

Kingswood Community College

3rd Year Parent Information Evening

9th September 2026

Year Head: Oide Ciarán Brady

Deputy Principal: Oide Robbie Dunne

AEN Anchor: Oide Alan Hughes

Guidance: Oide Maeve McCarthy



Mission Statement

We at Kingswood Community College are an inclusive school. There is a place for everyone. Our goal is to provide our students with a learning environment based on a partnership steeped in respect, inclusion and care between students, staff and our community. Learning and teaching is based on the traditional and digital: Trad-Digital.

Every day we value the ideals of mutual respect and justice encompassing all denominations and cultures. We aim to equip our student to become learners for life.

Our students will be active citizens who have local interest with a global vision. Through shared responsibility, our aim is to nurture successful, assured individuals who strive for their own excellence both in academic and extra-curricular areas of our school life.

Attendance Updates at Kingswood

- Students legally must attend school till 16 years old or till end of Junior Cycle
- 20 days is the TUSLA threshold for absence after which student names are submitted TUSLA
- Communication between school and home is key
- ANSEO programme Year 2
- Promising results from Year 1 (Highest Dec and Jan figures in six years)
- Thank you for your support in this programme so far but have much more to do
- Please prioritise attendance, every day.

School Uniform



Trouser Uniform:

- Black straight or Boot Cut Trousers
- School Jumper
- School Tie
- White Shirt
- Black Socks

Skirt Uniform:

- School Skirt
- School Jumper
- White Blouse
- Black Socks or Black Tights

- **School Coat ONLY.** There are 2 styles available.
- **Students must wear black polishable school shoes similar to the styles on the school website.**
- **No makeup, spray tan, false nails, facial or tongue piercings, one set of stud earrings.**



School Journal

- Formal communication between home and school
- It is very important that the School Journal is signed by parent/guardian and student on page 7 (as seen in photo on the right).
- Journals need to be **checked and signed** on a weekly basis. Very important!!

Kingswood Community College Policy Agreement

By signing this, I agree to adhere to all policies of Kingswood Community College. I understand that failing to follow these policies may lead to appropriate sanctions.

"Full and unabridged versions are available on our website"

1. Code of behaviour
2. Homework
3. Uniform
4. Anti-bullying
5. Extra-curricular
6. Child protection
7. Child safe guarding
8. Admissions
9. Lockers
10. Acceptable usage & Mobile phone
11. Photo consent
12. Data protection
13. Healthy eating
14. School trips
15. Traffic management
16. Distance learning
17. Guidance
18. Confidentiality
19. Inclusion

Parent/Guardian

Student

Date

Date

Please note: Acceptance of our school policies is a condition of enrolment at Kingswood Community College. The list above is indicative not exhaustive.

Our policies have been devised in consultation with students, teachers, parents and the Board of Management. The school reserves the right to vary or amend details of policies from time to time as circumstances change. A review process is part of the policies. Any changes will be brought to the attention of all the partners.

Expectations

- Students should arrive to school in ample time, this will allow them to get organised before school begins, attend their locker and get ready for the day.
- Student's should arrive in full school uniform (tracksuit – PE) and the correct school coat
- Students travelling to school by foot or bicycle should be extra vigilant and visible now that the dark mornings are approaching. (E-scooters)
- We expect students to try their best, and turn up each day with a mindset to learn and grow
- Students are regularly encouraged to reach their potential in various ways through means of:
 - Verbal praise
 - VS ware positive points
 - Emails home from Year Head/teachers
 - Student of the month
 - Commendation slips (200+)
 - Postcards (400+)



Classroom Expectations

Zero point behaviours

- Any student sanctioned with 0 point behaviours are assigned to the Year Head.
- Two of these in one week results in a detention.
- If a student accumulates 6 red lines, they will be sanctioned according to our COB policy.

• Interventions

1. Subject/Tutor check and connect
2. Guidance Counsellor
3. RP with Oide Laura Fox
4. Year Head
5. Behavioural Support Sessions (Oide Patricia)



Important

2 lates in a week = Detention

2 non-uniforms in a week = Detention

2 Red Lines in 1 week = Detention

6 Red Lines = In House Suspension

50/40 points = Pre-Stage 1 (Detention and Email Home, Tutor Report)

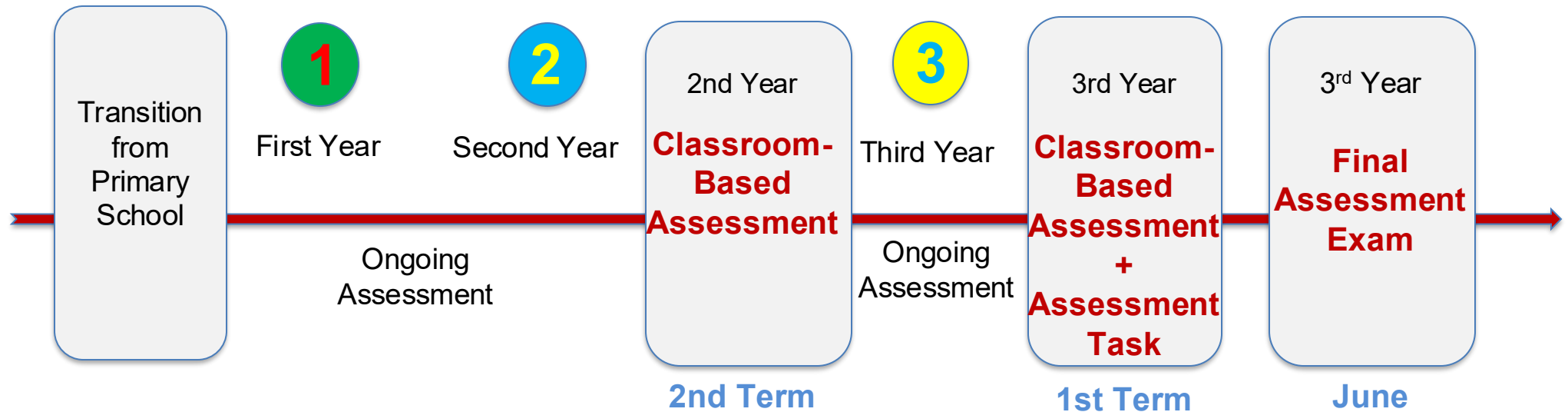
**30/20 points = Pre-Stage 2
(Detention and Phone Call Home,
Tutor Report)**

**0/-10 points = Stage 1 (Year Head
Involvement and YH Report)**

**-25/-35 points = Stage 2 (1/2 Day IHS,
YH meeting with parents, YH Report)**

One Subject's Journey

An tSraith Shóisearach do Mhúinteoirí
JuniorCYCLE
for teachers



Ongoing assessment that supports student learning

JUNIOR CYCLE WELLBEING



Student Wellbeing is present when students realise their abilities, take care of their physical wellbeing, can cope with the normal stresses of life, and have a sense of purpose and belonging to a wider community.

Wellbeing is embedded in all areas and aspects of our school. It can be seen in our mission statement and ethos. It is in our policies and procedures, our student/teacher relationships, each subject your child undertakes has a wellbeing element.

Wellbeing is measured through our student voice and our relationships with the community.



Key Dates



- **Parent/Student/Teacher meetings: Wednesday 11th November**
- **Assessment Week 1: 12th –20TH November**
- **Mock Examinations: 2ND February – 12th February**
- **Senior Cycle Options Information Evening: 25th November**
- **State Examinations commence: Wednesday 9TH June**

The countdown is on!



- Approx. 106 School Days until the Junior Cycle Mock Examinations
- Approx. 160 School Days until the Junior Cycle Examinations



Homework & Study – Two keys to success

- **KCC offer students a study hub after school. This facilitates 2 hours of homework whilst incorporating study, per night.**
 - **We are a tradigital school, pen and paper is important**
 - **Its important to set the tone now and not later!!**

Homework is work that needs to be completed immediately based on the **current topic** being taught.



Vs



Study is working on **previous topics** that have been taught previously.

After School Study

3rd, 5th & 6th Years – After-School Study

• Starts **Monday, 7th September**

• **Schedule:**

- Mon, Wed & Thurs: **3–5pm**
- Tues: **3.05–5.05pm**
- Fri: **2.40–4.40pm**

• **Cost: €80 per semester**

Student Routine

- 10 minutes after school bell to:
 - Collect books from lockers
 - Use bathroom
 - Have a quick snack
 - Get set up in the study room

When: Every Tuesday at lunch time

Where: Library



KINGSWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MATHS CLINIC

LOCATION: F061
WHEN: LUNCH TIME

SEPTEMBER	WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER	WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER	FRIDAY
DECEMBER	MONDAY
JANUARY	MONDAY
FEBRUARY	MONDAY
MARCH	MONDAY
APRIL	MONDAY
MAY	MONDAY

How do I study? – All students must have a quiet space to complete their homework and study

Note Taking/making

Mind maps

Flashcards

Past Papers

Voice Recording

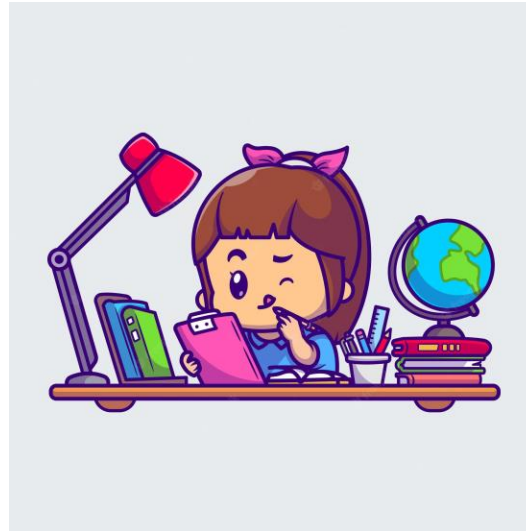
Acronyms:

Guidance Schoology Page

Practise, practise, practise!

Take breaks

Post its



RACE



•Applications

- Usually due **mid-December** (2026 details not yet released).
- Assessments for eligible students are **already underway**.

•Eligibility

- The **SEC sets strict criteria** – not all students with Additional Support Needs qualify.
- The ASN team will apply for the **most suitable accommodations**, but only if criteria are met.

•Application Process

- If eligible, an application will be completed by the school.
- Form must be **signed by parent/guardian & student** before submission to the SEC.

•Parent Action

- If you have concerns, contact:
 - alanhughes@kingswoodcc.ie
 - shonaburke@kingswoodcc.ie
- Please reach out **before end of October** to allow time for assessment.

CBA Key Dates for 3rd Year

- **Gaeilge – CBA → 15 Sept – 3 Oct 2026**
- **Woodwork – *Practical Reflection* → 25 Sept – 4 Oct 2026 -Coursework**
- **Art – *Visual Art CBA2* → 14–21 Nov 2026**
- **Art - Art SEC project starts in December is due the 27th of March. It can be completed during class time only, so students should avoid missing Art classes during this time.**
- **Climate Action (Short Course) – *Action Project* → 1–19 Dec 2026**
- **Technology – CBA → 2–9 Sept 2026 - Coursework**
- **Home Economics – *Food Literacy* → 5–16 Jan 2027**
- **Home Economics Practical Exam (50%) – March/April 2026 (Dates TBC)**
- **Music – *Programme Note* → 5 Jan – 6 Feb 2027**
- **Artistic Performance – *Performance* → 5 Jan – 13 Feb 2027**
- **CSPE – *Right Focus* → 5 Jan – 20 Mar 2027**
- **Coding – *Project* → 14 Jan – 25 Mar 2027**

Sample Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA)



JUNIOR CYCLE PROFILE OF ACHIEVEMENT

2018

MARY BRENNAN

DOB: 21 June 2001



STATE CERTIFIED
FINAL EXAMINATIONS

Examination number: 458066

Classroom-Based-Assessments

English (O)

Distinction

Oral Communication

Above expectations

Collection of texts

In line with expectations

Irish (O)

A

Mathematics (H)

B

History (H)

C

Geography (H)

D

French (O)

B

Religion (H)

B

Science (H)

C

Business Studies (H)

C

Technology (H)

A

Other Areas of Learning

- Mary participated in SciFest. Her project examined the bacteria build up on different types of toothbrushes. She gathered, recorded, organised and evaluated the information.
- Mary was a member of the school basketball team where she committed to the team training and competitions and developed her tactical competences and skills.
- Mary worked effectively with others in a group action project to raise awareness of the homeless crisis and to promote the work of PATH.
- Mary took part in the Christmas shoebox appeal. She promoted the cause by the creative use of digital technology and was responsible for collecting the shoeboxes from her class.

Principal

Yearhead

Roll No. 634510

Ms. O'Donnell

Ms. Bennett

Scoil Chríost Rí,
Borris Road,
Portlaoise



This JCPA recognises and records achievements in Junior Cycle

WHAT IS A JCPA?

Written Examinations

State Certified Final Examinations

Old Grading System

New Grading System

Junior Certificate → Junior Cycle

Level	Percentage	Grade Descriptor	Percentage	Grade Descriptor
Higher, Ordinary, Foundation/ Ard, Gnath, Bonn	≥ 85 to 100	A	≥ 90 to 100	Distinction
	≥ 70 and < 85	B	≥ 75 and < 90	Higher Merit
	≥ 55 and < 70	C	≥ 55 and < 75	Merit
	≥ 40 and < 55	D	≥ 40 and < 55	Achieved
	≥ 25 and < 40	E	≥ 20 and < 40	Partially Achieved
	≥ 10 and < 25	F	≥ 0 and < 20	Not Graded (NG)
	≥ 0 and < 10	NG		

New Junior Cycle Levels:

Irish, English and Maths
can be taken at Higher and
Ordinary Levels only.

All other subjects are taken
at Common Level.

Supports Available for 3rd Years



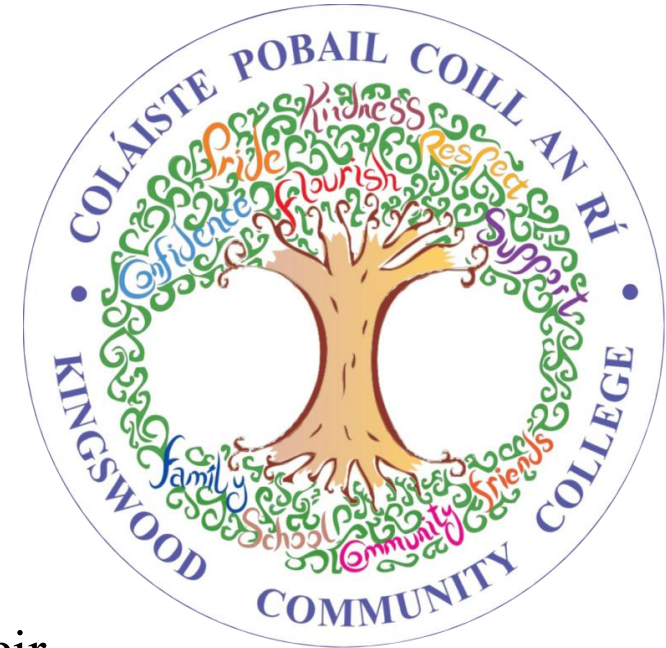
Personnel – Guidance and Counselling

Oide Maeve – Guidance Counsellor

Oide Laura Fox – Restorative Practice

Guidance and Counselling can take the form of:

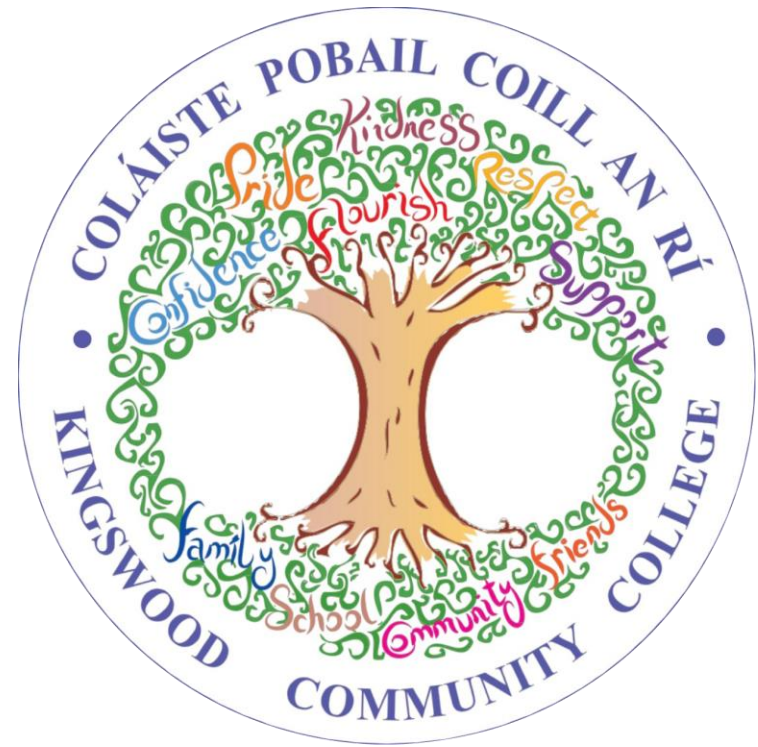
1. **Personal Counselling** where the student is referred by a parent/guardian through the Year Head, a Year Head, or self referral through Schoology. Students may avail of 6 sessions per year.
2. **Educational Guidance** – Students are encouraged to speak with their subject teachers about subject levels and the impact a drop in level might have on future career choices. For example, a drop in Irish to ordinary might rule out Primary teaching career or a drop in maths level might rule out Engineering in many colleges. It is never too early to have a conversation about careers!



Personnel – Guidance and Counselling

3. Study and time management advice – Please get your child in to good study habits now. They need to be organised and have your support in forming these habits.

There will be a Subject Choice and a Programme Choice (TY, LCA and LCE) for all 3rd years and their parents/guardians in November. For now, open the dialogue with your child about what path they see themselves on over the coming years.



Student Leadership Opportunities

- Class Captain
- Student Council
- Digital Leaders
- Become members of:
 - Wellbeing Committee
 - Green Schools Committee
 - Healthy Schools Committee
 - Global Schools Committee
 - Active School Committee

5 REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD RUN FOR A STUDENT LEADERSHIP POSITION.

1. Develop leadership skills.



2. Experience working on a team.



3. Gain valuable soft skills.



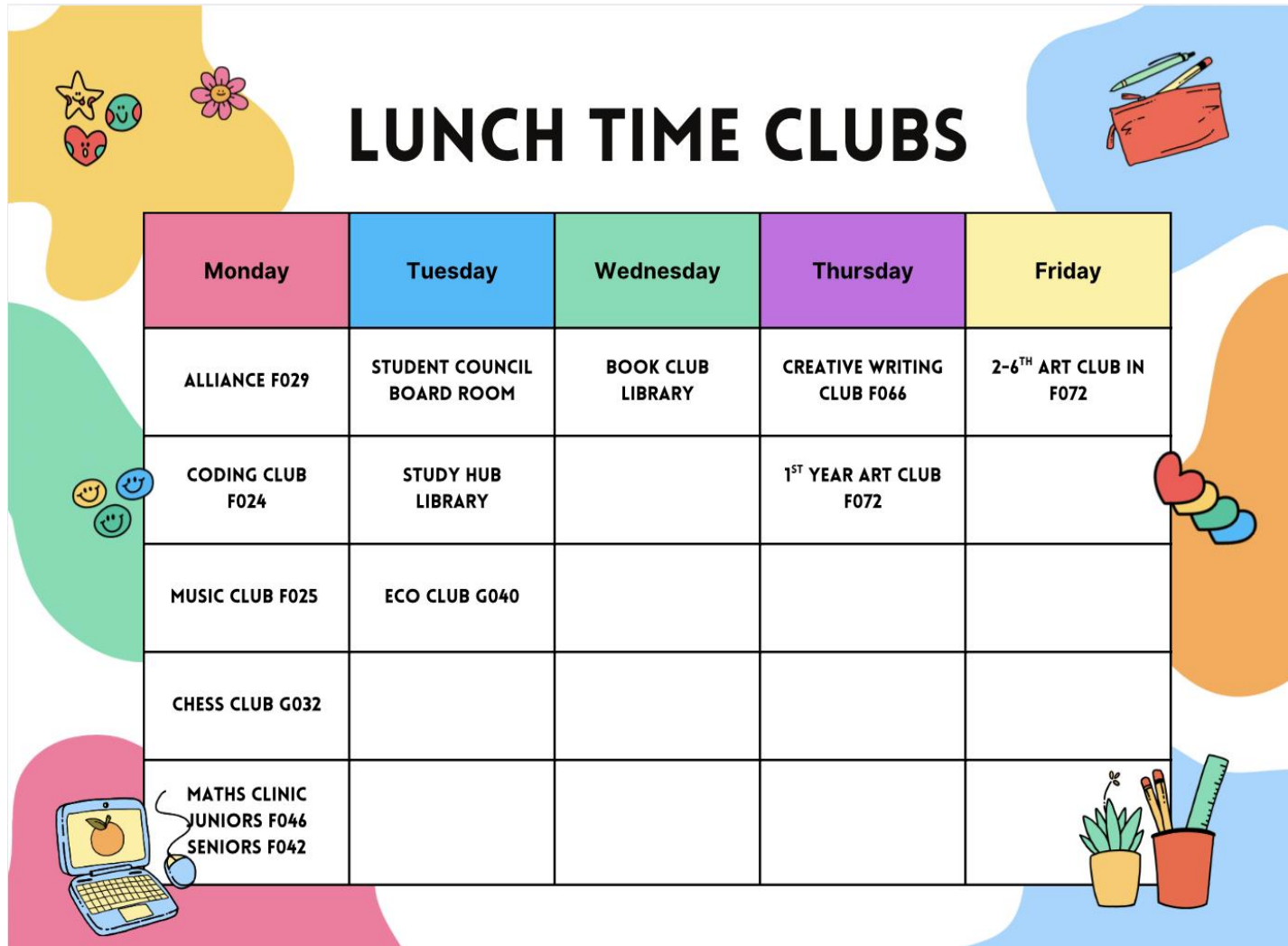
4. Network.

5. Learn about yourself.



6. As a bonus: Have fun!

Extra-Curricular

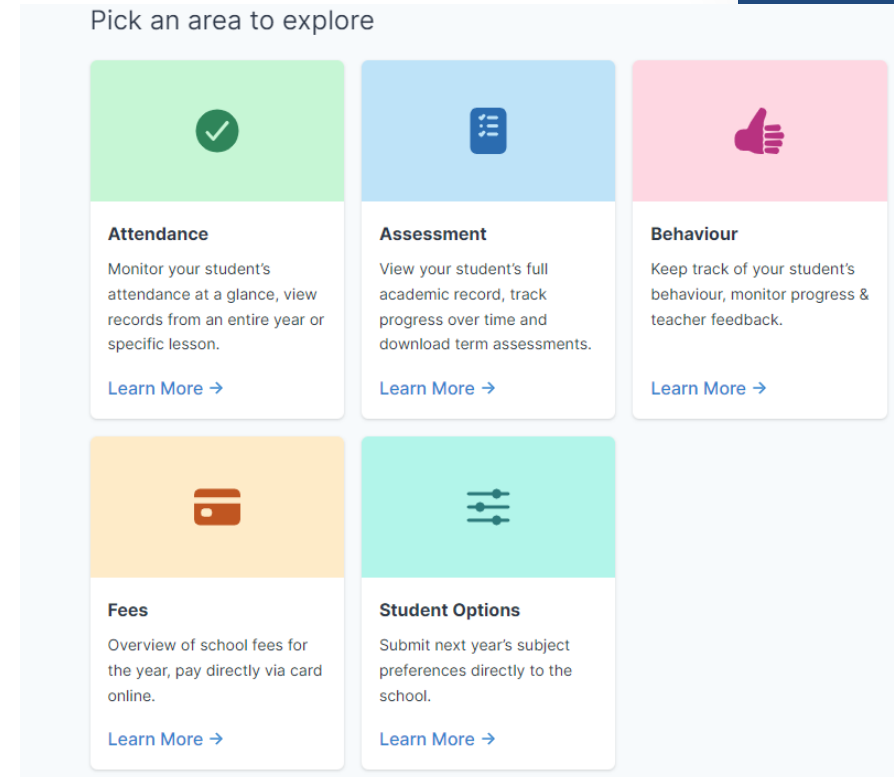


LUNCH TIME CLUBS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
ALLIANCE F029	STUDENT COUNCIL BOARD ROOM	BOOK CLUB LIBRARY	CREATIVE WRITING CLUB F066	2-6 TH ART CLUB IN F072
CODING CLUB F024	STUDY HUB LIBRARY		1 ST YEAR ART CLUB F072	
MUSIC CLUB F025	ECO CLUB G040			
CHESS CLUB G032				
MATHS CLINIC JUNIORS F046 SENIORS F042				

Communication with Home

- Tyro is the main portal used for monitoring data on a student. Parents can monitor behaviour, attendance and assessments throughout the term.
- Staff also have work email addresses and can be emailed with queries. Please allow time for a response, due to full teaching schedules.
- **Tyro**, customised by year group – up to date school calendar events
- Please note, absences/appointments should be sent to the main office on **info@kingswoodcc.ie**



Who should I contact....

- Absences and lates – this should be done directly through the Tyro app
- Tutor – as pastoral carer for your child, they are the direct point of contact for any specific needs.
- IT issues – raise a ticket, this can be done through the website - 'iCan'
- AEN department – An anchor is assigned to each year group, these liaise consistently with tutors so all info should be directed to the tutor.
- Year Head – Tutor will raise an issue to me where necessary.



Parents Association

- The Parents Association is the structure through which parents/guardians in a school can work together for the best possible education for their children, building an effective partnership of home and school.
- The Parents Association are an active group of parents who participate in fundraising for the school. They organize the Christmas and Easter raffles and other fundraising events.
- Funds raised by the Parent's Association is put back into the school to benefit the students.
- The committee meets once a month on a very informal basis.
- We are hoping to have new parents join the committee this year.
- If you are interesting in joining please sign up with Oide Emma.



The Current Reality: Irish Students and Social Media

98%

Irish teens online

Nearly all Irish teenagers aged 13-17 use social media daily

4.5hrs

Daily screen time

Average daily social media use among Irish secondary students

73%

Check phones hourly

Of students check social media during school hours

64%

Report distraction

Of teachers observe decreased concentration due to digital devices

These figures from the National Anti-Bullying Research Centre and Department of Education studies reveal the scale of digital engagement among our students.

Concerning Content Trends

- Unrealistic beauty standards and body image content
- Viral challenges that can be dangerous or inappropriate
- Cyberbullying and negative peer interactions
- Misinformation about academic subjects and current events
- Content promoting unhealthy lifestyle choices



Irish research shows 42% of teens encounter harmful content weekly on social platforms

Why We Need Your Support at Home

Consistency Matters

When home and school policies align, students are **3x more likely** to develop healthy digital habits.

- Establish phone-free study periods
- Model healthy social media use
- Create tech-free family meal times
- Discuss online experiences openly

 Research shows parental involvement is the strongest predictor of positive digital behaviour



Encouraging Real-World Social Connections



Physical Activities

Encourage participation in sports, clubs, and outdoor activities that build genuine friendships and reduce screen dependence



Face-to-Face Time

Prioritise in-person social activities and conversations to develop crucial interpersonal skills and emotional intelligence



Community Engagement

Support involvement in community service and local initiatives that create meaningful connections beyond the digital world

Thank you for your support

- We will be here to support parents as a partnership
- The Junior Cycle and the state exams do not define students and their futures
- Each student will have strengths, and areas to work on which is perfectly normal at the stage of their development.
- The potential...



Questions

- Please don't hesitate to email: ciaranbrady@kingswoodcc.ie
- **Please ensure you include - Questions from Information Evening in the subject bar.**
- Slides will also be on our school website.
- **Thank you all for your attendance**