

# 1st Year Parents Information Evening

Welcome

JUNE 16TH, 2022

Coláiste Cholmcille  
Ballyshannon  
Co. Donegal  
0719858288  
Info@ccbs.ie



# MISSION STATEMENT

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- Coláiste Cholmille, Ballyshannon, is a community which respects the rights and self-worth of all, and aims to provide a happy and safe environment in which the individual may achieve her/his spiritual, academic and personal potential.



# WELCOME PACK (DELIVERED TO SCHOOL)

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- Welcome Letter
- Induction Flyer
- Letter to 6th Class Students
- Newsletter
- Information on the Uniform
- Code of Conduct
- Shopping List

# START OF TERM INFORMATION

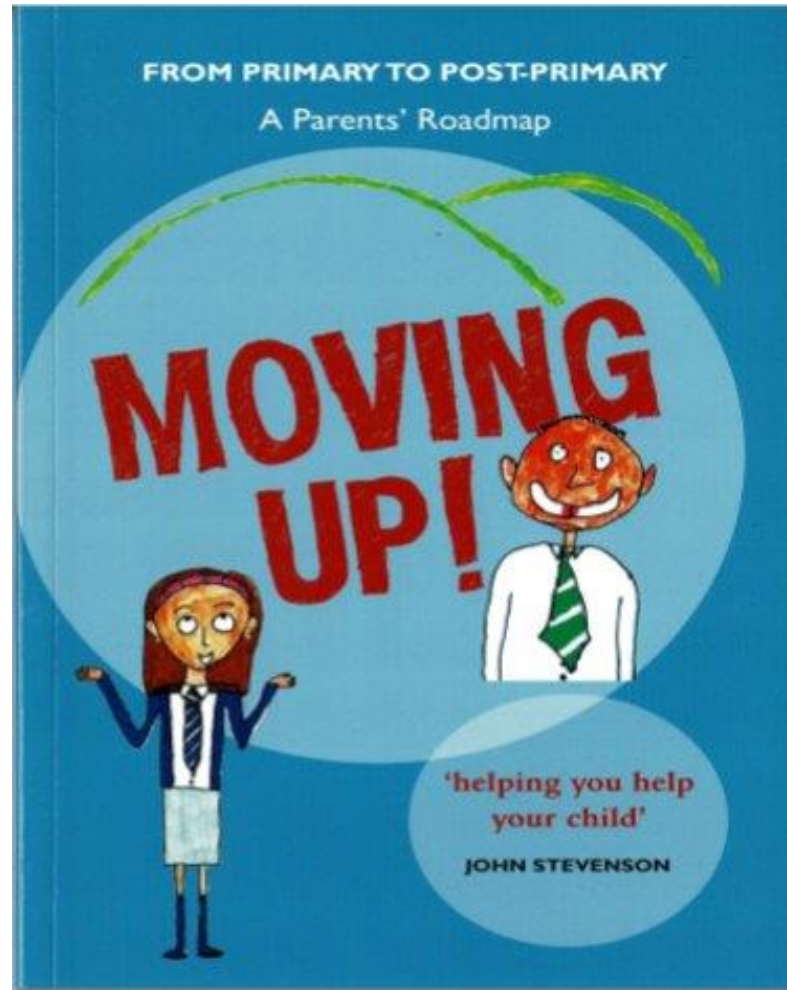
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- Currently we are planning for a full reintegration of students beginning with First Years on Monday August 29th.
- Monday will be half day – until 1:15pm
- Tuesday will be first full day.
- Only 1st Years in school on Monday and Tuesday.
- If any changes are necessary, we will communicate those changes to you.

# TRANSITION

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# WHAT CAN SCHOOLS LEARN FROM THIS STUDY?

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- Pre-entry contact between post-primary schools, incoming students and parents/guardians reduces anxiety and facilitates transition process
- Good information flow between Primary feeder schools and Post-Primary in relation to student achievement, learning strengths and material covered in Primary school is very important.

# FEELINGS ON FIRST DAY

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Excited



Happy



Pleased



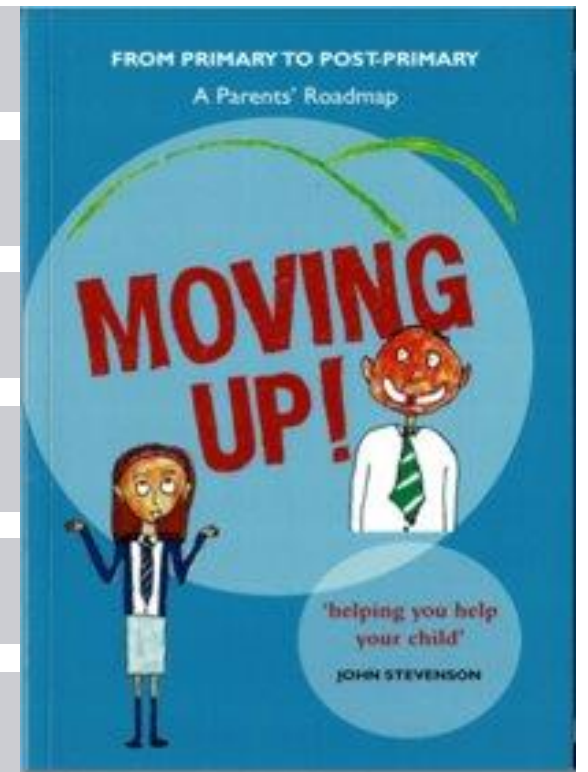
Nervous



Lost



Scared



# TRANSITION CHALLENGES

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- Moving from familiar surroundings to unfamiliar surroundings.
- Friends, dilution, making new ones.
- Adolescence.
- Cope with expected standards in homework and learning.
- Become familiar with expected behaviour.
- Decisions and responsibilities.
- Time management and organisational skills – timetable.
- Adjust to their new subjects and teachers.
- Changing classes
- Streaming (does not apply here – see next slide)

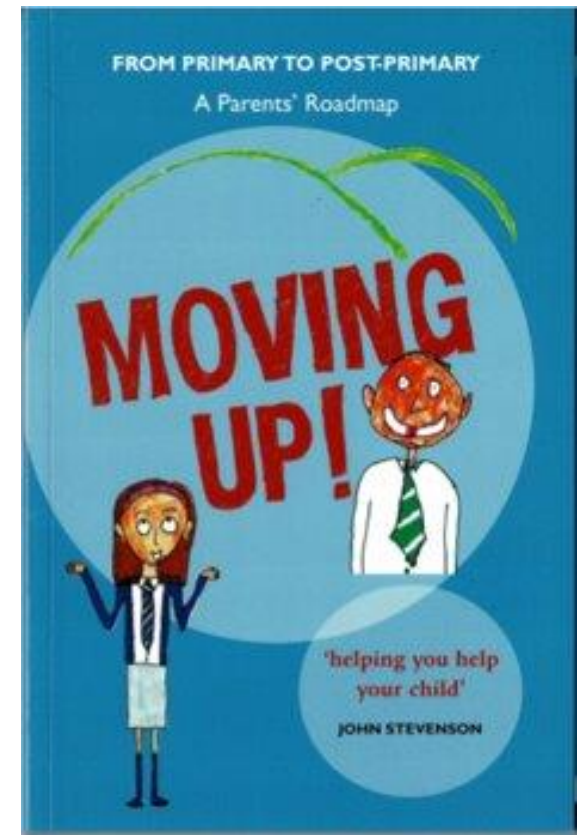


# SETTLING IN APPROACHES

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- Visits to Primary School
- Enrolment/Open day
- Induction process
- Class structure and organisation
- School tour/familiarisation day
- Mentor system (Buddy system)
- Class Tutor
- Extra-Curricular events/clubs
- Parent/teacher meetings

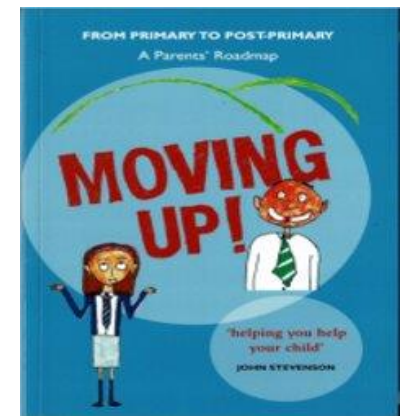


# MIXED ABILITY GROUPINGS

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- Mixed-ability grouping in First Year leads to improved progress in literacy and numeracy and can give students more confidence as learners.

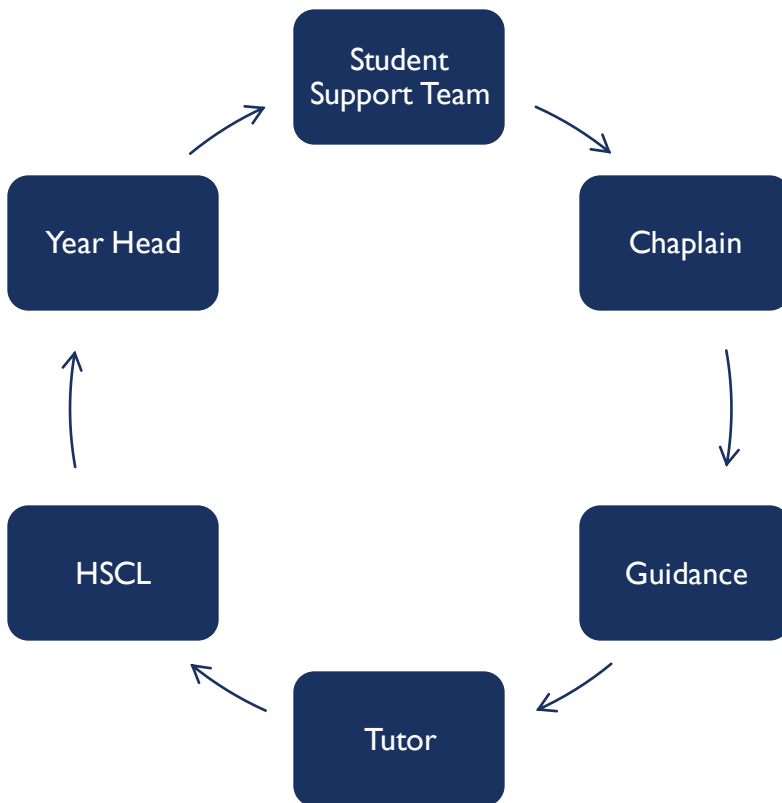


# SUPPORTING THE STUDENT

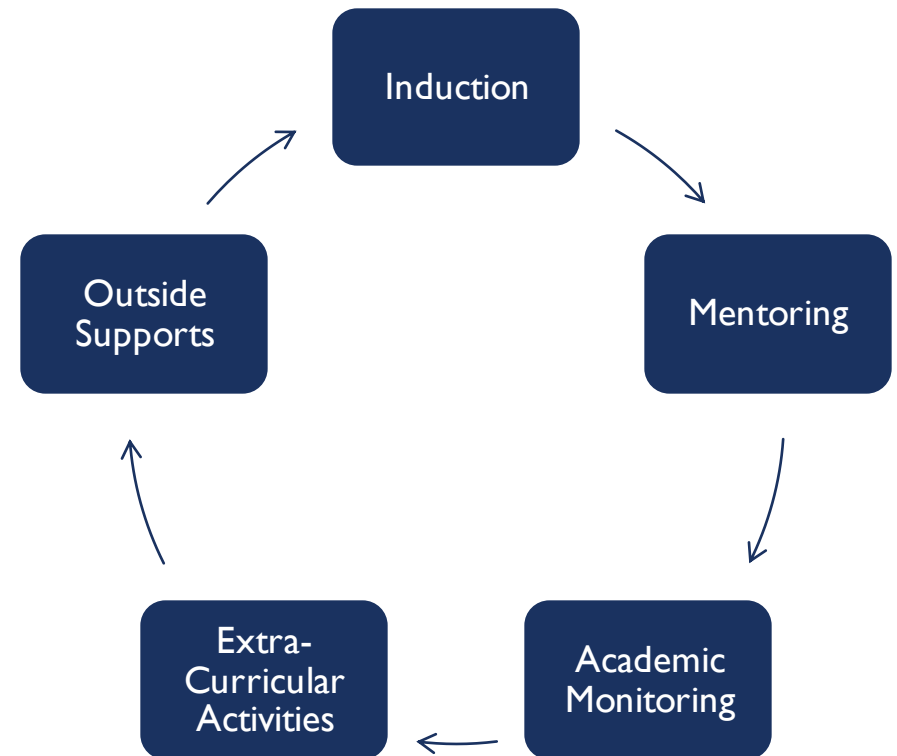
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## Staff Supports



## Active Supports



# EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

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Gaelic  
Football

Hurling

Basketball

Athletics

Swimming

First Year  
Walk

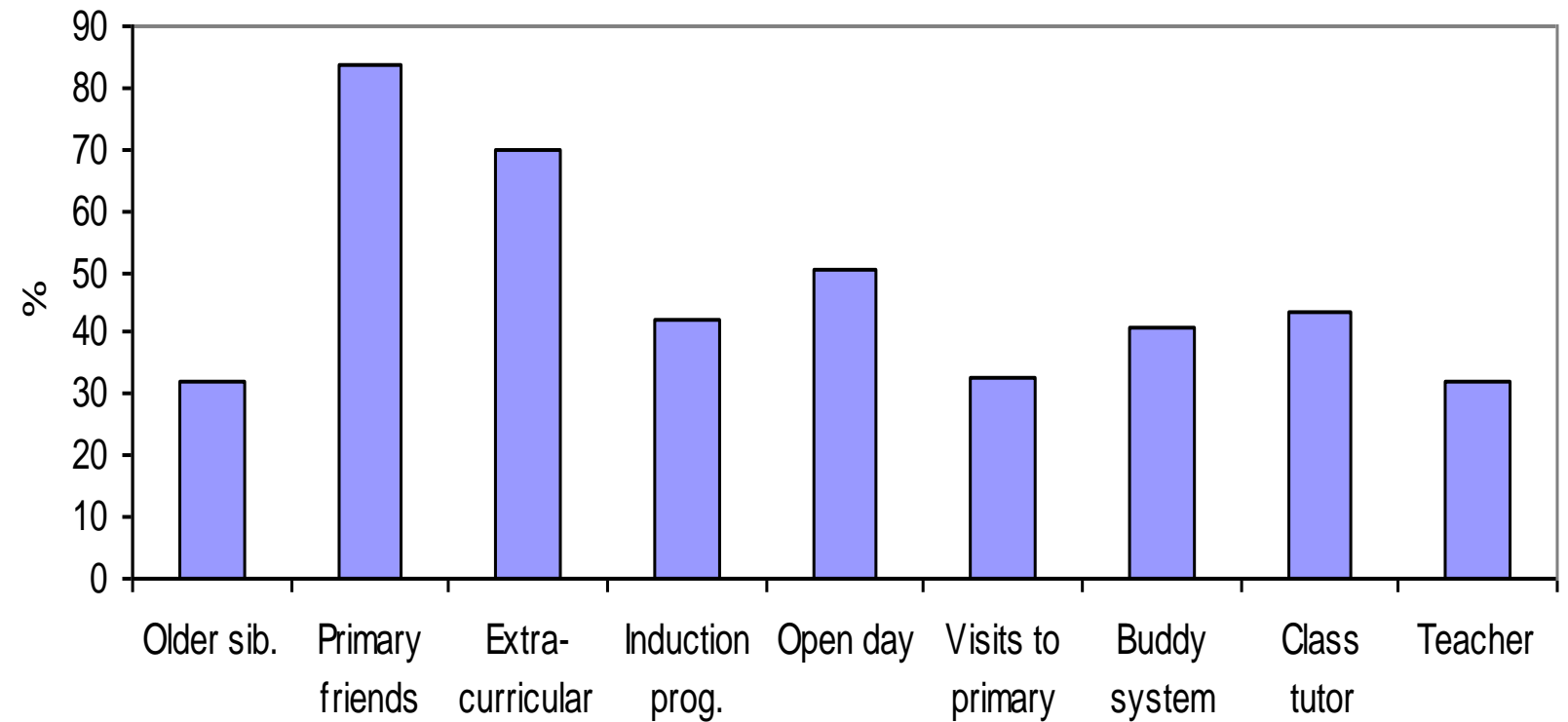
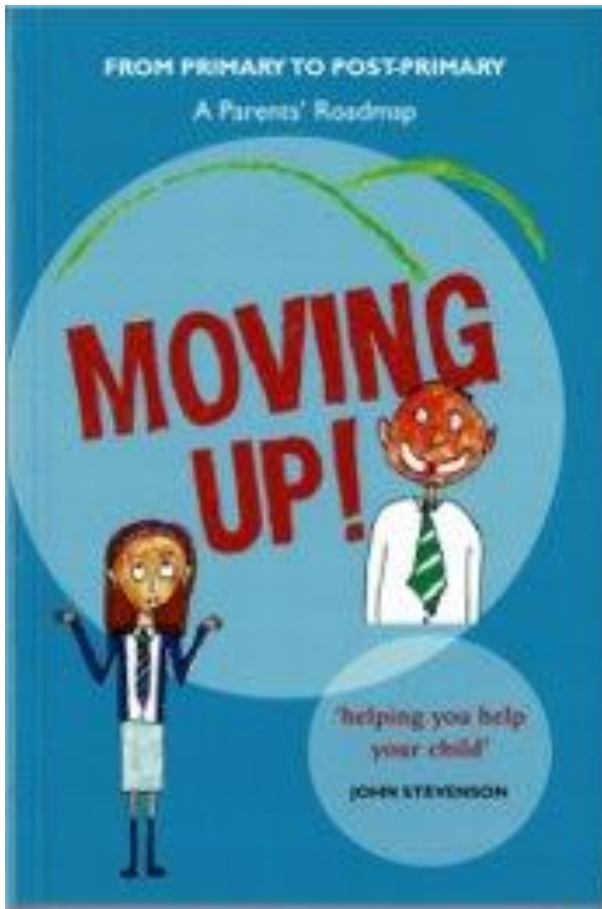
Music  
Club

Young  
Scientist

Many  
more...

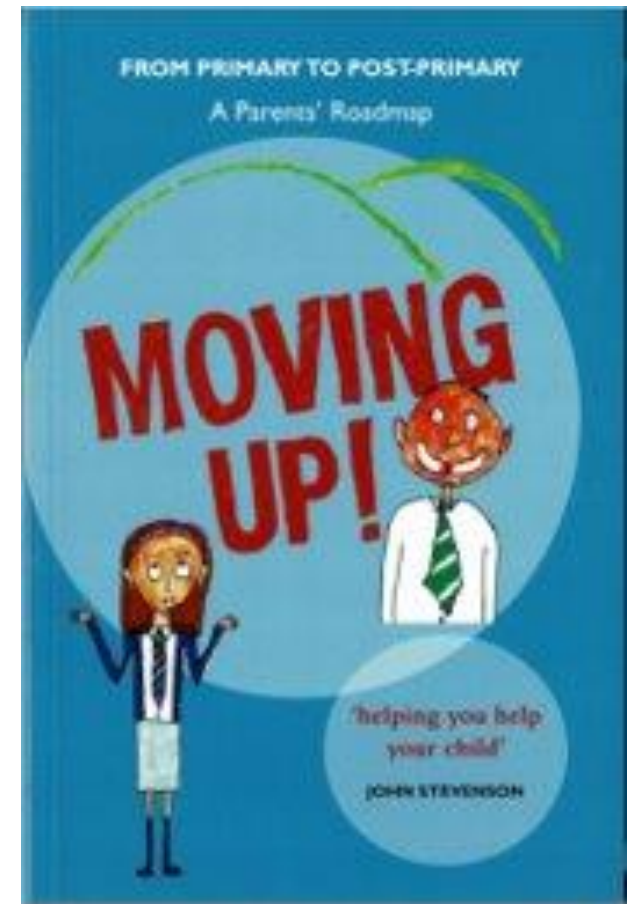
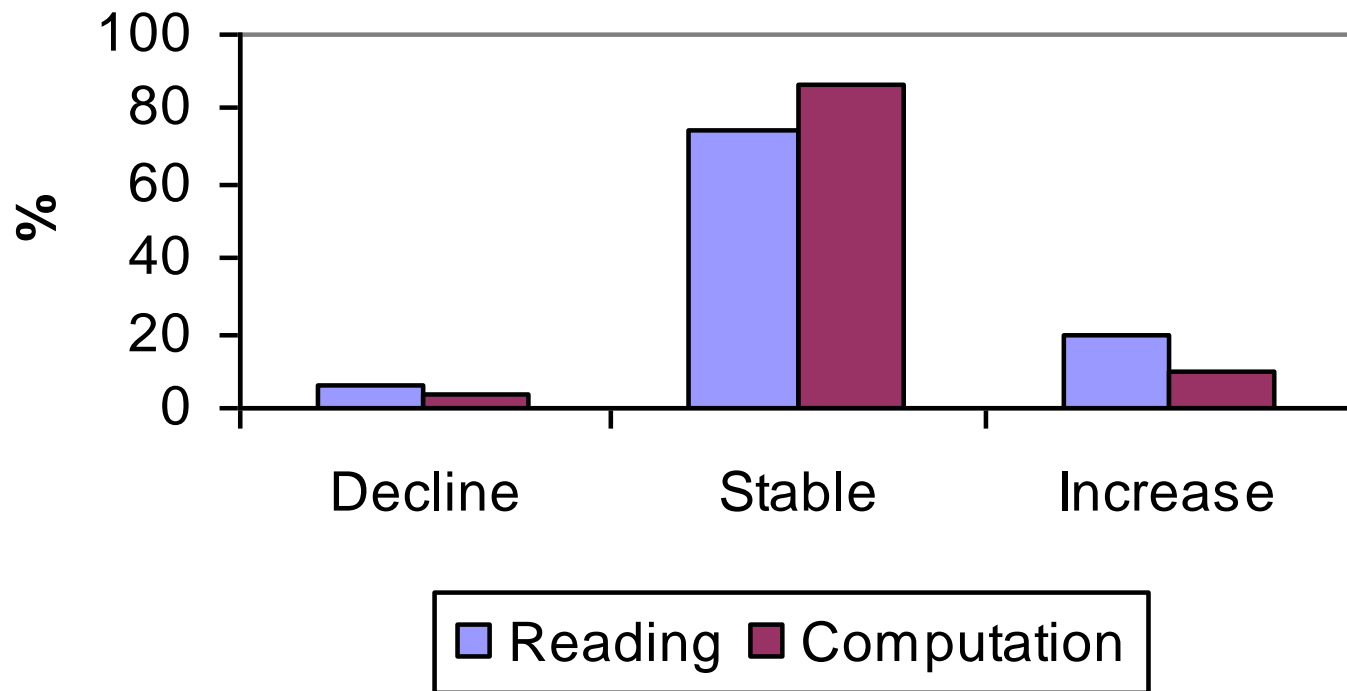
# WHAT HELPS

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# CHANGE IN TEST SCORES OVER FIRST YEAR

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# FIRST YEAR INDUCTION

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## Day 1

- Meet Principal, Deputy Principal, Year Head and Tutors.
- Timetables
- Journal
- Lockers
- Books
- Tour of School

## Day 2

- Organisational skills
- Making friends/bonding activity
- PE teambuilding Sessions
- Homework
- Question and answer opportunity
- Introduction to Chaplain, Guidance Counsellors and SEN Dept.

# NEW BEGINNINGS

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## Contents:

### Chapter 1:

New People, School and Beginnings • My Profile • My Classmates • Feelings • Dictionary of Terms • Who's who on the teaching staff • Other Staff in our school • School and Tutor day timetable • Map of our School • Our School Uniform • CCBS Website and Online • FAQs

### Chapter 2:

Organisational Skills • Preparing for School • My Checklist • Being prepared Word search • My homework journal needs help • My Brilliant Homework Journal • My Locker • Being on Time • Time Management • Homework

### Chapter 3:

Behaviour for Learning • Classroom Rules • Corridor Rules • Skills for Learning • Classroom Voice Levels

### Chapter 4:

New subjects, Teachers • Learning Style Questionnaire • Subject Plans

### Chapter 5:

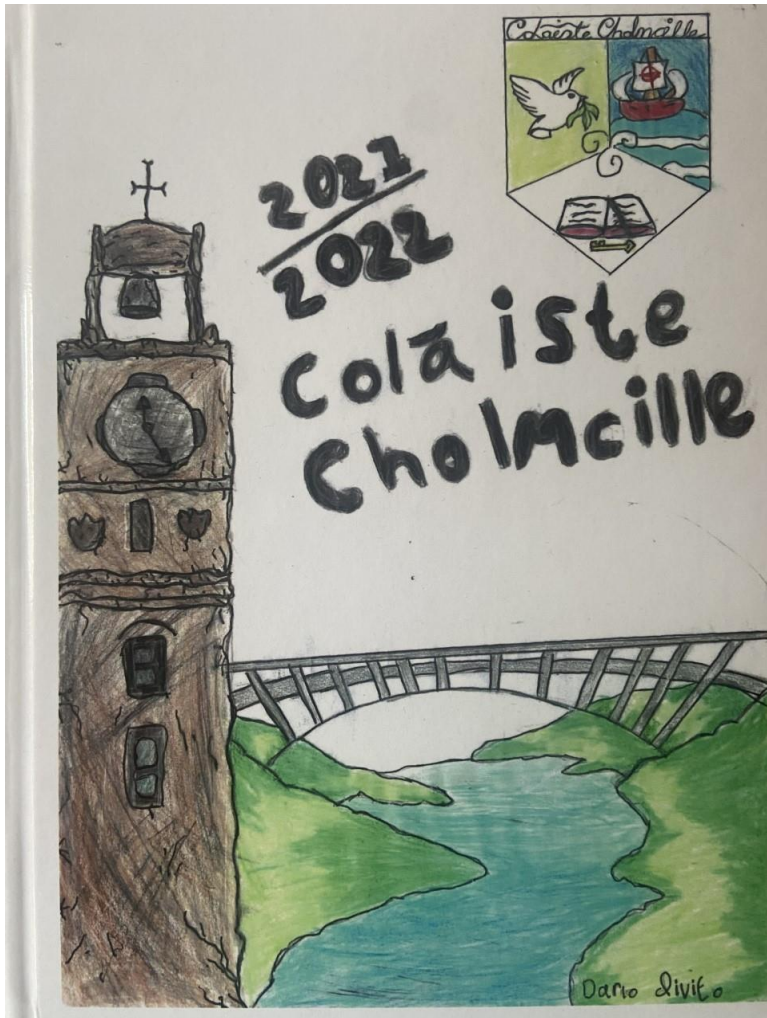
Important Cool Stuff • Student Council • Targets • What does respect mean • Anti Bullying • Literacy • Numeracy • Exercise





# SCHOOL JOURNAL

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AUGUST 2021

Lúnasa | August | Aoúit | Agosto

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SUBJECT	HOMEWORK	DUE	DONE
23 MONDAY <small>Lunast • Domhainn • Lunast • Lunast • Di Luain</small>			
Don't Forget:			
24 TUESDAY <small>Mairt • Domhainn • Mairt • Mairt • Di Mairt</small>			
Don't Forget:			
25 WEDNESDAY <small>Mairt • Mairt • Mairt • Mairt • Di Cholmcille</small>			
Don't Forget:			

START NOW

THE SECRET OF YOUR FUTURE IS TO CREATE IT." - Abraham Lincoln

SUBJECT	HOMEWORK	DUE	DONE
26 THURSDAY <small>Arda • Domhainn • Arda • Arda • Di Luain</small>			
Don't Forget:			
27 FRIDAY <small>Arda • Arda • Arda • Arda • Di Luain</small>			
Don't Forget:			

TEACHER'S NOTES	PARENT/GUARDIAN NOTES

I wish to acknowledge that I have checked and read my child's journal and comments for the week.

Parent's/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Tutor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# BOOK SCHEME

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Books are provided through the book rental scheme



Details can be found on your letters.

Books must be well cared for.

Replacement fee(s) apply if book(s) are lost/damaged.

# NEW JUNIOR CYCLE

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An tSraith Shóisearach do Mhúinteoirí

Junior **CYCLE**  
for teachers

- Combination of assessment styles including oral presentations, written reflections as well as a terminal exam graded by the SEC
- New JC is based around 8 key skills designed to make sure your children have the skills needed to become life-long learners



# KEY SKILLS

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Being Literate

Managing  
Myself

Staying Well

Managing  
Information &  
Thinking

Being  
Numerate

Being Creative

Working with  
Others

Communicating

# FOLLOWING THIS STUDENTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

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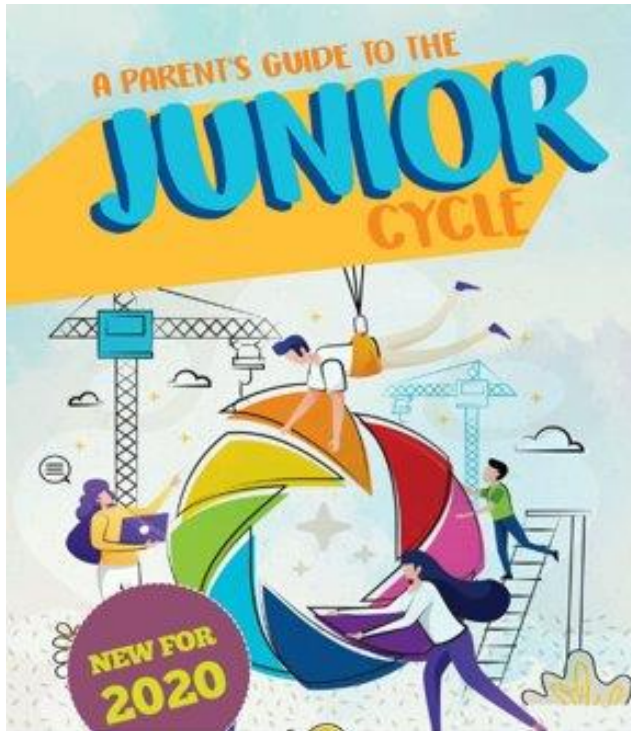


- More actively engage with and take greater ownership of their learning, e.g., through oral language tasks, field studies, experiments and artistic performances.
- Have a greater exposure to digital technology.
- Be encouraged to problem-solve and think critically.



# PARENT'S GUIDE

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The Exam Craft Group – Retailing for  
€7.50.

<https://4schools.examcraftgroup.ie/product/parents-guide-junior-cycle>

# 1ST YEAR CURRICULUM

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Subjects

Gaeilge

Computers

English

Religious Ed.

Mathematics

S.P.H.E.

History

C.S.P.E

Geography

P.E.

Science

and.....

# 1ST YEAR CURRICULUM – ADDITIONAL SUBJECTS

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Art

Business  
Studies

French

German

Home  
Economics

Woodwork

Metalwork

Music

Tech. Graphics



# SCHOOL APP

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Main point of Contact between parents and school.

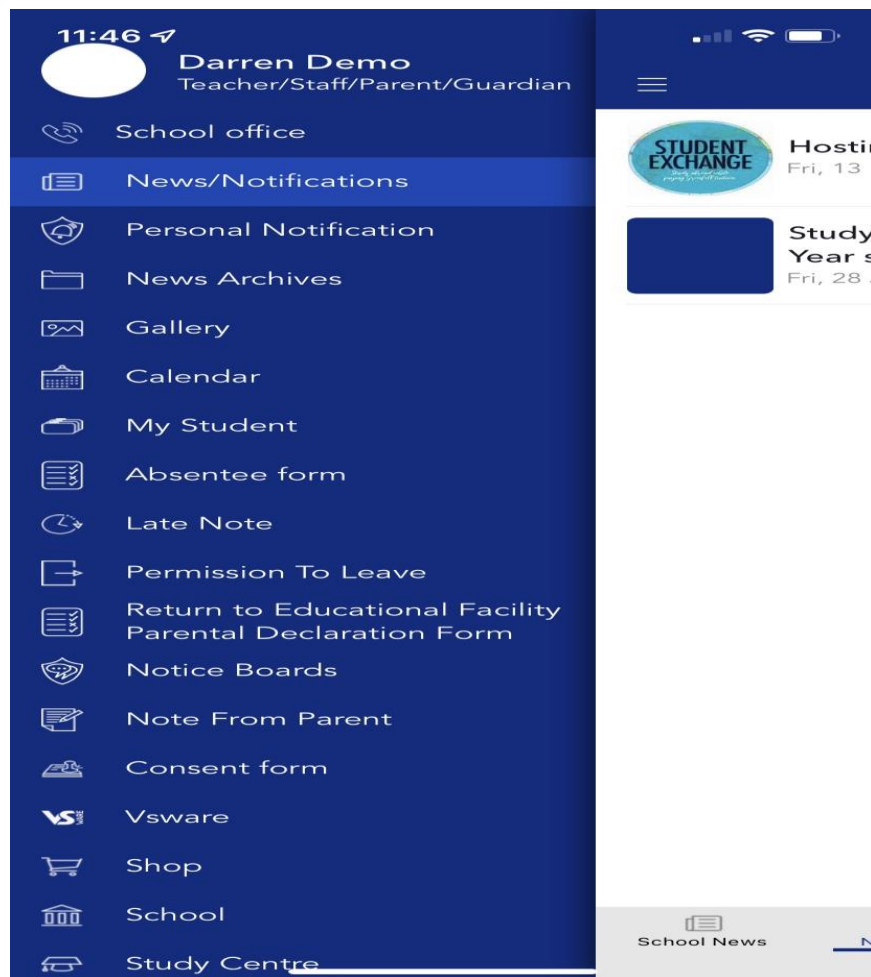
Used to:

- Notify regarding absences, appointments, lates.
- Send notes to staff.
- Share school news.
- Get important messages to parents.
- Pay for school items – via the Shop function.
- Complete Consent Forms for trips.
- Update medical Information.
- Access VS Ware – that's where you will be able to see behaviour records, attendance, reports for your child.



# SCHOOL APP

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# CODE OF CONDUCT

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In keeping with our Mission statement, our Code of Conduct exists to promote a positive and productive teaching and learning atmosphere.

We aim to ensure that each student passing through our care develops responsible attitudes underpinned by respect for self and others.

Students are required to take responsibility for their actions and consider the consequences for themselves and the school community.



# OUR CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

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- To allow teaching and learning to take place in Coláiste Cholmcille you must:



## Be Ready

Arrive on Time

Be Ready to Learn

## Be Responsible

Allow all students to learn.

Follow Instructions first time, every time.

## Be Respectful

One voice at a time.

Contribute positively to class.

Location	Be Respectful	Be Responsible	Be Ready
In the classroom	Enter classroom quietly Listen to your teacher and each other One voice at a time Put your hand up and wait when you want to speak Respect others' opinions Say please and thank you	Ask for help when you need it Try your best Allow others learn and the teacher to teach Follow instructions	Be on time Settle down quickly Have all your books and equipment on your desk Have your journal
Outside the classroom	Keep to the left on corridors Treat others as you would like to be treated Use appropriate language and voice levels Leave your bags in a safe place	Go directly to your next class Follow teachers' instructions Watch your space and keep hands and feet to yourself Put litter in bin Have your journal with you Go to the toilet at the break	Use your timetable to ensure you have what you need Go to locker at the correct times
In the general school community	Attend every day Be kind and mannerly to every person in the school Respect the property and equipment of your school and that of your fellow students Respect our mobile phone policy	Be where you are supposed to be Respect your school Keep our school smoke free Bullying is everybody's issue-Look up, Speak out and tell someone if you notice something is wrong Use your mobile phone in a responsible, respectful way	Make the most of your time in school Be organised and prepared Wear the correct uniform

# PROMOTING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR:

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The school acknowledges the good behaviour of students as follows:

- Students who maintain a good record receive a Positive reward on VS Ware. Parents can see these on VS Ware - You can access that through the school App.
- Throughout the year students who display a positive attitude to school life will be acknowledged by their Class Tutor/Year Head at Tutor Class, Assemblies or Award Ceremonies.

# ATTENDANCE

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- Regular and punctual attendance is expected.
- Creates a lifelong habit of good attendance and punctuality
- Students absent for 10% of the year show reduced grade averages and reduced scores in core subjects.
- This will result in missing more than a year at school over your time in education.
- Half of students who miss 2-4 days in September will go on to miss nearly a month of school.
- When students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances of finishing school.

# REWARDS

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- Rewards record on VS Ware
- Merit certificates
- Report Cards
- ‘Congratulations’ and ‘Good News Postcards’ home
- Certificates which recognise positive contributions to the school community
- Celebration Assemblies
- Student Council
- Mentoring
- Class Captain
- Head Boy/ Girl
- Senior Prefects
- Awards Ceremony.
- School Outings and Tours
- Co-Curricular Activities/Extra Curricular Activities.





# INVOLVEMENT IN SCHOOL LIFE

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- Students are encouraged to become involved in as many areas of school life as possible
- Participate in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.
- Become a Class Captain/Vice Captain.
- Become a Student Council representative.



# LET'S WORK TOGETHER

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Breakfast/Break/Lunch



Help them get organised – Uniform, Wall Chart



Listen to them, give reassurance



Help and show interest in homework



Provide a quiet place to study and do homework



Encourage and facilitate friendships



Attitude: Be enthusiastic and motivated



Stay in touch with the school – App, Journal, phone, visit

# FORÓIGE TRANSITION PROGRAMME

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Youth Alcohol & Drug Education & Prevention Project  
**Foróige**

**TRANSITION PROGRAMME**  
for those entering  
1st Year in September

20-22 JULY @ 2:00-5:00pm  
BUNDORAN COMMUNITY CENTRE

PEER PRESSURE -  
COMMUNICATION SKILLS -  
DECISION MAKING - SAFETY AT  
TEEN DISCOS - DRINKING- SMOKING

**A FUN TRIP WILL BE  
PLANNED FOR 22ND JULY!**

Call/Text Lauren (Donegal):  
086-0481977

Call/Text Roisin (Leitrim):  
086-1702340

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Focused on:

- Teen discos
- Peer pressure
- Communicating "no" in pressured situations
- Vaping
- Drinking underage

Running in Bundoran Community Centre on Wednesday 20th and Thursday the 21st of July.

Fun Trip planned for Friday 22nd July.

Also 3 - 4:30 Wednesdays Caoimhe and Jo meet 6th class students in Ballyshannon Foróige Centre on College Street to aid transition.  
Contact Caoimhe 0867867330

THANK YOU

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Remember – we all need a bit of help and support at times!