

Parent/Guardian Check in September 2025

1st Year Students



Our Mission Statement

 Every person is valued equally in accordance with our Christian Tradition at St. Caimin's School.

 Each person within the school community can enjoy developing to the fullest, while feeling cared for and safe.

 Our educational structures are ordered, based on tolerance, fairness and respect, while sensitive to our changing world

Our Local Community

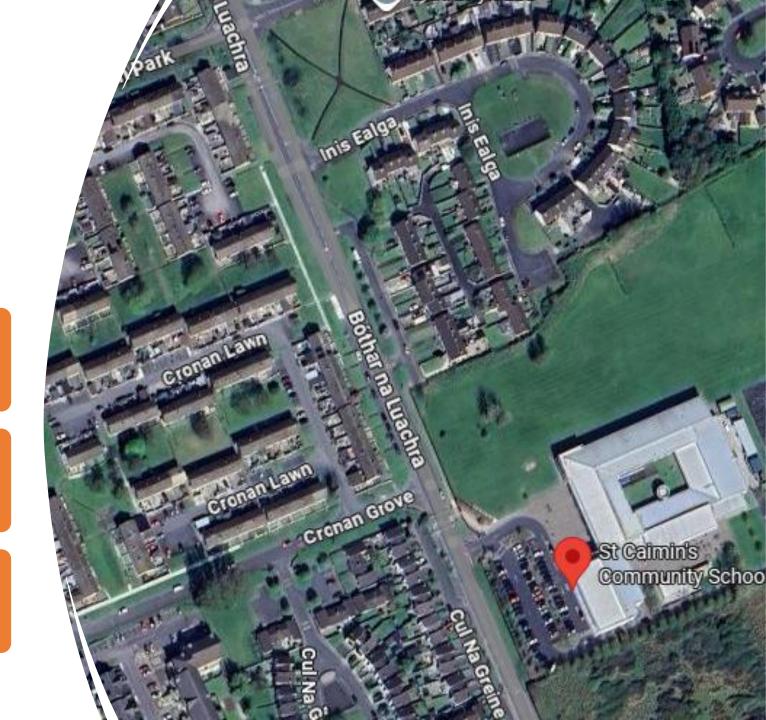
Rubbish

Complaints from residents

What it might mean if this continues

Dangerous behaviour

Lack of respect when called on the behaviour



	Classrooms	Lockers	Corridors & Yard	Canteen	Toilets
Be Ready	 Be on time Have your journal and equipment Be ready to learn 	Use in the morning, at break time and lunchtime	Line up on one side outside the classroom	 Line up at lunch queue Be patient and cooperative Follow all staff requests 	 Use in the morning, at break time and lunchtime or with permission slip from teacher
Be Respectful	 One voice Hand up Listen, and support classmates Respect your space 	Be patient and wait your turn	 Use appropriate language Be mindful of your safety and that of others 	 Use 'please' and 'thank you' when it is due Clean the space you eat at 	 Be considerate of others needs Respect the space and keep it tidy for everyone
Be Responsible	 Take ownership of your learning Be involved Know your goals and targets 	 Keep your locker area tidy Keep it locked and never share your code 	 Place your rubbish in the designated bin Give way where you can No mobile phones between classes 	 Place your rubbish in the designated bin 	 Wash your hands after use Report areas that need attention Toilets are not a social area to congregate



Timekeeping

Regular school attendance and punctuality are essential factors in students learning

Attendance

- Attendance is so important and links with how well a student can achieve
- A student who is absent is required to keep up with school work
- Absences need to be recorded on the VSware App
- Students must attend school for duration of school day
- Student must get permission from year head to leave the school grounds



Attendance Tracking

Minister McEntee – "Regular attendance in school is essential not just for academic achievement, but for wellbeing, social development and long-term life outcomes"

Attendance is tracked by Year heads and Attendance Co Ordinator – Mr Aherne

- 5 days absent text sent
- 10 days absent E mail sent
- 12 days absent Contacted by Mr Aherne by phone call
- 15 days absent In school meeting with Mr Aherne
- 20 days absent Referral made to TUSLA to be taken up by education welfare officer.

What parents can do to help

- **Be active on Vs ware.** Make sure all absent days are accounted for with a reason through the Vs ware system.
- Partial days If a student is arriving late or leaving school early, this must be submitted with a reason on Vs ware so that the student can sign out. It is never acceptable for a student to leave school without following this process.
- Medical Certs If a student has been to a doctor, please submit copy of cert to the office.
- **Holidays** Should not be taken during the school term.



Homework and Learning to Learn

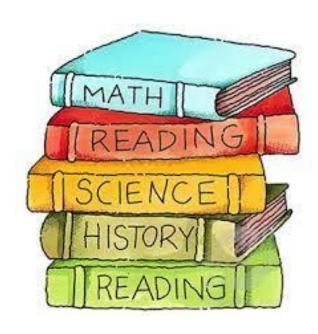


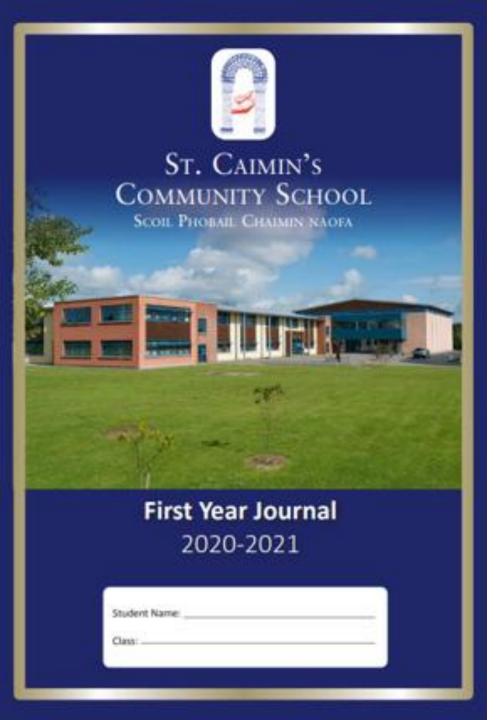
Success Criteria

There is a genuine attempt made by the pupil to complete the homework to the best of his/her ability and to submit the work at a preagreed time.

Why do we do Homework?

- ✓ Help us build on what we have learned in class
- ✓ Practice skills
- ✓ Ensure we understand new topics/concepts
- ✓ Help prepare for next class
- ✓ Help prepare for examinations





The Homework Journal

- √ The place where all homework is recorded
- ✓ Homework is recorded at the end of each class there are many different types of homework
- ✓ Parents and guardians should ensure that the student completes all homework to the best of his/her ability.
- ✓ Parents should inform the teacher of any difficulties by means of a written note in the journal.

SUBJECT		SUBJECT	HOMEWORK	DUE	DONE	
29		English				
AY Junes - Turnedi - De turin		Gcience				
	Inain	Art				
	i. Dé	Irish				
	Luned	Geography				
	• funes •	History				
8	Lundi • Montag					
≥	Lund					
Don	Don't Forget:					
30		Geography				
()	Ę.	Maths				
ESDAY	 Dé Máirt 	3મવર				
	rtedi •	CSPE				
	s • Ma	Home Ec.				
	• Marte	Trish				
	e betsu	German				
	ii • Dienst					
F	Mardi					
Don	Don't Forget:					

Don't Forget:

Homework can include the following types of activity:

- Development of oral/listening skills
- Drafting/Writing of essays/articles/speeches/short stories/dialogues/poems
- Learning by rote
- Listening to and/or viewing radio or TV programmes/use of internet
- Drawing and illustrating
- Making notes
- Reviewing
- Watching a TV programme

- Reading for pleasure
- Reading for information and memorising
- Preparation of presentations
- Practice of exam techniques
- Research/Project work
- Revision
- Visits to relevant museums, art galleries, theatre and other places of interest and relevance to subjects and related assignments

Homework Routine



Establish a timeline



Allow for free time – build in around other activities (sport/music/clubs etc.)



Pick a spot for homework – no distractions (mobile phone etc.)



Build in revision time



Tackle difficult work first

How long should I spend on homework?

Year	Guide time	
First Year	1.5 hours	
Second Year	2 – 2.5 hours	
Third Year	2.5 – 3 hours	
LC1	2.5 – 3 hours	
LC2	3 – 4 hours	

What happens if I miss a class?

- Find out from a Friend
- Check your class Team
- Message your teacher
- If ill catch up when you can

but talk to the teacher

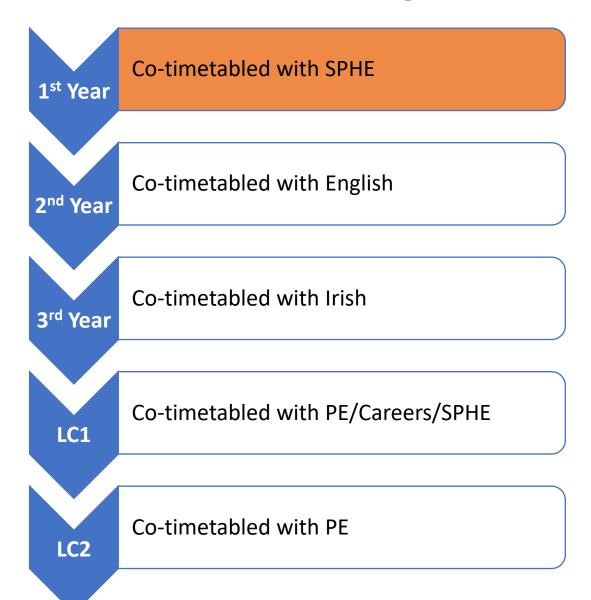


Learning to Learn

- Build into curriculum provision from 1st Year through to LC2
- Class group and individual support provided
- Additional information available on the school website in relation to Learning to Learn



Learning to Learn across the Curriculum



Content

Homework and procrastination management - SMART goal setting using journals and graph grids - Study plans and techniques: mind maps, flashcards, whizz grids, Cornell notes.

Focus = Developing foundational learning and study habits.



St Caimin's Community School Calendar

Admissions

Documents School Shop

Educational

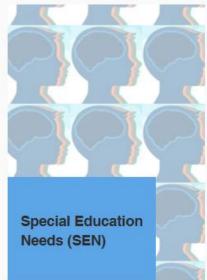
Wellbeing

About us

Support

School Community









Contact Us Tel: 061 - 364211 Email: info@stcaimins.ie

Address Tullyvarraga, Shannon, Co. Clare V14 XY54

To access our Learning 2 Learn resource portal please click on the image below.



Goal Setting and Reflection Resources:

Goal Setting	Target Setting	Type of Learner	CAO Target Tracker			
Target Grade Chart	Target Setting and Study Planning	Monthly Tracker	Reflection on Learning			
Study Skills and Planning						
Introduction to Study	Study Skills Presentation	Different Study Techniques	Developing a Study Plan			
Learning Aids and Strategies	Exam Preparation	Graphic Organisers	Note Taking			

Assessment 1st years 2025- 2026



Continuous Assessment (3 pieces of work)

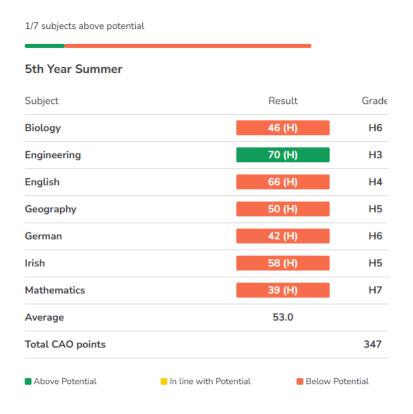


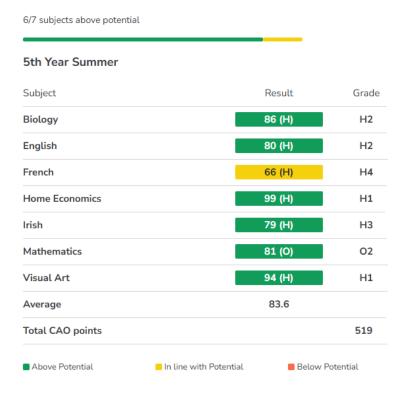
House Exams

+

Academic Tracking – Year Head Support







Additional Supports





What is VSware?

- VSware is our Data Management System
- It records:
 - Attendance
 - Behaviour
 - Assessments
 - Timetables
 - Student information







Parent Dashboard



Welcome to the Dashboard

This page is your one-stop-shop to view live notifications on your student's attendance, behaviour, reports and more. If you want to explore further, click into your student's profile.



Your Students



Your Contact Details



Notifications

Nothing to report!

Notifications related to your students will appear here when available.

Pick an area to explore



Attendance

Monitor your student's attendance at a glance, view records from an entire year or specific lesson.

Learn More →



Assessment

View your student's full academic record, track progress over time and download term assessments.

Learn More →



Behaviour

Keep track of your student's behaviour, monitor progress & teacher feedback.

Learn More →



Timetable

View your student's timetable, see realtime data for which lesson they are in at any given time.

Learn More →



Personal Info

Overview of your student's key info. Ensure that this is up to date.

Learn More →



Fees

Overview of school fees for the year, pay directly via card online.

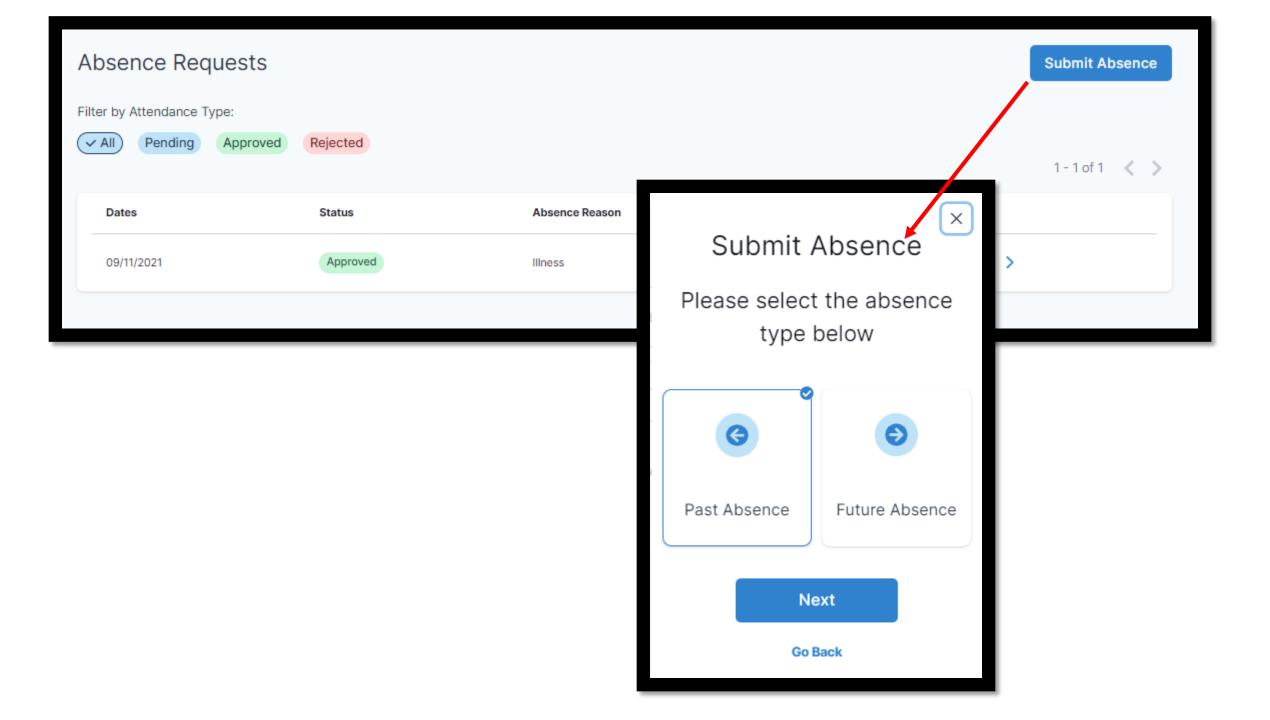
Learn More →



Student Options

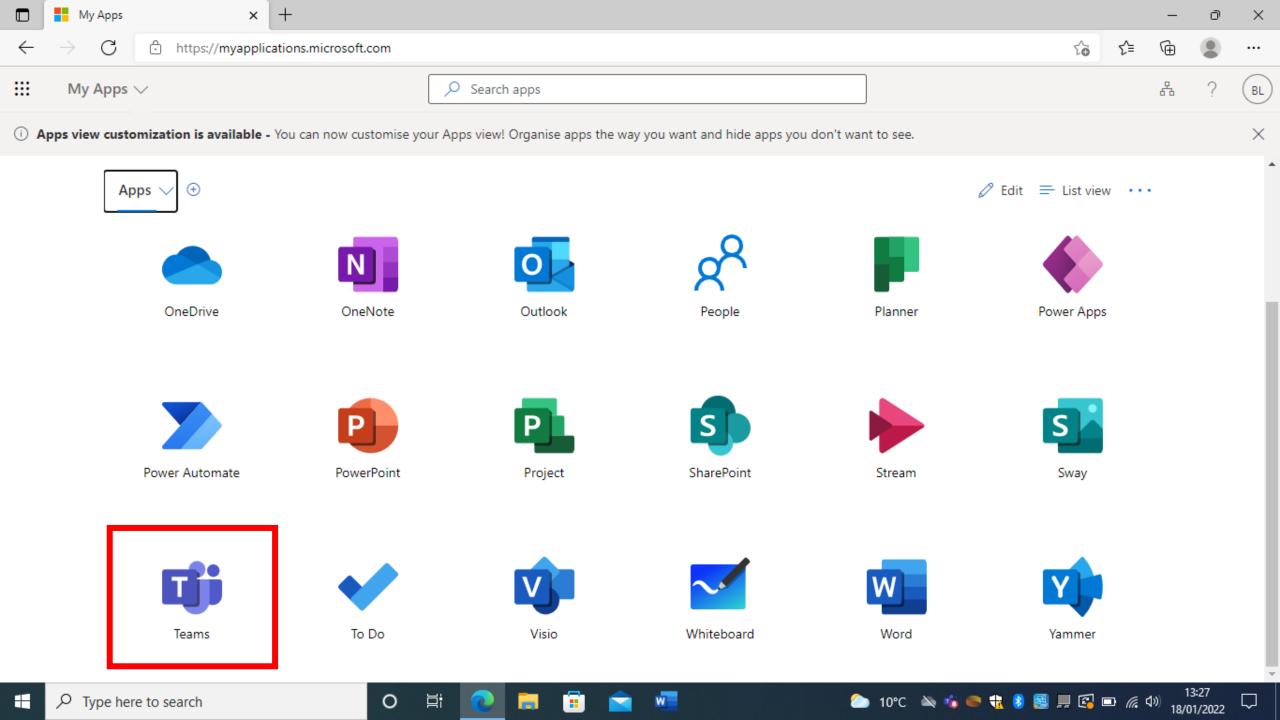
Submit next year's subject preferences directly to the school.

Learn More →



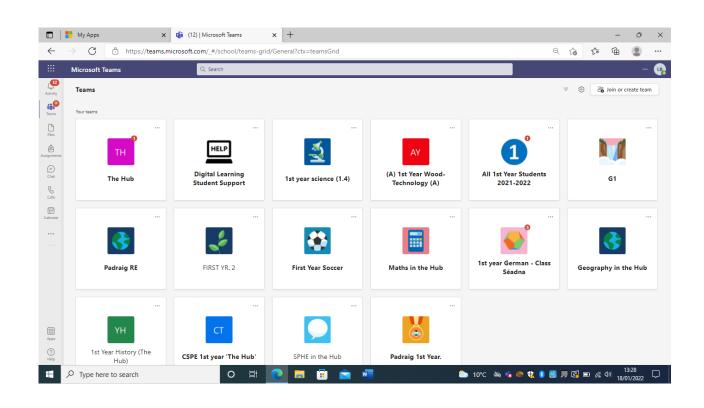


What is Teams?



What happens in a Team?

- Learning space for students
- Teacher has a Team set up for their class/sports team/club etc.
- Share resources with students
- Submit assignments
- Engage in class discussions
- Can chat teacher if help is needed
- Catch up on classwork if absent





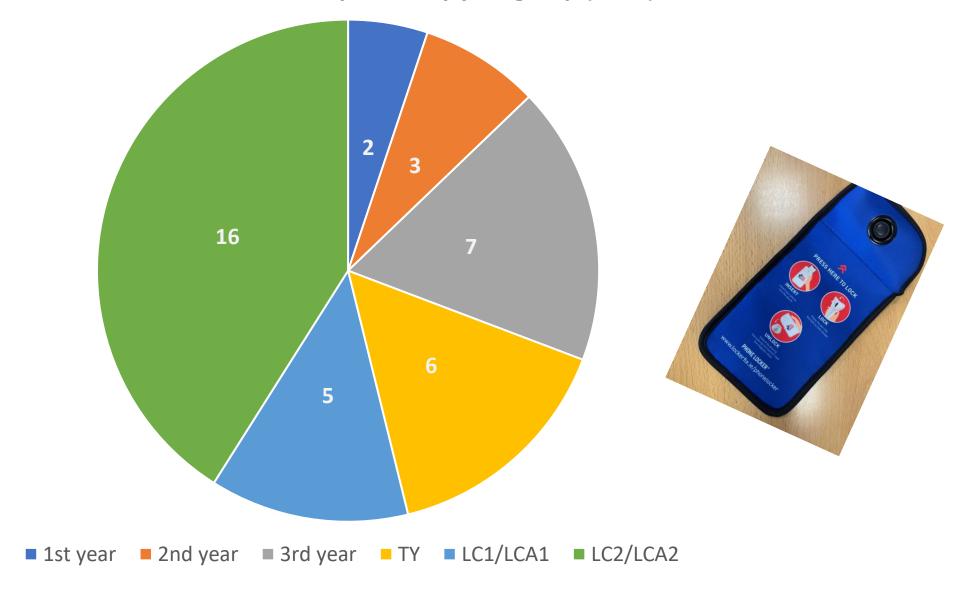
Mobile Phones

Phone Free Zone

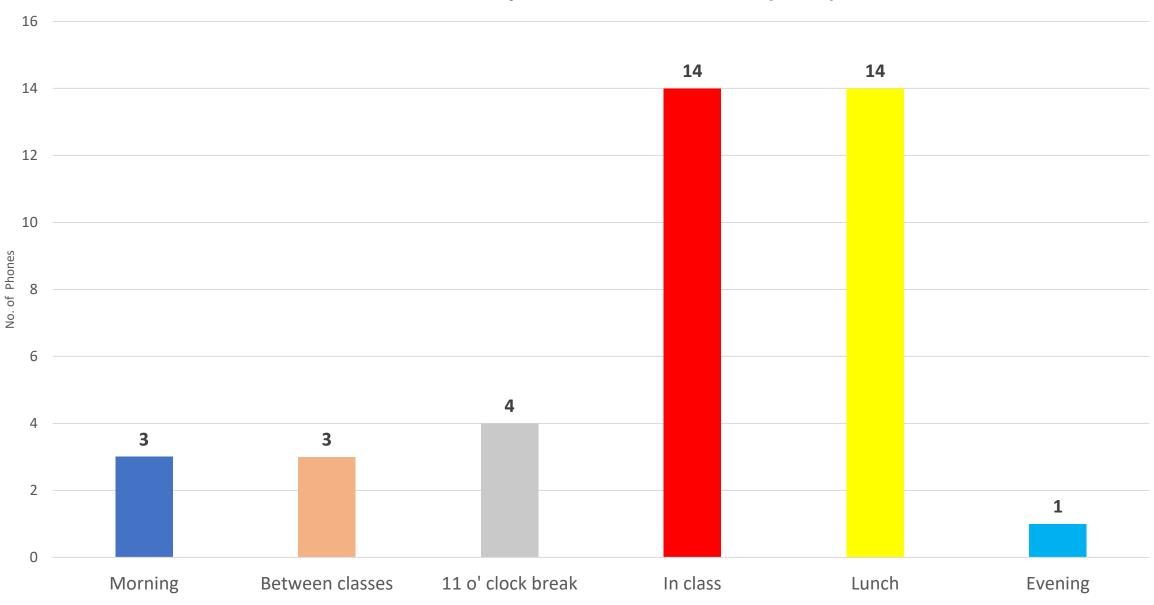
A phone free zone means that during the school day students are not permitted to have access to their phones. Students will store their mobile devices, which must be powered off, in locked pouches on their person or in their school bag or in their locker during the school day.



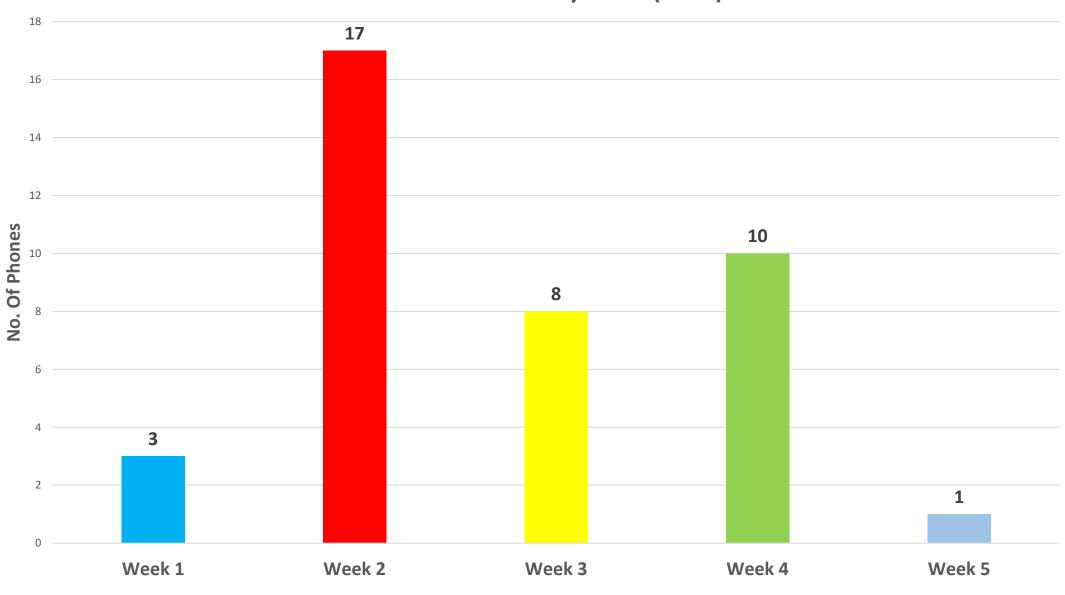
Break down of confiscated phones by year group (n=39)



Loction/Time the phone was confiscated (n=39)



Phone Confiscation by week (n=39)





Concerns around overuse of an electronic device

Excessive use of electronic devices has been linked with:

- Interference with social activities and family time
- Interference with sleep
- Damage to mental health
- Impacts concentration



Clare

Agree to Agree

• This initiative supports schools in working collaboratively with their wider communities to develop a shared understanding and agreed approach to pupils' use of internet-enabled devices.

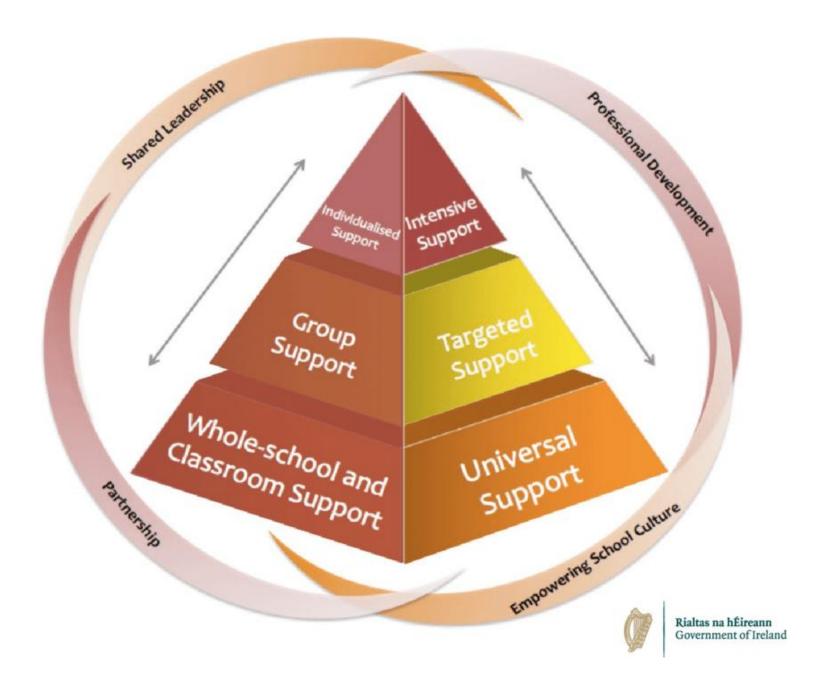
- School Leaders, Members of PA and BOM Nominee.
 - Use of digital devices
 - Norms for our children's online lives
 - Identifying key issues
 - Practical tips for parents and students



Parents' Association 2025 - 2026



Student Support





Wellbeing Supports

Contact our Student Support Team

- Principal/Deputy Principal
- Guidance Counsellor
- Chaplain
- SEN Coordinator
- Year Heads

Supports include

- Breakfast Club 8.15am -9.45am in room 143
- Homework Club 8.15am -9.45am in room 157
- CAMHS
- Tulsa
- Occasionally External Counsellors & Art Therapy
- Talks from External agencies
- Wellbeing Week, Celebrate Us Week & Stand Up Awareness Week.

Wellbeing Provision 2025 - 2026

Subject/Activity	Time allocation over 3 years	Explanation of time allocation
PE	132 hours	2 x 40-minute classes per week over three years
SPHE	100 hours	5 x 40-minute classes per week over three years
CSPE	100 hours	5 x 40-minute classes per week over three years
Celebrate Us Week	8 hours	Activities to occur over three years
Wellbeing Week	8 hours	Activities to occur over three years
Active week	8 hours	Activities to occur over three years
Mentoring/Induction for 1st Years	8 hours	Activities to occur over one day in year 1
Guidance and Learning to Learn	47.5 hours	Option rotations and timetabled Learning 2 Learn sessions.
Reading for Pleasure (English) – Accelerated Reading	22 hours	1 x 40 minute class per week in year 1
TOTAL	433.5 Hours	



Extracurricular Schedule 2025 - 2026

Involvement in extracurricular activities builds teamwork, communication, relationships, and a sense of belonging, all of which help students to develop socially and emotionally.

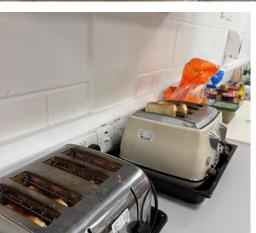
Participation in extracurricular activities demonstrates the importance of being part of a community. Involvement in such groups also have shown been linked to

- Developing the ability to manage oneself
- Increase time management skills
- Increased confidence
- Increased academic performance
- Physical health gains















Extra-curricular Activities 2025 – 2026



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	8.20 – 8.55: Breakfast club (room 140)	8.20 – 8.55: Breakfast club (room 140)	8.20 – 8.55: Breakfast club (room 140)	8.20 – 8.55: Breakfast club (room 140)	8.20 – 8.55: Breakfast club (room 140)
Lunchtime	1.15 – 2.00: • Games club (room 205)	1.15 – 2.00: • Games club (room 205) • Trad. Group (room 152)	 1.15 – 2.00: Games club (room 205) Junior and Senior Football (girls) Junior SVP (room 156 A) 	1.15 – 2.00: • Art Club/Junk Kouture (Room 141)	1.15 – 2.00: • Games club (room 205)
After School	 4.10 – 5.00: Homework club (126) Junior and Senior Camogie 	4.10 – 5.00: • Homework club (126)	3.30 – 4.30: • Homework club (126) • Junior and Senior girls' soccer • 1st Year, Under 15, Senior Hurling • Junior and Senior Football (boys) • Girls' basketball	 3.30 – 4.30: Homework club (126) Junior and Senior Camogie Boys' basketball 	





Extracurricular Activities 2025 - 2026

Term Newsletters 2nd Year CBAs 3rd Year CBAs

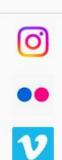
Principal's Welcome Message

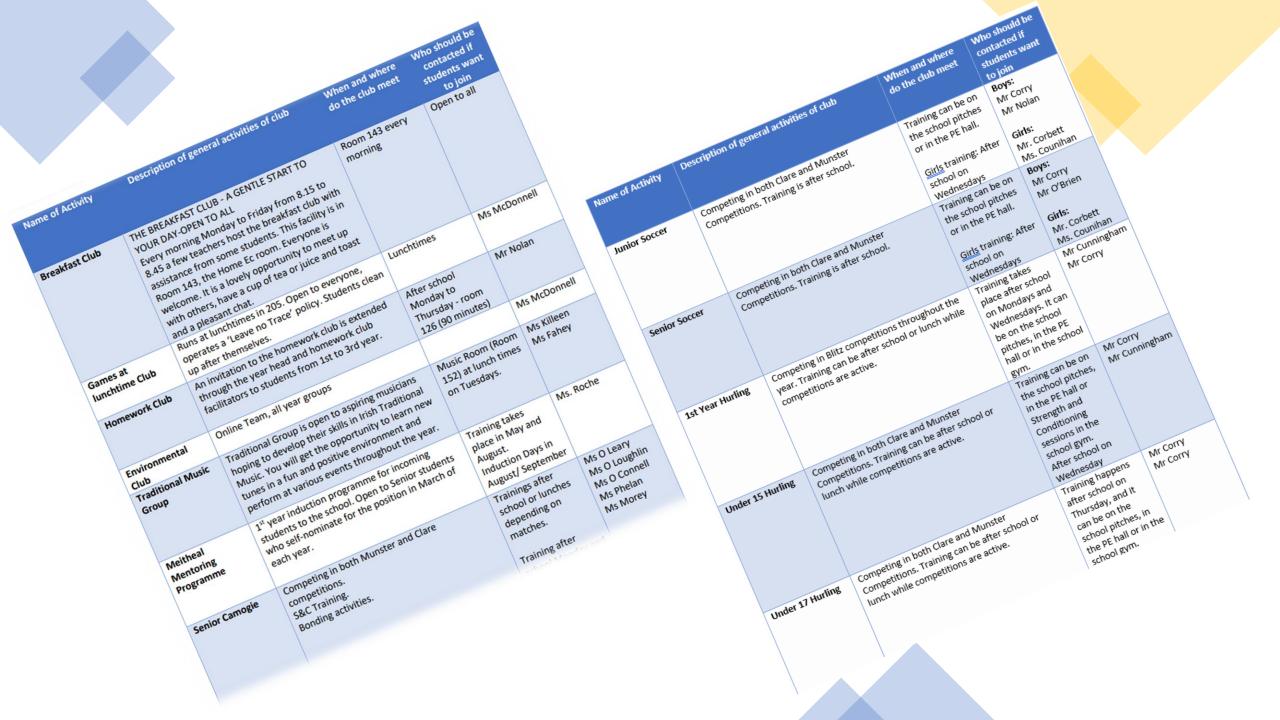












Lunch Time Activites - Bench Ball Competition

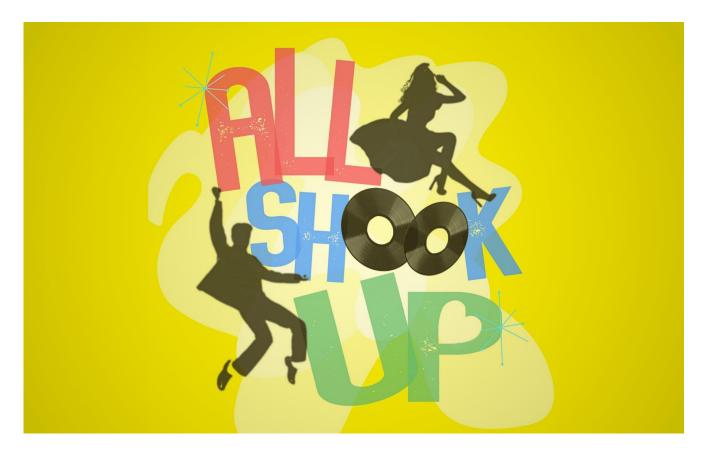
Hello All 1st Year Students 2025-2026

Our lunch time activates will kick off tomorrow for **Class Brid and Class Fiachra**. The following information is important to know so that we can have as much time for the activity as possible.

- 1. Arrive before 1:25 as the door will be locked then. The role will be taken and the rules explained.
- 2. It will finish at 1:50.
- 3. There is no need to change out of uniform.
- 4. We will all remain in the hall until the games have finished.

Attached below is the break down of the teams for this event. We look forward to seeing you all there tomorrow.

You're Cordially Invited to



Where: St. Caimin's Community School

When: 19th, 20th & 21st of November

1st Year Option Taster

- First Term: Students spend 1 week tasting each subject.
- Choose 2 Options to study for 3-year
 Junior Cycle
- On the Option Form select on VSware
 1(most preferred) to 7 (least preferred).
- Number all 7 options so we can try to avoid your 6th/7th choice.
- No Guarantee you will get 1st and 2nd choice.

Key Dates	Action Required
First Term	Students try all Options
Start of October	Online Form Issued
Middle of October	Online Form Completed
Before Mid- term Break	Students placed in Option Classes

Contact Information

	Responsibility of	Contact Information
1 st Year	Mr Keane	gerard.keane@stcaimins.ie
2 nd Years	Ms McSweeney	siobhan.mcsweeney@stcaimins.ie
3 rd Years	Ms O'Loughlin	tara.oloughlin@stcaimins.ie
LC1/LCA1/TY	Ms Dalton	mary.dalton@stcaimins.ie
LC2/LCA2	Ms Ryan Quinn	michelle.ryan@stcaimins.ie
SEN Queries	Ms Maguire	patricia.maguire@stcaimins.ie
Chaplain	Ms Guinnane	cora.guinnane@stcaimins.ie
Guidance	Ms Fitzpatrick	hannah.fitzpatrick@stcaimins.ie

