



Cross & Passion College



Mission Statement

“Cross and Passion College is a Catholic, all-ability school committed to providing opportunities for all pupils to develop their unique talents and abilities in a positive, challenging and caring learning environment”



Rights Respecting Schools Award

Cross and Passion has embarked upon their Rights Respecting Schools journey. The decision to work towards this award means we actively support the values of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and have vowed to put it at the centre of our school’s policies and ethos. We believe that working towards this award will further enhance the experience of our pupils, from teaching and learning in the classroom to their wider whole school experience.



Welcome to Cross & Passion College

I am delighted to welcome you to Cross and Passion College. Our school is a unique place with a long tradition of academic excellence and service to the community. It first opened in 1913 in Market Street and later moved to the present site on Moyle Road. The school became co-educational in 1963. During the 1970s, it was decided that Cross and Passion Convent Grammar School should merge with Star of the Sea Secondary School, forming one of the first, and currently most successful, all-ability schools in Northern Ireland.

Pupils join us at age eleven and usually leave aged eighteen, having grown in stature, wisdom and knowledge, but of equal importance, having developed as potential leaders, ready to make their mark on society.

Our core business is to educate young people and prepare them for the opportunities and challenges of life. Pupils consistently achieve very highly and, while that is a key priority in the school, so too is the development of character, sincerity, goodness and kindness. Our school community is values-driven and this enables our pupils to be fulfilled and to contribute to society in the widest possible sense.

As a school which is highly committed to the overall development of young people, the provision of extra-curricular experiences and activities for our students is a high priority, with sport, music, drama and art being particular strengths. In the last few years, pupils of Cross and Passion have become All-Ireland Champions in debating, junior camogie and senior hurling.

We are an inclusive school; we welcome and value young people from all backgrounds and abilities, to strive for and achieve success. Every child is supported through their journey in Cross and Passion, with challenging personal targets and goals, a choice of pathways to success and guided by a team of professionals dedicated to helping them reach their potential.



Currently, around 750 young people attend the school and their days are characterised by learning, developing self-awareness, building enduring friendships and stretching themselves to reach beyond their comfort zone. We believe that the key to success in any aspect of life is for an individual to feel cared for and to enjoy what they are doing. Pastoral Care permeates all aspects of our work and we aim to make learning enjoyable. A strong sense of community enriches the school and creates a sense of family and mutual dependence.

Paul McClean

Principal



Our Core Values

The core values of the school are inspired by the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and the legacy of the sisters of the Cross and Passion Order who founded our school.

- Respect for ourselves, each other and the environment
- Compassion for the pursuit of Justice
- Moral Integrity and Honesty
- Commitment to living in, and contributing to Community Life



Ethos in Action

We are committed to creating a vibrant faith community and promoting the spiritual and moral development of the young people in our care.

We create opportunities for young people to:

- Develop a strong set of Christian values, which will inspire and guide them in all aspects of their lives;
- Develop a close personal relationship with God and deepen their knowledge and understanding of their faith;
- Develop a sense of social justice and service to others.

We will:

- Strive to create a school community where each individual feels valued, worthwhile and respected;
- Encourage all members of the school community to witness Gospel values in their actions and dealings with others;
- Provide opportunities for individual and community worship;
- Provide Religious Education programmes for pupils at all key stages;
- Provide opportunities for pupils to actively participate in social justice campaigns at both local and global level;
- Encourage participation in activities which promote respect for diversity and mutual understanding.

Our Beliefs about Learners and Learning

- All pupils in Cross and Passion College have worth, dignity and value and will learn best when they believe they can have self-respect, self-esteem and confidence.
- Every pupil has the potential to learn, achieve and make progress.
- Every lesson is important and pupils are expected to participate fully.
- Pupils have different learning styles, strengths, abilities and aptitudes. As such, we plan activities which will promote success for all.
- We have high expectations of our pupils in all learning situations.
- As teachers, we regard ourselves as highly professional and committed to self-evaluation, to sharing good practice and to our own professional development.





School Prayer

Lord, this is our school
May it be a centre of learning,
A place of hope and opportunity for all,
A place where goodness will flourish and peace will reign.
O Lord, make us worthy members of our school community.
Help us to listen to the needs of others and together as a people of faith,
Take steps to build a more just and caring world.
Help us not to turn away from commitment or challenge,
but to follow your example with confidence.
We ask this through Christ Our Lord.



In Cross and Passion College, we seek to develop the unique talents and totality of needs of each child in a caring environment where honesty, integrity and openness are fundamental values. We strive to establish an atmosphere of caring and mutual respect conducive to learning. Our system of pastoral care exemplifies fairness, compassion, tolerance and forgiveness, while at the same time sets high standards of respect, self-discipline, commitment and generosity.

Supporting Individuals

Cross and Passion College places great emphasis on caring for all members of the school community and on building a strong sense of belonging. We seek to develop a network of positive, supportive relationships based on respect for the dignity, value and self-worth of each individual.

Each class has a Form Teacher who remains with that class right through the school where possible. The Form Teacher meets with the class at the beginning of each day and is the first point of contact for each child.

- The Year Head and Form Teacher monitor the general progress and well-being of pupils and communicate regularly with parents/carers.
- The Pastoral Assistant works closely with the Year Heads and their pastoral teams and is available to provide on-going support for pupils.

Supporting Learning

Through our 'Learning to Learn' programme (L2L), pupils can learn more effectively and so become learners for life. 'Learning to Learn' makes pupils aware of their strengths as a learner. Central to the programme is building the capacity to self-motivate and to have the self-confidence to succeed and cope with challenging circumstances. We teach students to become reflective learners and to set personal goals for improvement.

We provide small group/individual support to pupils through mentoring with a view to:

- helping pupils develop a sense of purpose and direction in their lives;
- helping them identify aspects of their school experience which they can improve – attendance, homework, application to classwork, behaviour, use of time;
- helping them set realistic targets and formulate action plans.





Promoting Good Behaviour

We encourage pupils to work to the best of their ability and to behave in a responsible manner, showing respect for other pupils, staff and property. We believe that children will learn best in an ordered environment where there are good relationships based on mutual respect for all in the school community. Teachers actively seek the cooperation of all pupils by encouraging self-discipline and a sense of responsibility, by having clear expectations of behaviour for our pupils in all situations, and by insisting on high standards in relation to uniform, attendance and punctuality.

Promoting Links with Parents

We see parents as key partners in the education of their child and strive to maximise the potential of their support for their own child and for the school in general.

We are committed to:

- Seeking parents' views and opinions on various aspects of school life;
- Keeping parents informed of all matters relating to their child's progress and well-being;
- Keeping parents informed by distributing key policy documents;
- Organising Parent Information evenings at key milestones in a child's school career;
- Investigating any complaints and concerns parents may have and working cooperatively to resolve difficulties.

Promoting Health and Well-Being

We have a primary responsibility for the care, welfare and safety of the pupils in our charge. We seek to provide a caring, supportive and safe environment, where individuals are valued for their unique talents and abilities, and where all our young people can learn and develop to their full potential.

We seek to protect our pupils by helping them to learn about potential risks to their well-being and by helping them to acquire the confidence and skills they need to keep themselves safe.

In addition, through whole-school programmes and campaigns, we highlight crucial issues such as anti-bullying, healthy eating, education for love, drug awareness etc. The Student Council takes an active role in the planning and delivery of these initiatives. Sixth Form students operate a 'Buddy' system where they pair up with junior pupils to act as a 'listening ear' and to provide on-going support.





A quality Key Stage 3 experience for young people is crucial, as it is at this stage that they develop their confidence and self-belief, as well as the skills and attitudes necessary to be successful learners.



We are committed to:

- Ensuring the smooth transition from Primary School through a series of planned activities and consultation with Primary School teachers and parents;
- Setting high expectations and encouraging high aspirations;
- Fostering a love of learning and genuine spirit of enquiry;
- Meeting the needs of all types of learners and promoting success for all.

We provide:

- A broad and balanced curriculum which builds a sound foundation for progression to Key Stage 4;
- A 'Learning to Learn' programme where pupils acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to become confident, successful learners;
- Opportunities for pupils to reflect on their own progress, to set challenging targets and to aspire to high levels of achievement;
- Support for pupils to make connections in their learning across all areas of the curriculum.

We also:

- Track pupil progress by assessing levels of ability and achievement when they enter the school;
- Set pupils according to their abilities and aptitudes;
- Monitor their academic progress closely and engage the young people as full partners with their parents and teachers in discussing strategies for improving learning;
- Provide Key Stage 3 pupils with a wide range of activities which will enable them to identify and develop their talents and strengths;
- Strongly encourage them to play a full and active part in the life of Cross and Passion College.



The Curriculum (Years 8 to 10)

Learning Areas		
English	Mathematics	Religious Studies
Art & Design	History	Physical Education
Drama	Home Economics	Information Technology
French/Irish/Spanish	Learning for Life and Work	Science
Technology	Music	

Learning at Home

Pupils are expected to develop good study habits early in their school career. As such, pupils are expected to engage in purposeful activities set by their teacher which will:

- Reinforce the learning taking place in class
- Engage them in individual research
- Prepare them for subsequent lessons

As the school's ICT facilities continue to develop, pupils will increasingly be involved in "e-learning" activities where they will have access from home to a range of multi-media resources.



A significant strength of Cross and Passion College is our extensive experience in providing opportunities for success for pupils of all abilities. At Key Stage 4, pupils choose from one of two pathways to Post-16 Education or Training. Each young person will be given guidance and support to enable them, along with their parents, to make a well-informed choice based on their strengths, interests, aptitudes and possible career paths.

The Key Stage 4 Curriculum Offer

Agriculture BTEC	ICT
Art	Irish
Business Studies	Learning for Life & Work
Certificate in Digital Applications (CiDA)	Mathematics
Child Development	Further Mathematics*
Construction	Music
Countryside and Environment BTEC	Motor Vehicle and Road User Studies
Drama	Occupational Studies
English Language	PE
English Literature*	Religious Education
French	Science - Double Award*
Geography	Science - Single Award
Health and Social Care	Spanish
History	Sport BTEC
Home Economics	Technology and Design
Hospitality	Travel & Tourism BTEC

* Pupils will normally need to achieve a Level 6 or higher in these subjects if they wish to take them for GCSE.

Please note, in order to ensure accredited success for all pupils, we also offer iGCSE in English, Essential Skills Level 2 in Mathematics, and a short course in Religious Education and ICT.

Parents will be consulted about these decisions.

Revision and Exam Preparation

In addition to the “Learning to Learn” programme which enables pupils to build further on the skills acquired at Key Stage 3, pupils receive extra guidance on planning and preparing for public examinations, tailored to meet the requirements of the specific subjects being studied.





A Proven Track Record of Success

- Pupils in all Pathways consistently achieve A/A* or Distinction/Distinction* grades.
- We have significantly narrowed the gap between the achievement of boys and girls.
- The school's record of academic success is consistently well above the NI average for the percentage of students achieving five or more grades A* - C in a non-selective school.
- On average, 80% of pupils achieve seven or more GCSEs at A* - C.
- Our top achievers at GCSE rank among the top achievers nationally.
- In the last three years, over 90% of our GCSE students have returned to complete Post-16 courses.
- Every year, almost all A Level students progress to university courses.

We provide:

- Quality learning experiences where expectations are high and every young person is encouraged to achieve their "personal best";
- A focused, one to one "Assertive Mentoring" programme at strategic points in GCSE courses;
- A comprehensive programme of exam preparation;
- After-school revision classes in many subjects;
- A planned programme of revision and examination support throughout the examination season;
- On-going feedback to parents and pupils on the progress of each individual child towards the achievement of their personal targets.



Developing Unique Talents & Abilities

Niall McCormack

Niall McCormack is a past pupil of St Patrick's and St Brigid's, Ballycastle. Although he eats, breathes and sleeps sport, Niall is also diligent in his studies, attaining all A*/A grades in his GCSEs. Niall is currently studying A-levels in Physics, Maths and Business Studies and hopes pursue his study in Physics at University. This year Niall has moved from the Under 14 to the Under 16 Antrim Development Squad and has ambitions to join the minor panel this year. He was a member of our school Mageean team who reached the semi-final two years in a row. Niall's other hobbies include skiing and watersports (he has a part time job in the Cushendall Boat Club). Niall has enjoyed his years at CPC and says he couldn't imagine choosing any other college. He has enjoyed developing life-long friendships and the sense of community that our school offers. Niall has enjoyed progressing through school with his friends and his teachers. If Niall were to advise other young people about getting involved in sport, he advocates its confidence-building capacities, the opportunities to develop life-long friendships, the experience of playing in a team with people you can trust, not to mention the numerous physical and mental health benefits.



Cahal Hargan

Cahal Hargan is a Loughguile man to the core. He is a former pupil of St Patrick's Primary. Cahal is a passionate sportsman and plays hurling, Gaelic football and sometimes soccer. Cahal has won Ulster Colleges 'A' hurling medals at McNamee, Gallagher and Leonard Cup level. Unsurprisingly, this young man had the distinction of captaining the Leonard Cup team for hurling in Year 11.

According to Cahal, the best thing about CPC is all the extra-curricular activities. His favourite subjects are Construction and PE. In the future, Cahal hopes to be designing bridges and roads in a career as a Civil Engineer. He would like to be described as funny and kind. He forgot to mention that he is already one of life's young gentlemen.

Luíseach Mathers

Luíseach Mathers is a Carey girl and is a former pupil of Gaelscoil an Chaistil. She was extremely successful at GCSE level with an enviable profile of 11 A* grades. Luíseach was CCEA's Top Achiever in Northern Ireland in GCSE Irish when

she was only 11 years old. She is a top performing traditional Irish musician with Grade 8 in concertina and tin whistle, and teaches both to local children. This young word warrior is also an All-Ireland debating champion and was a member of the team which beat off stiff competition to win the Concern All-Ireland Debating Competition in 2016, the first time a Northern Ireland school achieved this distinction since 1984. This success led Luíseach to visiting Concern's Worldwide Programme in Malawi in the summer of 2016. Luíseach is a strong and confident leader and was an active campaigner in 'Save the Dal' and in launching the campaign for Raising Awareness for Organ Donation in our school community. Luíseach volunteers at Greenlight Gateway and has volunteered at the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. She is involved in the School Council, choir, and traditional music and drama groups. Luíseach is very proud of Cross and Passion and says she appreciates the excellent support systems, loves its close-knit school community and the fact that everyone looks out for each other. Her favourite things about CPC are the relationships between students and staff members and the wide-ranging opportunities given to the pupils. Luíseach's passion in life is the well-being of others worldwide and it is her intention to study Medicine.

Katie Laverty

Katie Laverty comes from Cloughmills and attended St Brigid's Primary. She is the baby in her family of five siblings and confesses that she gets slightly spoiled by her daddy! She is mad about sport and plays netball for our school, and camogie for both the school and Dunloy. Katie has proudly represented our school in the All-Ireland 'A' 7-a-side camogie final. Into the bargain, Katie also played a starring role in our junior school's recent Ulster 'A' camogie success. How about this for talent? As you might imagine, her favourite subject is PE, but Irish is a close second. Katie is also a talented pianist and already has Grade 3 in classical piano. This multi-talented but very modest young girl was bestowed with the honour of Captain of the Under 14 camogie team for Dunloy last season. Katie is such a busy girl that she doesn't have time for any other hobbies. She loves Cross & Passion because the teachers are so helpful. It is her ambition to work with people, perhaps as a physiotherapist. Katie would like to be described as sporty, kind and friendly. We concur!

Conleth Burns

Conleth Burns is a recent past pupil and is also a former pupil of St Olcan's Primary School, Armoy. During his time at Cross and Passion, Conleth achieved outstanding GCSE and 'A' Level results. In September 2012, he was a founding member of the school Debating Society and 'Making a Difference' group. This young man was a leader who wanted to drive change and he was chosen as one of Ireland's top 25 young leaders to represent Ireland at the European Parliament; in 2013, Conleth was Ireland's joint runner-up 'Volunteer of the Year'. He was given special commendation for organising Run4Unity





(International peace run in Belfast) and for his management in his local cross-community centre. Conleth was awarded Ireland's Multicultural Young Person of the Year 2013 for his leadership and organisation of Run4Unity, and building good community relations. In July 2014, Conleth travelled to Argentina and Paraguay where he visited slums, orphanages and nursing homes etc. He was chosen as one of 500 young people from 27 nations who met to find solutions to world problems including judicial issues. Conleth achieved Gold in the Pope John Paul II Award in recognition of his contribution to his local community and has also regularly accompanied visitors to Lourdes. When he was in Year 13, Conleth participated in the NI Attorney General's Living Law programme where his fervour for law and justice began. Conleth is also a formidable but highly regarded debater and in 2016 was one of the successful team who brought the All-Ireland Concern Debating Championship success to Cross & Passion.

Conleth Burns is a first-class ambassador for his community and our school. His desire to study Law, nurtured by his many experiences, has led him to embark on a Law degree at New College, Oxford University.

Charly McQuillan

Charly McQuillan is the oldest of three sisters and was a pupil of Barnish Primary. She loved its small, cosy community. Charly is a talented young sportswoman, and plays netball and soccer for Cross & Passion and camogie for school and club. She is also an accomplished musician and loves playing the tin whistle. Charly enjoys reading novels, music to the ears of our English teachers. Although her favourite subject is PE, she confesses that Irish is a close contender. Charly says she loves Cross and Passion as it has a really nice atmosphere, she has lots of friends and "it is just great craic"! Charly would like to be thought of as funny, friendly and cheerful; we can testify that she definitely is! She likes to help her grandmother and visits her regularly. It will be no surprise to learn that Charly wants a career involving sport, but as part of the caring profession.

Aoife McErlain

Aoife McErlain is a proud resident of Armoy Glen and is a former pupil of St Olcan's. She loves to draw; designing characters in particular is her passion. This girl is a computer games whizz, one of her favourites is Splatoon – splat or be splatted! Aoife is a talented girl; she was awarded the Helena Mary Smith Cup for English on Prize Day. She is involved in the 'Making-A-Difference' group and has contributed to various charitable activities, has helped organise Masses and assemblies and is also involved in both our School Council and the Joint School Council with BHS. Aoife really enjoys life at CPC and described it like a community where everyone helps each other out. Her favourite subject is IT. When she goes to university, Aoife wants to study computing and design and one day she is going to set up her own computer games company. Aoife would like to be described as helpful, polite and reliable. She can rest assured that she is exactly such a person.

Oisín Elliot

Oisín Elliott is a very proud Dunloy man and is a former pupil of St Joseph's Primary School. He is a major sportsman; hurling and Gaelic are his passions. Already, he has been honoured with the position of Captain for the Dunloy Under 12s. Not only is Oisín a hardworking sportsman, he's an industrious young man on his family's farm and particularly loves driving the tractor! He also helps his daddy at his work during the school holidays - what a worker! He says CPC is a great school, with good sports and activities and, oh, it is also good for learning! Oisín's favourite subjects are English, Art and Music. At this stage in his young life, Oisín aspires to follow in his daddy's footsteps.

Lucy McCaughan

Lucy McCaughan is from Ballycastle and is a former pupil of St Patrick's and St Brigid's. She really enjoys music and plays the piano for enjoyment. Lucy also loves drama and was a munchkin in our school production of The Wizard of Oz - the experience was even better than she could have imagined; the adrenalin was flowing when the show was being staged. Lucy has since brought her dramatic skills to the world of debating. She describes debating as fun, a lot of work and research, but really exciting because you never know what the other team is going to come up with! She likes the competition and says that the topics really challenge her thinking, especially when she has to take the side of an argument with which she might not really agree. Aside from music, drama and debating, Lucy is involved with the Rights Respecting School group who strive to find ways to publicise the UN Charter and encourage discussion about issues raised. Lucy is a very hard-working young girl; her favourite subjects are English and languages. She loves languages so much that she actually studies GCSE French as an extra subject after school! She would like to be described as friendly and full of chat. In the future Lucy is keen to travel the world and experience living in a variety of places. Someday, she would like to study Law and use her talents for the betterment of other people.

Kinga Fraczkiewicz

Kinga Fraczkiewicz and her family are from from Skierniewice, near Łódź in central Poland. She started St Mary's, Cushendall in P3. Kinga has an older sister. She is in the very fortunate position of being able to converse fluently in two languages. Kinga loves animals and her favourite pastime is horse-riding. She loves Cross & Passion, has lots of friends, is a very happy girl and says the teachers are the best thing about the school! She has been involved in fundraising for the refugee crisis in our school. She is a very kind, friendly and enthusiastic young person. Her favourite subject is Biology. Her great love of animals is likely to see her working with them, as a career.





Our aim is to prepare and enable pupils to move into the world of Further and Higher Education or employment, confident in their own abilities, aware of their strengths and aptitudes, possessing the qualifications, personal qualities, skills and attitudes they need to pursue their chosen career path.

We focus on the holistic development of each young person and provide opportunities for them to develop their faith and spirituality, to explore their own value system, to develop independence as well as the opportunity to study subjects in a wide range of general and applied courses.

Cross and Passion College is one of only a few schools in the local area which can provide pupils with such an extensive choice of subjects Post-16. The curriculum also meets and exceeds the requirements of the Entitlement Framework.

A LEVEL AND EQUIVALENT (Level 3 qualifications)

Agriculture (BTEC)

Applied Science (BTEC)

Art

Biology

Business (CTEC)

Business Studies

Chemistry

Children's Care Learning & Development (BTEC)

Construction (BTEC)

Creative Media Production (Print-Based)

English Literature

French

Geography

Health and Social Care

History

Home Economics (Food Technology)

Irish

IT (CTEC)

Life & Health Sciences

Mathematics

Music

PE

Performing Arts

Physics

Psychology

RE

Spanish

Sport (BTEC)

Technology & Design

Travel and Tourism (BTEC)





Debating Success

In Cross and Passion College we believe in the development of our pupils as expert communicators.

Our Debating Society offers pupils the opportunity to strengthen vital skills, not only as debaters but as researchers and supporters.

The process of debate offers profound and lasting benefits. With its emphasis on critical thinking, effective communication, independent research and teamwork, the art of debating teaches skills that impact positively on our students' school experience.

All-Ireland Champions

Looking to the future, which is our responsibility as educators, debating is a lifelong skill which provides students with the chance to stretch themselves academically, to open their minds to our world as a global village, to understand contentious issues and so grow as citizens of the world.

Debating is offered to all pupils from Years 11 – 14.

Current competitions:

- Concern All Ireland Debating Competition (2016 winners)
- Debating Matters (2016 Northern Ireland winners)
- Soroptimist International Public Speaking
- Northern Ireland Schools Debating (2015 Finalists)





In Cross and Passion College, we place great importance on developing young leaders. We give pupils the opportunity to develop key skills which will be essential for many aspects of their lives. We also promote the development of a sense of social responsibility in our pupils by encouraging them to be meaningful contributors to the local and global community. Many of our young people have outstanding leadership potential and, throughout their school career, we afford them the opportunity to develop leadership qualities and skills.

The Pupil Leadership Team

This team of Year 14 students is nominated by staff and pupils to become leaders of the student body. Following a rigorous selection process involving a written submission and interview, they are allocated roles within the team. The Leadership Team strives to promote inclusion and friendship in Cross and Passion College. These students bring many positive qualities and attributes to their role and represent the rich diversity of talents that make up the Cross and Passion College School Community. They are given the opportunity to develop key leadership skills while feeling their voice is being listened to and their opinions valued and respected.

They have opportunities to:

- Represent the pupil community at public events.
- Become involved in public speaking;
- Lead and organise pupil activities – Collaborative Inductions to Year 11 and 13 pupils;
- Organise and plan the contribution of pupils to Open Evenings;
- Engage in mentoring programmes with younger pupils;
- Play an active role in planning and organising aspects of sixth form provision;
- Be positive role models and a source of inspiration for younger pupils;
- Organise social and fundraising events, including the School Formal.

School Council – Student Voice

We believe that our pupil community has much to contribute to the plans we make to improve and enhance the quality of young people’s experience in Cross and Passion College. Student Elections are held each year for membership of the Student Council. At present, pupils contribute to planning and evaluation in the following areas of school life:

- Teaching and learning
- Pupil welfare
- Extra-curricular activities and experiences
- Development of whole school policies

The opinions of our pupils are actively sought through questionnaires and focus group discussions. The Council also highlights charitable issues and organises fundraising events for pupils in school to attend and enjoy.

Learning Mentors

Senior pupils are strongly encouraged to become involved in the Learning Mentor Scheme, which enables them to make a positive contribution to the life of the school.

- They work in pairs with Junior pupils under the direction of a teacher.
- They offer support at lunchtime for English, Reading and Mathematics.
- They support younger pupils with revision.
- They become involved in Primary School Reading Programmes.
- They act as “buddies” for the Year 8 pupils through the “Cara” system.





Joint School Council

In 2010 we established a Joint School Council between Cross and Passion College and Ballycastle High School. The aim of the Council is to deal directly with the collaboration of the two schools and to listen to the voice of pupils involved to ensure they are having as positive an experience as possible.

The Joint School Council is always busy dealing with any concerns pupils may have and discovering new ways to enhance the collaboration further. One of their first successes was to survey the school and local communities and then make a presentation to the Road Service on the need for a pedestrian crossing on the Moyle Road. Six weeks after hatching the idea, the crossing was fully installed!

Prefects

Prefects serve a very important role within Cross and Passion College. Prefects are elected at the beginning of every term. They attend training sessions where their role is outlined and expectations of how they can positively contribute to the life of the school are shared. Again, this gives pupils of all ages an opportunity to develop key leadership skills which will prove invaluable to them in the future.

Sports Leadership

The PE department offers a range of opportunities for pupils to develop leadership skills and achieve worthwhile qualifications at all key stages.

These include:

- Opportunities to lead 'warm up' and 'cool down' activities in lessons
- Organisation of tournaments for younger pupils
- Coaching awards in a range of sports





At Cross and Passion College, pupils in Years 11 to 14 enjoy the benefits of a very close collaborative arrangement with Ballycastle High School, which enables both schools to offer a greater choice and a broad, balanced curriculum. This arrangement ensures that all of our young people are challenged, and offers them opportunities to study subjects from a wide range of specialisms.

The Purpose of Shared Education is:

- To enhance educational opportunities for all young people in post primary education in North Antrim, enhancing choice and promoting quality;
- To improve outcomes for young people at Key Stages 4 and 5;
- To make the best use of educational resources available;
- To promote and nurture mutual respect and understanding, as well as community cohesion;
- To provide the local and wider community with young people who have the knowledge, skills and attitudes to make valuable contributions to the economic and community life within the area.

Key Facts

- Each school in the partnership retains its own identity and ethos.
- The commitment to sharing can be traced back as far as the 1960s, when pupils from Ballycastle High attended Latin lessons in Cross and Passion College, and collaborative Further Mathematics lessons took place in Ballycastle High School.
- The partnership is now well established and is deeply embedded in the life of both schools.
- In excess of 300 pupils from both schools share lessons on a weekly basis.
- The schools share much of the curriculum at Key Stage 4 & 5. Pupils still have the option to attend classes only in their own school, if that is their wish.
- Pupils from both schools have a Joint Student Council which meets regularly and represents the voice of pupils in making decisions about the partnership.
- Planning is underway for a brand new £40m state-of-the-art shared campus, consisting of two new schools and a shared facility incorporating practical subjects and cutting edge sports facilities.





Through our Personal Career Planning programme, pupils are encouraged to:

- Reflect on their strengths, personal qualities, aspirations and aptitudes;
- Research information relating to a wide range of career opportunities;
- Use labour market information to help inform their career planning;
- Explore progression routes to Further/Higher Education and employment;
- Consider a range of options and make realistic choices;
- Actively participate in workshops/programmes hosted by Young Enterprise;
- Learn from professional speakers from industry and employment;
- Attend Open Days and Careers Conventions/Fairs;
- Attend any organised talks relating to their areas of interest;
- Engage in a period of meaningful work experience.
- Attend mock interviews;
- Choose the pathway in which they are most likely to experience success.

Links with Employers and the Business Community

The Careers and Employability programmes are greatly enriched by the involvement of employers and the business community. We have developed very effective links and we listen carefully to the employability needs of local employers. We use this information to help inform our curriculum.





Our school mission statement reflects the importance we attach to developing the talents and gifts of our young people. We, therefore, place a strong emphasis on giving them the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities aimed at developing their special talents. We also strive to promote the positive use of their leisure time.

Lunchtime Activities

The school offers a full programme of lunchtime activities to cater for all tastes. In addition to a range of activities in recreational sport, pupils can become involved in any of the following:

- Careers Research
- ICT
- Guitar Club
- Traditional Music
- Choir
- Walking Club
- Homework Club
- ECO Club
- The MAD Group (Making A Difference)
- Lego Club
- Chess and Board Games Club

Sport

The extra-curricular activities take place at lunchtime and after school. The programmes are led by our own teaching staff. However, from time to time visiting coaching specialists are brought to the school.

Team and Individual Sports

The school has achieved remarkable sporting success in recent years. Most notably we have won All-Ireland Colleges titles in both camogie and hurling, as well as numerous regional titles in netball and football.

Recent Success:

Camogie – All Ireland Junior Champions 2008

Camogie – Ulster Junior Champions 2016 and 2017

Hurling – All Ireland Senior Colleges Champions 2009, 2010 and 2015

Hurling – Ulster Colleges Mageean Cup Champions 2014 and 2015

Cross Country – Ulster U18 Champion 2014 – Conor Christie

- Athletics
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Camogie**
- Cross Country
- Dance**
- Gaelic Football**
- Golf
- Gymnastics
- Hurling**
- Netball
- Orienteering
- Outdoor Pursuits
- Rugby
- Skiing
- Soccer**
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Trampolining
- Walking**

**Denotes activities offered as recreational sport at lunchtime





Educational Visits

- As part of the 'Languages Alive' programme, there is an annual trip to France or Spain for pupils in Years 8/9
- Each year, there are opportunities for pupils in all year groups to attend residential courses in the Gaeltacht
- A Ski Trip takes place every second year
- Outdoor Pursuits Activity programmes are organised every year
- Joint school trips to Poland (History/Religious Studies)
- Theatre Visits
- Art Exhibitions
- Science Exhibitions
- Visits to facilitate a range of leisure activities including Bowling, Ice Skating, Swimming and Hill Walking
- Opportunities to take part in a range of educational visits related to curriculum areas for example, Agricultural Visits; Psychology Trip to London; Drama Trip to London etc.

Music

The Music Department provides excellent facilities for a whole range of musical activities. The extra-curricular programme caters for pupils with a wide range of musical tastes and includes:

- Senior and Junior Choir
- Instrument Ensemble
- Irish Traditional Group
- Rock Bands
- Guitar Club

Individual or small group tuition is available in woodwind, brass and string instruments including guitar. Pupils are entered for Associated Board or Trinity College examinations and are also given opportunities to perform at school concerts and various liturgical services.



Drama

The school's Drama Department is well established and thriving. With new state of the art facilities, Drama is becoming a more popular subject at GCSE and A Level. Pupils are given opportunities to perform short play extracts, monologues and to participate in Dance Drama, which gives them the opportunity to express themselves, use their imagination and perform for an audience. In addition to this, a school musical is produced every two years – our most recent very successful productions include:

- The King and I
- Me & My Girl
- Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
- Bugsy Malone
- Little Shop of Horrors
- Grease
- The Wizard of Oz









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