

# OUR LADY AND ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE, KNOCK



## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS 2022 - 2023

*A copy of this report may be obtained free of charge by contacting the College or  
it may be downloaded from [www.knock.co.uk](http://www.knock.co.uk)*

Dear Parents

I am pleased to forward the Annual Report of the Board of Governors for the academic year 2022-2023. It contains information about the Board's statutory responsibilities, accountability for ensuring its decisions support the best interests of the College and its students, involvement in the life of the College and the operation of the College over the past academic year.

This report chronicles the work of our school and reflects the leadership and management of the Board of Governors, the Principal and the teaching and support staff who are entrusted with the care and education of our students. As Principal of the College, I have always been impressed by the committed, professional approach of our staff and the ambition of our student body. This is reflected in the broad and balanced curriculum, the range of after-school activities and the ample opportunities that are offered to students through the voluntary commitment of our teachers and support staff.

The Annual Report summarises the GCSE, AS and A-Level outcomes and the academic progress of our students. Other sections of the document give you an insight into some of the main events and opportunities afforded to our student body over the past school year. So much happens in the daily life of the College that this report cannot fully reflect the wide range of activities and student successes. We keep our parents, past pupils and friends of the College informed of our activities and successes through our school magazine, Communiqué, our eBulletin, text messages, regular updates on our website and use of Twitter.

At the start of the academic year, we welcomed a number of new staff to Knock (see P5). However, as a College community we were deeply saddened by the loss of Mr Frank Wilson (RIP) on 28/10/22 after a period of illness. Frank joined Our Lady and St Patrick's College, Knock in 2004 and quickly became an integral member of our school, a much-admired teacher and a dear colleague. He was exceptionally proud to teach in the College, leading our PE Department and approaching every day with boundless energy and enthusiasm - a loyal supporter of #teamknock. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Frank's wife Tara, their three children, Ella, Luke and Lisa, his father, siblings, extended family and many friends.

At the end of the school year, the College said 'Goodbye' to Mr Paul McCormick (Vice Principal), Mrs Susan McCrory (Study Supervisor), Mr Tommy Smyth (Caretaker) and Mrs Ellen Smyth (Cleaner) who now embark upon a new chapter in their lives after a grand total of 95 years of service to the College. Mr McCormick's retirement very much marks the end of an era as he is the last member of staff to retire who had worked previously in the Sacred Heart of Mary Grammar School, Holywood prior to its amalgamation with St Patrick's College, Knock in 1985. The College thanks them all for their loyal service to Our Lady and St Patrick's College, Knock and wishes them a long, healthy and happy retirement.

As a College committed to continuous improvement, it is always helpful to reflect on what was a very successful year and to use our experience and knowledge to enhance the future educational, pastoral, spiritual and extra-curricular provision for the young people we serve.

I trust you will find the content of this Annual Report both interesting and informative.

Yours sincerely



**Deborah McLaughlin**  
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## **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR THE COLLEGE YEAR 2022 - 2023**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

The College's Mission Statement indicates that, *"Our Lady and St Patrick's College, Knock cares for young people in a way that encourages them to develop to their full potential within a supportive Christian community. We seek to prepare our students to play an active and responsible role in society and to use their talents for the service of others"*.

This Mission Statement guides us in the task of enabling each of our students to realise his/her full potential. It stresses the importance of relationships. Students are to be cared for and their talents developed in a harmonious manner. They are to be encouraged to use their talents for the benefit of others.

Our Lady and St Patrick's College, Knock aims to:

- *develop the "whole person" as a follower of Christ;*
- *promote the philosophy and values of Catholic Education;*
- *develop positive attitudes in an atmosphere of co-operation, justice and mutual respect;*
- *prepare young people to be confident and creative contributors to society;*
- *enable students to realise their full academic potential and to develop all their gifts and talents;*
- *prepare students for adulthood by enabling them to acquire the relevant knowledge and skills;*
- *engage positively with the local and wider community.*

Our aim, therefore, is to provide a school where each member of the school community enters fully into the life of the College, where all students are happily and enthusiastically involved in a wide variety of work within a well-structured but flexible framework.

### **2. THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

The role of the Board of Governors is to manage the College so as to provide the best possible education and opportunities for all our students. The Board consists of eighteen voting members and the Principal. The 1989 Education Reform Order and the Scheme of Management of the College highlight the responsibilities of the Board of Governors. These responsibilities include:

1. Taking corporate decisions in relation to the statutory functions of the Board of Governors;
2. Setting the school's vision and aims,
3. Establishing and maintaining the school's ethos;
4. Setting the strategic direction for the school with School Development Plans;
5. Monitoring and evaluating school performance;
6. Promoting self-evaluation to sustain school improvement;
7. Determining school policies;
8. The admission of pupils to the College;
9. Determining the Curriculum Policy and the curriculum;
10. Appointing staff and associated personnel responsibilities;
11. Financial management;
12. Maintaining College buildings and property;
13. Fostering links with the local community; and
14. Fostering the objectives of Mutual Understanding.

The Board of Governors met on five occasions during the year. In addition, the sub-committees of the Board met to deal with issues such as the strategic direction of the College, curriculum, appointment of teachers, finance, auditing of accounts, safeguarding, staffing, premises, discipline and the admission of students.

### **Membership of the Board of Governors 2022-2023**

Trustee Governor	Mr Leo O'Reilly (Chairperson)
Trustee Governor	Mrs Sinead Burns (Chair of the Curriculum Committee)
Trustee Governor	Mr John Conaghan
Trustee Governor	Mr John Deery (Chair of the Finance, Staffing and Premises Committee)
Trustee Governor	Ms Jackie Devine (Chair of the Admissions Committee)
Trustee Governor	Mrs Catherine Guerin
Trustee Governor	Ms Joanne Hannigan (Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee)
Trustee Governor	Mrs Elaine Monan
DE Governor	Mr Kevin Coyle
DE Governor	Ms Ciara Greenwood
DE Governor	Mr Niall Hunt (Vice Chairperson)
DE Governor	Mr James Knox
DE Governor	Mrs Nicola McCarthy
DE Governor	Mr James Woods
Parent Governor	Professor Patrick McCole
Parent Governor	Mrs Mary O'Brien
Teacher Governor	Mrs Fiona Murray
Teacher Governor	Ms Fiona Sullivan
Correspondent	Miss Deborah McLaughlin (Principal)

### **3. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

The following areas of responsibility were dealt with by Governors:

The School Revenue Account for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 was prepared by the Finance Committee of the Board of Governors. The Board is responsible for securing the efficient and effective management of all of the school's resources and expenditure, including funds provided by the Department of Education for capital assets, equipment and personnel. Muldoon and Co., Chartered Accountants, remained as Internal Auditors and Sean Kavanagh and Co., Chartered Accountants, remained as External Auditors in full accordance with the Audit Code for Voluntary Grammar Schools.

The Principal and College Business Manager had responsibility for monitoring and dealing with the allocated Department of Education's grants of £7,326,848 and were directed and advised, when necessary, by the Finance, Staffing and Premises Committee and the Audit and Risk Committee of the Board of Governors. The delegated budgets to subject departments were monitored by the Committees and proposals were discussed regarding the most appropriate use of finance and staffing in the delivery of the curriculum. These Committees met on various occasions to decide how the overall budget should be used efficiently and effectively, and to monitor expenditure. It should be noted that 89% of the overall expenditure was spent on the salaries of teachers and support staff and that the College ended the financial year with reserves of £212,990. A summary of the annual accounts is provided in Appendix A (Page 13).

## Accommodation

The College has superb facilities which are maintained to a high standard. The PPP/PFI operator (Belfast Educational Services) provides maintenance personnel and caretaking staff to look after the College buildings, pitches and grounds, while the cleaning and catering services were managed by the College. Working with the PPP Operator and the Facilities Management provider, Mitie Group PLC, the College premises and outdoor facilities provide a safe and secure environment for students and staff by meeting all Building Control Regulations and Health and Safety Guidelines. The College buildings are compliant with disability legislation.

## Transfer Procedure for Year 8 Admissions for September 2022

A total of 230 students from our contributory primary schools applied for admission to Year 8 for September 2022. In total, 212 students were admitted under the Admissions Criteria, alongside 6 students with a Statement of Special Educational Needs. There were no successful appeals.

	Applications	Admissions
Criterion A	Grade A	201
Criterion B	Grade B1	10
Criterion C	Grade B2	1

## College Staffing and Appointments

In order to deliver the curriculum effectively, the Board of Governors employed 75 full-time teachers, 17 part-time teachers, 6 administrative staff, 6 technicians, 29 classroom assistants, 23 cleaners, 13 dining hall and kitchen staff, a Librarian, a Sixth Form Study Supervisor, 2 foreign language assistants and a First-Aider. The Principal led a Senior Leadership Team of two Vice Principals and seven Senior Teachers. The teaching and support staff catered for the needs of 1,402 students and the following permanent members of staff were appointed:

Staff	Role
Mr Niall Begley	Teacher of Chemistry
Dr Niall Browne	Head of Physics
Miss Emer Caughey	Teacher of Home Economics
Mrs Tara Corcoran	Librarian/Study Supervisor
Mr Ciaran Hamill	Teacher of Chemistry
Mr James Johnston	Chemistry Technician
Mr John McAuley	Teacher of Chemistry
Miss Danielle McCann	College Business Manager
Mr John McCloskey	Head of Religious Education
Miss Carolina Montané	Language Assistant
Mrs Ruth Murray	Home Economics Technician
Mr Dale Tucker	Catering Manager
Miss Alison Waters	Teacher of Computer Science/Digital Technology

#### 4. WHOLE STAFF TRAINING and INSET ARRANGEMENTS

Day / Date	Objectives
<b>INSET Day 1: 24/08/22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide a whole school analysis of the GCSE/AS/A-Level results, Summer 2022.</li> <li>To familiarise staff with the Acceptable Use of Digital Technology.</li> <li>To provide staff with guidance on Department targets for 2022-23.</li> <li>To provide feedback to staff on the College's Well-being Survey.</li> <li>To provide time for Heads of Department and Coordinators to meet with their Heads of Faculty.</li> <li>To provide time for Heads of School and Heads of Year to meet to discuss pastoral issues.</li> <li>To provide time for staff to meet with department colleagues to discuss specific department issues.</li> </ul>
<b>INSET Day 2: 25/08/22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To facilitate a Workshop on Positive Behaviour.</li> <li>To provide training on the Personal Development Programme for Year 8-14 Tutors.</li> <li>To provide training for all Standby Tutors.</li> <li>Access IEPs/IMPs/Medical/Confidential Information on subject classes on Private Folders 2.</li> <li>To train Year 10 and Year 11 Tutors to deliver the SHAHRP programme.</li> </ul>
<b>INSET Day 3: 26/08/22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide Digital Skills training for staff with a focus on using the MS Surface Pro.</li> <li>To provide Child Protection and Safeguarding training for staff.</li> <li>To share with staff information about the new Year 8 intake.</li> <li>To provide time for staff to meet with department colleagues to discuss specific department issues.</li> <li>To provide time for Heads of Department to meet with the College's LitCo, NumCo and ICTCo.</li> <li>To induct new teachers on the College's key policies and procedures.</li> </ul>
<b>INSET Day 4: 28/10/22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To facilitate Year 12 teachers to meet with parents to discuss pupil progress.</li> <li>To provide time for staff to be trained in the invigilation of the GL Entrance Assessments, including corridor and car park supervision.</li> <li>To facilitate staff to meet in departments to discuss pupil progress.</li> </ul>
<b>INSET Day 5: 07/11/22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SBEW Training – Dr Louise Long.</li> <li>'Mop-up' Child Protection and Safeguarding Training.</li> <li>GL Entrance Assessment Familiarisation for P7 pupils and their parents.</li> </ul>
<b>INSET Day 6: 05/01/23</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School Improvement Planning.</li> <li>To facilitate Year 14 teachers to meet with parents to discuss pupil progress.</li> </ul>
<b>INSET Day 7: 06/01/23</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To facilitate Year 8 teachers to meet with parents to discuss pupil progress.</li> <li>Staff Well-Being.</li> </ul>

<b>INSET Day 8: 16/03/23</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consult with Year 9 parents.</li> <li>To provide basic SBEW (Social, Behavioural, Emotional and Well-being) training for teachers.</li> <li>To provide time for a Child Protection and Safeguarding training 'mop-up' session.</li> <li>To provide time for Year 12 LLW teachers to meet.</li> <li>To provide time for teachers to carry out subject department work.</li> </ul>
<b>INSET Day 9: 06/04/23</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To facilitate subject teachers to internally standardise controlled assessments or coursework.</li> <li>To facilitate teachers not involved with controlled assessments or coursework to continue with curriculum development or other subject based activities under the direction of Heads of Department.</li> <li>To facilitate departments to hold meetings to discuss department business.</li> </ul>
<b>INSET Day 10: 29/05/23</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To update staff on the writing of UCAS Subject Reports, Tutor Reports and UCAS References.</li> <li>To evaluate the progress made towards achieving Department Targets and Action Plans, 2022-23.</li> </ul>

## 5. **SUMMARY OF CURRICULUM POLICY 2022-2023**

The Curriculum reflected the aims and objectives of the College and conformed to all statutory requirements. A copy of the daily timetable is included as Appendix B (Page 14).

### **Junior School - Key Stage 3 (Years 8-10)**

Junior School students were introduced to academic discipline in the prescribed Learning Areas. Year 8 and Year 9 students studied the following subjects:

Art and Design, Drama, English, Employability, Geography, History, Home Economics, ICT, Local and Global Citizenship, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Religious Education, Science, Technology and Design. In addition to these subjects, students chose two Modern Languages from: French, German, Irish and Spanish.

There were Personal Development classes for all Key Stage 3 students and Year 8 students also followed the Student Mentor Programme. All Junior School students engaged in our Education for Love programmes. In Year 10, there were some additions to the Year 8-9 curriculum. Careers Education classes were introduced to replace Employability and Science changed to the separate subjects of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The Merit System in Junior School continued to recognise and reward students for high standards of attendance, work and behaviour.

### **Senior School - Key Stage 4 (Years 11 and 12)**

The curriculum met the requirements of the Entitlement Framework, catering for a wide range of interests. The vast majority of students studied at least 10 GCSE subjects, which included the compulsory core element of five subjects and an optional element of a further five. In addition, a number of students were selected on the basis of performance in Year 10 Mathematics to study GCSE Mathematics in Year 11, followed by GCSE Further Mathematics in Year 12. A Year 11 'fast-track' Music course was offered as an extra GCSE subject during lunch periods. The Senior School Award Ceremony took place with students in November 2022.

### **Core GCSE Curriculum - Studied by all Students:**

Careers*	Mathematics	Learning for Life and Work
English Language	Religious Education	Personal Development Programme*
English Literature	Physical Education*	* <i>non-GCSE courses</i>

### Optional Curriculum

Students chose 5 subjects from the following list: Art and Design, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Computer Science, Drama, Food and Nutrition, French, Geography, German, History, Digital Technology, Irish, Music, Physical Education, Physics, Science (Double Award), Spanish, Technology and Design.

### Upper School (Years 13 and 14)

All students in Year 13 studied for Advanced Subsidiary Level (AS-Level) examinations. AS module examinations were taken at the end of Year 13. Year 14 students pursued Advanced Level (A2) courses and were entered for A2 module examinations in June. Some Year 14 students studied a combination of AS and A-Level subjects. Students who did not take A-Level Religious Studies were required to take a modular course in Religious Education. Careers Education and the Personal Development Programme were compulsory for all Year 13 and Year 14 students. The Education for Love Programme (Life Issues) continued for all Year 13 students. The curriculum on offer met the requirements of the Entitlement Framework.

Any combination of AS/A-Level subjects could be taken from the following:

Art and Design	English Literature	Moving Image Arts
Biology	French	Music
Business Studies	Further Mathematics	Nutrition and Food Science
Chemistry	Geography	Physical Education
Computer Science	German	Physics
Design and Technology	Government and Politics	Religious Studies
Digital Technology	History	Sociology
Drama	Irish	Spanish
Economics	Mathematics	

A number of Year 13 students also completed the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Community Service and the Student Mentor Programmes.

As part of the Confucius Project, led by Grosvenor Grammar School, 16 of our students from across all year groups enjoyed weekly sessions aiming to promote the Chinese language and culture.

The Upper School Award Ceremony took place on Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2022.

6. **ENROLMENT:** The College enrolment for 2022-2023 was 1,402 at 01/10/22. This was made up as follows:

Year Group	Males	Females	Total
Year 8	121	97	218
Year 9	118	106	224
Year 10	103	93	196
Year 11	93	99	192
Year 12	104	82	186
Year 13	104	89	193
Year 14	94	99	193
<b>Totals</b>	<b>737</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>1402</b>



## 7. EXAMINATION RESULTS AND LEAVERS' DESTINATIONS 2022-2023

The GCSE and A-Level results for the academic year were excellent. An analysis of results at GCSE and A-Level are detailed in Appendix C (Pages 15-17) of this report. High standards have been maintained and the Board of Governors expresses its appreciation to both staff and students for their dedication and commitment.

### Year 14 Destinations 2022/23

Higher Education	Further Education	Employment / Training	Higher Apprenticeship	Gap Year
179	6	0	1	2

## 8. EDUCATION FOR MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING

The College hopes to continue its involvement in the Ulster Project, Pramerica Community Service Award and The Old Rotarian's Programme. Other Key EMU initiatives include the following:

### Habitat for Humanity

The link between Our Lady and St Patrick's College, Knock, Grosvenor Grammar School and Habitat for Humanity is ongoing. This joint project usually involves students working on site to help build affordable housing.

### Community Service

Modified EMU/Cross Community links continued with partner schools/residential homes including:

- Grosvenor Grammar School
- Kirk House
- Lagan College
- Towell House

## 9. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER SCHOOLS

The College continued its curricular, In-Service Training (INSET) and social links with Aquinas Diocesan Grammar School, Grosvenor Grammar School and Lagan College. We worked closely with the East Belfast Area Learning Community (EBALC) on a shared curriculum, Careers Education, Literacy, Numeracy, ICT, Pastoral Care and Special Educational Needs provision and training. Other collaborative work continued with Grosvenor Grammar School and Lagan College in Shared Education under the direction of Mrs Caroline Morgan (Shared Education Coordinator).

## 10. SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

The College's policy and procedures on Special Educational Needs (SEN) follow the Department of Education's Code of Practice on the Identification and Assessment of Special Educational Needs. The SEN Policy is also consistent with the supplement to the Code of Practice. Our Learning Support Coordinator, Mrs Antoinette Fox, assisted by Mrs Emma McLone (Asst. LSC), was responsible for the identification, assessment and coordination of the arrangements and facilities for students with short and long-term special educational needs. The Literacy and Numeracy Coordinators, Mrs Elena McCausland and Mrs Claire O'Callaghan, also supported individual learning needs.

In the academic year 2022-2023, there were 93 students on the SEN Register, including 31 students with a Statement of Special Educational Needs. 79 students had Individual Education Plans, 44 students had an Individual Learner Profile and 63 students had Individual Medical Plans. Students have been identified and are

currently in receipt of support which is tailored to each individual's specific needs within the classroom, after school or with outside agencies. Mostly, these are students who have been assessed by Educational Psychologists as having Specific Learning Difficulties, but some were suffering from chronic or temporary illnesses or disabilities or emotional circumstances which impaired their achievement at school. Provision is made for students with dyslexia, physical impairment or disability, emotional or behavioural difficulties and short or long-term illness. Learning support was offered within class by subject teachers, by our Learning Support Team and, where necessary, by referral to the Educational Psychology Service and/or the Education Authority's Outreach Service. A Peer Mentor Scheme, to assist students with Literacy and/or Numeracy issues, was a valuable aspect of the provision for those with learning support needs. Annual reviews for Stage 3 SEN students and CEIAG support at transition in Key Stages 3, 4 and 5 were provided. Bespoke Individual Education Plans for SEN students are maintained by the Learning Support Coordinators and tailored by classroom teachers to meet the needs of individual students.

The school building is fully compliant with disability legislation and College staff work in consultation with parents and outside agencies to make appropriate arrangements for students and visitors with disabilities.

## **11. SECURITY**

The College continues to monitor and measure the effectiveness of all existing security arrangements for students, staff, visitors and the protection of school premises. The Mitie PLC Facilities Management Team is responsible for the 24-hour security of the campus and monitors entrances by its CCTV system. Emergency call-out services from G4S are available. Mitie PLC staff are trained in security procedures and make daily and weekly security checks of the site. Timed emergency evacuation drills are carried out each term and reported to the Senior Leadership Team. An Acceptable Use of the Internet Policy is distributed to staff and students at the beginning of the academic year.

## **12. EXTRA-CURRICULAR HIGHLIGHTS**

A number of extra-curricular activities and societies operated throughout the school year. Fuller details can be found on the College website and in Appendices D-E (Pages 18-23). Highlights included:

- 22/07/22: Eoin Kelly (Year 14) won the Belfast Pride Award for Activism in recognition of his work with the College's Gay Straight Alliance.
- 12/11/22: Culture Week was celebrated in the College with a Focus of the Week prepared by Miss Sinead McErlane and food from a different country provided each day in the Dining Hall.
- 07/12/22: The College hosted the Marie Curie 'Lights to Remember' event in the College Hall.
- 09/02/23: Senior netball team with coach, Mrs Gemma Lawlor, won the Northern Ireland 'A' League.
- 04/05/23: All-Ireland 'A' Champions. Congratulations to our U15 girls on winning the College's first ever All-Ireland 'A' title in basketball with Mr Paddy McGaharan (coach).

The generosity of students to charitable causes was outstanding and the commitment of staff in supporting worthy causes continues annually, as illustrated by the main fund-raising activities shown below:

### **Charities**

- £4,447 was raised through the annual sponsored walk, October 2022, for Fr Tony Coney (past pupil) to support his work in St Bernadette's Children's Centre, Peru.
- £3,976 was raised from the Christmas Appeal 2023 and other events to support the work of the St Vincent de Paul Conference.
- £13,621 was raised through the Lenten campaign for Trócaire, March 2023.
- £3,070 was raised in a collection for Turkey/Syria.

### **13. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND FORMATION**

As well as preparing students for GCSE and A-Level RE examinations, every effort was made to ensure that, in keeping with the College ethos, Catholic values were promoted among the school community. Through the programmes of study and extra-curricular activities, students were given an in-depth awareness of the Catholic faith and their Christian commitment.

There were special retreat programmes for Key Stage 3 students within the College. In October, all Year 14 students attended a one-day Retreat with Sr Marie (Chaplain). The RE Department continued to be one of the most vibrant departments within the College and helped to inculcate the positive values and attitudes which are so much part of our Catholic ethos. The Education for Love programme and the Mentor Programme continued to complement much of what was being done in RE classes and the Pastoral Care programme.

The Junior and Senior Chaplaincy Teams, under the direction of Mrs McCarthy and Sr Marie, prepared liturgies, acted as Eucharistic Ministers, held weekly prayer sessions, and organised Christmas, Lenten and Ash Wednesday reflections.

Whole-school Mass was celebrated on two occasions to honour our College patrons: 08/09/22 in honour of Our Lady to mark the start of the academic year; 14/03/23 to honour St Patrick. The Year 14 Leavers' Mass was celebrated by Fr Conor McGrath on 04/05/23. A Mass for Year 12 students was also celebrated by Fr Conor on 05/05/23.

### **14. LINKS WITH PARENTS AND THE COMMUNITY**

During 2022-2023, there were six Parent-Teacher Meetings which provided parents with an update on the academic progress of their child(ren). There were Year 10 and Year 12 Options Days for parents and students to discuss their choice of subjects with teachers for GCSE and AS-Level study. Parents were also invited to the Senior and Upper School Leavers' Masses. A Curriculum Evening for the parents of Year 11 students with particular reference to Controlled Assessment was held on 11/10/22. Attendance at all events was excellent.

Many parents kept in touch with Tutors and teachers through the pastoral care structure and the counselling services for students. The College website, the Communiqué magazine, eBulletins, text messaging and student reports also helped keep lines of communication open between home and school. The College Twitter account and regular use of our text messaging service helped keep parents, students and friends of the College informed. Parents were very much aware of the 'open door' policy at Knock and many availed of opportunities to come to the College to talk about relevant issues, such as transfer, transport, progress reports, discipline, curriculum and pastoral care.

The PTA organised a number of very successful events, notably 'Strictly' on 26/11/22 with 22 staff/parent/past pupil dancers raising approximately £45,000 towards a new College minibus. Approximately £5,000 of PTA funding was also issued to staff for various groups/events and equipment.

### **15. CAREERS EDUCATION, ADVICE, INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE**

A large team of experienced teachers and a Department of Employment and Learning (DEL) Careers Adviser were involved in the provision of Careers and Employability. Facilities were divided between the Careers Counselling Room, used for individual and small group guidance, the Careers Classroom, and the Library, used by individual students and classes to access Careers information.

From Years 8 to 14, all students had one compulsory lesson per week of timetabled Employability/Careers where they were given booklets of information and worksheets related to their lessons. At Key Stage 3, the CCEA Education for Employability programme was followed, with its emphasis on pupil-centred learning and preparing young people for life after school. In addition to the weekly Careers lesson, Key Stage 4 students also

studied CCEA GCSE Learning for Life and Work, of which Employability is a major component. In the Sixth Form, the emphasis was on preparing students for university, higher apprenticeships and working life. Careers staff advised on all aspects of subject and career choice, and guidance was offered to both class groups and individuals. GCSE and A/AS-Level Options Booklets were produced to help students make their subject choices. All students in Years 10, 12 and 13 were individually interviewed before they chose their GCSEs, A-Levels and Higher/Further Education options. Individual guidance on subject choice was offered to students and parents via Options Days in the second term. Careers teachers were also available to students and parents after the publication of examination results and at Parent-Teacher Meetings. The College's DEL Careers Adviser played an important guidance role, particularly with Year 12 students. Parents were also encouraged to become constructively involved in the career planning of their children.

From Year 10 onwards, students were required to produce realistic Personal Career Plans. ICT is considered to be vitally important to address the objectives of the Careers and Employability programmes successfully. The Internet was extensively utilised and useful sites were bookmarked for easy student access. Students were encouraged to answer psychometric questionnaires to ascertain or confirm their career choices.

## **16. CONCLUSION**

Our Lady and St Patrick's College, Knock continues to flourish as a leading Catholic Grammar School, catering for the curricular, pastoral and spiritual needs of our young people who join the College community from a wide catchment area. We hope that this Annual Report of the Board of Governors gives you an overview and insight into all that has been accomplished in the academic year 2022-2023 and we thank the staff of the College for their dedication and commitment. Should you wish to know more about our school, please visit the College website at [www.knock.co.uk](http://www.knock.co.uk).

Gratias Agamus

**Our Lady and St Patrick's College, Knock**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>GROSS INCOME</b>		
Department of Education Grants	7,326,848	7,389,785
Other Income	362,047	226,546
Bank Interest Receivable	328	211
	7,689,223	7,616,542

**EXPENDITURE**

Teaching Staff Costs	5,519,496	5,532,002
Non-Teaching Staff Costs	1,139,427	945,735
Other Operating Costs	817,310	589,154
Total Expenditure	7,476,233	7,066,891

**SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)**

Surplus (Deficit)	212,990	549,651
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**Total recognised gains and losses**

The College has no recognised gains or losses other than the surplus or deficit for the above financial year.

**VOLUNTARY DONATIONS FROM PARENTS**

Contributions Received	73,880	56,875
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Gratitude is expressed to parents for the support given to the College by means of voluntary contributions. Certain items cannot be funded by grants from the Department of Education and this income from voluntary donations from parents is used to improve the educational opportunities for all students of the College.

**The College Day 2022-2023**

<b>Tutor Group Registration and Assemblies: 9.20am - 9.30am</b>	
Period 1	9.30 - 10.05am
Period 2	10.05 -10.35am
Period 3	10.35 - 11.05am
<b>Break</b>	<b>11.05 - 11.20am</b>
Period 4	11.20 -11.50am
Period 5	11.50 - 12.20pm
Period 6	12.20 -12.50pm
<b>Period 7 (Junior Lunch)</b>	<b>12.50 - 1.25pm</b>
<b>Period 8 (Senior Lunch)</b>	<b>1.25 - 2.00pm</b>
Period 9	2.00 - 2.30pm
Period 10	2.30 - 3.00pm
Period 11	3.00 - 3.34pm

**School Attendance 2022-2023**

No. of Possible Attendance Sessions	No. of Sessions Attended	No. of Sessions for Approved Educational Activity	% Attendance Overall
504831	426409	58369	96%

**GCSE and A-Level Examination Results 2018/19 to 2022/23**

Performance Indicator	2018/19		2019/20 2020/21 Covid		2021/22		2022/23	
	Our Lady and St Patrick's College	NI Grammar School Average	Our Lady and St Patrick's College	NI Grammar School Average	Our Lady and St Patrick's College	NI Grammar School Average	Our Lady and St Patrick's College	NI Grammar School Average
% achieving 7+ GCSEs at grades A*-C	98.9	90.5	100	Not available	100	Not available	98.4	94.4
% achieving 5+ GCSEs at grades A*-C	100	96.1	100	Not available	100	Not available	99.5	97.6
% achieving 3+ A-levels at grades A*-C	91.6	79.7	99.4	Not available	92.4	Not available	96.3	83.8
% achieving 2+ A-levels at grades A*-E	99.4	99.6	100	Not available	100	Not available	100	99.6

**Year 12 GCSE Results Summary 2022/23**

% entered for:		% achieving grades A*-C in:		
7+ GCSEs	5+ GCSEs	7+ GCSEs	5+ GCSEs	0 GCSEs
100	100	98.4	99.5	0

Number of students in Year 12: 186

Number of students with a Statement of Special Educational Needs: 2

## Year 12 GCSE Results by Subject 2022/23

Subject	Entries							
		A*	A*-A	A*-B	A*-C*	A*-C	A*-D	A*-E
Art and Design	18	33.3	66.7	94.4	94.4	100	100	100
Biology	84	28.6	69	90.5	97.6	100	100	100
Business Studies	92	21.7	77.2	88	97.8	98.9	100	100
Chemistry	69	24.6	68.1	85.5	92.8	100	100	100
Design and Technology	25	32	60	72	88	88	100	100
Digital Technology	15	40	73.3	100	100	100	100	100
Drama	17	17.6	64.7	94.1	100	100	100	100
English Language	186	12.9	65.6	90.9	97.8	100	100	100
English Literature	186	38.2	75.3	95.7	97.8	100	100	100
Food and Nutrition	21	33.3	81	90.5	95.2	100	100	100
French	24	25	50	75	87.5	91.7	100	100
Geography	48	50	77.1	91.7	95.8	97.9	97.9	100
German	10	30	60	80	90	100	100	100
History	97	35.1	77.3	90.7	97.9	100	100	100
Irish	5	0	40	100	100	100	100	100
Learning for Life and Work	186	40.3	71.5	93	97.8	99.5	100	100
Mathematics	102	8.8	67.6	91.2	98	100	100	100
Mathematics Further	82	39	89	97.6	98.8	100	100	100
Music	15	33.3	73.3	93.3	93.3	93.3	100	100
Physics	62	38.7	80.6	95.2	98.4	100	100	100
Religious Studies	182	33	79.1	89	94	97.8	100	100
Spanish	91	23.1	70.3	87.9	95.6	98.6	100	100

Subject	Entries	Percentage									
		A*A*	A*A	AA	AB	BB	BC*	C*C*	C*C	CC	A*A* - CC
Science: Double Award	78	24.4	16.7	21.8	3.8	12.8	6.4	7.7	2.6	1.3	97.4

Subject	Entries	Percentage									
		9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	9 - 4
Physical Education (AQA)	47	25.5	55.3	72.3	91.5	95.7	100	100	100	100	100
Computer Science (OCR)	24	20.89	50	70.8	87.5	91.7	95.8	100	100	100	100



## Year 14 A-Level Results Summary 2022/23

	Number of students in final year of course	% achieving 3+ grades A* – C	% achieving 2+ grades A* – E
<b>A-Level</b>	188	96.3%	100%

Number of students with a Statement of Special Educational Needs: 4

81 Year 14 students (43%) achieved A/A\* grades in 3 or more A-Level subjects in the 2023 summer examinations.

## Year 14 A-Level Results by Subject 2022/23

Subject	Entries	Grades					
		A*	A*-A	A*-B	A*-C	A*-D	A*-E
Art and Design	14	57.1	71.4	100	100	100	100
Biology	62	30.6	62.9	93.5	100	100	100
Business Studies	49	28.6	63.3	87.8	98	100	100
Chemistry	35	22.9	60	85.7	97.1	100	100
Computer Studies	10	0	30	60	100	90.9	100
Design and Technology	6	16.7	83.3	100	100	100	100
Digital Technology	13	23.1	46.2	77	92.4	100	100
Drama	7	0	42.9	85.8	100	100	100
Economics	9	22.2	77.8	100	100	100	100
English Literature	20	35	80	100	100	100	100
French	11	9.1	45.5	72.8	100	100	100
Geography	58	19	41.4	86.2	98.3	100	100
German	2	0	50	50	100	100	100
History	36	8.3	72.2	86.1	100	100	100
Irish	1	0	100	100	100	100	100
Mathematics	62	35.5	72.6	93.6	98.4	100	100
Mathematics - Further	4	75	75	100	100	100	100
Music	3	0	33.3	66.6	100	100	100
Nutrition and Food Science	6	33.3	66.7	83.3	100	100	100
Physical Education	30	66.7	83.4	100	100	100	100
Physics	31	19.4	48.4	77.4	93.5	100	100
Politics	33	27.3	81.8	100	100	100	100
Religious Studies	16	25	75	87.5	93.8	100	100
Sociology	41	39	58.5	97.5	99.9	100	100
Spanish	8	12.5	87.5	100	100	100	100

## Year 14 Destinations 2022/23

Higher Education	Further Education	Employment / Training	Higher Apprenticeship	Gap Year
179	6	0	1	2

September 2022	October 2022	November 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 07/09/22: Year 13 and Year 14 Spanish students visit QFT.</li> <li>• 08/09/22: Opening Mass for school year.</li> <li>• 15/09/22: Year 14 UCAS Information Evening.</li> <li>• 19/09/2022 and 20/09/22: Year 12 Geography trip for data collection.</li> <li>• 21/09/22 and 23/09/22 Year 11 and 13: Study skills presentation/ workshop.</li> <li>• 28/09/22: Dementia Awareness Training for SVP students.</li> <li>• 27/09/22: Year 10 Quiz in College Hall to celebrate European Week of Languages.</li> <li>• 28/09/22: Year 9 Financial Workshop by Danske Bank.</li> <li>• 29/09/22: Year 14 Presentation by various universities.</li> <li>• 29/09/22: Year 8 Mass of Welcome for Year 8 students and their parents/guardians.</li> <li>• 30/09/22 - 02/10/22: Year 9 Trip to Delphi.</li> <li>• 30/09/22: Year 9 French Breakfast in Dining Hall to celebrate European Week of Languages.</li> <li>• 30/09/22: Year 13 and Year 14 Economic students attend talk by the Chief Economist, Bank of England.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 03/10/22: Year 9 Young Enterprise event.</li> <li>• 21/10/22 - 24/10/22: Year 14 Geography trip to Iceland.</li> <li>• 04/10/22: Year 14 Senior UKMT Challenge.</li> <li>• 04/10/22: QUB Sentinus Young Innovators Competition 2022.</li> <li>• 04/10/22: Anti-Bullying Mentors training.</li> <li>• 05/10/22: Year 13 and 14 Virtual work experience for those applying to Medicine organised by Belfast Trust.</li> <li>• 06/10/22 and 07/10/22: Year 12 and 14: Aware workshop on mental health.</li> <li>• 07/10/22: Year 8-10 Sponsored Walk for St Bernadette’s Children Centre in Peru.</li> <li>• 10/10/22 -12/10/22: Nexus Workshop on Consent.</li> <li>• 13/10/22: Year 11 to 14 Drama - Bruiser Theatre Company bringing the play ‘Teachers’ to OLSPCK.</li> <li>• 14/10/22: Year 13 YMCA talk on Staying Safe on a Night Out.</li> <li>• 17/10/22 - 25/10/22: French students come on residential to OLSPCK and student homes.</li> <li>• 18/10/22: Year 9 Financial Workshop.</li> <li>• 20/10/22: Year 9 Explore Enterprise programme in College Hall.</li> <li>• 21/10/22: Year 10 Visiting QUB for a Maths Week Ireland event in the Bobbly Seagull Workshop.</li> <li>• 24/10/22: Year 11 and 14 Love for Life.</li> <li>• 26/10/22 - 30/10/22: Year 12-14 Trip to Rome.</li> <li>• Year 14 students attended one-day Retreat in the Oratory.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 03/11/22: Craigavon Golf and Ski Centre for students going on ski trip in Feb. 2023.</li> <li>• 05/11/22: 10 x Year 12 boys from rugby development travel to Dublin Aviva for Ireland V South Africa.</li> <li>• 08/11/22 and 9/11/22: Year 8 Translink Safety Bus.</li> <li>• 10/11/22 and 11/11/22: Year 10 Anti-Bullying Workshops.</li> <li>• 10/11/22: Year 13 and 14 Art students attend the RUA.</li> <li>• 14/11/22: Year 8 students, Year 8 Mentors/Anti-Bullying Mentors participated in ‘Odd Socks Day’.</li> <li>• 14/11/22: Year 13 Geography fieldwork to Murlough sand dune system.</li> <li>• 16/11/22: Year 13 students attend British Council’s COP27 Climate Negotiation Simulation Event held at Belfast City Hall.</li> <li>• 17/11/22: Year 13 INTO Film Festival - Learn about the Cinematography of Storytelling.</li> <li>• 23/11/22: Year 11 Chemistry at Work event at QUB.</li> <li>• 30/11/22: Year 9 Young Enterprise event.</li> <li>• Prayer Service in the month of November to remember our beloved deceased families, staff, students and friends.</li> </ul>

December 2022	January 2023	February 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 06/12/22: Year 10 Coding activity for Sentinus.</li> <li>• 07/12/22: Christmas Bake-Off for Year 10 students.</li> <li>• 08/12/22: Senior School Awards.</li> <li>• 08/12/22: Whole school Mass - Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.</li> <li>• 08/12/22: Music students Marie Curie Concert.</li> <li>• 19/12/22: Years 9-14 Kainos speaker with Q+A.</li> <li>• SVP Hampers were collected from all tutor groups.</li> <li>• 1,160 Christmas dinners were provided by staff in the Dining Hall.</li> <li>• Final of the Upper School Christmas Jumper Competition.</li> <li>• Year 8-14 Christmas concerts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18/01/23 - 25/01/23: Christian Unity Week was marked with Rev. Stephen Moore and the community of local churches taking Assembly and Q&amp;A sessions.</li> <li>• 26/01/23: Year 13 view live stream of The Crucible as part of AS set text at QFT.</li> <li>• 27/01/23: Year 10 Eye for Education (Darren Nixon).</li> <li>• 31/01/23: Year 9 Risky behaviour talk from Jenny in YMCA.</li> <li>• 31/01/23: Year 10 meet potential employers and attend Creative Industries Workshop by Screen NI.</li> <li>• French students go to La Roche-Sur-Yon for French Exchange.</li> <li>• 25/01/23: Year 13 and 14 Golden Thread Gallery - Art Classes do a class a week for 6 weeks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 01/02/23: Year 12 UKMT Intermediate Challenge.</li> <li>• 02/02/23: Years 10 and 11 Shared Education Day with visiting schools.</li> <li>• 02/02/23: Year 8 Auditions and workshop with NYCNI.</li> <li>• 04/02/23: Year 9 Final of the Cyberfirst Girls' competition in Belfast.</li> <li>• 05/02/23: Year 12 hillwalking day in the Mourne Mountains as part of a practice expedition for the Silver Duke of Edinburgh.</li> <li>• 06/02/23: Year 14 Lecture delivered by Kirstin Lemon from the Geological Society NI.</li> <li>• 10/02/23 - 13/02/23: Year 11-14 Geography trip to Iceland.</li> <li>• 11/02/23 - 18/02/23: Pinzolo Italy Ski trip.</li> <li>• 13/02/23 - 15/02/23: Year 11 and 12 History trip to Berlin.</li> <li>• 20/02/23: Year 13 EYPUK NI Regional Forum Belfast City Hall.</li> <li>• 22/02/23: Year 10 Spanish speaking competition led by NICILT at QUB.</li> <li>• 23/02/23: Year 11 Ulster Project Meeting.</li> <li>• 24/02/23: Year 13 New Driver NI talk.</li> <li>• 24/02/23: Years 8-14 fundraiser for Turkey and Syria - bucket collection.</li> </ul>

March 2023	April 2023	May 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 01/03/23: Students from St Patrick's, Hollywood, St Ita's for a Digital Mentor Day at the College.</li> <li>• 01/03/23: Year 13 s visit the Seamus Heaney Homeplace.</li> <li>• 01/03/23 and 08/03/23: Artist, R Peters, worked with students on Printmaking.</li> <li>• 02/03/23: Years 8-14 Trócaire speaker</li> <li>• 02/03/23: Year 8 World Book Day was celebrated.</li> <li>• 23/03/23: Year 13 Careers event 'Generation Innovation'.</li> <li>• 23/03/23: Years 11-14 Opera House - The Ocean at the End of the Lane.</li> <li>• 30/03/23: Year 8 Mentor plays performed on stage.</li> <li>• 14/03/23: St Patrick's Day Mass was celebrated to honour one of our College patrons.</li> <li>• Sr Marie (College Chaplain) arranged Retreats for all Year 8 and 10 students in March/April.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 03/04/23: Year 9 INTO film screen event.</li> <li>• 05/04/23: Years 8 -14 Trócaire Concert.</li> <li>• 17/04/23 - 21/4/23: Years 8-10 Travelling Book Fair.</li> <li>• 27/04/23: The UKMT Junior Maths Competition took place, involving Year 8 and 9 students.</li> <li>• 28/04/23: Year 8 Learn Spark Study Skills Course.</li> <li>• 07/04/23: The College's Annual Spring Concert.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 04/05/23: The Year 14 Leavers' Mass for students, parents and staff.</li> <li>• Year 14 'Fun Day' in the College on 05/05/23.</li> <li>• 05/05/23: A Mass for Year 12 students and parents.</li> <li>• 03/05/23 -11/05/23: Year 8 students visited the Belfast Synagogue on the Somerton Road.</li> <li>• 12/05/23: 10:1 Trip to the Omniplex Cinema Dundonald (Prize for being the biggest fundraiser).</li> <li>• 30/05/23 - 31/05/23: Flight School with P7 students in OLSPCK.</li> </ul>

**June 2023**

- Years 8-11 Sports Days and Tournaments.
- 05/06/23: Years 8-11 Inter-class Golf Tournament for all aspiring golfers.
- 05/06/23: Year 8 and 9 cultural trip to France.
- 02/06/23: Year 9 India Chapman Webb visit from Opera NI to provide a chorus singing workshop.
- 08/06/23: Year 10 Tour around Parliament Buildings.
- 09/06/23: Year 10 Young Enterprise - Learn to Earn.
- 13/06/23: Year 10 Shared Education trip to Lagan College
- 20/06/23: Year 11 (HE) Trip to Mourne Seafood Cookery School.
- 20/06/23: Years 10 and 11 SHAHRP presentation on the dangers of vaping.
- 27/06/23: Year 8 Frank Wilson Tournament.

- 01/06/23: Art exhibition in the College showcasing the work of our Year 13 and Year 14 Art students.
- 28/06/23: Year 8 OLSPELL, the annual spelling contest, took place.
- 28/06/23 - 30/6/23: Year 12 Qualifying Expedition for DoE
- 24/06/23: 90 students departed for a one-week stay in the Irish College.

<b>College Sporting Achievements Competitions 2022 – 2023</b>		
<b>Association Football</b>		
Year 14 Boys	Belfast Cup	Group Stages
Year 13 Boys	Translink Cup	Winners
Senior Girls	Electric Ireland Senior Cup	Group Stages
Year 12 Boys	Belfast District Cup	Winners
Year 10 Boys	Belfast and NI Cup	Semi Finalists
Year 11 Boys	Belfast District Cup	Group Stages
Year 8 Boys	Belfast District Cup	Winners
Year 8 Girls	Electric Ireland Cup	Semi Fianalists
<b>Athletics</b>		
Intermediate boys (Year 12)	Conor Adair	Silver District 100m + 400m and Bronze 400m at Ulsters
Inter Girls (Year 11)	Isa McCarron	Down Cross Country Champion + Runner up 800m at Ulsters
Junior Girls (Year 10)	Katie Keown	Ulster 1500m Champion
Junior Girls (Year 10)	Emer McKee	Down, Ulster & Irish Cross Country Champion + Ulster 3000m and 1500m
Year 9 Girls	Olivia McCusker	Down and Ulster Cross Country Champion
<b>Basketball</b>		
U19 Boys	Northern Ireland 'B'	Winners
U16 Boys	Northern Ireland 'B'	Winners
U14 Boys	Ulster	Semi Final
Year 8 Boys	Ulster Blitz	Group Stages
U19 Girls	All Ireland 'A'	Group Stages
U16 Girls	All Ireland 'A'	Group Stages
U15 Girls	All Ireland 'A'	Winners
<b>Camogie</b>		
Senior Camogie (Year 14)	Ulster Championships 'B'	Group Stages
Junior Camogie (Year 12)	Ulster Championships 'B'	Semi Finalists
U14 Camogie (Year 10)	Ulster Championships 'B'	Semi finalists
Year 8	Ulster Championship (12 a-side)	Runners Up

<b>Gaelic Football</b>		
Year 14 Boys	MacLarnon Cup	Group Stages
Year 12 Boys	Rafferty Cup	Quarter Finalists
Year 11 Boys	Treanor Cup	Group Stages
Year 10 Boys	Loch An Iúir Shield	Winners
Year 9 Boys	Brock Cup	Winners
U20 Girls (Year 14)	Ulster Cup 'A'	Group Stages
U16 Girls (Year 12)	Ulster Cup 'A'	Semi-Finalists
U14 Girls (Year 10)	Ulster Cup 'A'	Semi-Finalists
<b>Hurling</b>		
Year 14	Mageean Cup	Group Stages
Year 12	Forresters Cup	Runners Up
Year 11	Leonard Cup	Group Stages
Year 10	Gallagher Cup	Group Stages
Year 9	McGreevey Cup	Group Stages
Year 8	Antrim Cup	Group Stages
<b>Netball</b>		
Minor	Northern Ireland Premier League	Group Stages
Junior	Northern Ireland Premier League	Group Stages
Intermediate	Northern Ireland Premier League	Group Stages
Senior	Northern Ireland Premier League	NI League Winners
<b>Rugby</b>		
Senior Boys	Schools Cup	Group Stages
<b>Golf</b>		
Junior and Senior Boys	Ulster and All Ireland	Competed but no placing
Senior Girls	N/A	N/A