

BANAGHER COLLEGE



Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna

Banagher, Co. Offaly



Prospectus 2020 - 2021

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COLÁISTE NA SIONNA

INTRODUCTION

In September 2010 we moved into our new, purpose built, Public Private Partnership, state of the art School. It is a designated Community College.

Incorporating the long traditions of St. Rynagh's Community College and La Sainte Union Secondary School, it is in the Trusteeship of Laois and Offaly ETB. The dedicated staff team is led by Mr. Paddy Scales (Principal) and Ms. Lily Kinahan (Deputy Principal).

Since then there have been countless exceptional and commendable achievements, excellent examination results, school drama productions, speech and drama awards, public speaking, sporting victories, winning enterprise and art projects, music students' fundraisers, graduation ceremonies, guest speakers, open day visits and much more. These activities coupled with the highest academic and teaching standards in class provide a recipe for success.

The vast range of subjects and the facilities now available to students is second to none. Every student who attends Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna will be assured of being offered all the necessary ingredients to happily develop every step of the way towards achieving his/her full potential, blossoming into a fully functional, Christian, mature member of society.

We all look forward with great optimism to our time in Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna, and will be delighted to welcome you as a new First Year to share in this exciting and fulfilling time of educational studies in Banagher.



Banagher College Coláiste ne Sionna

Message from the School Principal



Mr. Paddy Scales (Principal)
Banagher College
Coláiste na Sionna
Tel: 057 9151323
Fax: 057 9151755

The purpose of compiling this Prospectus is to give students, who are now in the process of making up their minds as to where they will receive their secondary school education, an insight into the many wonderful opportunities that Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna has to offer. By secondary school we do not solely mean the framework of classroom, teachers, syllabus, exams and points system. The parents' and students' contributions and their expectations are very much part of the system. Handling the pressures of the system is not difficult when approached in the right way. We hope that this Prospectus will be a valuable guide to students and also to their parents.

Our aim in education is to contribute towards the development of all aspects of the individual. This publication details some of the many activities which take place in our school. We are now well settled into our new purpose built P.P.P. School. This magnificent building is here today because of the co-operation and commitment of many stakeholders, for which we are eternally grateful. The dream has become a reality and we look forward with confidence that we will continue to meet the challenge of providing excellent second level education in a rapidly changing world. Our dedicated and enthusiastic staff strive to ensure that all students who attend Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna fulfil their potential. Throughout their time with us, students are nurtured, moulded and helped develop into mature and responsible adults.

Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna is committed to providing for the educational needs of its students. Despite many cutbacks in recent years, through increase in pupil teacher ratio, etc., all subjects were again offered this year at every level by a highly qualified and professional team of teachers. While we pride ourselves on our academic achievements, we also encourage involvement in numerous extra-curricular activities as illustrated in this booklet.

A special thank you to all who contributed to this publication. Their work and dedication is much appreciated. Looking forward to seeing you on Open Night.

Tá súil agam go mbainfidh sibh taitneamh as an foilseachán seo.
Le gach dea ghuí.

P. Scales.

MISSION STATEMENT

Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna is a multi-denominational school which aims to provide an education which is truly Christian.

We aspire to:

- Provide a just and caring environment where each student is impressed with awareness of human dignity and to develop a sense of responsibility in each individual.
- Develop the talents of each individual and instil the desire to achieve one's full potential through a spirit of intellectual enquiry and academic endeavour.
- Foster in a caring community the desire for participation and challenge; to build individual and compassionate men/women of character.
- Our holistic educational aspirations encompass the intellectual, moral, religious, personal, physical and social dimensions of our being. Mutual respect for one another is encouraged and the joy of learning becomes a reciprocal experience.



Deputy Principal
Ms. Lily Kinahan

BULLYING/CYBER BULLYING

Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna does not tolerate bullying. The role of the school is to provide the highest possible standard of education for all its pupils. A stable secure learning environment is an essential requirement to achieve this goal. Bullying behaviour, by its very nature, undermines and dilutes the quality of education, and imposes psychological damage.

As such, it is an issue, which is positively and firmly addressed through a range of school based measures and strategies by which all members of the school community are enabled to act effectively in dealing with this behaviour.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education is a priority. School Masses, Prayer Services, Retreats, JP2 Awards, Seminars and Talks are an integral part of school life. Students are also encouraged to put their faith into practice by working for justice and peace.

DESIGNATED MGLD CLASS

In addition to the learning support provision in Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna, the school provides a designated class for students with mild general learning difficulties. Students who have a recommendation on their report, that this unit would best suit their needs, abilities and aptitudes, may apply for admission to the class.

HOME-SCHOOL LINKS

Education in Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna is seen as a three way process between parents, students and teachers. Therefore, good communication between school and home is an essential part of our school policy.

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

GIRLS' UNIFORM

- Specified blue round neck jumper with grey stripe in the collar.
- Royal blue/navy/grey pleated skirt (Style no. 14774).
- White shirt or polo shirt with crest.
- Navy knee length socks or navy tights.
- A tailored navy trousers.

BOYS' UNIFORM

- Specified blue round neck jumper with grey stripe in the collar.
- Slate grey (Orries) trousers.
(Denim, Cord or Casual trousers are not allowed)
- White shirt or polo shirt with school crest.

FOOTWEAR

- Sensible black, navy or brown shoes allowed.
- Deck Shoes allowed (white soles permitted on Deck Shoes).
- Runners style shoes MUST BE ALL BLACK – NO COLOURED SOLES, MARKINGS, STRIPES OR LOGOS ALLOWED. Black or white laces only. Canvas shoes not allowed.

Students will not be allowed to class unless in full uniform.
School Uniform is available from Home Needs, Main Street, Banagher.



JCSP Teachers Meeting
Mr. S. Duggan, Ms. N. Hehir,
Ms. J. Hassett, Ms. B. Hassett,
Mr. J. Drennan.



Guidance Counsellor
Ms. Claire Kenny



First Year Tutors: Ms. Laura McDowall,
Ms. Anita Broderick, Mr. Patrick Bennett
& Ms. Louise Brennan



Cairde Co-ordinators
Ms. Louise Brennan & Ms. Maria Doorly



TY Co-ordinators: Ms. Claire Kenny,
Mr. Jim Nolan & Ms. Gillian Dewane

SCHOOL CURRICULUM

JUNIOR CYCLE

There are three options available to students:

Regular Junior Certificate, Junior Certificate Schools Programme, and J.C.A.

Examination Subjects

Art, Craft & Design

Business Studies

English

French

Gaeilge

German

Geography

History

Home Economics

Latin

Materials Technology (Wood)

Mathematics

Metalwork

Music

Science

Technical Graphics

Non Examination Subjects

Civic, Social & Political Education

Computer Studies

Physical Education

Religious Education

Speech & Drama

Social, Personal and Health

Education (S.P.H.E)



Art Trip to Newgrange & Knowth



Leaving Cert Graduation 2019



Class 2B on CSPE Trip to Leinster House



LCA Basket Weaving & Wreath Making



LCA-JCSP Trip



L Cert Ag Science Class visit Grennan's Rath



Make-a-Book



Talent Show Winners



Carol Singing



Leaving Certs attended An Trail in Limerick



John Paul 2 Awards



German Exchange



2nd Year Maths Class

SCHOOL CURRICULUM

SENIOR CYCLE

Senior Cycle students have four options available:

Transition Year, Regular Leaving Certificate, Leaving Certificate Applied, Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme.

Examination Subjects

Accounting

Agricultural Science

Applied Maths

Art

Biology

Business

Chemistry

Construction Studies

Design & Communication Graphics

Engineering

English

French

Gaeilge

Geography

German

History

Home Economics

Latin

Mathematics

Music

Link Modules

Physics

Non Examination Subjects

Career Guidance

Computer Studies

Religious Education

Physical Education



LCA Staff Christmas Dinner

FURTHER INFORMATION

LCA (LEAVING CERT APPLIED)

This programme is a distinct, self-contained two-year Leaving Certificate Programme. It prepares students for the demanding transition to adult and working life and recognises the talents of all students. Students are provided with opportunities to develop in terms of responsibility, self-esteem and self-knowledge. It enhances their communication and decision making skills and helps students achieve a more independent and enterprising approach to learning and to life.

TRANSITION YEAR

Transition Year is a stand alone year, between 3rd Year and 5th Year, where students undertake a wide selection of subjects in a modular format. This helps students choose the correct set of subjects for their Leaving Certificate. Added to this academic exposure is the opportunity to build their interpersonal skills, social awareness skills and personal confidence. Students undertake the important Microsoft Office Specialist, Disability Sports Inclusion Programme, Drive for Life programme, President's Gaisce Awards, Kayaking, JP2 Awards, Self-Defence and County Enterprise competition. Studies have shown that students who have taken the Transition Year Programme have a higher grade point average in the LC. (Scoring 30 points more)
(The TY Programme – An Assessment by the ESRI 2004)

DISCIPLINE

Our system is based on Christian values. The emphasis is on the development of self discipline and respect for others. Our Code of Conduct is drawn up with a view to ensuring good order and good discipline which in turn facilitate effective teaching and learning.

CAREER GUIDANCE/COUNSELLING

The school has a Guidance Counsellor who together with other staff members provide comprehensive career guidance and education support programmes to students.

LEARNING SUPPORT

The school has fully qualified Special Education and Learning Support teachers who have a very effective Educational Support Programme in operation. Specialist intervention can prove very valuable for students who have lost out or have fallen behind in a particular subject.

CHAPLAIN

The school has a fully qualified Chaplain who works in conjunction with the Guidance Counsellor and Student Support Team and is always available to liaise with students, parents/guardians.

PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral Care is the responsibility of all teachers particularly the Year Heads who co-ordinate the work of the Class Tutor. Each class has its own Class Tutor who takes a special interest in the general well-being and academic progress of each student in his/her class.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Our school has a long and noteworthy record in the art of public speaking. For many years, students have been actively involved in various exercises which promote eloquent public speaking, self confidence and success. Each year, First Year students are introduced to the concept of public speaking and given a grounding in the basics required for effective communication.

STUDENT COUNCIL

The school has an active Student Council, whose main purpose is improving the quality of life for students and staff. They meet regularly with the aim of making the school a better place for all.



Mr. S. Dolan, Ms. N. Hehir, Ms. M. Morkan & Mr. P. Bennett Learning Support Coordinator.
Mr. Bennett liaises with parents, staff and Department of Education and Skills personnel to ensure that the resources are put in place to meet the needs of students requiring support in their education.



School Chaplain, Ms. Kathleen Gleeson & Fr. Pat Kiernan, P.P.



Our team of Special Needs Assistants:
Ms. Siobhán Claffey,
Ms. Bernie Ryan
& Ms. Maura Feehan



Opening of School Year



Dr. Maureen Griffin addressed parents & students on Internet Safety

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

The purpose of schooling should be to teach young people to teach themselves – how to live, how to pray, how to work, how to direct their lives, how to shoulder responsibility. School Rules and Regulations must have this as their objective. Unless we discipline ourselves we cannot achieve our goals; young people must learn the value of discipline if they are to succeed. Students are expected to show respect for themselves and for all other members of the school community. Our Code of Behaviour is one that is based on the recognition of the student as an individual and yet creates an environment in which the welfare of all is protected.

CÁIRDE

The Cáirde group consists of Fifth Years who are willing to act as mentors to help incoming First Years integrate into their new school. As well as meeting in small groups, the Fifth Years involved organise social events throughout the year.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Parents are elected from each district. The main aim of the Association is to promote the education and general welfare of the students of the school and to encourage parental involvement in the education of their children.



Head Boys & Head Girls 2019 - 2020
Brian Rigney, Katelyn Deegan, Jessica Rusu, Thomas Daly



Class Prefects 2019 - 2020



Student Council - Ella Dempsey, Charlie McDermott, Zoe McCullough, Clodagh McGarry, Emily Cormican & Katie Butler



Members of the Student Council addressing the Board of Management



Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna Board of Management

(Back Row Left to Right):

Sr. G. Sweeney, Mr. D. Magner, Ms. V. Keenan, Ms. B. Feeney, Ms. L. McDowall.

(Front Row): Mrs. A. McGuckin, Ms. M. D'Alton, Mr. T. McGlacken, Mr. D. Treacy, Mr. E. Dooley, Mr. P. Scales.



Student Support

Ms. C. Kenny, Ms. K. Gleeson, Ms. L. Kinahan, Mr. P. Scales, Mr. P. Bennett, Ms. M. Morkan, Ms. P. Keegan

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

An Chumann Gaelach
 Aptitude Tests
 Art Competitions
 Athletics
 Assemblies
 Badminton
 Basketball
 Cáirde
 Camogie
 Career Talks
 Carol Singing - School Choir
 Charity Events
 Computer Competitions
 Cross Country Running
 Drama & School Show
 Educational Trips
 Enterprise Education
 Evening Study
 "Excel" Awards
 First Aid
 Football
 Foreign Trips
 German School Exchange
 Golf
 Graduation
 Green Schools
 -Awarded Second Green Flag.
 Theme: Energy
 Guest Speakers
 Guitar
 Hurling
 Internet Safety
 (Programme/Talks)
 JP2 Awards
 Karate
 Ladies Football
 Mock Interviews
 Pantomime
 Personal Development Course
 Public Speaking
 Quizzes
 Retreats
 Science Week
 School Bank
 Soccer
 Speech & Drama
 Student Council
 Study Skills Seminars
 Substance Abuse Seminars
 Talent Show
 Transition Year Activities
 Tráth na gCeist
 University Open Days
 Young Entrepreneurs
 Well Being



Transition Year



TY Class 2018-2019 receive their Gaisce Awards



MOS Cert Presentation



TY Students of the Year
Daniel Egan, Gráinne Malone & Eve Martin



Jigsaw Presentation



School Bank



Mathathon



Bay Sports



Tys at Killary Adventure Centre



Battle of the Wits
Naoise Dooley, Amy McGough,
Josh McDowell & Kyle Rock



Tys at Zeminar



Trip to Italy



School Digital Champions

TY Presentation of "Robin Hood" 2019



Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna

Award Winners 2019



Awards 2019

Back Row (Left to Right): Mr. P. Scales (Principal), Mollie Yates, Shane Kearns, Evan O'Rourke, Diarmuid Gannon, Amy Byrne, Eimear Brogan, Rebecca Flynn, Ms. L. Kinahan (Deputy Principal), Mr. P. Fields (LOETB). **Front Row:** Sarah Temple, Kaitlyn Kennedy, Katie Foley, Jordan Dunican, Louise Mannion, Evan Houlihan, Eoghan Feeney, Seán Hanamy, Irla Butler, Aine Doorly.



Diarmuid Gannon
Student of the Class
& LOETB Award



Shane Kearns
Student of the Class,
Engineering Award
& LOETB Award



Jordan Dunican
Student of the Class



Muireann Nolan
Student of the Class



Caoimhe Kelly
Best Junior Cert



Amy Byrne
Student of the Class



Irla Butler
Student of the Class



Amy Byrne &
Shane Kearns
Banagher Precast Award



Eoin Maloney
Student of the
Class



Evan O'Rourke
Student of the Class



Eimear Brogan
Student of the Class



Seán Hanamy

Overall Student of the Year,
Winner of Corn Uí Mháille &
LOETB Award



Mollie Yates
LCA2 Student of the Year
& LOETB Award



Aine Doorly
Student of the Class



Rebecca Flynn
Valerie Hayes Award



Eoin Feeney
Student of the Class



Katie Foley
Student of the Class



Lauren Davis
LOETB Junior Cert Award



Jimmy Gilligan
LOETB LCA2 Award



Sarah Temple
Construction Studies
Student of the Year



Louise Mannion, Evan Houlihan, Kaitlyn Kennedy
Extra Curricular Students of the Year



LOETB Leaving Cert 2, LCA2 &
Junior Cert Awards

Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna

WHAT YOUR NEW SCHOOL WILL OFFER

This new school has been built to optimum size to benefit from the additional resources made available by the Department of Education and Skills.

The building includes state-of-the-art facilities and equipment such as 4 Science Laboratories, 2 Home Economics Rooms, 2 Art/Craft Rooms, P.E. Hall, Fitness Suite, etc. and will offer a top class atmosphere which will undoubtedly foster positive learning and development.

The management and staff of the school carry a wealth of experience and talent to the new school.

The level of pastoral care is excellent. Every student will be cared for in areas of both academic and personal development.

The subject choice and all individual areas of strength are catered for.

All aspects of extra curricular activities will be enhanced greatly including sports, public speaking and drama. Every individual or team-based activity will enjoy a wide ranging pool of talent and everyone will be encouraged to participate.

Supervised evening study is available for all students 4.00pm - 6.00pm Monday to Thursday. Friday 2.50pm - 4.50pm.



Duncan Stewart - Climate Change Talk



Aoibhe, Meibh & Naoise Dooley
Instrumental Scór
Competition winners



Emily Cormican, Abhainn Hurley, Aishling
Foley & Kelly Claffey who will be
heading to Slovakia in January 2020 as
part of our Erasmus+ Inside Out Project.



Mida Poland, Libby Mullery & Róisie
Mahon winners of the TY Science
Week Digital Video Competition.



Gráinne Malone was
part of the Youth
Assembly on Climate
Change. Gráinne spoke
in the Dáil and visited
RTE for Climate Youth
Assembly @rtenews.



Saoirse Nevin Kenny who
won 4 silver medals and
1 bronze medal at the
World Championships of
Kettlebell Lifting in Serbia.



Daniel Daly
RSA Leading Light
National Award



Daniel Daly & Isobel
Dempsey Karate Winners



Junior Profile of Achievement
Certificate Presentation



LCAs Win Silver in ReelLife Science Competition



Daniel Daly & Gráinne
Malone at Beyond Limits 19
Summit in Croke Park



LOETB Artistic Talents Performance Awards



Duncan Stewart with Ms
Claire Corley & Mr Jim Nolan



Mr. Jim Nolan receiving Gaisce Pal
Award at Farnleigh House



Junior Debating Team



Diarmuid Kelly,
winner of a 4-day
trip to Strasbourg
as part of The
Graduate Online
Civic Awareness
Competition



Dale Coyne
Gold Medal in
25m front crawl
in the Leinster
Swimming Final



Veronica
Tesarova
Science Week
2nd Year poster
competition
winner.



David Briscoe
Winner of the
Science Week
TY Digital
Media Poster
Competition

What you will find different in Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna

- Subject Options
- Pastoral Care Structure - Year Head, Class Tutor
- Caring Environment

FIRST YEARS' IMPRESSIONS

In a recent survey the First Years were asked to give their impressions of their first term as students in Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna.

The following quotations are flavours of their responses:

Students' Comments

- Canteen, changing teachers and classroom every hour.
- The canteen, the size of the building, helpful teachers.
- Subjects, atmosphere and size.
- The breaks are long and you can be with whoever you want outside or inside.
- That we get a taster of all the subjects before we pick our options.
- Meeting new friends and the options classes.
- Being able to hurl for the school.
- The teachers are very nice and helpful.
- That if you need any help they will explain it to you in a way that you understand.
- All the activities that we are offered.
- I like how clean the school is and I like the new subjects.
- Moving around, sport, clean, helpful staff, canteen.
- The school is clean, good sport, the canteen is good and is easy to get around.
- The lockers so we don't have to take our books everywhere.

Parent Comment

We are happy with the school.

First Year Groups 2019/2020



First Year Cairde Trip



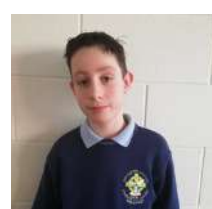
Cairde Quiz Winners



Eanna Mulhare, Patryk Palma, Daniel O'Neill, Donagh Larkin, Wiktor Mastalerz
Geography Week Quiz Winners



Rachel Cleary
Science Week
First Year Poster
Competition
Winner



Ethan Cusack
School section of
LOETB Christmas
Card competition
winner



Cillian Mahony & Hannah
Kenny First Year Maths Award

Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna
Banagher, Co. Offaly.

PHOTO

(Taken in School)

Academic Year 2020 - 2021

APPLICATION FOR ENROLMENT

Student P.P.S. No.

Student Surname: (as on Birth Cert) _____

Gender: Male ☐ Female ☐

First Name: (as on Birth Cert) _____ Name Called: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Birth Cert Attached Yes ☐ No ☐

Parent/Guardian Names: _____

Mother's Maiden Name: _____

Nationality: _____ Country of Birth: _____

School now attending: _____

Medical Card: Yes ☐ No ☐ Medical Card Number: _____

Full Correspondence Title: _____

Phone Number: _____ (Home) _____ (Work)

_____ (Mobile) _____ (Mobile)

Contact for School Web Text:- Name: _____ Mobile Number _____

Email Address: _____

Academic Record - Has the student had access to any of the following:

Special Needs Assistant	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Special Class	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Resource Hours	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Assistance with behavioural modification	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Psychological Assessment	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Educational Assessment	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Help for visual impairment	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Help for hearing impairment	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Help for mobility/travel	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Help for any specific learning difficulty	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Exemption from any subject. If so, please give details. _____

Please attach any reports relevant to any of the above.

N.B. It may take some time for the Department of Education and Science to process any applications for extra resources. Parents/Guardians are strongly advised to inform the school as early as possible of any such needs and to discuss their particular situation well in advance of the school year.

Hobbies and Interests: _____

Any other Information or Requests: _____

Lunch Pass? Yes ☐ No ☐

Health Record: _____

Please inform the school of any medical ailments, injuries or any other health issues that may be relevant including any allergies the student may have or any medication he/she is taking:

ANY OTHER INFORMATION

I wish to have the above child considered for enrolment in Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna. I accept that this is an Application Form and not an Enrolment Form and that my child will have to comply with all enrolment procedures before he/she can be enrolled in the school.

Signature: _____ (Parent/Guardian) **Date:** _____

Data Protection Notice

Laois & Offaly ETB will treat all personal data you provide on this form as confidential and will use it solely for the purpose intended. The information will only be disclosed as permitted by law or for the purpose listed in Laois & Offaly ETB's registration with the Data Protection Commissioner.

I undertake, as a student to abide by the Code of Behaviour of the school and to comply with other rules and regulations that may apply to students from time to time.



Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna, Banagher, Co. Offaly

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OPEN NIGHT 2020

Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna will hold its Open Night on Thursday, 23rd January commencing at 7.30pm

ENROLMENT

Thursday, 30th January	7.30pm – 9.30pm
Saturday, 1st February	10.00am – 12.30pm

Students will be afforded the opportunity to enrol on Open Night, Enrolment Days or at another convenient time.

Open Night 2020

Thursday, 23rd January 7.30pm – 9.30pm