



PEARSON
NATIONAL
TEACHING
AWARDS

WINNERS 2021



Edmund Rice College

Prospectus 2023



A young woman with dark hair, wearing a blue school jacket over a grey sweater and a striped tie, is smiling and looking to her left. The background is a soft, out-of-focus outdoor setting.

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EDUCATION
EXCELLENCE
FOR ALL PEOPLE
RESPECT
SELF AND
CARE IN THE
SCHOOL AND
COMMUNITY

ONAL

ICE

UPILS

FOR

OTHERS

THE HOME

AND

TY





Mission Statement

In Edmund Rice College we provide a pupil-centred, broad and balanced curriculum reflecting the needs of all pupils with the aim of maximising their life chances.

We strive, as a school community, to ensure that each student has the opportunity to achieve their full potential. We do this within a learning environment that is safe, positive, respectful, inclusive and welcoming.

Our ethos permeates all that we do and creates an environment of care and support. Pupils are encouraged to have ambitious aspirations and are motivated in pursuit of these. Past pupils have progressed into all walks of life. Many past pupils retain a strong link with the school including involvement at Board of Governor level. An even greater number send their children to Edmund Rice College, which indicates confidence in the school and is a great testament to what we do. Through provision of a broad range

of curricular and extracurricular activities and the promotion of a positive outlook to life, we develop the whole individual. The professionalism of all staff is evidenced in their work and performance. Their commitment to Continued Professional Development ensures modern techniques, methodologies and technologies are employed in both teaching and learning. Our school is deeply rooted in our communities and reflects the diversity therein. The triangular partnership between the school, the home and the community allows us to create a school that pupils aspire to go to, feel welcome at, perform well in and of which the community is proud.

"Whilst you work for God, whether you succeed or not, he will amply reward you."



Welcome from our Transition Team

At Edmund Rice College we are fully committed to ensuring that pupils have a sense of belonging in a strong and vibrant school community where they can experience a wide range of activities and develop a desire and passion for learning.

From the very beginning of any student's journey here, we encourage everyone to excel and take up an opportunity to promote themselves in a positive light. We expect our pupils to challenge themselves, to work hard and to give their best efforts in order to achieve their full potential as they enter adult life. We welcome and value all pupils in an inclusive all-ability environment as we aim to instil the values of Excellence, Respect and Care at all times throughout their time in the school.

Education is not just about exam results and we pride ourselves in Edmund Rice College in guaranteeing that each pupil feels safe and happy at all times. The pastoral care in the school has been highlighted in recent ETI inspection reports as being "Outstanding", highlighting the strong and positive relationships between staff, pupils and parents. The school's Catholic ethos permeates the life and work of the college as we aim to continue the legacy and great work that Blessed Edmund Rice began with when

he founded his first school. Through this prospectus, we aim to show the warmth of Edmund Rice College. We invite you to take the opportunity of the Open Evening to explore the school and to speak to staff and pupils about their experiences.

We very much look forward to meeting you then and fully hope that you will be able to join us in September as a pupil of Edmund Rice College.

Mr S Campbell (Head of Year 8)

Mrs M O'Connor (Head of Transition)





**'Pupils have a sense of belonging
in a strong and vibrant school'**

Welcome from the Student Leadership Team

Hello, my name is Matthew Girvan and I am the Head Pupil at Edmund Rice College for 2022-2023.



I started at Edmund Rice College in September 2016 and have made great friends from the moment I came through the doors. Edmund Rice College has provided me with outstanding teachers that have challenged and motivated me to achieve my goals. With the commitment of my teachers and personal dedication to hard work, I was able to achieve 10 GCSEs at grades A-C and I am currently studying three A levels in Health and Social Care, Hospitality and Business Studies. Next year I hope to go to University to do a Paramedic Science Degree. The school has amazing sports facilities that has helped me and my peers to develop our skills in many sporting arenas. I have played for the school Gaelic team and enjoyed many outings with other pupils and staff. Starting any new school can be a difficult time especially when moving from a small primary school to a big secondary school. Fortunately Mr Campbell, Head of Year 8, and Mrs O'Connor, Head of Transition, along with my form teacher Mr Mulgrew were amazing. They helped me and my entire year make the transition so easy. There are many initiatives in place in school to ease the transition from P7 to Year 8 and to ensure the happiness and safety of every child. I will always be grateful for my time at Edmund Rice College and thankful for all the opportunities the school has given myself. By picking Edmund Rice College as your secondary school you will be making the perfect choice!

Hi I'm Holly, a lower sixth pupil currently attending Edmund Rice College. I am also a House Prefect for the house, 'Endeavour' this year.



I joined the school in September 2007 and was among the first girls to join Edmund Rice. At the time, this was a nerve wrecking decision but throughout my six years here I have loved every moment and all the experiences that I've taken part in have developed me as an individual and as a member of our school community. The members of staff are so supportive and caring, they give great advice and are currently helping me decide my future goals in life. In Year 12 I gained 9 GCSEs at Grades A-C. I am currently studying three A levels, Photography, Hospitality and English Literature. All of these are helping me towards my future goal of attending Queen's University in Belfast to study English and Drama. With the amazing involvement of the teachers throughout my years here and the outstanding GCSE results of our year group, I am hoping to aim myself even higher for A levels. I have met some of my closest and most genuine friends here and together we have had many great experiences of school choir, school shows and trips abroad including the Ski Trip to Italy and a trip to Disney Paris. Attending Edmund Rice College was one of the best decisions I have ever made and I believe it really is the best choice you can make. Good Luck!



Pastoral Care in Edmund Rice College

Pastoral Care in Edmund Rice College is the cornerstone of everything we as a school community

The minute you walk through the doors you will be offered the hand of friendship. It has often been said over the years that you can feel the caring atmosphere throughout the school. This is all due to the hard work and dedication of a staff that have the pastoral care of our students at the heart of everything they do. In addition, the Pastoral Care Team work closely with a number of external agencies that engage our students in activities to support their well-being and enhance their learning experience.





Day-to-Day At Edmund Rice College

**1**

The Pastoral Care Team is co-ordinated by the Head of Pastoral Care - Mrs Geraldine Davey and she is supported by the Year Heads and Form Teachers. Strong relationships are built between students and form teachers and Teacher Mentors are there to support individual students for a variety of reasons.

Ardoyne Youth Club

**2**

The aim is to use youth work interventions with our young people to raise their awareness of positive mental health, how to find support and develop their confidence, resilience and coping strategies.

Family Works

**3**

School Counselling Service which offers a range of support services to all students.

EA Reach Programme

**4**

REACH (Resilience Education Assisting Change to Happen) is a dedicated youth work programme which supports pupils, teachers and parents within schools across Northern Ireland to improve the emotional health and wellbeing outcomes for our children and young people.

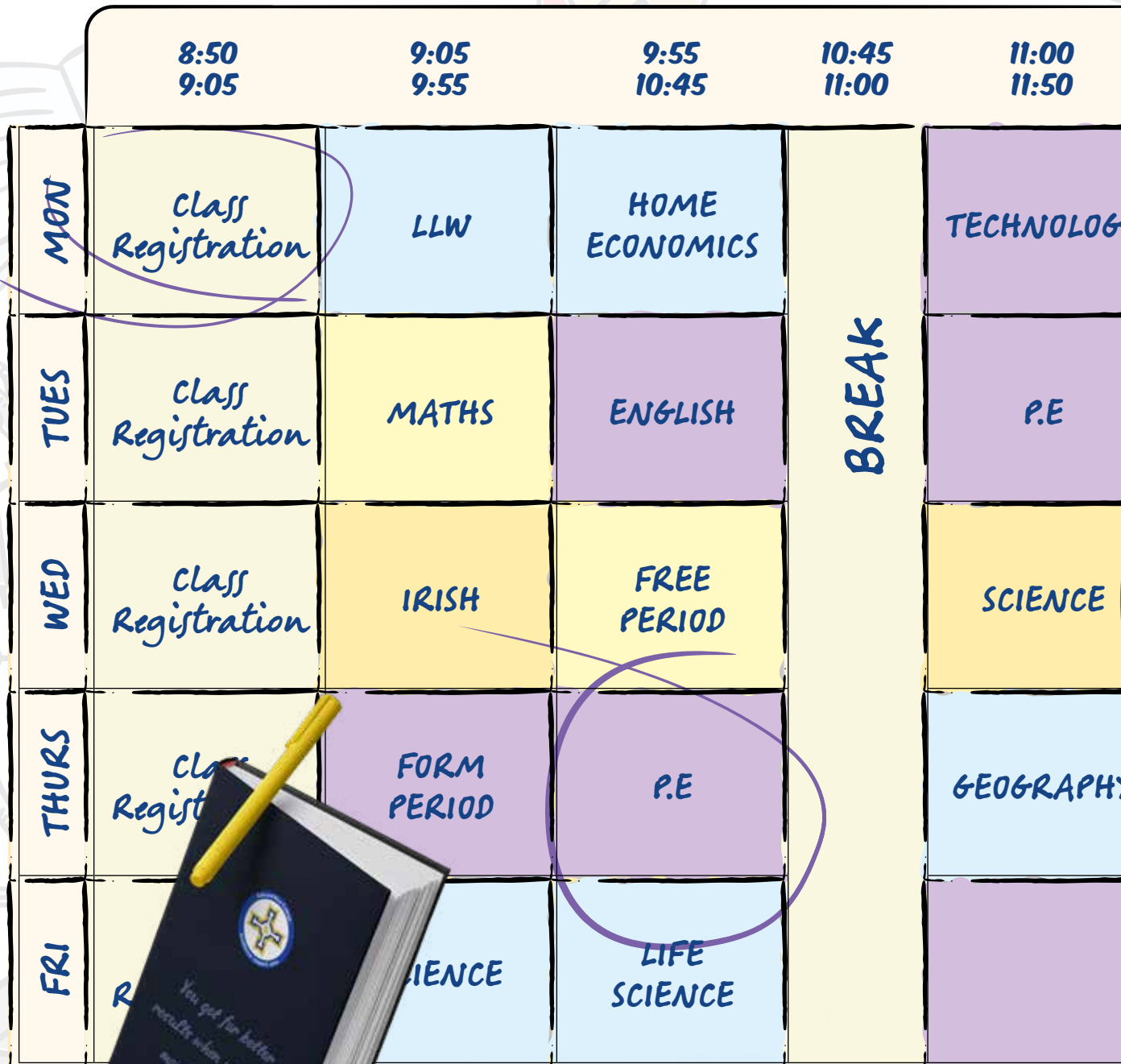
We are a 'Take 5' School

**5**

The Education Authority has awarded us 'Take 5' status, the first school in the area to achieve this. We embrace the Take 5 Steps to Wellbeing, which are Connect, Keep Learning, Be Active, Take Notice and Give. All of our students are encouraged to incorporate these concepts in their lives in a drive to promote positive mental health and wellbeing. We have a number of Take 5 pupil champions who are promoting the message throughout the school community.



School Day



	8:50 9:05	9:05 9:55	9:55 10:45	10:45 11:00	11:00 11:50
MON	Class Registration	LLW	HOME ECONOMICS	BREAK	TECHNOLOGY
TUES	Class Registration	MATHS	ENGLISH		P.E
WED	Class Registration	IRISH	FREE PERIOD		SCIENCE
THURS	Class Registration	FORM PERIOD	P.E		GEOGRAPHY
FRI	Class Registration	SCIENCE	LIFE SCIENCE		



	11:50 12:40	12:40 1:15	1:30 2:05	2:05 2:55	2:55 3:15
Y	ART	LUNCH	SCIENCE	RELIGION	Class De-Registration
	P.E		HOME ECONOMICS	HISTORY	Class De-Registration
	COMPUTER TECH		DRAMA	FRENCH	Class De-Registration
Y	GEOGRAPHY		Self study	ENGLISH	Class De-Registration
	ENG L			ART	Class Registration



School Uniform & Sports PE Kit

Blazer: 1880 Club, Bright Royal Blue

Jumper Yr 8 - 12 - Deerpark Knitwear or Abbey Knitwear. Grey jumper with blue, white and yellow stripes on V.

Jumper Yr 13 & 14 - Deerpark Knitwear or Abbey Knitwear. Black jumper with school logo on chest & blue, white & yellow stripes on V.

Skirt: 1880 Club. Black

Trousers: Black

Shirt/Blouse: White

White Shirt

Black Leather Shoes

Black Socks (Boys)

Black Tights (Girls)

Tie Yr 8 -12

Uniform suppliers:

- The Sports Company (Fortwilliam Shops)
- The Jeanery Glengormley

Blazer With school crest

V Neck Jumper

Tie Yr 8-12

Black Skirt & Trousers

Black shoes

UNI FORM



Available
from O'Neills
—

Gaelic Top
Royal &
Amber



Royal socks
with Triple
Amber stripes
at top.

Shorts Royal
with Triple
Amber stripe
at sides

PE
KIT

Teaching & Learning

Edmund Rice College believes in 'Educational Excellence'. We aim to provide a stimulating, well organised and high-quality teaching and learning experience for every pupil. Teaching and Learning is at the heart of all that we do at Edmund Rice College. The quality of teaching will have a strong impact on the effectiveness of learning. In all lessons in Edmund Rice College, we strive to ensure pupils maximise their full potential and make progress. We employ a wide range of teaching and learning strategies to engage pupils, making their learning relevant and fun.

We have four assessment windows throughout the academic year where pupils have the opportunity to experience how to prepare for a range of assessments. In each assessment window pupils are guided through revision strategies, independent learning and are supported by all staff allowing them to achieve their own personal

best. We have high expectations for all our pupils and are committed to quality teaching and learning strategies that encourage each pupil to strive toward and achieve their full potential. The curriculum at Edmund Rice College whilst primarily shaped by the Revised Curriculum for Northern Ireland, is designed to reflect the key principles of the school's mission statement. The college is committed to ensuring that the curriculum is challenging, interesting, and rewarding.

Key Stage 3

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum. In KS3 all pupils study – English, Mathematics, Religious Education, Science, French, Irish, Geography, Drama, Physical Education, Technology & Design, Information Technology, History, Music, Art, Home Economics, Learning for Life and Work



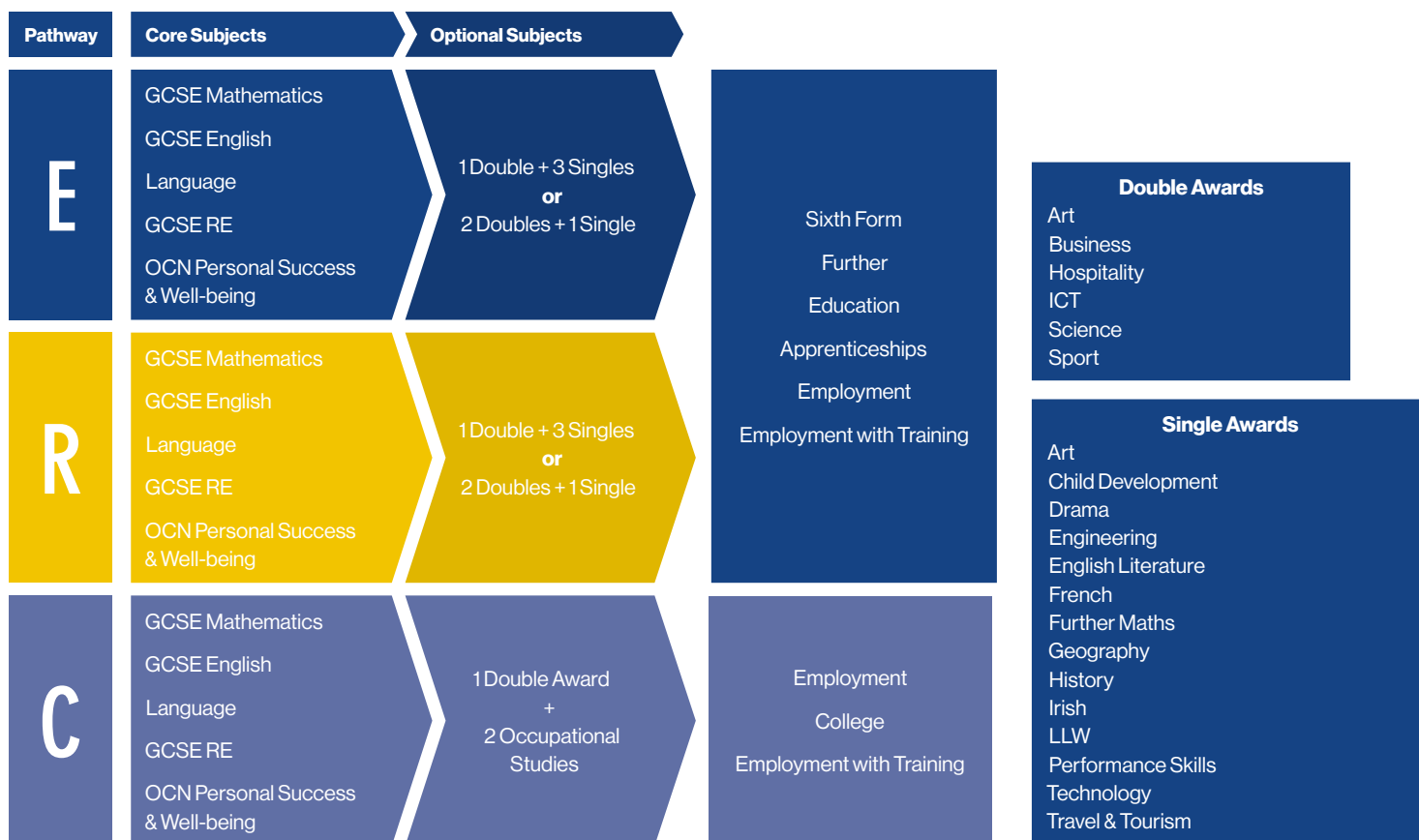


Teaching & Learning

The Curriculum

Key Stage 4

At Key Stage 4 all pupils follow GCSE courses in English, Maths and RE. Pupils then choose optional Single and Double Award subjects. Some pupils follow a more vocational curriculum.





Key Stage 5

Edmund Rice College offers a wide range of Post-16 courses to a high achieving and growing sixth form. Current A levels include: Sports Studies, Art and Design, Design Technology, Photography, Business Studies, Moving Image Arts, ICT, Drama, Philosophy and Ethics (RE), Hospitality, Health and Social Care, Science and Travel and Tourism, History, English Literature.

Within the North Belfast Area Learning Community pupils can access additional A levels including Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, French and Politics.

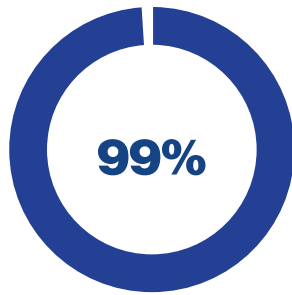
"Were we to know the merit and value of only going from one street to another to serve a neighbour for the love of God, we should prize it more than silver and gold."

GCSE		LEVEL 3 COURSES GCE A Levels - BTEC National Diplomas - Cambridge Technical Diplomas				Career Pathway
7+ A*-C at GCSE usually with a C or better in English and Maths	Pick any 3 courses	BUSINESS STUDIES	Art	BUSINESS STUDIES	NBALC	University Further Education Degree Level 4 Apprenticeship
		Life Science	Religion	ICT	Biology	
5+ A*-C at GCSE usually without English and/or Maths		SPORT	Health & Social Care	SPORT	Geography	Gap Year Employment Volunteering
		Photography	TRAVEL AND TOURISM	HOSPITALITY	Drama	
		Design & Technology	Mathematics	Moving Image Art	French	Further Education
		History		English Literature	Politics	
					Other subjects available	Employment Level 3 Apprenticeship

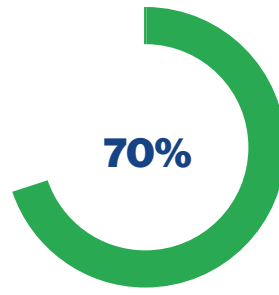
***BTEC Courses are shown in CAPITALS**

Pupil Success

Percentage of pupils
attaining 5 or more
GCSEs at grades A* to C



Percentage of pupils
attaining 5 GCSEs
including English & Maths



Percentage of
pupils achieving 2
A Levels 100%





Edmund Rice College WINS Silver Award

in The Lockdown Hero Award for Learner and Community Support

Selected from thousands of nominations, Edmund Rice College was honoured as one of 102 Pearson National Teaching Silver Award winners across the country in May 2021. Edmund Rice College was honoured with a Silver Award in The Lockdown Hero Award for Learner and Community Support for “outstanding commitment to changing the lives of the children they work with every day” Pearson May 2021.

We were recognised for how we responded to the Covid-19 pandemic by introducing a range of initiatives to provide support to pupils, parents, and the wider community, including the Online Community Hub which provides a digital toolkit of support on issues such as Special Educational Needs, Wellbeing and Mental Health.

We travelled for the Gold Award ceremony, in a programme that was broadcast on the BBC. This was a great opportunity to celebrate the exceptional school staff across Northern Ireland and the UK who have worked wonders during an incredibly challenging time for educators across the country.

The Silver Award winners were honoured as part of the wider celebrations for ‘Thank a Teacher Day’, a national campaign to honour and recognise school staff for their incredible work. The celebrations follow new data which shows how the previous year’s lockdowns have significantly changed how families across the country view the role of teachers.

*Paul Berne, Principal of Edmund Rice College said: “**This award is testament to the hard work, dedication and most importantly care demonstrated by the whole school community during an incredibly challenging time. I am very proud of our staff, pupils and families.**”*

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SEN Provision

What is our SEN provision at Edmund Rice College?

Ethos

1 The Learning Support department at Edmund Rice College is a dedicated, hardworking and caring team that strives to do the best for our pupils to enable them to become independent and active contributors in our society. Learning Support provision in our school follows a holistic approach; everyone works together to maximise the development of our students. We firmly believe in working as a team and liaise with home regularly so we can ensure that everyone at home and at school are working together to best cater for the needs of our pupils.

2 Differentiated lessons to suit our students' needs. This means that each student will have access to the curriculum at the appropriate level. Teachers tailor lessons to support each student appropriately, largely dictated by the needs/ targets set out on their Individual Education Plan (IEP). Homework is also appropriately set for each student based on their level of learning and to ensure that success is possible to build on self-esteem and confidence. Reduced homework timetables can be arranged based on the specific needs of the pupils.

3 We have smaller sized classes in Years 8-12 made up of groups of specially chosen students based on varying Special Educational Needs. The classes are small in size to allow for more specialist learning support to be given where required, and students benefit from access to increased additional adult attention. Students placed in these classes can move to larger mainstream sized classes when they reach their IEP targets and staff are confident of the progress they have made. Progress is carefully monitored via Key Assessments as well as standardised STAR Literacy and Numeracy data.

5 Numeracy support classes are offered after school in the form of our Numeracy Club. Again, students in need of support are identified via STAR Numeracy testing and support is offered through our Numeracy Ninja programme in school. In our after school sessions, students work in smaller groups, which means they can get practice with essential Numeracy skills in a more focused scenario away from traditional classroom teaching styles. We aim to make these classes engaging and enjoyable and offer a hands-on approach, where students learn and have fun at the same time. For students who are well below average in their numeracy attainments, we also offer Numeracy intervention during school time in small group sessions with a specialist support teacher.

4 Literacy support classes are run in school and after school in our Literacy club. Students in need of support are identified via STAR Literacy testing and support is offered through our Accelerated Reader programme. In these literacy classes and after school sessions, students are taught Literacy skills and given additional support to assist them with any Literacy difficulties they may have. For students who are well below average in their literacy attainments, we also offer Literacy intervention during school time in small group sessions with a specialist support teacher.



Miss C. Deery SENCO |



Behaviour and Well-Being

6

We also run small specialist classes which focus on supporting students with behavioural and/or emotional and well-being difficulties. Social, emotional and behaviour intervention groups assist students that need extra assistance with their social skills and communicating emotions and behaviours effectively. Students have the opportunity to socialise and build on their own self-esteem and/or work on managing their behaviour in a safe and nurturing environment. Students with behavioural difficulties are brought out in short 1:1 sessions and follow a behaviour programme adapted from resources provided by the Post-Primary Behaviour Support Service (EA). Students in emotional and/or behavioural need are also provided with a Time-out card and given access to our Learning Support respite facilities when required. Finally, we have quiet and calm areas designated for respite required during unstructured times; break and lunch. Confidence and self-esteem building is paramount for success. We believe when the students see you have faith in their ability and achievable opportunities are created, their confidence will grow. All teachers and learning support staff are committed to ensuring the development of self-esteem and positive behaviour where necessary, via the student IEP and in conjunction with our Pastoral Care Team.



7

Classroom Assistant support is also widely used across the school. Classroom assistants are directed by Mrs Cust but largely by the subject teacher in terms of their role within the classroom. This includes:

- Keeping the students on task.
- Helping with organisational skills.
- Giving comfort and reassurance where needed.
- Assisting with the tasks given by the teacher. Their role is primarily to ensure the student can fully access the curriculum and fulfil their potential.
*Provide exam support in the form of reader/ scribe/prompter during exam season.
- Build up a rapport with their students once they are assigned. This can take the form of some light- hearted card and board games in the Learning Support Hub at appropriate times of the day/ year. It is important that good mutual working relationships exist between our assistants and our students; but mostly that our students can develop trust and feel safe and content with the adult looking after them. We enjoy a hive of activity in our Learning Support Hub day-to-day where we are proud to say our children feel safe, secure and surrounded with love.



Additional Adult Assistance

After school **Extra Curricular Activities**

Homework Club

Maths Club

Numeracy Club

Choir

Soccer

ICT Club

Board Games Club

Hurling/Camogie

Gaelic Football

Basketball

Literacy Club

Language Club

GCSE Booster

Revision Classes

History Club

Dance Club

Art Club

Technology Club

Lego Club

Golf Club

Eco Club

Minecraft Club





"If you only acquire humility, it will always guide you safely."

Sport

Edmund Rice College

The PE department at Edmund Rice College seeks to provide health-related exercise and sporting opportunities to all pupils, laying the building blocks to a healthy lifestyle and the opportunity for sporting excellence. The PE department seeks to deliver our objective by providing a range of sporting and active opportunities that pupils can enjoy. We seek to encourage participation, identify talent and develop performance in an attempt to promote healthy lifestyles.

The PE department also offers a pathway in academic classes, to encourage career paths in the sports industry. This is provided through the BTEC syllabus. At Key Stage 4, the pupils follow BTEC sports Level 2 and at Post 16 we offer the Level 3 course.

This has provided the route for many of our pupils to continue their enjoyment of sport and have a career doing what they love.





Careers Education, Advice, Information & Guidance

Careers Education, Advice, Information and Guidance (CEAIG) in Edmund Rice College provides students with the opportunity to complete effective research, discuss with tutors any issues relating to career choices and assist them in their decision making throughout the key transition stages during their school years.

A structured programme has been developed to ensure that careers education is fully integrated into the curriculum and meets the needs of all pupils. The Careers Team within Edmund Rice College aims to assist all students to find the most appropriate pathway for them and welcomes contact with parents during this sometimes difficult period.

The boys and girls have the support and help from all staff members and they have the opportunity to cover a variety of topics including:

- Learning about different job roles
- Creating CVs
- Becoming familiar with recruitment procedures
- Carrying out research
- Developing and building on a personal profile
- Taking part in role play interviews
- Planning and carrying out relevant
- Work Experience
- Visiting workplaces to gain insight into the working world
- Listening to guest speakers
- Attending careers events
- Completing application forms
- Researching and applying for university.





Careers in Edmund Rice has increasingly become much more high profile throughout the school and indeed plays a vital and prominent role in all subjects. Each year we enjoy a 'Careers Awareness Week', during this week we invite past pupils into our classroom to talk to the students about their chosen career path and the ups and downs they have encountered on their way. They continuously provide valuable advice to our students and some go the extra mile to lend one to one guidance and support in their area of expertise. These past pupils are an invaluable resource within our school.



ERC at the Heart *of the community*

In 2017 we launched our school community hub based on the school site, with an aim to address and meet local community needs.

The aims of our hub are adapted from our “ERC” ethos:

*Engage all
Reach out
Care for Community*

We aim to provide a support network for the local community and offer a range of services to meet community needs. In the beginning we offered a series of night classes and training sessions ranging from Dyslexia training and ASD awareness sessions, to training on the use of assistive technology. We also set up an ASD youth club for young people throughout the wider Glengormley community in partnership with the EA Youth Service. We have a great partnership with local sporting clubs including GAA club Naomh Éanna and St. Mary's Football Club who use our facilities for Gaelic, Hurling, Camogie, Handball and Soccer coaching. We regularly host matches and events such as a GAA Handball Summer series and more recently a European Wallball Juvenile qualifier event. Furthermore, we run annual family events such as the Evening of Light, Christmas Fair and our Summer BBQ.

Everything was put on hold in March 2020 with the Covid19 pandemic and as Lockdowns and restrictions continued, the decision was made to move to an online support platform. We responded to a community survey and placed an emphasis on providing resources to support mental health and well-being. This became our focus and the online community hub

evolved into a Digital Toolbox of mental health resources, pre-recorded and live training sessions, inspirational talks, webinars and several online events. The feedback from the wider community was positive and a request was made to maintain our online hub once we moved out of Lockdown. Our online hub will remain accessible for our community via our school website. We want to continue to raise awareness on a wide variety of community matters ranging from Health and Wellness, Careers and Future pathways, eSafety, Special Educational Needs and more.

This year we are delighted to see the return of our school-based community hub. It is great to welcome our friends and families in the community back through the doors of our school in the afternoons, evenings and weekends. It is great to see the return of the very popular and award winning Glengormley School of Music; at which many of our own young people attend and finely tune their skills. We hope to see the return of our night class programme very soon, with an aim to further expand the community hub programme in collaboration with our local residents in response to local needs.







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