



Mulroy College Prospectus



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Introduction

Welcome to Mulroy College

Choosing the right secondary school may be the biggest decision in your life so far. In order to help you make an informed decision, we at Mulroy College invite you to read through our prospectus which will give you some insight into life in the college. We understand that moving from primary school to secondary school can be a daunting experience for many. Please be assured that, should you choose Mulroy College, we will endeavour to make the transition a happy and easy one.

Our college is a community where staff, parents and students support each other; an effective college results from productive teamwork; “Ni neart go chur le cheile”. We continue to provide a college where the education of students takes pride of place and where the highest standards and aspirations will continue to be our challenge.

The holistic development of young people is an important challenge for any school. The college takes great pride that our extensive range of subjects, sports and cultural opportunities allows students to develop a great diversity of talents within a caring environment.

Our extra-curricular activities are as important to us as the academics. In Gaelic Football, Soccer, Rugby, Athletics and performances in the Arts and Music our students have done us all proud.

Management Team

The Mulroy College Management Team is made up of the Principal, Ms Fiona Temple, Deputy Principal, Mr Séan Mc Fadden and six Assistant Principals I and seven Assistant Principals II. This team meets regularly to monitor all aspects of the school community.



The Board of Management

Mulroy College is governed by a Board of Management which is made up of two parent nominees, two teacher nominees, and four ETB representatives as well as the Principal who is secretary to the Board. Members of the Board are trained in the functions and responsibilities for the management of the college and for the provision of appropriate education for all its students.

Parents Association

The Parent's Association is the structure through which parents of students in the college can work together for the best possible education for their children. The Parents' Association works with the Principal, staff and the Board of Management to build an effective partnership between the home and school. The Parents' role in this association can be highly effective in advising the College's management on important issues and fostering good relations among all partners.



Transition Year students on a trip to Belfast, Christmas 2019.



Students celebrating Mental Health Week in the College.

Student Council

The Student Council is the representative structure for students, through which they can become actively involved in the affairs of the college, working in partnership with school management, staff and parents for the benefit of the college and its students. The Student Council gives students an opportunity to voice their opinions and concerns on day to day issues and make a real difference for school improvement. Students are elected to this council.



Home Economic students displaying their baking skills.

First Year Programme

The new Junior Cycle programme is well under way in the College. Classes are of forty minutes duration with nine classes Monday to Thursday and six classes on a Friday. The college provides a wide range of subjects, some of which are compulsory while others are optional. Students are introduced to the optional subjects during the two taster days that are held in the college. This allows them to make informed decisions and work with staff on deciding which subjects best suits their needs. Irish, English and Maths will be offered at higher and ordinary level in the new Junior Cycle while the others will be taken at a common level. Classroom based assessments and assessment tasks form part of the new Junior Cycle as well as the final examination. Students are always encouraged to take subjects at the highest level possible appropriate to their ability.

| Core Subjects | Optional Subjects (students choose 3) |
|-------------------------|--|
| English | Engineering |
| Gaeilge | Wood Technology |
| Mathematics | Graphics |
| History | Visual Art |
| Geography | Music |
| Science | Home Economics |
| Wellbeing | Business |
| | Applied Technology |
| Short Courses | |
| Physical Education (PE) | Students also choose a European |
| CSPE | Language: |
| | French or German |

We think that it is important for all students to receive a varied Junior Cycle programme as this prepares them best for the Leaving Certificate programme and in making appropriate subject choices at this stage.



Class Groupings

All classes in first year are grouped according to mixed ability. There is no top stream or low stream. All students follow the same curriculum in all subjects. In second and third year students are grouped into classes of similar abilities in English, Irish and Mathematics only. All other subjects remain in mixed ability grouping for the Junior Cycle.



Class Teachers & Mentors

First Year students are allocated a Class Teacher whom they meet every morning for registration every day of the week. Every student starts the day in the same room with the same teacher to help prepare for the day ahead. Assemblies are held for each year group one morning a week.

This time is very important as class teachers and students develop good relationships and pastoral care becomes an intrinsic part of school life. All first years also have a Year Head who provides valuable support in the settling in period.



The college has also in place a “Mentoring Programme” where senior students are trained in how to assist younger students cope with the demands of a new school.

This programme has been very successful in the college and a real support to first year students.



Special Educational Needs

Being inclusive and promoting education that is inclusive is a central part of Mulroy College’s ethos. We try to focus on inclusion in everything we do, on ensuring that education is for all students. In this area we look at ways that curriculum and assessment can best meet the needs of students with special educational needs.

We have a dedicated SEN team of teachers who provide designated students with one-to-one or small group support to help enhance their learning.



Transition Year Programme

The Transition Year is an optional one year educational programme for Students who have completed the Junior Certificate. It offers students a wide range of learning experiences aimed at contributing to personal development, social awareness, and work-related learning.

The Transition Year Programme promotes the personal, social, vocational and educational development of students and prepares them for their role as autonomous, participative and responsible members of society.

Junior Certificate Schools Programme

In addition to sitting the Junior Certificate, some students follow the JCSP programme and are given extra supports in Literacy and Numeracy. They benefit from practical project work, personal reading as well as other literacy and numeracy based activities. These students receive accreditation from the Department of Education and Skills for their achievements over three years.



LCVP- Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme

Many students take the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP) which emphasises enterprise education and preparation for working life. This is an extra subject that is assessed through a portfolio of work and a written exam. Students can use the results to benefit them in the “Points” system.



Leaving Certificate Programme

The programme of study followed in senior cycle is of two years duration. The majority of students take the Leaving Certificate (Established) which is the traditional final examination in post-primary education.

Subjects offered are based on the needs of the students each year. Subjects are offered at both higher and ordinary levels.

Students study 7 subjects to Leaving Cert and are encouraged to take subjects at higher level.



Leaving Certificate Applied Programme

The Leaving Certificate Applied is a distinct, self-contained two-year programme aimed at preparing students for adult and working life.

The advantage of Leaving Certificate Applied is that it focuses on the talents of each individual student and helps students apply what they learn in the real world.

The two-year programme consists of four half-year blocks called *Sessions* and achievements are credited through continuous assessment. There is also a work experience element of the course. Successful candidates receive a Leaving Certificate from the State Examinations Commission.

General Information

Canteen

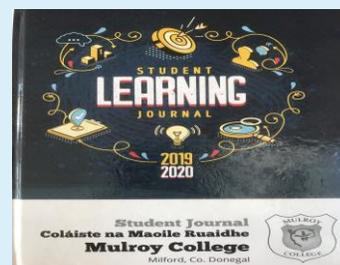
There is a privately run canteen on the school premises and a cashless system is in operation. The food is provided at very reasonable rates, €2 for a full hot dinner each day with great choices for everyone. Hot food is provided at break time, and at lunch. The canteen operates a Healthy eating policy.

Book Rental Scheme

Mulroy College offers a book rental scheme to all students. All incoming students are supplied with the necessary textbooks and workbooks under this scheme. The fee is a fraction of the usual cost of books.

Student Journal

We update our school Journal every year. It is the main form of communication between home and school. Homework is recorded in the journal as well as all written communication between school and home. The journal also contains a copy of the timetable, calendar for the year, code of behaviour and other useful information.



Student Support

Welcoming First Year Students

All new students to Mulroy College will be welcomed and several induction activities will be organised so that they will experience a smooth and enjoyable transition from primary school. These activities will vary from year to year. In particular, close contact and co-operation with the primary school is established and activities are arranged accordingly.

First year students will have at least one full day at the beginning of the school year when they are the only students in the college. Your child's progression through second level education will be enhanced by the provisions made by the college.

Class Teacher

As mentioned earlier, all classes in Mulroy College have a class teacher assigned to them. Students meet with this teacher every morning for roll call as well as preparation for the day ahead. Uniform is checked and notes are checked concerning absenteeism. This is also the forum where students can make known their concerns to their class teacher.

Restorative practices are used throughout the college when dealing with any levels of disagreement or conflict. Everyone gets the chance to be listened to and everyone gets the chance to be heard. We do not judge individuals.

Year Head

Each Year Head has overall responsibility for the welfare and progress of the students within their year group. The Year Head, together with the Class Teacher encourages students to take responsibility for their actions and to become independent learners. They also meet parents at parent teacher meetings and by appointment.

Career Guidance and Counselling service.

Ms. Catherine Crawford is available to advise students and their parents on career issues and provides a counselling service to students in need of assistance. She also organises information sessions on subject choices and further education options for 3rd and 6th year students and parents.

Home School Community Liaison Co-ordinator

Our Home School Community Liaison co-ordinator is the link person in the college between school, home and the wider community. She is available to meet parents in the home or in school to address issues relating to students' education and personal needs.



Extra Curricular Activities

Students in Mulroy College participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities throughout the year. Activities range from many Sports to Drama, Music, and Dance. The list is endless.

Range of Activities in Mulroy

Boys' & Girls' Gaelic Football

Boys' & Girls Soccer

Rugby

Volleyball

Basketball

Athletics

Circuit Training

Golf

Badminton

Surfing

Swimming

Creative Writing

Choir

Concerts

School Tours

Theatre Trips

Drama

Quizzes

Table Tennis

Sign Language

Modern Dance

Art Competitions

Girls Active

Cookery Competitions

Mini Company

Cookery Demonstrations

Field Trips (seniors)

Cross Border programmes

Green Schools Club

Outdoor Education

Gaisce, the President's Award



Teachers give generously of their time in this wide range of sporting, artistic and cultural activities contributing to the positive teacher-student relationship that is the cornerstone of education in Mulroy College.

ICT- Computers in the classroom

Information Technology plays an important role in everyday life of the college. Teachers are constantly adapting their teaching methods to include ICT in the classroom. Computers are so much part of everyday life, that staff is very aware of how important it is to include modern technology in their teaching.



Music/Drama in the School

Research shows that children who are exposed to music/drama, usually do well in school. Music/drama helps the mind to be alert and remain active eventually helping to sharpen the memory. It teaches discipline and relieves stress. Children gain a sense of achievement from participating in musical events and most of all – they enjoy it.

We encourage students to take part in our annual Christmas Concert, and our Annual Variety Show in An Grianan Theatre.

The College choir sings for all college events and take their talent out into the community for seasonal events. The choir also enter many competitions where they have realised much success. Guitar lessons for also available for interested students and other music workshops happen throughout the year. Drama Workshops are also available for our second and third year students.



Anti-bullying

We have a range of strategies to support our anti-bullying policy. The behaviour of students is closely monitored at all times in Mulroy College.

- Monitoring of classes by Class Teachers
- Supervision during break times
- Use of mentor system as a constant support to our junior students
- An annual one week anti-bullying campaign.
- S.P.H.E Class Programmes.

Uniform and Appearance

All students must wear full uniform at all times.

The present uniform is:

Navy V-neck jumper with school crest

School tie

Black shoes

Navy jacket with school crest

Boys: Grey trousers Grey Shirt

Girls: Navy trousers and/or navy skirt

White shirt

It must be noted that no other coat/jacket/fleece is allowed.

Shoes should be completely black in colour.

Uniform must be worn to and from the school.



Positive Behaviour Management

Our Code of Behaviour exists to ensure that active teaching and learning takes place in a happy and safe environment. A college ethos of encouragement is central to the promotion of good behaviour in Mulroy College.

We have adopted the principles of Restorative Practices where all members of the school community work in partnership to repair broken relationships and work out ways where everyone can be involved and proactive in managing conflict and moving on afterwards. Through this approach students get the opportunity to learn more about behaviour and how best to work through issues. People are brought together in a structured and agreed way to discuss concerns as they arise. In this way everyone is heard, valued equally and relationships strengthened.

Our Code of Behaviour

Attendance and Punctuality

- Regular attendance is essential.
- Students should be on time for classes each day.
- A written explanation of all absences must be provided by a parent/guardian.
- Permission to leave the college during the school day is given providing a signed note from a parent/guardian has been provided.
- Students are expected to follow the “sign out” procedure and be collected by a parent/guardian or a person nominated by them.

Smoking

Smoking is illegal in the college in accordance with current legislation. It is strictly forbidden.

Conduct

- Good behaviour is always expected
- Bullying is a serious breach of discipline and will not be tolerated.
- Students are expected to be courteous and respectful to fellow students and to all teaching and non-teaching staff
- All college property and equipment must be used respectfully
- Bad language is unacceptable.

Uniform

- Proper college uniform must be worn daily
- Black shoes must be worn at all times except during designated P.E. class
- College jackets only should be worn.

Homework

- Homework is an essential part of the learning process and should be recorded in the student journal
- Parents are requested to take an active part in their child’s homework
- All homework must be attempted.

Mobile Phones.

- Mobile phones are not allowed to be used in the college at any time.
- If confiscated, a parent/guardian may collect from the office.

Rewards, Misbehaviour & Sanctions

Mulroy College recognises that the majority of students are well behaved, and it is only the minority of students who disrupt the learning opportunities of others.

While many incidents of disruption may not appear in themselves to be of undue seriousness, taken on a recurring basis they can undermine the climate for teaching and learning that is fundamental to the ethos of the college.

Incidents of serious indiscipline which pose a risk to the safety and wellbeing of teachers and/or students will be dealt with in the most serious manner possible and could lead to suspension and/or expulsion from the college.

Rewards

- Personal word of praise from the teacher
- Good comment in the student diary
- Congratulatory note or letter home
- Display of student work in the classroom or in a prominent place
- Class outing to cinema, bowling or places of educational interest
- College Prize giving

Sanctions

- Lunchtime detention
- In-house suspension
- Friday afternoon detention
- Extra written work
- “Daily report” of which the parent/guardian is informed
- In the case of a serious breach of discipline, a student may be suspended

- In the case of a very serious breach of discipline or on-going disruptive behaviour the Board of Management will be informed with a view to further disciplinary action.

A full copy of the college’s Code of Behaviour and Admissions Policy will be made available to all visitors on Open Night.

A full copy of the Code of Behaviour is always printed in each student Journal every year.

Any additional policies are available on request from the office.

Contact Information



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