



Coláiste Phádraig

Information Booklet



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Message from the Principal

Coláiste Phádraig has a long and proud tradition in both the academic and non-academic aspects of school life, demanding a high level of excellence in all aspects of the curriculum while also encouraging all students to participate in extracurricular activities and sports. We are very proud of our students achievements. In 2018, one of our students achieved eight H1's in the Leaving Cert, one of only seven students in the country to do so. In recent years, we have students who have achieved 625 points in the Leaving Certificate, straight A's in the Junior Certificate, one of our students was chosen to represent Ireland in the International Science Olympiad in Bali, we are consistently one of the top schools in the country in terms of the number of projects that qualify for the Young Scientist competition and we have won the National Tráth na gCeist competition three times in recent years. In parallel to this, we were chosen as the 'Evening Herald Sports School of the Year' for 2015/16 as a result of the success achieved by our hurling, football, soccer, basketball, cricket, athletics and golf

teams. We also have a wide range of non sporting activities including debating, chess, music club, to name but a few.

We are also extremely lucky to have a dedicated and hard working staff who make every effort to ensure that our students achieve their full potential and beyond. Our pastoral support team comprised of year heads, tutors, learning support team and guidance counsellors are available to provide support to our students in any situation that may arise. We also have a very vibrant, active and supportive Parents Association and Students Council that strive to promote the interests and support the ethos of the school community.

For further information, please visit our website www.colaistephadraigluacan.ie which will give you a very good overview of life as a student in Coláiste Phádraig.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Brady

Enrolment to 1st Year in September 2022

Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we are not in a position to have an Open Night for prospective 1st Year Students this October. As a result of the new school admissions bill introduced this year, students can only enrol in Coláiste Phádraig one calendar year in advance of entry to the school. This means that we can no longer invite applications for entry to Coláiste Phádraig while students are in fifth class in primary school. Application forms for entry to 1st Year in Coláiste Phádraig in September 2022 can only be distributed from

1st October 2021. As usual, in September 2021, we will visit our main feeder schools to distribute the application forms to students who wish to come to Coláiste Phádraig in September 2022. The application forms will also be available from our school office from 1st October 2021 onwards.

For further information about our school, please visit the school website www.colaistephadraigluacan.ie or contact the school office by phone at (01) 6282299 or by emailing admin@colaistephadraig.com.

Facilities

Over the past few years, the Board of Management with the support of the Parents Association has invested heavily in school facilities. These facilities include:

- 5 Science Laboratories.
- 2 Engineering/Metalwork Rooms.
- Woodwork Room.
- Art Room.
- DCG/Technical Graphics Room.
- 2 Computer Rooms.
- A prototype 'Classroom of the Future'.
- Language Laboratory.
- School Canteen.
- Study Hall.
- Resource Areas for each year group to have lunch in.
- Sports Hall.
- School Gym.
- 2 outdoor Basketball Courts.
- Full size soccer and gaelic pitch.



The Junior Cycle Programme

Students at Coláiste Phádraig take the following subjects from First Year to Third Year as part of the Junior Certificate Programme:

- English
- Maths
- Irish
- Business Studies
- Science
- History
- Geography
- Civics, Social & Political Education (CSPE)
- Social, Personal & Health Education (SPHE)
- Physical Education (PE)
- Coding
- Religion (Non-exam Subject)

In addition to the above, students also choose from two of the following subjects:

- French
- German
- Metalwork
- Woodwork
- Art
- Technical Graphics

As part of our taster programme which takes place when students start in First Year, students get to try all 6 subjects before choosing which two they will ultimately study.

The Senior Cycle Programme

Senior students at Coláiste Phádraig take the following core subjects in the two year Leaving Certificate Programme:

- English
- Maths
- Irish
- Physical Education (non-exam)
- Religion (non-exam)
- Healthy Living (non-exam)

In addition to the above, students choose four of the following option subjects:

- French
- German
- Computer Science
- Engineering
- Design and Communications Graphics (DCG)
- Construction Studies

- Art
- History
- Geography
- Physics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Economics
- Business Studies
- Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP)

Subjects can be taken at either Higher or Ordinary Level.

Transition Year

We offer an optional Transition Year programme as a bridge between Junior and Senior Cycle.

School Support Structures

Year Head

The Year Head, as a leader of teaching and learning, plays a very important role in your son's life. This role is very much a pastoral one and is dedicated to making your son's educational experience a positive one, while also working to ensure that it is positive for other students with whom he comes in contact. The Year Head works closely with class tutors and members of teaching staff. She/he also supports staff in the implementation of the Positive Behaviour Code.

The Year Head will also monitor your son's academic progress and makes interventions, as necessary. Year Heads are also available to parents and will keep in regular contact with home when the need arises. They will also offer support and guidance to parents for the duration of their son's stay at Coláiste Phádraig.

Class Tutor

The tutor system in Colaiste Phádraig is part of our pastoral care system. Each class group has a tutor who continues with her/his class group from 1st to 3rd year where possible and also from 5th to 6th year. The tutor gets to know his/her students and the students always feel that they have someone to turn to in times of need.

Guidance Counsellor

Everyone at Coláiste Phádraig views the development of positive self-esteem as essential for students. The Guidance Counsellor works with all Year Groups and is involved in classroom activities, one-to-one personal counselling, career counselling and the assessment of educational and vocational abilities.

She/he also works with all senior students on an individual basis to develop study plans and complete college and access programme applications.

The Career Guidance Programme within the school is designed to help the students to:

- develop a self-awareness of their many abilities and talents
- make educational and occupational choices that match their interests and aptitudes
- make informed decisions about the many choices with which they will be faced and an informed choice about the direction they want to take in life so that they can reach their full potential as a human being

Areas covered by the Guidance Counsellor include subject choice, individual and group guidance, career investigation, the Central Applications Office (CAO) and the UK's Universities and Colleges Admission System (UCAS) applications, College Open days, study skills and job applications.

Learning Support

Coláiste Phádraig provides a full and varied set of supports for students with Special Educational Needs.

These supports are offered following formal and informal assessment and consultation with parents, primary schools and other educational professionals.

The provision of this support takes place in a variety of forms, as deemed appropriate for the student in question.

Students for whom English is not their first language are also given support in the development of language skills.

Prefects

Our prefect team of 6th Years support our new 1st Year students in the transition from primary to post-primary school.

Extracurricular Activities – Sport

Students can take part in a number of different sports in Coláiste Phádraig. These include:

- Gaelic Football
- Hurling
- Soccer
- Basketball
- Athletics

- Cricket
- Golf

Coláiste Phádraig has a long tradition of sporting success. The school sports teams provide a sense of community and are a great source of pride for our school. In 2015/16, we were chosen as the 'Evening Herald Sports School of the Year'.

Extracurricular Activities – Non Sporting

There are also a wide range of non sporting extracurricular activities available to students in Coláiste Phádraig. These include:

- Debating
- Music Club
- Ciorcal Comhrá
- BT Young Scientists Exhibition

- Gaisce
- European Tour
- Tours to Soccer matches in England
- Trips to Irish Soccer International matches
- Zambian Immersion Programme.

A Students View

"I came to this school because I was told it was great by past students. The thing I enjoy the most in this school is the positive atmosphere. Students and teachers are supportive and kind".

"The things I like about the school are the canteen, the sports teams, the facilities. Things that I find positive are the

continuous changes and improvements in the school each year".

"I came to this school because of its history".

"I like the teachers in the school. They make each class interesting. They are kind and helpful and create a good atmosphere in the classroom"

A Parents View

"When we were considering secondary schools for our boys, we took into account Leaving Certificate results, availability and variety of sports and extracurricular activities, and participation in events such as the BT Young Scientist Exhibition. Colaiste Phadraig fit the bill on all these fronts.

At the open night in 2014, we got a strong sense that the school was com-

mitted to getting the best out of each individual boy, whatever his strengths may be - academic, sporting, artistic, social, etc. We have found that these hopes and expectations have been borne out by our eldest son's experiences in the school and we're very pleased that his younger brother has now joined him in Colaiste Phadraig."



COLÁISTE PHÁDRAIG
'Evening Herald Sports School of the Year'
for 2015/16

