

We believe | We strive | We achieve



Saint Fanchea's College Prospectus







WELCOME LABAS WITAMY
SVEIKT سهلا في أهلا FÁILTE



DEAR PARENTS

A very warm welcome to Saint Fanchea's College. Your daughter has reached an important stage in her educational development and your main concern now is to ensure that she receives the best possible post primary education. I hope that you will find this prospectus useful in providing an insight into what is on offer in our college.

St. Fanchea's College is a happy, caring and successful college with a child-centred approach and high academic standards. Our staff are dedicated, highly qualified and experienced. As a purposeful learning community we believe in ourselves, we strive for excellence and we achieve success. In Saint Fanchea's we aim to build on the strong Catholic ethos which permeates all aspects of our college life. We endeavour to provide a balanced and broad curriculum which supports the spiritual, moral, cultural, emotional and physical development of each of our pupils. We encourage our pupils to develop strong personal qualities such as tolerance, forgiveness, compassion and inclusion of others enabling them to become caring and considerate members of the community. We aim to create a caring, happy, well-ordered environment where pupils are eager to learn and in which all of our college community feel respected and valued.

Of course, no prospectus can convey the real atmosphere or richness of college life. I therefore, warmly invite you to visit Saint Fanchea's and see for yourself the quality of its life and work. A visit can be arranged by telephone and you and your daughter will be made most welcome.

We look forward to meeting you.
With sincere good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Maurice Collins

Maurice Collins
Principal



SAINT FANCHEA'S COLLEGE

Saint Fanchea's College opened on the 1st September 1960 with ten staff and Sister Dolores as Principal. 252 girls aged between 11 and 14 years entered the doors of the new building in Mill Street that morning. Initially there were very few classrooms, a limited range of subjects, no examination structure, and no computers. Over the years, pupil numbers grew to 363 in 1970. The curriculum expanded along with the introduction of CSE (Certificate of Secondary Education examinations. Ten years later in 1980, there were 396 pupils on the school roll and mobile classrooms began to appear in the school grounds. A new wing was added to the school enabling staff and pupils to enjoy new facilities including a library, Science room, Art rooms and a staffroom. By 1990 the pupil numbers had grown to 450. Alongside the physical growth of

the school, the academic side also grew with the introduction of GCSEs providing many new career pathways for pupils and the opportunity to transfer to the grammar sector or to further education.

In January 2006, Saint Fanchea's College relocated to a magnificent new site at Chanterhill. In January 2024 there were 321 pupils enrolled in the college. We look forward to the future with pride, secure in the knowledge that our superb new facilities, our professional staff and the great potential of each of our pupils, will meet the ever- changing challenges of the 21st Century. We embrace the ideals of our mission statement, to believe, to strive, to achieve; this is our calling and privilege.



COLLEGE LOCATION

St Fanchea's College is located approximately one mile from Enniskillen town, on the Coa Road at Chanterhill. With state of the art modern facilities, the college is built on a spacious elevated site that offers panoramic views over the surrounding countryside.



COLLEGE FACILITIES

The modern college building has been designed to create an undisturbed, inspirational, reassuring and stimulating learning environment for our pupils. The Assembly Hall, acting almost as a courtyard, affords pupils the opportunity to see across from one side of the building to the other. Vision panels afford pupils views from the Sports Hall from high and low levels. Glazed stairwells afford views to the landscaped grounds and the surrounding countryside. Roof glazing allows sunlight to penetrate open spaces inside the building at every opportunity. Colour is used as a kind of coding device throughout the inside of the building purely as a form of visual communication to assist navigation around the building. Each subject suite has an associated colour which is used on each classroom door, internal feature wall, floor covering and fitted units.

The layout of the building has been deliberately kept as simple as possible so as to convey the school as a large house, in which each pupil is part of a special school community family. The large volume spaces – Assembly Hall and Sports Hall – are located at the centre of the building, with the teaching classrooms grouped around them on either side. The library and administration areas are positioned at the prow of the building, overlooking the landscaped grounds below. The school meals accommodation reaches out as an arm of the college building onto a terrace adjacent to the main entrance. The Oratory, both physically and spiritually is located at the heart of the building. Extensive outdoor playing facilities include tennis courts, an all-weather pitch and a grass playing field.

ICT RESOURCES

Saint Fanchea's College boasts a large range of ICT resources comprising of 4 ICT Suites, alongside 3 mobile classrooms of Google Chromebooks and 2 class sets of iPads, as well as additional ICT resources in a number of classrooms. Within the timetabled curriculum, Year 8 to 10 pupils are allocated 2 periods of ICT where they are offered a range of activities designed to develop and enhance their ICT skills across a range of platforms. The College uses Microsoft Office 365 and Google Classroom across all subjects and actively encourages the use of a range of devices to reflect those utilised in the world of work. Pupils have access to these applications on both mobile devices and laptops at home and they are encouraged to make use of these in completion of homework, projects and presentations. ICT plays an important role in Saint Fanchea's College, and pupils are encouraged to work on both an individual and collaborative basis to exchange information, evaluate their work, express and exhibit their creativity and develop new digital skills.



EXTRA CURRICULAR SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Pupils will have an opportunity to engage in a range of afterschool extra curricular activities to broaden their educational experiences in the college.

School Choir Rehearsals	Netball Training
Fitness Suite	Homework Club
Athletics Classes	Languages Club
U14 & U16 Gaelic Training	Blossom Hill Gardening Club
International Club	Essential Skills Classes
GCSE Revision Classes	

A breakfast club also operates in the college every morning before school.



CONTACT DETAILS

Principal: **Mr Maurice Collins**

Assistant Principal: **Ms Emma McGarrity**

Chairman of Board of Governors:
Mr Paddy Maguire

St. Fanchea's College, Coa Road, Chanterhill,
Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh, N Ireland, BT74 4AD.

Tel: **02866 322919**

Fax: **02866 328972**

Email: **info@stfancheascollege.enniskillen.ni.sch.uk**



COLLEGE AIMS AND ETHOS

Saint Fanchea's College is dedicated to the provision of high-quality teaching in a well-ordered and caring environment where there is an insistence on the highest standards of personal conduct and academic achievement.

Saint Fanchea's distinctive ethos is best seen in the excellent quality of the relationships which exist between pupils, staff and parents and which are characterised by mutual consideration, respect and support.

Saint Fanchea's College promotes high achievement and learning for life by working with pupils to:

- develop a positive self image
- achieve their full potential as individuals
- have an enjoyment of learning both now and for life
- strive for high moral standards in keeping with the Christian values of the college
- be responsible members of the college and wider community

We believe that each pupil will succeed through experiencing quality in:

- a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum
- a stimulating teaching and learning environment relevant to all pupils
- a positive pastoral learning environment
- an enriching programme of extra-curricular activities and visits
- partnerships between pupils, parents, college staff and outside agencies



ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

The college's enrolment and admissions numbers have been determined by the Department of Education and are as follows:

Enrolment Number: 350 pupils

Admission to Year 8: 60 pupils

In selecting children for admission, children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission to the college will be selected before any child not so resident. Pupils of all abilities are catered for in Saint Fanchea's and are very welcome in the college. If, however, there are more applications than places available, it will be necessary for the Board of Governors to apply the following criteria when selecting pupils for admission.



ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR YEAR 8

1. Applicants who normally reside in the parishes of Enniskillen, Botha, Pobal, Cleenish, Inishmacsaint, Belleek, Devenish; (not listed in order of preference) and pupils for whom Saint Fanchea's College is the nearest maintained post primary school.
2. Applicants from traditional feeder primary schools (not listed in order of preference): Holy Trinity PS Enniskillen, St Columban's PS Belcoo, Killyhommon PS Boho, St Mary's PS Tempo, Tattygar PS Lisbellaw, St Patrick's PS Derrygonnelly, St Patrick's PS Mullanaska, St Mary's PS Mullymesker, St Joseph's PS Ederney, St John The Baptist Roscor, St Martins PS Garrison, St Davog's PS Belleek, Enniskillen Model PS Enniskillen, Enniskillen Integrated PS.
3. Applicants who have a sister currently enrolled in the college.
4. Pupils from other parishes who give the college as a preference.

If after applying Criteria 4, the College needs to apply further methods in order to identify which applicants are to be admitted, then the following criterion will be applied in the order of:

Method A, then Method B, then Method C

5. **Method A - Random selection of Letters/Prefixes**
Pupils will be selected for admission on the basis of initial letter(s)/prefixes of surname (as entered on birth certificate) in the order set out in the sequence below:

Mac M X Z U G D I H Mc F N B W
E C Q P Y S R J A K O V L T

This order was determined by random selection.

6. **Method B - Age:** If applicants are still tied after criterion 5, they will be ranked by age (established by date of birth as entered on a birth certificate), the oldest pupil being ranked first and places will be allocated accordingly.
7. **Method C** - If applicants are still tied after criterion 6, then priority for admittance will be determined amongst them by a computerised random selection.

The Board of Governors determines the Admissions Criteria and delegates to a selection committee, consisting of the Principal and two other governors, the task of applying the criteria for selection purposes.





ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR YEARS 9-12

A pupil will be considered for enrolment in Saint Fanchea's at times other than at the normal transfer stage provided that:

1. The college will not exceed its enrolment number as determined by the Department of Education
2. The college's acceptance of the pupil would not prejudice the efficient use of the college's resources

The Board of Governors will consider the needs of the particular pupil seeking entry to the college and decide whether it is in the pupil's best interest to transfer to Saint Fanchea's College.

In making decisions about the admission of a pupil who has been suspended or expelled from another school or who has an attendance problem at the previous school attended, the Board of Governors will expect that appropriate reports from the previous school and/or other agencies or professional persons will have been provided or sought and put before them, together with any case made by the parent before a decision can be made about selecting such a pupil for admission.

ADMISSION TO SIXTH FORM

Any pupil wishing to undertake post-16 Level 3 courses at Saint Fanchea's College must achieve grades A* - C in at least 5 GCSE's which must include either Mathematics or English. Pupils must commit to re-sit GCSE Mathematics/English if GCSE grades are less than a C grade in these subject areas. It will be desirable if 5 GCSE qualifications (A* - C) include GCSE Science at grade C or higher.

All prospective students will be interviewed prior to admission to the Sixth Form. These interviews will take place in August 2024 after the GCSE results have been published. Each applicant will be considered on their individual merit.



THE COLLEGE DAY

The college day begins with Morning Assembly/ Classroom Registration at 9.00 a.m. and concludes at 3.25 p.m. The school day is divided into ten teaching periods of thirty minutes duration and a lunch break of thirty-five minutes. There is a short morning break from 10.15 to 10.30 a.m. during which time the canteen is open for pupils.

There are three lunch sittings and while each is in progress, class continues for the remainder of the college. All pupils can avail of the canteen's cash-cafeteria service with its wide variety of hot and cold meals, snacks and beverages or bring their own packed lunch. Families on Family Income Support are entitled to free meals for their children. Pupils who are entitled to free meals can select foods up to the value of £2.80. The college has a cashless canteen system where pupils are issued with swipe cards.

During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered. The online application procedure opens on 30th January 2024 at 12 noon and an application submitted by the closing date of 22nd February 2024 at 12 noon will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12 noon on 22nd February 2024 and up to 4pm on 4th March 2024 will be treated as a late application. For more information on the admissions process please contact the Education Authority (Tel: 028 8241 1411 Website: www.eani.org.uk/admissions).



A range of after school activities takes place on each day of the school week. Parents will need to ensure that appropriate travel arrangements are in place to bring pupils home from after school activities.

In June 2024 pupils who will be transferring to Saint Fanchea's College in September will be invited to spend a full day in the college. During their visit they will meet Year 8 Teachers, see the college in operation and talk with pupils who are completing their first year in the college.

THE CURRICULUM

On entry to Saint Fanchea's College, pupils are organised into three class groups and all classes are taught the full range of subjects which conforms to the requirements of The Education (Curriculum Minimum Content) Order (Northern Ireland) 2007. The curriculum offered to our pupils aims to:

- (i) promote the spiritual, emotional, moral, cultural, intellectual and physical development of our pupils
- (ii) prepare our pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities, and experiences of life by equipping them with appropriate knowledge, understanding and skills

At Key Stage 3 (Years 8 to 10), the curriculum is common to all pupils and all class groupings are of mixed ability. There is extra help for pupils experiencing difficulties in English and also for pupils with English as an additional language.





The Statutory Curriculum places an emphasis on the totality of pupils' experiences across the curriculum and challenges teachers to make meaningful links beyond their subject emphasis. Subjects no longer stand alone with their own discretely defined areas of knowledge and skills. Rather they are set out as strands within

Areas of Learning which share curriculum objectives with common key elements and skills outcomes. In order to meet our statutory requirements, St. Fanchea's College provides learning opportunities in relation to the following Areas of Learning:

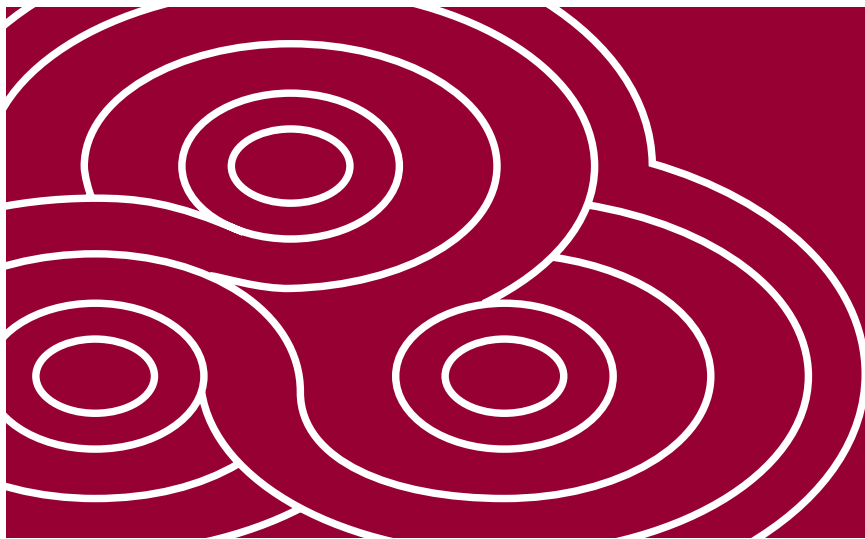
At Key Stage 3

Areas of Learning	Contributory Subjects
Language and Literacy	English Library
Mathematics and Numeracy	Mathematics Numeracy Support
Modern Languages	French
The Arts	Art and Design Creative Textiles Music Drama
Environment and Society	History Geography
Science and Technology	Science Technology and Design ICT
Learning for Life and Work	Employability Local and Global Citizenship Personal Development Home Economics
Religious Education	Religious Education
Physical Education	Physical Education



At Key Stage 4

Areas of Learning	Contributory Subjects
Language and Literacy	English (GCSE) Essential Skills in Communication (Entry Level to Level 2)
Mathematics and Numeracy	Mathematics (GCSE) Essential Skills in Application of Number (Entry Level to Level 2) Further Mathematics (GCSE)
Modern Languages	French (GCSE) Polish (GCSE) Russian (GCSE) Arabic (GCSE)
The Arts	Art and Design (GCSE) Music (BTEC) Creative Arts and Digital Technologies (BTEC)
Environment and Society	History (GCSE) Geography (GCSE or Entry Level) Business Communication Systems (GCSE) Hospitality (BTEC) Travel & Tourism (BTEC) Business Studies (BTEC) Digital Technology (GCSE) Health & Social Care (GCSE) Certificate in Information Technology Applications (Level 2)
Science and Technology	GCSE Science (GCSE) Certificate in Applied Science (Level 2) Double Award Science (GCSE) Technology and Design (GCSE)
Learning for Life and Work	Learning for Life and Work (GCSE) Child Development (GCSE) Home Economics (GCSE) Occupational Studies (Level 2) Prince's Trust Award (equivalent to two GCSE Grades)
Religious Education	Religious Studies (GCSE) / Certificate in Religious Studies (Level 2)
Physical Education	Physical Education First Award in Sport (BTEC)

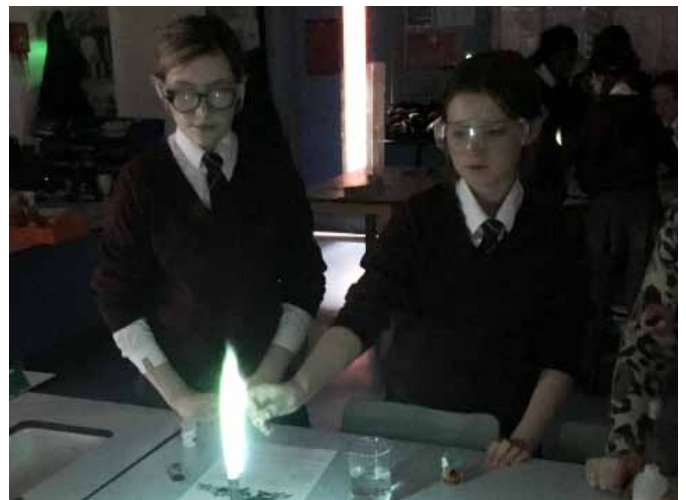


In addition to the statutory requirements, Saint Fanchea's College also provides opportunities to enable pupils to develop their skills in Communication, using Mathematics, using Information and Communications Technology, problem solving, working with others and self management.

It is college policy that all pupils have access to a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum and are entered for as many external examinations as are realistically within their capabilities and at the level which best suits their aptitudes. All pupils are offered courses leading to GCSE qualifications and other recognised Level 2 qualifications (including BTEC, OCN Certificates and Occupational Studies). During Key Stage 4, all pupils follow a common core curriculum, which ensures breadth and balance, and yet they have some choice of other courses. Some of the GCSE courses offered are offered on the understanding that a viable group of at least ten pupils is necessary to operate most courses.

POST-16 PROVISION

Pupils who return to Year 13 - 14 are offered a varied Post-16 two year programme which aims to enhance their existing qualifications and equip them to make a purposeful career choice. Successful completion of the programme leads to the award of Applied Double Award in Health & Social Care (equivalent to two 'A' Levels and a BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Applied Business (equivalent to one 'A' Level). Pupils may be offered the opportunity to study an 'A' Level from another school in partnership with the Fermanagh Learning Community. The Post-16 course enables pupils to gain vocational qualifications which can be used for employment or as an entrance qualification to courses in further education colleges / universities. Careers guidance, work experience and group tutorial work are essential elements of these Post-16 courses.



'Saint Fanchea's College is a member of the Fermanagh Learning Community consisting of a range of post primary schools in the Fermanagh area as well as South West College. The Learning community was established to promote a culture of collaboration across the education providers in Fermanagh to enhance education provision for all 14-19 year olds. Saint Fanchea's College is committed to the Fermanagh Learning Community's vision of providing equality of opportunity for achievement and progression which will reflect the needs of the community and the local and regional economy.

LEARNING SUPPORT

Learning support is provided by all teachers and, at present, 17 classroom assistants and is co-ordinated by a member of staff. Support is provided in a number of ways depending on the individual need: in class, small group work, withdrawal from class and/or outside help. Parents and carers are kept fully informed of pupils' progress.

Newcomer Pupils are welcomed and supported through the Pastoral Care System assisted by guidance from the Learning Support Coordinator.



CATHOLIC EDUCATION

What is distinctive about Catholic Education is that faith in Jesus Christ is the centre point of all the pupil's personal and intellectual development. There is no separation between faith and life. In Saint Fanchea's, therefore, Religious Education is much more than a subject on the timetable. It permeates the whole life and ethos of the college and is expressed through the quality of relationships within the college community and the existence of proactive links with family and our local parishes. The Religious Education Programme taught in the classroom is based on the Diocesan Religious Education Programme and the requirements of the core syllabus laid down by the Department of Education and agreed by the main Christian churches.

CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE & GUIDANCE (CEIAG)

Through 'Learning for Life & Work' (LLW) across Key Stage 3 & 4 all pupils will have many more opportunities for CEIAG. Pupils in Years 10-14 have time-tabled careers lessons with a specialist Careers



Teacher and one-to-one guidance is available on request. Information on careers is made available to pupils in the Careers Room both in written form and from computer data-bases. The local Careers Advisor from the Careers Service works with Year 12 pupils throughout the year to provide guidance for Post-16 courses. Year 11 and 12 pupils complete a GCSE in LLW over a two year period while pupils in Year 13 and Year 14 focus mainly on progression routes and applications through UCAS/CAO. Saint Fanchea's College have developed close working partnerships with a wide variety of local employers. Work experience and mock interviews are also part of the Year 12 programme.

The college is also an active member of the Fermanagh Learning Community, working in partnership with other post-primary schools in County Fermanagh in the development of increasing curriculum choice for all young people in the community in order to meet the requirements of the Entitlement Framework.

Pupils are also given the opportunity to participate in Careers Conventions, University Open Days and Higher Education Fairs.



EXTRA CURRICULAR PROVISION

Physical Education

'Key Stage 3 pupils are allocated 3 periods per week for Physical Education and Key Stage 4 pupils are allocated 2 periods per week. During PE classes, pupils are afforded the opportunity of participating in a range of sports and sports activities. Physical Education classes consist of gymnastics, athletics, dance, fitness room training, and a variety of games. Indoor facilities include a Fitness Suite, Gymnasium Hall, and Sports Hall. Outdoor facilities include an all-grass playing field, an all weather pitch and four tennis courts. Extra curricular training in Netball, Gaelic Football and Athletics prepare the pupils for competitions. In addition to these activities pupils participate in community programmes in dance, rugby, basketball and soccer. Trips are organised annually to develop social and physical skills through orienteering, climbing and water sports. The college has won local and regional titles and has had students representing the district and province in various sports. Year 11 and 12 pupils have the opportunity to develop their leadership skills through the Volunteer Now Youth Forum Initiative.

Music

Music has always been an intrinsic part of college life in Saint Fanchea's. Music tutors from the Education Authority's Music Service provide instrumental tuition in brass, woodwind, strings and percussion and the college also avails of the services of a specialist in Irish traditional music. Trips are organised to musical productions in Belfast and Dublin. Pupils who enjoy



choral or instrumental music can join the college choir which rehearses weekly. The choir has performed in UTV School Choir of the Year, Feis Fhearmanach, college concerts, Songs of Praise (BBC) and at college and parish liturgies.



Art & Design

At KS3, the pupils experience a broad course which builds on their existing knowledge and experiences and introduces them to new ideas, processes and media. Pupils study the work of artists and designers from a variety of periods, styles and cultures and they are encouraged to make connections with their own work. Pupils are encouraged to fulfil their creative potential through a range of opportunities that include drawing, painting, ceramics, graphic design and ICT based activities. Within Art & Design, pupils develop skills in creative textiles such as batik, tie dye, printmaking, felt making and machine stitching. The KS3 course forms a sound foundation which can be built on at GCSE level. Pupils' work and achievements are celebrated and highlighted with prominent displays of work in both two and three dimensions in the Art studio and throughout the college building.

Competitions

Participation in Feis Fhearmanach is a yearly highlight in the college's social calendar. Pupils participate, with great success, in such varied events as solo and choral verse speaking, drama, oral and written history, solo and choral singing, art and instrumental music. Pupils from the college have successfully entered the national BT Young Scientist & Technology Competition, participating and achieving success at the prestigious national exhibition and awards ceremony that is held in Dublin each year. Pupils also participate in creative art projects and have been very successful in the Fermanagh County Show and in competitions organised in the local community.



Travel

The college participates in a range of extra-curricular day trips and residentials to broaden the educational experiences of our pupils. These trips are often used to support the delivery of the curriculum such as history, science, Learning for Life and Work, music, drama etc. A ski trip is also organised every two years in collaboration with other schools.



Student Council

Saint Fanchea's operates a student council which aims to develop the college community so that pupils can become co-partners with teachers in their education. In tandem with the Citizenship curriculum, the council introduces pupils to democratic, responsible and mature ways of expressing views and debating issues that impact on their education. Every academic year, each form class from Year 8 to Year 14 can nominate a representative for the student council. The student council meets regularly during the school year and representatives present their priorities for development to the Senior Management Team/Principal. In doing so, our pupils feel that they have a real and meaningful opportunity to influence and shape all aspects of college life.



Liturgy

Throughout the year the college community gathers for prayer two days each week at morning assembly. The Sacraments are also celebrated at key liturgical times of the church year. Masses are celebrated throughout the college year. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated during Lent. Para liturgies and prayer

services are regular events where pupils can express and experience their faith through prayer.

MONITORING PROGRESS

In Saint Fanchea's College we have high and consistent expectations of all of our pupils. There are a range of assessment procedures in place to ensure that our pupils attain their full academic potential and take increasing responsibility for their own learning through self evaluation and the setting of appropriate targets for improvement. All pupils receive both a full and a shorter progress report each year. Parents can monitor the progress of their daughters through the SIMS Parent App.

Homework

Homework has an important role in the assessment system in St. Fanchea's College. Teachers continuously assess pupils' work and progress throughout the year, both through classwork and homework. Homework plays a very valuable role in a pupil's education and a wide variety of tasks may be set. It helps to consolidate learning in the classroom and clarifies the pupils' grasp of acquired knowledge and skills. Each pupil is given a student planner in which details of all homework set is recorded. This includes the subject set, the nature of the work and the date by which the work is to be completed. Teacher comments about the pupils' classwork will also be recorded in this planner. We encourage parents to take an active interest in their daughter's school work by checking and signing the student planner so that they may be aware of the type of work set on each school day. A Homework Club operates for all pupils in the college on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 3:15pm to 4:15pm. This club is supervised in classrooms by members of the teaching staff.



Saint Fanchea's College



Reports and Parents' Meetings

At certain times in the year arrangements are made for formal testing and official recording of progress. All pupils engage in continual assessment during the academic year and pupils in Year 10, Key Stage 4 and Post 16 sit formal internal examinations in December and June. Pupils are encouraged to review their own performance / progress and set targets for improvement after internal assessments. Parents are given information about pupils' assessments and progress in the twice yearly reports and at annual Parent-Teacher meetings. These meetings afford parents and teachers the opportunity to discuss progress being made by the pupil or any matter of mutual concern. Parents are encouraged to attend these meetings as they build up a purposeful learning partnership between the home and the school. If at any other time parents wish to discuss their daughter's progress with any member of the teaching staff, arrangements can be made by contacting the Principal.

Target Setting

Pupils in Years 8,9 & 10 complete a range of diagnostic assessments including Cognitive Ability Tests (CATs), Progress Towards Maths (PTM), Progress Towards English (PTE), Pupil Attitudes to Self and School (PASS). The outcomes of these assessments, together with information from the pupil's primary school, allows teachers to set individual education targets for each pupil in their care and plan teaching strategies that are pitched at the needs of each individual pupil. Each pupil's progress towards set targets is reviewed with their teachers on a regular basis to assist each pupil in maximising and realising their optimum potential.

PASTORAL CARE

The pastoral care of the pupil is at the heart of the ethos and curriculum of Saint Fanchea's College and affects every aspect of its life. We believe that a happy pupil will be a successful pupil and we strive to make this a reality through our Pastoral Care System.



While every member of staff takes responsibility for the well-being of all pupils, the college also has staff with specific pastoral roles. The Form Teacher is the special caretaker of one particular class and its individual



pupils. He/she aims to create a relationship with the class which will make each pupil feel secure, confident and at ease with him/her and with other members of the class. To help develop this special relationship, the Form Teacher takes the class for the Personal and Social Education Programme and for at least one other specific subject. The Form teacher is also an important link between the pupil and the Principal, subject teachers and the home, especially if the pupil appears unsettled or unhappy, or difficulties arise over college work, attendance, behaviour or any other problem. The Personal and Social Education Programme in Saint Fanchea's College aims to develop each pupil's potential and maturity. It is designed to help pupils understand and cope with the physical and emotional changes of adolescence and, through group work and discussion, to cultivate a sense of responsibility, co-operation, self-discipline and respect for the needs, feelings and opinions of others. The programme deals with a variety of topics and is delivered at different levels suited to the age and needs of the pupils. Personal and Social Development courses are scheduled throughout the academic year when various speakers are invited to address the pupils on issues relevant to their stage of development.

Individual guidance is also available to pupils. This is normally provided by the Form Teacher. However, a pupil is free at any time to approach any member of staff for advice and help. The chaplain visits the college regularly, meets with pupils on a group or individual basis, officiates at college liturgies and participates in celebrations.

The college maintains close links with the various caring agencies, e.g. Social Services, Health Service, Psychology Service and counselling services. An

Education and Welfare Officer also visits the college each week. Ms Emma McGarrity is the Designated Teacher for Child Protection and Mrs Yvonne McGee, Mrs Pauline Armitage and Mrs Roisin Gallagher are the Deputy Designated Teachers. The aim of the Child Protection Policy in Saint Fanchea's College is to protect the pupils in our care by ensuring that all staff have clear guidance on the detection and management of potential situations where abuse or neglect is suspected. In all dealings with pupils, staff in Saint Fanchea's College follow the guidance outlined in the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995, "Co-operating to safeguard children and young people in Northern Ireland" (DHSSPSNI, 2017), the Department of Education (Northern Ireland) guidance "Safeguarding and Child Protection in Schools" Circular 2017/04 (amended September 2019; updated June 2020) and the SBNI Core Child Protection Policy and Procedures (2017).



Saint Fanchea's College is an Operation Encompass school. Operation Encompass is an early intervention partnership between local Police and our college, aimed at supporting pupils who are victims of domestic violence and abuse. This partnership enables our safeguarding team to provide immediate emotional support to pupils affected as well as giving the designated teacher greater insight into any wider safeguarding concerns.



PROMOTING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

In Saint Fanchea's College, we fully recognise the importance of how our pupils behave and the profound effect that behaviour has on the working environment. We believe that our climate, which fosters effective learning, both within and around the college, is at the heart of the education process. Such a climate is promoted through a proactive internal rewards system and the maintenance of positive relationships between staff and pupils; among pupils and their peers and between parents and the college.



Saint Fanchea's strives to create an atmosphere in which both the pupils and the staff feel secure, welcome and valued and are able to discuss their interests, fears and concerns, confident that they will receive a sympathetic and supportive response. Working in partnerships with parents, teachers develop and maintain acceptable standards of behaviour by encouraging in the pupils self-respect, self discipline, co-operation and respect for others, and setting them an example in this regard.

On a formal and informal basis, in Saint Fanchea's we aim to recognise and reward high standards of behaviour and academic work among all of our pupils. Such a positive approach, which assumes and expects our pupils' compliance, ensures a safe and caring environment in which effective learning and teaching can be facilitated.

Parents should understand that the college may have to operate a series of sanctions when an individual pupil's behaviour and work fall below expected standards. Sanctions are applied as part of the college's referral system, the aim of which is to bring about a positive change in an individual pupil's behaviour. We assume that acceptance of admission to the college implies a parent's acceptance of the college's Behaviour Management Policy.

PUNCTUALITY AND ATTENDANCE

Pupils are expected to be punctual at all times and should on no account be out of class without permission. A pupil may not leave the college before the end of the school day without the permission of the Principal or the Assistant Principal. Parents are requested not to make appointments for their daughters to see doctors or dentists during normal school hours if this can be avoided.

Pupils should attend school regularly. If a pupil is absent, a parent should send in a note of explanation on the pupil's return to school to present to the form teacher.



Positive Impact Centre



St Fanchea's College is dedicated to improving outcomes for our pupils with special educational needs, and in 2023 a new Specialist Provision was established in the college. The college has received funding from the EA to provide for a specialist SEN teacher, a classroom assistant, an interactive whiteboard and a budget for furniture and resources. We have named our specialist provision 'The Positive Impact Centre' and it has already proved a very successful and popular hub for statemented pupils and pupils with special educational needs. There are six key areas in the room: the ICT area; an independent work section; a group area; the sensory/calm/wellbeing area; the visual timetable area; and a teacher directed area, where new skills are taught, either in small groups or one to one. Some of the main aims of this specialist provision are the promotion of functional life skills and pupil independence, as well as focusing on executive functioning and social skills.





U16 Ulster Ladies Schools Foyle Cup Winners 2021-2022



U14 Ulster Ladies Schools U14D Plate Winners 2021-2022

WE BELIEVE | WE STRIVE | WE ACHIEVE

Believing in the God of love as central to our lives and all life on Earth, we endeavour to embody God's love within our Catholic school community in diverse and life-giving ways. We believe in our collective responsibility in delivering a high-quality holistic education for all young people in our care. We are committed to providing a responsive, broad and balanced curriculum with pathways for each individual pupil to learn, grow and flourish. We believe in the continued development of a safe, welcoming community wherein the uniqueness of every individual is appreciated and celebrated. By setting high expectations, we believe that every young person has the ability to develop a positive self-image, be confident and achieve their full potential as life-long learners. Reflecting God's love in Gospel Values, we make every effort to foster and maintain positive working relationships within the college, while developing fruitful partnerships between the college, home and the wider community. In Saint Fanchea's College, pupils and staff are valued, supported and encouraged to strive for continual improvement and are ready to meet the challenges of tomorrow.



Saint Fanchea's College

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