



ST. LOUIS COMMUNITY SCHOOL

COMMUNITY, RESPECT, INCLUSION, HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Louis Community School is a student-centered, multi-denominational post-primary school that extends a warm welcome to all. In our co-educational environment we offer a broad curriculum which seeks to enhance the holistic development of all our students in an equitable manner. The cornerstone of our ethos is formed by working in partnership with the community, fostering innovative teaching, good academic achievement, creating a caring atmosphere and the development of self-worth.

OUR AIMS

To provide students with an education that has a sound academic and practical content.

To foster human and spiritual values which will equip students for a full and mature life.

To develop opportunities for students to realise their individual potential and to develop their sense of personal worth.

To develop the physical, intellectual, moral and emotional well-being of our students.

To develop teaching and learning aimed at good academic achievement.

To make reasonable provision for students with special needs.

To foster a sense of community within the school.

To have an open policy of education for the community and to provide in as far as possible for this.

To provide reasonable opportunities for the personal and professional development of our staff.



FOSTER
HUMAN
AND
SPIRITUAL
VALUES

Welcome to St. Louis Community School



Welcome from the Principal

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to St. Louis Community School.

As Principal, I am both honoured and privileged to lead such a vibrant, caring and progressive school community, supported by a dedicated and committed team of staff. Together, we are passionate about creating an environment in which every student feels valued, respected, supported and encouraged to reach their full potential.

Starting second level education is an important milestone in the life of every young person. It is a time of new opportunities, new friendships, new experiences and new challenges. At St. Louis Community School, we want every student who joins us to feel a strong sense of belonging from their very first day. We aim to provide a safe, welcoming and inclusive environment where students can grow in confidence, discover their talents and develop a genuine enthusiasm for learning.

Our work is deeply rooted in the founding vision and values of the Sisters of St. Louis. These values continue to guide and inspire our school community today, alongside the principles and values of our joint trustees, Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim Education and Training Board (MSLETB) and Le Chéile Schools Trust. They provide a strong foundation for our school ethos and underpin our commitment to the development of the whole person. We recognise that education is about much more than academic achievement. While we are committed to high standards of teaching and learning and to enabling every student to achieve their very best, we also seek to develop young people who are confident, resilient, respectful, compassionate and responsible. We want our students to leave St. Louis Community School equipped not only with knowledge and skills, but also with the values, character and confidence to make a positive contribution to their school, their community and wider society.

We believe strongly in partnership. The education of a young person is most successful when students, parents and guardians, teachers, support staff and the wider community work together. We look forward to building positive and respectful relationships with all our families and to working in partnership throughout your child's time with us.

As you explore this prospectus, I hope it gives you a flavour of the many opportunities available to students at St. Louis Community School, in the classroom, on the sports field, through the arts, in leadership, in extracurricular and cocurricular activities and through the many experiences that make school life memorable and meaningful.

The values of our founders and trustees will continue to guide us as we build on the many strengths of St. Louis Community School and look confidently towards the future. Above all, our focus will remain firmly on our students: supporting them, challenging them, celebrating their achievements and helping them to become the very best young people they can be.

I, together with the entire team at St. Louis Community School, look forward to welcoming you to our school community and to sharing in the exciting journey that lies ahead.

Yours in education,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ciarán Ryan', written over a horizontal line.

Ciarán Ryan
Principal



CIARÁN RYAN, PRINCIPAL

JOIN IN

THE CHAPLAIN

The Chaplain provides a supportive presence for students throughout their school journey, offering a listening ear, encouragement, and guidance during both the joys and challenges of school life. Students are welcome to meet with the Chaplain in confidence, knowing they will be treated with care, respect, and in accordance with safeguarding and child protection guidelines. When appropriate, the Chaplain works closely with parents, guardians, and other professionals to ensure students receive the support they need.

GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING

Change heading to GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING

At St Louis Community School, Guidance is a whole-school, student-centred approach, helping students develop the knowledge, skills, confidence and self-awareness to navigate their personal, educational and career journeys.

Our programme encompasses three interconnected strands: Personal and Social Guidance, Educational Guidance and Career and Vocational Guidance.

Students have access to classroom-based Guidance and individual one-to-one appointments when required. Assessment and profiling tools, including CAT4, Cambridge Profile, EirQuest and interest, values and personality inventories, help inform students' educational, career and further education choices.

Through our collaborative, whole-school approach, we empower students to recognise their strengths, make informed decisions, set goals and progress confidently towards their future.

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION NEEDS

Additional Educational Needs (AEN) provision at St Louis Community School is rooted in a warm, welcoming and inclusive ethos where every student is valued and placed at the centre of the educational process. We recognise and celebrate individual strengths, abilities and learning needs, ensuring that all students have the opportunity to achieve their potential.

Our collaborative approach considers both the individual and collective needs of our students when planning provision. Short-, medium- and long-term strategies inform effective differentiation and the scaffolding of learning within mainstream classroom settings. Additional provision, including a sensory space, is available where appropriate to help students regulate, engage and participate fully in school life.

We offer a range of curriculum pathways within the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ), including Junior Cycle L2LP, Senior Cycle L2LP and Leaving Certificate Applied (LCA). These pathways provide opportunities for students to engage with learning at an appropriate level and achieve in line with their individual abilities, strengths and potential.

THE LIGHTHOUSE PROGRAMME

The Lighthouse Programme is a unique student leadership initiative that helps make the transition from primary to post primary school a positive and enjoyable experience for our incoming First Year students. Selected fifth year students are trained to act as mentors and role models, providing guidance, encouragement, and support throughout the year.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Every one of our students can avail of a free breakfast every morning in our school. It is served from 8.20 to 8.55am. It is not the full Irish but it is substantial enough to give our students a nourishing start to their day!

HOMEWORK CLUB

The homework club is an after-school facility for a limited number of students, to assist them with the completion of their homework. It is

STUDENT SUPPORTS AND GROUPS TO JOIN

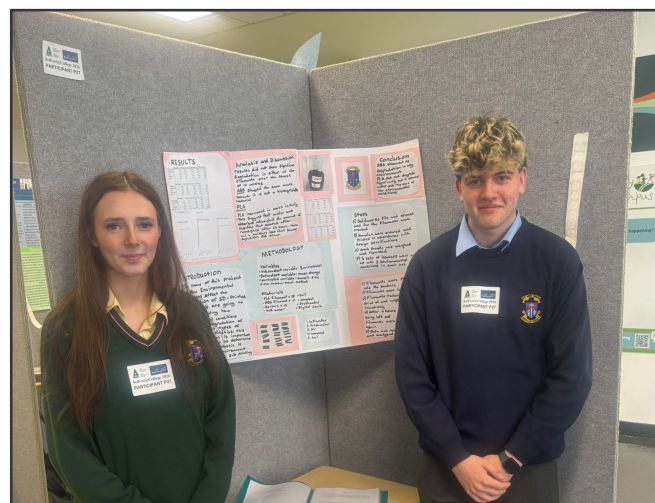
supervised by various leaders from within the school. It takes place Monday to Thursday from 4.00 to 5.30pm.

EVENING STUDY

Available for all years, evening study is supervised from 4.15- 6.15 each day and 2-4 on Fridays. We provide a silent, distraction free environment for all who wish to join evening study which is of huge benefit for those who wish to maximize their cognitive development. Up to 100 students attend study each evening.

SCIFEST

St Louis provides TY students, with a keen interest in science, the opportunity to get involved in scientific research of their choice. Students will be supported in exploring and investigating a specific scientific question or problem. If projects are developed sufficiently, the school also support students to enter national scientific competitions, such as SciFest.



STUDENT SUPPORT TEAM

The Student Support Team meets each week in St. Louis Community School to ensure that the students in our care remain at the centre of everything we do. The team is comprised of the Principal, Deputy Principals, Year Heads, School Chaplain, Guidance Counsellor, and the Additional Educational Needs Coordinator.

The Student Support Team reviews all aspects of students' educational, personal, and pastoral needs, ensuring that appropriate supports are in place at the right time. Through regular collaboration and discussion, the team identifies areas where interventions may be required and works together to implement effective strategies and supports to meet the needs of our student cohort.

THE CHAPLAINCY TEAM

This is a group of students from 1st to 6th Year and staff who meet weekly. They discuss how they can make a difference in the school community by giving that sense of belonging to everyone. They organise a variety of prayer moments during the year such as the "Sunflower of Souls" and the "Pay It Forward" Le Chéile Day just before the Easter holidays. Their main role is to help to provide opportunities for prayer and reflection for students & staff in the school, to facilitate spiritual experiences. They will help to organise prayer gatherings held by the school such as the First Year prayer service, November Remembrance services, Carol Service, Lenten Reflections, exam prayer services etc. They also help in the upkeep of the school chapel – filling the holy water fonts, providing candles for the candelabra and keeping the place generally tidy.



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY & GREEN-SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

St. Louis Community School continues to develop and strengthen its commitment to environmental sustainability year by year. As a Committee, we regularly liaise with all aspects of the school community including the Board of Management, and the local community of Kiltimagh. The Committee remains active and representative of students across all year groups, with particular focus this year on our 6th Green Flag: Global Citizenship - Litter and Waste.

Going forward, the Environmental Sustainability and Green-Schools Committee will continue to build on these initiatives during the coming school year, with a particular emphasis on reducing waste, increasing

recycling and composting, promoting reuse, protecting biodiversity and developing students' understanding of their role as responsible global citizens. The programme remains committed to achieving its 6th Green Flag and embedding sustainability into everyday school life.

LEVEL 2 LEARNING PROGRAMME

At St. Louis Community School, our Level 2 Learning Programme (L2LP) provides a meaningful, inclusive and engaging educational pathway for students with identified learning needs at both Junior Cycle and Senior Cycle.

The programme is designed to support students in developing the knowledge, skills and confidence needed for school, work and everyday life. Through a personalised and practical approach to learning, students engage in a broad range of subjects and experiences that focus on communication, literacy, numeracy, personal development, independent living, wellbeing and preparation for adult life.

WELLBEING AMBASSADORS

Wellbeing Ambassadors engage in a variety of initiatives that promote positive mental health throughout our school community. Their mantra is 'its ok not to feel ok and its absolutely ok to ask for help'. St Louis CS has achieved two Amber Flags with Pieta House and 13 consecutive awards from the cycle against suicide. Ambassadors take part in live Q&A recordings throughout the school year in areas that are relatable to their peer group such as dealing with anxiety, low mood, exam pressure and social media.



STATE OF THE ART FACILITIES



- Computers, speakers, visualisers and projectors in every classroom
- Louis Bautain room – a large multi-purpose hall used for different occasions and events
- Four computer rooms boasting up-to-date software and internet access. Lap-top trolley available to all general classrooms
- Wi-Fi throughout the school
- Construction, Engineering and Technology rooms recently equipped with new machines and tools including laser cutter, Wazer (water jet cutter), CNC machines, welding equipment and state of the art lathes.
- Large, fully equipped Home Economics kitchen
- State of the art Gym and Sports Hall
- Newly re-surfaced and renovated Asto-turf pitch
- Fully equipped and modern science labs
- New sustainable library where all books and shelving were sourced second-hand
- Canteen offering a wide range of school meals



JUNIOR SOCCER TEAM

EXTRA CURRICULAR

As part of our keen desire to further the holistic development of everyone in our school, St Louis offers a wide range of extracurricular activities for students. These include sports teams like Volleyball, Gaelic Football, Soccer, Basketball and more. These teams have experienced great success, from qualifying for all Irelands in Basketball, Volleyball, to our male and female Gaelic Football teams winning at county and provincial level. Our soccer teams have also seen success winning at provincial and all Ireland levels, as well as receiving Connaught Telegraph team of the year awards.

The school also offers opportunities including public speaking, Gaisce awards and Pope John Paul II awards. The student council are another team who are integral to the running of the school. Each class in the school has

a representative who students vote in to speak on their behalf. The council act on issues that arise in the school, along with raising awareness for important topics. They also meet with the board of management to discuss student issues.

St Louis students take part in various quizzes and competitions in many subjects. There are also great opportunities to join the school choir, and the traditional music group. These groups take part in school services and masses throughout the year as well as other events. There are a broad range of sports and extra curricular activities to suit everyone in the school.



SENIOR VOLLEYBALL TEAM



GIRLS SENIOR FOOTBALL TEAM



U – 14 GIRLS GAEIC



MUSICAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING CHOIRS AND TRADITIONAL MUSIC GROUPS



OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

1ST YEARS | FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



What is the timetable like?

The school day is from 9am-4pm and we finish at 1.20 on a Friday. All classes are an hour long with a 20 minute break at 11am and a 40 minute lunch at 1.20pm.

How many are in the school?

Over 695 students.

How will I get to know my classmates?

The Lighthouse Programme activities are great, as well as joining the many teams and organisations within the school.

Are there any 1st year trips?

There are trips organised by the teachers for various subjects as well as a Lighthouse Programme trip at the end of the year.

How will I pick my subjects?

You can consult the school's website or the booklet included in the admissions pack which describes each subject in more detail. Extra information can also be found on www.curriculumonline.ie/Junior-cycle.

Who will be in my class?

When you arrive in St Louis you will be assigned a base class group that you will be in for core and compulsory classes. You will also be with various class groups throughout the day depending on what subjects you choose.

Is there somewhere I can eat in St Louis?

You're only allowed off school grounds during lunch if you're in the Senior Cycle. For Junior Cycle, we have a canteen which supplies hot dinners etc. There is a free breakfast for students who arrive in early in the morning. You can also bring your own packed lunch.

Who do I go to if I'm struggling and want advice?

You can go to either Ms Ruane the guidance counsellor, Ms O'Brien the Chaplain, or your year head. Every Thursday morning you get a chance to meet with your Lighthouse Programme who is there to help and support you in any way they can. All of your teachers or SNAs are also on hand to help you with any problems.

Where do I store my books?

There are lockers available in the school so you don't have to carry all your books in your bag.

Are there committees I can join?

Yes. There are many committees you can join, such as Green Schools, the Student Council, Wellbeing team, Library Committee, chaplaincy team among others. There are also various teams such as Gaelic, Soccer, Volleyball, Basketball, Table tennis and many more.

When you start a language, are you expected to know any basics?

No. Most other students, will be in the same boat as you, and will have never done this language before.

If you don't enjoy a subject, can you change it?

You can change it within the first 2 months.

Do I need to buy my books?

We offer a Free Book Scheme for all of our 1st Year students.

JUNIOR CYCLE

CORE SUBJECTS

ENGLISH
IRISH
MATHS
HISTORY
RELIGION
COMPUTERS
CSPE
SPHE
PE

St Louis offers an extensive curriculum which provides students with a range of subjects that meet their needs and builds a solid foundation for subject selection at senior cycle.

Students pick **5 OPTIONAL SUBJECTS** from the list below.

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

FRENCH	WOOD TECHNOLOGY
SPANISH	MUSIC
VISUAL ART	ENGINEERING
GEOGRAPHY	SCIENCE
BUSINESS STUDIES	GRAPHICS
HOME ECONOMICS	APPLIED TECHNOLOGY

LEAVING CERTIFICATE

CORE SUBJECTS

ENGLISH
IRISH
MATHS
RELIGIOUS ED (NON EXAM)
COMPUTERS
PE
CAREER GUIDANCE

The school provides a wide range of subjects at all levels which caters for the career progression of students beyond second level.

Students pick either **4 OR 5 OPTIONAL** subjects

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

ART	HISTORY
BIOLOGY	HOME ECONOMICS
BUSINESS	LCW
CHEMISTRY	MUSIC
CONSTRUCTION STUDIES	PHYSICS
DESIGN /COMM GRAPHICS	ACCOUNTING
ENGINEERING	AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE
FRENCH	APPLIED MATHS
SPANISH	EXAM RELIGION
GEOGRAPHY	COMM. FRENCH/SPANISH



SUBJECTS

EXPLANATIONS OF PRACTICAL SUBJECTS



TECHNICAL SUBJECTS

All technical subjects are practically based with emphasis placed on basic skills, accuracy, creativity and design. These practical skills are complimented by the theoretical elements of the subjects and technical drawing.

MODULES TAUGHT INCLUDE: :

GRAPHICS

(Junior Cert) involves students in the development of a range of skills associated with the management of spatial problems and the graphical communication of spatial ideas and solutions.

WOOD TECHNOLOGY

(Junior Cert) gives students an opportunity to explore their role in making and shaping their environment. Students use practical problem-solving skills and technological knowledge.

ENGINEERING

(Junior Cert) Engineering provides an introduction to materials and process engineering and an insight into associated technology. It is founded in practical activity that seeks to link observation and action with ingenuity and creativity within a problem-solving context.

(Leaving Cert) Engineering is the study of mechanical engineering for students in the senior cycle of post-primary education. Students develop the skills and initiative in the planning, development and realisation of technological projects in a safe manner.

DESIGN AND COMMUNICATION GRAPHICS

(Leaving Cert) includes the study of design, freehand drawing, elevation and plans, problem solving, 3D drawing, perspective drawing, computer 3D drawings, Computer Aided Design (CAD), model-making and engineering drawing.

CONSTRUCTION STUDIES

(Leaving Cert) Construction studies provides students with an introduction to the knowledge and skills involved in construction technology and construction materials and processes. Students develop their ability to communicate ideas and information through exploring materials and processes.

APPLIED TECHNOLOGY

Applied Technology aims to develop the students' curiosity of the technological world while integrating the necessary subject knowledge with the disciplinary skills to investigate and solve real-life problems.



SCIENCE SUBJECTS

Studying science is an excellent way of learning how to appreciate the world around us.

St. Louis Community School boasts three fully equipped science laboratories, each especially suited for the teaching of the four areas of science: Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Agricultural Science. These state of the art facilities are fully stocked with all the necessary equipment to encourage students to develop an interest in the various science subjects.

Student participation in practical activities helps foster observation

and evaluation skills, as well as the interpretation and understanding of data. This helps students to acquire scientific knowledge while also appreciating the application of science to everyday life.

In year three students choose the level they wish to pursue.

The Science Subjects are an optional choice at both the Junior and Senior levels, and most students choose to study Science for their Junior Cycle. Senior students also have the opportunity to study all four areas of Science to Leaving Certificate Level.

HOME ECONOMICS

Home economics is a valuable addition to our curriculum because it teaches students practical skills for daily living. In the process of transitioning from childhood to adulthood, students need training in

practices such as nutrition, financial responsibility, home management and child development so they can lead safe and productive lives. They learn about safety, life skills, nutrition, and the wider community.

ART

St Louis CS boasts a magnificent Art room that used to be part of the original school chapel. Students develop creativity across a broad spectrum of 2D, 3D and craft areas which include drawing, painting, mixed media, graphic design, lino printing, mask making, calligraphy, textiles, clay modeling, cartoons, animation and more. Students also visit art exhibitions /galleries and explore the work of other artists from

both a historical and contemporary viewpoint. Art for Junior Cert is 100% practical. Students complete a project in third year and work in second year is also assessed for a Junior Cycle profile of achievement. There is no written exam. For Leaving Cert creativity is further developed across a range of art elements. Students are assessed on their practical components in school time and also have a written art history exam.



MODERN LANGUAGES

St. Louis offers Spanish and French. Strong evidence shows that time spent on foreign language study strongly reinforces the core subject areas of reading, English language literacy, social studies and mathematics. Foreign language learners consistently outperform control groups in core subject areas on standardized tests, often significantly. Mastering the vocabulary of a modern language enhances student comprehension and abilities in reading, writing, mathematics and other subjects.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) IN THE CLASSROOM



All students in St. Louis have the opportunity to develop their computer and digital literacy through IT classes included as part of their Junior Cycle curriculum. Every student is provided with a Microsoft Office 365 account which allows them to develop their skills in MS Office applications including Word, OneNote, PowerPoint etc. All students also have access to a MSTEAMS account and have a dedicated school email address. Students in TY have the opportunity to study the Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) exams at core and expert levels.

All classrooms in the school are networked with broadband access, boast data projectors and visualisers. We have four fully equipped computer rooms and a trolley of lab tops available to general classrooms. Our DCG room is fitted out with the latest computers to enable students to access subject specific applications such as SolidWorks. We also have a wide range of technology available to facilitate the learning of students with SEN. Technology has transformed the classroom and changed the way our students learn and our teachers teach!

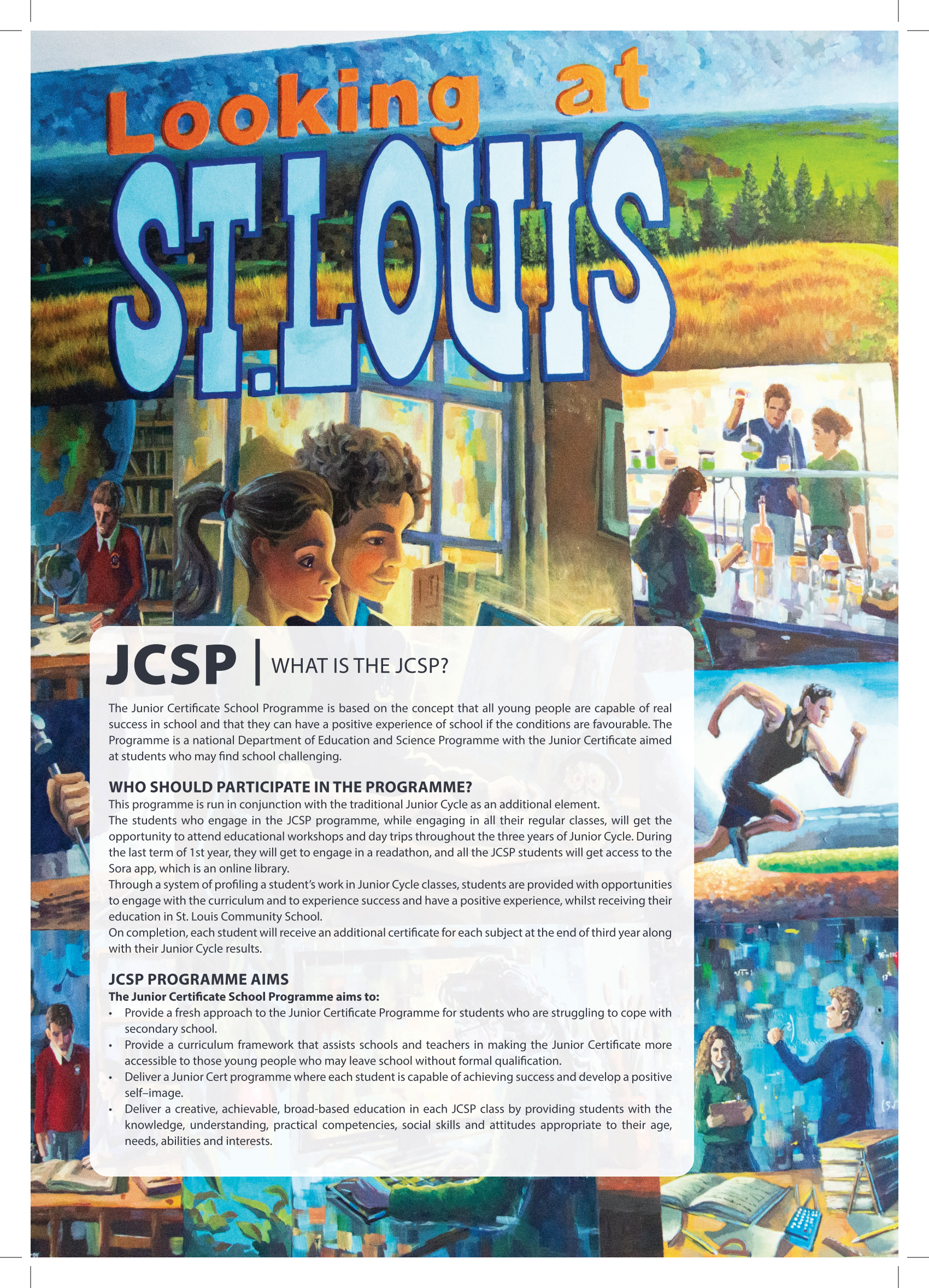
MUSIC

Learning music helps you make friends, helps build confidence, enhances creativity, develops teamwork abilities, improves cognitive function, relieves stress and is lots of fun!

Learning music is intrinsically motivating, meaningful and a rewarding activity for young people because it is hands-on; fully engaging the students in activities that relate to and have a connection with the world experienced by them outside the classroom. Through movement, sound, symbol and image, engaging with music can transform people's creative ideas into expressive works that communicate feelings, meanings and interpretations to a wider audience. Throughout both Junior Cycle and Senior cycle student's listening, compositional and practical skills are developed. Both the Junior Cycle exam and Leaving Certificate exam comprise of a practical exam along with a written exam.

Music students in St. Louis are involved in various extra-curricular activities throughout the school year including School Masses, School and Parish Carol Services, Choir, Traditional Irish Group, Graduations, Local Musical events & Musical evenings. There is something for everyone.





Looking at ST. LOUIS

JCSP | WHAT IS THE JCSP?

The Junior Certificate School Programme is based on the concept that all young people are capable of real success in school and that they can have a positive experience of school if the conditions are favourable. The Programme is a national Department of Education and Science Programme with the Junior Certificate aimed at students who may find school challenging.

WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAMME?

This programme is run in conjunction with the traditional Junior Cycle as an additional element.

The students who engage in the JCSP programme, while engaging in all their regular classes, will get the opportunity to attend educational workshops and day trips throughout the three years of Junior Cycle. During the last term of 1st year, they will get to engage in a readathon, and all the JCSP students will get access to the Sora app, which is an online library.

Through a system of profiling a student's work in Junior Cycle classes, students are provided with opportunities to engage with the curriculum and to experience success and have a positive experience, whilst receiving their education in St. Louis Community School.

On completion, each student will receive an additional certificate for each subject at the end of third year along with their Junior Cycle results.

JCSP PROGRAMME AIMS

The Junior Certificate School Programme aims to:

- Provide a fresh approach to the Junior Certificate Programme for students who are struggling to cope with secondary school.
- Provide a curriculum framework that assists schools and teachers in making the Junior Certificate more accessible to those young people who may leave school without formal qualification.
- Deliver a Junior Cert programme where each student is capable of achieving success and develop a positive self-image.
- Deliver a creative, achievable, broad-based education in each JCSP class by providing students with the knowledge, understanding, practical competencies, social skills and attitudes appropriate to their age, needs, abilities and interests.

TRANSITION YEAR

Transition Year at St. Louis Community School is an optional year that offers students an exciting and varied programme designed to bridge the gap between Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate. The programme places a strong emphasis on personal development, independence and learning through experience, while developing practical, social, digital, organisational and teamwork skills.

Students continue with core subjects including Irish, English, Mathematics, Religion, Computers, Business, Career Guidance, Music, Geography, SPHE and PE. This is complemented by a broad range of subjects and short rotations including Science, Accounting, History, Home Economics, DCG, Construction Studies, Engineering, Art, Modern Languages, Technology, Life Skills, Food Science, Textiles and CAD.

The nature and make-up of our TY programme is constantly changing to reflect the needs of our students. Activities included in the TY programme are as follows:

- Wide variety of different subjects giving students an experience of all subjects at Senior Cycle to help with subject choice
- Projects and Teamwork opportunities in class
- Career Guidance and support with decisions with Leaving Cert subjects including aptitude testing
- IT Skills including Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS)
- certification and using e-portfolios to document work
- Enterprise and mini-company: a chance to explore working in a small business, improve your teamwork skills and even a chance to make a small profit!
- LIFT Leaderships modules
- 3 weeks work experience
- International tour: previous tours include Paris, Rome, Madrid, Lake Garda, Belgium and other destinations in Europe
- Guest speakers on themes such as positive mental health promotion, road safety, breast cancer awareness,
- Workshops on topics such as public speaking, forensics, drumming, personal safety etc.
- Voluntary, charity and community work such as the Parish calendar.
- Trips around the country: Ploughing Championships, Bord Gais Theatre, St. Petersburg Adventure Centre, Tannagh Education Centre, Strandhill Surf School, Zip-It Lough Key
- GAISCE, John Paul II Awards, Leadership Awards – great advantages for a student's C.V. and the development of life skills
- Public Speaking and Debating
- Sustainable fashion



TY GROUP TAKING ON THE WAVES!

LEAVING CERTIFICATE APPLIED

The Leaving Certificate Applied is a self-contained two-year programme aimed at preparing students for adult and working life. The programme is offered as an alternative to the traditional Leaving Certificate.

It is an innovative programme in the way students learn, in what they learn and in the way their achievements are assessed.

The Leaving Certificate Applied is intended to meet the needs of those students who are not adequately catered for by other Leaving Certificate programmes or who choose not to opt for such programmes. The programme is ideal for those who would be motivated by continuous assessment, students who want to get work experience to help them with their career choice, someone who wants to develop skills which will help them in their future career and students who prefer more practical courses.

The advantage of Leaving Certificate Applied is that it focuses on the talents of each individual student. The LCA Programme has a practical basis, with students applying their knowledge, skills and experience to practical tasks at school, in the work place and in the wider community.

With a certificate in the Leaving Certificate Applied students may do a Post Leaving Certificate course and then continue on to IT colleges or third level equivalent. Students can also go on to do apprenticeships and apply to the Public Service, Banks, the Defence forces and An Garda Síochana.

One of the biggest differences between the established Leaving Certificate and the Leaving Certificate Applied is the system of continuous assessment. Students are assessed on project work and tasks completed over the two years and the final examination accounts for approximately one third of the overall marks.

The programme is split into three key parts: projects (which include key assignments and tasks), work experience (eight weeks of work experience over a two-year period) and, finally, the written exams. Students are awarded credits for coursework.

What are credits ?

- Credits are marks that are given to the student after completing a key assignment
- Each subject has Modules (topics)
- Each module without an exam is worth 2 Credits
- To earn these credits you must have 90% attendance and all four key assignments
- There are 200 credits overall in LCA.



LEAVING CERT APPLIED



ART WORK COMPETED BY STUDENTS

LCW

LIFE, COMMUNITY AND WORK

LCW is the newly updated Senior Cycle framework that replaces the traditional Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme. It is designed to prepare students for the modern world, this practical two-year module bridges the gap between academic education and life after school. The students play a highly active role in their own development by investigating career pathways, participating in community-focused projects, and completing hands-on work placement. It is focused on building an ongoing Digital Portfolio alongside external assessment, LCW helps students improve their essential communication, enterprise, and self-management skills required for college, apprenticeships, and employment.



NEW STUDENTS ON THEIR FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL



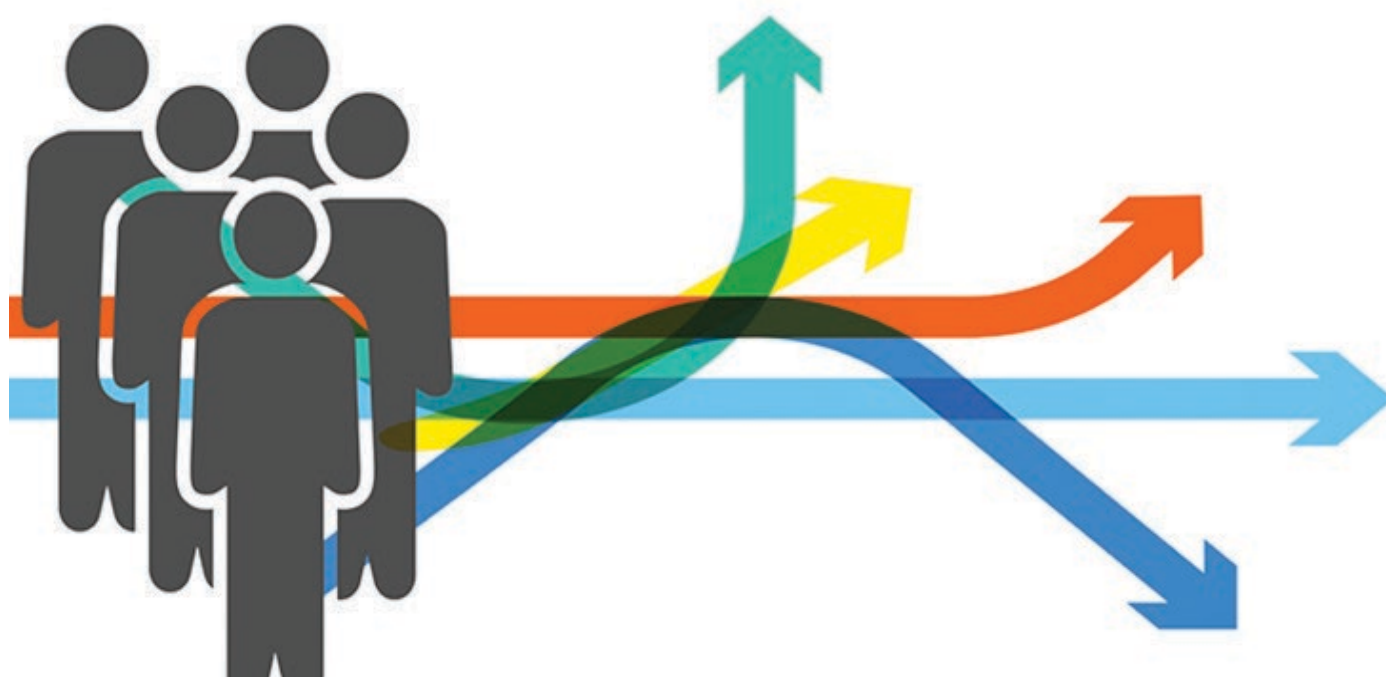
LIGHTHOUSE PROGRAMME OUTING



THIRD LEVEL

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS & CAREER DIRECTION

SUBJECT CHOICE	THIRD LEVEL / CAREER DIRECTION
MODERN LANGUAGE	A modern language (Spanish or French) is an entry requirement for most courses in the National Universities of Ireland (UCD, DCU, NUIG, Maynooth, UCC) with the exceptions of TCD, UL & all the IT's. A modern language is not a requirement for Science, Primary Teaching, Nursing or IT degrees in any college.
SCIENCE	Science is essential if choosing Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Agricultural Science, and Physics & Chemistry at the Leaving Certificate. These set the foundations for degrees in the Medical profession, Veterinary, Dentistry, Computer Science, Engineering, Architecture, Psychology, Food Science and Agriculture.
BUSINESS STUDIES	Business studies leads on to Business & Accounting. It sets the foundations for degrees in Commerce, Accounting, Law, Marketing, Sales, International Relations, Politics, Finance, Banking and Administration. Useful if taking Construction Studies or Engineering in the Leaving Certificate. It sets the foundations for degrees in
TECHNOLOGY	Technology, Engineering, Computer Science, Apprenticeships, and Artificial Intelligence.
HOME ECONOMICS	Home Economics sets the foundations for degrees in Food Science, Catering, Dietetics, Sports, Social Studies and Tourism.
WOOD TECHNOLOGY	Wood Technology is useful if taking Construction Studies or Engineering in the Leaving Certificate. It sets the foundations for degrees in Carpentry, Manufacturing, Apprenticeships, Construction and Engineering.
ENGINEERING	Engineering is useful if taking Construction Studies or Engineering in the Leaving Certificate. It sets the foundations for degrees in Electronics, Engineering, Architecture, Computer Science, Apprenticeships, and Artificial Intelligence.
ART	Art is useful for degrees in Architecture, Graphic Design, Teaching, Theatre, Game Design, Web Design, Teaching, Marketing and Product Design.
MUSIC	Music sets the foundations for degrees in Teaching, Performing Arts, PR, Software Engineering and Theatre.
GRAPHICS	Graphics is useful if taking DCG in the Leaving Certificate. It sets the foundations in degrees in Architecture, Engineering, Product Design and Graphic Design.
GEOGRAPHY	Geography sets the foundations for degrees in Geosystems, Geology, Environmental Science, Construction Management and the Agricultural Sector.

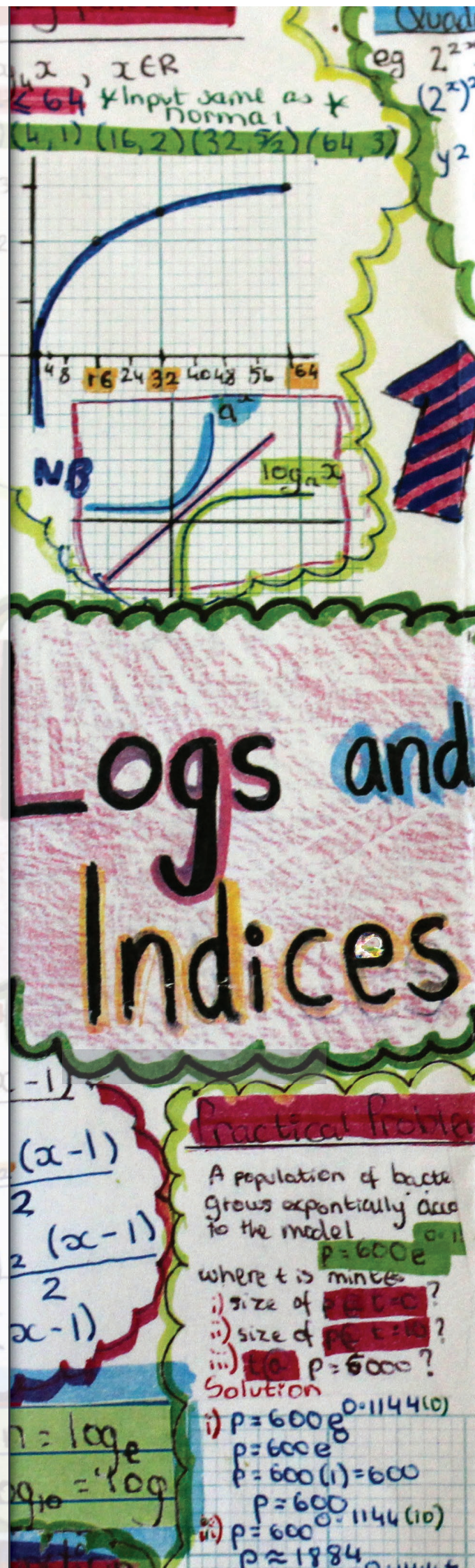


TEACHING & LEARNING IN ST. LOUIS

Teachers in St. Louis aim to promote a positive learning environment in all of their classes. At both Junior and Senior Cycle, our teachers work hard to plan quality, inclusive and relevant classes to enhance the learning experiences for all students, including those with special educational needs.

They ensure that learning is student centred and active teaching methodologies are an integral part of their classes. Teachers regularly participate in Continuous Professional Development with many of them having engaged in the Instructional Leadership programme run by the educational expert, Dr. Barrie Bennett.

In addition, many teachers are involved as external examiners working with the State Exams Commission.



WHAT THE STUDENTS HAVE TO SAY...



ROISIN

HEAD GIRL, ROISIN MURRAY

My journey at St Louis Community school has been an amazing, memorable one. Since I started in first year, the incredible staff here in the school has made me into the person and student I am today. And all the workshops and programmes they have for first years really settles you in nicely. They strive to do the best for their students. And the friends you make along the way are ones you'll have for life. The facilities here in St Louis are some of the finest around in my opinion. The science labs, the gyms, the art room and the music room, there's something here for everyone! I know that when I'm older, I'll look back fondly on every aspect of my years spent here and be glad I went to St Louis Community school.



DANIEL

HEAD BOY, DANIEL DRLIK

School is a journey, and everyone's journey is different. Our school provides students with the opportunity to discover their interests, develop their talents and become the best version of themselves. Being a student here is about much more than what happens in the classroom. It is about the friends you make, the activities you take part in, the challenges you overcome and the experiences you share along the way.

I remember my first day; I was nervous and excited for this new milestone in my life. Soon enough, however, I found my way and made many new friends. What helped me settle into St. Louis was the great sense of community that exists between students, teachers and staff. When I think about my time at school, I realise how much I have changed and grown as a person. The confidence, independence and skills I have developed here will stay with me long after I leave, and I am grateful for the opportunities that have helped me discover what I want to do in the future.

St. Louis is a place where students are encouraged to step outside their comfort zones, try new things and make the most of the opportunities around them. It is a school that gives you the space to grow, while providing the support to help you along the way. As I look towards the next chapter of my life, I know that the lessons I have learned here will remain with me wherever my journey takes me.



PHOENIX

1ST YEAR, PHOENIX COTTER

Starting in St Louis, I was a little nervous at first because it is such a big school, but after a few days I started to feel much more comfortable and settled in. at first, finding my way around the different floors and classrooms was a little confusing, but I soon got used to it. Everyone was very welcoming and there were lots of opportunities to meet new people and make friends. I personally like the lockers and moving around the classrooms each day. I was really excited about the wide range of subjects and activities that St Louis has to offer. One of my favourite things about first year has been trying out new subjects, especially practical subjects, like Engineering, Applied Technology and Graphics. The lighthouse programme is an excellent way to meet other students and take part in different activities and experiences, such as hiking spankers hill followed by a barbeque. I'm really looking forward to seeing what the next few years will bring at St Louis Community School.



FRANCESCA

1ST YEAR, FRANCESCA BARBIERI

I started St. Louis in August 2025. Coming from a small primary school, I was feeling a bit nervous, but mostly excited for the big change. The first day really helps with getting to know everyone. We played people bingo, got our photo taken, took part in a treasure hunt and also had ice-cream!

The school is massive, but after the first week, it feels like you have been there for ages, and it's quite easy to know where you're going. The locker is so handy and you will definitely use it. I have made so many new friends and I am very happy with all my subjects. Overall, St. Louis is so much fun and I hope you have a lovely time too!.



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follow our facebook page



COMMUNITY, RESPECT, INCLUSION, HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT

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