



# Coláiste Dún Iascaigh

Bothar Caisil, An Chathair, Co. Thiobraid Árann

Cashel Road, Cahir, Co. Tipperary

Guthán: 052 74 42828 / 74 42906. Facs: 052 74 42233

Ríomhphost: [info@colaisteduniascaigh.ie](mailto:info@colaisteduniascaigh.ie)



22<sup>nd</sup> June 2024

**Dear Parent/Guardian,**

As we approach the end of June, I wish to thank you for your support throughout the last academic year. This was much appreciated by all the staff in the Coláiste. I am looking forward to next year and developing further our commitment to the education of all our students. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all parents/guardians who supported our end of year fundraiser. This helped to get us to €100,000 in funding for the re-development plans for our sports and recreational facilities.

## Incoming 1<sup>st</sup> Years

On behalf of our school staff, I want to welcome all new parents/guardians to the Coláiste. I thank you for trusting us with your son/daughter's education over the coming years. Our new students will get to meet their Year Head, Mr. Ryan, Senior Student Mentors and Connect Teachers (tutors) on their first day in the Coláiste.

## **New First Year Students - Resources**

*Step Up To Secondary School* is a helpful resource developed by Planet Youth and their partners. It has several resource pages for parents and students. Each resource page has a few topics to browse through. Some topics have additional information such as advice, videos or extra research. You can access this site here - [www.stepup.ie](http://www.stepup.ie).

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## School re-opening schedule

The following are our return dates for the 2024/2025 academic year. **Once a Year Group returns their academic year begins.**

Dates:	Times:	Year Group Present:
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> August	8.50am to 1.05pm	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Years</b> <i>Note: parents/guardians invited to attend with son/daughter at 9am for induction meeting in PE hall for 30 minutes</i>
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> August	8.50am to 1.05pm	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Years</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> Years)
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> August	8.50am to 1.05pm	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Years</b> (6 <sup>th</sup> years/1 <sup>st</sup> Years)
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> August	8.50am to 1.15pm	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Years/LCA 1</b> (6 <sup>th</sup> Years/3 <sup>rd</sup> year/1 <sup>st</sup> year)
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> August	8.50am to 1.05pm	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Years</b> (6 <sup>th</sup> years/3 <sup>rd</sup> years/1 <sup>st</sup> years)
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> August	8.50am to 3.45pm	<b>Transition Years</b> All year groups

## Year Heads

Each year group have a Year Head assigned who should be parents/guardians first point of contact if you have concerns or questions about your son/daughter's progress in school. Each Junior Cycle class group will have Connect Teachers (Tutors) assigned who will meet with their class group weekly.

Ms. Tarrant ([starrant@tipperaryetb.ie](mailto:starrant@tipperaryetb.ie)) will be the Deputy Principal with responsibility for the **Junior Cycle Year Groups** and Mr. Delahunty ([ddelahunty@tipperaryetb.ie](mailto:ddelahunty@tipperaryetb.ie)) will be the Deputy Principal with responsibility for our **Senior Cycle Year Groups**.

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First Year	Mr Paul Ryan	<a href="mailto:pryan_2@tipperaryetb.ie">pryan_2@tipperaryetb.ie</a>
Second Year	Mr. Stephen O'Brien	<a href="mailto:sobrien@tipperaryetb.ie">sobrien@tipperaryetb.ie</a>
Third Year	Ms Joanne Trehy	<a href="mailto:jtrehy@tipperaryetb.ie">jtrehy@tipperaryetb.ie</a>
Transition Year	Mr Gavin Berry	<a href="mailto:gberry@tipperaryetb.ie">gberry@tipperaryetb.ie</a>
Fifth Year	Ms. Norma Barry Hurley	<a href="mailto:nbarry_hurley@tipperaryetb.ie">nbarry_hurley@tipperaryetb.ie</a>
Sixth Year and LCA	Ms Cara Shanahan	<a href="mailto:cshanahan@tippereraryetb.ie">cshanahan@tippereraryetb.ie</a>

The school has a full time Chaplain and three full time Career/Guidance Teachers who support students daily and are available for any advice/information you may require.

## [Return to School Costs](#)

**Way to Pay** is our school [Parental Payment System](#). Texts will issue to your mobile phones informing you of when it is open for different payments.

## **Student Fee: €150**

The school fee of **€150** per student goes towards covering the following items:

- School Insurance
- Phone Pouch
- School Locker
- Study-Clix
- Exam Revision
- VShare parent app
- Microsoft Office
- Internet usage
- Gym usage
- Visiting speakers and outside programs

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*Leas Phríomhoide: Darius Ó Dulchaointigh*  
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- Psychometric Testing
- Subsidised extra-curricular activity
- Subsidised bus costs
- Printing and binding
- Senior cycle Student Learner Journal

## **TY Cost: €500**

All money collected from parents for Transition Year is fully utilised to cover costs of activities undertaken by our Transition Year students throughout the year, but other costs may have to be charged throughout the year.

## **Book Rental Scheme Cost: €180 (Senior Cycle)**

(dates for collection will issue later)

The cost of the book scheme for 5<sup>th</sup> year students will be €180 for the two years. This covers the cost of all books that may be required in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year.

Note: There is no cost for the book rental scheme for the junior cycle (please see Appendix 1)

## **School Uniform:**

The school uniform can be purchased in *Uniform World* in Clonmel. Please note that *Uniform World* have asked that orders should be placed before mid-July.

## **School PE Tracksuit Gear: €85**

School PE Tracksuit for 1<sup>st</sup> years is available to collect on Tuesday August 20<sup>th</sup> from Coláiste Dún Iascaigh.

This includes:

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- tracksuit bottom
- tracksuit top
- school jersey

Note: A form has been issued to all other year groups if new PE gear is required.

## School Jacket: €45/€55

There will be a supply of jackets for sale in late August.

[Link to School Jacket Information](#)

## Potential additional costs for all Year Groups:

- Mock Exams for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> years will incur some additional costs
- Curricular trips may take place throughout the year for certain groups
- Year group trips may take place at the end of the year
- UK trip may take place for 1<sup>st</sup> years after Christmas

## Afterschool Study

Mr. Damien Byrne ([dbyrne@tipperaryetb.ie](mailto:dbyrne@tipperaryetb.ie)) will be overseeing afterschool study next year. This will run each day for Junior and Senior Cycle students with separate centres. Study runs from 4pm to 5.45 pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Study centers are open from 2pm to 5pm each Wednesday. The cost is **€150 per term**.

- Term 1 September to December
- Term 2 January to May

Note: A form will issue in August to apply for evening study.

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Coláiste Dún Iascaigh also runs an activity/study afternoon every Monday for 1<sup>st</sup> year students called **Junior Dún**. This runs from 3.45pm to 5.45pm. It is great way for students to get to meet new friends, partake in an afterschool activity and be guided with homework and study.

Note: A form will issue in August to apply for Junior Dun.

## Examinations

### Leaving Certificate 2024:

Our 6<sup>th</sup> year students have now completed all their Leaving Certificate examinations and they must be complimented in the effort they made throughout the last two years. This year we have 6<sup>th</sup> year students applying for courses in medicine, teaching, business courses, science courses and engineering courses to mention a few. Some of our students have already started their apprenticeships. Well done to everyone in the class of 2024.

### Junior Certificate Class 2024:

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> years have now completed their Junior Certificate examinations and the vast majority are looking forward now to Transition Year. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> years have done exceptionally well, and I congratulate them on finishing third year in a very productive manner.

### Term Reports:

1st, 2nd, TY and 5th year reports are now available to view through the VShare parent app and a hardcopy of your son/daughter's report can be requested from the school if required.

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## VShare School Information Management System

It is essential that the VShare parent App is downloaded by parents to access information on the following:

- Attendance
- Assessment (Term Reports)
- Behaviour
- Timetable
- Personal Information
- VShare Notifications (emails)
- If parents/guardians want siblings attending the school to be linked to one account, please contact the school.

### Note:

- If both parents/guardians wish to receive communication through VShare please contact the school otherwise it defaults to the first parent/guardian's name on the application form.
- Parents/Guardians of incoming 1<sup>st</sup> year will receive set up details and log in details in August for VShare.

## School Code of Behaviour

This will issue to all parents/guardians by link before returning to school. A Consent Form will also be attached and all parents/guardians will be required to confirm that they have read through the Code of Behaviour with their son/daughter and will adhere to the Code of Behaviour as outlined.

Note: **Please see Appendix 2 our new Mobile Phone School Policy**

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Finally, I want to wish you and your family a joyful and restful summer. We look forward to welcoming our students back, refreshed and ready for another year of *learning together to achieve and succeed*.

Take care and keep safe.

Yours Sincerely,

*Peter Creedon*

[pcreedon@tipperaryetb.ie](mailto:pcreedon@tipperaryetb.ie)

*Darius Delahunty*

[ddelahunty@tipperaryetb.ie](mailto:ddelahunty@tipperaryetb.ie)

*Sinéad Tarrant*

[starrant@tipperaryetb.ie](mailto:starrant@tipperaryetb.ie)

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## Appendix 1

### Book Scheme for Junior Cycle Students

The Government has introduced a new scheme from the start of the new school year 2024/25. Under this scheme all schoolbooks and core classroom resources for students in Junior Cycle years in post-primary schools will be provided to students directly by their school. There is no charge to parents/guardians for this, as schools will receive funding from Government to cover these costs. Guidance has issued to schools on the scheme and is available at [gov.ie/schoolbookschemes](http://gov.ie/schoolbookschemes).

- Schoolbooks will be provided free to every student on **loan** at the start of the school year. Core classroom resources will also be provided free to students by the school.
- Funding under this scheme will not include the purchase of digital devices.
- The schoolbooks will be **on loan** to the students and must be returned at the end of the school year or at the end of Junior Cycle (as decided by the school) or if the student leaves the school.

It is important that schoolbooks are kept in good condition so they can be reused. Please help make sure that your son/daughter keep the schoolbooks safe and in good condition so that they can be used again by another student.

In late August the school will distribute all textbooks to 1<sup>st</sup> year students as required and any additional textbooks required by 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years will also be provided. Any lost or misplaced items provided through this scheme will not be provided by the school.

The following items will be provided to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year students.

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Quantity	
12	B4 Mesh Zip folders
12	A4 Hardback copybooks
4	40 page pocket display folder
1	A4 science hardbook copy
1	Set of colouring pencils
1	A4 white board (show me boards)
1	Set of 6 by 4 lined flash cards
1	Pack of HB pencils
1	Pack of 2B pencils
1	5 pack mixed colour highlighters

The following items will also be provided to **1<sup>st</sup> years only**

Maths Pack	
1	Project maths copy a4
1	Project maths whiteboard
1	Casio scientific calculator
1	Dry wipe marker
1	Dry wipe eraser
1	Noris maths set
1	Log Tables

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## Appendix 2

### Mobile Phone Policy

Coláiste Dún Iascaigh recognises that mobile phones are now an integral part of young people's culture and way of life and can have considerable value when used appropriately. The aim of this policy is to protect the well-being of all within Coláiste Dún Iascaigh.

The introduction of Phone Pouches aims to enhance student well-being by minimising phone dependency during the school day. These lockable pouches restrict access to mobile phones for all pupils, mitigating the negative impacts of social media and distractions.

Schools have observed improved concentration levels along with increased social interaction among students following the introduction of Phone Pouches. Schools have also witnessed reduced levels of anxiety and cyber-bullying. These Phone Pouches provide a practical solution to address the challenges posed by excessive phone use in educational settings.

**Therefore, the following procedures have been put in place to protect all within the school.**

### **Daily Process:**

- Students must bring their pouch to school with them each day. Once a student arrives on school grounds/building they are not permitted to use their mobile phones. All phones at this stage must be powered off and placed in phone pouch and locked.
- During Period 1, students will be asked by their teacher to show their locked phone pouch. During school day pouches may be checked by any staff member.
- If a student arrives late to school, it is their responsibility to ensure their phone is their phone pouch and locked.
- If phones are needed during class time a teacher may unlock phone pouches. At the end of the class the phone is to be placed back into the phone pouch and locked under teacher supervision.
- If any student needs to leave school early (following correct sign out procedures) the phone pouch can be unlocked at the main office.

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- At the end of school day students can unlock their phone pouch as they leave the school building using the unlocking stations.

## Policy Breaches:

- If a student has forgotten their phone pouch the student must hand up their phone to the main office before classes begin. The phone will be held in main office and can be collected at the end of the school day. (-2 behaviour points)
- If a student is found to have a phone out of pouch/not locked the following process will apply:
  - Issued lunchtime detention (-5 behaviour points)
  - Second and each subsequent offences students will receive an automatic suspension
  - More serious sanctions will apply for repeated offences
- The sanction for having a second phone will automatically result in a student being suspended.

## Damaged or Lost Pouch Policy:

- Any loss or damage to the Pouch rendering it unusable will result in the student purchasing a new pouch at a cost of €30. If a student consistently forgets their pouch, it is considered lost. Replacement pouches can be purchased from the main office

## Communication with home:

- If a student needs to contact home urgently during the school day, they can do so by using landline phones in main office or Deputy Principal offices
- If parents/guardians need to contact their son/daughter urgently this can be done through the school office **052-7442828**

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