

BANAGHER COLLEGE



Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna

Banagher, Co. Offaly




Prospectus
2022 - 2023

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 @BanagherCollege

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 Ms. Lily Kinahan (Acting Principal) and Ms. Eve Clarke (Acting 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 your 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 College.



Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna

Message from the School Principal

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. Our 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.

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

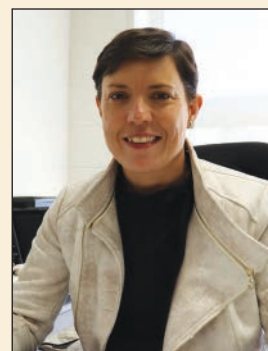
L. Kinahan
Acting Principal

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.



Ms. Lily Kinahan
Acting Principal



Ms. Eve Clarke
Acting Deputy Principal



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



Cairdre 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



Technical Drawing



History



PE & Home Economics



Metalwork



Music



Physics



Science

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



Technology



Woodwork

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.



Ms. S. Mierzwa, Ms. M. Morkan, Ms. N. Minnock & 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:
Mr. Robert O'Donoghue, Ms. Maura Feehan,
Ms. Bernie Ryan & Ms. Siobhan Claffey



Stand Up Awareness Week

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

The purpose of schooling should be to teach young people to teach themselves – how to live, 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.



Student Council 2021/22



Head Boys & Head Girls 2021-2022 Seán Finneran, Olivia Killackey, Sinead Hanamy, Alan Mullery



Ms. Elaine Eastwood was delighted to receive a donation to St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal from 1st Years & Cairde TY Events Team



LOETB Academic Junior Cert 2021 Award Recipients – Hannah Kenny and Méabh Nolan with Mr. Paddy Scales



TY Cairde Leaders



Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna Board of Management

L. Kinahan, M. Mullery, A. Staunton,
J. Carroll, K. Jordan, J. Mollin, L. McDowell, Sr. G. Sweeney, M. D'Alton,
P. Scales, S. Duggan,
Missing from photo: C. Claffey

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's Team Building with Birr Outdoor Education Centre



TY's Mountain Biking in Kinnitty Mountains



TY Panto 2021 - Show White



TY students visit UL sports arena



TY Panto 2021 - Show White



TY French Class students enjoyed a film 'en francais' in Birr Theatre



TY's on their Gaisce hike in Shannon Harbour

Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna | AWARD RECIPIENTS 2021



Aoife Kenny
Student of the Class



Daniel Egan
Student of the Class



Eimear Hughes
Student of the Class



Grainne Malone
Student of the Class & Valerie
Hayes Award



Aoife O'Sullivan
Student of the Class



Shauna Mitchell
Student of the Class



Ciara Clancy
Student of the Class



Ella Camon
Student of the Class



Kieran Kennedy
Student of the Class



Ella Dempsey
Student of the Class



Cathy Moran & Rebecca McGarry
Extra Curricular Student of the Year



Siobhan Nolan
Overall Student of the Year & Corn Ui Mhaille with Mr.
Scales and Ms. MacMahon



Alex Gheorghe & Aishling Foley
receive From Each Your Best Award



Cathal Clancy
Leaving Cert Applied
Student of the Year



Eve Martin
Student of the Class



Aoife Mahoney
Student of the Class



Saoirse Nevin Kenny
Student of the Class



Grace Butler
Engineering Student of the Year with
Mr. Scales & Mr. Grogan



Méabh Nolan
Junior Cert Student of the Year



Hannah Kenny
Junior Cert Student of the Year



Róise McGarry
Student of the Class



Natasha Daly
Student of the Class



Rebecca McGarry
Student of the Class



Hannah Cannon
Student of the Class



Kelan Rigney
Student of the Class



Nuria Corrigan Ahijado
Student of the Class

Other Award Recipients include: Derbhla Lally Leaving Cert Applied Student of the Year, Kevin Calahan Student of the Class & Construction Studies Student of the Year, Aoife Brody & Holly Boylan Transition Year Students of the Year, Ciara Flynn Student of the Class, Marie-Claire Fogarty Student of the Class

WHAT YOUR NEW SCHOOL WILL OFFER

This 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.
2.50pm - 4.50pm Friday.

S.T.E.A.M. Room

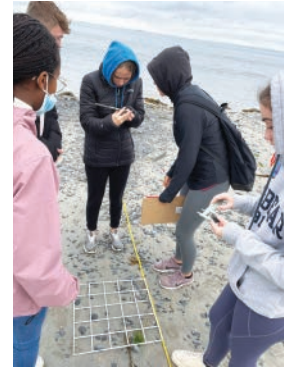
The school has recently added a S.T.E.A.M. (Science Technology Engineering Arts and Maths) room to provide a hub for digital learning and creativity in the school. Among other things, the room is used for various coding workshops facilitated by the school's S.T.E.A.M. Team.

The room is equipped with state of the art digital equipment including a full suite of Microbits and accessories, Vex Robotics kits, Sphero programmable robots, a 3D Printer and much more. The S.T.E.A.M. room also houses a video production studio, with green screen and 360 degree cameras, as well as Oculus Quest Virtual Reality.

The S.T.E.A.M. room is also used as a home for the School Digital Champion teams and School Robotics team, as well as being the base classroom for the TY Digital Technology curriculum. The purpose of the continuing development of the room is to provide further opportunities for students to develop a range of 21st Century digital skills.



2nd Year Science Week Trip to Birr Castle



Leaving Cert Geography students on a fieldtrip to Ballyvaughan, Co. Clare



5th & 6th Year Art Students visit Hunt Museum, Limerick



3rd Year Bake Sale in aid of Peter McVerry Trust



5th Year Students promoting Gaelige



Leaving Cert Ag Science students on a farm visit



5th Year Students promoting Gaelige



LCA Students canoeing on the river Shannon



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:

What Students' Like

- Canteen, changing teachers and classroom every hour.
- The size of the building and 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 stand, 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.



1st Year Camogie Team



U13 Super 7 Hurlers



1st Year Footballers



1st Year Hurlers



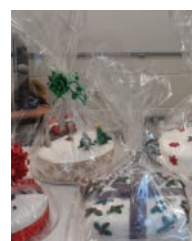
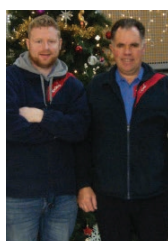
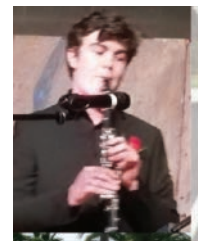
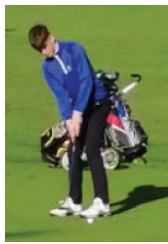
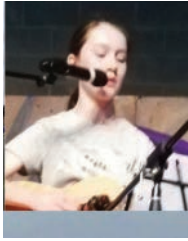
1st Years Halloween Poster Competition Winners



1st Year meeting with their Cairde leaders



1st Years creating Christmas decorations



our school life



PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF 6TH CLASS STUDENTS

"Our aim in education is to contribute towards the development of all aspects of the individual. Our dedicated and enthusiastic staff strive to ensure that all students who attend Banagher College go on to fulfil their potential, developing into mature and responsible adults along the way."

Important information for Parents/Guardians and 6th Class Students can be found at **www.bccns.ie**

Important Links

Annual Admission Notice

Application Form of Admission

Admissions Policy

Subject Options

BCCNS Twitter

Promoting Positive Mental Health

Extra Curricular Activities

Gallery of Recent Events

Department of Education Whole School Inspection Report

BCCNS College Awareness Week

For more information or if you wish to make an appointment to visit the school please contact us on

Ph: (057) 9151323

Email: admin@bccns.ie



www.bccns.ie



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2022

Applications open: 15th December 2021

Applications close: 31st January 2022

Notification from the School: by 4th February 2022

Acceptance/Enrolment: by 18th February 2022



Banagher College Coláiste na Sionna, Banagher, Co. Offaly

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