

## Curriculum

## JUNIOR CYCLE PROGRAMME

## SUBJECTS

Gaelige	Art, Crafts & Design
English	Business Studies
German	Home Economics
French	Metalwork
Mathematics	Technical Graphics
History	Materials Technology (Wood)
Geography	Music
Science	
Religious Education	

## CORE NON EXAMINATION SUBJECTS/PROGRAMMES

Computer Literacy, Physical Education,  
Social, Personal & Health Education, Well-being,  
Accelerated Reading, Civic, Social & Political Education

## TRANSITION YEAR PROGRAMME

English	Career Education
Drama	Work Experience
Media Studies	Art, Craft & Design
Gaeilge	Technology
Mathematics	Business Studies
French	Mini Company
German	Physical Education
Science	Outdoor Pursuits
Environmental Studies	Global Business Challenges
Exchanges	Leisure Studies
Coaching Courses	School Bank
Toastmasters	Computer Studies
Self-Defence	Religious Education
European Studies	Life Skills
ECDL	

[subjects/programmes & activities may vary from year to year]

### Extra Curricular Programme

## SPORTS & OUTDOOR PURSUITS

Life at St. Caimin's does not finish at the end of the school day. All pupils are encouraged to participate in sports and outdoor pursuits because it forms an integral part of a balanced education. St. Caimin's teams are involved at Clare, Munster and All-Ireland level. School sports include:

- Hurling/Camogie
- Soccer/Girls Soccer
- Handball
- Gaelic Football
- Bowling
- Horse Riding
- Golf
- Rugby
- Swimming
- Ladies Football
- Basketball

Pupils are brought to Outdoor Pursuits Centres in Cork, Clare and Galway to experience orienteering, canoeing, rockclimbing, abseiling, hillwalking etc. Ski tours are organised annually to Austria, Italy, France or Norway.

## LEAVING CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME

Gaeilge	Biology	Business Organisation
English	Physics	Accounting
Mathematics	Chemistry	Construction Studies
French	Applied Maths	Engineering
German	History	Home Economics
Art	Geography	
Agricultural Science	Music	
Design & Communication Graphics		

## LEAVING CERTIFICATE VOCATIONAL PROGRAMME

The Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme which is offered as an addition to the normal Leaving Certificate programme requires pupils to undertake three link modules, Enterprise Education, Preparation for Work and Work Experience.

## LEAVING CERTIFICATE APPLIED PROGRAMME

English & Communications	Gaeilge
European Languages	Social & Cultural Studies
Home Economics	Arts
Mathematics	Science
Computer Applications	Technological Education
Religious Education	Physical Education
Guidance Counselling	
Work Studies & Vocational Preparation	

## NON EXAMINATION SUBJECTS

Religious Education, Social, Personal & Health Education,  
Physical Education, Enterprise Education,  
Career Education

## CLUBS

- Chess Club
- Lunchtime Club
- Díospóireachtaí Gaeilge
- Quizzes
- Public Speaking & Debating

PRINCIPAL

**Mr. Alan Cunningham**

## DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

**Ms. Derval Glendon-Garry**

**Ms. Maria Sheehan**

 061 364 211

 [info@stcaimins.ie](mailto:info@stcaimins.ie)

 [www.saintcaimins.ie](http://www.saintcaimins.ie)

 @stcaimins

 St Caimin's Community School



## ST. CAIMIN'S

COMMUNITY SCHOOL

SCOIL PHOBAIL CHAIMÍN NAOFA

**Shannon, Co. Clare.**

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# PROSPECTUS



## Welcome

Welcome to St Caimin's Community School. Our school is modern, bright and well-equipped. Having first opened in Shannon in 1985, a new school was built on the site in 2002. St Caimin's is a multi-denominational school. Its catchment area comprises Shannon, Newmarket on Fergus, Sixmilebridge and Cratloe. Our pupils are drawn from a variety of backgrounds and cultures to give the school its own characteristic spirit. We take pride in our welcoming environment and in the sense of community engendered by a spirit of co-operation among staff, students, and parents. We have a close interaction with our local community. Student involvement in all areas of school life is key to our success. The professionalism and generosity of our staff ensure the highest standards of education for life. The trustees of the school, who underpin its educational values, are the Bishop of Killaloe and Limerick & Clare Education & Training Board (LCETB).

ALAN CUNNINGHAM | PRINCIPAL

## School Aims to:

- help pupils to reach their full potential in all aspects of school life, academic, moral, creative, sporting, social and cultural.
- provide a comprehensive curriculum in a well-structured learning environment.
- create a caring and disciplined school, where all are treated with equality and fairness.
- develop in each pupil a sense of personal worth and a sensitivity to the needs of others.
- equip pupils with the skills, knowledge, values & qualifications which prepare them for adult life.
- encourage and develop the partnership between parents and educators.

## School Facilities

- fully equipped computer rooms
- high-speed broadband in all classrooms
- a modern language room
- engineering room
- construction studies centre
  - art room and kiln
- home economics complex
- three science laboratories
- school library
- lecture theatre
- pitches for hurling, camogie, football, soccer & rugby
- 2 tennis courts
- 5 basketball courts
- state-of-the-art gymnasium with basketball, volleyball and badminton courts
- indoor football arena

## Students

St. Caimin's provides a nurturing, inclusive environment for students. It supports their holistic development - moral, spiritual, social and personal. Our school seeks to identify and provide an appropriate education for all our students.

School structures and programmes foster a commitment to learning and academic achievement. Engagement with school life is closely linked to positive behaviour. While at St. Caimin's, students develop their own identity and self worth.

Through the school's Student Council, they can express themselves and communicate their concerns. The school is committed to equality of opportunity for all students. St. Caimin's seeks to enrich students' lives and empower them to reach their full potential.

## Teachers

The teachers at St. Caimin's encourage their students and foster learning. Respectful of the diversity of the student body, they work in cooperation with parents and the community. Student performance is evaluated regularly and the results are reported to parents.

Teachers at St. Caimin's are engaged in continuous professional development and our school is linked to the teaching programmes of the University of Limerick and University College Galway.

## Parents

St. Caimin's Community School recognises that parents play a vital role in shaping their children's commitment to school life. Thus the school invites parents' active partnership in the education of their children. Parents and teachers share a common purpose in seeking that each student realises his or her full potential. Communication between home and school is maintained through parent/teacher meetings, the school's website and also through appointments. The school has an active parents' council that supports the school in a variety of ways and is affiliated to the national body for all parents' councils in the Community and Comprehensive sector.

## Awards System

An awards system has been established to acknowledge and encourage hard work, commitment, enthusiasm, leadership qualities, sporting skills, full attendance, artistic flair, musical talent or any other laudable qualities not measured by the examination process. Encouragement is vital to success and achievement in life. Our Merit Awards System is an unique and successful attempt at emphasising the value of good personal characteristics and publicly rewarding them.

## Mission Statement

- In St. Caimin's School every person is valued equally in accordance with our Christian Tradition.
- Each person within the school community can enjoy developing to the fullest, while feeling cared for and safe.
- Our educational structures are ordered, based on tolerance, fairness and respect, while sensitive to our changing world.



### PRINCIPAL

**Mr. Alan Cunningham**

✉ [alan.cunningham@stcaimins.ie](mailto:alan.cunningham@stcaimins.ie)

### DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

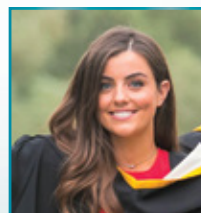
**Ms. Derval Glendon-Garry**

✉ [derval.glendon-garry@stcaimins.ie](mailto:derval.glendon-garry@stcaimins.ie)

**Ms. Maria Sheehan**

✉ [maria.sheehan@stcaimins.ie](mailto:maria.sheehan@stcaimins.ie)

## Message from a Past Pupil



I attended St. Caimin's Community School from 2007-2013. The encouragement and guidance I experienced from the students, teachers and staff during this time prepared me well for college and life outside of secondary education. I have since graduated from the University of Limerick with a First-Class Honours degree in Business Studies with French. I have studied and worked in France and Luxembourg and I am currently based in Limerick, working as a Marketing Executive.

At St. Caimin's I was fortunate to have enthusiastic, passionate and dedicated teachers who went the extra mile to ensure I got the most out of my years in secondary school. Looking back, I can remember the extensive facilities, numerous extra-curricular activities and of course my wonderful classmates, many of which are still close friends.

Sport, Art, Language and Music were a big part of my curriculum and I was given endless opportunities to further develop and nurture these interests. The French Exchange programme in particular instilled in me a love for language and travel that has never left me.

St. Caimin's Community School provides an environment where students are encouraged to reach their full potential, both inside and outside of the classroom. I am delighted to see that the school continues to embrace that ethos today.

ELLEN ROCHE | School Years at St. Caimin's 2007 - 2013

## The School & Europe

All students study French or German at both Junior and Senior cycle while Leaving Certificate Applied students study Spanish.

Language 'assistants' from France and Germany work in the school to support the work of language teachers. They conduct foreign language conversation classes and give students an insight into their country of origin.

The school has established links with a number of schools in France, Germany and Austria since its inception. St. Caimin's has had exchange programmes with a number of Breton schools dating back to 1991. This connectedness with Brittany does much to support the teaching of French in our school.

## Music & Drama

Pupils with musical and acting talent are well catered for at St. Caimin's, where they are given ample opportunities to perform. The school has produced a number of outstanding musical and dramatic productions including 'Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat', 'Little Shop of Horrors' and 'We Will Rock You'.

In these productions pupils are enabled and encouraged to display and develop their talents in singing, acting, stage design, set construction, lighting, sound production, design of programmes including sales and promotion.

Pupils, too, are encouraged to take part in the school choir. They are also given opportunities to go further afield to see dramatic productions in Limerick, Cork, Dublin and Galway.

## Pastoral Care

### CHAPLAIN

The Chaplain maintains personal contact with individual students and their parents and organises retreats and liturgies for all class groups.

### GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR

The Guidance Counsellor advises on career choices and assists pupils in making educational, vocational and personal decisions. He/She supports and helps students who are experiencing difficulty in their lives.

### MENTORS

Senior cycle pupils assist incoming first year pupils in their transition from first to second level education. These mentors help students to find their way in the school, comprehend their timetable and locate lockers and school buses at the end of the school day.

## Educational Support

In order to ensure a caring and disciplined environment at St. Caimin's the following structures are in place:

- CLASS TUTORS
- YEAR HEAD
- PRINCIPAL
- DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

### HOMEWORK

Students are required to exercise due care with their homework for it is a source of helpful preparation for State Examinations.

### HOMEWORK JOURNAL

The student journal, in addition to being used to record homework, also serves as an important means of communicating between home and school.

### SUPERVISED STUDY

All Junior and Leaving Certificate students may avail of after-school study of two hours duration at the end of each school day. These students also have the option of attending supervised study on Saturday mornings during the course of the academic year. A first year homework club runs Monday to Thursday for one and a half hours.

### ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

Students with special educational needs are, insofar as is possible, placed in small learning support classes.

## Discipline

A discipline policy is necessary to maintain order, to encourage good behaviour throughout the school and to foster self-discipline among all pupils.

St. Caimin's Community School through its rules and procedures seeks to vindicate the right of all its pupils to a disruption-free learning environment. It aims to promote good behaviour through encouraging its pupils to have due regard for their fellow pupils and teachers.

The staff contributes towards good discipline by creating a school environment which fosters feelings of acceptance and achievement and which encourages good interpersonal relations.

Desirable pupil behaviour is recognised and praised. In cases of unsatisfactory behaviour, the school operates a system of graded sanctions. The Deputy Principals are responsible for the implementation of the disciplinary process.