

Our Lady and St Patrick's College, Knock



Year 11 Information Evening for Parents
7th October 2025

Welcome



- ▶ Introduction
- ▶ Curriculum and Assessment
- ▶ Examinations
- ▶ Senior School
Pastoral Support

Miss McLaughlin
Principal

Ms Collins
Vice Principal

Ms O'Connor
Exams Officer

Mr Hughes
Head of School

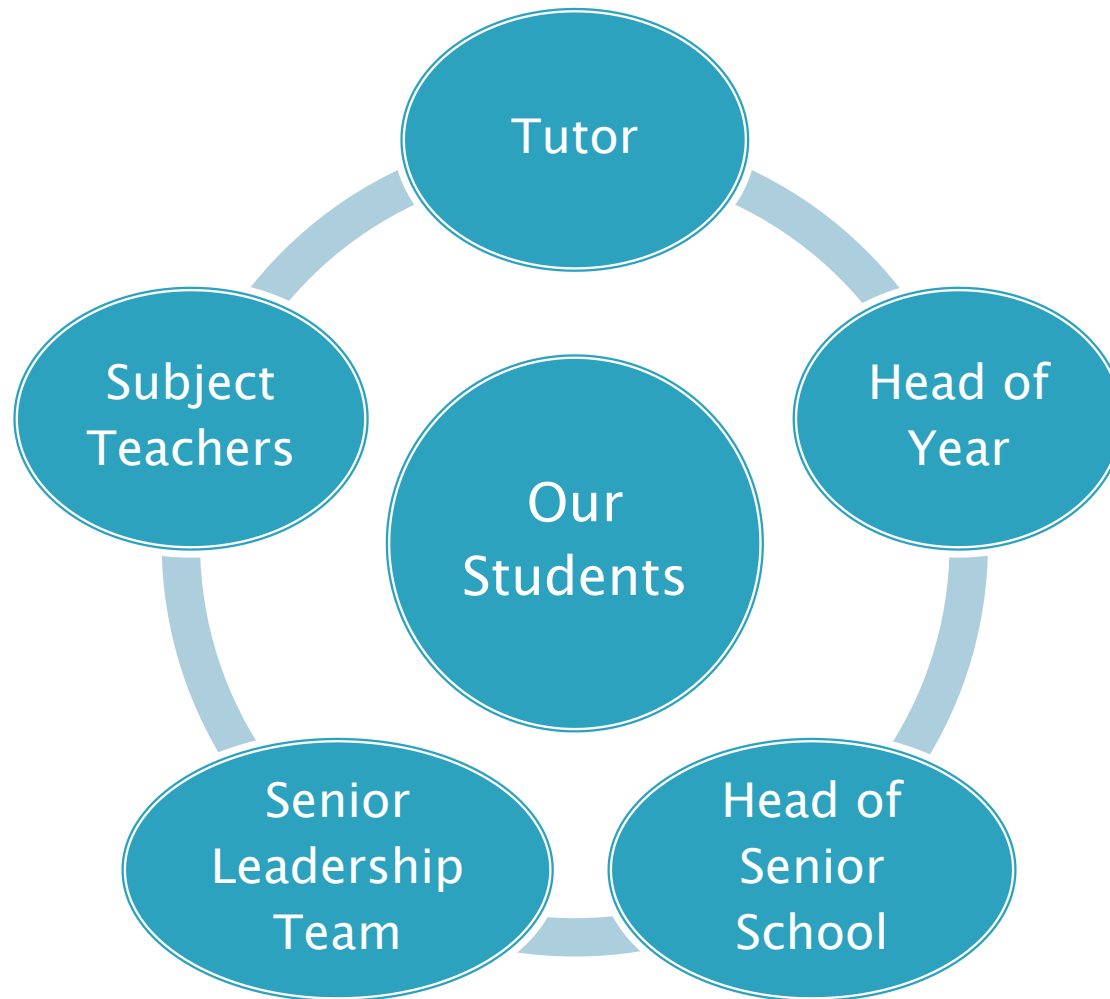
Welcome



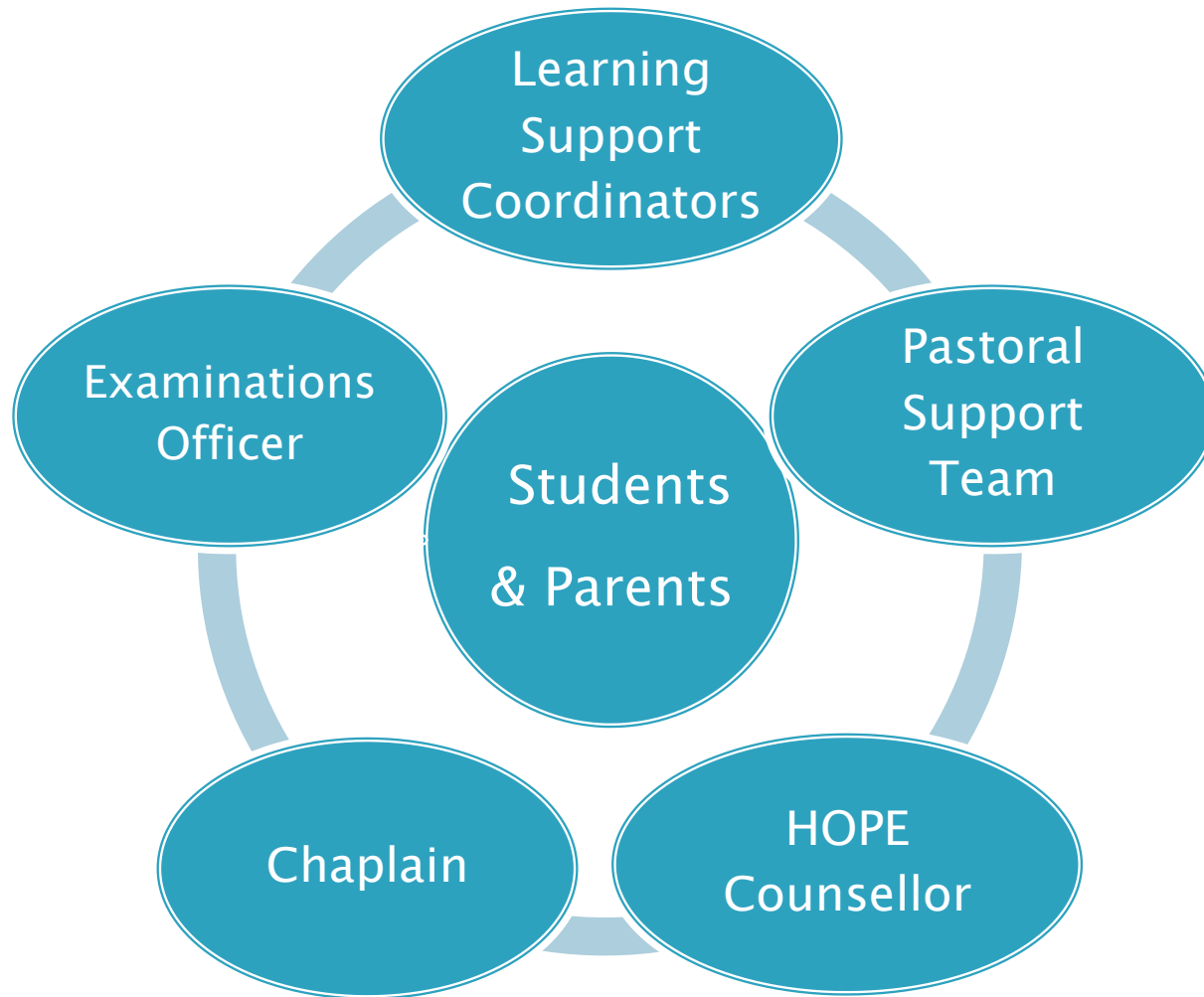
‘Excellence through Care’

- **Commitment**
- **Attendance**
- **Respect**
- **Extra-curricular**

#teamknock



#teamknock



Navigating the Teenage Years

Why aren't you revising?



When would you like to revise?

You haven't done much?



Talk me through what you've done so far.

You need to study more.



What have you done so far in subject X?

How can I help?



Let me proofread your essay.



Let's have a mock oral.

Positive Mental Health



- ▶ Floreo – building resilience
- ▶ PTA



Promise and Potential



- ▶ Children have different levels of maturity.
- ▶ Help them understand the long-term importance of doing the best they can.
- ▶ Your support, encouragement and interest are much appreciated.





- Importance of GCSE Profile
- Dates 2025–2027
- Controlled Assessment
- JCQ Regulations
- GCSE Timetable
- Tier of Entry
- Top Tips
- Be a cheerleader!

Ms Collins Vice Principal



Importance of GCSE Profile

 GCSE study begins from the moment your child sets foot in the Year 11 classroom.

 Many students fail to recognise the importance of this.

 Attendance is crucial.

 Catching up is essential if absent.

 You must be strategic from Year 11.

 Especially if you have highly competitive courses in mind.

 For Medicine you will need an 'all A' profile.

 For CAO application every point counts.

Assessment Dates 2025–2027



Year 11 Internal	Tracker 1: 23 October 2025 Tracker 2: (Mock Exams) 7 January– 16 January 2026. Report: 5 February 2026. Tracker 3: 27 March 2026.
External	CCEA Unit 1 Exams: 5 May – 5 June 2026. <u>Fast track GCSE Maths/Music completed.</u> Results: 20 August 2026.
Year 12 Internal	Tracker 1: 22 October 2026. Tracker 2: (Mock Exams) November/December 2026. Report: December 2026. Tracker 3: 26 March 2027.
External	English, Maths and DA Science Exams: November 2026.
	Unit exams for all courses May/June 2027. Results: 19 August 2026.

Controlled Assessment



- ▶ Controlled Assessment Tasks (CAT) are the most common form of internal assessment.
- ▶ They are set at low, medium or high control.
- ▶ The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) set out strict regulations for CAT e.g.
- ▶ All work submitted for qualification assessments must be the student's own.

<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/general-regulations/>



JCQ AI Use in Assessments

- ▶ Students who misuse AI such that work they submit is not their own will have committed **malpractice** and may attract **severe sanctions**.
- ▶ If any sections or work are produced from **AI generated responses**, those elements must be **identified**.
- ▶ **Use of AI** will mean that students have **not independently met** the marking criteria and therefore **will not be rewarded**.
- ▶ Teachers must only accept work for assessment which they consider to be the **students' own**.
- ▶ If teachers have **doubts** about the **authenticity** of student work, they must **investigate** and **take** appropriate **action**.

Subjects with CAT and Percentage

▶ Art and Design	100%
▶ Drama	60%
▶ Food and Nutrition	50%
▶ Health and Social Care	50%
▶ Technology and Design	50%
▶ English Language	40%
▶ LLW	40%
▶ PE (AQA)	40%
▶ Digital Technology	30%
▶ Music	30%
▶ Business Studies	20%
▶ English Literature	20%



Plan ahead for CAT



- ▶ The summary information will help students and parents to plan ahead for CAT.
- ▶ CAT start in Term 3 of Year 11.
- ▶ Terms 1 and 2 in Year 12 are busy.
- ▶ Importance of Attendance cannot be overestimated.
- ▶ Deadlines must be met!

School-based Assessment Contributing to GCSE Grades - *Summary Information for Year 11 Parents* -

Tuesday 7 October
2025



Summary Information includes:
Subject; CAT %; date; nature; level of control; word and time limits.

Some Year 11 Controlled Assessment Tasks are scheduled for late June. It is important that Year 11 students are present in school to carry out these Tasks.

Subject	Number of Tasks	When will it be completed?	TASK TAKING		
			Authenticity	Level of Control	Time/Word Limit
Art and Design (CCEA - 60% Controlled Assessment)	2	Year 11 Terms 1, 2, 3	Component 1 (60%) Part A: Exploratory Portfolio (25%) Part B: Investigating the Creative and Cultural Industries (35%) Component 2 (40%) Externally Set Assignment 10 hrs timed exam In this specification both Component 1 and Component 2 are controlled assessment components. These include tasks such as producing a portfolio of experimental work and developing ideas in response to a stimulus paper.	Medium	No time limit
		Year 12 Term 1 Year 12 Term 2, 3		High	Minimum of 20 hrs

Importance of Meeting Deadlines

- ▶ All students will be given **CAT deadlines**.
- ▶ This ensures work is **manageable**.
- ▶ Teachers can **monitor progress** and
- ▶ **Intervene swiftly**, if required.
- ▶ You will be **informed of missed deadlines** via the College Gateway App.
- ▶ Deadlines must be met to facilitate JCQ Regulations.
- ▶ **JCQ Review of marking:**
- ▶ Students must be informed of their marks.
- ▶ Mid-April (dates will vary slightly)
- ▶ Students can request a review of the centre's marking before marks are submitted.

High Level of Control



- ▶ Formal Supervision.
- ▶ Students must be in direct sight of the teacher.
- ▶ Must work independently.
- ▶ No assistance can be given.

Low Level of Control

- ▶ Work can be completed unsupervised.
- ▶ Students can work together.
- ▶ Students can receive teacher guidance.

Can students redraft?



- ▶ For a **few courses** students **are allowed** to draft and redraft work after consultation with teachers.
- ▶ However, for **most courses** students are **limited** in the changes they can make.
- ▶ Teachers can provide **general advice not specific** detail.



Science Assessment

- ▶ Science subjects are content heavy in Year 11.
- ▶ DA only have 3 or 4 periods each.
- ▶ The pace of teaching will be fast.
- ▶ Avoid missing class.
- ▶ Try to balance curricular and extra-curricular activities.
- ▶ In Year 12 student will have practical assessments worth 25%.

GCSE Timetable 2026



- ▶ Year 11 Exams begin on **5 May 2026**.
- ▶ Exams are concentrated within a short period.
- ▶ Not spread out like Year 12 exams.
- ▶ 14 exams in 14 days.
- ▶ Revision must be planned.
- ▶ Study is available in the College.
- ▶ Some students may be directed to study in the College.

Externally Assessed Only



- ▶ Computer Science
- ▶ French
- ▶ Geography
- ▶ German
- ▶ History **NB Unit 1 in May Year 11: 60%**
- ▶ Irish
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Further Mathematics
- ▶ RE
- ▶ Spanish

Tier of Entry



- ▶ Mathematics; Science or Languages.
- ▶ Appropriate to ability level.
- ▶ Foundation or Higher Tier.
- ▶ Teachers will recommend Tier of Entry.
- ▶ Be open to their advice.
- ▶ They know what they are doing.
- ▶ You can still obtain grade B.
- ▶ You can still study the subject for AS.

GCSE Grading System

- ▶ Most GCSE courses are CCEA and Grade from A* to G.
- ▶ Computer Science: OCR
- ▶ PE: WJEC
- ▶ English Exam Boards
- ▶ Grade from 9 to 1.

New CCEA Structure First award from summer 2019	9-1 Structure Awarded from 2017
A*	9
A	8
	7
B	6
C*	5
C	4
D	3
E	2
F	1
G	



Top Tips



Get organised – files and folders



Check equipment – paper and pens



Check homework – they will have it!



Make sure to consolidate learning daily



Ask teachers questions the next day



Speak to older students and ask advice



Do what you are told to do, when you are told to do it



Don't be afraid to make mistakes – it's a big jump from KS3 to GCSE!

And Finally...Be a cheerleader!

Keep
Assessment in
perspective

More than
assessments or
grades

Excellence
through Care

Fulfil potential

Self-confident

Self-esteem

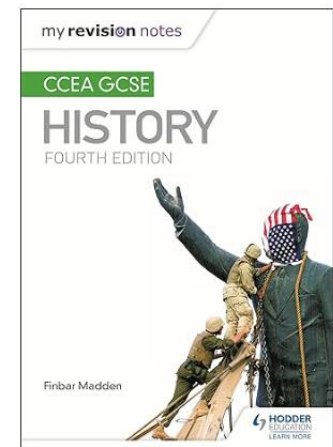
Self-worth

Self-belief

Cheer them on
when things
get tough!

CCEA Support

- ▶ Each subject has a microsite with:
 - E-guides
 - Fact Files
 - Past Papers
 - Mark Schemes
- ▶ Some subjects have Revision Books
 - Available to buy on Amazon or ask older students



Further Information



- ▶ www.knock.co.uk
- ▶ Homework Policy
- ▶ Examinations and Controlled Assessment/Coursework/Non-Examination Assessment Policy
- ▶ Information for Candidates
 - Coursework Assessments (JCQ)
 - Use of AI
 - Review of marking



Exams

Year 11
CCEA GCSE Modules
Summer 2026



Joint Council for
Qualifications

Summer 2026

• Business Studies	40%
• Biology/Chemistry	35%
• Digital Technology	30%
• English Language	30%
• English Literature	30%
• Geography	40%
• Health and Social Care	50%
• History	60%
• Learning Life Work – 2 exams	20% per paper
• Maths	100% or 45%
• Music – Fast Track	100%
• Physics	37.5%
• Religious Studies	50%
• Science DA – 3 exams	11% per paper

Before the Exam

- Read Timetable Carefully
- Make sure you read the rules and regulations
- Make sure you have the right equipment for the right exam



On the Day

- **Arrive on time!**
- **Seating Plans are displayed in the Foyer!**
- **Don't bring any prohibited material into the hall!**
- **Listen carefully to any instructions given by the invigilator!**
- **Once you enter the hall - NO TALKING!!!!**

You face DISQUALIFICATION!



AQA City & Guilds CCEA OCR Pearson WJEC

JCQ
CIC

**NO MOBILE PHONES
WATCHES
MP3/4 PLAYERS
NO POTENTIAL TECHNOLOGICAL/WEB
ENABLED SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

NO UNAUTHORISED ITEMS

Possession of unauthorised items, such as a mobile phone, is a serious offence and could result in **DISQUALIFICATION** from your examination and your overall qualification.

This poster must be displayed in a prominent place outside each examination room.

©JCQ 2022 - Effective from 1 September 2022





Information for candidates Using social media and examinations/assessments

While we like to share our experiences online, when it comes to exams and other assessments, we have to be careful.

- Sharing ideas online can be helpful when you're studying or revising
- However, sharing certain information (see information on the right) can break the rules and could affect your results
- If you're not sure what you can and can't discuss online, check with your teacher
- If you receive exam content on social media, you must tell your teacher
- Don't be caught out by scammers selling fake exam papers



Things to do on social media:

- Have fun
- Be responsible
- Report any exam or assessment content you see to your teacher



Things not to do on social media:

- Buy/ask for/share exam or assessment content
- Pass on rumours of what's in exams or assessments
- Share your work
- Work with others so that your assessment is not your own independent work



If you do any of the above activities, you may:

- ! • Receive a written warning
- ! • Lose marks
- ! • Be disqualified from a part of or all of your qualifications
- ! • Be banned from taking exams and assessments for a number of years

Please take the time to familiarise yourself with the JCQ rules:
jcq.org.uk/exams-office/information-for-candidates-documents

What to do if you.....

- Miss the bus
- Sleep in
- Misread the timetable
- Feel unwell
- Have a family issue

Let 'US' know.....

- **Ms T O'Connor** **Exams Officer**
- **Mr S Hughes** **Head of Senior School**
- **Mrs L Clarke** **Head of Year**
- **Ms G McCarthy** **Child Protection Officer**
- **Mrs W McNiece** **Chief Invigilator**

Results

Thursday 20th August

- Collected from College after 8.30am
- Results and Letter from Principal
- **UNFORTUNATELY, RESULTS WILL NOT BE ISSUED BY EMAIL or TELEPHONE**

What to do next ?

- **Copy of paper**
- **Remark**
- **Remark with copy of paper**
- **Original Paper**
- **Cost/Deadline Restrictive/Grades can go down**

What to do next?

Resits

- **Winter**
 - **Double Award Science**
 - **English Language**
 - **Maths**
- **Spring**
 - **Double Award Science**
- **All Subjects Available Summer 2027**

ULN

UNIQUE LEARNER NUMBER



5537882792

Information for Parents and Pupils

The **Unique Learner Number (ULN)** is a number to be used in education throughout your life. It is used in Northern Ireland, England and Wales for learners aged 14 and over in schools, colleges and training.

This important number will make sure that all learning achievements are stored in one place – an electronic record of all qualifications and learning called a Personal Learning Record (PLR).

All pupils aged 14+ will be allocated a ULN. This number will be used electronically for examinations and to support progress to Further Education, Training and Higher Education.

GOOD LUCK!



**Senior
School
Pastoral
Support**

Our Values



Pastoral Involvement

- Personal Development
- Pupil Target Setting
- Support by Head of School/Head of Year
- Tutor Interviews





Study Skills

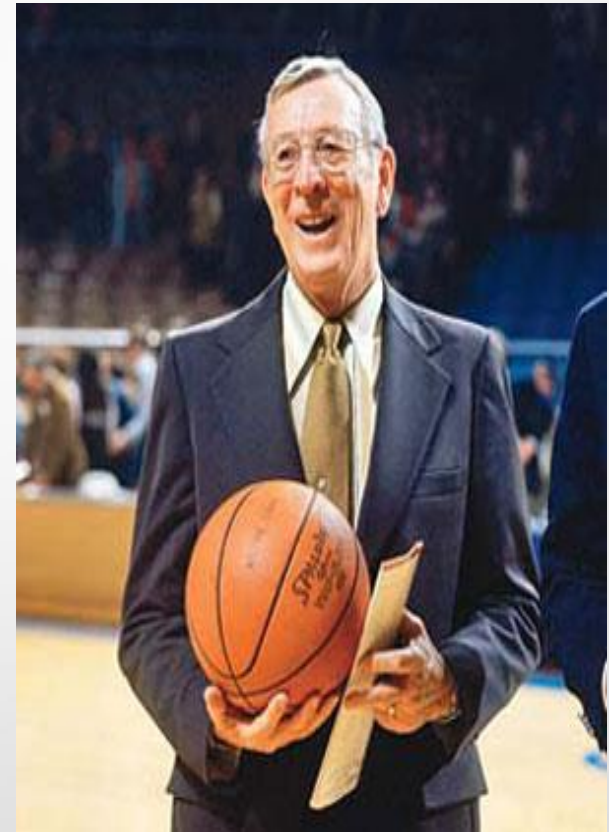
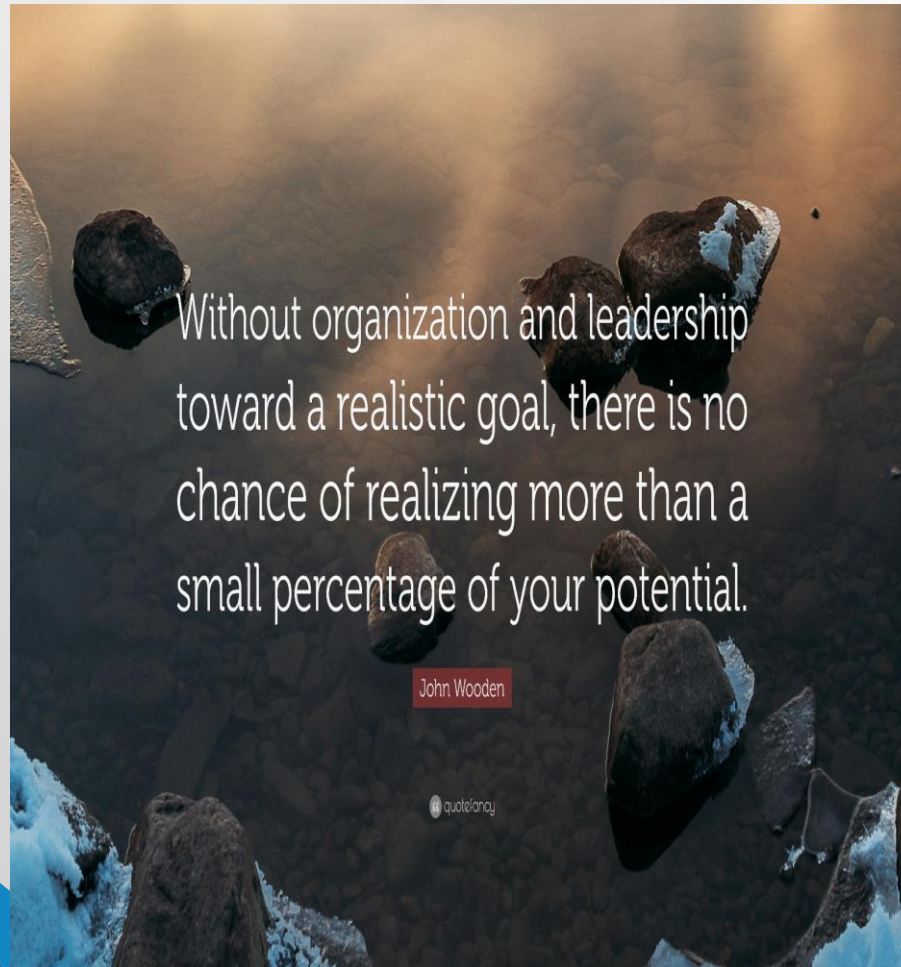
Throughout their time in the College students are taught Study Skills in Personal Development.

This includes identifying appropriate learning styles, how best to study and use of a study timetable.

In Year 11 we would advise 2 ½ hours work per night.

When homework is complete students should revise/study independently.

Goals



Target Grade

- A target grade will be agreed with the teacher in each subject
- It will be based on marks to date, student attitude to work and the teacher's judgement
- Target grades will have been agreed by Friday 26th September



Student Planner

[illegible]

Support by Head of School/Head of Year

- Targeted Intervention based on academic criteria.
- Those students identified by subject teachers as not working in a number of subjects are monitored and supported.
- Priority is accorded to those students at risk of failing a number of subjects
- Evidence gathered from SIMS pupil tracking, requests from teachers and school reports

Process for Support

If student identified then

- Preliminary interview with Head of Year/Head of School to discuss issues of concern, identify barriers to learning and strategies for improvement. Interviews are supportive in nature.
- After 6 week period reports generated from internal assessments.
- Reports collated and forwarded to parents.
- Students re interviewed to identify progress.

Barriers to Learning

- Self Esteem
- Lack of a Goal
- Poor Organisation
- Poor relationship with teachers



Tutor Interviews



- Tutors interview students throughout the year.
- Each interview will be approximately 10 minutes.
- Interviews are supportive, designed to discuss student targets and offer support and advice to help students with study skills, time management etc.
- Important to note tutors interview for a range of other issues. Concerns about health, attendance, friendship issues.





Communication: Guidance for parents

Communication Policy

Good communication between school and home is essential as students are likely to achieve more when school staff and parents/carers work well together.

In Our Lady and St Patrick's College, Knock we aim to have clear and effective communication with all parents and the wider community.

Effective communication enables us to share our aims and values by keeping parents well informed about school life





Communication: Guidance for parents

First Point of Contact

The Tutor is the first point of contact if a parent/carer has a query or concern. Tutors may be contacted by telephone (028 90 40 11 84) by email at info@knock.co.uk. Please include the Tutor's name in your message.

File Message Insert Options Format Text Review Help

Send

To [Info At olspck <info@olspck.org>](mailto:info@olspck.org)

Cc

Bcc

Subject A N Other 8-7 Mr Boyle

Dear Mr Boyle

Tutor Group	Tutor
11-1	Mrs R Conway
11-2	Mr S Jenkins
11-3	Mrs C Morgan
11-4	Mrs K Branagan
11-5	Mr C Hamill
11-6	Ms E Caughey
11-7	Mr J Shields
11-8	Miss R Lavery

Communication: Guidance for parents

Telephone Calls

Telephone communication can be an effective way of parents contacting staff within the College. It must be acknowledged, however, that teachers are restricted by timetable demands and are often dealing with other pressing pastoral/subject matters.

- When a parent contacts the College office staff may ask some questions to signpost the caller to the most appropriate member of staff.
- They will then check the teacher's timetable and if the member of staff has other commitments the parent will be invited to leave a voicemail.
- Office staff will ensure that important or urgent calls are brought to the attention of the relevant member of staff as quickly as possible.





Communication: Guidance for parents

Meeting with Parents

Parents/ guardians who wish to meet a member of staff should contact the College in advance to make an appointment, clearly stating the reason for the request and which member(s) of staff they would like to be present. Due to timetable constraints, parents are advised not to expect an 'ad hoc' meeting with a member of staff without an appointment. If a parent feels the matter is urgent, the College will endeavour to deal with the issue as soon as possible.

Visitors to the College

All visitors to the College are required to report to Reception.





Communication: Guidance for parents

School Gateway App

Parents have been invited to register for the School Gateway App.

The app is used to;

- **Manage Attendance, provide consent for College activities and facilitate payments.**
- **Provide access to timetables and reports through the 'Reporting' tab.**
- **Provide access to useful College information in the 'Useful Links' tab.**
- **Departments will also use the app to communicate directly with parents, providing access to important information pertaining to their subject such as coursework deadlines, details of revision classes etc.**

There will be Revision classes for the Unit 1 Biology Nov resit exam after school on Wed 16.10.24 and Wed 23.10.24, in S10.

James has missed an important deadline in his Controlled Assessment for Technology. Please check your email for further details..

Emma will be interviewed by a DE Careers Advisor next Wed at 12.45pm. An Action Plan with details of the interview will be emailed directly to Emma.

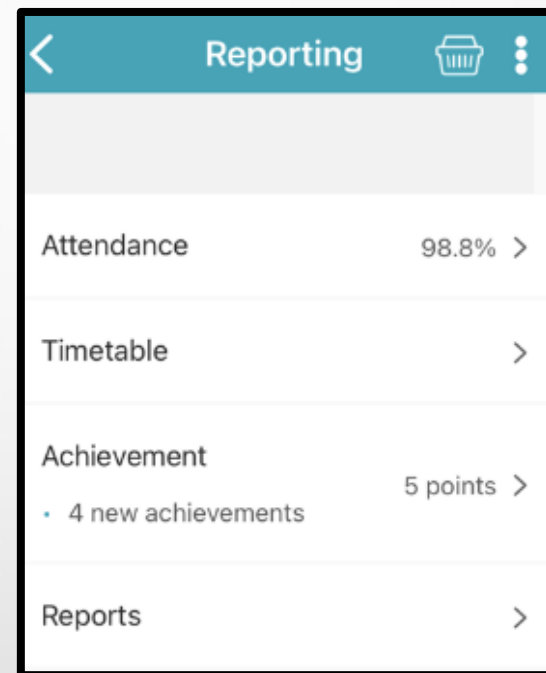


Communication: Guidance for parents

Communication of Positive Behaviour and Detentions

Any achievement points issued will be available for parents/carers to view in the 'Reporting' section of the app after the system updates overnight.

Details of detentions issued to students will also be communicated, in advance, via the app. This will be in the form of an app alert which will include the reason for the detention. The app alert will be sent the day after the detention is issued giving the student the opportunity to speak with parents.

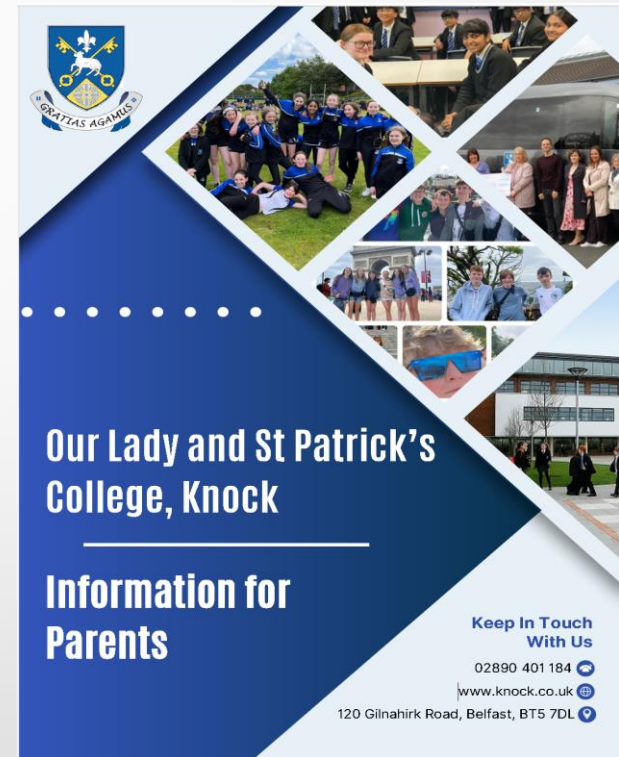


Communication: Guidance for parents

Information for Parents has already been sent by email.

This document Includes further detail on how the College uses the app to manage the administration of school life.

It also includes summary guidance for parents/ carers on Communication.





#TEAM
KNOCK