels valued and respected. We are a friendly, caring college committed to providing a safe environment for all our pupils so they can learn in a calm and secure atmosphere.

Bullying of any kind is unacceptable and if bullying does occur, all pupils should be able to tell someone at the college so that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. All reported incidents are treated very seriously and are fully investigated by the Year Team.

In addition, the victim will be provided with support and reassurance and they are told to inform their Year Leader, Manager or Tutor immediately should there be any further incidents. Parents/guardians will be informed of the incident.

Equality & Diversity

As a worshipping Catholic community, our Christian values determine our actions. These core values are promoted not only through dedicated PSE lessons but they also are embedded within our school ethos and across the curriculum. At St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's College we recognise not only the importance of allowing pupils to flourish academically but we also embrace our wider role in preparing them for their adult life beyond the formal examined curriculum.

Our Christian values encourage self-esteem as we are unique in creation, and we celebrate each other's unique talents. At all times, we encourage respect for others, and within our discipline policy, we are conscious at all times of God's love and forgiveness.

We are committed to recognising and celebrating the unique range of cultures and diversity that makes up our community. We believe that all pupils should be able to achieve their God-given potential and aspirations.



Wellbeing Support

St. Patrick's and St. Brigid's College has appointed a Wellbeing Lead for Year 11 and Year 12 pupils. Her name is Blinne (pronounced Bleena).

Children thrive in all areas of life when they feel safe, and their wellbeing is healthy. Blinne's role involves supporting this through one-to-one support, small group settings, presentations to class groups, and at assemblies. She will provide information about resilience skills and coping strategies that are suitable for all pupils and will be useful for their future studies/employment.

Blinne will also provide enrichment activities which supports wellbeing.

There will be a wellbeing hub provided for young people to relax and regulate during break and lunch times.

There is a lot happening in life and brain development for teenagers. Below is some information that you may find interesting for supporting your teenager through this stage of their development.

Uniform

Boys
Navy Blazer with regulation badge
School jumper (Compulsory from Halloween to St Patrick's Day)
Navy regulation trousers (Fashion trousers are not permitted)
White shirt
Regulation clip-on tie ONLY
Plain Black Shoes (Vans/Converse or similar black canvas style footwear are not permitted)
Formal Black/Navy socks (no ankle socks)
School scarf (no fashion scarves)

Girls
Navy Blazer with regulation badge
School jumper (Compulsory from Halloween to St Patrick's Day)
Navy regulation skirt (21 inch length)
White blouse
Regulation clip-on tie ONLY
Plain Black Shoes (Vans/Converse or similar black canvas style footwear are not permitted)
Formal Black/Navy socks (no ankle socks)
Tights (Winter)
School scarf (no fashion scarves)



E-Safety

Through our curriculum, we raise awareness of the risks associated with online activity and educate pupils on how to act appropriately and remain safe online.

There is an ICT Code of Safe Practice which is in the pupils diary.

Personal Development

At St. Patrick's & St Brigid's College we believe that parents/guardians are the first teachers of their children and have the most significant influence in enabling their children to grow and mature and to develop into grounded well rounded young adults who can reach their God-given potential, be safe, be healthy and enjoy positive, fulfilling, and enriching relationships.

We believe that we have an essential and important role in supporting parents/guardians in this and in complementing what they do.

What we want for our pupils, as parents/guardians, teachers, and support staff is that they will enjoy good and positive relationships in their lives that build them up as people rather than diminishing them. We want to support our children's mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual wellbeing. Alongside this we want

them to develop personal qualities such as kindness, integrity, courage, and service.

As a Catholic School, Christ is at the centre of our work and we promote the dignity, worth and equality of each person in our school community. Pupils are given honest and open information appropriate to their age. Most questions from pupils can be answered to the class but sometimes it might be more appropriate to answer individually.

In an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect we study and explore different views and responses to life issues, and this will enable our pupils to develop the skills to make informed decisions in their lives and be responsible for them.

All subjects in the curriculum contribute to the personal development of our pupils in particular in PSE, Science, RE and ICT.



The Curriculum

The curriculum in St Patrick's & St Brigid's College has been organised to provide a full, balanced and relevant experience for each pupil.

Our curriculum is guided by our principles of care and high expectations. This means we hold dear the belief that every single pupil at our college, with the right support, can achieve something extraordinary.

Care is demonstrated through our evidence informed approach to planning and teaching. We believe pupils are more likely to remember all they have learned if the delivery of that knowledge has been carefully sequenced and matched to appropriate teaching strategies. Our ethos, underpinned by Christian values, respects each pupil as unique individuals. All adults within the school foster close and productive relationships with pupils so showing them a blueprint for how they can engage positively with their wider community.

High expectations are evident through the rigorous, academic and vocational curriculums on offer. By ensuring broad coverage of academic and vocational subjects, we ensure all pupils are not only prepared for public examinations but life afterwards.

Key Stage 3 (Years 8–10)

All pupils follow a common programme for the first three years.

Subjects include:

Art & Design, Careers (Year 10), Drama, English, French, Geography, History, Irish, Home Economics, ICT, Learning for Life and Work, Mathematics, Music, P.S.E., Physical Education, Religious Education, Science and Technology.

Key Stage 4 (Years 11–12)

Our curricular provision at Key Stage 4 is under review with the aim of increasing flexibility and choice to optimise the academic achievement of all our students.

Subjects currently on offer:

Art & Design, BCS, Child Development, Construction, Digital Technology, English, English Literature, French, Geography, History, Horticulture, Hospitality, Travel & Tourism, ICT, ITQ, Learning for Life & Work, Mathematics, Music, Princes Trust, RE, Sport, Science (Single Award & Double Award), Technology & Design.

All pupils in Years 11 and 12 have 2 periods of Physical Education and a time-tabled PSE period each week.

Progress and Reporting

Progress in all subjects is regularly monitored and parents/guardians are informed of key dates over the course of the year. We have a system of tracking and reporting to parents/guardians. There are four sets of assessments and tests in the school year.



'The curriculum at KS3 is appropriately broad and balanced. All KS4 pupils access work-related learning opportunities, a taught progressive careers programme and they benefit from a well-conceived careers week.'

Education & Training Inspectorate.

Learning & Teaching

"I never teach my pupils; I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn."

Albert Einstein

Our philosophy

Our goal as teachers at St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's College is to empower our pupils across all year groups to have the courage to take risks, make mistakes and understand what they know, don't know and create a path to achieve their goals. We believe in fostering a 'Growth Mindset'. We believe this is possible by creating a classroom culture where teachers and pupils support each other, trust is part of the learning process and growth occurs when you fail and have the belief that this is an opportunity to grow. We build a culture of self-regulating and self-reflective pupils who value and embrace their learning opportunities.

We aspire to deliver outstanding teaching and learning so that every pupil is provided with the best life chances and opportunities to learn more deeply. To be outstanding, teachers produce good lessons on a daily basis. All pupils making progress is the key judgement that will determine whether teaching and learning have been successful. It is not sufficient to just monitor what teaching and learning looks like in the college, but vital to create a learning environment that is supportive of staff who consistently challenge themselves to move



learning forward without fear of occasionally trying things that may not have the impact they had predicted. In essence, we aspire to equip our pupils with the necessary skills to ensure that they are empowered within their own learning and that opportunities for deeper learning are the norm in every lesson.

Tracking Assessments

Pupils in Years 8 - 10

All pupils will receive four sets of tracking results throughout the year. Each set of tracking assessments will be common across a year group and will give pupils and parents information on progress made throughout the year.

There will be a set of winter and summer examinations. The other tracking tests will take place during normal class time.

Pupils in Year 11 and 12

Pupils will sit 3 tracking assessments.

Supporting Pupils with Special Needs

At St. Patrick's and St. Brigid's College, all our work is based on the principle of equal opportunity. This principle includes equal entitlement to a full, balanced and ambitious curriculum, including the National Curriculum, relevant to the needs of each pupil.

We therefore organise our teaching to provide for the individual needs of each pupil. This is particularly so for pupils with special educational needs. We plan and operate a differentiated curriculum in order to ensure equal access to the curriculum for each pupil. Partnerships are a vital part of our work with pupils with SEN. Parents/Guardians are involved in all aspects of planning for their children. In school and external provision planning is shared with all teachers and the pastoral team. Provision is then monitored and evaluated by the Principal.

Our SEN department grows from strength to strength each year; this is reflected by the

number of parents who have entrusted us to take the very best care of their child. Our team, along with all of the members of our school community work hard to create bespoke packages for our children to ensure that they are happy, settled and successful in school. Our SEN department strives to ensure that our school offers a fully inclusive environment where 'reasonable adjustments' and 'accommodations' are a part of every day school life and not something extra or out of the ordinary.

Listening to the voices of our pupils and our parents is key to ensuring that our children achieve the successes that they deserve. We are a recent recipient of the prestigious Pearson Teaching award for Excellence in Special Needs, and we work hard to ensure that we live up to and even exceed the expectations that such an accolade creates.



'Literacy is promoted effectively through some well-planned and subject-specific learning activities across the curriculum. The pupils' writing is celebrated to good effect in displays throughout the school.'

Education & Training Inspectorate.

Learning Support

The purpose of Learning Support is to enable pupils to improve performance and progress, fulfil potential and become successful learners.

Learning Support is not only for pupils who have an identified Special Educational Need (SEN). It may also be offered to pupils who experience other barriers to learning. The spectrum of additional support needs may range from those which are long term and complex to those which are short term and quickly met.

Our teachers offer pupils additional support for learning in the form of:

- > Revision Classes;
- > Coursework Clinics;
- > Lunchtime support;
- > Additional Learning Materials.

Learning Support is available in form of:

- > Mentoring with the Form Teacher or Head of Year;
- > Peer Mentoring;
- > Mentoring with Subject Teachers.

Literacy

At St. Patrick's and St. Brigid's College we recognise the importance of good literacy skills and work hard to ensure that each of our pupils develops skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening that will prepare them for their future and support them to 'achieve their goals, to develop their knowledge and God-given potential, and to participate fully in their community and wider society.

Our approach to literacy is twofold:

Reading:

"Not all readers are leaders, but all leaders are readers."

Harry S. Truman

As a college we aim to foster a love of learning in our pupils and we believe that one of the elements of this, that can bring great personal satisfaction, is a love of reading. We promote independent reading and encourage pupils to have a personal reading book with them at all times.

Writing:

Pupils are provided with different opportunities to develop their writing skills, for example,

by writing articles and entering writing competitions.

How Can Parents/Guardians get involved?

The single most valuable thing that a parent/guardian can do to support their child's literacy development is to read regularly with their child at home. Just 15 minutes a day of your child reading aloud to you – from a book, a newspaper – anything, will develop their confidence and their reading ability.

Remember that every piece of written work for every subject needs to be accurate – don't let your child rush their homework – and make sure that they have checked over it before they submit it.





Mrs McLaughlin
Classroom Assistant

'St Patrick's & St Brigid's College.... I love it so much that I returned as an employee.'



Miss Hone
Classroom Assistant

'St Patrick's & St Brigid's College.... I love it so much that I returned here, and my own child studies here.'



Mrs McElhinney
Classroom Assistant

'St Patrick's & St Brigid's College.... I love it so much that I returned here, and my own children studied here.'



Mr Joe Ball
PE Teacher/Head of Careers

St Patrick's & St Brigid's College.... I love it so much that I work here and my own child studies here.'



Mrs Leanne McLaughlin
Classroom Assistant

St Patrick's & St Brigid's College.... I love it so much that I work here and my own child studies here.'



Mrs Alexander
Head of ICT Department

'St Patrick's & St Brigid's College.... I love it so much that I work here, and my own child studies here.'



Mrs O'Neill
Classroom Assistant

'St Patrick's & St Brigid's College.... I love it so much that I work here, and my own child studies here.'



Mrs Orla Donaghy
Secretary

'St Patrick's & St Brigid's College.... I love it so much that I work here, and my own child studies here.'



Mrs McCallion
Teacher of Mathematics

'St Patrick's & St Brigid's College.... I love it so much that I work here, and my own children study here.'



Mrs Grieve
Classroom Assistant

'St Patrick's & St Brigid's College.... I love it so much that I work here, and my own children study here.'



Mrs Catherine O'Connor
Head of Modern Languages

'St Patrick's & St Brigid's College.... I love it so much that I work here, and my own child studies here.'



Mrs Kerry-Ann Barr
Classroom Assistant

St Patrick's & St Brigid's College.... I love it so much that I work here and my own child studies here.'

Serving the community for over 60 years



Communicating with Parents/Guardians

The following methods are used to communicate with parents and guardians:

- > Pupil Diaries
- > MySchool App
- > Text messaging service
- > Weekly School Newsletter
- > Facebook
- > X/Twitter
- > Parent/Teacher meetings
- > Telephone
- > Virtual Meetings (Zoom)
- > Review Meetings

Involving Parents/Guardians in College Life

We want Parents/Guardians to feel a part of the college community. We encourage involvement through:

- > Attendance at school events
- > Contribution to extra-curricular activities
- > Responses to college surveys

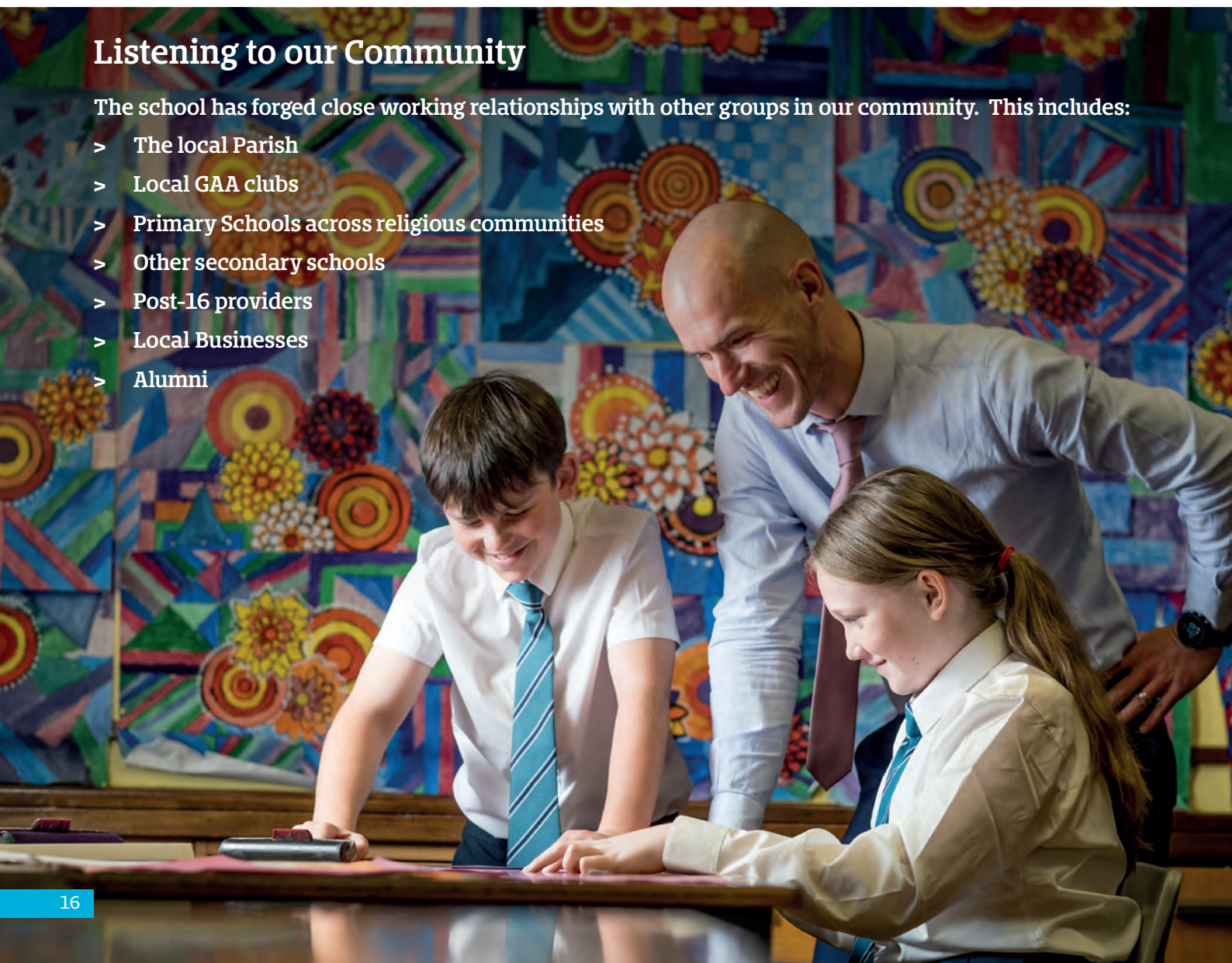
Listening to Pupils

Representatives are elected from each form group at the beginning of each academic year. These representatives will be from across each year group. They will be asked to share their opinions across a range of issues.

Listening to our Community

The school has forged close working relationships with other groups in our community. This includes:

- > The local Parish
- > Local GAA clubs
- > Primary Schools across religious communities
- > Other secondary schools
- > Post-16 providers
- > Local Businesses
- > Alumni



'... there is a dedicated and approachable staff and there is importance of the school in the local community.'

Education & Training Inspectorate.



Extra-Curricular Activities

A wide-ranging choice of extra-curricular activities which may be available. Meetings are held on a daily or weekly basis and pupils are encouraged to participate in these, in order to broaden their learning experiences.

Extra-Curricular Activities		
Maths	Soccer (Boys & Girls)	Cross Country
Homework Club	Piano	Band
Guitar Club	Woodwind/Traditional Group	Violin
Technology Club	Drums	Brass
School Choir	English	Heritage Club
Coursework & Revision Clubs	Basketball	Journalism Club
Gaelic Football (Boys & Girls)	Art Club	Liturgy & Reflection
GCSE Art	Singing	Poetry
Netball	ECO Club	School Production
Camogie	Soccer (Boys & Girls)	Muiredach Cross Award



'Participation by pupils in the school council, the drama production and a range of charitable events ensures that leadership, teamwork and social responsibility are being fostered appropriately.'

Education & Training Inspectorate.

Sports Provision

Our philosophy is that PE should be delivered through mutual respect and teach pupils both practical and lifelong skills to enable them to lead a balanced, healthy and active lifestyle.

We will facilitate this by striving to deliver the pupils with quality physical education in line with the National Curriculum. Our goal is to provide all pupils with challenging and stimulating learning experiences that install the ethos that hard work is the foundation of success and ensuring that all pupils gain a positive experience of PE. This positive experience may be through lesson time or in extra-curricular clubs or fixtures. We strive to develop pupils' physical, social, moral and educational values through physical activity.

We are giving our pupils the opportunity to thrive in 3 key areas, Head, Hands and Heart:

Head – how they think about tasks, make decisions and process the tasks

Hands – the physical development and application of skills for each activity

Heart – this is the development of a pupil's character, resilience, respect, effort and commitment

The college understands the importance of sport and exercise and therefore this is reflected in the number of PE lessons each week.

Fixtures

Throughout the year we arrange many different fixtures for the clubs in our extra-curricular programme. We host activities and take pupils to other schools to be able to compete in fixtures and tournaments.



Summer Scheme - Making the Transition Fun

Grace had a great time at the Summer Scheme. I think it is a good idea to get the new Year 8 boys and girls together to mix and make some friends before officially starting school in September. The scheme helped my daughter to settle any nerves she had about starting at her new school. I would recommend any new Primary 7's to give this scheme a go.

Mrs Elaine McGlynn - parent of Grace (former pupil of St Colmcille's PS)

My name is Jason and I am now in 8C. I only knew a few people from St Patrick's & St Brigid's College so I thought it would be a good idea to go to the Summer Scheme find out more about my new school. The Summer Scheme was amazing. Our trip to Redcastle was a lot of fun on the first day and the activities got better and better as the week went on. We got to take part in many energizing activities and I would recommend if you join this great school that you give the Summer Scheme a try too!

Jason Rogers - former pupil of St Peter's & St Paul's PS, Foreglen

Afia flourished at the Summer Scheme. She was extremely anxious about secondary school as she didn't know anyone. The Summer Scheme eased the transition immensely. Afia was elated each day returning home and it was heartwarming as a parent to hear that my child was interacting and engaging positively with children from a number of other primary schools.

Mrs Cathy Mullan - parent of Afia (former pupil of Ballykelly PS)

Ethan is my second child to attend St Patrick's & St Brigid's College and I really encouraged him to go to the Summer Scheme. He truly enjoyed his time there and met a lot of new friends. He was the only boy from his Primary School and the Scheme really helped him to settle in quickly. I would highly recommend all new students to attend and it's a great start to their secondary journey.

Mrs Janine McLaughlin - parent of Ethan (former pupil of Faughanvale PS)

The Summer Scheme is a brilliant idea. It was so well organised, and my son Tom started school feeling a lot less nervous about making the move from Primary. The staff were easy to talk to and made the transition fun. Tom particularly loved the trips and liked meeting his new teachers.

Mrs Donna Kelly - parent of Tom (former pupil of St Colmcille's PS)

Lily loved everything about the week of the Summer Scheme. All the staff involved were amazing and made the week so special for the boys and girls. Lily was able to make new friends and take part in a variety of activities, indoor and outdoor. This is such a great idea for starting your new school as it is a perfect opportunity to get your child prepared for all that's new and exciting ahead.

Mrs Mary Hasson - parent of Lily (former pupil of St Mary's Altinure PS)

'The relationships between pupils and teachers are very positive and the recently introduced scheme to recognise the pupils' achievements is valued by them.'

Education & Training Inspectorate.



College Facilities

St Patrick's & St Brigid's College places a significant emphasis on unlocking the God-given potential of each pupil. Our classroom practice is interactive, and we embrace technological opportunities whenever possible. The college continues to invest in its facilities and resources as we encourage creativity and innovation.



Our facilities and resources include the following:

- > Specialist ICT suites
- > Modern workshops
- > Interactive Screens in each classroom
- > Recording suite
- > Access to the internet via Wi-Fi throughout the building
- > i-Pad technology
- > Chromebook trollies
- > A Wellbeing hub
- > A Sensory Room
- > Offsite Gym facilities
- > Offsite 3G Pitches

'The pastoral care of the pupils has several key strengths, including an enthusiastic, involved school council, a supportive extended schools morning club, and a good range of extra-curricular programmes, including a counselling service to support the well-being of the pupils.'

Education & Training Inspectorate.



Celebrating Success

At St Patrick's & St Brigid's College we recognise the importance of celebrating success. Subject leaders issue letters of commendation to pupils on a regular basis. In addition, each half-term pupils are awarded prizes in recognition of a range of academic, sporting, musical and personal successes. Each year, there is an annual prize-giving ceremony to acknowledge student success at GCSE.

Celebrating success is an important aspect of life at St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's College.

Staff members are encouraged to celebrate the successes of our pupils wherever possible, including focusing specifically on instances where pupils have demonstrated our Christian and shared values.

Pupils' individual achievements are celebrated on a daily basis which can include contact with parents/guardians either through a positive note in the pupil planner, a phone call, a post card or a letter of commendation. Success is also celebrated each Friday via the weekly newsletter to parents/guardians. This includes pupils who have excelled in a chosen field outside of school.

Class teachers issue achievement points when pupils have demonstrate an excellent attitude to learning.

Form tutors celebrate excellent attendance, being prepared, showing pride in our college and actively participating Collective Worship and tutorial lessons.

After each progress report, pupils who have made significant progress and demonstrated an excellent attitude to learning are awarded certificates and prizes. Examples of awards in subject areas include 'Historian of the Month', 'MyMaths Masters', 'Star Baker', 'Sports person of the term' etc. There are recognition boards across the college and events are organised for pupils to showcase their talents such as 'Claudy's Got Talent', school productions and sports days.

Awards are given at the end of each half term to those pupils who have made significant contributions in their studies, participated in extra-curricular events. Each year we are delighted to welcome pupils back to celebrate their achievements in their GCSE's at a PrizeGiving Ceremony in November.

Our Head of Celebration is: Miss A. Kelly.

'The relationships between pupils and teachers are very positive and the recently introduced scheme to recognise the pupils' achievements is valued by them.' Education & Training Inspectorate

Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí - Praise the young and they will flourish





The College's admissions number into Year 8 remains at 100. In the event of there being more applications than places available the college's admissions criteria will be applied, beginning with:

1. Applicants from the following contributory parishes namely (in no particular order):

Ardmore, Banagher, Claudy (Cumber Upper & Learnmount), Culmore, Donaghheady (Dunamanagh), Dungiven, Faughanvale, Glendermott Waterside, Holy Family Ballymagroarty, Leckpatrick, Limavady, Melmount (Mourne), Our Lady of Lourdes Steelstown, Strabane (Camus), St Eugene's Cathedral, St Columba's Longtower, St Mary's Creggan, Strathfoyle, Three Patrons (Pennyburn, Carnhill & Galliagh).

2. Applicants with a sibling currently attending the school or who is the first child in the family to transfer to a post-primary school.

3. Applicants who select the college as their first preference.

Full details of the admissions criteria can be accessed from the College and is published annually in the EA Transition Booklet.

Applications to attend St Patrick's & St Brigid's College are interpreted by the Board of Governors as an indication that the parents and the child concerned accept, and are in agreement with, the ethos, philosophy and regulations of the school including any code of conduct or discipline policy of the school. Information in relation to these may be obtained from the school.

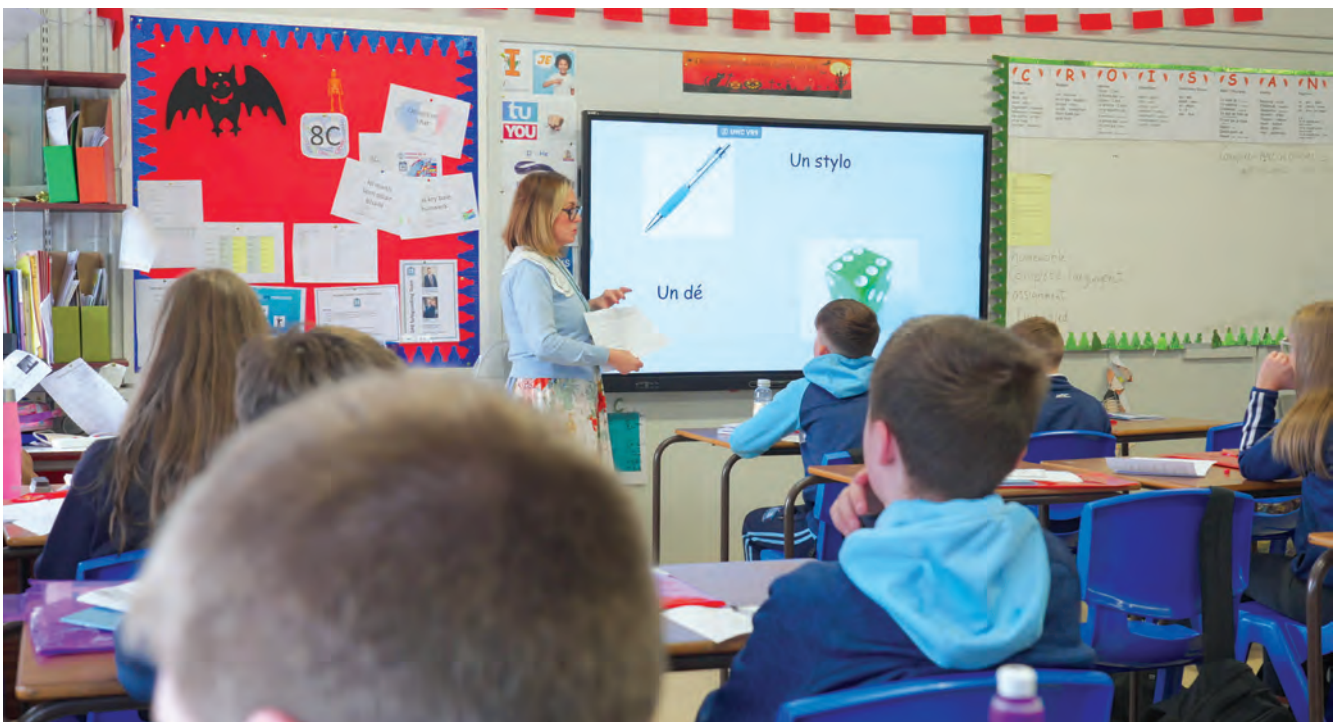
In the event of a place becoming available after the closing date, the same criteria will be applied to all pupils who have sought or are seeking a place.

During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered.



Getting Here

Private Bus Network	Board Transport
Ardmore Bus (am)	Craigbane
Ardmore/Service Bus (pm)	Eglinton
Service Bus (am)	Foreglen
Lisaghmore/Prehen Bus	Feeny (am). Foreglen (pm)
Strabane Old Road Bus	Lettershendoney
Galliagh/Culmore/Crescent Link Bus	Slaughtmanus
	Craigbane
	Park
	Greysteel



'St Patrick's & St Brigid's College's vision is supporting well the school in nurturing and developing young people academically, spiritually, socially and emotionally. The curriculum is well planned and is informed by the learners' interests, abilities and ambitions in line with the school's vision that 'all pupils can achieve'.

Education & Training Inspectorate - November 2024



A Christ-centred educational community at the gateway to the Sperrins

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