

Edmund Rice College

PROSPECTUS 2025



Contents

1. Mission Statement	6
2. Welcome from Our Transition Team	8 - 9
3. Admission Criteria	10 - 13
4. School Uniform and PE Kit	14 - 15
5. Welcome from Our Student Leadership Team	16 - 17
6. Pastoral Care in Edmund Rice College	18 - 19
7. SEN Provision	20 - 21
8. Teaching & Learning	22 - 23
9. The Curriculum	24 - 25
10. School Day	26 - 27
11. Pupil Success	28 - 29
12. Sport	30 - 31
13. Extra Curricular Activities	32 - 33
14. School Trips	34 - 35
15. Careers Education, Advice, Information & Guidance	36 - 37
16. ERC at the Heart of the Community	38 - 39



EDUCATIONAL
EXCELLENCE
FOR ALL PUPILS
RESPECT FOR
SELF AND OTHERS
CARE IN THE HOME
SCHOOL AND
COMMUNITY



Mission Statement

In Edmund Rice College we provide a pupil-centred, broad and balanced curriculum reflecting the needs of all pupils with the aim of maximising their life chances.

We strive, as a school community, to ensure that each student has the opportunity to achieve their full potential. We do this within a learning environment that is safe, positive, respectful, inclusive and welcoming.

Our ethos permeates all that we do and creates an environment of care and support. Pupils are encouraged to have ambitious aspirations and are motivated in pursuit of these. Past pupils have progressed into all walks of life and retain a strong link with the school including involvement at Board of Governor level. An even greater number send their children to Edmund Rice College, which indicates confidence in the school and is a great testament to what we do. Through provision of a broad

range of curricular and extracurricular activities and the promotion of a positive outlook to life, we develop the whole individual. The professionalism of all staff is evidenced in their work and performance. Their commitment to Continued Professional Development ensures modern techniques, methodologies and technologies are employed in both teaching and learning. Our school is deeply rooted in our communities and reflects the diversity therein. The triangular partnership between the school, the home and the community allows us to create a school that pupils aspire to go to, feel welcome at, perform well in and of which the community is proud.

"Our goal is to ensure all pupils are happy, safe and fulfil their full potential at Edmund Rice College."



Welcome from Our Transition Team

At Edmund Rice College we are fully committed to ensuring that pupils have a sense of belonging in a strong and vibrant school community where they can experience a wide range of activities and develop a desire and passion for learning.

From the very beginning of any student's journey here, we encourage everyone to excel and take up an opportunity to promote themselves in a positive light. We expect our pupils to challenge themselves, to work hard and to give their best efforts in order to achieve their full potential as they enter adult life. We welcome and value all pupils in an inclusive all-ability environment as we aim to instil the values of Excellence, Respect and Care at all times throughout their time in the school.

Education is not just about exam results and we pride ourselves in Edmund Rice College in guaranteeing that each pupil feels safe and happy at all times. The pastoral care in the school has been highlighted in recent ETI inspection reports as being "Outstanding", highlighting

the strong and positive relationships between staff, pupils and parents. The school's Catholic ethos permeates the life and work of the college as we aim to continue the legacy and great work that Blessed Edmund Rice began with when he founded his first school. Through this prospectus, we aim to show the warmth of Edmund Rice College. We invite you to take the opportunity of the Open Evening to explore the school and to speak to staff and pupils about their experiences.

We very much look forward to meeting you then and fully hope that you will be able to join us in September as a pupil of Edmund Rice College.

Mr S Campbell (Head of Year 8)

Mrs M O'Connor (Head of Transition)



**'Pupils have a sense of belonging
in a strong and vibrant school'**



Edmund Rice College

OPEN NIGHT

Thursday 9th January

Principal's Address 3:30pm and 7:00pm



Edmund Rice College		Maintained Secondary School	
Address	96 - 100 Hightown Road, Glengormley, Newtownabbey, BT36 7AU	Age Range of Pupils	11-18
Telephone	028 9084 8433		
Fax	028 9084 4924		
E-Mail	info@edmundricecollege.glengormley.ni.sch.uk	Admissions Number	115
Website	edmundricecollege.co.uk		
Principal	Mr Paul Berne, BA (Hons), PGCE		
Chairperson of the Board of Governors	Mr Ciarán Toner	Enrolment Number	750

Admission Criteria For Entry into Year 8

During the admissions procedure, when applying the criteria, punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered. The application procedure opens on 28 January 2025 at 12 noon [GMT] and an application submitted by the closing date of 20 February 2025 at 12 noon [GMT] will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12 noon [GMT] on 20 February 2025 and up to 4pm on 25 February 2025 will be treated as a late application.

Respective functions of the Board of Governors and Principal in relation to Admissions to the school.

Pupils resident in N Ireland at the time of their application will be considered before any pupil not so resident.

The religious and educational philosophy of the school is that of a Catholic school and, reflecting this, the school welcomes applications from all denominations and none. The Board of Governors has drawn up the criteria for admission to the school and delegated their application to the Principal, assisted by the Board of Governors. These criteria will be applied in the order set out below.

Applicants:

- children who, at the date of application, reside in or attend primary school in the parishes (in order) of: St Mary's on the Hill, St Gerard's, Loughshore parishes (St Mary's Greencastle, Star of the Sea, Whitehouse' St James', Whiteabbey), Carrickfergus, Crumlin, Holy Family, St Patrick's, Sacred Heart, St Vincent de Paul, Holy Cross.
- children who, at the date of their application, have a child of the family currently enrolled at the school.
- children who, at the date of their application, are the eldest or only child of the family to be eligible to apply for admission to the school.
- children who are entitled to Free School Meals (FSME).

If over-subscribed in any one of the sub-criteria, taken in order, then children will be selected based on the initial letter of the surname as identified on the birth certificate presented at time of application.

The order is set out below and was predetermined by a randomised selection of the alphabet.

NDJEZTQWLGORYMBSXIPFCAKUVH

In the event of surnames beginning with the same letter, the subsequent letters of the surname will be used in alphabetical order using the above randomised selection. In the event of two or more identical surnames the alphabetical randomised order of the initial of the forename, as identified on the birth certificate presented at time of application, will be used.

In the event of the forename beginning with the same letter, the subsequent letters of the forename will be used in alphabetical order using the above randomised selection.



Admissions to Year 8 after 1st September 2025

Parents who wish to have their child considered for admission in the event of a place arising after 1 September 2025 should write to the Principal clearly stating this. In the event of a vacancy arising the above criteria will be applied to these applications only.

Number of Applications and Admissions

Year	Admissions No.	Total Applications All Preferences	Total Admissions
2022/23	115	186	133
2023/24	115	163	127
2024/25	115	156	138

This table does not include children who were admitted to the school with a statement of special educational needs.

School criteria for admissions from Year 9 onwards is available from the school office

Duty to Verify:

The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any applicant's Application Form.

Please include birth certificate and proof of eldest child/FSME where applicable. Any two of the following documents can be used to verify address at which the child is resident:

- Bank or building society statement;
- Utility bill (for instance Electricity, Gas, Television Licence, Telephone, Mobile phone bills not accepted);
- Addressed payslip;
- Letter awarding Child Benefit to the child or another letter relating to this benefit;
- Mortgage statement;
- Land and Property Services rates demand;
- Financial statement such as ISA, Pension or Endowment;
- Current Driving Licence;
- Rental agreement.

If the requested evidence is not provided to the Board of Governors by the deadline specified by the Board of Governors, this will result in the withdrawal of an offer of a place. Similarly, if information is supplied which appears to be false or misleading in any material way, the offer of a place will be withdrawn.



School Uniform & Sports PE Kit



Blazer With school crest

Tie Yr 8-12

V Neck Jumper

Black Skirt & Trousers

Black shoes



i

On PE days it is compulsory that all pupils wear Edmund Rice College crested T-shirts, half zips and plain black tracksuit bottoms.

AVAILABLE FROM



➔ oneills.com

- Blazer:** 1880 Club, Bright Royal Blue
- Jumper Yr 8 - 12:** Deepark Knitwear or Abbey Knitwear. Grey jumper with blue, white and yellow stripes on V.
- Jumper Yr 13 & 14** Deepark Knitwear or Abbey Knitwear. Black jumper with school logo on chest & blue, white & yellow stripes on V.

- Skirt:** ZECO Black Pleated Skirt GS3460 (Knee length only)
- Trousers:** Black
- Shirt/Blouse:** White
- White Shirt**
- Black Leather Shoes**
- Black Socks (Boys)**
- Black Tights (Girls)**
- Tie Yr 8 -12**

Uniform Suppliers:

The Sport's Company
The Jeanery Glengormley

Welcome from Our Student Leadership Team



Hello, my name is Eoin O'Neill and I am the Head Boy at Edmund Rice College for 2024-2025.

I came to Edmund Rice College as a pupil in September 2018. I am now in my final year and have made some of the best friends and memories during my time here. At Edmund Rice College, not only do you receive a high-quality education, but the support and motivation from our teachers is amazing. I would not be where I am today without their unwavering guidance and support.

I am currently studying three A-levels; History, ICT and Moving Image Art. After my A-levels, I intend to go to Queen's University, Belfast, to study Politics and History.

Some of my most treasured times in Edmund Rice College have been on the school stage. I have been involved in various school productions and have been part of the school choir since Year 8. Last Year I played the 'Wizard' in our school's adaptation of the Wizard of Oz. This really helped grow my confidence and it has left me with a lifetime of precious memories.

I have also enjoyed my time on the school council, representing fellow pupils and raising their concerns. Starting a new school can be daunting but I would highly recommend getting involved in extracurricular activities as they help you feel more comfortable and a chance to meet new people. The school has put in place several programmes to make the transition from Primary 7 to Year 8 easier. There are a wide variety of extra curricular activities and so there will be one to suit all interests.

You will not regret coming to Edmund Rice College. Good luck for the future!



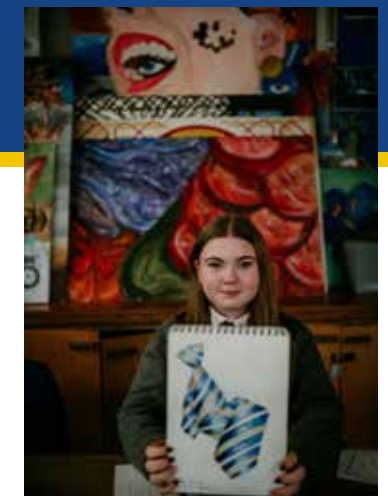
Hello, my name is Eve McDermott and I am the Head Girl at Edmund Rice College for 2024-2025.

I joined ERC in September 2018- during the second year of coeducation. I have loved every minute of my time in this school and the memories that I have made will last forever. I have thrived on the opportunities presented to me by the school. Not only have I had countless opportunities in my education and within the school community, I have also made life-long friends and precious memories.

The staff are incredibly supportive and have guided me through decisions that will impact my future. In Year 12, I achieved 10 GCSE's at grades A*-C. Currently, I study English Literature, Religious Studies, and Sociology at A-Level. My ultimate goal is to pursue study of English Literature at University, following my passion of reading.

I have built incredible relationships here and have had enriching experiences through school trips abroad skiing in Flogaria in Italy. The craic and fun that we have away as a group representing our school is something that I always cherish.

Choosing Edmund Rice was one of the best decisions I made for myself and I'm grateful for the kindness and care I have received here. It really is the best choice you can make. Good Luck!



The Student Council

The Student Council is an elected body of pupils whose purpose is to represent their classes. It is a forum for active and constructive input into the daily life of the school community. The Student Council supports the functioning of our school. It gathers the thoughts and feelings of pupils about issues that are important to them, and that may have an impact on the school environment.

Our student council helps create a more positive school community and aims to enhance the lives of students within the school. It also aims to represent the needs, concerns and aspirations of the student body. The meetings are chaired by the Student Chair and Vice Chair who are Sixth Form students appointed to the role.

The School Council representatives have played their part in shaping new school policies, organising charity events, and lobbying for improved facilities. Day-to-day, the School Council performs a vital role, seeking partnership between pupils and staff for the benefit of all.



Pastoral Care & Support at Edmund Rice College

Pastoral Care is at the heart of everything we do at Edmund Rice College. The aim of the Pastoral Care Team is to ensure that our students feel safe and happy while at school. Supported by well trained staff, our students are provided with an environment that supports their physical and emotional wellbeing. In doing so, we offer a foundation upon which learning can take place.



Who will look after you at ERC?

Year 8 Pastoral Care and Transition Team.

When you join ERC, you will become part of a Form Class and will see your Form Teacher every day. Your Form Teacher, Head of Year and Assistant Transition Teacher are here to help you feel happy, safe, and looked after at ERC. They will get to know you and your needs and will help you on your way. We look forward to meeting you!

Getting to know you before you start! Transition arrangements.

Before you start ERC,

- Someone from the Year 8 Pastoral Care and Transition Team will visit you in your school to answer all your questions.
- We will also meet you and your parents, guardians, and carers at the school in June.
- And finally, we all get to have some fun together at the ERC Year 8 fun days in August.



What happens on your first days?

Induction

- On your first days at ERC, you will get to meet your new classmates and new Form Teacher.
- A tour of the school with your new timetable will be organised, just to make sure you remember your way about the school.
- And after a few weeks, Mrs Gallagher (Head of Junior School) and the House Prefects will host the Sorting Ceremony where Year 8s join one of the student houses. During your time at ERC you can earn achievement points for excellent effort in work, behaviour and attendance and get rewards for you and your House.



So how do we help you grow at ERC?

Family Works

Sometimes it's good to talk! At ERC we have a dedicated counsellor who is here to support you throughout your school journey. Post Primary Schools Service is delivered in partnership with the Department of Education, through the Independent Counselling Service for Schools.



We are a 'Take 5' School

[Status awarded by Education Authority NI]

At ERC, looking after our health and wellbeing is one of our top priorities. We encourage all our students to embrace the 5 Steps to Wellbeing:



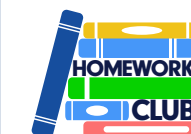
EA Youth Service

EA Youth Services offer a range of programmes to ERC students that nurture and support their ambitions, ideas, and creativity, while improving their emotional health and wellbeing.



Homework Club

Need help with homework? If you need support with homework, then you can come along to the homework club and get support from a teacher and build your confidence while you learn.



School Council

At ERC our school council gives students like you the opportunity to have your say and represent your fellow students in matters that affect all students. The role of the student council is to promote the development of the school and the welfare of its students.

Discover Our Inclusive Learning Support Provision At Edmund Rice College.

“At Edmund Rice College, we believe in the power of inclusivity”

We understand the importance of finding a school that truly includes, supports and nurtures your child. Our dedicated team strive to provide tailored learning support that meets the unique needs of every young person, giving them the individualised attention and care they deserve.

“Care is at the very heart of our ethos, and we work hard to ensure nurturing care is taken of every young person so they feel valued, included and find belief in themselves to realise their full potential. By choosing Edmund Rice College, you become part of our inclusive learning support community where diversity is celebrated and every pupil’s unique strengths are identified and embraced”

Our Team

Miss Deery	Head of Learning Support
Mrs Cust	Learning Support Assistant
Mr Brennan	SEN Link Teacher/Senior specialist support teacher
Mrs Mahood	Junior specialist support teachers
Miss Blacker	A team of 44 Learning Support Assistants
Mr McVicker	
Mr Connolly	
Miss Trainor	

Miss C. Deery
Learning Support Coordinator

Additional needs in Edmund Rice College

- Cognition & Learning Difficulties
- Specific literacy and/or numeracy difficulties
- Social and behavioural difficulties
- Emotional and well-being difficulties
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- Dyspraxia and/or Dysgraphia
- Visual and Auditory impairments
- Physical disabilities

“A bespoke programme of Learning Support training is provided to both teaching and non-teaching staff every academic year to ensure the best possible provision is offered to our young people.”

“Beyond the classroom, we foster a holistic approach to learning support, focusing on social and emotional development, independence, self-confidence and self-belief. By the end of their journey in Edmund Rice College, our pupils will feel valued, celebrated and equipped with the tools to thrive”

How are additional needs supported in Edmund Rice College?

- Specialist Support provision supported by specialist teachers
- Differentiated learning activities to suit individual needs
- SEN passport for pupils which includes the pupil voice
- ASD passport for pupils which includes the pupil voice
- Dyslexia-friendly classrooms
- Nurture areas during unstructured times of day
- Social and Emotional support
- Paired reading/literacy support
- STAR Numeracy and Sparx Maths
- STAR Literacy and Accelerated Reader Programme
- After schools Literacy and Numeracy clubs for additional support
- After schools Homework club for additional support
- Assistive technology
- Exam access arrangements – starting in Year 8
- EA Outside Agency support from Behaviour Service, Autism Advisory Service and the Literacy Support Service
- Private tours of school and 1:1 meetings with LSC on request
- Regular contact between home and school

Become
Part of Our
Family.

Edmund Rice College believes in 'Educational Excellence'. We aim to provide a stimulating, well organised and high-quality teaching and learning experience for every student. Teaching & learning is at the heart of all we do at Edmund Rice College. The quality of teaching will have a strong impact on the effectiveness of learning. In all lessons in Edmund Rice College, we strive to ensure students maximise their full potential and make progress. We employ a wide range of teaching and learning strategies to engage students, making their learning relevant and fun.

We have three assessment windows throughout the academic year when students have the opportunity to experience how to prepare for a range of assessments. In each assessment window students are guided through revision strategies, independent learning and are supported by all staff allowing them to achieve their own personal best. We have a unique and robust revision program in place that supports both our students and parents in exam preparation techniques.



We have high expectations for all our students and are committed to quality teaching and learning strategies that encourage each student to strive forward and achieve their full potential. The curriculum at Edmund Rice College whilst primarily shaped by the Revised Curriculum

for Northern Ireland, is designed to reflect the key principals of the schools mission statement. The college is committed to ensuring that the curriculum is challenging, interesting and rewarding ensuring all students can find a pathway in which they will reach their full potential.



ERC Year 9
Revision Booklet
Christmas 2024



Revision Booklet
Year 9
Christmas 2023



Download

The Curriculum

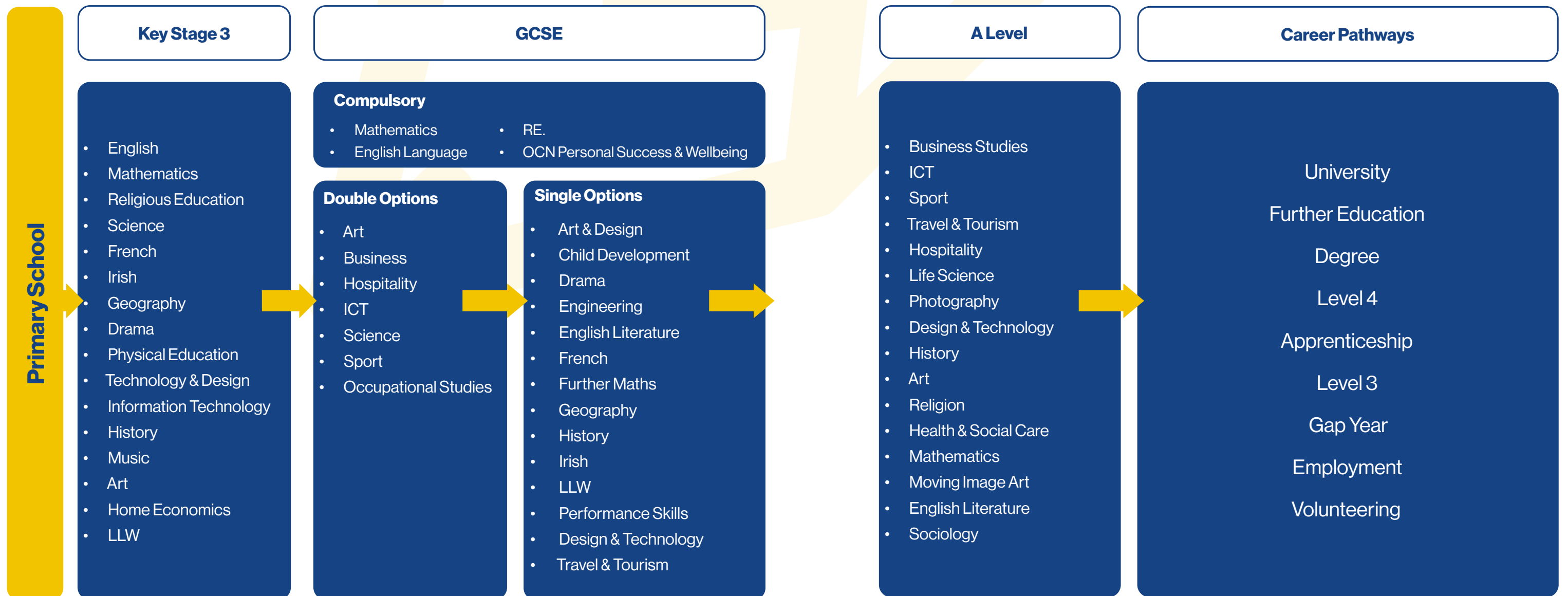
Key Stage 4

At Key Stage 4 all students follow GCSE courses in English, Maths, RE, and Personal Success and Wellbeing. Students then choose optional Single and Double Award Subjects. Our optional subjects offer students the opportunity to select from a range of vocational and academic courses. The wide choice on offer allows students to begin to carve their path to future careers.

Key Stage 5

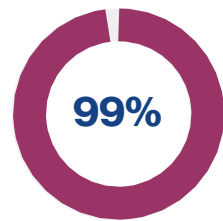
Edmund Rice College offers a wide range of Post-16 courses to a high achieving and growing sixth form. At A Level students have the opportunity to choose between a wide variety of vocational and academic subjects which will allow them to progress to university, further education or the world of work.

“Were we to know the merit and value of only going from one street to another to serve a neighbour for the love of God, we should prize it more than silver and gold.”



	8:50 9:05	9:05 9:55	9:55 10:45	10:45 11:00	11:00 11:50	11:50 12:40	12:40 1:15	1:30 2:05	2:05 2:55	2:55 3:15
MON	Class Registration	LLW	HOME ECONOMICS	BREAK	TECHNOLOGY	ART	LUNCH	SCIENCE	RELIGION	Class De-Registration
TUES	Class Registration	MATHS	ENGLISH		P.E	P.E		HOME ECONOMICS	HISTORY	Class De-Registration
WED	Class Registration	IRISH	FREE PERIOD		SCIENCE	COMPUTER TECH		DRAMA	FRENCH	Class De-Registration
THURS	Class Registration	FORM PERIOD	P.E		GEOGRAPHY	GEOGRAPHY		Self study	ENGLISH	Class De-Registration
FRI	Class Registration	SCIENCE	LIFE SCIENCE			ENGLISH Lessons		ART	ART	Class De-Registration

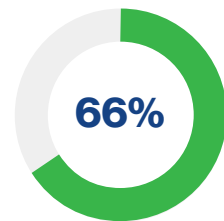




Percentage of pupils attaining 5 or more GCSEs at grades A* to C



Percentage of pupils attaining grades C or above in at least 2 A Levels



Best ever GCSE Maths and English results



Sleepout for Homelessness

At the end of November 2024, Edmund Rice College did something it had never done before.

With all the planning and preparation that went into this event, not once had it been mentioned that it might snow and be -2 degrees.

But the cold weather was not going to deter our pupils and staff. They were even more determined to make the point that Homelessness in our society is a national emergency and that we all should be made more aware of it.



We had **Cormac McArt** from the **Westcourt Centre of Social Justice** guiding us along the way and on the night we were joined by two amazing people, Chris and Rab who shared their stories with us about their time living on the streets and having no place to call a home.



The story was covered by **UTV** and is still available to watch on the **ITV X Player**.



We were able to use the Homelessness sleepout evening as an opportunity to collect clothes, money and food for those homeless in our society. The totals of all collections were overwhelming and a credit to our wonderful school's community sense of generosity. We couldn't thank people enough who donated and for the publicity the event created.

Our **'Friends of ERC Parent Support Group'** spent the evening gathering up and collecting donations from local people and businesses.



Edmund Rice College seeks to provide health-related exercise and sporting opportunities for all pupils, laying building blocks to a healthy lifestyle and the opportunity of sporting excellence. The PE department seeks to deliver our objective by providing a range of sporting and active opportunities that pupils can enjoy. We seek to encourage participation, identify talent, and develop performance.

The PE department also offers pathways in academic courses to encourage career paths in the sports industry. This is provided through the

BTEC syllabus. At Key Stage 4, the pupils follow BTEC sports Level 2 and at Post 16 we offer the Level 3 course.

This has provided the route for many of our pupils to continue their enjoyment of sport and have a career doing what they love.

The PE Department is at the centre of our range of extra-curricular activities. The sports activity programme gives the pupils an opportunity to develop personal and social skills as well as pursue sporting interests. There is a very strong tradition of sport and there is a sense of pride in the pupil when representing the school.

School sports has flourished this year. Our Elite Rhythm Crew won major honours at the NICMAC Dance competition. ERC handballers achieved unparalleled success with Mia Carlin reaching the semi final in Doubles at the European Handball Championships in the Netherlands. Aodhan Matthews and Gavin Boyle were crowned UK Boys Juvenile Doubles Champions. Five pupils from Edmund Rice will travel to New York City in February 2025 to play in the World Handball Championships.

Several pupils won the U16 Grade 1 Hurling Championship with local club Naomh Eanna. Aoibhea Stanton was part of the U14 Antrim LGFA team who tasted All-Ireland success. Maja Stachura and Jessica McGuinness continue to shine for the NI U16 soccer team. Our Year 10 boys Gaelic team won the Antrim Shield. Nathan Burns picked up an Antrim Gaelfest All-star. Year 8 pupil, Fiadh Rodgers excelled in the British and European Trampolining Championships.

Cross country continues to go from strength to strength with 3 pupils finishing in the top 15 at the Belfast Championships. In boxing, Rory Kelly became Antrim champion. We are proud of all our pupils' achievements and look forward to another year of success.



After school **Extra Curricular Activities**

Homework Club

Drama Club

Soccer Club

Eco Club

Hurling/ Camogie

Gaelic Football

Board Games Club

Art Club

Basketball Club

ICT Club

Literacy Club

Running Club

Choir

Sparx Maths Club

Handball Club

Numeracy Club

Traditional Music Club

Dance Club

Revision Courses



*"If you only acquire humility, it
will always guide you safely."*

School Trips

There are regular opportunities for our students to take part in educational and leisure trips giving them a valuable, fresh perspective outside of the classroom. They provide opportunities for students to travel, experience cultures, and develop new friendships with their peers - broadening their horizons and knowledge.

All information with regards to upcoming trips can be found on our school Facebook page. A few to highlight are:

Emerald Park

End of Year trip for our Year 8s

Pantomime

English trip to the Grand Opera House, Belfast.

Football

An opportunity to attend a Premiership, SPL or Champions League match.

Paris

Geography Trip, sightseeing in Paris and spending the day in Disneyland.

Skiing

Students can learn or develop their skills by taking to the slopes.

Barcelona

The Art and Design department explore the beauty of Barcelona.



Careers Education, Advice, Information & Guidance

Careers Education, Advice, Information and Guidance (CEAIG) in Edmund Rice College provides students with the opportunity to complete effective research, discuss with tutors any issues relating to career choices and assist them in their decision making throughout the key transition stages during their school years.

A structured programme has been developed to ensure that careers education is fully integrated into the curriculum and meets the needs of all pupils. The Careers Team within Edmund Rice College aims to assist all students to find the most appropriate pathway for them and welcomes contact with parents during this sometimes difficult period.

The boys and girls have the support and help from all staff members and they have the opportunity to cover a variety of topics including:

- Learning about different job roles
- Creating CVs
- Becoming familiar with recruitment procedures
- Carrying out research
- Developing and building on a personal profile
- Taking part in role play interviews
- Planning and carrying out relevant
- Work Experience
- Visiting workplaces to gain insight into the working world
- Listening to guest speakers
- Attending careers events
- Completing application forms
- Researching and applying for university.



Careers in Edmund Rice has increasingly become much more high profile throughout the school and indeed plays a vital and prominent role in all subjects. Each year we enjoy a 'Careers Awareness Week', during this week we invite past pupils into our classroom to talk to the students about their chosen career path and the ups and downs they have encountered on their way. They continuously provide valuable advice to our students and some go the extra mile to lend one to one guidance and support in their area of expertise. These past pupils are an invaluable resource within our school.



ERC at the Heart of the community

At Edmund Rice College we value the importance of community and ensure that the school has a visible presence and plays an important role in the local community.

Over the past year, the school has been involved in many local community events. Most noticeably, the school held its inaugural Golf Classic at Fortwilliam Golf Club in June 2024. This was a very successful event, raising vital money for school funds. Many local people and past pupils participated in the Golf Classic and local businesses were able to show their support for the school. In return, Edmund Rice College continues to work with local businesses through sponsorship and student placements for work experience. We are as always very grateful for all the support the school receives from the local business community.

In November, Edmund Rice College teamed up with Valley Parkrun for an 'ERC Parkrun Takeover'. This was a fun filled active morning and over 250 people participated in the event by either helping out or taking part in the run.

Each December, Edmund Rice College holds an annual 'Christmas Fair'. This has continued to grow from strength to strength each year. Local businesses, pupils, parents/guardians and a variety of different vendors get the opportunity to have a stall at the school. The Christmas Fair is a great family fun day out before Christmas, with so much happening at

the school and at no cost to the community. A visit by Santa Claus himself is the highlight of the day and it's amazing to see the happiness and joy from all those who attend the Fair.

This year has seen the return of the school PTA after the global pandemic. The newly formed 'Friends of ERC Parent Support Group' has been greatly involved in school events and has been a great resource and outlet for the school. Parents/Guardians are only too glad to get involved in school life and the Parent Support Group contribution is incredible.

Over the past year, the school has raised vast amounts of money for different charities. Most recently, the school raised over £8500 for the Kevin Bell Repatriation Trust and over £5000 for ALPs when two of our teachers ventured across the Italian countryside on a 160 kilometre walk that finished up in Rome in July.

Planning for our marquee event of 2025 is well underway as Edmund Rice College prepares to host 'Strictly Come Dancing'. Teachers and school staff are already practicing for the event which will take place in The Europa Hotel, Belfast, in early April. This is a night that you will not want to miss, so get your tickets early!



Care in the home,
care in the school &
care in the community.



Edmund Rice College
96-100 Hightown Road
Newtownabbey
BT36 7AU

✉ info@edmundricecollege.co.uk
🐦 @ERCGlengormley
📘 Edmund-Rice-College-Glengormley

EdmundRiceCollege.co.uk