



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



June 2025:

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As we approach the start of the summer break, 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. The Coláiste will have a third Deputy Principal join us in September and this will be a further support for students, staff and parents. The Coláiste is very much six small schools within one school benefiting from the resources of a larger school within a co-educational setting. The advantages of students attending co-educational schools are now becoming more evident from research with wider subject choice, better socialisations, opportunities and more collaborative learning environments that reflect workplace environments being to the fore. I thank you for trusting us with your son/daughter's education over the coming years in our Community College.

I have included a link below to our Summer and Spring Newsletters along with photographs from our Awards night. This is a short reminder of all the positive achievements within our school this past year.

[Summer Newsletter 2025](#)

[Spring Newsletter 2025](#)

[Awards Night 2025](#)

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Incoming 1st Years 2025/2026

On behalf of our school staff, I want to welcome all new parents/guardians to the Coláiste. 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.

Incoming 1st 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.

School re-opening schedule

The following are our return dates for the 2025/2026 academic year. **Once a Year Group returns their academic year begins.**

Dates:	Times:	Year Group Present:
Friday 22 nd August	8.50am to 1.05pm	1 st Years <i>Note: parents/guardians invited to attend with son/daughter at 9am for induction meeting in PE hall for 30 minutes</i>
Monday 25 th August	8.50am to 1.05pm	6 th Years (including LCA 2) (1 st Years)
Tuesday 26 th August	8.50am to 1.05pm	3 rd Years (6 th years/1 st Years)

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Wednesday 27 th August	8.50am to 1.15pm	5 th Years (including LCA) / Transition Years (6 th Years / 3 rd year / 1 st year)
Thursday 28 th August	8.50am to 1.05pm	2 nd Years (6 th years / 5 th years / 3 rd years / 1 st years)
Friday 29 th August	8.50am to 3.45pm	All year groups

Once a year group returns there year has started.

Start of Year Parent/Guardian Information Nights:

The following is a very important schedule of meetings that will take place at the start of the next Academic Year for parents/guardians. There have been significant changes to the academic calendar at both junior and senior cycle and it is vital that students, parents and staff are all aligned with this new academic calendar year. Our school policies and procedures have also changed and this information night will give us an opportunity to bring clarity to all of these. It is our expectation that every single parent/guardian would attend this 1-hour meeting.

All meetings will start at 7pm in the school auditorium

Monday 25 th August	6 th Years
Tuesday 26 th August	3 rd Years
Wednesday 27 th August	5 th Years (includes LCA)
Thursday 28 th August	2 nd Years
Monday 1 st September	Transition Year
End of September	1 st Years

Our relationships with all stakeholders will always be underpinned by our core values of respect, care, excellence in education, community and equality driven by our school motto

“Learning together to achieve and succeed”

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Year Group Structures/Deputy Principals and Year Heads

Each year group will 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.

Ms. Tarrant (starrant@tipperaryetb.ie), Mr. Delahunty (ddelahunty@tipperaryetb.ie) and our new Deputy Principal will each take responsibility for the overall leadership of two-year groups.

Each Junior Cycle class group will in addition have Connect Teachers (Tutors) assigned who will meet with their class group weekly.

First Year	Mr Paul Ryan	pryan_2@tipperaryetb.ie
Second Year	Ms. Joanne Trehy	jtrehy@tipperaryetb.ie
Third Year	TBC	
Transition Year	Mr Gavin Berry	gberry@tipperaryetb.ie
Fifth Year	Ms. Marian O'Mahony	momahony@tipperaryetb.ie
Sixth Year	Ms. Norma Barry	nbarry_hurley@tipperaryetb.ie
LCA Students	Ms. Cara Shanahan	cshanahan@tipperaryetb.ie

The school has a full time Chaplain Ms. Wade and two full time Career/Guidance Teachers Ms O'Leary and Ms. Peters who are available for any queries you may have around subject choices, career options and are available daily to meet with your son/daughter if required. Ms. Greene is our Special Educational Needs co-ordinator.

Return to School Costs

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The payment of costs associated with the return to school is a mix of school-based sources and external supplier sources. These are summarised in the table below and explained in more detail further on.

Way to Pay:

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

<u>Item:</u>	<u>Year Group:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>	<u>Method of Payment:</u>
Textbooks	1 st and 5 th Year	free	State funded
Stationary	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , 5 th	free	State funded
Student Fee	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , 5 th and 6 th year	€150	Way to pay
Transition Year	4 th year	€500	Way to pay
School Uniform	Uniform World, Clonmel	varies	Bought in shop
School PE Uniform	All current students	varies	McKeever Shop Portal
School PE Uniform	Incoming 1 st Years Only	varies	1st Year PE Uniform Order
School Jacket	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th , 5 th , and 6 th ,	€45 or €55	Soloform Shop Portal
Afterschool Study	Priority first to 3 rd , 5 th and 6 th years	€150 per term	Way to pay
Junior Dún	1 st years only (Monday 4pm to 5.45pm)	€70 per term	Way to pay
Mock Exam corrections	3 rd and 6 th years only	€50	Way to pay
Laptop	5 th Years only	€684	Olive in Education online shop to be issued shortly
Year Group Trips	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , 5 th , 6 th	varies	Way to pay

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Details of School Costs:

Free Book Scheme for Incoming 1st and 5th Years:

The Government has introduced a new scheme from the start of the new school year 2025/2026 for 5th years along with incoming 1st Years. Under this scheme all schoolbooks and core classroom resources for post primary students in Junior Cycle and Senior Cycle years will be provided directly to students by their school. Guidance has been issued to schools on the scheme and is available at:

[Government Book Scheme Information](#)

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/Senior Cycle **or** if the student leaves the school. It is important that schoolbooks are kept in good condition so they can be reused. All books being introduced in September 2025 will be bar coded.

In late August the school will distribute all textbooks to 1st and 5th year students as required and any additional textbooks required in subsequent years will also be provided. Replacement books will not be provided.

Annual Student Fee:

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

- School Insurance
- Phone Pouch (1st years only 2025)
- School Locker
- Study-Clix
- Exam Revision
- VSware parent app
- Microsoft Office
- Internet usage

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- Gym usage
- Visiting speakers and outside programs
- Psychometric Testing
- Subsidised extra-curricular activity
- Subsidised bus costs
- Printing and binding
- Careers portal

This funding received from parents is essential for us in providing key services throughout the course of the year and it **is not** a Voluntary Contribution.

Phone Pouch/Locks:

These have been collected from all year groups except Transition Year. They will be re-distributed again at the start of the school year. Students who do not return to school with a phone pouch will be required to purchase a new one at a cost of €30. The same practice will apply to school locks that have not been returned by students.

Transition Year Cost:

The fee for the year is €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. The only cost not included is an option of travelling on an end of year overnight trip to Derry.

School Uniform Cost:

The school uniform can be purchased in Uniform World, Clonmel. Please note that Uniform World have asked that orders should be placed before mid-July. Please note shoes must be brown, black or navy and no white runners are allowed.

School PE Tracksuit Gear: (dates for collection will issue later)

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All students from 1st to 5th year will have PE classes. The PE uniform includes the official school tracksuit top, jersey, and pants. Students **currently** in 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th who wish to purchase new or additional PE gear can do so through our supplier's online shop at the link below:

[McKeever Shop Portal](#)

Incoming 1st years please complete the following link so we can bulk order for you and payment will be requested later through our Way to pay system. Incoming 1st years will always get the opportunity to try on the items to ensure you are happy in August.

1st Year PE Uniform Order

The deadline for ordering online and completing 1st year form is Friday, June 13th.

Key Information for purchases made from the online McKeever Shop Portal:

- Payment is made directly to McKeever at the time of order
- All gear will be delivered to the school in August in individually named packages – no delivery charge applies.

Pants Options:

- Two styles of pants are available this year:
- Tapered Pants (as used for the past two years – more durable).
- Skinny Pants (new option for 2025).

Please note that only tapered pants will be kept in limited stock at the school; skinny pants must be ordered online. There is also the option to purchase shorts and socks for students involved in extra-curricular activities, though these are not compulsory.

To ensure your child has the correct PE uniform for the year ahead, we strongly encourage you to complete your order by June 13th using the link provided. Stock will be limited in school, and we cannot guarantee availability after this date.

School Jacket: (dates for collection will issue later)

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The online window to purchase our school jacket is now open. These will be delivered to the school for collection in August. Please retain copy of receipt issued to your phone when collecting your Jacket. Our Parents Association will also operate a swap shop at nominal cost before the end of the state exams. The school jacket proved very popular this year and while we ran short of some sizes, I thank all parents/guardians for your co-operation with this initiative.

[Soloform Shop Portal](#)

Afterschool Study:

This will run each day from 4pm to 5.45 pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and from 2pm to 5pm each Wednesday. The cost is €150 per term.

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

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

The school offers an activity/study afternoon every Monday for 1st year students called Junior Dun. 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 and the cost is €70 per term.

Pre Examination Papers/Corrections:

Mock Exams for 3rd and 6th years will cost €50 per student. This is to cover the purchase of exam papers and corrections. The school has worked with Dublin Examinations Board over the last number of years.

Year Group Trips:

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There will be trips organised throughout the year for all groups. The following is a provisional list of trips that **may** take place:

- 6th year trip to Emerald Park in September
- 5th Year trip to University with added activity
- 3rd Year trip to University with added activity
- 2nd Year trip to University with added activity
- 1st year trip to Manchester in new year and trip to Emerald Park May 2026

Laptops 5th Years:

All 5th year students will be required to purchase a laptop for school use only next year. An information evening was held in our school on the 26th May. The company providing the laptops are Olive for Education and the cost is €684 per device. A deposit will be required to be paid by the end of June and they will be introduced fully into 5th year around the October break. The aim was to give families a window of 5 months to pay for the device. The local credit union may provide finance for this device if requested.

School Information/Communication System

VSware School Information Management System:

This is the platform used by the school to communicate electronically with parents/guardians. It is essential that the VSware parent App is downloaded by parents to access information on the following:

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

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- 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.

Our return to school information nights will be an opportunity to ensure this is working for all parents/guardians as all school communication will flow through this App. next year.

Please Note: Parents/Guardians of incoming 1st year will receive set up details and log in details in August for VShare.

All summer reports will issue in mid-June and finally can I wish you and your family a wonderful few months before we return for our next academic year.

Yours Sincerely,

Peter Creedon

pcreedon@tipperaryetb.ie

Darius Delahunty

ddelahunty@tipperaryetb.ie

Sinéad Tarrant

starrant@tipperaryetb.ie

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