



# Mulroy College

First Year Parents Information Evening  
Thursday 19th September 2024

**Mulroy College embodies mutual respect, in a caring environment, while enabling students to achieve personal success and to move with confidence into a world of endless opportunities.**

# Introductions

Excellence in Education



- **Principal:** Ms Fiona Temple
- **Deputy Principals:** Ms Amanda Quinn, Mr David McHale
- **Year Head:** Ms Nicola Shields assisted by Ms Karen Stewart
- **Class Teachers:**
  - Ms Sarah Doherty - Rang Oisín
  - Mr Frank Boyce - Rang Orlaith
  - Ms Gallagher - Rang Oscar
  - Ms Gibbons - Rang Olive
- **HSCL Coordinator:** Ms Evelyn Crampsie

# Information

Excellence in Education



- ❖ Our core values
- ❖ Our targets for the year
- ❖ Communication
- ❖ Curriculum
- ❖ Supporting Teaching and Learning
- ❖ Use of the Diary
- ❖ Anti Bullying Policy

# Core Values

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## **DEIS**

A whole school approach to implementing our DEIS plan and achieving our targets in the 8 strands

## **Ethos**

A whole school approach to embedding, teaching and experiencing the 5 core values

## **Wellbeing**

A whole school approach to wellbeing

## **No student devices**

## **Use of Vsware and the Diary**

# Positive learning environment

Care & Respect

## Students focus

1. Time keeping
2. Being prepared for Class
3. Completing Homework
4. Work respectfully with others

# Procedures

Excellence in Education, Respect



- Always have a note in the diary if arriving late or leaving early
- If leaving early, students must be collected from the school
- Full school uniform each day
- Mobile Phones are not permitted
- Full School PE uniform on days with PE
- Check timetables each evening
- Diary should be checked and signed each day
- Parent / Teacher Communication
- Use of Lockers

# DEIS Actions

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## Attendance

### Actions:

- Promoting the message 'EVERY LESSON COUNTS'.
- Accurate recording of attendance on VShare at the beginning of each class.
- **Use the student journal to record lates to class, absence and missed tests. Teachers to note and flag patterns and trends around previous - lates, absence and missed tests. Subject teacher to report ongoing patterns of absences/lates to the year head.**
- **Use the student journal to communicate positive behaviour and areas of concern with parents.**
- Year heads to work in conjunction with the attendance officer and Vshare to track attendance on a weekly/monthly basis.
- A reward system for the student of the month and improved attendance.

## Transitions

### Actions:

- Increased awareness from subject departments on the transitions from Primary to Secondary level
- Events such as Open Day/ Open Night/ Transfer Day & Friendship Day to ease the move from Primary
- Increased awareness from subject departments on the transitions from junior to senior cycle in their relevant subject areas.
- Careers fair to equip students with the knowledge they need to make informed decisions around subject choice and possible career choices.



# DEIS Actions

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## Literacy:

### Actions:

- Key words will be displayed in each classroom and teachers will highlight 3 spelling mistakes when correcting work for students to self correct.
- Each department will help students decode the literacy of examination language - common approach by all departments. Box instruction, underline the key words and glance over the question again (BUG strategy)
- Coordinated approach to correcting of work - e.g. 2 stars and a wish and formative feedback
- New library - Book in a bag - all students will carry reading material - books - fiction/non fiction/ Farmers Journal - Reading awards & competitions

## Numeracy:

### Actions:

- Standard test cover sheet for wholeschool - BUG strategy - Breakdown of results per question, Teacher feedback - student feedback - linked back to diary. Include also the predicted and actual grade. Completed cover sheet to be signed by parents.
- Problem solving posters in all rooms. New graphing strategies.
- Metric system - common approach by all departments - Posters for measurements and units in all classrooms.
- **Predicted grade and actual - working out the percentage difference between what they predicted and what they got.**
- Encourage more active methodologies e.g. conducting a survey and analysing results.

# DEIS Actions

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## Attainment:

### Actions:

- Delay opting to ordinary level at senior cycle until after the mocks.
- Clear goals and success criteria for each task.
- A positive reward system using VSware.
- Teachers to regularly input assessment grades in Vsware to aid and monitor student progress.
- Gradam, Óir letters to acknowledge dedication, commitment and excellence in education.
- Study skills classes and programmes
- Prize giving ceremony - including Academic, Appreciation. Extra curricular and Ethos awards.
- Parent teacher meetings

## Retention:

### Actions:

- Establish clear data tracking and recording processes so that accurate figures are readily accessible for staff and teams.
- Curriculum committee to review the subjects and programmes of study for TY and LCA students to suit the cohort.
- Student support team
- Learner voice team
- Evening study
- Continued links with ATU/Solas/Teagasc
- Increased awareness from subject departments on the transitions from junior to senior cycle in their relevant subject areas.

# DEIS Actions

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## Partnership with Parents:

### Actions:

- Parent's Association
- Subject teachers to use school journal to communicate with parents - highlighting areas of achievement and challenge.
- Parents use the school journal to communicate with staff.
- Communication with parents through text messaging from the attendance officer/secretary/management.
- Staff communicate with parents through phone calls.
- Teachers to regularly input assessment grades in Vsware to aid and monitor student progress. Positive reinforcement of academic performance and behaviour on vsware for parents to view/monitor.
- Parent teacher meetings - display student work and relevant information e.g. study skills, apprenticeships, subject options, programmes of study. Parent Information evening. Open night.
- Careers fair invite to parents. Senior Prize giving invite to parents.
- Parents courses/ Book club
- The HSCL is in regular communication with parents.

## Partnership with Others:

### Actions:

- Relationship with Primary Schools. Transition Year students do paired reading with the local primary school.
- Incoming 1st years to visit the local library and become a member.
- Participate in Read DL and attend the open day.
- Participate in local and national competitions - Enterprise programmes
- Invite guest speakers to the school.
- Transition Year, LCA 1 and 2 and 5th years participate in work experience.
- Music in the community - nursing homes/shopping centres.
- Continued links with ATU, Solas, Teagasc, Optum and other relevant bodies.

# Junior Cycle Curriculum

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## The school day:

- All classes are 40 mins
- Monday – Friday start at 8:50am
- Monday – Thursday finish at 3:50pm
- Friday finish 1:15pm

## Through engaging with the key skills students will:

- be more actively engaged with learning
- take greater ownership of their learning
- have a critical engagement with digital technology
- be encouraged to problem solve and think critically and creatively

<b>MANAGING MYSELF</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Knowing myself</li><li>• Making considered decisions</li><li>• Setting and achieving personal goals</li><li>• Being able to reflect on my own learning</li><li>• Using digital technology to manage myself and my learning</li></ul>	<b>STAYING WELL</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Being healthy, physical and active</li><li>• Being social</li><li>• Being safe</li><li>• Being spiritual</li><li>• Being confident</li><li>• Being positive about learning</li><li>• Being responsible, safe and ethical in using digital technology</li></ul>	<b>COMMUNICATING</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Listening and expressing myself</li><li>• Using language</li><li>• Using numbers and data</li><li>• Performing and presenting</li><li>• Discussing and debating</li><li>• Using digital technology to communicate</li></ul>
<b>BEING CREATIVE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Imagining</li><li>• Exploring options and alternatives</li><li>• Implementing ideas and taking action</li><li>• Learning creatively</li><li>• Stimulating creativity using digital technology</li></ul>	<b>WORKING WITH OTHERS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Developing good relationships and dealing with conflict</li><li>• Co-operating</li><li>• Respecting difference</li><li>• Contributing to making the world a better place</li><li>• Learning with others</li><li>• Working with others through digital technology</li></ul>	<b>MANAGING INFORMATION AND THINKING</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Being curious</li><li>• Gathering, recording, organising, and evaluating information and data</li><li>• Thinking creatively and critically</li><li>• Reflecting on and evaluating my learning</li><li>• Using digital technology to access, manage and share content</li></ul>

# Our Curriculum

## Mixed Ability Grouping

- Banding in English, Irish and Mathematics

## Higher Levels

All programmes available:

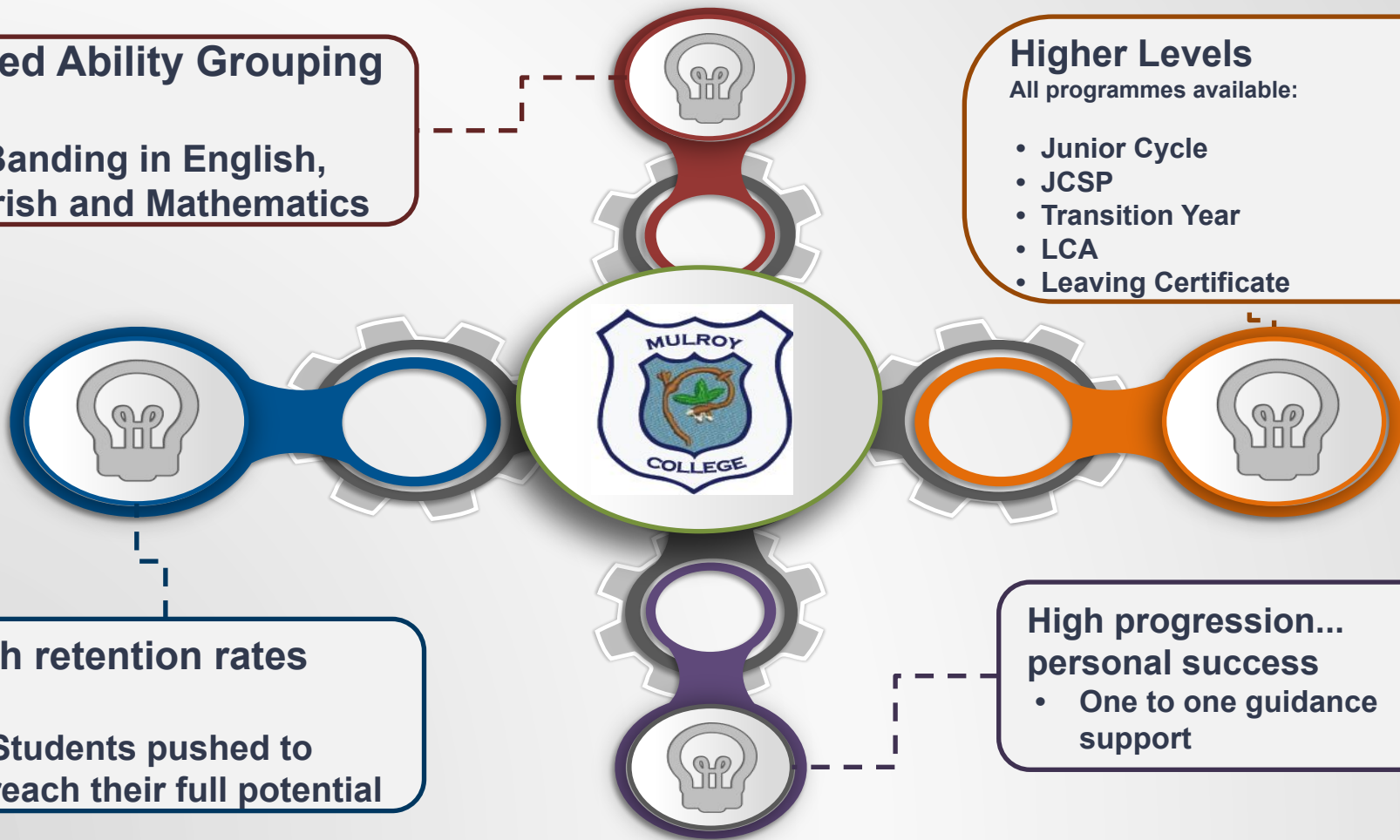
- Junior Cycle
- JCSP
- Transition Year
- LCA
- Leaving Certificate

## High retention rates

- Students pushed to reach their full potential

## High progression... personal success

- One to one guidance support





## 7 Core subjects



**1 English**

**English**

Higher and Ordinary level  
2 CBA's  
Assessment task  
Exam



**2 Gaelge**

**Gaeilge**

Higher and Ordinary level  
2 CBA's  
Assessment task  
Exam



**3 Maths**

**Maths**

Higher and Ordinary level  
2 CBA's  
Assessment task  
Exam



**4 Science**



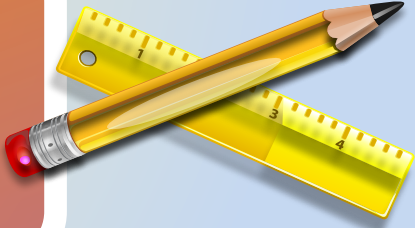
**Science**

Common level  
2 CBA's  
Assessment task  
Exam



**5 history**

**History**



Common level  
2 CBA's  
Assessment task  
Exam



## Geography

Common level  
2 CBA's  
Assessment task  
Exam



## Wellbeing

Careers, Religion, Social  
Personal and Health  
Education,  
Short course in Physical  
Education and CSPE

**You choose 1 Modern  
Foreign Language**



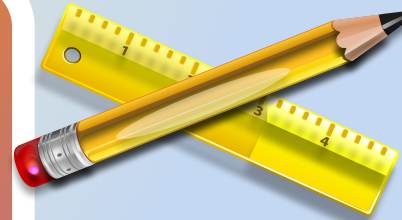
## French

Common level  
2 CBA's  
Assessment task  
Exam



## German

Common level  
2 CBA's  
Assessment task  
Exam





# 8 optional subjects



Students study 3





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State Certified Final Examinations	
Irish L2 (H)	Achieved
Mathematics (H)	B
English (H) <sup>(4)</sup>	Achieved
Business Studies (C)	Distinction
French (C)	Higher Merit
Geography (H)	A
History (H)	C
Science (C)	Higher Merit
Visual Art (C)	Higher Merit

Classroom-Based Assessments - Subjects		
IRISH L2	Language Portfolio	In line with Expectations
	Communicative Task	Above Expectations
ENGLISH	Oral Communication	In line with Expectations
	The Collection of the Student's Texts	Above Expectations
BUSINESS STUDIES	Business in Action	Above Expectations
	Presentation	In line with Expectations
FRENCH	Oral Communication	Above Expectations
	Student Language Portfolio	Above Expectations
SCIENCE	Extended Experimental Investigation	In line with Expectations
	Science in Society Investigation	Above Expectations
VISUAL ART	From Process to Realisation	In line with Expectations
	Communicate and Reflect	Exceptional

**Other Areas of Learning**

Mary took part in a school drama performance, learned to express herself and build her communication skills.

Mary participated in the school Science Competition (*Let's Explore*) where she developed ways to recycle plastic. In doing so, she learned to bring an idea from conception to realisation.

Mary through her role as Class Representative learned to communicate effectively as a voice for the students in her class.

Mary worked collaboratively with others, in the organisation and promotion of the school carol service for the local community.

Mary was a member of the school camogie team, where she committed to training and developed her confidence in physical activity.

**Classroom-Based Assessments - Short Courses**

Digital Media Literacy	Above Expectations
Philosophy	In line with Expectations

**Wellbeing**

CSPE	Not Reported
SPHE	Not Reported
PE	Above Expectations

**Other Areas of Wellbeing**

In SPHE, Mary reflected on and learned about the changing patterns of teenage friendship and how best to manage relationships.

Mary completed a project in CSPE where she learned about the social and economic impact of homelessness.

As part of the school's Wellbeing Programme, Mary participated in *Lockers* where she learned about the influence of social media, peer pressure and stereotypes in the digital world.

The JCPA will reflect a much wider range of your child's achievements over the three years of junior cycle. The JCPA will report on a number of areas, including:

1. Subjects (State Examination and Assessment Task)
2. Classroom Based Assessments
3. Short courses
4. Other Areas of Learning
5. The Wellbeing Programme

<b>Principal</b> Colman Candy	<b>Year head</b> Ann Howett	<b>Roll Number: 60478Q</b> Anytown Secondary School Anytown Co. Any County
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# Assessment



## Student Wellbeing :

Your child's wellbeing is of central importance to his/her educational success and overall happiness. Wellbeing will become a core part of your child's junior cycle experience.

This area of learning includes, amongst others, Physical Education (PE), Civic, Social and Political Education (CSPE), Social, Personal and Health Education (SPHE) [including Relationship and Sexuality Education (RSE)] and Guidance.

The state examination that students sit in their subject at the end of their junior cycle will also be graded differently. Instead of A, B, C, D, E, F and NG the following descriptors will now be used:

<b>Distinction</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Higher Merit</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>89%</b>
<b>Merit</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>74%</b>
<b>Achieved</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>54%</b>
<b>Partially Achieved</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>39%</b>
<b>(not graded)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>19%</b>

CBAs will be reported on in the JCPA using the following descriptors:

- Exceptional
- Above Expectations
- In Line with Expectations
- Yet to Meet Expectations

# VS WARE



Parent Dashboard

Your Students ▾



## Parent Dashboard



### Welcome to the Dashboard

This page is your one-stop-shop to view live notifications on your student's attendance, behaviour, reports and more. If you want to explore further, click into your student's profile.



### Your Students



### Your Contact Details



## Notifications

[View all](#)



Its are available for 2021/2022 2nd Year Summer Report [Please see details here.](#)



[View all notifications](#)

# VS WARE



Pick an area to explore



## Attendance

Monitor your student's attendance at a glance, view records from an entire year or specific lesson.

[Learn More →](#)



## Assessment

View your student's full academic record, track progress over time and download term assessments.

[Learn More →](#)



## Behaviour

Keep track of your student's behaviour, monitor progress & teacher feedback.

[Learn More →](#)



## Timetable

View your student's timetable, see realtime data for which lesson they are in at any given time.

[Learn More →](#)



## Personal Info

Overview of your student's key info. Ensure that this is up to date.

[Learn More →](#)



## Fees

Overview of school fees for the year, pay directly via card online.

[Learn More →](#)



## Student Options

Submit next year's subject preferences directly to the school.

[Learn More →](#)



# VS WARE Assessment

Select the type of Assessment you would like to view



## State CBA

Classroom-Based Assessment of your student for the full academic year.

[Learn More →](#)



## Term Assessments

Here you will find a breakdown of how your student's performance on their last exam.

[Learn More →](#)



## Class Assessments

A new feature which shows all of your student's assessments conducted in the classroom.

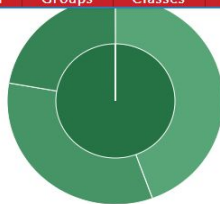
[Learn More →](#)

# VS ware Behaviour

What's new Dashboard Groups Classes Mail Students Teachers Settings Attendance

Total Points:

+109



2

Incident Date: 13/09/2023  
Incident Time: 12:37  
Note: -

Type: Excellent Work

Subject: Geography

Raised by: Nikita Doherty



3

Incident Date: 12/09/2023  
Incident Time: 09:43  
Note: -

Type: Act of kindness

Subject: English

Raised by: Nicola Shields



2

Incident Date: 08/09/2023  
Incident Time: 13:04  
Note: -

Type: Excellent Work

Subject: Irish

Raised by: Catherine Mc Intyre



1

Incident Date: 05/09/2023  
Incident Time: 15:23  
Note: -

Type: Great contribution in class

Subject: English

Raised by: Nicola Shields



1

Incident Date: 04/09/2023  
Incident Time: 15:45

Type: Great contribution in class

Subject: Geography

Raised by: Nikita Doherty



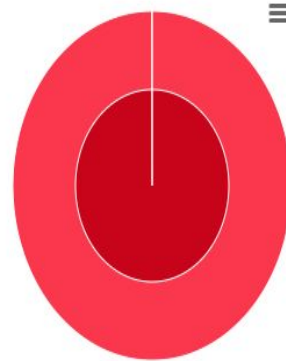
# VS ware Behaviour

Behaviour View

Actions ▾

Total Points:

+99



-1

Incident Date: 05/09/2023

Incident Time: 08:56

Note: -

Type: Uniform class tutor

Subject: Tutorial

Raised by: Sara Crawford





# Communication – Staying connected

## 1st Year Team

- 4 Class Teachers
- 4 SNA's
- Year Head & Assistant Year head
- SEN Coordinator
- HSCL Coordinator

\*\*Role of Year Head



Class Teacher &  
Student Diary -

communicating  
positive behaviour  
and areas of  
concern between  
parents and school  
staff



# Communication – Staying connected



**VSWare:** Assessments

**Parent Teacher Meeting:** 27th November 2024

**In School meetings:** Parent request/School request

**School Texts** - alert to incoming letters/surveys

**School Website:** [www.mulroycollege.ie](http://www.mulroycollege.ie)

**Social Media:**

**Facebook:** @Mulroy College

**Twitter:** @MulroyCollege

**Instagram :** @mulroycollege

**Contact:** Phone call/Email

1st Year Head

[nicolamcbride@donegaletb.ie](mailto:nicolamcbride@donegaletb.ie)

SEN Coordinator

[staceyglackin@donegaletb.ie](mailto:staceyglackin@donegaletb.ie)

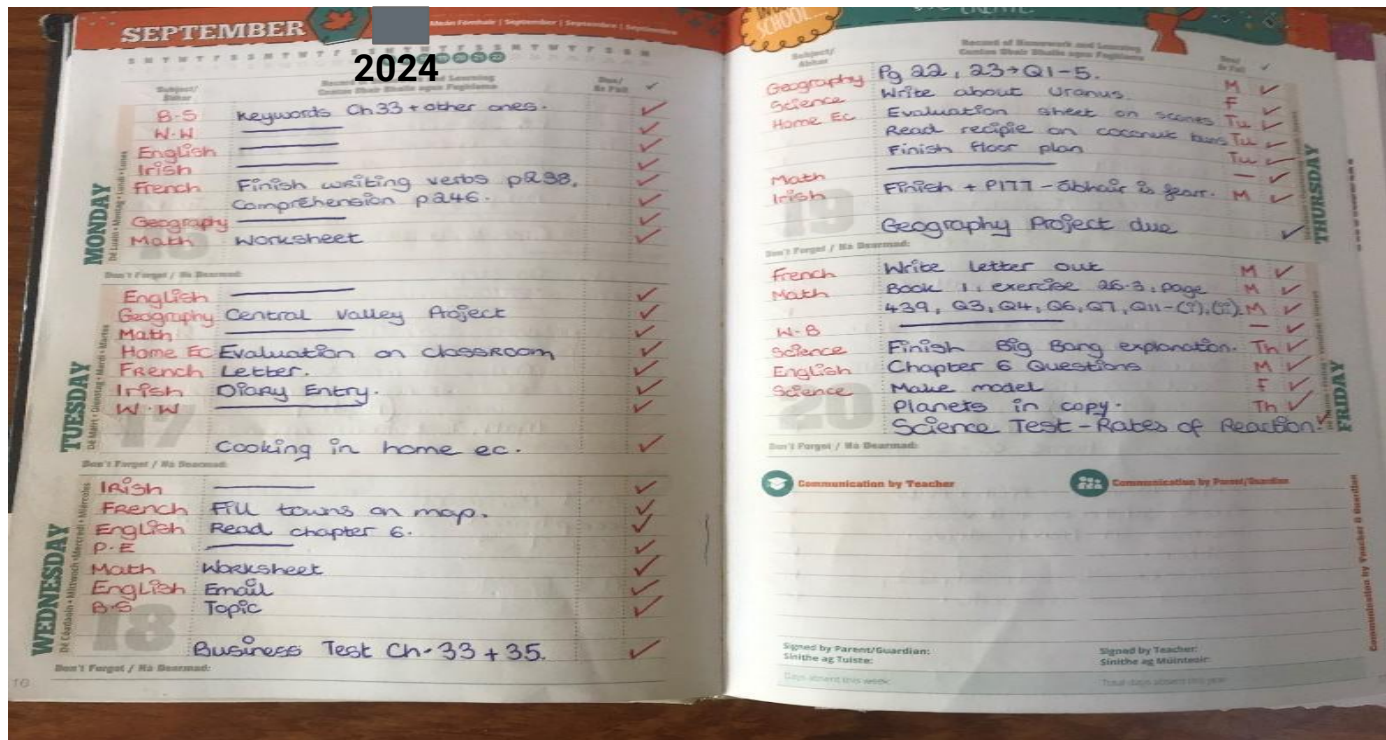
HSCCL Coordinator

[evelyncrampsie@donegaletb.ie](mailto:evelyncrampsie@donegaletb.ie)



# Student Diary

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# Student Diary

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## MANAGING YOUR LEARNING

There are three main elements to managing your learning, these being:

1. Setting learning goals and planning your learning
2. Monitoring your progress
3. Reflecting on your learning and progress with a view to learning from past experience.

Learning how to manage yourself and your learning is a key skill for Junior Cycle and it will prepare you for success at Senior Cycle.

Below are links to tools/templates which will help you to manage your learning.

The templates are divided into the **three elements** of self-management for learning: **1. Setting learning goals and managing your learning, 2. Monitoring your progress, 3. Reflecting on your learning and progress.**

When you select a QR Code for a particular template, it takes you to the online template and you can then print that resource and use it manage your learning.

## TEMPLATES

### 1 Managing Myself - Setting learning goals and planning your learning



**Template A:**  
Setting Your Learning Goals



**Template B:**  
Your Study Timetable



**Template C:**  
Subject Revision Planner

### 2 Monitoring Your Progress and Recording Your Achievements



**Template D:**  
Monthly Review



**Template E:**  
Tracking Your Results Subject by Subject



**Template F:**  
Other Areas of Learning

### 3 Reflecting on Your Learning and Progress - Reflections on your monthly learning



**Template G:**  
Reflecting on Your Assessments



**Template H:**  
Reflecting on Your Learning Goals

## EXAM TIMETABLES

DATE	SUBJECT	TIME

DATE	SUBJECT	TIME

### TOP EXAM TIPS



**Read and Reread** – Read all exam questions carefully, then read them again. The second time round, underline or highlight the key points.



**Use Time Wisely** – Take note of how many marks are awarded for each question and divide your time accordingly. If you feel you can't fully answer a question just try it, marks are awarded for attempts and partial answers.



**Eat for Success** – Fizzy energy drinks will only boost you for an hour, but by eating slow energy release foods such as porridge with nuts and fruit you will have the energy for a full day of exams.



# Home School Community Liaison Scheme



All DEIS Schools have the HSCL scheme which aims to promote partnership between parents and teachers to improve educational opportunities and outcomes for students.

It is hoped that by teachers and parents working together, children will be more likely to come to school, be active and participate in school life and remain at school.

The Home School Community Liaison Coordinator in Mulroy College is **Evelyn Crampsie**

She is available to meet parents **in their home, in school or another suitable venue.**

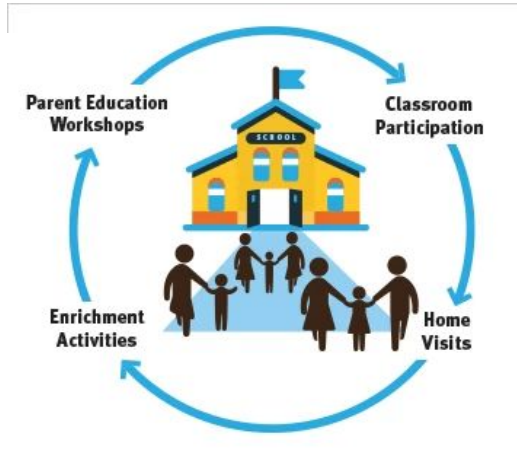
She can be contacted by phone: 074 91 53346

Parents can email her at [evelyncrampsie@donegaletb.ie](mailto:evelyncrampsie@donegaletb.ie)





# HSCL Coordinator Role





# How Parents can support their Children



A child who attends school every day, all day, will have a better chance in life. A student with good attendance will perform better in their exams and have a better chance of going to college or getting the job they want. Missing classes and having to catch up on work can add to the anxiety some young people feel towards school.



# How Parents can support their Children



- Get spare locker keys cut.
- Check that homework is completed and sign the journal. Check for any notes from teachers
- If your child seems anxious about school, talk with them. There may be problems with managing their work or relationships with others. Check in with the relevant college staff.
- Remind your child about keeping their phone in their locker & of the importance of staying on the school grounds at all times.



# Mulroy College Parents Book club



When: First Friday of every month @ 12.15pm

Where: Mulroy College

Equipment: A new book is chosen each month

# Vaccinations

**Vaccinations will take place in:**

**Mulroy College  
Jan 29th 2025**

**[Forms must be returned to the school by Thursday 26th September](#)**

**Queries to: 074 91 23753**

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