PROGRESS LEADER INFORMATION SESSION

Third Year

Parent & Guardian's Information Zoom — 2026–2027

INNOVATION • RESPECT • COMMUNITY • EXCELLENCE

Aidan Shevlin
Progress Leader, Third Year — Drogheda Educate Together Secondary School

THIRD YEAR 2026–2027

Online Parent Information Meeting

A few housekeeping points before we begin so that the meeting can run smoothly for everyone.

PLEASE NOTE



Please do not record, photograph or video any part of this meeting.

AUDIO



Please keep microphones muted unless invited to speak.

VIDEO



Please keep cameras turned off during the presentation.

QUESTIONS



Please type any questions into the chat and we will address them where possible.

Thank you for helping us keep the meeting clear, respectful and easy to manage.

We will begin shortly.

THIRD YEAR 2026–2027

Running Order

A brief overview of what we will cover in this evening's parent information meeting.

1

Welcome & Purpose

What to expect from 3rd Year and how the year will be supported.

2

The Team Around Your Child

Tutor, Progress Leader, subject teachers and wider school supports.

3

Tyro & Communication

Attendance, messages, permissions and staying connected with school.

4

Expectations & Routines

Behaviour, classroom expectations, devices, dress code and lunch routines.

5

Attendance & Punctuality

Why being in school and on time matters for learning and progress.

6

Study & Organisation

Evening routines, study skills, revision supports and the Grade Tracker.

7

Key Dates & CBAs

Mock exams, subject choices, CBA windows and Junior Cycle examinations.

8

Parent Supports & Questions

How parents and guardians can support students, followed by questions through the chat.

The aim is to give a clear picture of the year ahead and how home and school can work together.

The Team Around Your Child

PROGRESS LEADER — Aidan Shevlin

Attendance, wellbeing, behaviour and progress

TUTORS

3 Blackwater – Samantha 3 Boyne – Darren 3 Liffey – Aisling 3 Shannon – Aoife 3TS – Lisa.

Daily check-in and first point of contact.

SUBJECT TEACHERS

Learning, feedback and classroom support

GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR & WIDER SCHOOL TEAM

Principal, Deputy Principal and wider supports

THIRD YEAR 2026–2027

Tyro: Staying Connected

Our new platform for day-to-day information and parent actions. Please check it regularly.

BEHAVIOUR

Positive behaviour, concerns and relevant follow-up

MAIL

Messages and important updates sent to parents and guardians

PERMISSION

Consent for trips, visits and school activities

ATTENDANCE

Absences, late arrivals and partial-day requests

Please keep notifications switched on and contact the office if you need help accessing your account.

Contacting the school should be carried out using Tyro.

THIRD YEAR 2026–2027

The Values Every Student Lives By



INNOVATION

Be curious

Try, create and adapt



RESPECT

Be kind

Value yourself and others



COMMUNITY

Belong

Join in and contribute



EXCELLENCE

Keep growing

Effort, resilience and progress

Excellence is not perfection — it is doing your best and learning from setbacks.

Third Year Is a Step Up

FIRST & SECOND YEAR

- Building routines and study habits
- End-of-topic tests and classroom assessments
- More room to recover from dips in effort or organisation



THIRD YEAR

- Junior Cycle assessments and exams now shape the year
- Revision, attendance and organisation matter more
- Consistent effort across the year makes a real difference

Third Year is an exam year: steady routines, regular revision and good attendance all help students feel more prepared and less pressured.

Good Study Habits Now Make 3rd Year Easier

A sensible 3rd Year target is about 5 hours of focused study a week outside class. Here is what that adds up to by the Junior Cycle, depending on when you begin.

START THIS WEEK	START AFTER HALLOWEEN	START AT XMAS	START AFTER MOCKS	START AFTER EASTER
160	135	110	65	30
STUDY HOURS	STUDY HOURS	STUDY HOURS	STUDY HOURS	STUDY HOURS
32 weeks · Sept 2026 · 3rd Year	27 weeks · Nov 2026 · 3rd Year	22 weeks · Jan 2027 · 3rd Year	13 weeks · Feb midterm · 3rd Year	6 weeks · Apr 2027 · 3rd Year

Starting this week gives you 95 more study hours than waiting until after the mocks.

Estimates based on 32 study weeks remaining before the Junior Cycle; 5 hours/week used as a realistic 3rd Year personal study target.

Exam Revision & Study Skills

Study Skills, After-School Study and Exam Revision all build the same working routine.

Exam Revision

All Students have access to Exam Revision

Excellent resource for revision/catching up if content is missed through illness etc

Has a bank of resources like quizzes, exam questions, quizzes, summaries, notes and more

Study Skills

STUDENT WORKSHOP

- In school — Tuesday 6th October
- During school time
- Paid for by the school

Important: all students must attend and make the most of the session.

PARENTS' WORKSHOP

- Via Zoom — 6pm, Thursday 8th October
- Zoom link shared with parents the week before
- Paid for by the school

Important: please attend and bring your questions on how you can support your child.

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Evening Study in School

A supervised, quiet environment in which students can study effectively and independently — running in two blocks this year.

Monday 5th OCTOBER – FEBRUARY

16-week block

- 4 evenings a week · Monday to Thursday
- 3:30pm – 5:30pm
- **€128 per student for this block**

FEBRUARY – SUMMER

12-week block

- 4 evenings a week · Monday to Thursday
- 3:30pm – 5:30pm
- **€96 per student for this block**

KEY INFORMATION

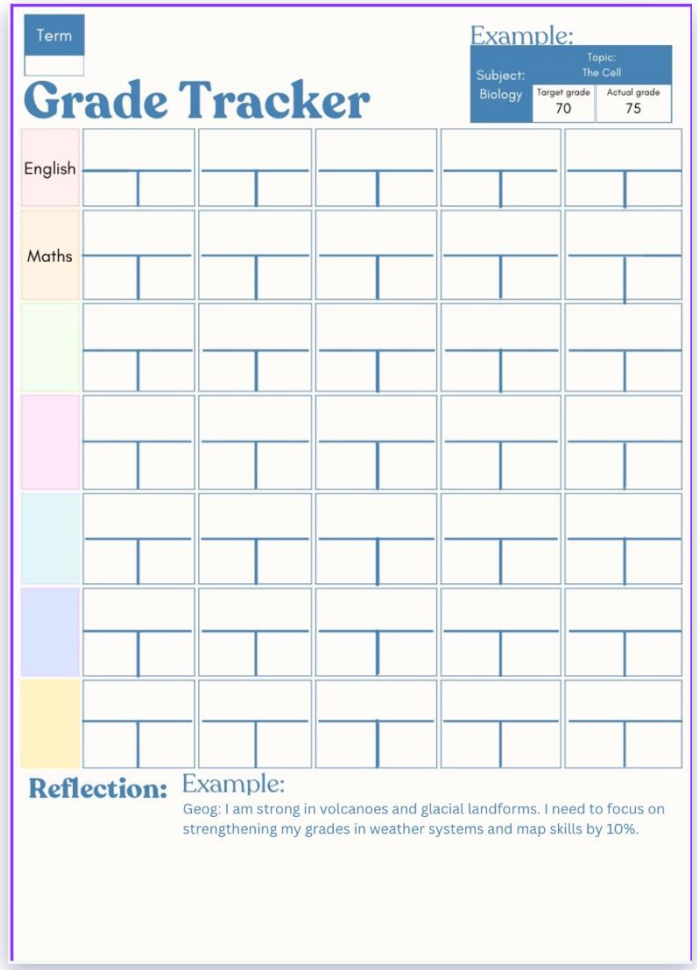
- Open to 2nd, 3rd, 5th and 6th Year students only.
- Facilities and supervision provided in a quiet, supportive environment.
- Payment through Tyro, in two instalments — one per block. Brendan will be in contact with details through Tyro.

Grade Tracker: What/Where Is It?

Every test result, in one place — so progress is easy to see and easy to talk about.

WHAT IS IT?

- Created with students in mind.
- A simple tool where students record every test result.
- Gives a clear, quick overview of how a student is progressing in each subject.
- We encourage parents and guardians to monitor it too.
- Found on pages 35–37 of the Journal.



Sample page from the Journal

Attendance & Punctuality



8:30–8:40

Sign-in window

- Arriving 8:30–8:40am: sign in at the office, straight to class — no locker stop.
- Three unexplained lates in a term lead to an after-school Learning Opportunity.
- Need to miss class for an appointment? Arrange it through Tyro in advance.

Why it matters: attendance and grades go hand in hand — there is no substitute for time in class with your teachers.

Leaving Early, Signing Out & Feeling Unwell

LEAVING EARLY

- Recorded by the parent/guardian on Tyro in advance.
- Under 16: collected from the office by a parent/guardian.
- Over 16: with permission, can walk out to meet parents in the car park.
- Students may not leave the building without signing out.

FEELING UNWELL

- Report to your Tutor — always the first port of call.
- Tutor unavailable? Report to Aidan or Michelle instead.
- No personal calls home — contacting home always goes through the office.

THIRD YEAR 2026–2027

Missing Days Adds Up Quickly

Even a small drop in attendance can mean a lot of lost learning time across 3rd Year. Here is what different attendance levels can look like across a school year.

100% ATTENDANCE	95% ATTENDANCE	90% ATTENDANCE	88% ATTENDANCE	85% ATTENDANCE
0	8	17	20	25
DAYS MISSED	DAYS MISSED	DAYS MISSED	DAYS MISSED	DAYS MISSED
0 lessons missed	About 45 lessons missed	About 95 lessons missed	About 112 lessons missed	About 140 lessons missed

Sometimes absences happen, but regular attendance gives students the best chance to keep up, stay connected and avoid small gaps becoming bigger ones.

Figures based on a 167-day school year and a 28-period school week. Lesson totals are approximate.

THIRD YEAR 2026–2027

Behaviour and Classroom Expectations

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

- Be respectful to teachers, classmates and all members of the school community.
- Follow instructions and routines.
- Make safe and responsible choices.
- Support a positive and inclusive classroom environment.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

- Engage with lessons and give your best effort.
- Be prepared – have the right equipment and your iPad charged (the only device that needs to be charged).
- Ask questions if you're stuck – it's okay not to know, just don't struggle in silence.
- Keep up with your work and make a plan for homework and study.
- Be on time and ready to learn.

Good habits now build the foundations for success in 3rd year and beyond.

Mobile Phones & Smartwatches

Phones must be switched off and left in the bag. The same rules apply to smartwatches.

1ST OFFENCE

- Phone confiscated and left in the office.
- Student may collect it themselves at the end of the school day.
- An after-school Learning Opportunity is given.

2ND OFFENCE

- Phone confiscated and left in the office.
- A parent/guardian must come and collect it.
- An after-school Learning Opportunity is given.

Further noncompliance is dealt with very seriously by the Progress Leader and Deputy Principal. Need to contact home? Go to the office — students cannot contact home on their own mobile. On trips, Yonder pouches will be used.

Dress Code & Lunch-Room Conduct

DRESS CODE

- Clean, comfortable clothes that fit properly and allow free movement.
- No unsafe rips, tears or loose parts; secure footwear for stairs and activities.
- PE and practical subjects: sportswear, PPE or safety gear as instructed.
- No hoods. Hats: beanie or wooly hat only — no peaks or caps.

LUNCH — A Block Assembly

- No fizzy or energy drinks, no chocolate or crisps.
- Use only the lunch room assigned to Third Years.
- Put rubbish in the bin and push chairs in before leaving.

Respect the room — students and teachers may have classes as soon as lunch is over.

THIRD YEAR 2026–2027

Key Dates

JUNIOR CYCLE EXAMINATIONS

Start: Wednesday 9 June 2027
Exam fee due: Date TBC

Written examinations begin in June and continue across the examination period.

E8A Subject & Level Forms

End of January / Start of February

Students confirm subject and level choices for the Junior Cycle examinations.

Mock Examinations

2 February to 12 February

A key opportunity to practise examination routines and identify revision priorities.

Post-Exam Reward Trip

Week of 22 February

Planned for after midterm, following the mock examinations.

CBA Dates

Technology subjects: Oct 2026
Visual Art: Nov 2026
Gaeilge, Home Ec, Music: Feb to Mar 2027
Most other subjects: Apr 2027
PE: Apr to May 2027

CBA deadlines are spread across the year.

Supports for Parents and Guardians

NEART is the national mental health and wellbeing programme for post-primary schools, delivered by Jigsaw and the National Educational Psychological Service (NEPS).

WHAT IS NEART?

- Offers resources, training and support for students, teachers and parents/guardians.
- Aims to foster resilience and positive mental health across the school community.
- See the parent email for live links to all resources.

TOPICS INCLUDE

- Managing anxiety.
- Supporting young people who are struggling to attend school.
- Social media and young people's mental health.
- Supporting your own self-care.

THIRD YEAR 2026–2027

How Parents Can Support Students

BUILD A ROUTINE & SPACE

A quiet, consistent spot and a regular time each evening — small daily habits beat cramming.

PROTECT SLEEP & HEALTH

Good sleep, meals and some exercise do more for focus and memory than extra hours awake.

TALK AND LISTEN

Ask about their day and subjects, not just results — make it safe to say when something's hard.

ENCOURAGE, DON'T PRESSURE

Praise effort over grades. Your support isn't conditional on results, and they need to hear that.

STAY CONNECTED WITH SCHOOL

Check Tyro and the Grade Tracker regularly, come to information sessions, and contact the Tutor or Progress Leader early if you're concerned.

MODEL CALM

How you cope with the pressure of these two years shapes how your child copes with it too.

Adapted from The Irish Times' guidance for parents of exam students and the Department of Education's wellbeing supports for Leaving Certificate students and parents.

Let's Make This Year Count.

Any questions? Speak to your Tutor or Progress Leader.

Aidan Shevlin· Progress Leader, Third Year