

Board of Governors Annual Report

2024— 2025



ST PATRICK'S
ACADEMY
DUNGANNON

This Board remains in place under instruction from the Department of Education.

Department of Education
Representatives

Alison Moriarty

Law

John Mitchell

Finance

Mrs Lisa Toner

Human Resource Management

Parent Representative

Mrs Clodagh Higgins

Finance

Trustee Representatives

Mrs Fiona O'Hagan

Medical

Mr Christopher Morgan

Management

Mr Marcus Mulgrew

Law and Human Resources

Mrs Geraldine Sally

Social Work

Teacher Representative

Mr Patrick Ferran

Secretary

Mr Colin Holmes

Principal

The Board of Governors was ratified in January 2024.

The Board of Governors meet twice each term or more frequently as required. Sub-committees meet as required and report to the full Board.

Sub Committees: Admissions, Redundancies and Flexible working, Finance, Fundraising, Appointments, Staff Welfare and Development, Discipline.

The list and membership of sub-committees was reviewed in January 2024.

CURRICULUM POLICY
AND PROVISION

Rationale

As educational needs evolve and statutory obligations change, it is the policy of the St Patrick's Academy to anticipate future educational developments and to continually strive to find innovative ways to meet the changing curricular needs of young people in the area whilst preserving the ethos of the school.

Purpose

The school offers a curriculum, which is broad and balanced. It aims to satisfy and go beyond the requirements of the Northern Ireland Curriculum.

It is tailored to reflect the Catholic ethos of the school, its Irish cultural heritage and the values of co-education, whilst maximising opportunities for the greatest number of pupils.

Subject options at KS4 are very flexible, allowing for open choice from a wide range of subjects around a core of compulsory subjects: English language and literature, Mathematics, Religious Education and PE. Subject options at Post-16 are designed (i) to ensure that the subject requirements of all third level courses are met (ii) to reflect pupil demand and (iii) to provide opportunities for each pupil to develop the skills and attributes needed to contribute fully to society in adult life.

KEY STAGE 3

All pupils in Years 8, 9 and 10 follow a common curriculum. There are no optional subjects.

The subjects taught in
2024-2025 were:

Subject
Art & Design
Careers Education
Drama (Year 8)
English
French
Geography
Home Economics
History
ICT
Irish
LLW*
Mathematics
Music
Personal Development & Wellbeing
Physical Education
Religious Education
Science
Technology

KEY STAGE 4

In 2024-25, the school offered
the following subjects for GCSE:

Subject
Art & Design
Business Studies
Business & Communication Systems
Careers Education
Child Development
Computer Science
Digital Technology (multimedia)
Engineering and Manufacturing
English Language
English Literature
Food & Nutrition
French
Geography
History
Irish
Learning for Life & Work (LLW)
Mathematics
Further Mathematics
Media Studies
Music
Physical Education GCSE
Physical Education General
Religious Education
Science: Double and Single Award (Triple Award offered)
Spanish
Technology and Design

The majority of our pupils studied nine GCSE subjects but there were opportunities for some pupils to take ten or more subjects.

Religious education and English were taught in Form class groups. Mathematics was taught in three sets; Further, Higher and Foundation, timetabled at the same time so that pupils could transfer between groups in accordance with their progress.

Science classes were taught in

groups of 20, as far as possible. As a grammar school we continue to place a strong emphasis on academic rigour while preparing our pupils for quality university courses. Consequently, all pupils were required to continue to study English Literature, Mathematics, RE and PE. We encourage pupils to take a modern language and uptake of languages remains strong.

POST 16

For 2024-25, the school offered
the following subjects to 'A' level:

Subject
Accounting
Art & Design
Biology
Business Studies
Careers Education (not examined)
Chemistry
Digital Technology
Drama & Theatre Studies
Engineering (BTEC)
English Literature
Environmental Technology
French
Geography
Government & Politics
Health & Social Care
History
Irish
Life & Health Sciences
Mathematics/Further Mathematics
Media Studies
Nutrition & Food Science
Music
Physical Education
Physics
Professional Business Services
Psychology
Religious Studies

Subject
Sociology
Software Systems Development
Spanish
Technology & Design

Applied A Level and BTEC
Courses Offered:

Subject
Environmental Engineering
Health & Life Science
ICT
Health & Social Care
Travel and tourism (at SPC)
Engineering (BTEC at SWC)
Agriculture (BTEC at SWC)
Construction (BTEC at SWC)

The majority of pupils studied three subjects at AS level and three at A2 level but we encouraged those with the ability and application to take four subjects to A2 level.

LEARNING SUPPORT

We have an extensive support system in place to help support learners' needs across the curriculum in all key stages.

Our aim is to support each student so that they can achieve and exceed their potential and we have numerous support programmes in place for this purpose. Our school ethos emphasises the importance of inclusion and this includes removing any barriers to learning that may exist for our students. We adopt a whole school approach towards the early identification of, and provision for, those children who are facing such barriers.

ENRICHMENT POST 16

Throughout sixth form there will be opportunities to complete some enrichment courses such as: First Aid, Cookery Class, Study skills, Mentoring, Literacy training, Mental health awareness, coaching and referee courses. Pupils can set aside some time each week for physical exercise and for community work. The following activities were available:

Leisure Activity
1K Walk
Badminton
Basketball
Camogie
Chess
Couch to 5K
Cross Country
Draughts
Fitness Suite
Gaelic Football (boys)
Gaelic Football (girls)
Golf
Hurling
Soccer
Spinning
Squash
Swimming
Table Tennis
Tennis

EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Activity
Astronomy
Basketball
Camogie
Ceoltóirí Phádraig
Chess Club
Choir
Coaching
Conservation Society
Coding Club
Cookery Club
Current Affairs Society
Creative Writing
Debating Society
Film Club
Gaelic Football
Golf
Headstrong Group
Hurling
Irish Dancing
Irish Public Speaking (Feis)
Irish Debating (Abair)
John Paul II Award
Literacy & Paired Reading
Liturgy Group
Mentoring
Minecraft Club
Mock Trial Group
Netball
Orchestra
Pioneer Group
Poetry Slam
President's/ Duke of Edinburgh's Award
Public Speaking
Nutrition Action Group
Sentinus
Soccer
Pupil Council
Young Enterprise

COLLABORATION

The school has continued to develop curricular links with Royal School Dungannon, St Patrick's College and SouthWest College and St Joseph's Grammar, Donaghmore in order to improve the curricular offer for all pupils in the Area Learning Community.

A total of 16 pupils from St Patrick's College took courses at the Academy in 2024-25 as follows:

- Year 12 – Digital Technology - 2
- Year 12 – Music - 1
- Year 13 – Environmental Technology - 2
- Year 13 – History - 2
- Year 13 – Drama - 1
- Year 14 – Chemistry - 1
- Year 14 – Software Development - 3
- Year 14 – Environmental Technology - 2
- Year 14 – History - 1
- Year 14 – RE - 1

13 pupils from Royal School Dungannon were studying at the Academy:

- Year 13 – Media Studies - 2
- Year 13 – Further Mathematics - 4
- Year 14 – Government and Politics - 2
- Year 14 – Media Studies - 1
- Year 14 – Psychology - 4

Academy pupils studying at other schools:

Royal School Dungannon:

- Year 14 – Economics – 3

South West College:

- Year 13 – Engineering – 7
- Year 14 – Engineering – 6

LINKS WITH THE WIDER COMMUNITY

St Vincent de Paul, Concern, Trocaire, Rotary Interact Club, Young Enterprise.

LOCAL AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

Local and global citizenship is integrated into the school's curriculum and pastoral programme, through discrete classes, enrichment activities and peer-support schemes.

SHARING EDUCATION

Partnership with the Royal School has continued to flourish. The focus continues to be on high value activities that build meaningful and lasting relationships. While the Duke of Edinburgh programme is now well established in both schools, the joint art, history and sport programmes will also continue.

TRAVEL

In October 2024, students from Years 10– 14 travelled to the USA, calling in at the cities of Boston, Washington DC and New York City in a frantic and fabulous tour of America's east coast.

Every year there is a wide range of trips and educational adventures on offer that cut across all age groups and areas of interest.

In March 2025 the Junior and Senior Ski Trips visited Italy under the watchful eyes of Mr M Fahy, Mrs J McKendry and Mr S Boyle.

In April 2025 History pupils made a trip to Berlin with pupils from the Royal School, Dungannon under the Shared Education Programme.

SPORTS

The Academy prides itself on a well-earned reputation in sport. Our sporting pedigree is something we value and celebrate as a school community and we have a number of experienced and dedicated teachers within our staff that coach and manage teams in a wide variety of sports. In addition, we have a full-time Gaelic coach who will assist and challenge players to achieve their full potential across all our traditional games.

We are committed to providing the best sporting opportunities for all our pupils. We have been very successful in the modern era, winning numerous trophies and competing regularly in the latter stages of competitions both provincially and nationally. All our pupils are encouraged to develop their sporting interests and talents and can avail of a number of opportunities on a recreational and/ or competitive basis. We encourage pupils to participate in whatever way they can, as it is a great source of enjoyment and an opportunity to build lasting friendships.

BOYS GAELIC (Ciaran Gourley) Year 8

The Year 8 squad demonstrated immense character during the **Martin O'Farrell Tournament**, an event proudly hosted by our school. The boys progressed impressively to the final, where they were narrowly defeated by a formidable St Patrick's, Maghera side. Their determination and teamwork throughout the tournament were commendable, highlighting the promising talent emerging within this year group.

Year 9
With over 70 boys attending training, we were in the fortunate position to enter two Ulster Schools competitions: the **D'alton Cup** and the **Gerry Brown Cup**.

D'alton Cup: The team performed well but ultimately exited at the quarter-final stage against a strong St Mary's, Magherafelt side.

Development Team: Our development squad faced a steep challenge in the Ulster Schools 'C' competition. Despite facing tough opposition like St Patrick's, Keady and Lismore, they showed great resilience to reach the **Gerry Brown Shield Final**, falling just short against St Ciarán's, Ballygawley.

Leinster Blitz: 28 boys also travelled to a prestigious blitz featuring top schools from Louth,

Dublin, Meath, and Kildare. The boys displayed exceptional work rate and grit to emerge as overall winners of the competition.

Year 10

The Year 10 squad showed significant growth this season, marking a huge improvement from their D'alton Cup campaign just six months prior. After a tough group stage involving St Colman's and St Patrick's, Armagh, the boys moved into the **Corn Na nÓg Shield**. They continued their upward trajectory, eventually winning the competition by defeating Our Lady's, Castleblayney in a hard-fought final. Our Year 10 development team also showed great spirit, securing two wins in their group. In total, 63 boys represented the school at this age grade.

Year 11

It was a mixed campaign for the Year 11s, who showed great persistence to scrape through a difficult group. This set up a tough knockout clash against St Patrick's, Maghera; while the boys came up short on the day, they proved their quality at various stages of the competition. The Year 11 development team also showed fantastic grit, qualifying from their group before losing out to St Patrick's, Dungiven in the quarter-finals. A total of 57 boys represented the Academy in Ulster Schools competitions this year.

Year 12

The Year 12s enjoyed a superb start to the season, topping their **Rannafast Cup** group with impressive victories over St Patrick's, Armagh, St Patrick's, Maghera, and St Patrick's, Cavan. Unfortunately, the team entered their quarter-final against Omagh CBS with several key players unavailable due to club commitments. Omagh progressed and eventually went on to win the title.

MacRory Cup

The senior squad showed a high

level of maturity throughout the campaign, particularly as several players are still only in Year 13. Drawn in a tough group alongside Abbey VS, Abbey CBS, and St Paul's, Bessbrook, the team successfully qualified for the knockout stages. In the Last 12, they faced a very strong St Mary's, Magherafelt side. Despite a spirited and hard-fought performance, they were narrowly beaten in a game that could have gone either way.

LADIES GAELIC

We have 5 teams registered this year with 208 players involved from Year 8-14 at U.20, U.16 and U.14 level. Weekly attendance shows 185 of these players were committed participants in their pre and competitive season

U.20 Team

The U.20 team completed all fixtures. They finished top of their table earning home advantage for a SF place against Donaghmore. Victory in extra-time earned them their first Ulster final appearance since 2019. The team were unlucky to lose to Glenties, Donegal by 2 points. The team were well supported, receiving sponsorship from Tyrone Trailers and Canos which was used to purchase tops for the players. A number of supporter buses travelled to the game in Bawnacre, Fermanagh. J McKendry coached this squad every Thursday 3.30-5.00pm, September to February. Six girls were nominated for All Star trials. Catherine Moohan and Hannah Cavlan were awarded an All Star.

U.16 Team

The U.16A team [Year 11-12] won their section, qualifying for the knockout stages of the Ulster Championship. This team went on to lift the title against Carrickmore with an extra-time win. A convincing win in the All Ireland SF against the Leinster champions led to the team qualifying for the All-Ireland Final, the last time our U.16 team reached this stage was in 2012. Unfortunately, a very strong Cork

team lifted the title. As this final was played in St. Patrick's week, coaches O McVey and J McKendry had to withdraw from the Junior ski trip. The team were well supported, receiving sponsorship from Eglis Building Merchants and Black's Nursery which was used to purchase tops for the players. A number of supporter buses travelled to the Ulster final in the Rock and to the All Ireland final in Newbridge, Kildare.

Four girls were nominated for Future All Star trials with team captain Cara McMoran and goalkeeper Aoibheann Watt receiving the award.

U.14 Team

The U.14 A team [Year 10] completed all their fixtures but failed to progress into the Quarter-final stage of Ulster. C Bell coached this squad every Thursday 3.30-5.00pm during their competitive season. [December – March]

The U.14 D team, made up of Year 9 students won their section qualifying for the Quarter-final of the Ulster Championship but were beaten. We are pleased with their performance as this is very much a development squad to retain players. K Coney coached this squad from December to May every Wednesday 3.30-5.00pm.

Year 8 Team

The Year 8 team had an initial training block September-Halloween and then recommenced training March-June. This attracted large numbers, and we entered 3 teams in the Ulster Blitz with our top team winning the title. J McKendry, C Bell and K Coney trained this squad.

A number of players, throughout the age groups have won honours playing at County level with Tyrone or Armagh.

NETBALL

This year has been fantastic in terms of the growth of netball within the school and it has been particularly encouraging to see so many girls getting involved across all year groups.

We entered teams from Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 into the Tyrone and Fermanagh Netball League. With 26 schools this year competing across the various age groups participation in this competition provided valuable opportunities for our pupils to develop their skills and competitive experience.

Overall, the girls represented the school with great commitment, determination and sportsmanship throughout the season. Squad sizes averaged approximately 20 players per year group ensuring that all participants were given meaningful game time. This approach has supported both skill development and enjoyment and has contributed to a noticeable increase in the number of girls participating in netball outside of school in local clubs.

The Year 9 had a particularly successful season consistently performing at a high standard and ultimately emerging as league winners. The Year 11 team also had an excellent campaign reaching the Cup Finals Day after topping their group stages with a series of impressive performances. While they were ultimately unsuccessful in securing the title, their progression to this stage is a significant accomplishment.

Across all year groups, the increasing number of participants and the expansion to seven teams has been extremely positive for the school. However, this growth has also placed greater demands on staff in terms of training sessions and organising fixtures. In the 2026/2027 school year it would be beneficial to have an additional

member of staff involved in helping with the netball programme to help with trainings and match days.

CAMOGIE

In 2024/25 the U16 Camog's entered The Liatroim Fontenoys Cup. There were 25 girls playing for this age group. The Senior Camog's entered the Fr Davies Cup where they were beat in the Semi-Final by St Patrick's Keady. Again there were 25 girls playing for this age group. The U14 Camog's entered the Corn an Athar O Daibhis competition. There were 30 girls playing at this age group. The 18 Year 8 Camog's entered the Sciath na nOg competition. Catherine Moohan also received her first Camogie All Star in 2024/25 to match her LGF All Star.

BASKETBALL

The 2024–25 academic year marked another highly successful and engaging season for basketball across all year groups. Participation remained strong throughout the school, with teams competing in a range of leagues and tournaments at both junior and senior levels. Our pupils displayed exceptional commitment, teamwork, and enthusiasm, contributing to a positive year of development and competition.

Team participation and competition overview A total of 165 pupils represented the school in basketball this season across boys' and girls' teams. All competitive squads participated in the north 'b' leagues, while our youngest teams took part in the annual Vince Halloran year 8 tournament.

Senior teams

Under 19 boys (years 13–14)
18 Pupils
Competed in the north 'b' boys league.

Under 19 girls (years 13–14)
12 Pupils
Competed in the north 'b' girls league.

Under 16 boys (years 11–12)
15 Pupils
Competed in the north 'b' boys league.

Under 16 girls (years 11–12)
15 Pupils
Competed in the north 'b' girls league.

Junior teams

Year 10 boys – 15 pupils
Competed in the north 'b' boys league.

Year 9 boys – 15 pupils
Competed in the north 'b' boys league.

Year 10 girls – 15 pupils
Competed in the north 'b' girls league.

Year 9 girls – 15 pupils
Competed in the north 'b' girls league.

Year 8 development teams

Year 8 boys – 25 pupils
Competed in the Vince Halloran year 8 tournament.

Year 8 girls – 20 pupils
Competed in the Vince Halloran year 8 tournament.

These younger teams showed great promise, with many pupils experiencing competitive basketball for the first time.

Season highlights

Exhibition game vs. Dilworth School, Auckland

A notable highlight of the season came in October, when the under 19 boys had the unique opportunity to play an exhibition match against Dilworth School from Auckland, New Zealand.

This fixture was organised in partnership with the Royal School, Dungannon as part of Dilworth's international tour.

The game provided an invaluable experience for our senior players, exposing them to a fast-paced, competitive style of basketball and fostering international sporting connections. The match was played in an excellent spirit, and both teams benefited from the cultural and sporting exchange.

Overall reflections

The 2024–25 season has been a testament to the dedication of our pupils and coaching staff. The high participation numbers illustrate the growing interest in basketball throughout the school, while the range of competitive opportunities has helped develop skill, teamwork, and confidence at all levels.

We look forward to building on this momentum in the 2025–26 academic year, continuing to strengthen our basketball programme and provide enriching experiences for all involved.

HURLING

U14.5 Hurling

Our U14.5 Hurling team took part in the Brother Mallon Cup. They were in a group which included De La Salle Belfast, Aquinas Belfast, St Joseph's Donaghmore and St Benedict's Randalstown. The team showed great skill levels to win 2 out of their 4 games which left them in 3rd place in the group; unfortunately only the top 2 progressed. This was still a good achievement for our pupils as they were only beaten by small margins by De La Salle and Aquinas who would often feature in the grade above.

There was good attendance at training with usually over 25 boys at training and all got the opportunity to represent the school in competitive fixtures through challenge games and blitzes.

U16.5 Hurling

Our U16.5 Hurling team took part in

the Maguire Cup. The team were in a very tough group which included Dean MacGuiric, Colaiste Feirste and St Michael's Enniskillen. The team unfortunately did not qualify from their group. The numbers at training varied from 14 to 24 – again all 24 pupils who attended training got to represent the school in competitive fixtures.

U19 Hurling

Our U19 Hurling team took part in the Casement Shield. The team were in a group which included: Aquinas, Colaiste Feirste and St Colm's Draperstown. The team qualified 2nd in their group behind Aquinas which meant they would play a team that topped their group. The boys ran into a strong St Paul's Bessbrook in the QF of the Casement Shield. They displayed their skill and determination to beat St Paul's and progress to the semi final. This was to be a step too far for the Casement Shield team, as they would meet eventual winners St Patrick's Dungiven in the semi final and although the boys showed great character playing to the final whistle it was just too big of a task and the boys exited the competition at the semi final stage. Regular training took place on a Tuesday afternoon with the best attendance we have seen in recent years with numbers up on 30 players attending.

GOLF

16 boys competed in the Killymoon Schools' Cup in September in Cookstown. The boys achieved both first and second place in the team event with a number of individual prizes won as well.

In October, school teams competed in the Irish Schools' Matchplay Championship at Moyola Park Golf Club and the Ulster Schools' Strokeplay Championship at Spa Golf Club. We finished in the top six in both competitions but unfortunately did not qualify for the regional finals.

Charlie Foster, Year 13, was named as Junior Captain of Dungannon Golf Club and represented the club at a range of events throughout the year.

CROSS COUNTRY DISTRICTS: 2025

Senior Girls: Individual Bronze & 4th Place Qualifier – Team Silver

Mini Boys: Individual Gold and 8th Place Qualifier – 6th Place Team Overall

Junior Boys: 4th Place Team Overall

Intermediate Boys: Conor Hayes – Individual Qualifier 6th Place Team Overall

Cross-Country Ulster Championships: 2025

Donal Devlin: 3rd place in the Mini Boys

Padraig Jordan – 11th place Mini Boys.

District Track and Field: 2025

- Conor Anderson gold in the Intermediate Boys' 400m

- Donal Devlin – Double Gold in the 100m and 800m mini boys

- Padraig Jordan – Silver in the 800m mini boys

- Faye Daly – Bronze in the 800m Minor Girls

- Olcan Day – Silver in Long Jump Junior Boys

- Fintan Hughes – Silver in the 200m Junior Boys

Relay Results:

- Year 8 Boys – 5th in the Final

- Year 9 Girls – Reached the Final

- Year 10 Boys – 4th in the Final

Oisin Callaghan won his 200m heat (injury withdrawal)

Ulster Schools Track & Field Championships: 2025

Olcan Daly 7th in the Long Jump Junior boys

Conor Anderson bronze in the Intermediate Boys' 400m.

Donal Devlin gold Mini Boys' 800m Year 8 Boys' team, was one of only four teams in District E to qualify for the Ulster Track and Field finals in June.

MUSIC

Una Robinson, Alana Kelly and Katharine Mullin

Orchestra

There are 32 members in the Orchestra who meet weekly after school in preparation for the Carol Services and Spring Concert

Traditional Groups

There are Junior and Senior trad groups that meet weekly and then perform together at the Carol Services and Spring Concert. There are 35 trad players. Eight players from the Senior trad group competed in the All Ireland, Siansa, competition

Choirs

The Junior and Senior choirs have 52 members and meet weekly at lunch times and after school.

A staff choir perform with the senior choir at the Spring Concert

Key Achievements in 2024-2025

Music Department 2024-2025 musicians and singers performed at:

A Level Prize-giving ceremony – Friday 6th September 2024 .

Club Tyrone Event at the Hill of O'Neill – Friday 13th September 2024. 3 members of the Senior trad group with Mrs Robinson.

Year 8 Mass for students, parents and grandparents – Thursday 10th October 2024.

GCSE Music Technology Workshop with Niall Totten from AMMA centre – 14th October 2024.

Siansa Group (Ceoltoiri Phadraig-senior Irish traditional group) recorded their competition set at the AMMA centre in Armagh – Tuesday 26th November 2024.

Jigs and Reels Event – Friday 29th November 2024 and Tuesday 3rd December – Senior trad group performed at this event.

Carol Services – Thursday 12th December 2024.

Rushmere Shopping Centre – Tuesday 17th December 2024 – Senior Choir performed at this event with Mrs Kelly.

Year13 Prizegiving Mass – Thursday 19th December 2024.

Piano man Workshop with Richard Meyrick – Tuesday 28th January 2025 – for GCSE Music students.

Open Day – Thursday 30th January – Senior trad group, Ceoltoiri Phadraig performed on stage.

All Ireland Irish Traditional Music Competition, Siansa, Castlederg – Friday 7th February 2025 – Senior trad group – Ceoltoiri Phadraig.

Piano man workshop with Richard Meyrick – Tuesday 3rd March 2025 – for GCSE Music students.

Spring Concert – Thursday 13th March 2025.

Fainne Presentations – Friday 14th March 2025.

St Patrick's Day Mass for Years 9 and 10 – Friday 14th March 2025.

Tempest Gig – Ranfurly House, Hill of the O'Neill, Dungannon – Ceoltoiri Phadraig supported the group Tempest- 21st March 2025.

Year 14 Leavers Mass – Friday 2nd May 2025.

Staff Mass for retiring staff – Thursday 26th June 2025.

DEBATING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING

A minority of students participate in the Soroptimist International Public Speaking Competition (open to Year 12/13 girls) – 3 pupils participated this year.

All students participate in the KS3 Public Speaking Competition: in the first round, all KS3 students write and deliver a speech (on a given topic) in class; the top boy and top girl from each class then progress to the second round (the Year Finals); five students from each of the year finals are then selected to deliver their speech at the Grand Final.

A minority of Year 13/14 students participate in the Bar National Mock Trial Competition – 17 maximum. The team won the Northern Ireland Regional Heat in November 2024 and progressed to the UK National Final held at the Royal Courts of Justice, London in March 2025.

All students will have developed skills in confidence, team-work, public speaking, debating; all students involved in the Bar National Mock Trial Competition will have an understanding of how the justice system works.

CREATIVE WRITING CLUB

29 pupils attended a Creative Writing workshop with novelist Colin O'Neill.

25 pupils attended a Comedy Writing workshop with comedy duo, The MakeyUppers.

18 pupils attended a short Film-making workshop, where they learnt how to turn their poems/scripts into moving image.

24 pupils attended weekly guided writing workshops on a Monday afternoon with Michelle Dennehy. They wrote poetry, prose and short films. They directed and shot those films.

The Creative Writing club held a private screening of the students' films. The pupils learnt a great deal from the experience of filming their work, and enjoyed the process.

The pupils recently performed in a Celebration of Writing event (27th January). They continue to attend weekly writing workshops. Michelle Dennehy is compiling an anthology of their writing to be published in the summer term.

YOUNG ENTERPRISE
Young Enterprise continues to be highly successful in enriching pupils' links with industry. Highlights from 2024–2025 include:

Year 13 Company Programme
Students set up and ran a business called "InkGraft", selling stationery in school and at the Rushmere Shopping Centre.

Business Mentorship:
John McKenna from JMK Consultancy provided valuable business advice and marketing strategies throughout the programme.

Awards – Ulster University Assessment:
All students achieved a 100% pass rate, with results ranging from Pass with Merit to Pass with Distinction.

KS3 Workshops
Year 8, 9, and 10 pupils participated in entrepreneurship workshops in the Assembly Hall, supported by business volunteers from the local area. Young Enterprise continues to foster students' connections to industry through these valuable experiences.

Year 13 Enrichment Day
The *Personal Economics* workshop was delivered to Year 13 pupils in June 2025. The event was a great success, and it is hoped that it will be offered again in 2026.

Centre of Excellence Recognition
St Patrick's Academy has been recognised as a Centre of Excellence – Gold Level for the second consecutive year, in acknowledgment of our continued commitment to financial and enterprise education.

SCHOOL POLICIES
Copies of the school's Anti-Bullying, Child Protection and Discipline Policy statements are available from the school office and the school website. Parents wishing to obtain a copy are asked to give the school office one week's notice. All pupils have a copy of the school Code of Conduct in their pupil planner and parents receive a copy in the Information for Parents' Handbook, which they receive in June.

HEALTH AND SAFETY
The Health & Safety Policy was updated in June 2025 to reflect all areas of Health & Safety around the campus. Mr Grew attended Health & Safety training which was passed on to school staff.

DISABILITY ACCESS
The school building is fully compliant with all access requirements and it goes further in that there is safe and easy access for wheelchair users and those using crutches, to every facility in the building.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS
(Mrs Maeve Conway)
In June 2025 there were 45 pupils on the SEN register:

Stage 3 — 20 pupils
Stage 2 — 0 pupils
Stage 1 — 25 pupils

The school is refining its provision for SEN pupils by more extensive use of baseline assessment such as PIE, PIM and CAT. The SENCO has been trained to conduct diagnostic testing. The school continued to liaise closely with support agencies so as to provide the most normal educational experience possible for each SEN pupils while meeting their particular needs. IEPs have been implemented for all pupils with the annual reviews having taken place in February. All parents and pupils expressed satisfaction with provision at their annual review.

Admissions Arrangements
The admissions arrangements with respect to the majority of pupils with SENs are consistent with the schools general arrangements for all other pupils. The school will put in place procedures to help ease the transition as soon as they become aware of the needs, e.g. familiarisation tour, smaller form class, allocation of specific rooms, transition booklet, meetings with parents, assistants, teachers, other relevant personnel. Pupils transferring with a Statement of Educational Needs are invited with their parents to meet their teachers/relevant staff before beginning the new school term.

Special Facilities/Resources are arranged as appropriate:
Wheelchair access
Disabled toilet and shower
Lift
Lockers

Internal Common Testing
To assist in identifying underachievement and learning needs at all levels, allowing more effective interventions at all levels of ability the following measures have been developed:

- Baseline testing has been introduced from Year 8 in English, Mathematics and cognitive abilities (PTE, PTM and CAT).
- New programmes for learning support have been introduced
- Assisted Study Clubs for Years 8-10
- Collaborative learning groups (Sixth Form)
- Peer mentoring groups
- Reading partnerships
- Writing partnerships
- Increased collaboration between SEN and learning support functions.

Literacy
Every Year 8 pupil was issued with a literacy target sheet identifying the specific areas of weakness. These are made available to all staff. Literacy support strategies are in place in all departments.

Numeracy
All Year 8 pupils sit a standard KS3 exam (term 1) to assess levels and learning issues are identified from this. Progress Through Maths tests and CAT data are used to provide a standardized measure of mathematical achievement against measured ability to assist in more accurate diagnosis of need and of intervention strategies.

Training and Development

- Diagnostic assessments to enable earlier and more appropriate interventions.
- Pupil and parental interviews have been conducted for all pupils on the register.

Support strategies are monitored closely and regularly reviewed and evaluated.

CEIAG
Head of Careers has background information on all pupils on the school SEN Register

- A CEIAG target is included in IEPs where appropriate
- Pupils are interviewed early in Year 12 to discuss possible career pathways
- A careers advisor from the NI Careers Service attended Annual Review/Transition meetings of all pupils from Year 10 – Year 14 (EA Transition Team) attended all Transition meetings.

School Complaints Procedures
EA advice and Information Service (all parents are given this information when their child is placed on the code of practice)

- DARS

ADMISSIONS
The school's admission number for September 2024 was set at 189 for Year 8. While the LTE has continued to be set by DE at 1,320 but the actual enrolment remains at 1,447 as of 30th June 2025.

There were 193 pupils admitted to Year 8 in September 2024, including 1 successful appeal.

There were 7 admissions into Year 9 in 2024-25, 3 into Year 10 and 1 into Year 11. There were 15 pupils admitted into Year 13.

Income received from DENI: £8,916,606
Voluntary contributions: £28,715
Other income: £180,257
Staff costs: £8,091,864
Other expenditure: £1,099,066
Net position for year: (£65,352)

Financial pressures across the education sector has resulted in a net deficit for the financial year 24/25. We will continue to monitor expenditure closely and prioritise spending in areas which will contribute to successful implementation of the current school development plan.

TRADE UNION ACTION
Action Short of Strike Action continued into 2024/25. This impacted reporting in the first term. Strike Action was lifted through the year and normal school reporting returned.

APPOINTMENTS FOR 2024-25

Internal Posts

• Mrs S Breen	Coordinator of Numeracy
• Miss U Donaghy	Subject Leader of Government and Politics
• Mrs S Breen	Subject Leader of Environmental Technology
• Miss N McClelland (n. Patterson)	Subject Leader of Spanish
• Miss J Kelly	HOD French
• Miss C Lagan	Coordinator of Camogie
• Mr C Sharkey	Coordinator of Hurling
• Mrs U Campbell	School Counsellor
• Mrs U Currie	Coordinator of Lunchtime Detention

New Teaching Staff:

• Mr J Herron	Teacher of Maths
• Mr M Black	Teacher of Maths
• Mrs N O'Hagan	Teacher of Biology
• Mrs U Currie	Teacher of Business Studies
• Mrs P Smyth	Teacher of Business Studies
• Mr L Dornan	Teacher of Physics
• Mrs N Hall	Teacher of English
• Mr A Deehan	Teacher of Science
• Mr J Cumiskey	Teacher of Maths & Science
• Mrs MT Meenan	Teacher of Career & HOD
• Mrs K Coney	Teacher of Health & Social Care and HE
• Mr K Conroy	Teacher of RE & English
• Mrs F Billington	Teacher of Irish & French
• Mrs M McCorry	Teacher of French, 3 days
• Mrs C Steen	Teacher of Life & Health Sciences & Env Tech
• Mrs L McGivern	Teacher of English & Media Studies

Retirements:

• Mr M Clements	Teacher of English
• Mrs C Cullen	Teacher of Biology
• Mr S Knipe	Teacher of Technology
• Mr S Knipe	Teacher of Maths
• Mr A McParland	Teacher of Technology
• Mrs A Cassidy	Teacher of English
• Mrs A McElroy	Teacher of Geography
• Mrs C Strain	Teacher of Art

EXAMINATIONS 2025

1.1 GCSE LEVEL RESULTS

15/16 16/17 17/18 18/19 19/20 20/21 21/22 22/23 23/24 24/25

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	GCSE									
% of students achieving 5+ GCSEs at Grades A*-C (or equivalent)	99.01	97.91	98.98	97.31	99.48	100	99.5	99.5	98.54	99.54
% of students achieving 7+ GCSEs at Grades A*-C (or equivalent)	97.54	94.76	96.94	96.24	98.96	99.51	98.99	96.48	95.61	98.62.

GCSE Level Results - 2025 - Grades A* - G % of pupils achieving grades

Subject	Entries	A*	A	B	C*	C	D	E	F	G	U	A*-A	A*-B	A*-C	A*-E
Art & Design	22	13.6	40.9	27.3	18.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	54.6	81.8	100	100
Business Studies	76	10.5	42.1	27.6	13.2	3.9	0	2.6	0	0	0	52.6	80.3	97.4	100
Digital Technology	31	0	41.9	45.2	3.2	3.2	6.5	0	0	0	0	41.9	87.1	93.5	100
Drama	12	16.7	33.3	41.7	8.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	91.7	100	100
Engineering	21	14.3	28.6	19	28.6	4.8	0	4.8	0	0	0	42.9	61.9	95.2	100
English Language	218	16.5	49.1	20.6	12.4	0.9	0.5	0	0	0	0	65.6	86.2	99.5	100
English Literature	217	13.4	35	30.4	14.7	4.6	0.9	0.5	0.5	0	0	48.4	78.8	98.2	99.5
Food & Nutrition	43	20.9	23.3	23.3	18.6	7	4.7	2.3	0	0	0	44.2	67.4	93	100
French	65	32.3	35.4	20	12.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	67.7	87.7	100	100
Further Mathematics	100	18	45	20	10	3	3	1	0	0	0	63	83	96	100
Geography	70	5.7	42.9	31.4	12.9	5.7	1.4	0	0	0	0	48.6	80	98.6	100
History	75	14.7	48	25.3	9.3	2.7	0	0	0	0	0	62.7	88	100	100
Irish	67	22.4	44.8	22.4	7.5	3	0	0	0	0	0	67.16	89.55	100	100
Learning for Life & Work	13	23.1	61.5	15.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	84.6	100	100	100
Mathematics	218	17	48.2	24.3	6.4	3.2	0.9	0	0	0	0	65.14	89.45	99.08	100
Music	12	41.7	25	33.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	66.7	100	100	100
Religious Studies	218	10.1	50	17.9	12.8	6	1.4	0.9	0.5	0.5	0	60.1	78	96.8	99.1
Science - Single Award	13	0	23.1	23.1	23.1	15.4	15.4	0	0	0	0	23.1	46.2	84.8	100
Spanish	12	17.6	52.9	5.9	17.6	5.9	0	0	0	0	0	70.6	76.5	100	100
Technology & Design	33	3	30.3	24.2	15.2	12.1	12.1	3	0	0	0	33.3	57.6	84.8	100

GCSE Level Results - 2025 - Grades 9 -1 % of pupils achieving grades

Subject	Entries	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U	A*-A (9-7)	A*-B (9-6)	A*-C (9-4)	A*-E (9-1)
Computer Science	38	15.79	23.68	15.79	23.68	18.42	2.63	0	0	0	0	55.26	78.94	100	100
Media Studies	25	8	24	28	32	8	0	0	0	0	0	60	92	100	100
PE	53	13.21	32.08	30.19	20.75	3.77	0	0	0	0	0	75.48	96.23	100	100
Portuguese	2	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	100
Equivalent Grade (A* - G)		A*	A	B	C*	C	D	E	F	G	U				

GCSE Level Results - 2025 - Double Award Science % of pupils achieving grades

Subject	Entries	A*A*	A*A	AA	AB	BB	BC* (B1)	C*C* (C1)	C*C (C2)	CC	CD	DD	DE	EE	EF	FF	FG	GG	U	A*A-AA	A*A-BB	A*A-CC	A*A-EE
Double Award Science - CCEA	204	16.18	15.2	21.08	11.76	14.71	5.88	7.84	5.39	0.98	0.98	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	52.46	78.93	99.02	100

1.2 A LEVEL RESULTS

15/16 16/17 17/18 18/19 19/20 20/21 21/22 22/23 23/24 24/25

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	A LEVEL									
% of students achieving 3+ A-levels at Grades A*-C (or equivalent)	80.9	73.91	82.2	75.95	95.95	92.66	79.21	86.63	74.61	84.88
% of students achieving 2+ A-levels at Grades A*-C (or equivalent)	100	99.38	99.44	96.55	99.42	100	91.57	86.63	89.12	93.02

A LEVEL RESULTS - 2025 % of pupils achieving grades

Subject	Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	A*-A	A*-B	A*-C	A*-E
Accounting	13	0	15.4	46.2	30.8	7.7	0	0	15.4	61.5	92.3	100
Art & Design	7	0	57.1	28.6	14.3	0	0	0	57.1	85.7	100	100
Biology	31	6.5	32.3	41.9	16.1	3.2	0	0	38.7	80.6	96.8	100
Business Studies	59	6.8	37.3	39	13.6	1.7	0	1.7	44.1	83.1	96.6	98.3
Chemistry	32	3.1	46.9	31.3	9.4	6.3	3.1	0	50	81.3	90.6	97.9
Digital Technology	15	0	40	13.3	33.3	13.3	0	0	40	53.3	86.7	100
Drama & Theatre	5	0	60	40	0	0	0	0	60	100	100	100
English Literature	29	37.9	10.3	31	13.8	3.4	3.4	0	48.3	79.3	93.1	100
Environmental Technology	15	26.7	20	20	26.7	6.7	0	0	46.7	66.7	93.3	100
French	7	28.6	28.6	14.3	28.6	0	0	0	57.1	71.4	100	100
Further Mathematics	4	25	25	25	25	0	0	0	50	75	100	100
Geography	28	3.6	17.9	28.6	35.7	14.3	0	0	21.4	50	85.7	100
Health & Social Care	45	2.2	35.6	48.9	13.3	0	0	0	37.8	86.7	100	100
History	18	11.1	22.2	55.6	11.1	0	0	0	33.3	88.9	100	100
Irish	6	16.7	66.7	0	0	0	0	16.7	83.3	83.3	83.3	100
Life & Health Sciences	19	10.5	21.1	36.8	21.1	5.3	5.3	0	31.6	68.4	89.5	100
Mathematics	49	8.2	38.8	22.4	14.3	12.2	4.1	0	46.9	69.4	83.7	97.9
Media Studies	24	12.5	25	54.2	4.2	4.2	0	0	37.5	91.7	95.8	100
Nutrition & Food Science	15	0	33.3	40	6.7	20	0	0	33.3	73.3	80	100
Physical Education	25	8	48	24	12	8	0	0	56	80	92	100
Physics	19	0	36.8	15.8	15.8	21.1	10.5	0	36.8	52.6	68.4	100
Psychology	5	0	60	20	20	0	0	0	60	80	100	100
Religious Studies	16	0	31.3	50	12.5	6.3	0	0	31.3	81.3	93.8	100
Sociology	10	20	20	20	30	10	0	0	40	60	90	100
Software Systems Development	12	8.3	16.7	25	33.3	16.7	0	0	25	50	83.3	100
Technology & Design	12	0	16.7	50	33.3	0	0	0	16.7	66.7	100	100

1.3 BTEC Results – % of pupils achieving grades

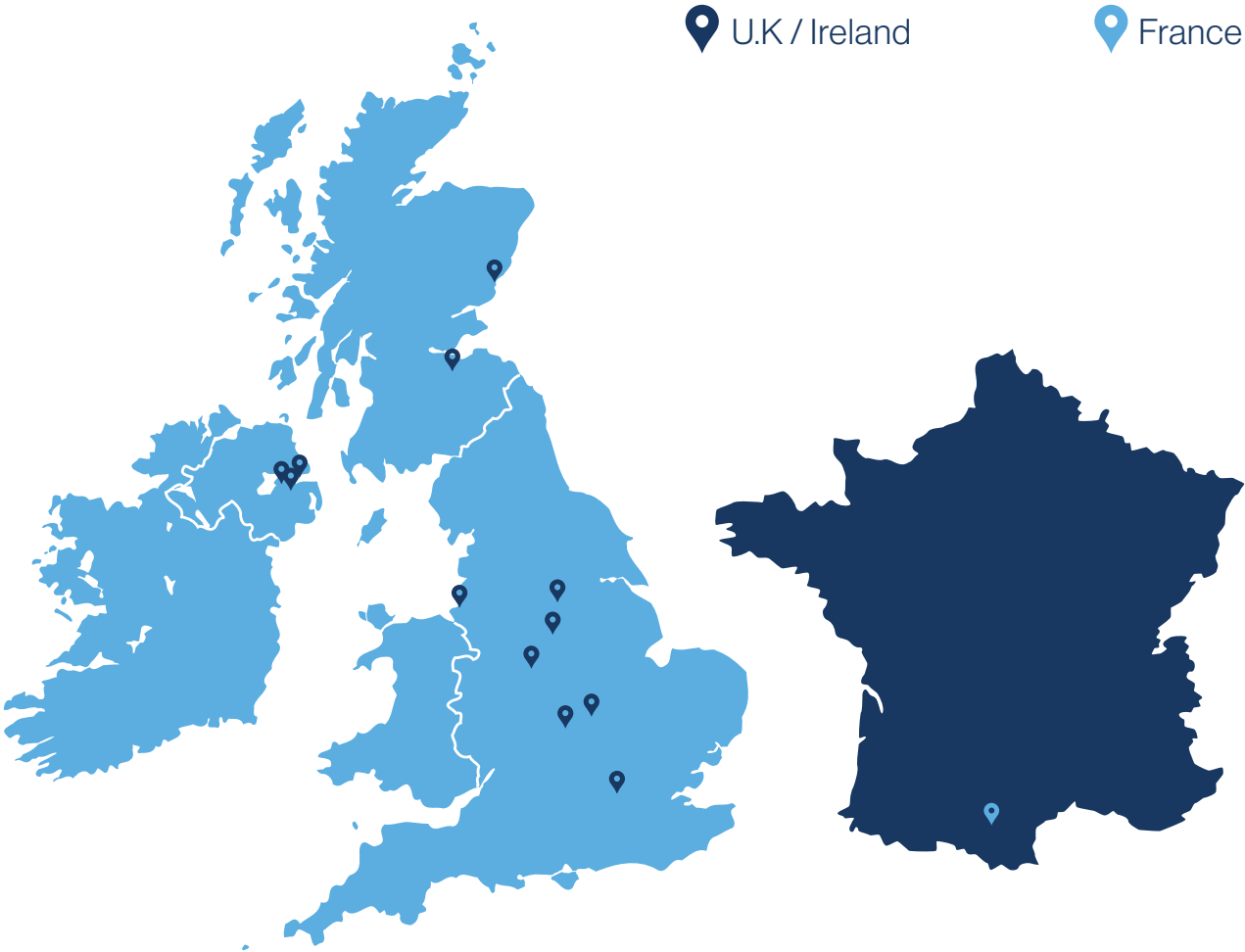
Subject	Entries	Distinction*	Distinction	Merit	Pass	Fail
Engineering	7	0%	71.4%	28.6%	0%	0%

1.4 AS LEVEL RESULTS – % of pupils achieving grades

Subject	Entries	A	B	C	D	E	U	A-B	A-C	A-E
Art & Design	12	33.3	66.7	0	0	0	0	100	100	100
Biology	50	48	32	20	0	0	0	80	100	100
Business Studies	48	22.9	47.9	18.8	8.3	2.1	0	70.8	89.6	100
Chemistry	43	48.8	20.9	23.3	7	0	0	69.8	93	100
Digital Technology	16	25	31.3	25	18.8	0	0	56.3	81.3	100
Drama & Theatre	6	16.7	16.7	33.3	33.3	0	0	33.3	66.7	100
English Literature	19	15.8	57.9	26.3	0	0	0	73.7	100	100
Environmental Technology	31	25.8	38.7	6.5	22.6	6.5	0	64.5	71	93.5
French	4	50	50	0	0	0	0	100	100	100
Further Mathematics	7	14.3	71.4	14.3	0	0	0	85.7	100	100
Geography	33	39.4	21.2	24.2	6.1	9.1	0	60.6	84.8	100
Government & Politics	9	33.3	44.4	0	11.1	0	11.1	77.8	77.8	88.9
Health & Social Care	60	23.3	58.3	18.3	0	0	0	81.7	100	100
History	31	12.9	38.7	29	9.7	9.7	0	51.6	80.6	100
Irish	10	20	60	10	10	0	0	80	90	100
Life & Health Sciences	23	39.1	39.1	21.7	0	0	0	78.3	100	100
Mathematics	70	47.1	24.3	18.6	5.7	2.9	1.4	71.4	90	98.6
Media Studies	25	28	28	36	4	4	0	56	92	100
Nutrition & Food Science	5	40	20	20	20	0	0	60	80	100
Physical Education	31	54.8	25.8	16.1	3.2	0	0	80.6	96.7	100
Physics	27	29.6	29.6	25.9	7.4	3.7	3.7	59.3	85.2	96.3
Professional Business Services	17	0	17.6	47.1	29.4	5.9	0	17.6	64.7	100
Psychology	23	30.4	30.4	26.1	8.7	0	4.3	60.9	87	95.7
Religious Studies	13	23.1	23.1	38.5	7.7	7.7	0	46.2	84.6	100
Sociology	11	0	9.1	18.2	63.6	9.1	0	9.1	27.3	100
Software Systems Development	16	12.5	43.8	25	18.8	0	0	56.3	81.3	100
Spanish	1	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	100	100
Technology & Design	9	22.2	66.7	11.1	0	0	0	88.9	100	100

1.5 SCHOOL LEAVERS DESTINATIONS

University	Number of Students
Ulster University	73
Queen's University Belfast	59
St Mary's University College	12
The University of Edinburgh	2
University of Cambridge	1
Coventry University	1
Aston University	1
University of Sheffield	1
University of Aberdeen	1
London School of Economics	1
University of Derby	1
Liverpool John Moores University	1
Université Toulouse III – Paul Sabatier	1



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