



Mungret Community College

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

The summer time can be a tough time for some of our students. With a change to routine, missing the connection to friends, and also to the greater sense of belonging to a school community. Many students have been availing of support at home to support the transition from school to a non-structured summer. Thankfully there are a number of options available to support your student that are being provided for by the Department of Education and Youth. We are delighted to announce we are potentially offering, dependent on demand, our own tailored programme to support the students of Mungret Community College.

The theme for this year's programme is 'Building Confidence and Connections'. It is widely acknowledged that experiences with peers constitute an important developmental context for children and young people. Peer relationships provide a unique context in which young people learn a range of critical social emotional skills, such as empathy, cooperation, and problem-solving strategies. Peers, or a group of young people who have similar interests, age or background serve as an important source of information, feedback and support to individuals as they develop a sense of self.

Current guidelines from the Department of Education would encourage students, who qualify, to avail of the opportunities that are being provided by the school. But if you wish to continue to avail of your own home-based programme you will still need to engage with us in order to apply for your programme. The Programme will be accessible to all students, who qualify, from 1st year all the way up to those who will be leaving us in 6th year.

Eligibility for the summer provision is based on criteria set by the Department of Education. For the purposes of the Post-Primary School Scheme, students with complex special educational needs in mainstream classes are defined as:

- All students enrolled in special classes.
- Students presenting with the most significant needs in mainstream classes in post-primary schools who are accessing the highest level of the Continuum of Support (School Support Plus) 1

**Principal: Liam O'Mahoney M.Ed, B.Sc, H.Dip.Ed | Deputy Principal: Eanna Kennedy M.Ed. M.Sc, B.Sc. |
Deputy Principal: Helen Ryan M.Ed, B.Sc.Ed | Deputy Principal: Justin O'Connor M.Ed. M.A. H.Dip.Ed |
Roll Number - 76476F**

- Significant needs with physical and/or sensory functioning (including students who are Deaf or have severe to profound hearing loss and students who are blind or have a severe to profound visual impairment)
- Significant needs in cognitive functioning and independence/daily living skills (including students who have moderate to severe OR significant/profound learning disability)
- Significant needs in social communication, social interaction combined with rigid repetitive patterns of behaviour
- Autistic Students
- Students with severe OR significant emotional behavioural needs to the extent that these behaviours of concern are impacting on a student's ability to learn, to function independently and to participate fully in school life.

We are currently planning to run the programme in the school from **Monday June 15th to the 26th of June**. The timings of this offering are yet to be decided but it will be within the current school day between 9:30 am and 3 pm, depending on the days planned activities, a trip away may lead to a later finish time.

A broad outline for the programme is as follows:

Week 1:

- Mainly school-based activities that will encourage students to develop confidence in themselves and in a wider group.
- Non-curricular opportunities to engage with literacy and numeracy.
- Developing practical skills and life skills through activities such as planning activities and routes to access the activities.
- Workshops being provided by An Garda Síochána about road safety and responsibility.

Week 2:

- More school based activities working on developing more connections with each other as a group.
- Proposed trip away from the school for a day to an outside activity.
- An activity in the town centre working together.
- More chances to engage in Literacy and Numeracy
- Workshops being provided by the fire services.

This list is not prescript and is not exhaustive, it is a broad outline of activities that are being explored and are subject to demand and spaces available with bookings.

The Department of Education and Youth have only just opened the portal to allow for applications for these summer programmes, they also have set a tight deadline of next **Friday the 15th of May, any applications made after this point will not be accepted.**

If you would like us to apply for your student to access our programme you will have to return via email **no later than 4pm on Wednesday the 13th of May.**

The email must contain the following information:

- 1: Your students name
- 2: PPS number
- 3: The criteria you feel will qualify them for this programme (added at the bottom of this letter)
- 4: Whether you would like to apply for the school-based programme or a home-home based alternative.

Please return this email to fofarrell@mungretcccloud.ie or hryan@mungretcccloud.ie

We are very much looking forward to putting this programme together to compliment the support that our students receive during the school year.

Regards

Francis O Farrell

(Programme organiser Mungret Community College)