



# Welcome to Parent Information Evening

Class of 2018 - 2024

Principal: Mrs. Eileen Cuddihy-Higgins

Deputy Principal: Ms. Deirdre Hickey

School Chaplain: Ms. Niamh O'Flaherty



# Agenda/Topics to Be Covered

- History of School
- Mission Statement/Goals
- Who's Who
- Policies
- Our expectations of parents
- School Day
- Facilities
- School Liturgies
- Extra Curricular Activities
- School Tours
- Class Allocation
- Pastoral Care System
- Special Educational Needs
- Subject Choices
- Assessment

# History of Mount Sackville

- Mount Sackville Secondary School was founded in 1864 by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny.
- Under trusteeship of Le Chéile Schools' Trust since 2011

# Who's Who

- Dean of First Year – To be decided – contact person
- Chaplain – Ms. Niamh O'Flaherty
- Guidance Counsellors – Ms. Catherine Flanagan, Ms. Miriam Kenny
- SEN Coordinator – Ms. Trudy Loftus
- Librarian – Ms. Hazel Scanlon
- School Secretary – Ms. Carol Kearney
- Principal's P.A. – Ms. Yvonne McCormack
- School Bursar – Ms. Maria O'Toole

# Some important school policies include:

- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Mobile Phone and Digital Device (under review)
- Homework Policy (in process)
- Uniform

# Our expectation of Parents

- Support our ethos
- Actively embrace the values which your daughter will experience here
- Encourage your daughter's participation in school liturgies
- Trust that all that we do is based on our commitment to faith and faith development
- Restorative justice model – recognition of the dignity of the person
- Trust



# School Practicalities





# School Day

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
8.30 - 15.30
- Wednesday  
8.30 - 12.45
- Registration takes place start of first class. Parent Alert if student absent.
- Class duration 40 minutes (double classes in some subjects)
- Morning break: 9.50 - 10.05
- Lunch: 12.45 - 1.30
- Extra-curricular Programme: 3.45 - 5.30pm (earlier on Wednesdays)

# School Facilities include:

- Assembly Hall
- 2 Art Rooms
- Sports Gym
- iPad Hub
- Mac Lab
- Language Lab
- 2 Home Economics Kitchens
- Sewing/Theory Room
- Library
- 3 Science Laboratories
- Science Theory Room
- Canteen (School Food Co.) - breakfast, lunch, after school
- Prayer Room
- Parent meeting rooms
- Extensive playing grounds

# School Liturgy Experiences

- Class/year group retreat programme
- Opening of the school year Mass
- Christmas Carol Service in St. Patrick's Cathedral
- Celebration of liturgical year – November, Advent, Lent, Easter etc
- Graduation Mass

# Extra-Curricular Programme includes:

- Debating (English and Irish)
- Club Gaeilge
- Public Speaking
- Student Parliamentary Council
- Sports – includes: Hockey, Camogie, Tennis, Badminton, Gaelic Football, Athletics, Cross-country, Rowing, Equestrian, gymnastics, rounders, golf, cricket ....
- Music – Junior and Senior school choirs; orchestra; instrumental and vocal tuition
- Social Justice – Annual initiatives led by Deans and SPC
- Environment – newly established Green Committee

# Examples of School Tours and Field Trips (vary each year)

- Transition year language trips to France/Austria/Germany/Italy
- Fifth Year tour to Italy
- Educational Tour to London
- History and Geography field trips in Ireland

# Class Allocation

- Mixed Ability Classes
- Ordinary Level classes are organised in Irish, English and Maths
- Base class size in first year 24



# Special Educational Needs

- Resource - revised NCSE allocation model
- Learning Support
- SEN Coordinator is Ms. Trudy Loftus

# School Pastoral Care System

- Dean
- Tutor
- Chaplain
- Guidance Counsellors
- Principal and Deputy Principal
- Buddy System
- Prefects
- Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

# Junior Cycle

- Emphasis is on Key Skills, including literacy and numeracy
- ❖ Subjects (State Examination and Assessment Task)
- ❖ Classroom Based Assessments
- ❖ Other Learning Experiences
- Junior Cycle Profile of achievement – reports on subjects and other learning experiences
- Shift from Assessment of Learning to Assessment for Learning

Subject Reporting - Instead of A, B, C, D, E, F and NG the following descriptors will now be used:

**Distinction 90 to 100%**

**Higher Merit 75 to 89%**

**Merit 55 to 74%**

**Achieved 40 to 54%**

**Partially Achieved 20 to 39%**

**(not graded) 0 to 19%**

Class room based Assessments (CBAs) provide students with opportunities to demonstrate their learning and skills in ways not possible in a pen and paper examination, for example, their verbal communication and investigation skills.

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

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

# Subjects in Junior Cycle

## Core

- Irish
- English
- Mathematics
- History
- Geography
- Science
- Wellbeing including: PE, SPHE and CSPE

## Languages (choose minimum of one)

- French
- German
- Italian
- Spanish

## Additional Subjects (choose 2)

- Music
- Art
- Business
- Home Economics

## Other areas of Learning

- Choir
- Digital Citizenship (coding)
- Drama



# Subjects in Leaving Certificate

## Core

- Irish
- English
- Mathematics
- RE (also available as LC exam subject)
- PE(non-examination at present)

## Languages (choose minimum of one)

- French
- German
- Italian
- Spanish

- Art
- Applied Mathematics
- History
- Geography
- Home Economics
- Music

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Economics
- Business
- Accounting

# Assessment

- Continuous assessment for first years in term 1 and 2
- Christmas exams for 2nd, TY and 5th year students
- Summer exam for all students
- Mock exams for LC and JC students
- Reports and Parent Teacher meetings for each year group

# JC Student Levels 2017

## 104 Students in Junior Cycle

	<b>Higher Level</b>	<b>Ordinary Level</b>
Irish	83*	14*
English	104	0
Maths	99	5

\*exemptions in Irish

# LC Student Levels 2017

**85 students in Leaving Certificate**

	<b>Higher Level</b>	<b>Ordinary Level</b>
Irish	60*	18*
English	85	0
Maths	43**	42**

\*exemptions in Irish

\*\*national average for girls higher level Maths is 26%

# Key Points:

- **Commencement Week** for 1st Years:

27th – 31st August - shorter days - induction to secondary school

- Booklists will be available on website

- Our communication tool with parents is FlexiBuzz App.  
Instructions will be issued on how to download and register.

- Mount Sackville offers online payment facility

- Deadline for submission of options online is: **Friday 16th March**  
5pm

# Subject Choices for Junior Cycle

- Instructions will be issued to parents on how to log in to VSWare
- Students with their parents will select 3 options:

- 1 Modern Language (from French, German, Italian, Spanish)

- 2 other options from:

French/German/Italian/Spanish

Art

Business

Home Economics

Music



Ms. O'Flaherty – Pastoral Care



Q and A

Thank you and good evening.

