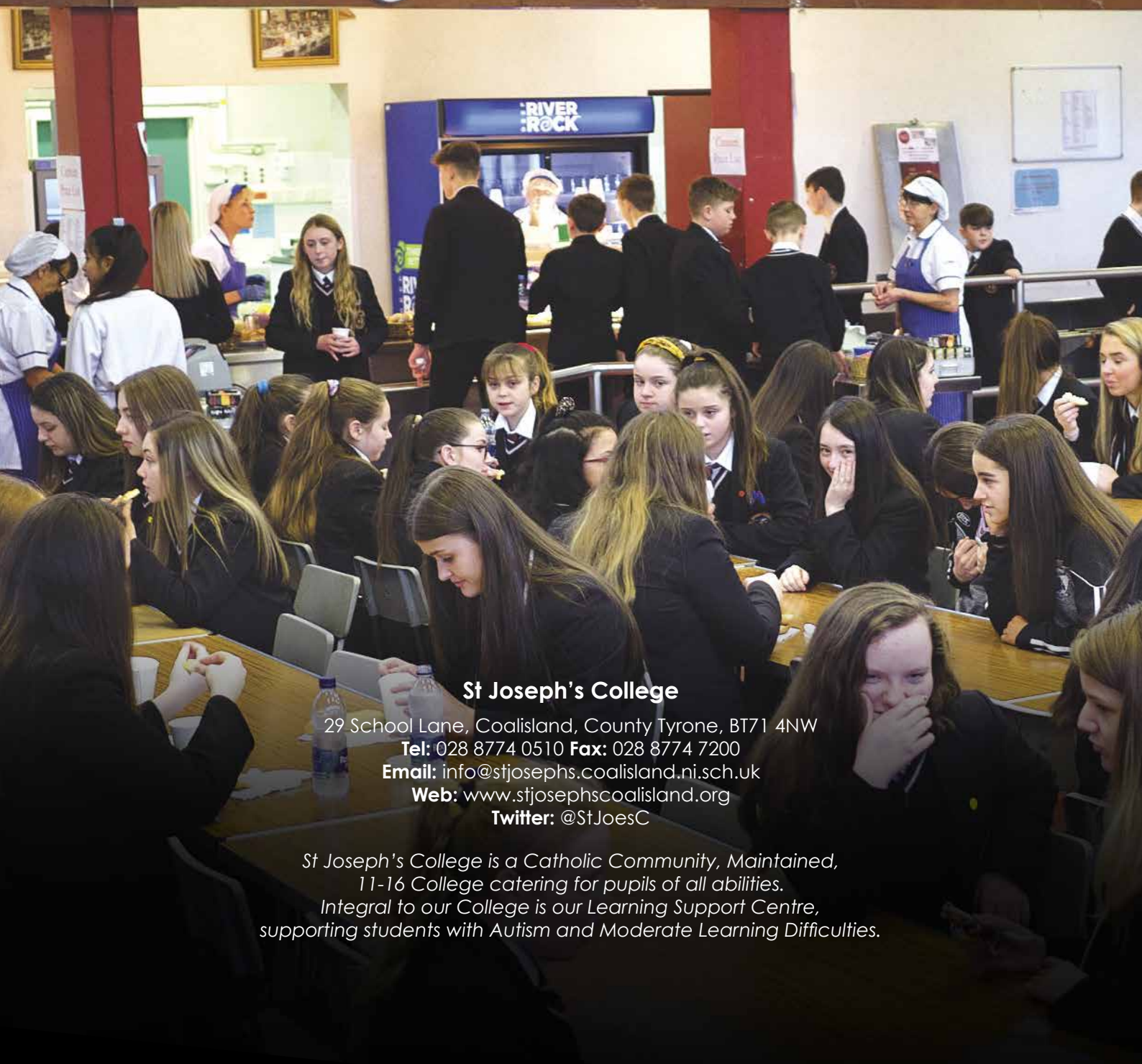


St Joseph's College

PROSPECTUS 2020

Engineering Our Futures Together

CÉAD Mile Fáilte



St Joseph's College

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*St Joseph's College is a Catholic Community, Maintained,
11-16 College catering for pupils of all abilities.
Integral to our College is our Learning Support Centre,
supporting students with Autism and Moderate Learning Difficulties.*

Building Foundations

Principal's foreword

On behalf of our College community, I want to welcome you to our College and thank you for taking the time to read our prospectus and visit us. I hope that you enjoy reading about our College and the various activities and opportunities available to our students. We have been up beside the St Mary and St Joseph's chapel for just over fifty years educating and preparing generations of local people, who have gone on to great success. Over the past six years as Principal, I have come to appreciate the high value and esteem the College has in the community. I was accepted as a Joe and part of the College community, almost immediately and I am proud to see that this is the same for all students who join us. Being a Joe is more than wearing a uniform and attending the College, it's a state of mind!

Since our last Open Night we have had a visit from ETI and they commented on how our results were rising, how the students appreciate all the efforts that the staff put in and that parents feel valued and part of the process. Our last set of results were the best in many years and we are all extremely proud of that year group as they leave. Our September intake was the largest in many years and as a result we have employed a number of new teachers who you will meet this evening or whenever you visit us. ETI commented on how we have been innovative in our Key Stage 3 curriculum and how it has evolved over the last couple of years and as the only one to one iPad school in the area, with the support of our parents, we were recognised as a Beacon School for our Key Stage 3 work in the area of ICT and shortlisted for ICT Excellence for the work being carried out in both Key Stage 3 and 4. We have assisted CCEA in promoting Computer Science and Digital Skills at Key Stage 3 because we have recognised the importance of these skills for future employment and a vision to make our College a lead institution for this in our area.

Becoming an anchor institution for the greater Coalisland area is something the College community would wish to explore and develop. We have been here for over fifty years and our College community want to offer more to our wider community than an educational provision for 11-16 year olds. Coalisland and the surrounding area is a brilliant place to live, work and bring up families because of the welcoming nature of the people. Some community groups use our facilities but we want to be able to offer more to our parents, past pupils and the residents of the local parishes. Coalisland deserves better facilities for its inhabitants and the College is exploring how it might be able to partner with external agencies schemes that might improve this. This is consistent with our five pillars which are: Nurturing our faith, aspirational learning, promoting partnerships, creating a caring community and inspiring leadership.



Principal: Mr Desi McNeill

I hope that you will consider our College and trust that we will work with you in providing the best nurturing and guiding education for the rest of their compulsory education. We cannot make promises about future examination successes or career opportunities, no-one can but we can guarantee that the opportunities, learning and teaching, support and extracurricular will be outstanding. Our aim is to develop a closer working relationship and better engagement with our parents so that our shared goal of well prepared and skilled young adults can be the leaders of the future and have a strong sense of social justice and compassion for their neighbours, local and global.

St Joseph's has four learning centres and over the past thirty years an expertise on inclusion has been developed.

"The merit of inclusive schools is not only that they are capable of providing quality education to all children; their establishment is a crucial step in helping to change discriminatory attitudes, in creating welcoming communities and in developing an inclusive society." (Salamanca Statement, UNESCO 1994).

All our pupils benefit from the inclusive nature of our College and this will continue to be a focus for us in the years to come.

I hope that you enjoy your visit of our school, we are available to answer any queries and good luck in the decision making process of deciding the next phase of your child's education.

Desí McNeill

Desi McNeill Principal



Our Mission

St Joseph's mission is to provide high quality education in a respectful and caring environment for each individual member of our school community, promoting the development of our core values: honesty, integrity, maturity and compassion.

Our Vision

We provide equality of opportunity with a broad and balanced curriculum tailored to the needs, interests and abilities of all our pupils. We inspire our pupils to become lifelong learners and contributors to society.

Our Aims

St Joseph's aims to:

- nurture faith, Christian values and spirituality where everyone is encouraged to be committed to a Christian way of life;
- facilitate learning and teaching in an aspirational environment where our pupils are challenged and supported to reach their full potential both academically and socially;
- promote partnership within the College and the wider community enabling pupils to expand their horizons as global citizens;
- create a caring College community where the uniqueness of every member is celebrated and an inclusive ethos pervades.

Spirituality at St Joseph's College

Crucial to our well-being is our spirituality. The Catholic values of truth, compassion and faith are an integral part of our school community. Our vibrant RE department nurtures these values through events and activities throughout the year. Days of reflection and meditation, prayer and study of the gospel, and positive relationships based on mutual respect and understanding equip our pupils to lead fulfilling Christian lives as faith leaders.

Community and Cultural Awareness

St Joseph's has a long and admirable tradition of supporting those experiencing difficult times. We are proud of our students' fund raising efforts and self-less volunteering in the following charities close to our hearts:

Leap For Luke – a local charity supporting research into the severe, progressive, life limiting condition Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.

Katie-Rose's Journey – St Joseph's College raised £3,010.00 for Katie-Rose's Journey. Katie-Rose, a fun loving 8 year old girl, was diagnosed with High Risk Neuroblastoma and needs to raise £245,000 to access the Bivalent Vaccine clinical trials in New York. A young girl who had already been diagnosed with type 1 diabetes at age 5, has with her family continued to engage her local and wider community with her story and journey.

St Vincent de Paul – Pupils at St Joseph's College always donate generously towards the annual Saint Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers Appeal. Our pupils have been doing this for decades, making this our longest charitable link.

Zambia Education and Development Project

St Joseph's College have forged very close links with St Monica Parish in Lusaka, Zambia, supporting this developing parish through financial contribution, volunteering visits from the RE department and past pupils. We support the provision of basic educational requirements for the schools in this parish through fundraising during October Mission Month and we are continually building relationships via video link with our pupils and the pupils from St Monica's Parish. Numerous other fundraising events are carried out throughout the year, supporting pupil ideas and helping them to develop their humanitarian endeavours.

Enriching Minds



Why choose St Joseph's College?

For over fifty years St Joseph's has served the people of Coalisland and Clonoe with a post-primary non-selective school. St Joseph's is an 11-16 co-educational school with four Learning Centres attached for pupils diagnosed with Autism or Learning Difficulties. For the past number of years our GCSE results have been improving and our students have in greater numbers progressed to continue their studies at post-16 in a variety of settings including modern apprenticeships. The ethos and tradition of our College can be distilled into five pillars that makes St Joseph's what it is and makes Joes who they are.

The first pillar is based around our Catholic faith. St Joseph's, in partnership with the home and the parish, is dedicated to providing and developing a Catholic education that cultivates a living faith, fosters Christian spirituality, and educates our young people in Gospel-based values.

Our second pillar is based on aspiration of all our students regardless of background and ability as determined in primary education. We have high expectations of our students. We seek to create an orderly, safe and positive learning environment which enables the holistic development of every pupil. We continually review, evaluate and assess our progress and engage with best educational practice as a means of school improvement. We challenge our students and support them in achieving their true potential as mature young adults who will use their skills and talents to work for justice in the wider world.

Our third pillar is based around promoting partnerships. We seek to promote inclusiveness, mutual respect and the development of the school as a community where personal growth is facilitated. We strive to develop meaningful and engaging relationships within the school, in our local community and in our global outreach endeavours.

Our fourth pillar is about caring and compassion. Our school is a community which recognises the uniqueness of every member. We seek to build relationships and foster the sense of care, compassion and community that characterised Jesus' life. Our broad and balanced curriculum, Pastoral Care programmes and extensive range of extra-curricular activities encourages school involvement and the development of the person. We strive to live by Christian values and encourage others to stand in solidarity with those who are powerless, vulnerable and marginalised.

Our fifth, and by no means the least, is how St Joseph's contributes to our community's future. We believe that partnership between school and home is essential and encourage the active participation of parent/guardians. We encourage leadership and responsibility amongst our students and encourage them to play an active part in the prefect system and student council. Our hope is that the pupils we engage with today will play a leading role in and make a worthwhile contribution to the society of tomorrow.



Supporting Our Community



Pathways

What pathways to future education/employment does a College like St Joseph's provide for our community's children?

Last year's intake, the largest in some time had over 70% chose St Joseph's as first preference on their Transfer Form (Green Form). This is an exceptionally high percentage for an 11-16 setting. Twenty-six pupils completed the GL Assessment, 15 of whom put us as their first choice while 10 others had us as second choice. The variety and ability range of our pupils is part of the character and essence of our College. Learning and teaching is important but so is nurturing, growth and a community sense of belonging as explained in our five pillars. For years the College has delivered a number of pathways for our pupils but it was not explicit. In St Joseph's College, we attempt to be transparent and acknowledge the huge potential for employment in the manufacturing and engineering sector within Mid-Ulster. The pathways we offer every student lets them develop 'soft skills' through their learning experiences that lead them into further education and employment post-St Joseph's.

Pathway 1

Students ability is assessed, a curriculum offered and tracked, monitored three times per year with the pathway through Key Stage 3 (Years 8-10) to GCSE subjects and AS/A2 study in St Joseph's Donaghmore or St Patrick's Academy Dungannon.

Pathway 2

Students ability is assessed, a curriculum offered and tracked, monitored three times per year with the pathway through Key Stage 3 (Years 8-10) to a Key Stage 4 provision of a mixture of GCSE subjects and vocational equivalents and post-16 study with a combination of vocational and AS/A2 in one of the post-16 providers in the Dungannon/Cookstown area.

Pathway 3

Students ability is assessed, a curriculum offered and tracked, monitored three times per year with the pathway through Key Stage 3 (Years 8-10) to a Key Stage 4 provision of a mixture of GCSE subjects and vocational equivalents and post-16 study at apprenticeship level at South West College.

Pathway 4

Students ability is assessed, a curriculum offered and tracked, monitored three times per year with the pathway through Key Stage 3 (Years 8-10) to a Key Stage 4 provision of a mixture of GCSE subjects and vocational equivalents and leaving College straight to employment.

As partners with us in the education of your child, you as their parent/carer will be kept engaged and informed about progress, development and suitability of the Pathway. At age 11, our Year 8s are still developing as learners and with our nurturing and guidance they will achieve their potential. For many young people there are no fixed goals or career ambitions set as they leave primary school, the type of job/career may not even be invented yet. Our pathways will ensure that each child's ability and interests will be developed at the appropriate speed for them.

Supporting Our Community



Pastoral Care

The pastoral care and well-being of each and every child at our school is of paramount importance. Every member of staff shares responsibility for supporting our children in a safe and secure environment conducive to raising self-esteem, building confidence and developing resilience in this ever changing, global society.

Our Pastoral Circle illustrates the structures embedded in our policies to support your child. Your child is supported by a team of experienced and caring professionals beginning with his/her form teacher who meets with him/her on a daily basis. The Head of Year 8 Transition and Induction Mr Thornton, Head of Upper Key Stage 3 Mrs McGill and Head of Key Stage 4 Ms Pearce, have the responsibility for supporting and encouraging the academic and pastoral development of all pupils within their year groups. The leaders play a pivotal role in strengthening the relationships between home and school.

Our Leader of Pastoral Care and Community Mrs Barrett, the Designated Child Protection Teacher, looks after the pastoral care and discipline within our school. Mrs Mallon, our Leader of Learning Support and Welfare is responsible for special education needs and Mrs Donnelly, our Vice Principal and Leader of Learning and Teaching, is in charge of academic and curriculum needs.

The Principal, Mr McNeill, leads us all in the pastoral care of our pupils.



Inspiring Leadership

Further Interventions and Support

Nurture

In St Joseph's College we have introduced a Nurture Teacher, Miss Kerr, to further enhance our pastoral supports. Children can be referred by their Head of Key Stage to help with transitions through difficult periods in their educational journey.

Nurture groups are a short-term, focused intervention for children with particular social, emotional and behavioural difficulties which are creating a barrier to learning within a mainstream class.

Children attending the nurture group remain an active part of their main class, spending appropriate times within the nurture group according to their need.

Activities in the nurture group include emotional literacy sessions, news sharing, nurture breakfast, social skills and regular curriculum activities. As the children learn academically and socially they develop confidence, become responsive to others, learn self-respect and take pride in behaving well and in achieving.

Achievement and Behaviour Co-ordinator

The Achievement and Behaviour Co-ordinator, Mrs Quinn, supports our students with praise and recognition of their achievements. Students are acknowledged for their internal and external endeavours and gain House Points which result in an end of year reward. End of year excursions, social events and other activities are provided as an incentive. The goal being for our students to be rewarded for excellent behaviour, and to encourage them to participate in more selfless activities where they give back to the St Joseph's College community.

Our Senior and Junior Student Councils, also co-ordinated by Mrs Quinn, allow our students a platform for their "student voice". This enables them, as a major stakeholder in the College community, to feel fully valued in the planning of and introduction of new initiatives.

These structures in our school provide your child with numerous avenues through which to access support as required.



Curriculum

The curriculum in St Joseph's College aims to equip our young people with the wider skills and attributes to become learned individuals who will contribute to society, the economy and the environment. We aspire to empower our students as collaborators and creative thinkers so they may thrive in the 21st century world of work.

The school's Learning and Teaching provides consistent effective classroom practice and accentuates the importance of the pupils as confident, curious and participative learners who are challenged using a range of classroom methodologies.

Digital Technology plays a key part in the classroom across Key Stage 3 & 4. This allows our students to connect their learning experiences and apply

to all studies, increasing subject knowledge and application.

We have teachers who hold the responsibility of catering for the academic and pastoral needs of all learners.

We have a Head of Year 8 and Transition teacher who fosters excellent relationships with parents and pupils. This reinforces that we, at St Joseph's College, recognise the significance of a successful transition experience between Primary and Post-Primary education.

The College aims to provide pathways to meet the needs and abilities of all pupils allowing them personalised learning journeys throughout their time in our school. St Joseph's College pride themselves in providing routes for all learners maximising academic achievement and building capacity of 'soft skills' essential for further education and employment.

All pupils in Key Stage 3 & 4 study a wide range of subjects to meet the statutory requirements of the Northern Ireland Curriculum and the Entitlement Framework. We are currently reviewing our Key Stage 3 provision and shaping it to suit the dynamic and ever-changing career pathways available for our young people. St Joseph's College plays an integral part in the Dungannon Area Learning Community.

KEY STAGE 3

Art & Design
Computer Science
Citizenship
Drama
Employability
English
French
Geography
History
Home Economics
Irish
Learning for Life and Work
Maths
Moving Image Arts
Music
Physical Education
Religious Education
Science
Technology & Design

KEY STAGE 4

Art & Design
Business & Communications Systems
Child Development
Contemporary Cuisine
Drama
Digital Imaging
Digital Technology
Engineering
English Language
English Literature
French
Geography
History
Hospitality
ICT
Irish
Learning for Life and Work
Maths
Moving Image Arts
Motor Vehicle and Road User Studies
Music
Occupational Studies
Patisserie
Physical Education
Religious Education
Science (Single & Double Award)
Sport
Technology & Design
TV & Film Production
Travel & Tourism



Personalised Learning

Upon entry to St Joseph's College, pupils will sit baseline testing. This provides standardised scores on current ability, future potential and attitudes to school life. The data from the testing allows the College to make informed decisions on the pathways that pupils can follow. Pupils will be set targets and assessed at regular intervals throughout the academic year. Pupils and parents will be made aware of targets and these will be reviewed tri-annually. Intervention will be employed and specific to pupil learning styles and needs.

Tracking assessments take place three times a year for Years 8-12. Year 12 will also have mock examinations prior to external formal sittings.

Parents will be reported to three times throughout the year. There will only be one summative report for each year group. Year 10, 11 & 12 will receive a report in January and Years 8-12 will receive a report in June.



Sharing Ideas



Digital Technologies

Since September 2014 St Joseph's College has embarked on a journey into the twenty-first century which we have described as the 'iPad Initiative'. This venture is now in its fifth year in the College. Intensive training programmes have been undertaken with the dedication and enthusiasm of all staff and this continues annually. Many of our teachers have undertaken extra training and have become certified 'Apple Teachers'.

Today we have every pupil in Years 8-12 enhancing their learning experiences through the use of iPads. Teaching has been enhanced to meet the ever changing needs and demands of new technologies in our rapidly evolving global community. Technology permeates every subject area in St Joseph's and takes many different formats. Pupils are stimulated and learning continues very easily outside the classroom via connectivity and collaboration. None of this could have been achieved without the support of our parents, governors and staff.

We currently deliver Computer Science as a discrete subject to all Key Stage 3 pupils. Mrs Kerr, our Digital Technology Leader, has devised a programme that builds upon the digital skills of our pupils which facilitates bringing technology into other subjects and in addition prepares our students for the world of work. The aim of this programme is not to simply have children who are digital users but digital makers.



Embracing The Future



Learning Centre

The Learning Centre has been an integral part of St Joseph's College for over thirty years demonstrating commitment to meeting the needs of all statemented pupils placed in our care. An experienced team of teachers and classroom assistance support pupils in their emotional, social and cognitive development.

The Autism Centre caters for pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Asperger Syndrome. It offers the opportunity for these young people to access mainstream education while providing the support structure they require.

We at St Joseph's are proud of our inclusive ethos: our provision of a secure and safe environment for every child and our commitment to removing barriers to learning thereby supporting individuality and diversity.



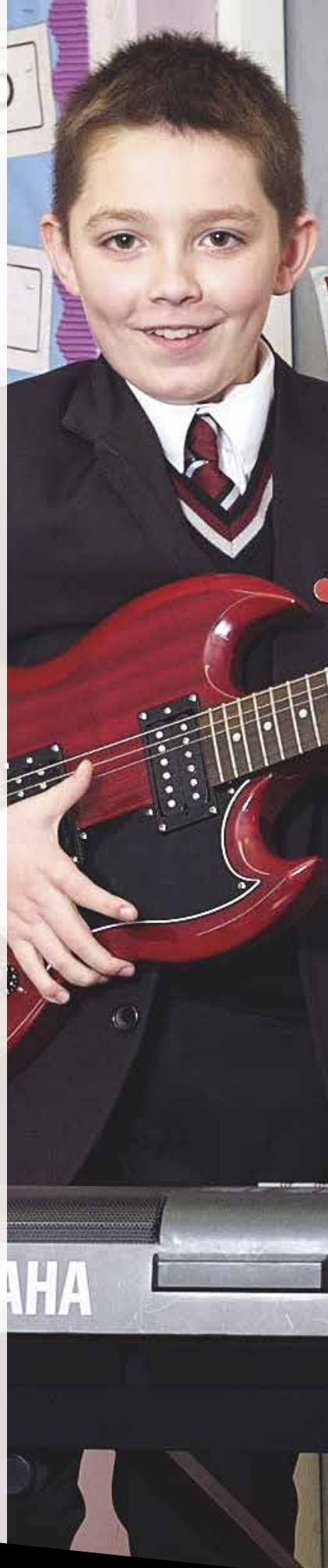
Celebrating Diversity



Music and Drama

The Music and Drama departments at St Joseph's facilitate the expression of the talented and gifted young people of the area. Our traditional group has evolved into a thriving and energetic ensemble of young musicians infused with passion and dedication. Partnering with community groups such as Ceoltas and Craic Theatre has enabled our pupils to develop their skills and talents and perform to a wider audience. Our musicians contribute regularly to many community and charity events as well as school events: prize giving, open days and liturgical celebrations.

St. Joseph's has produced many memorable and enjoyable public performances and pantomimes over the years including: St Joseph's Got Talent, Cinderella, Snow White and Blood Brothers.



Developing Talents



Enriched Curriculum

At St Joseph's we offer a rich and varied programme to enhance pupil experiences. We are an Extended School with a comprehensive range of extra-curricular activities to suit all abilities and interests.

Clubs and Societies	Sport	Educational Visits/Trips
Public Speaking	Ladies Gaelic Football	Armagh Planetarium
Art Club	Boys Gaelic Football	Art Exhibitions
Music	Camogie	Cookery Demonstrations
Drama	Hurling	Engineering Field Trips
Hot Chocolate	Hand Ball	Gaeltacht
Gardening	Athletics	Geography Field Trips
STEM	Swimming	Navan Centre
	Orienteering	Hill of O'Neill Ranfurly House
	Rugby	Ski Trip
		Seamus Heaney Home Place

Free GCSE tuition classes for the following subjects:

- Art and Design
- Drama
- English
- Hospitality
- ICT
- Maths
- Media Studies
- Motor Vehicle Studies
- PE
- RE
- Technology and Design
- Science
- Business and Communication Systems
- Irish
- Engineering

Altogether



Sports at St Joe's

Steeped in Gaelic culture, St Joseph's has built an outstanding reputation for producing some top sports people in the country.

We have enjoyed considerable success over the years in various fields showing true athleticism, skill and determination competing at all levels. Although small in numbers St Joseph's has achieved the height of success at county, provincial, All Ireland and international levels.

Our more recent Under 16 and Under 14 Ulster titles in 2010 and 2019 respectively, shows the continued endeavours of our young men to achieve at the highest levels. With Mr Ronan O'Neill, Tyrone Senior Player, joining the PE Department, no doubt the energy and enthusiasm will continue to grow.

Alongside them, our young ladies achieving their first Ladies Gaelic Ulster title in 2018 proves the strength within our sporting fraternity.

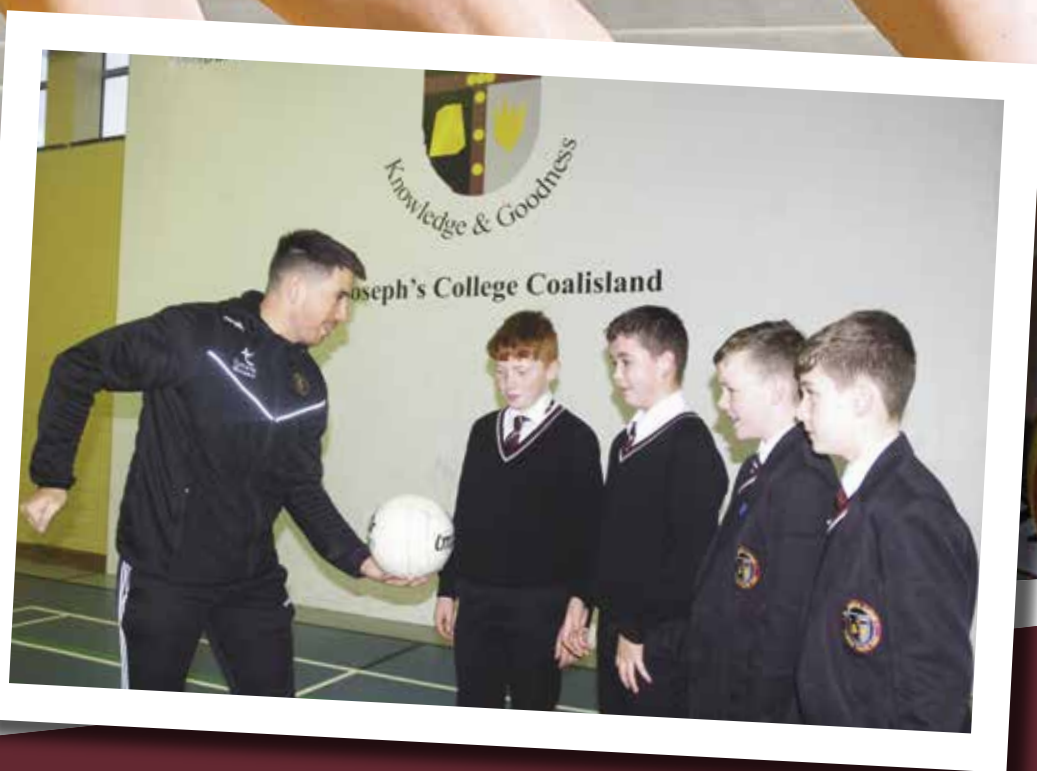
Our camogie teams have been regenerated with the expertise of Miss Megan Kerr, Derry Senior Camogie Player, and it won't be long before a few more titles are achieved.

We are especially proud of our 1992 and 2001 Under 16 Gaelic All Ireland Champions, our Irish International cross country champion Teresa McGrath, super featherweight professional boxer Fearghal McCrory, and Emma-Jane Gervin, All Star and All-Ireland Medal winner with Tyrone in the 2018 Ladies Football Final.

Former pupils have excelled not only on the field but also on the side lines. Former Tyrone Senior Coach, Peter Donnelly, and now Ulster Rugby Coach, has been pioneering the way forward in athletic performance coaching.



Promoting Teamwork





Open Night

As evenings go this is important,
Where will my treasure get encouragement that is constant?
Car journey and parking while stomach is churning,
Is this place safe and a centre of learning?
Everyone waiting for the tours of the site
Having to endure the patter and trite.

A journey around the corridors and stairs,
The school building shining the desks and the chairs.
Teachers and students engaging and welcoming,
Doing their boss proud as they sell their school claiming,
Fifty-something St Joes in a building of character,
Serving the 'Island producing leaders and pro-actors.
The choice, ohh the choice!

All schools do the business, showing what is great,
But you have a choice and direction that can't wait.
We are unique.
We are St Joes.
We nurture a pride in self and in unity,
For students and parents it's all about community.
Decision made, content with the local opportunity,
What's that hashtag that continues to grow-
Once a Joe, always a Joe!



