



My Time in St. Louis

by Ciara Sweeney, Head Girl 2015/2016

When my alarm went off for my first day of secondary school, it would be an understatement to say I was slightly nervous. I headed off to school hoping to make many new friends which fortunately came true. I walked through the gates of St. Louis with a perfectly ironed uniform and the thoughts of having my own locker in my mind, but, it was more than that, it was the beginning of a wonderful journey.

We were given our timetables which seemed to be so confusing at that stage, but soon enough we began to find our way in the seemingly enormous school and we got to know our classmates. We may have looked like lost tourists bag packing and trying to make sense of our maps but soon enough we knew the place inside out. We quickly felt at home with the aid of all the helpful teachers, students and other staff members.

As time went on I can only say my time in St. Louis only got better and better, well, I might not mention the homework and all the tests! Transition year was most definitely the best year of my life and one which really furthered my enjoyment of school life. From our musical Mamma Mia to our trip to Madrid, it was a year filled with laughter and good times. What made all these moments so precious were the students and the strong bonds we all made with our fellow class mates.

The schools positive atmosphere is undoubtedly next to none. You are always greeted with a smile; every little kind action makes your school day better even if it is someone just holding a door open for you. Obviously school is a place of

education and furthering your academic achievements but without being happy in your school environment this would be impossible. The teachers, staff, students, councils and different programmes like the Social Hub and the Quiet Room that are run in the school ensure that each and every student can enjoy their time at St. Louis. Whether you want to read, chat, play the xBox or just relish the canteen dinners, there is something for everyone.

The quality of teachers and the range of subjects in St. Louis have made my learning interesting and rewarding. Everything is made as easy as possible for you; all you need to do is be willing to learn. "Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today" I believe each student in St. Louis is ready for tomorrow.

Although I can't say I'm a sporty person, definitely having more of an interest in the canteen food, sporting opportunities and achievements are endless at St. Louis. It goes from gaelic, soccer, basketball, table tennis and volleyball to athletics. The amount of trophies and medals are uncountable, yet, as all the students will say it's the taking part and socialising part that is most fulfilling.

All the possibilities that students have to be a part of change and the development of our school can be seen everywhere. From the student council, the social hub, the development education committee, the mental health team, the chaplaincy group, the green schools committee to the health promoting team, our budding politicians have every chance to make a difference in St. Louis.

As I come to the end of my time in St. Louis, I look back with many, many fond memories from St. Louis, one of which certainly was being Head Girl for my school. I was delighted with the honour, I was happy to know that my fellow students and the teachers felt I was capable of the role. So far I have taken much delight in my position with the Head Boy Patrick and my fellow prefects. It has been a wonderful experience that I am very grateful for. I will be sad to leave St. Louis in the summer, to leave my friends, classmates, teachers and other staff members at the school. I hope that the next chapter in all of our lives will be just as special and that we all make many more unforgettable memories. With all the lessons we have learned in St. Louis and the people we

have met along the journey, we are most certainly fully prepared for the future!