

NEWRY HIGH SCHOOL



**BOARD OF
GOVERNORS
ANNUAL
REPORT**

2023-24



Newry High School
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The Board of Governors for the term 2018 - 2024

The Board of Governors has overall responsibility for the effective management of the school. Its membership includes Education Authority representatives, transfer representatives, elected Parent Governors and two Teacher Governors elected by the teaching staff. The Board therefore represents all the main interest groups concerned with the school. The Governors have responsibilities in relation to the curriculum, the appointment and dismissal of staff, admissions to the school, discipline, school funds and building.

BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

Mr F Bell

TRANSFEROR REPRESENTATIVES

Mr C Whiteside, Mr S Cooper, Rev S McDonald

PARENT REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs P Murphy, Mrs C MacLeod, Mrs A McCullough, Mrs J Clements

TEACHER REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs C Lutton, Mrs C Dunn

PRINCIPAL

Mr I Brown

Chairman – Mr C Whiteside

Secretary to the Board of Governors – Mr I Brown

The following Board of Governors' meetings were convened during the 2023-2024 academic year:

Full Board meetings:

21 September 2023

28 February 2024

19 June 2024

Staffing Sub-Committee meetings:

3 October 2023

23 August 2023

21 August 2024

Aims and Values

Mission statement

Newry High School exists to serve the community of Newry and surrounding district by providing an appropriate and challenging curriculum for all pupils. Providing:

‘Quality Education for All’

Introduction

We believe the success of our students is in part based upon the school aims and shared values. We are committed to providing an excellent standard of education for all students, whatever their ability or background. We aim to foster the all-round development of each individual, so that everyone can make the most of their talents and contribute to the life of the school and the wider community.

Our approach to Teaching and Learning is based upon high expectations and positive relationships which show mutual respect, trust and a desire to achieve the very best. We aim for Newry High School to be a purposeful and happy place where everyone is actively engaged in, and stimulated by, the process of learning. We want to demonstrate awareness that students all learn in a variety of ways and that learning is a lifelong experience.

The aim of the NI Curriculum is to empower young people to achieve their potential and to make informed and responsible decisions throughout their lives. The objectives are to develop the young person as:

- an individual
- a contributor to society and
- a contributor to the economy and environment

Our overarching aim is to provide an inclusive and diverse curriculum which is balanced, broad, relevant and appropriate. The curriculum will:

- promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental, and physical development of students
- prepare students for the opportunities, responsibilities, and experiences of adult life
- actively challenge each pupil ensuring all students reach their full potential

School Aims

- To provide a safe, caring, disciplined and stimulating learning environment.
- To maintain an open and honest partnership with students, parents and outside agencies through effective channels of communication.
- To promote the Christian ethos of the school.
- To have high expectations for all students, monitor progress by effective use of data and enhance standards by target setting, tracking and mentoring.
- To encourage a sense of community through the provision of a wide and varied programme of extra-curricular activities.
- To develop students as responsible individuals and effective contributors to society.
- To ensure that the school is an active and vibrant part of the community.
- To celebrate the success and achievement of all students and staff.

School Values

Our Code of Conduct is focused on three key concepts:

Excellence

We expect the highest possible standards in all aspects of school life in partnership with all our stakeholders. We strive for continuous improvement in all that we do through effective self-evaluation.

Responsibility

We encourage our students to take responsibility for their own learning and behaviour and to contribute positively to all aspects of school life.

Respect

We expect all stakeholders to be considerate of other views and feelings. Trust, courtesy and co-operation are central to this key value. We encourage people to work together and develop positive relationships.

We strive to create an inviting and positive student-centred learning environment where all individuals are valued for their own personal strengths. We expect everyone to take pride in our school, show a 'can-do' attitude and be fully committed to all aspects of school life.

Organisation and Management

The Board has delegated to the Principal the responsibility of ensuring that its wishes are carried out in the day-to-day organisation and administration of the school. To achieve these objectives, the Principal and School Management Teams take specific responsibility for the management of the main areas in the school's development – Curriculum and Pastoral Care.

The school's Senior Leadership Team, comprising of the Principal and Vice Principal plus 3 Senior teachers and 1 SLT member of staff (LSCO / SENCO) had scheduled meetings each week.

Management of Pastoral Care is under the oversight of the Pastoral Care Team which is composed of six Year Heads, Senior Teacher (Pastoral) under the chairmanship of a Vice-Principal. Regular pastoral care and safeguarding meetings were held during the school year.

Heads of Department meet under the chairmanship of the Principal. Heads of Department are responsible for the organisation and management of their subject areas and present their Departmental Policy and Development Plans to the Principal and their Line Manager for annual review. Two formal HOD meetings were held during the school year.

Departmental meetings were held on a regular basis throughout the year and minutes are submitted to the Principal/Line Manager.

STAFFING

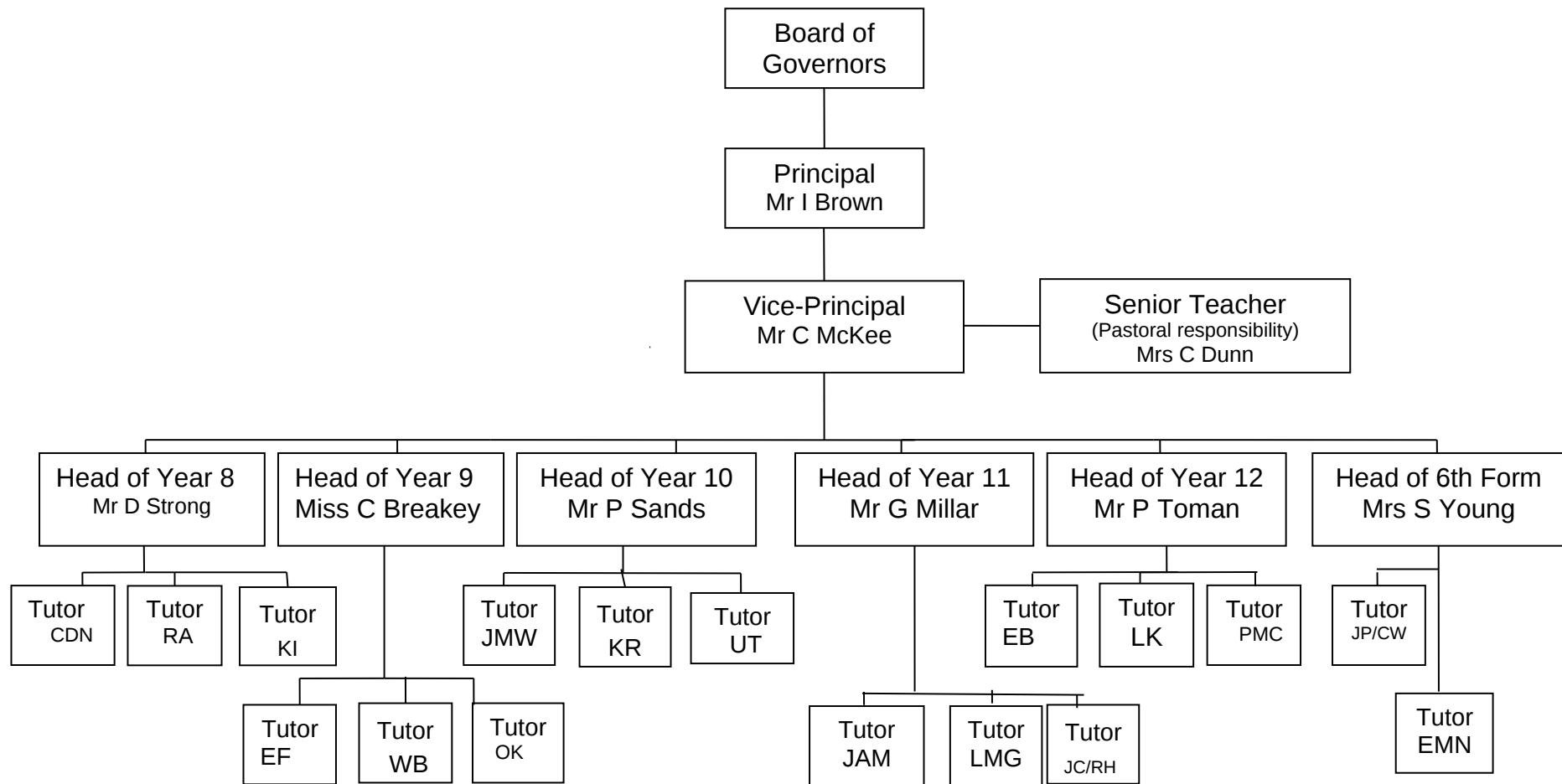
The Staffing for 2023-2024 was as follows:

Principal	1
Vice-principal	1
Teachers	34
Caretakers	2
Technicians	4
Classroom/Domestic Assistants	20
Clerical Staff	4

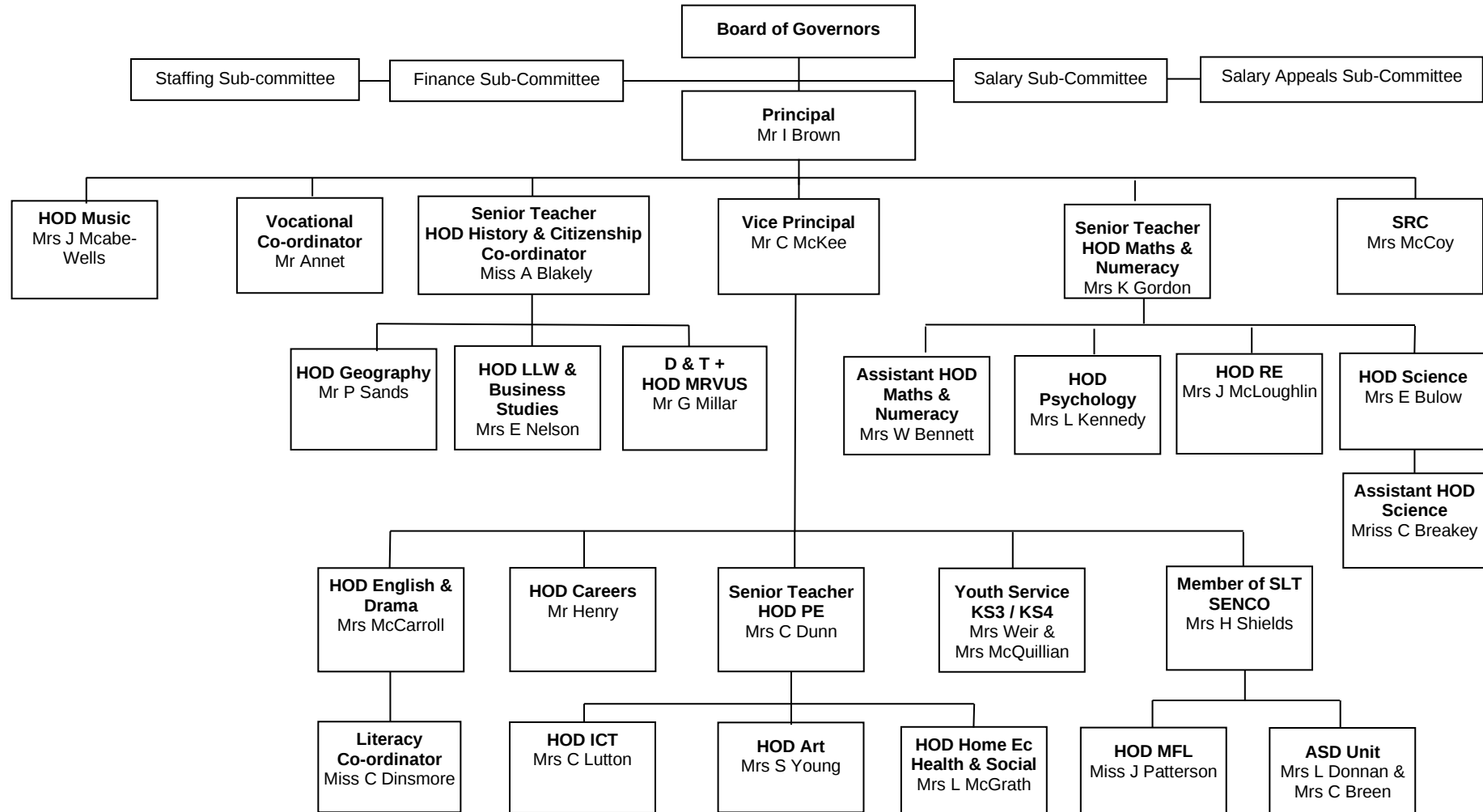
The total number of teachers employed in the school was Principal and 34 teachers, comprised as follows:

	(equivalent)
▪ 29 full-time	(29.0)
▪ 7 part-time	(5.3)
▪ Total 36 teachers	(34.3)

PASTORAL MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE



Curriculum Line Management Structure 2023 - 2024



General Information

Newry High School is a medium sized 11-18 all ability co-educational school. It has a maximum capacity of 580 and draws pupils from all sections of the community. The school prides itself on its academic achievements, not only from top academic stream pupils, but also from those pupils of lower academic ability who are taught in smaller classes where they can receive more individual attention.

Newry High School is a uniquely inclusive school in terms of ability, religion and ethnic diversity. The school has a good reputation for its academic achievement, sporting success and pastoral care and it offers a wide range of extra-curricular experiences to its pupils. Situated on the outskirts of the resurgent new City of Newry the school is well equipped and maintained and well placed to meet the challenges of the future.

SCHOOL HOURS

The school day for pupils commenced with Registration at 8.40 a.m. followed by Assembly at 8.45 am. Classes began at 8.55 am. There were 9 teaching periods of 35 minutes on Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8 teaching periods of 35 minutes on – Tuesday and Thursday .

Morning break: 10.55 am - 11.10 am

Lunch break: 1.05 pm - 1.40 pm

The school day for pupils ends at 3.00 pm and 2.25 pm on Tuesday and Thursday.

ADMISSIONS

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022-23	2023-2024
Applications	80	74	75	78	62
Admissions	80	74	75	78	62

ATTENDANCE

% attendance for the 2023-2024 school year was 88.8%.

ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

17 pupils received Full Attendance Certificates

42 pupils received Class Prizes (Years 8-11)

HOUSE POINTS AWARDS

TOP HOUSE POINTS WINNER IN YEAR 8	Faye McLoughlin
TOP HOUSE POINTS WINNER IN YEAR 9	Marita Wirkowska
TOP HOUSE POINTS WINNER IN YEAR 10	Paige Smyth
TOP HOUSE POINTS WINNER IN YEAR 11	Lily McCartney
TOP HOUSE POINTS WINNER IN YEAR 12	Lena Durkalec

TOP HOUSE POINTS WINNER 6th FORM	Cleona Maginn
RECIPIENT OF THE HOUSE SHIELD ON BEHALF OF THE WINNING HOUSE	Marita Wirkowska
House Points - Governor's Award	Marita Wirkowska

SPECIAL AWARD WINNERS

KEY STAGE 3 AWARDS

Physical Education - Boys - Key Stage 3	Jamie Henning
Physical Education - Girls - Key Stage 3	Mia Patterson
The New School of Motoring Cup for Academic Achievement	Sam Ward

YEAR 12 AWARDS

Academic PE Cup	Thomas McCabe
MVRUS (The Thompson Cup for GCSE Motor Vehicle and Road User Studies)	Will Lockhart
Learning for Life and Work (Newry Heritage Cup for Learning for Life and Work)	Insaal Awan
Vocational Award (SRC) - Year 12	Dylan Magennis
Vocational Award (SRC) - Year 12	April Wolfe
Princes Trust (Applied Vocational Cup)	April Wolfe
English (Effort - Elaine McClure Cup)	Greta Cowan
Home Economics (The Smet Cup for Home Economics: Food & Nutrition)	Rugile Koverovaite
ICT (The Newry High School GCSE ICT Cup)	Daniel Holohan
Technology (The Technology and Engineering Cup)	Nathan Revels
Music (The O'Neill Cup for Music)	Nathan Revels
Physics (The Lorna D. Clements Prize for Physics)	Nathan Revels
Childcare Award	Weronika Wirkowska
Business Studies (The GCSE Business Studies Cup)	Weronika Wirkowska
Art and Design (The Angela Livingstone Cup)	Lena Durkalec

English (The Janine A. Hanna Cup for GCSE English)	Lena Durkalec
English Literature (The Warnock Bequest for English Literature)	Lena Durkalec
Geography (The GCSE Geography Cup)	Lena Durkalec
History (The Newry High School Cup for History at GCSE)	Lena Durkalec
Mathematics (The GCSE Mathematics Cup)	Lena Durkalec
Psychology (The GCSE Psychology Cup)	Lena Durkalec
Science (The J.H. Reid Cup for Science)	Lena Durkalec
The McBlain Memorial Scholarship for GCSE (Boys)	Nathan Revels
The Strahan Memorial Scholarship for GCSE (Girls)	Lena Durkalec

YEAR 14 AWARDS

Art and Design (Judith Lockhart Trophy for A Level Art)	Julia Stankiewicz
Health and Social Care (Applied Health & Social Care Prize)	Megan Fogo
ICT (The Newry High School A-Level ICT Cup)	Jodie Sterritt
Mathematics (The Warnock Bequest for Mathematics)	Emilia Durkalec
Psychology (The Psychology Cup)	Kayleigh Moley
Travel and Tourism (The Applied Travel & Tourism Cup)	Anele Joncaite
Life and Health Science	Benjamin Ferris
Business Studies (Bank of Ireland Cup for Business Studies)	Benjamin Ferris
Biology (The W.B. Neill Cup for Biology)	Sinead Heaney
Chemistry (The J.M. Clements Prize for Chemistry)	Sinead Heaney
Geography (The McMinn Award for Geography)	Zak Best
History (The Altnaveigh House Cup for History)	Zak Best
The R.M. McVeigh Cup for Academic Achievement at A Level	Zak Best

WHOLE SCHOOL AWARDS

The Brown Cup for Hockey	Brianna Gregg
The Michael Preston Award for Sporting Achievement	Katie Jennings
The Newry High School Award for Leadership in Physical Education	Brianna Gregg & Rachael Harshaw
The Newry High School Trophy for Leadership in Careers	Calleigh Dodds, Aimee Fitzpatrick, Clara Doran, Billie Graham & Faith Donnelly.
Newry Heritage Shield for Services to the Community	Rachael Harshaw
The Key Stage 3, Daisy Newry, Per Ardua Award	Megan Jones & Harry Brown
The Key Stage 4, William Moorehead, Per Ardua Award	Julia Kolasa & Hannah Burton
The Key Stage 5, McEvoy's Newry, Per Ardua Award	Jodie Sterritt & Rachel Smet
The Newry High School Top International Student Award	Oliwia Stachurska
The Brian Conlon Foundation Award	Megan Fogo
The Newry High School Cup for Endeavour	Julia Stankiewicz & Harry Cartmill
The Gertrude Ross Memorial Cup for Resilience	Ruben Smet
Head Boy and Head Girl, Governor's Award	Zak Best & Sinead Heaney

DESTINATION OF SCHOOL LEAVERS (Years 12-14) in 2023-2024

	Key	Numbers	Percentage
1	Transferred	2	2%
2	Job skills/Training/Apprenticeship	9	11%
3	Higher Education (Degree / Foundation Degree)	11	14%
4	Further Education (non-degree)	30	37%
5	Employment	14	17%
6	Emigrated	0	0%
7	Other (LT sick / Pregnancy / Unemployed)	15	19%
8	Unknown	0	0%
	TOTAL	81	100.0

STAFFING UPDATE

The end of every school year is always tinged with sadness when we say goodbye to Year 14 and to some of Year 12. During the year we also said goodbye to Mr McKnight (caretaker). We welcomed Mr Kevin Harper (caretaker), Mr Aubrey Harshaw (caretaker) and Mr Paul Annet (science).

STAFF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT DAYS PROGRAMME

Staff Baker Days 2023 - 2024

Thursday 24 August 2023	Planning & preparation
Friday 25 August 2023	Pastoral care & behaviour
Tuesday 29 August 2023	Pastoral care & behaviour
Wednesday 30 August 2023	SEN, learning & teaching
Thursday 31 August 2023	Planning & preparation

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS 2023-2024

26 September 2023	Teaching and Learning
23 November 2023	Pastoral Care & behaviour
3 January 2024	SEN
27 March 2024	Assessment
28 May 2024	Staff Well Being

The CEIAG and Stem Team comprises 9 staff from across subject areas- Mr R. Henry (HOD), Mr Brown (Principal), Mrs Young (Head of Sixth Form), Mrs Lutton (Head of ICT), Mrs Nelson (Head of LLW), Mrs Bulow (Science), Mrs Gordon (Head of Maths) and Mr Millar (Head of Technology/Engineering).

Key Stage 3

Year 8

- Prospects 'Steps for Year 8' Career's booklet completed in Term 2
- Pupil and teacher online evaluation of booklet (ICT)
- CEIAG across the curriculum (see CATC curriculum mapping document)

Year 9

- Prospects 'Steps for Year 9' Career's booklet completed in Term 2
- Pupil and teacher online evaluation of booklet (ICT)
- CEIAG across the curriculum (see CATC curriculum mapping document)
- Robotics workshop delivered by U-Formation

Year 10

- Prospects 'Steps for Year 10' Career's booklet completed in Term 1
- Pupil and teacher online evaluation of booklet (Term 3)
- Pupils complete 'Career Starter' on My School (ICT) web area (Term 1)
- YENI workshop and programme completed during PSE
- Young Enterprise event 'Big Event' at St George's Market
- Young Enterprise internal Christmas Sales events (student businesses)
- Year 10 presentation to pupils delivered by Mr Henry on GCSE options choices (completed in PSE).
- Pupil work booklet on making GCSE options choices completed in PSE
- Parent/Pupil careers interview with a member of the Careers Team
- Optional pupil careers interview with Careers Advisor
- Year 10 Parent/Teacher meeting
- 'Career Planning' workshop delivered to Year 10 pupils by U-Formation
- Pupils decide GCSE option choices for Year 11
- Year 10 pupil online survey/questionnaire on CEIAG provision at KS3
- Year 10 parental online survey/questionnaire on CEIAG provision at KS3
- CEIAG across the curriculum (see CATC curriculum mapping document)

Key Stage 4

Year 11

- Prospects 'Steps for Year 11' Career's booklet completed in Term 1
- Pupil and teacher online evaluation of booklet
- 'Experience of Work' workshop delivered by U-Formation
- Year 11 work experience block for a selection of vocation students 1 day per week from September to June.
- Year 11 work experience week (June)- This includes a teacher visit with pupil/employer evaluation forms to be completed.

Year 12

Term 1

- HOY/Tutor interviews for underachieving pupils
- Careers Service presentation
- Year 11 work experience block for a selection of vocation students 1 day per week from September to June.
- Year 12 careers interviews and career planning with Careers Advisor begin (1-1 and small group options). Each pupil has option of further interview.
- Year 12 Parent-Teacher Meetings
- Newry High School Open Night

Term 2

- Careers presentation by Mr Henry
- SRC and other FE Colleges release application forms for courses beginning (February)
- Student/ parent updates regarding these applications and in-school support during the launch of the applications portal
- SRC 'The Big Apprenticeship' Event (February)
- SRC Open Days (March)
- Year 12 Parent/Pupil Careers Interview with member of CEIAG team
- Newry High School Sixth Form Information Evening and Careers Convention (March)

Term 3

- Option for further Careers Interview with DEL Careers Advisor and/or Mr Henry (Head of Careers).
- Careers Convention and Sixth Form Options night
- Parents complete Year 12 Careers questionnaire
- GCSE Examinations

Term 1-3

- Prospects 'Steps for Year 12' Career's booklet completed in PSE (successful completion leads to CEIAG Award)
- Pupil and teacher online evaluation of booklet (Term 3)
- Year 12 Work Experience option block
- Regular updates on Careers Google Classroom regarding CEIAG material received or discovered on various media platforms.

Key Stage 5

Year 13

- Year 13 Careers interview (August)
- Prospects 'Steps for Post-16' Career's booklet completed in PSE
- Health and Social Care careers presentation
- Year 13 work experience (June)
- In-School Careers Talks- FE/HE talks from SRC, UU, Dundalk Institute of Technology, Scottish Universities, 'The University Roadshow' and Cafre. This includes a presentation from Student Finance and CAO.

Year 14

- Sixth Form Induction – overview of CEIAG programme
- University Visits to QUB and University of Ulster (September)
- School Summit NI visit for Sixth Form
- Golf Futures event
- Midwifery work experience event with Belfast HSCT
- Careers enrichment day with past pupils delivering a talk followed by a Q&A with students about their Careers pathways
- Year 14 Careers Interviews with Careers Adviser
- Health and Social Care careers presentation (Term 1)
- UCAS application process (Term 1 PSE lessons)
- Option to re-attend all Year 13 in school careers talks

GCSE Results (2024)

Subject	No	A*	A	B	C*	C	D	E	F	G	U	% A*-C	% A*-G
Arabic	5	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	100.0	100.0
		40.0	40.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Art & Design	13	2	1	6	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	92.3	100.0
		15.4	7.7	46.2	23.1	0.0	7.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Business Studies	17	1	2	1	4	2	4	0	2	1	0	58.8	100.0
		5.9	11.8	5.9	23.5	11.8	23.5	0.0	11.8	5.9	0.0		
BTEC Childcare	16	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	7	0	4	31.3	75.0
		0.0	6.3	0.0	0.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	43.8	0.0	25.0		
Technology	10	0	1	3	0	0	4	0	2	0	0	40.0	100.0
		0.0	10.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	40.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	0.0		
English	62	2	6	20	8	12	5	7	2	0	0	77.4	100.0
		3.2	9.7	32.3	12.9	19.4	8.1	11.3	3.2	0.0	0.0		
English Literature	14	1	3	1	2	3	2	0	0	2	0	71.4	100.0
		7.1	21.4	7.1	14.3	21.4	14.3	0.0	0.0	14.3	0.0		
Geography	36	1	0	6	3	5	10	6	1	1	3	41.7	91.7
		2.8	0.0	16.7	8.3	13.9	27.8	16.7	2.8	2.8	8.3		
History	32	1	1	6	6	2	5	5	4	1	0	50.0	96.9
		3.1	3.1	18.8	18.8	6.3	15.6	15.6	12.5	3.1	0.0		
Home Economics	13	0	1	0	3	1	3	3	2	0	0	38.5	100.0
		0.0	7.7	0.0	23.1	7.7	23.1	23.1	15.4	0.0	0.0		
Digital Technology	16	0	2	1	2	3	7	0	0	1	0	50.0	100.0
		0.0	12.5	6.3	12.5	18.8	43.8	0.0	0.0	6.3	0.0		
LLW	46	0	1	13	5	4	11	5	4	3	0	50.0	100.0
		0.0	2.2	28.3	10.9	8.7	23.9	10.9	8.7	6.5	0.0		
Mathematics	73	1	10	13	10	9	11	5	7	5	2	58.9	97.3
		1.4	13.7	17.8	13.7	12.3	15.1	6.8	9.6	6.8	2.7		
MVRUS	10	0	0	0	1	3	4	0	0	0	2	40.0	80.0
		0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	30.0	40.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.0		
Music	6	0	1	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	66.7	100.0
		0.0	16.7	0.0	16.7	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Sports Science	9	1	2	3	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	88.9	100.0
		11.1	22.2	33.3	0.0	22.2	0.0	0.0	11.1	0.0	0.0		
Psychology	23	1	2	1	4	7	2	0	3	2	0	65.2	95.7
		4.3	8.7	4.3	17.4	30.4	8.7	0.0	13.0	8.7	0.0		
Science DA	86	3	9	11	16	25	18	2	2	0	0	74.4	100.0
		3.5	10.5	12.8	18.6	29.1	20.9	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Science SA	20	0	0	0	2	6	5	5	1	1	0	40.0	100.0
		0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	30.0	25.0	25.0	5.0	5.0	0.0		
Applied Science	9	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100.0	100.0
		0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Occupational Studies Y12	58	0	3	18	0	21	5	3	6	0	1	72.4	96.6
		0.0	5.2	31.0	0.0	36.2	8.6	5.2	10.3	0.0	1.7		
Princes Trust	58	0	0	58	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100.0	100.0
		0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Polish	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100.0	100.0
		100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Urdu	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100.0	100.0
		0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Youth Service	9	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100.0	100.0
		0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		

GCSE level	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
5A*-C incl. Eng and Maths	59%	55.71%	60%	60.0%	47%
5A*-C All subjects	79%	70%	83%	82.9%	66%

A level Results 2023

<u>Category</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
% A* - C	65.7	86.4	69.4	90.8	96.8	64*
% A* - E	97.0	100	100	100	100	100
%3+ A* - C	28.0	63.6	33.33	72.22	58.1	44
% 2 + A* - C	56.0	90.9	71.43	83.33	80.7	68
%3+ A* - E	68.0	90.9	85.71	88.89	77.4	84
%2+ A* - E	96.0	100	95.24	94.44	96.8	96
%1+ A* - E	100	100	100	100	100	100

<u>Subject</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>A*</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>%</u> <u>A-C</u>	<u>%</u> <u>A-E</u>
Art & Design	3	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	100.0	100.0
		0.0	0.0	33.3	66.7	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Biology	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0.0	66.7
		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	33.3	33.3	33.3		
Business Studies	6	0	0	1	0	1	3	1	16.7	83.3
		0.0	0.0	16.7	0.0	16.7	50.0	16.7		
Chemistry	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.0	100.0
		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0		
English Literature	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x	x
		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Geography	7	1	0	0	4	1	1	0	71.4	100.0
		14.3	0.0	0.0	57.1	14.3	14.3	0.0		
Health & Social Care (SA)	7	0	0	3	3	1	0	0	85.7	100.0
		0.0	0.0	42.9	42.9	14.3	0.0	0.0		
Health & Social Care (DA)	8	0	0	3	4	1	0	0	87.5	100.0
		0.0	0.0	37.5	50.0	12.5	0.0	0.0		
History	6	0	2	2	1	1	0	0	83.3	100.0
		0.0	33.3	33.3	16.7	16.7	0.0	0.0		
ICT	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0.0	100.0
		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0		
Music	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x	x
		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Maths	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x	x
		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Physics	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x	x
		0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
PE	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x	x
		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Politics	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	100.0	100.0
		50.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Psychology	6	1	2	0	2	1	0	0	83.3	100.0
		16.7	33.3	0.0	33.3	16.7	0.0	0.0		
RE	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	100.0	100.0
		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Sociology	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x	x
		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Travel & Tourism	9	0	1	0	6	2	0	0	77.8	100.0
		0.0	11.1	0.0	66.7	22.2	0.0	0.0		
Polish	x	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	x	x
		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
MIA	x	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	x	x
		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
L&HSc	6	0	0.0	0.0	1.0	5.0	0.0	0.0	16.7	100.0
		0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7	83.3	0.0	0.0		

Attendance

2019/20 – 91.9% 2020/21 – 92.8% 2021-22 - 87.8% 2022-23 - 87.9% 2023-24 – 87.7%

SUMMARY OF SUSPENSIONS 2023-24

2023-2024	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Total
Autumn Term	0	2	106	27	4	0	139
Spring Term	0	14	67	3	2	0	86
Summer Term	2	11	65	1	0	0	79
Total Days	2	27	238	31	6	0	304

Pastoral Care

Pastoral care and pupil well-being is paramount to all staff in school. We strive to provide an environment where students feel happy, safe, cared for and supported. The school embraces the promotion of positive behaviour and rewards to further allow for more motivated pupils and effective learning in the classroom. The school aspires to create a community which demonstrates respect, responsibility, and excellence. Inappropriate behaviour is therefore not accepted in school, on the way to and from school, and during school activities and visits.

In 2020 the school passed a new Promoting Positive Behaviour Policy. As a result, some changes have been made to our pastoral care provision. This new policy involved us taking ideas and feedback from staff, students and parents as well as looking at effective practice in other schools. In addition to this we also undertook considerable research and considered current academic literature to ensure our policy meets the needs of all our pupils. Staff have received training to support new initiatives which saw a new Code of Conduct introduced and a clearer, more concise system of rewards and consequences. In addition, a new Electronic Device Policy was also introduced. There has also been an improved system introduced to communication with parents and it is hoped that the use of Sims InTouch, will further enable key messages of behaviour and recognition to be shared effectively with parents and carers.

In any school it is important to have a clear policy on dealing with unwanted behaviour and ensuring those students who are going above and beyond are rewarded. Equally, any policy must be regularly monitored, reviewed, and evaluated. The Vice-Principal, along with the Heads of Year, regularly monitor behaviour and the school makes every attempt to treat all pupils fairly within a policy which sets very high standards for everyone.

At the same time a new Attendance Strategy was launched to clearly define staff roles and responsibilities and introduce a new system of monitoring and addressing attendance concerns. This works on a warning system, which dovetails with monitoring and support for the pupils to help improve poor attendance. It also rewards those students with excellent attendance or who's attendance is rapidly improving. The school maintains excellent working relationships with the Education Welfare Service, who support referrals of students once attendance falls below 85%. It was hoped that this new strategy would demonstrate improvements to our overall school attendance and ensure pupils do not miss valuable learning hours. However, unfortunately, and understandably COVID-19 has impacted adversely on school attendance. The strategy continues to be implemented and reviewed.

The school, works effectively with the Independent School's Counselling Service, provided by Family Works to support vulnerable pupils in school. This is in addition to pastoral support and intervention offered by

pupils Tutor, Head of Year, and the Pastoral Care Team. This team meets regularly to discuss provision and ensure all students are supported in school.

Financial Summary

Newry High School, like many schools, has been facing a very challenging time financially. Current intakes have been strong and school numbers have continued to improve. Post-16 numbers remain challenging. As a school we have been aware of the long-term financial prospect which is why we staffing levels have been closely monitored and kept under review. With the steady increase in pupil's numbers this has put increasing pressure on class sizes, and they have increased. As our pupil's numbers have risen so has the need for additional staffing and staff levels have increased by 2.

	Total Cost at March 2024 (£)
Teaching Staff	2,065,084
Non-Teaching	395,521
Premises Costs	171,871
Operating Costs	300,378
Total Costs	2,949,007
Balance left at year end	(1,521,988)

Staff absence figures for 2023-24

Illness – 156

Long term illness - 7

Pupil Successes – Overview of the Year

The Annual Awards Ceremony is a special evening where we gather to acknowledge the accomplishments of our students, both current and former. The award recipients symbolise the numerous others in our school community who also merit recognition for their impressive achievements throughout the year. This event is dedicated to celebrating the successes of all our students and extending our best wishes as they move forward into the next phase of their lives, with the hope that they will always remain part of the 'Newry High School Family.' Our school takes immense pride in its diverse accomplishments. We recognise achievements in academics, sports, music, theatre, fundraising for various charities, and contributions to our local community during this ceremony. Above all, we are proud of the mutual respect and tolerance our students demonstrate towards one another. We strive to cultivate a culture that celebrates success within our school and its community.

Annual Awards Ceremony



2024 Ski Trip to Alpe D'Huez

Our ski trip was back this year and staff and students from Newry High and Newtownhamilton High School travelled to Alpe d'Huez, France. Everyone had a fantastic time in the snowy mountains of France.



Charity Committee

Annual "Big Charity Day"



Balmoral Show

On Friday 17 May, the Technology department organised a visit to Balmoral show for all year 10 pupils. While the event itself was one of the high points in the Northern Ireland events calendar, it also was an opportunity to see a vast range of career opportunities especially withing Agriculture, Food and Engineering.



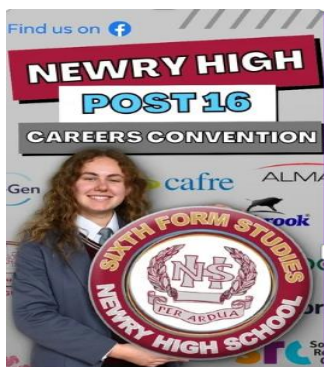
GSCE Art

Have a look at some of our GCSE students work from this year.



Careers Convention

This year our Careers department, Sixth Form department and local business came together to hold a hugely successful careers event for Year 12-14 students. The event gave students access to a wealth of information about further education options, going straight into work and completing apprenticeships.



English department

Book Buzz

As part of a new literacy initiative in the English Department, all pupils in Years 8 and 9 received a book to keep, as part of the Book Buzz in Schools Project. 'Book Buzz' is a reading programme specifically developed by children's reading charity BookTrust to encourage young people to read for pleasure.



Young Writers Poetry Competition 'Through Their Eyes'

Two of our students had their poems chose for publication in the Young Writers "Through Their Eyes" – A life in Verse" anthology



Geography department

In the Geography Department at Newry High School take great pride in our subject and the work we do with our pupils. The Department is at the forefront of key educational areas such as teaching and learning, use of ICT in the classroom, public examination results, extra-curricular development, fieldtrips, and assessment for learning.



Home Economics department

After School Cookery Club

We had another successful cooking club this year. Our keen cooks showed off their skills making stir fry, Malteser buns and pizza Rolls. Everyone enjoyed themselves and were very popular at home on a Thursday evening. Thanks to Emma for all the help with the organising of the club.



History department

Carrickfergus Castle and Museum

Year8 had a fantastic day at Carrickfergus Castle as they were able to see first hand a magnificent Norman castle. This reinforced their learning in class.



Living Lights

Harvest Food Collection

Living Lights members organised a food collection to support the Newry Food Initiative - YMCI. We were delighted to welcome Rev. Scott McDonald and Natalie Trainor in to Living lights to share with us about the food bank and other services they provide.



Crown Jesus Ministries

We were delighted to host Crown Jesus Ministries for a series of 'Task Talks'. Members of living lights competed with other schools in tasks with a connected talk afterwards.



Maths department

Maths “Wacky Races activities



On Thursday 7th March, our Ulster Scots School Band were invited to perform at the **Central Good Relations 2023-2024 Celebration Evening in the Canal Court Hotel, Newry**. This event was organised and funded by Altnaveigh House, T:buc, and the Northern Ireland Executive. The pupils performed a couple of pieces and delighted the audience with their excellent musicianship. Our Ulster Scots School Band included pupils on Side drum, Tenor drum, Bass drum, Bodhran, flutes and a Drum Major display by Abby Moffett.



On Friday 16th February 2024, a group of very excited and nervous pupils boarded the bus bound for the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Belfast for the **Ulster Fusion Schools Dance Competition**. It was a busy day with schools from all over NI competing and the pupils really enjoyed the day. It was made more worthwhile when they won medals for their group dance routine and medals were also awarded to our talented Highland and Irish dancers. Special mention to Michaela Bradley who won our solo routine, along with highest dance solo for her age group and overall highest solo of the school's competition. Well done to everyone involved, especially Miss Cunningham who choreographed and rehearsed with the dance team.



Cinderella, The Country Singing Princess' pantomime was a whirlwind of fun, excitement, music, dancing, drama, costumes, and bringing lots of sparkle and energy to our school life. Pupils from all year groups were involved in bringing this production together in approx. 10 weeks! With lots of rehearsals, during breaktime, lunchtime and after school, their talents shone through, and the pupils gave 3 successful performances in front of local primary schools, family, friends, and the public. Lots of memories were made and the joy and fun had by all was something the pupils will never forget after all 'school days are the best days of your life'!



Hockey

We have had some great girls' and boys' teams take part in hockey this year and as always it is great to watch their skills and confidence grow.

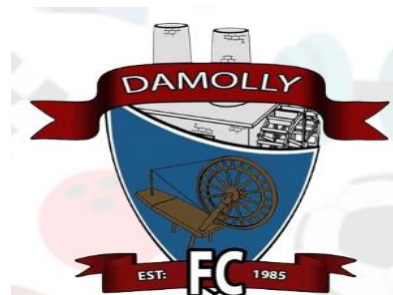
The girls' progress throughout the year was fantastic. The teams participated in... MUSHHA at U14 and U16 level and competed in the U16 Ulster Hockey High School's Cup. The boys enjoyed a successful season with competitive games against local schools including Kilkeel HS, Dundalk, BRA and more. The U13 team were defeated by Friends School, Lisburn. The U16 boys progressed to the semifinal of the Taylor Cup.



Newry High School's IFA School Quality Mark and School Club Link agreement with Damolly FC

Newry High School are delighted to have been awarded the IFA School Quality Mark and to have signed a School-Club Link agreement with Damolly FC. The IFA's Post-Primary Schools Development Officer, Ashleigh Flannigan, called to our school on Wednesday with her colleague Malcolm Roberts, joined by Joanne Patterson from Damolly Football Club, to present Head of PE, Mrs Dunn, with a certificate and equipment, and to sign the agreement. We are very excited to continue to work with Damolly FC, and the IFA through their education programme, during the next academic year.

This is a fantastic achievement and is recognition of the provision of football for both boys and girls in Newry High School.



Football



U14 Girls' football league-

We are thrilled to celebrate the incredible achievements of our U14 girls' football team this season. Finishing second in the highly competitive Mid Ulster League is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and passion that each of our players has shown on and off the field. From the very first kick-off to the final whistle, these young athletes have displayed remarkable skill, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Their commitment to improving with each game and their unwavering spirit have been truly inspiring.

U14 Girls' Cup-

Well done to our U14 girls' football team who played in the final of the Pat Jennings, Newry, Mourne and Down, Small Cup. Unfortunately, they were beaten by a strong Rathfriland High side. The girls battled hard and did not give up until the final whistle. This season has been a journey of growth and development for the team, and this final match, though challenging, serves as a stepping stone for future success. The girls can take pride in how far they have come and look forward to the bright future ahead.

Boys' U16 -

Our U16 Boys' football team defeated Dromore High in a fiercely competitive final in Banbridge, winning the U16 South Down Plate. In a game of fine margins, it was Newry High who took their chances with Reuben Wylie scoring 2 and Jake McConville adding another in a 3-0 victory. Superb attitude and performances all over the pitch and a great way to sign off after 5 years playing together. Well done lads!!

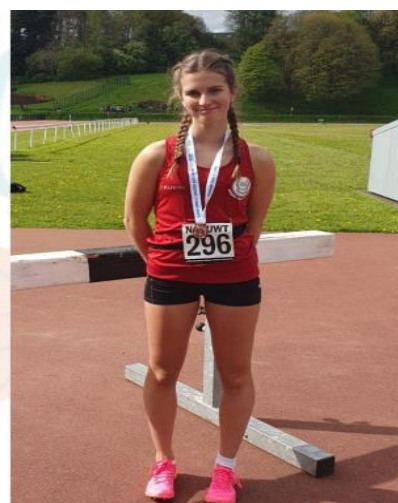


Athletics

District Athletics- Inter and Senior

It was a good day all round. Many of our athletes who attended today are Year 11 so have another year in this age group. There were some excellent results!

- Brianna 3rd in 300m
- Brianna 4th 800m
- Rachael 2nd in 100m heat. 6th in final, great considering she is just back from injury and had little time to train.
- Nathan 7th High Jump
- Mohammed 6th High Jump
- Jake was very close to medaling but had two great jumps disallowed.
- Harry and Daniel made a good effort in the Long Jump. Harry jumped 4.80m which is great!
- Alyssa did well in the Javelin and Olivia was competing in the Shot Putt.
- Hayden has been training hard at St.Colmans track and it's paying off, with a solid performance in the 800m.



Politics in Action

Year 13 Politics in Action students were at Stormont yesterday where they presented PowerPoints to the local MLAs on driving, mental health and drugs. They had researched these topics with pupils from our Shared Ed partner schools.

They did exceptionally well, not only in the research they had done, but their presenting skills. A special mention to Monika Kurteva and Larosa Mdlongwa who presented two of the PowerPoints.

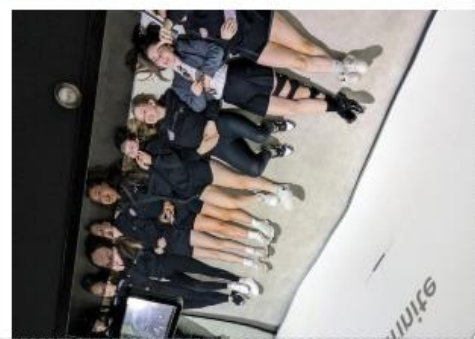
They worked extremely well with the pupils from the other schools and were a credit to our school. A big thank you to Allan Leonard from Politics in Action who facilitated the programme.



Science department

Year 10 visit W5, Belfast

All of year 10 were invited on an exciting trip to W5 where they got the chance to explore all around the building discovering science in a fun, hands-on way. They participated in a roller coaster engineering workshop where they used their teamwork and problem-solving skills to design the most fun, safe and long roller coaster they could. Lots of excitement and laughing throughout the day with some even saying it was the best trip ever!



Salters' Festival of Chemistry at Queen's University

Five lucky and keen year 10 pupils were selected to participate in this year's Salters' Festival of Chemistry at Queen's University in Belfast. They were given the chance to listen to real life chemists who are working hard to develop important medicines, solve crimes and develop new technologies to combat pollution. The pupils were then brought to the university science labs where they were taught how to synthesise aspirin (an A-level chemistry practical!). It was a truly inspiring day.



Year 12 Last Day of High School



Year 14 Last Day of High School

