



SALESIAN COLLEGE CELBRIDGE INFORMATION BOOKLET 2021-2022

**“We care, we develop, we believe –
together we achieve”**

Salesian College, Celbridge, is an all-boys Catholic Secondary School under the trusteeship of the Salesians of Don Bosco.

We are very proud of our Salesian ethos and tradition in the Celbridge, Straffan and Ardclough parish since 1981. This year we celebrate 40 years of education in the parish.

We have an established record of high academic achievement and providing the very best education available.

Our school motto of

“We care, we develop, we believe – together we achieve” is central to our work with young adults.

St. John Bosco, the founder of the Salesians, who lived in Italy during the 19th century, developed a particular approach to education, which he called the preventive system.

The preventive system, preventive coming from two Latin words prae + venire, meaning to go before or to anticipate the needs of another, takes as its aim the formation of honest citizens and good Christians.

In this approach, reason, religion and kindness are core values.

Our Salesian approach of reasonableness and fairness guides us as teachers to work with our students to build an environment that encourages personal responsibility and promotes learning.

Our Salesian approach also emphasises the goodness and potential of each person.

John Bosco emphasised the quality of the relationship between the student and the teacher.

He encouraged an attitude of loving-kindness where a relationship of trust, openness and understanding could develop between the educator and the student both inside and outside the classroom.

We believe that every aspect of this approach is alive and well in Salesian College in 2019.

We look forward to welcoming your son to our school and to gain a full academic and holistic education that will serve him for life.

COVID-19

- In line with the Department of Education Response plan for Covid-19 we have made changes to the daily operations of the school to ensure the health and safety of all our school community.

ICT & VS WARE

- Over the last number of years we have invested heavily in our ICT facilities in order to improve the integration of ICT in to our teaching and learning.
- We have adapted our use of ICT very effectively to support blended learning for our students.
- All students will be assigned their own MS 365 account for school work .
- The school administration system is VS Ware.
- Parents & Guardians are given access to their son's student accounts for reports, behaviour information as well as attendance and punctuality.

PASTORAL CARE & WELLBEING IN SALESIAN COLLEGE

- The principle aim of our Pastoral Care and Wellbeing programme at Salesian College is to nurture, affirm, challenge and inspire the students to be young adults of the highest integrity and confidence who use their spiritual, intellectual, social and physical gifts for themselves and the communities in which they live.

FORM TUTOR & YEAR HEAD

- The school operates a Year head and Form Tutor system.
- Students meet as a class with their Form Tutor each morning.
- The class roll is taken and there is the opportunity for our students to prepare themselves for the day in a positive and encouraging manner.
- The Form Tutor is often the first point of contact between students, parents/guardians and the school.

- While the Form Tutor works with a 'class group' the role of the Year Head is to liaise with the whole year and with the wider school community.
- Mr. Liam Lane will be the Year Head for students joining the school for the academic year 2021-2022.
- Mr. Lane will endeavour to do his very best for all our new first year students by working with all the school partners to:
 - *Prepare for the easy transition of students into the secondary school.*
 - *Ensure that each student is suitably placed in his class and is happy in Salesian College.*
 - *Liaise with each class tutor to enquire of each student's progress.*
 - *Positively resolve occasions of bullying should they occur.*
 - *Provide for student support through the whole school Guidance and Wellbeing plan, by liaising with the Salesian Chaplain & Counsellor, Guidance Counsellor, Resource Department and our Pastoral Care Team.*
 - *Monitor discipline and ensuring a courteous and respectful atmosphere among the students.*
 - *Meet with parents to support a student's progress. Meet with teachers and principals of local primary schools prior to entering our school.*
- Our aim is to have the experience of students in Salesian College an enriching and happy one, where the boy who enters will leave as a man who has benefited from his life at the college.
- Over the last 10 years we have developed a very well organised Induction programme for our students.
- We follow our "Belonging Plus" programme which aims to give all students the very best start in Salesian College.
- We will meet with all our registered students in 2021 before they formally join the school and provide both parents and students with more information to ensure a happy and smooth transition from primary to secondary school.

HOMEWORK POLICY

- Homework is an integral part of the learning process at Salesian College.
- We have high academic expectations for all our students and regular homework supports a good work and study ethic.
- We also offer Afterschool & Evening study sessions for 2 hours after school from Monday – Friday and a fee is applicable.
- A Study skills programme is also organised by the Career Guidance Department.

PARENTAL/GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENT

- Education is viewed as a combined partnership between our students, our parents & guardians and the school.
- Contact with parents & guardians is maintained through parent/teacher meetings and by means of formal reports issued twice yearly.
- Parents are welcome to meet any teacher by prior arrangement.
- The student journal is used as a means of daily communication and all first year parents & guardians are asked to check and sign this journal every night.

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION NEEDS CLASSES AND RESOURCE SUPPORT

- Here at Salesian College we are actively involved in both the provision and the development of initiatives in additional needs education.
- All students are formally and informally assessed early in the first term using standardised testing procedures.
- Additional education needs is provided by a dedicated team of Resource/Learning support teachers and Special Needs Assistants in the Resource Department. Students are taught in a small group setting or individually when appropriate.
- Salesian College has also established two special classes for students on the autistic spectrum.
- All students with additional education needs are integrated into every aspect of school life which reflects our belief that

the school should be inclusive of all students within our community.

SOCIAL, PERSONAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION (SPHE)

- Salesian College offers a wide programme of social, personal and health education.
- In the first two years of the junior cycle, students have one period per week to study topics as various as integrating, communication skills, physical health, friendship, emotional health, wellbeing, influences and decisions and relationship and sexuality education.
- 3rd year students are offered a module of R.S.E. and substance use and personal safety. We also have an SPHE programme for our Transition year students.
- S.P.H.E. has a strong emphasis on personal safety which includes a bullying awareness programme to complement the school's strong Anti-Bullying policy.

NEW JUNIOR CERTIFICATE

- This is a three-year programme to prepare the students for their first state examination.

Subject choice

- All students in Salesian College in 1st year study English, Mathematics, Geography, History, Science, Religious Education, Physical Education, CSPE and SPHE.
- All students study Irish unless they have been granted a formal exemption from studying the subject.

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

- All students will have the option of studying one Modern Language - French or German.
- All students then have two other optional subjects
- These include Materials Technology Wood, Junior Engineering, Art, Craft & Design, Technical Graphics, Music and Business Studies.
- Each student is asked to indicate his preferred choice of optional subjects on

the registration form when offered a place.

ARTS, CRAFT AND DESIGN

- Art covers drawing, painting, graphic design and craft, pottery and printing.
- Art helps students develop creative talents and skills.
- Art is a subject that is suitable for all abilities and encourages individuality.
- Salesian College has a dedicated Art Room for all students.

BUSINESS STUDIES

- Business studies involves book-keeping, the preparation of accounts e.g. club accounts and business theory, the study of various topics in the business world e.g. marketing.
- It involves regular homework both numerical and practical work.
- It develops into three separate subjects in fifth year i.e. Accounting (book-keeping), Business (business theory) and Economics.
- Business Studies is an important foundation for any student taking a business course at third level.

TECHNICAL GRAPHICS

- Technical Graphics gives students an opportunity to learn about design using graphics, and how to communicate ideas and develop creativity and problem solving.
- This develops in to Design and Communication Graphics at Leaving Certificate level.

MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY WOOD

- Woodwork is one of the most popular subjects in the school.
- Students mix practical skills with the theory of woodwork.
- Students will learn about woodturning, woodcarving, marquetry and laminating along the traditional wood working skills.

JUNIOR CYCLE ENGINEERING

- Engineering is also always popular amongst students.

- Students learn practical skills and the relevant theory is covered.
- Students produce a range of artefacts in metals and in plastics.
- Computer aided design and manufacture are introduced early.
- Electronics, pneumatics, and mechanisms all form an important part of the course which gives a good introduction to various engineering disciplines.
- Possible careers include various apprenticeships, mechanical, electrical, computer engineer, design and draughting, materials science.

MUSIC

- The Junior Certificate Music course has been specifically devised to suit the entire range of student ability.
- It enables all students to develop musical skills suited to varying abilities and musical experiences.
- The syllabus is divided into 3 component parts, which represent the 3 main musical activities.
- These include performing, composing, and listening. Performance as a soloist or part of a group makes up 25% of the Junior Cert exam in 3rd year.
- Students do not need any previous level of music tuition on an instrument or voice to take music in first year.

MODERN LANGUAGES

- All first year students will choose to study either French or German for their Junior Certificate.
- Learning a modern language can be both exciting and rewarding.
- Students choose a particular language for various reasons.

These include:

- Previous knowledge of either language at primary school.
- Connection with a particular country (relatives living there or holidays spent there).
- A personal interest in and liking for the sound of the language.
- Possible help in the home from a parent or sibling who has studied the language.

TRANSITION YEAR

- Transition year in Salesians is an optional one-year programme between Junior Certificate and the start of the Leaving Certificate Cycle.
- While Irish, English and Mathematics continue to be offered, students also have the opportunity to experience new areas on a modular basis, to acquire skills, and to take responsibilities for their own learning and decision-making.
- Work placement is an integral part of the year's programme.
- Participation in the year improves self-esteem and supports the social and personal development of our students.

Subjects in TY Programme

- Irish
- Mathematics
- Science
- Heritage studies
- Environmental studies
- Craft & Design
- Information technology
- German
- Music appreciation
- Faith development
- Mini-company
- Metal & Wrought Iron work
- Home maintenance & Self Care
- French
- ECDL
- Life skills
- Participation in the Transition Year programme is through an application process.
- There is a limited number of places and each student's academic and behaviour record are part of the assessment criteria for a place on the Transition Year programme.

SENIOR CYCLE / LEAVING CERTIFICATE

- The two-year senior cycle prepares students in subjects of their choice for the Leaving Certificate examination.
- We also offer Leaving Certificate Applied (LCA) providing there are sufficient numbers and interested students.

- Students who wish to complete this programme must adhere to the school selection criteria to be offered a place on this course.

Leaving Certificate subjects

- Irish, English, Mathematics
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Business
- Economics
- Accounting
- French/German
- History / Geography
- Design Communications & Graphics
- Engineering
- Construction Studies
- Art
- Music
- PE
- Career Guidance

SCHOOL SPECIAL FACILITIES

- *A dedicated Language laboratory*
- *Science laboratories*
- *Material Technology Woodwork rooms*
- *Demonstration room*
- *Engineering rooms*
- *Music Room*
- *Computer room*
- *Digital Suite*
- *DCG Computer Room*
- *Oratory & Memorial garden*
- *Career & Guidance Counsellor*
- *Chaplain's Room*
- *Extensive grounds and playing pitches for sporting activities.*

SCHOOL TOURS

- The school, on a regular basis, offers tours and excursions for all students covering educational, cultural and social activities.
- As part of the school curriculum field trips are organised by various subject departments.
- Tours to date include outdoor activities centres, Alton towers, Normandy beaches, skiing in Slovenia and Italy, as well as hosting in Wicklow and Kerry to name but a few.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

- It is the duty of the Board of Management to manage the school on behalf of the Salesians of Don Bosco and for the benefit of the students and their parents/guardians.
- The Board seeks to provide a management and support structure which will enable the principal and staff to achieve the aims and objectives of providing an appropriate education for each student on a day-to-day basis.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

- Our Parents Association was formed in Salesian College in 1994 and is a vibrant and active organisation within the school.
- Our Parents Association play a central role in our policy development, communication, school plan, school inspections and supporting all school activities and events such as our Graduation ceremonies and our Annual Sports Day.
- Meetings are held monthly, every second Tuesday. New members are always welcome.

SCHOOL SOCIAL MEDIA

- www.salesianscelbridge.com
- Our Facebook page