



WELCOME

2024/
2025



MISSION STATEMENT

"Holy Trinity College is a Catholic school committed to providing opportunities to develop the unique talents of all pupils in a positive, challenging and caring learning environment."

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

A very special welcome to our new Year 8 pupils and to your first year in Holy Trinity College. I hope that it will be a happy and successful year. Our aim for you is quite simple: to enjoy the move to Holy Trinity College, to work hard at your learning, and to make the most of every opportunity available to you in school during your time here. Our school ethos: **'Be a Learner, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe'** influences all that we do. We will support and challenge you to achieve and be your absolute best, every day.



I am delighted you have chosen Holy Trinity College, and I am excited to get to know each and every one of you. We are a big school, but we will make sure you are well looked after, supported in making new friends, finding your way around the building, and exploring the unique gifts and talents which you will bring to our school.

I am looking forward to hearing about your positive achievements during the year, rewarding your excellent efforts and exemplary behaviours, and celebrating your successes with you.

In the meantime, I hope that you enjoy your summer holidays and arrive with us refreshed and bursting with enthusiasm, ready to be the best that you can be in Holy Trinity College. It is going to be great!

I. Russell.



YOUR KEY PERSONNEL

HEAD OF YEAR 8 - MISS RAFFERTY

Hi boys and girls,

My name is Miss Rafferty and I am Head of Year 8 here at Holy Trinity College. It is my job to make sure that you are happy and safe during your first year here at the college. I will be one of the first faces that you will see when you arrive at Holy Trinity College.

My role is to ensure firstly, that you are happy here but also to address any issues regarding attendance, behavioural concerns, or academic achievement.

Should you encounter any problems or have any worries, no matter how small they may seem, I would encourage you to come and see me straight away as usually these are things that I can sort on the spot or certainly by the end of the day.

I look forward to seeing you all at our Induction Evening in June. I cannot wait to get to know you as a unique and special individual.



HEAD OF KEY STAGE 3 - MR O'DONNELL



My name is Mr. O'Donnell and I am Head of Key Stage Three at Holy Trinity College.

I am responsible for the Pastoral, Academic and Social development of each student in this Key Stage. I oversee Baseline Testing and track Data after each Assessment. If support strategies are required, I will ensure that these are available and in place.

I work closely with our Heads of Year and Form Teachers to ensure that each student feels happy and safe from the time they enter our gates in the morning until the second they leave. I teach Technology and Design as well.

Like Miss Rafferty, I will be the first face you see each day you come to school. I have responsibility in school for Transport so I look after any issues you may have on your journey to and from school.

I wish you well for the remainder of your time at Primary School and look forward to seeing you all come September in our Holy Trinity College Uniform.

SUMMER SCHEME

Our school is unique in providing a Summer Scheme for the new pupils transferring to our school. The aim of this scheme is to ensure that the child has a stress free transition from primary to secondary school. The purpose of the Summer Scheme is to take away any worry from both the parents and pupils. Each year we have a range of external agencies working with the College in a range of activities. This scheme has fun and active workshops which are both sporting and non-sporting, curriculum based, team bonding and have links with the Youth Resource Centre.

Some of the extensive range of activities last year were:

Teenage Yoga, Clay modelling, Dance, Art, Tye-Dye, ICT, English, Engineering, Treasure Trails, and a range of sporting activities for everyone.

The scheme is an opportunity for our new pupils to mix and familiarise themselves with their year group and the school building. It gives time for friendships to be created and allows our new intake to become familiar with a number of teaching staff and senior pupils. This prepares them even more so for their first day with us at Holy Trinity College.

Our Summer scheme is on the 12th - 16th August 2024





IMPORTANT DATES

JUNE 2024

WEDNESDAY 19TH JUNE: 8.45 - 11.45AM

THURSDAY 20TH JUNE: 8.45 - 11.45AM

MONDAY 24TH JUNE: 8.45 - 11.45AM

(DATES WILL BE CONFIRMED CLOSER TO THE TIME)

- Meet your Head of Key Stage 3 and Head of Year
- Complete introductory assessments . These assessments tell us about the way that you learn, your strengths and where you might need some support

SEPTEMBER 2024

2ND SEPTEMBER

- Meet with new form class and Form Teacher
- Receive homework diaries and complete activities with Form Teachers. Receive timetable.
- Tour of the College

SEPTEMBER 2024

5TH SEPTEMBER

- Begin timetable

UNIFORMS

(YEARS 8-12)



Girls	Boys
Black blazer with crest	Black blazer with crest
White reverse collar blouse	White shirt
No tie	Striped clip-on tie, emerald green/black stripe (The clip-on tie is compulsory for all boys in Years 8-12)
Black V-necked jumper with emerald green stripes	Black V-necked jumper with emerald green stripes
Knee length pleated black skirt	Black trousers
Black tights	Black socks
Black shoes (Vans, trainers, canvas style or plimsolls are not acceptable school footwear.)	Black shoes (Vans, trainers, canvas style or plimsolls are not acceptable school footwear.)
School scarf (optional)	School scarf (optional)



THE PE UNIFORM FOR SEPTEMBER CAN BE PURCHASED FROM O'NEILLS ONLINE.

www.oneills.com/uk_en/shop-by-team/education/colleges/holy-trinity-college.html

ALL ITEMS OF YOUR SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOULD BE MARKED CLEARLY WITH YOUR NAME.

CLASS TIMES

Arrival In School	8.40am
Registration	8.45am – 8.55am

Period	Start	Finish	Duration
1	8.55	9.45	50 mins
2	9.45	10.35	50 mins
BREAK	10.35	10.55	20 mins
3	10.55	11.45	50 mins
4	11.45	12.35	50 mins
Key Stage 3 LUNCH	12.35	1.15	40 mins
Form Tutor Period	1.15	1.30	15 mins
Key Stage 4 & 5 Form Tutor Period	12.35	12.50	15 mins
LUNCH	12.50	1.30	40 mins
5	1.30	2.20	50 mins
6	2.20	3.10	50 mins

**6 Period day by two week timetable
30 Periods per week/60 Week Cycle**

Pupils must remain on the school premises throughout the school day.



SUBJECTS STUDIED IN YEAR 8

- Mathematics including Numeracy
- English including Literacy
- Science
- Religion
- History
- Geography
- Irish
- French
- Home Economics
- Art
- Technology
- PE
- Music
- PSHE/Citizenship
- Employability
- ICT
- Drama



FOLLOWING YOUR TIMETABLE

You will follow a two week timetable like the one below (Week 1). Each period has a Subject Code, a Teacher Code and a Room number. You will receive your personalised timetable on your first day in school and it will also be available on your parent's/guardian's Parent App.

Do not worry about getting lost in school. Your Form Teacher will give you a tour of the College, spending time particularly, on the rooms where you will have class. There are always staff on the corridors during the changeover of class to assist you finding your way.

WEEK 1

The days of the week are written at the top

This line shows Break time

This line shows Lunch time

The periods of the day are written on the side

Room Number

Teacher Initials

Subject

	1Mon	1Tue	1Wed	1Thu	1Fri
RgA	Rg MMC 39	Rg MMC 39	Rg MMC 39	Rg CMC 39	Rg MMC 39
1	En CLO 43A	En MTC 44A	Mu PGA 61	Ma CMC 20	Gg PON 24
2	Gg PON 24	En WM/Learni	Ir FMF 21	Ar EMK 35	Ma CMC 20
3	Fr GMC 47	En CLO 43A	It MST 65	Re SMC 44A	Hi HLI 40
4	Re SMC 43B	Ir FMF 21	Ma RMG 20	Re SMC 43B	Tl RMG 31
RgB	Rg MMC 39	Rg MMC 39	Rg MMC 39	Rg CMC 39	Rg MMC 39
5	Dr MTE 45B	Sc FMI 10	Re SMC 43B	Sc CBO 13	Ma CMC 20
6	Sc FMI 10	Ma CMC 20	Fr GMC 47	Gg PON 24	Sc FMI 10

SUBJECT KEY

RG: REGISTRATION
 MA: MATHS
 EN: ENGLISH
 RE: RELIGION
 SC: SCIENCE
 GG: GEOGRAPHY
 IR: IRISH
 RE: RELIGION
 PE: PHYSICAL EDUCATION
 MU: MUSIC

HI: HISTORY
 HE: HOME ECONOMICS
 AR: ART
 FP: FORM PERIOD
 DR: DRAMA
 TL: TECHNOLOGY
 FR: FRENCH
 EP: EMPLOYABILITY
 IT: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- Arrive in school by 8.40 am
- When the first bell sounds at 8. 40am, make your way to the Form Room or Assembly Hall for registration
- Ensure you are at your Form Room for registration at 8:45am
- Every Monday morning you must go to the Assembly Hall for Year 8 Assembly.
- Break time: Years 8-10 pupils go to the Canteen or bring in their own healthy break. Carry your school bag with you. Please note that peanuts are not permitted in our College.
- When the bell sounds at the end of break time, proceed immediately to your period 3 classroom.
- Canteen: The canteen operates a cafeteria system. You must line up and wait your turn to be served.



DAILY ROUTINE



WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING TO SCHOOL?

Using your personalised timetable, you should organise your books for the following day so that you are equipped for learning in each subject. Also make sure that you pack in your pencil case:

- Pens and pencils
- Ruler and rubber
- Sharpener and Calculator
- A set of colouring pencils

There will be other items that you may need for certain subjects and your class teachers will advise you on these additional resources.

Remember when you have PE to bring your PE uniform also. Have all your personal items clearly labelled.

If you leave all items on the bus, make sure you inform your Form teacher as soon as possible. A telephone call can be made to the bus company to retrieve what you have left behind.

BUS PASSES

Please note that the parents of all pupils transferring into Year 8 will be required to apply for transport assistance on-line through the EA Website.

Do not be nervous if you are getting a bus for the first time. For the first few weeks, we have senior pupils at the gate assisting our Year 8 pupils onto the correct buses ten minutes before the rest of the school.

Your class teacher will take you to the gates and will assist you also.

Buses will not leave until every child has boarded.



LUNCHTIME

(12.35pm - 1.15pm)

Pupils have a choice of:

- Canteen or
- Bring in a packed lunch

Our canteen provides a Healthy Eating option

•If you are entitled to a "free" lunch, you will be given a "meals pass " at the beginning of the school year. Your Form Teacher will give you this pass every morning during registration. Show this pass at the till in the Canteen to pay for your meal.

•If you lose or forget your free lunch pass, you should report to Mrs Litter in the General Office.

•If you are eating a packed lunch, you must go to the allocated area in the canteen. Lunch must not be eaten elsewhere. We would also ask that you do not bring fizzy juice cans, energy drinks or bottles into school. These are not allowed in school.

•When the bell sounds at the end of lunchtime (1.15pm), go to your Form Teacher's room for afternoon registration and time with your Form Teacher.



CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

We have a wide range of clubs and activities, some of which take place during break, lunch and/or after school. When you start school you will hear about these extra-curricular activities through your Form Teacher as well as posters around the school or on our Facebook page.

The General Office will also produce a list of all the school clubs. You will also get information about the sports clubs and teams during your PE class.

There will be a lot of information about this within the first few weeks and we always recommend you join a few clubs to meet new friends and maybe discover a new interest!

Enjoy the different clubs every day.



HOMework

HOMework PLANNER

You will be given a pupil planner (homework diary) by your Head of Year on the first day of term.

In this pupil planner, you should record:

- all your homework
- your attendance each week
- your achievements
- test results
- recording of assessment marks
- absence notes
- permission to leave school



Make sure your planner is signed by your parent/guardian each week.

HOMework CODE

H - Have your pupil planner homework diary with you every day

O - Organise your homework so that it is not left to the last minute

M - Make sure your homework is neat and tidy. Some homework requires a parent/ guardian signature

E - Ensure that you understand the homework task given before you leave class. Not understanding and Not asking is Not an excuse for Not doing

W - Work in an area where you can complete your homework effectively. As much as possible, work by yourself

O - Once homework is completed, check it thoroughly

R - Return all homework on time

K - Keep up-to-date with all homework

Always do your homework on the night it is set - not the night before it is due to be handed in. Do as much as you can, and if you still are unsure speak to your teacher as soon as possible.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

Positive Behaviour for Learning

The staff and pupils in Holy Trinity College are proud of our positive ethos and learning environment that promotes good relationships and positive behaviour. Some examples of positive behaviours include:

- Being kind to others
- Respecting others
- Being punctual
- Contributing to classroom discussion
- Making a good choice
- Achieving above target

We know that pupils who experience positive behaviours:

- Have goals and are willing to work hard for their goals
- Are self-motivated and believe in themselves
- Feel safe and supported
- Grow to their full potential to be responsible, creative and thoughtful individuals



In every class, your teachers will acknowledge your efforts by giving you positive achievement points. Your parents will see these points through the Parent App and can also acknowledge your efforts. Pupils who receive positive points will be rewarded by their Form Teacher, Head of Year, Head of Key Stage, Vice-Principal and Principal through post-cards home, certificates, prizes and participation in reward trips.

In Year 8, there is great competition between the classes for the most positive points. Already, this year, our present Year 8 have received 33,017 Achievement Points for a wide variety of positive behaviours.



FOR PARENTS

COMMON STUDENT CONCERNS ABOUT STARTING SECONDARY SCHOOL:

- Getting to school and back (especially if they travel by bus)
- Not making friends
- Losing existing friends
- Being bullied
- Getting lost or being scared at the school's size
- Not having the right books or equipment
- Not coping with the work
- How to do their homework
- Not being sure where to go for help
- Coping with so many different teachers
- Not understanding what the teacher wants them to do
- Getting into trouble



HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR CHILD START WELL?

Reassure them - how they are feeling is how many people feel at the start of post-primary school. In most cases most of these concerns disappear after a couple of weeks. However, if they do not, it is worth contacting your child's Form Tutor.

REMEMBER THAT:

- If they are concerned it is a positive thing - it shows that they care and want to do well.
- Always trust your judgement - you know your child best - but also don't step in too quickly. Situations often resolve themselves given a little time and a key feature of post-primary school life is independence.

A USEFUL MANTRA IS:

Don't do anything regularly for your child which they are capable of doing themselves.

Stress that although it can be intimidating at first, there are many more children in Year 8 with whom to make friends than there were in Primary 7. Reassure them if existing friends are spending time with others - it doesn't mean they no longer like them. Encourage them to take an interest in these new people too.

FORMING POSITIVE HABITS AND ROUTINES

- Help to develop positive habits and routines in your child right from the start. These can be very powerful forces for success. Without attention, negative habits and routines may grow which can be hard to break. Positive thoughts are likely to lead to positive outcomes.
- Bag packing and unpacking at home are very important routines, especially as we run a two week timetable here at Holy Trinity College. Has your child somewhere specific to store spare books? Where do they pack their bag for the next day? Have they looked at the correct week and day on their timetable? Is their school bag large enough?
- Where and when does your child do their homework? Do they start it straight away, rather than leaving it to the last minute? Are you confident that it is their best work? Have they recorded their homework in their planner/homework diary? Are you signing their planner/homework diary every week?
- Non - school activities are generally to be encouraged, but it is important to step in where necessary in order to maintain a balance. Computer gaming, for example, can either be a harmless distraction or a major concern, depending upon what is being played and for how long.

MAKING A POSITIVE START TO EACH DAY

All that follows depends upon what time your child goes to bed (not just to their room). A more flexible and, at times, later bed-time is part of growing up, but your child will need just as much sleep as younger children on days that are full, active or stressful.

- Are they getting up in good time to get everything done, without getting flustered?
- Do they know where everything they need will be before going to bed - uniform, shoes, bag, packed - lunch, free meals card, PE Kit, Keys etc?
- Do they know how they are getting to school and home again?
- Do they know at what time they must leave, how long the journey will take and where to go when they get to school?
- Do they know what time they are expected to be home?
- Encouraging your child to use a watch can help establish a routine.







TROUBLESHOOTING

WHAT DO I DO IF???

Q. I FORGET/LOSE MY BUS PASS?

A. Go to the office for a replacement pass.

Q. I FORGET MY LUNCH / LUNCH MONEY

A. See Mrs. Litter for help in the office

Q. I FORGET MY LUNCH PASS

A. Go to the office at break time for a temporary replacement pass.

Q. I FORGET MY TIE (OR ANOTHER PART OF MY UNIFORM)

A. See your Head of Year (Miss Rafferty)

Q. I FORGET MY PE GEAR

A. Tell your form-teacher and request to phone home

Q. I FORGET/LOSE MY PLANNER

A.If you forget your planner, see your Form Teacher.

B.If you lose your planner, you must replace it.

C.The cost of a new planner is £5.

D.See your Year Head (Miss Rafferty)

Q. IF YOU ARE ABSENT FROM SCHOOL

A. Your parent/ guardian should contact the office on 02886762420 on your first day of absence and to explain the reason why you are absent.

Q. I FORGET TO BRING BOOKS FOR A PARTICULAR SUBJECT

A. Tell your Form Teacher and also your subject teacher.

Q. ANOTHER PERSON BULLIES ME

A. Tell someone, preferably your form-teacher.

Q. I LOSE SOMETHING, SUCH AS A PENCIL CASE OR BOOKS

A. Look for the item(s) first and then tell your Form Teacher.

Q. I BRING MY P.E. KIT TO SCHOOL

A. You must keep your P.E bag with you, and make sure it is clearly labelled with your name.

Q. I NEED TO USE AN INHALER

A. Pupils who use inhalers should have a "back-up" inhaler, which may be kept in Matron's room

Q. I LEAVE SOMETHING BEHIND ON THE BUS.

A. Inform a member of staff who will bring you to the General Office. Your Parent/Guardian and/ or the bus company will be informed.

Q. I AM LATE FOR SCHOOL

A. Go to the office upstairs near Mrs Russell's office and sign in. Your Parent/Guardian should also telephone the school or provide a note in your Student Planner to explain your reason for being late.

Q. I HAVE TO LEAVE SCHOOL FOR A MEDICAL OR DENTAL APPOINTMENT

A. Appointments are usually made outside school hours, but if this is not possible, bring in a note from a parent or guardian and the appointment card. The note must be signed by the relevant Form teacher. Regular requests to leave the school premises will be referred to the Head of Year, Miss Rafferty. The parent/guardian must collect the pupil from school. The 'Sign Out' book in the office must be signed by the parent/guardian before the pupil leaves the premises. Pupils must also 'Sign In' again, in the office if they are returning to school.

Q. I LOSE MY MOBILE PHONE/OR IT IS STOLEN

A. Pupils are allowed to bring mobile phones to school. They are responsible for them and they must be turned off as soon as they enter the College gates. Phones must be kept in the inside blazer pockets at all times. If a pupil has a mobile phone out at all, it will be confiscated and sent to the office where it will be kept safely. Parents/guardians will be asked to come in to collect the device after 3.10pm from a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

If a parent/guardian needs to contact their child, they can do so by phoning into the school on the following number: 028 86762420.

The school can also be contacted via Fax or E-Mail.

Fax No. : 028 86763457

E-Mail Address : info@holytrinityc.cookstown.ni.sch.uk

Website: www.holytrinitycollege.org



USE IT AND YOU'LL LOSE IT!!

If you decide to bring a mobile phone into school, it must be switched off and out of sight at all times unless your Teacher directs you to use it as a learning aid in the classroom only.

NEW

IF NOT:
Staff will take your phone and give it into the General Office. Your parent/ guardian will need to collect the phone from a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

MOBILE PHONES MUST BE OUT OF SIGHT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

BAG IT - INSIDE POCKET IT - ZIP IT - OR LOSE IT!



**FIND OUT MORE IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR NEW SCHOOL
BY FOLLOWING THE QR CODE TO ACCESS HOLY TRINITY COLLEGE'S P7
MICROSITE**



ALL SET?

I hope that this booklet has given you lots of information about Holy Trinity College that will help you when you start with us in September. I am sure you will still have some questions and I am sure that others will have the same questions as you. Please email any questions to the address below and we will put all your questions together to share with all new Year 8 pupils.

Email: info@holytrinityc.cookstown.ni.sch.uk

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Reading is a very important part of learning at Holy Trinity College, and in Year 8 you will be encouraged to read as much as possible.



To help you get a head start we would like you to read at least 4 books over the summer holidays and record the details on the enclosed Reading Record. When you bring your completed Reading Record to the School Librarian in September, you will receive a Summer Reading Challenge Certificate and a small prize.



Here are some authors which many of our current Year 8 pupils have enjoyed, and you should try to read books by some of these people. We understand that every one reads at different levels and that not everyone likes to read the same type of book, so feel free to include some of your own choices. Most of these authors will be found in your local library or mobile library van.

Frank Cottrell Boyce

CS Lewis

Chris Bradford

Hilary McKay

David Baddiel

Sophie McKenzie

Cathy Cassidy

Michael Morpurgo

Eoin Colfer

Robert Muchamore

Cressida Cowell

RJ Palacio

Tom Fletcher

James Patterson

Stewart Foster

Liz Pichon

Dan Freedman

Dav Pilkey

Michael Grant

JK Rowling

FE Higgins

Charlie Higson

Anthony Horowitz

Holly Jackson

Jeff Kinney

Derek Landy

Alex Scarrow

Lemony Snicket

Robin Stevens

Jonathan Stroud

David Walliams

Jacqueline Wilson



**WWW.LOVEREADING4KIDS.CO.UK IS A GREAT WEBSITE WITH READING
LISTS FOR DIFFERENT GENRES AND READING AGES. IT IS WELL WORTH A
VISIT!**

HOLY TRINITY SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



NAME: _____

TO RECIEVE YOUR CERTIFICATE, COMPLETE AND RETURN TO THE SCHOOL LIBRARIAN

AUTHOR	TITLE	WHAT DID YOU THINK OF THE BOOK?

CHECKLIST

It's now very close to you officially starting Holy Trinity College. It has been an uncertain time over the last couple of years and you must have a mixture of feelings and not quite sure what to do to prepare yourself. We have put together a small checklist to help you get organised as you approach the end of the summer.

Tick them off once they have been completed.

We look forward to seeing you all on Monday, 2nd September at 8:40am.

TRAVELLING TO SCHOOL

- I have practiced my route to school
- I know what time I need to wake up and have set my alarm
- I know what time I need to leave home to be on time for a 8:40am start
- I have my Bus pass if I am travelling by public transport



GETTING ORGANISED

- I have organised my pencil case and have all the equipment I need
- I have packed my school bag with my pencil case and reading book (if I have one)
- I have set my alarm clock to make sure I am up on time.

UNIFORM

- I have all the necessary items I need (blazer, shirt/blouse, tie, jumper, skirt/ trousers, black tights/socks and black shoes)
- All my uniform items have my name on. My school uniform is ready and hung up.
- I have the school PE uniform



PRAYER TO THE HOLY TRINITY



Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Trinity of persons yet one God, Bless our school
community here at Holy Trinity College.

God the Father, source of all creation, Nurture in
us a sense of true respect, support and friendship.

God the Son, our brother, Lord and teacher, Fill all
of us who learn, teach and work with wisdom,
understanding and love.

God the Spirit, Paraclete and Helper,
Guide us to seek the good in everyone and to
celebrate the commitment and cooperation of all.

Most Holy Trinity,
May our community share in your life and love As
we journey in Faith and Hope.
Amen.





**Be a Learner
Be Respectful
Be Responsible
Be Safe**

The 'Holy Trinity College' Way

We want to Learn to achieve our full potential

We Respect ourselves, others and our school

We are Responsible young people

We work together to be Safe in school



PROMOTING "INSPIRATION, INNOVATION, EXCELLENCE"

**HOLY TRINITY COLLEGE
9-29 CHAPEL STREET
COOKSTOWN
BT80 8QB**

