



ST DECLAN'S COLLEGE

Incoming First Years

Information Meeting

21st April 2026

You - The Parent

Exciting Times

Watching your child grow up

Can be challenging as you worry about how he will adjust

You are helping to give your child the skills to become a well-adjusted adult, one who can face challenges and learn to manage himself

Coffee Mornings September






Management and Induction Team

Role	Personnel
Acting Principal	Ms. O' Reilly
Acting Deputy Principal	Mr. McGlue
Year Head	Ms. Byrne
Guidance Counsellor	Ms. Tierney
SEN Coordinator	Mr Nee
Class Tutors	TBD

Year Head – Helping you to support your child at Second level

- Support your child throughout the year
 - Communicate with you and the relevant staff when necessary
 - Monitor and observe progress, not just academic progress
 - Teenage years can be challenging, period of change, emotions can run high or low, confidence levels can vary, teenagers are more aware of what is happening around them, life has been full of change, many are still trying to adjust to the changes
- 

ONLY BLACK LEATHER SHOES ARE TO BE WORN

St. Declan's, Cabra.

Uniform Price-list 2026 at Grants

Also available online at <http://www.grantsuniforms.ie>

New Online Savings Club now open

School Jumper 31/32".....	€43.95
38".....	€45.95
40".....	€45.95
42".....	€45.95
44".....	€47.95
46".....	€47.95
48".....	€47.95

Grey Trousers

Elastic Waist.....	€24.95
Waist 25"-31"...	€27.95
Waist 32"-34"....	€29.95

Shirts2 pack from €19.95

Tie.....€9.95

Jackets all sizes.....€64.95

New Sportswear

¼ Zip.....	€39.95
T-shirt.....	€24.95
Track Pants	€34.95
Short.....	€32.95

Smithfield Multi-storey Parking Queen St 5 mins walk





1st Day at School – August 28th 2026

Arrive at school gate for 8.30am

Prefects meet students

Whole Year Assembly

Group will divide into classes and go with tutor teacher to classroom for induction on timetable, journal, etc.

School tour with prefects

Sports Day in first week

Half days in first week

Emphasis is on making new friends and settling into school

Copy and pencil case and healthy snack everyday





The School Day



	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri
8:40-9:38	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1
9:38-9:50	T	U	T	O	R
9:50-10:48	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2
10:48-11:03	B	R	E	A	K
11:03-12:01	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3
12:01-12:59	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4
12:59-13:50	L	U	N	C	H
13:50-14:48	Period 5	Period 5		Period 5	Period 5
14:48-15:46	Period 6	Period 6		Period 6	Period 6



Lunch

Stay in school

First Year Yard



Every School Day is a New Day

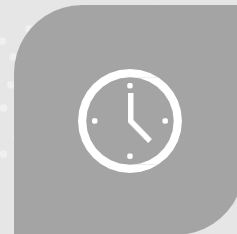
One in five of our children are missing a month or more of their school year.
Find support at gov.ie/SchoolAttendance

tess Teach Support Service
Autism Resource Centre
 Children's Rights Team
 Youth Services Support Service

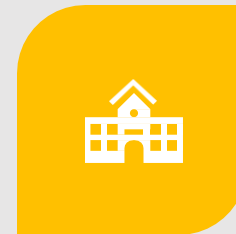
Báire na hÉireann
 Government of Ireland



IMPORTANCE OF ATTENDANCE CANNOT BE OVERSTATED



BE IN SCHOOL BY **8.30AM EVERY MORNING**



SCHOOL GROUNDS OPEN FROM 8AM



ABSENT: LEGALLY REQUIRED TO BE EXPLAINED



LEAVING EARLY: NOTE IN JOURNAL FOR TUTOR



SICK: FIND TUTOR

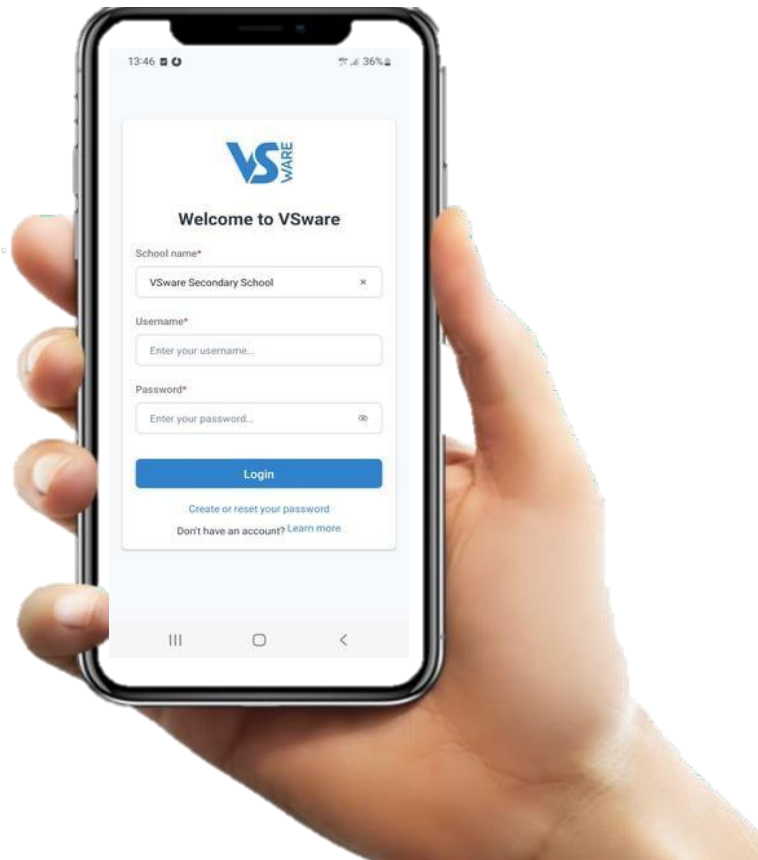




VS WARE










Parent App – Everything you need to know



Donald Adams

Pick an area to explore

 Attendance Monitor your child's attendance at a glance, view records from an entire year or specific lesson. Learn More	 Assessment View your child's full academic record, track progress over time and download term reports. Learn More	 Behaviour Keep track of your child's behaviour, monitor progress & teacher feedback. Learn More	 Timetable View your child's timetable, see realtime data for which lesson they are in at any given time. Learn More	 Personal Info Overview of your child'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			





Online Teaching & Learning



09:30 - 10:10 Mathematics First Year - 1Mat-P
G. Maher | Mathematics

10:50 - 11:30 English First Year - 1Eng-P
Ms Byrne | English

Business Studies First Year - 1Bus-22

School Notice Board

TY Paris Trip

Please make sure to have all monies in by this Friday for the Paris Trip. Also make sure you have handed in your passport to Mr Jones.

Timetable

School Calendar

Today Tomorrow Coming Up

No events scheduled. No events scheduled. No events scheduled.

School Activity Journal

Mr Turner posted in Business Studies First Year - 1Bus-22

Live class on business planning

Join the conversation on 28 Aug 2020 at 09:40

3 days ago

how to use SchoolWise

St Declan's College 15 subscribers [Subscribe](#)

4 [Share](#) [Save](#) [Download](#)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RB7Jv4khSMw&ab_channel=StDeclan%27sCollege



AS A MATTER OF PRIORITY CAN PARENTS

PLEASE REGISTER ON THE SCHOOL APP

**I WILL BE SENDING ALL MESSAGES THROUGH THIS FOR THE
FORESEEABLE FUTURE**



MARATHON!

APR 24 | School Closed





School Code of Behaviour



School Code of Behaviour

The object of the school code is to help each student to grow in confidence and self-possession to the point where, as a senior cycle student, his self-discipline and sense of responsibility constitute a role model for younger students. It is the school's objective that students in senior cycle be capable of autonomous learning and providing leadership for the whole school, both in their personal lives and through the school's structures such as the prefects and the Student Council. The self-discipline developed by the observance of the School Code will form a good basis for the development of an orderly, harmonious and fruitful adult life.

In order that each student in the school may have the opportunity to work in a peaceful, happy and orderly environment and get maximum benefit from his academic and other activities, it is essential to have the full co-operation of students and parents in the strict observance of the School Code.

Safety

Students are to pay special attention to, and obey, all safety regulations. This is particularly important in high-risk areas like Science laboratories, the Woodwork and Metalwork rooms and the Gym.

1. **Students should carefully read the Fire Drill instructions that are posted in each classroom and in the corridors.**
2. **Interference with the fire-fighting equipment, the fire alarm system or other safety equipment is a very serious offence and will result in a serious sanction**

who have established a pattern of late-coming.

6. Normally students go to the toilets before 8.40 am., during the break periods (10.50-11.05 am), before the start of afternoon classes and after school finishes.
7. Students should leave their classrooms promptly at 10.50 am. and go to the cafeteria or the appropriate yard.

Behaviour

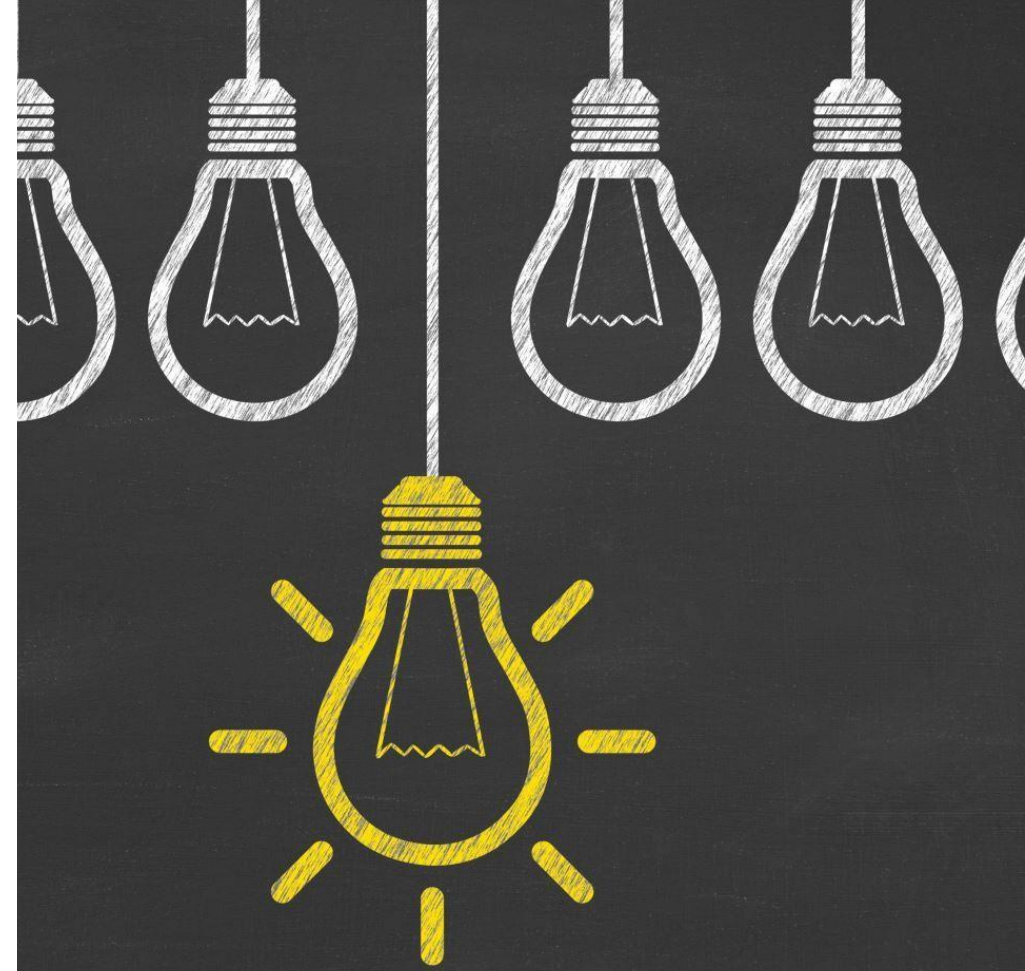
Campus/School

1. Students are expected to show respect for others at all times.
2. Students are to line up outside the classroom in an orderly manner as instructed by their teacher. Students coming out of the room have the right of way.
3. School journals must be placed on the desk at the beginning of every class and presented to a teacher when requested to do so.
4. During school hours, students stay within the school bounds. Formal permission is required to leave the premises at any time. Students who leave the school premises during lunch time (between 1.05 pm and 2.00 pm) do so at their own risk. The school does not accept liability for any accident or injury that may occur in such circumstances.
5. Students may eat in the cafeteria or outside the school buildings. A sanction will be imposed for eating or drinking in classrooms or on the corridor. The only exception is on the corridor at break time when it is raining outside.
6. Students are responsible for keeping and promoting a clean school environment. Students should avoid littering the school grounds and put rubbish in the bins provided. A sanction will be imposed on students who are causing litter.

Special Education (SEN)

In Class support through:

- **Team Teaching**
- **Small Groups (Withdrawal)**
- **Student Support Plans for**
Dedicated Special Education Team
- **To aid pupils to develop their learning skills**
- **Literacy/ Numeracy Supports**
- **Work with Parents to meet the needs of the pupil**
- **Psychological Reports**



Communication is Key

- If you are anxious or worried about the transition, talk to someone. It is important that you deal with your worries so that you can present a positive attitude to your son.
- Listen to your son's worries, help him understand that his feelings are normal and understandable
- Over the summer, involve him in the preparations for St Declan's
- Remember that all children are different – their interests, hobbies, and talents vary

Junior Cycle

Classroom-Based Assessments

Classroom-Based Assessments (CBAs) take place during normal class and adhere to a timetable plan. This will provide students with opportunities to demonstrate their understanding and skills that may not be possible in a formal examination.

Teachers guide, support and supervise students throughout these assessments. Students learn from the experience they receive during the process. Schools have been advised that CBAs should replace the current assessment of their students.

How CBAs are assessed

Descriptors are used to record student achievement in CBAs. Descriptors are a reference or standard against which the knowledge, skills, and processes demonstrated by each student. There are four descriptor levels for each CBA:



After each assessment, the subject teacher reviews the CBA and decides on a provisional descriptor.

A Subject Learning and Assessment Review (SLAR) meeting is completed by subject teachers. At this meeting, subject teachers will share and discuss samples of their assessments of students' work and build a common understanding about the quality of students' learning.

Based on the outcomes of the SLAR meeting, individual teachers may re-consider each student's provisional descriptor. Where necessary, they make the appropriate adjustments to the level of achievement. This ensures that the work to ensure descriptors awarded are in line with national standards.

Junior Cycle Reporting

Reporting on the progress and achievements of students will be through annual reports in the first year. At the end of the Junior Cycle, students are awarded a Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA) for their learning over three-years. Each school will print the JCPA for each student.

The JCPA will reflect the student's achievement across all relevant areas:

Classroom-Based Assessments

Progress in other areas of learning
Subjects students may have taken part in
Achievement in Wellbeing
State-certified examinations

Following their Junior Cycle exams, students will receive provisional grades from the State Examinations Commission (SEC) and the JCPA will be issued after this.

The provisional descriptors awarded to subjects are:



More information is available on curriculumonline.ie

<https://assets.gov.ie/static/documents/junior-cycle-information-for-parentsguardians.pdf>

Junior Cycle

Junior Cycle Information for Parents/Guardians

What is the Junior Cycle

The Junior Cycle, previously known as Junior Certificate, covers the first three years of secondary school/primary education.

English, Irish and Mathematics can be studied at higher or ordinary level. All other subjects are at common level.

The Junior Cycle aims to achieve a balance between subject knowledge and developing a wide range of skills and thinking abilities.

The Junior Cycle aims to move the focus from final examination to more ongoing, or formative, assessment.

Subjects your child may study

Schools can offer the Junior Cycle curriculum in one of the following ways:

A maximum of 10 subjects for final examination and reporting;
A maximum of 10 subjects for final examination and up to two short courses for reporting;
A maximum of 10 subjects for final examination and up to four short courses for reporting.

Students with special educational needs may follow a Level 1 or Level 2 Learning Programme, consisting of Priority Learning Units (PLUs), and/or short courses and/or subjects. These can be tailored to individual needs. [More information on the Junior Cycle is available on this website.](#)

Junior Cycle Short Courses

Schools may offer students the opportunity to take a small number of short courses.

Short courses are not intended to replace existing subjects, but will broaden the learning experience and address their interests not covered by curriculum subjects available in the school.

Wellbeing at Junior Cycle

The Junior Cycle wellbeing programme is designed to promote a feeling of confidence, happiness, healthiness and resilience. The programme provides 400 hours of Wellbeing for students and will include [Physical Education \(PE\)](#), [Sports and Health Education \(SPHE\)](#) and Civic, Social and Political Education (CSPE) in addition to other areas.

Assessment at Junior Cycle

In addition to ongoing in-class feedback, there are two main forms of assessment at Junior Cycle:

Classroom-Based Assessments

Classroom-Based Assessments are carried out when the teacher assesses a student's performance during class time on a subject or short course.

State Examinations

At the end of the third year of the Junior Cycle, usually in June, students will sit State examinations. These are run by the State Examinations Commission (SEC).

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on students, assessment adjustments have been made for the 2023/24 academic year.

This means that students entering third year in the school year 2023/24 will be required to complete a minimum of two Classroom-Based Assessment rather than the usual two and will not be required to complete an Assessment in relevant subjects.

Core Subjects at Junior Cycle

- English
 - Irish
 - Maths
 - History
 - Geography
 - Science
 - R.E.
 - Business
 - Modern Language
 - Practical Subject
- Wellbeing Subjects
- PE
 - SPHE
 - CSPE



Subject Choice



Modern Foreign Languages	Practical Subjects
French	Technical Graphics
German	Materials Technology (Woodwork)
Spanish	Engineering (Metalwork)
	Art
	Music

Subject Choice

1. Student's Name *

Enter your answer

2. Please place the languages in order of preference. **First being the language your son would most like to study.** *

French

Spanish

German

3. Please place the practical subjects in order of preference. **First being the subject your son would most like to study.** *

Technical Graphics

Art

Engineering

Music

Wood Technology

CAT 4 Testing



Standardised Test



Assists in dividing students in classes but the questionnaire completed by parents and liaising with primary schools are more important



Influenced by many factors, practice, environment, health, exposure to types of learning



Examines, verbal, quantitative, non-verbal and spatial abilities



Identifies strengths, particular ways a student will learn best and areas that may need addressing



ST DECLAN'S COLLEGE

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[Enrolment](#)

[Teaching & Learning](#)

[Stud](#)

Resources for Parents

Free School Books Scheme

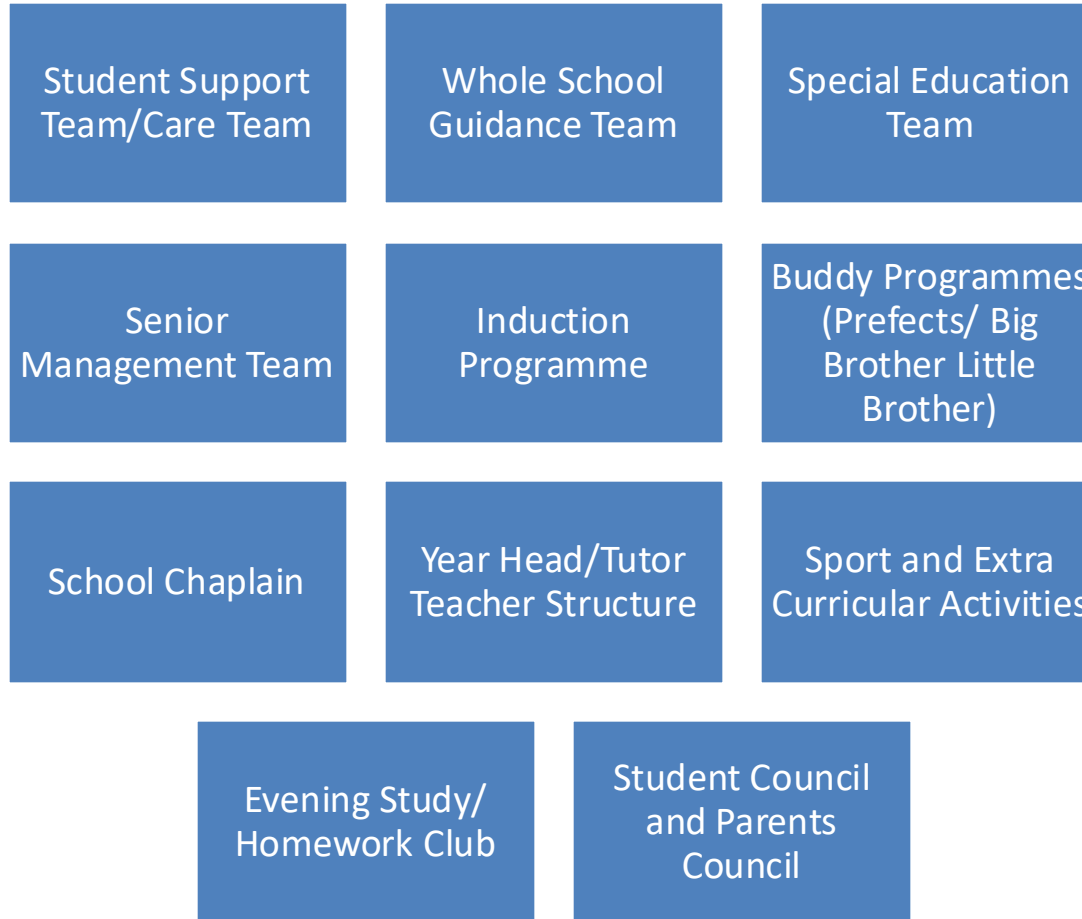
- Includes all textbooks and classroom materials

Policy

€50 Deposit



Wellbeing – Whole School Endeavour



Extra-Curricular Activities



Basketball

Football

Hurling

Soccer

Maths Quiz Teams

Science Quiz Teams

Video Games Club

History Quiz Teams

Choir

And many, many more...



Advice for Parents on the Transition

Stay Engaged: It is important to ask your son how his day has been and listen to what he says - and to what he does not say. You know your own child best so remember that throughout this transition as he attempts to negotiate a whole new environment. Remember the transition from play school to primary school. Your son is older now, but you still need to be a touchstone of stability and comfort for him.

Be consistent and positive: Schoolwork can be different and challenging for 1st Year students. Be careful not to pressure your child to achieve high marks or to keep up a similar achievement record to what they produced in primary school. They need time to adjust, and this can sometimes be reflected in their work. Offer encouragement, not pressure.

Wellbeing: If your child eats well, gets a decent amount of sleep and engages in physical activity, he will be better equipped to deal with the new challenges of post-primary school. Help him to moderate screen time so that it does not affect schoolwork or sleep patterns. Support him as he develops new friendships and explores the new school environment.

Thank you for
joining us this
evening.



- Please contact us if you have any queries or difficulties.
- Survey: BY FRIDAY
<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/6N4qaUCBub>
- Website www.stdeclanscollege.ie
- Instagram: @stdeclanscabra
- We are here to support you and your son to make his transition a success.
- Q and A Session