

# ST. LOUIS

GRAMMAR SCHOOL KILKEEL



Over 90 Years of Excellence in Education PROSPECTUS 2019 - 2020



Co-Educational Grammar School 😽 Family Focussed

Academic Excellence

**Sporting Distinction** 

Specialist school in Computing

and Technology

Small and Caring

Innovative and Creative

STEM specialists

Excellence in Education

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#### Welcome to St. Louis Grammar School.

We hope that you enjoy reading this prospectus and that it gives you a flavour of what life is like in our school.

St. Louis is an inclusive school for boys and girls, whose aim is to provide opportunities for all students, enabling them to develop their talents and skills so they can realise their full potential, academically, socially and personally.

We seek to provide a secure and happy environment for all children whilst promoting our Catholic ethos in a supportive and caring environment. We provide an academic education of a high standard, but above all we strive to create an environment which encourages pupils' physical, moral and spiritual well-being. We are a learning school where the learning experience is relevant, rewarding, empowering and enjoyable, and where everyone is encouraged to work hard and aim high. The school's pastoral policy emphasises self-esteem and the development of good interpersonal relationships as the basis for effective learning. St. Louis students enjoy the benefits of a disciplined, happy environment, conducive to study under the guidance of well-qualified teachers.

We are committed to working in partnership with our parents to ensure that high expectations are met in the form of excellent examination results and



high quality extra-curricular experiences. We value parents' support and recognise the importance of their role in the education and development of their children. We provide many opportunities for parental involvement through school Masses, sporting, music and fundraising events. Parents are also actively consulted in the formation and review of school policies.

St. Louis is a community where the uniqueness of each individual is recognised and where students are prepared to face the world as confident, articulate and mature young adults with all the necessary skills and attributes required to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

## St. Louis Grammar School Voluntary Grammar Denominational Boys and Girls 11-18

Enrolment September 2018: 698 Expected Enrolment September 2019: 750 Approved Admissions Number for 2019: 130 Approved Enrolment Number for 2018: 130

Chairperson of the Board of Governors: Sr. Mary O'Connor SSL



We are very pleased that following the approval of our Development Proposal in February this year we are able to increase our admissions and enrolment numbers. The criteria for admissions to the school is bilateral and can be obtained from the school website and Admissions Criteria Booklet. It will also be published on the Education Authority's website in due course.

This is a very exciting time for all those interested in education in Kilkeel and we are confident that every child will have the opportunity to experience success. Our teachers work hard to ensure each child develops in confidence, enjoys learning, and develops a spirit of enquiry. We encourage everyone to recognise and share their gifts and talents.

In keeping with the spirit of St. Louis the ethos of our school is aligned with that of the founding congregation, which through time has brought its own charism that has helped to create the educational philosophy that informs the running of the school.

As a Catholic Grammar school we, as leaders, teachers, parents and pupils, are asked to reflect on how we live out the St. Louis ethos which was Abbé Bautain's vision. Part of our spiritual growth is to reflect on what our roles and responsibilities mean in living out the Gospel message.

We understand that parental preference for St. Louis Grammar School affirms a commitment to the school's Christian ethos and to the Religious Education programme provided here. However, the school welcomes pupils from other traditions. Grounded in the St. Louis tradition of education, we see religious faith and practice as an integral part of the whole school experience. All pupils study Religious Education throughout their time in St. Louis.

The main aim of the Religious Education Programme could not be achieved without considerable emphasis on religious practice during the school year. The Holy Eucharist is central to our faith. At the beginning of the first term the entire school community gathers for a Welcome Mass in school, to give thanks and ask for God's blessing on the year ahead. Mass is celebrated on many occasions including a Welcome Service for Year 8 pupils and their parents in October to celebrate their 'new beginning'. Year group assemblies, a Lenten Penitential service, special liturgical services at Christmas and Easter and retreats, play an important part in faith development. At the end of sixth form, Mass is celebrated for Year 14 students and parents.

St. Louis is a caring school, where students are encouraged to live out their faith by supporting a range of charities, local, national and international. Fundraising takes several forms including ticket sales, sponsored fasts, goal shoots, sponsored walks and bag packs. In the past, groups of students and staff have travelled to Rwanda and Romania to work in orphanages bringing with them substantial funds and resources to aid their development. The school also supports the local branch of St. Vincent de Paul by providing hampers at Christmas. We are currently developing links within the St. Louis Network with St. Louis schools worldwide. Each year thousands of pounds are donated to a range of charities including Macmillan Cancer Care, Action MS, SERVE, Trocáire Lenten Appeal, the Hospice, and St. Louis Mission work in less economically developed countries.



## ...faith development







# St. Louis Grammar School is a Catholic community within which both staff and students work in the pursuit of all aspects of spiritual, educational and personal experience.

To Achieve this we have the following aims:

- To help pupils grow in the Catholic faith and foster moral values and attitudes thereby helping them to become mature, tolerant and committed Christians.
- To provide a happy, caring and stimulating learning environment where pupils are helped to:
  - develop self-awareness, confidence, self-esteem and discipline
  - address difficult issues openly and honestly
  - develop a sense of personal and social responsibility

- To provide a broad, balanced, coherent and relevant curriculum, to enable pupils to acquire a wide range of abilities and interests, knowledge, skills and attitudes.
- To establish and develop:
  - a creative partnership between pupils, parents and teachers
  - links with primary schools, other schools, external agencies, past pupils and the wider community.
- To help pupils understand the world they live in, to make informed decisions about their lives and to prepare them for future responsibilities as contributing members of the community, workers and parents.

### ...our vision







### Welcome to our new Year 11 pupils!

### St. Louis Grammar School is a community built on a foundation of Christian values of care and respect for the individual.

Pastoral Care permeates all aspects of school life. It is concerned with the personal, spiritual and intellectual development of the whole pupil. It is a positive learning community where pupils feel valued and encouraged to make a positive contribution to their own development and to the life of the school. Pastoral care is therefore the responsibility of every member of staff and integral to school life. We acknowledge the importance of our pastoral role in the welfare of all young people and through our mission statement and ethos every member of our school community is treated with respect.

The pastoral system has a clearly identifiable structure within the school in which every staff member has a pastoral role. The responsibility for this dedicated focus is carried by the Tutors, Year Heads, and the Senior Management Team. This system ensures that there are clear lines of communication and easily identified roles and responsibilities which bring maximum benefit for all pupils.

The pastoral programme followed by the pupils addresses relevant personal, social and academic matters. Through our Pastoral Structures and Counselling Service we offer a supportive environment to pupils. The Personal Development

Programme allows pupils to explore key issues within their personal development including Self Concepts, Self Esteem, Health and Wellbeing, Relationships and Personal Safety. We recognise that pupils benefit from having a particular teacher to whom they may turn, so pupils are divided into tutor groups.

The Tutor plays a pivotal role in helping pupils to become an integral part of the St. Louis community, where high standards of honesty, behaviour and application to work are encouraged and respected. Dialogue between Tutor and pupil is an important part of this process and helps the young person to take responsibility for his/her own learning. An Education for Love programme is delivered throughout the school. Outside agencies provide support for the programme in Years 11, 12 and 13. Relevant topics are introduced in tutor period gradually over the seven years and the content is appropriate to the developmental stage of each year group.

We acknowledge the importance of a range of external support agencies in promoting and supporting Pastoral Care within the school but also the importance of ensuring that such agencies adhere to the values and ethos of our school.



We acknowledge that parents are prime educators of their children and that it is only when an actively supportive partnership is developed between home and school that the child's true potential will be realised. Consequently we aim to maintain full, extensive and creative communication between the school and home.

An Open Day for prospective Year 8 children and their parents is arranged at the end of term 1. Any parent who is unable to attend the Open Day, and who would like more information about the school, should telephone the school to arrange an appointment. We understand the emotional and intellectual challenge that the transition from Primary to Grammar school poses for our Year 8 pupils, so a comprehensive induction programme is organised to address this. Those whose applications are successful will be invited to St. Louis, with their parent(s)/guardian(s) on an afternoon during June when the new pupils will meet with their new friends, pupils currently in Year 8 and their Year Head. This meeting will begin the induction process before they start the school in September. Year 8 students have a study skills day during which they have a variety of different workshops, talks and activities, all aimed at improving the pupils' understanding of how to learn and work successfully. To complement these activities we have developed the use of the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) so pupils and

parents can access some of the on-line learning materials and resources that are being used in class. The school website has a parents' section that gives guidance on how to support students with the demands of new subjects, organise books and personal equipment and to adjust to different types of homework. It also contains subject-specific resources, pastoral resources and guidelines necessary to help your child make a smooth transition from primary school and settle in quickly to their new and exciting environment.

Parent-Teacher consultation afternoons are organised for each year group. During this meeting parents will have the opportunity to discuss



progress and application to work.

In addition parents receive a twice-yearly progress report. We value a genuine dialogue with parents which is not restricted to formal meetings but is ongoing and informal and encourage parents to contact the school at any time to discuss their child's progress or welfare.

Our Philosophy of Education is based on the view that education must endeavour to develop the whole person. The curriculum and life of the school is therefore imbued with the values of the Gospel so that children may become mature Christian adults.

We recognise that it is not enough to inspire pupils to high ideals unless they are given the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills to bring these to fulfilment in the real world. The curriculum in St. Louis Grammar School has been organised to provide a broad, balanced, relevant and coherent experience for each pupil. Most classes throughout the school are unstreamed, with the exception of Mathematics classes which are set in Years 11 and 12.

### **Key Stage 3**

### In Year 8, 9 and 10 students study the following subjects:

Art and Design, Computing & ICT, Drama, English, French, Geography, History, Home Economics, Irish, Learning for Life and Work (Citizenship, Employability, Careers, Personal Development), Mathematics, Music, Physical Education & Games, Religious Education, Science, Spanish (Y10), Technology.

### **Key Stage 4**

### At this stage pupils pursue GCSE or Applied Courses.

All students follow a common core of subjects comprising English, English Literature, Religious Studies, PE (non exam) and Mathematics.

Students then choose up to six subjects from the following list of GCSE and Applied options:

Art & Design, AQA Applied Business Studies, Business Studies, Child Development, Computer Science, Construction, Digital Technologies, Double Award Science, Drama, Engineering, Food and Nutrition Science, French, Further Maths, Geography, History, Irish, Moving Image, Music, OCN NI Applied IT, Learning for Life and Work, Occupational Studies, PE, Single Award Science, Spanish, Technology and Design, Travel and Tourism.

All students in Key Stage 4 follow a programme in Citizenship and Employability.



### St. Louis... ...meeting the needs of all pupils



This Sixth Form is a time of academic rigour, independent learning and preparation for life. It is also a time when leadership qualities are emphasised and developed. Students hold various posts of responsibility within the school and act as role models for younger pupils.

St. Louis offers over 24 subjects at GCSE and over 27 at Post-16 and is increasing its vocational provision. Part of our strategy to provide additional courses (both academic and vocational) involves working in partnership with the Newry and Mourne Area Learning Community (ALC). Through collaboration with our local schools and the Southern Regional College we offer a wide range of subjects which will cater for the needs and interests of all our pupils.

### **Area Learning Community**

St. Louis Grammar School is one of 14 schools active in the local Area Learning Community.



Post-16:

Accounts, Applied Business Studies, Applied ICT, Art and Design, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Construction, Design and Technology, Engineering, English, French, Geography, Government and Politics, History, Health and Social Care, Irish, Mathematics, Moving Image Arts, Music, Music Technology, Nutrition and Food Science, PE Studies, Physics, Psychology, Religion, Sociology, and Spanish.

Each student is expected to take up to 4 of the above subjects in Year 13, and then may proceed to Year 14 with 3 or 4 subjects. Some students may study 3 subjects in Year 13 and complete a Certificate of Personal Effectiveness (CoPE) which is worth 16 UCAS points.

All Sixth Form students attend Careers classes each week. In addition, students attend enrichment modules in: Personal Finance, Outdoor Activities, Religious Education, Employability, Presentation Skills and Physical Fitness. These options may change from year to year.



### St. Louis... ...embracing new technologies

St. Louis Grammar School are proud to present our new school App for Android and iOS devices which can be downloaded by prospective parents, pupils, parents and past pupils. This allows users to access school news and important school documentation such as the school prospectus, policies and forms.



To download search: "St. Louis Grammar School" in the Apple Store r Google Play store. Alternatively scan the QR code that matches your phone below.











### ...participation is key











We are confident that there is something for everyone to join in with and enjoy and that participation and social interaction is what really matters.

The primary aim of the PE programme is to offer a wide but balanced range of physical activities which will stimulate enjoyment, create a sense of achievement, increase confidence and foster a positive attitude to exercise, thus promoting a healthy lifestyle for adult life. Our students participate successfully in sporting life, with a very large number taking part in sporting activities outside normal lesson time. There is a wide range of activities on offer including athletics, camogie, cross-country, Gaelic football (boys and girls), golf, netball, soccer, tennis, volleyball and swimming. Internal competitions in some sports are held annually and the school organises and hosts annual primary school competitions in Gaelic football and netball. As well as participating in internal competitions, netball teams play in the Newry and Mourne League at various levels and teams have reached the final or semi-final in all these competitions in recent years. There has also been great success in Gaelic football including MacRory and MacLarnon cup final appearances as well as success in All-Ireland Colleges' competitions. Students past and present continue to achieve tremendous success at local, national and international level in a range of sports including Gaelic football, Camogie, Australian Rules football, golf and rugby.

The school has a long tradition of music and drama. As well as regular musical lessons, students are able to take part in further musical study, where they learn to play a wide variety of musical instruments taught by a team of specialist musicians. Lessons are offered in brass, strings, voice, woodwind, guitar and piano. The senior and junior choir, the string ensemble, the jazz group and the traditional group offer further opportunities for pupils to develop their musical talents. Students also perform at assemblies, Masses, concerts and musicals.

Pupils have the opportunity to perform in a variety of plays and the annual Drama Festival. Years 8 to 10 have weekly drama classes, while GCSE Drama is a popular option. All our shows have been a major success and students get the opportunity to participate in at least three school shows during their time in St. Louis. High levels of success have been achieved by pupils both individually in competitions at local feiseanna and in the annual Schools Irish Drama Festival. Each year a concert of music, drama, song, poetry and fashion is staged to bring together the talents developed throughout the year. Public Speaking continues to develop throughout the school with students across the Key Stages participating in various competitions.



### ...a preparation for life





Each pupil's progress is closely monitored and additional support is offered to students in Years 8-14 who have particular needs so that they can achieve their full potential.

While problems relating to work or study will be dealt with through extra help from the class teacher, it is recognised that some pupils need extra support. Educationally gifted children are encouraged to go beyond the demands of the school curriculum. In keeping with the Code of Practice for Northern Ireland, a policy for Special Educational Needs (SEN) is in place.

The SEN co-ordinator, working closely with other staff is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the policy. Assessments are put in place to identify pupils with special educational needs. Information and concern from parents is central to the process. When a pupil has a statement of special educational needs, this information and the arrangements to address their needs is communicated to all staff with whom the pupil has contact.



#### **Careers**

Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance plays an increasingly important part in the curriculum as pupils move through the school and decisions become more complex. The main aims of the programme are:

- To raise pupils' self-awareness of how their skills and qualities, interests and ambitions relate to their future education and employment opportunities.
- To provide pupils with a range of experiences and opportunities to develop essential employability skills.
- To increase pupils' knowledge and understanding of the working world and raise their awareness of Labour Market Intelligence (LMI) and employment opportunities locally and globally.
- To develop in pupils the Career Planning skills essential for making informed, realistic career decisions linked to their capabilities, interests and aspirations.

The Careers department works in partnership with outside agencies so as to provide impartial, comprehensive guidance which will help our students make informed career choices and effectively manage key transition decisions at pivotal times in their lives. The Careers department is committed to promoting links with industry and highlighting the role of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and their potential importance within the Northern Ireland economy.

### ...participation is key



We offer a wide range of extracurricular activities that contribute to a creative and dynamic educational process. Students are encouraged to participate in these activities which complement the statutory curriculum, so that they can broaden their learning experiences and grow and develop into responsible and effective citizens of the 21st century.

- Junior Book Club
- School e-magazine
- School e-newsletter
- Maths club
- Junior & Senior
   Choirs
- Mini Enterprise
- Debating & Public

- Speaking
- Various Ensembles
- Student Council
- Traditional Music Group
- Junior Writer's Club
- Technology Club

- Drama
- Film Club
- Golf
- Cross Country
- Netball
- Gaelic Football
- Camogie
- Soccer
- Swimming
- Athletics
- Computing & ICT
- Environmental Club

- Quiz team
- Fund raising
- SENTINUS
   Engineering
  - Scheme
- SENTINUS IT R&D
- Ladies Football
- Microbit Explorers
- Minecraft Club
- French Film Club

School trips are an important part of the educational experience. Last year pupils attended language courses in Donegal Gaeltacht, and trips to France and Spain are regular occurrences. There is an annual soccer trip and a ski trip every two years.

#### **Leavers Destinations**

The university and college destinations of the 2018 leavers reflects the unique interests, abilities, talents and aspirations of each individual St Louis student. Queen's University and the University of Ulster proved popular destinations. 23 students have accepted places at Queen's University Belfast electing to study courses extending across a full range of disciplines such as; Accounting, Economics, Computer Science, Zoology, Nursing, Geography, Medicinal Chemistry and Mechanical Engineering. The Arts were well represented with applicants accepting places on degree courses in Law, Politics, PPE and Music and Audio Production and one applicant secured a coveted place on the new master's Degree programme in Liberal Arts.

25 students will attend the University of Ulster with degrees in Accounting, Sports Studies, Journalism, Criminology, Business Management, PR and Marketing degrees featuring significantly. In addition, we acknowledge the enviable talent and creativity demonstrated by 3 students who

secured places on the Art and Design Course based at the School of Art located within the Belfast Campus of the Ulster University.

2 students with a view to a future career in teaching have embarked on courses in St Mary's University College, Belfast. 1 student has secured employment and Veterinary Nurse training at Greenmount College.

6 students will continue their undergraduate studies in other parts of the UK; London Imperial and University College London, University of York, Newcastle University and the University of Glasgow. 1 student will commence her level 8 Honours Degree in Business at DKIT Dundalk. 3 students have commenced competitive salaried Higher Apprenticeship programmes; one student has secured sponsorship for her BSc Hons Degree course in Food Production and Management at Loughry College and is working with Dale Farm. Another student is a Higher Apprentice in Computing and IT with the globally recognised company 'BAE Systems' and a third student is a Higher Apprentice in Engineering with Thompson's Aero.



### ...leavers destinations 2018

Degree Course	Destination
BA Hons French and History BA Hons Music and Audio Production BA Hons Politics, Philosophy and Economics BSc Hons Accounting BSc Hons Adult Nursing BSc Hons Anthropology BSc Hons Archaeology BSc Hons Business Management BSc Hons Chemistry with a year of study abroad BSc Hons Computer Information Technology BSc Hons Geography BSc Hons Geography with a Language BSc Hons Medicinal Chemistry BSc Hons Philosophy and Politics BSc Hons Zoology LLB Hons Law LLB Hons Law with Politics MA Liberal Arts MEng Mechanical Engineering with Industrial Placement	Queen's University Belfast
Art and Design Foundation Year BA Hons Journalism and History BEng Hons Biomedical Engineering BMus Hons Music BSc Hons Accounting Pathways BSc Hons Business Information Systems BSc Hons Communication Management and Public Relations BSc Hons Consumer Management and Innovation BSc Hons Criminology and Sociology BSc Hons Environmental Health BSc Hons Human Resource Management BSc Hons Interactive Media BSc Hons Planning, Regeneration and Development BSc Hons Quantity Surveying and Commercial Management BSc Hons Social Work BSc Hons Sports Studies BSc Hons Technology and Design LLB Hons Law	Ulster University
BEd Hons Primary Education BEd Hons Secondary Education	St Mary's University College, Belfast
BSc Hons Food Design and Nutrition	CAFRE – Loughry
BSc Hons Food Design and Nutrition	DKIT
BMus Hons Music	Glasgow Conservatoire of Music
BEng Hons Biomedical Engineering	Glasgow University
Veterinary Nursing Training	Greenmount / Walker Practice Portadown
BSc Hons Geology with a Year abroad	Imperial College London
BSc Hons Business Management BSc Hons Media, Communication and Cultural Studies	Newcastle University
BSc Hons European Social and Political Studies	University College London
BSc Hons Event Management	York St, John University
BAE Engineering Higher Apprenticeship	Higher Level Apprenticeship - England

#### **GCSE Results by Department 2018**

Subject	Entrants	% A*-A	% A*-B	% A*-C	NI % A*-C 2018
Art & Design	12	25	50	92	83.2
Biology	49	20.3	65.2	97.9	93.7
Business Studies	20	5	25	65	NA
Chemistry	24	20.9	50.1	79.3	95.1
Child Development	28	78	100	100	73.4
Computer Science	6	33.3	50	66.7	83.6
Construction	17	11.8	53	94.2	NA
Drama	18	38.9	100	100	88.0
Design Technology	36	27.7	46.6	80.4	83.3
Engineering	19	42.1	84.2	100	67.7
English	84	33.2	67.7	96.3	81.6
English Literature	79	18.9	58.1	87.2	92.6
French	13	46.2	53.9	92.4	84.8
Further Maths	19	31	73	94	94.8
Geography	35	17.1	45.7	68.6	79.7
History	21	33.4	62	90.6	81.1
Home Economics	14	35.7	64.3	92.9	83.3
ICT	26	46.2	84.7	96.2	80.0
Irish	17	29.4	88.2	94.1	95.2
Mathematics	84	30.9	54.7	91.6	70.4
Music	6	16.7	66.7	100	90.9
Physics	36	30.6	72.3	86.2	96.9
Religious Studies	82	25.6	54.9	74.4	79.7
Single Award Science	17	17.6	82.4	100	72.4
Spanish	30	6.7	23.4	70.1	90.2
Sports / PE Studies	24	16.7	33.4	80.1	81.7

#### Student Council

The Student Council is a forum through which the students make a valid contribution towards enhancing their learning environment whilst at St. Louis. The aim of the council is to provide the pupils with a forum in which their views can be expressed and acted upon in order to improve the school.

The St. Louis School Council is designed so that all students are effectively members of the Council. It has a three-tier structure in that all students initially meet at tutor group level before forwarding their ideas to a Year Group Council. During the Year Group phase students will establish items to be included on the agenda for the full School Council meeting of which there are four scheduled through the academic year. Two representatives, on a rotational basis, will attend the full School Council meeting to represent the views of their peers.

The full School Council meetings are convened in the school library during which the Principal and/or Vice Principal are present. Members are encouraged to put forward their ideas to other members of the Council with the confidence that they have a forum in which their views are both respected and valued.

The School Council is designed to enhance communication in two directions. As such, council members must create an analysis of the nature of debates and relay key points back to the student body via assemblies.

Members have been involved in a variety of activities working in partnership with the Senior Leadership and Management Team and outside agencies. They perform an essential role of being the 'Student Voice' feedback on teaching and learning experiences, developing school policy and other initiatives.

#### **GCE A Level Results by Department 2018**

na = not available

Subject	Entrants	%A*-A	%A*-B	%A*-C	NI %A*-C 2018
Accounts	8	50	75	100	75
Art	5	60	80	100	93
Biology	5	80	100	100	82.9
Applied Business	10	50	50	80	NA
Business Studies	12	25	58	100	91.8
Chemistry	7	43	57	100	90
Design and Technology	14	7	50	100	NA
English Literature	8	50	88	100	84.5
Engineering	8	100	100	100	NA
French	4	100	100	100	92.2
Geography	7	43	72	100	87.9
Health and Social Care	14		57	93	87.9
History	10	40	70	90	84.3
Home Economics	9	44.4	88.8	100	88.8
Applied ICT	25	100	100	100	NA
Irish	1	100	100	100	95.4
Mathematics	7	57	71	100	88.7
Moving Image	6		83	100	NA
Music	5	20	80	100	89.5
Music Technology	7	86	86	100	NA
Physics	6	50	67	84	81.9
Politics	8	50	100	100	87.9
RE	11	27	72	90	88.4
Sociology	4	50	75	100	77.7
Sports Studies	5	60	100	100	NA

#### **Shared Education**

In 2009 St Louis achieved Specialist Status and as part of the initiative worked closely with Kilkeel High to offer joint subjects at A Level as part of the "Kilkeel: A Shared Town Through Education" project.

This project allowed the schools to enable pupils to experience Shared Education through the study of Engineering, Health and Social Care, and the Certificate of Personal Effectiveness at Post-16.

The project expanded further in 2014 to incorporate Music Technology, and in 2015-2016 Moving Image and Psychology were also added. This has allowed the pupils in the area to take advantage of the full Entitlement Framework requirements for schools to offer at least 27 subjects at A Level.

A total of seven subjects are now offered through the partnership and since starting the partnership over 1000 students have been involved in shared classes. Well over 2000 hours of shared classes have been taught with every Post-16 pupil now getting the choice to study a Shared Education subject. Over 20 staff are now involved across the two schools in Shared Education.

The partnership has been very successful and pupils involved in Shared Classes have stated they have:

- Gained new skills and experiences
- Enjoyed talking part
- Increased their confidence
- Felt comfortable in the same classroom with pupils from a different school
- Access to a wider range of subjects
- Met different teachers and have experienced different teaching styles
- A better understanding of other religions

The project has also allowed a number of adult classes to take place in both schools and as part of a three year plan the schools will continue to offer further opportunities for pupils, staff, and the local community to engage in Shared Education.





#### **School Meals**

The school currently offers a cafeteria service where pupils select items on a self-service basis. Breakfast is available in the morning and snacks are available at break time and lunch time. As health-promoting school, we encourage pupils to follow a healthy diet.

We continue to promote healthy eating in school through the implementation of initiatives and schemes to promote healthy eating for pupils.

St. Louis provides an environment in which personal and academic development is encouraged and rewarded.

The school expects that all pupils how high standards of behaviour at all times and recognises four operating principles upon which the code is based:

- It is expected that pupils act with courtesy, consideration and respect towards one another.
- Pupils must co-operate fully to enable effective teaching and learning to take place.
- Pupils must behave in a manner so as to ensure the safety of people and property at school.
- Pupils must be mindful of their image and appearance and that of the school and its environment.



On admission, each pupil is given a copy of the Positive Behaviour Policy. School rules are clearly stated in this, and also in the Student Planner. Most breaches of discipline are dealt with by referral within the Pastoral System. When a serious breach of discipline occurs, parents will automatically be contacted and the appropriate sanction will be put in place. In very serious instances the School reserves the right to exclude pupils. Concerns about a pupil's safety should be reported to the Designated Child Protection Teacher.



#### **School Uniform**

St. Louis students wear their uniform with pride. The uniform helps pupils identify with the school and assists in creating a sense of community.

The importance of pupils presenting themselves well cannot be over emphasised. This includes travelling to and from school, during the school day, during examinations and when representing the school. Parents will appreciate that the general public make judgements about a school on the basis of how the pupils look and behave while wearing school uniform.

Your co-operation in the maintenance of good uniform standards and behaviour is greatly appreciated.



### ...a foundation for the future

#### The History of St. Louis

As a Catholic Grammar School we have as our patron St. Louis IX, King of France, known also as the "Most Christian King". He was born to wealth and power in 1214. When he was only 12 his father, King Louis VIII died, and Louis IX was crowned King. At that time, his mother Queen Blanche of Castile, was declared regent and remained an important influence in his life.

Yet, despite his wealth and affluence, St. Louis led an exemplary life, spending long hours in prayer, fasting and penance. Louis was a great lover of justice and he was renowned for his charity. He was very generous to the poor and underprivileged, and regularly brought the poor to his palace where he served them himself. "The peace and blessings of the realm come to us through the poor," he would say.

Louis is often described as "one of the greatest of all French Kings" and was considered by his family, friends, French nobles, and religious men and women to be a deeply pious and honourable man. He took a special interest in charitable institutions, regarding his kingly duties as part of his Christian vocation. St. Louis died near Tunis, 25 August 1270. His canonisation to the sainthood was proclaimed in 1297 by Pope Boniface VIII.

In 1842 the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Louis was founded in France by Abbé Louis Bautain. He was a philosopher, teacher and Priest. His great concern was to provide a Christian education for the young, and for this purpose he founded a society of priests, and later a society of sisters, all of whom became involved in some aspect of education. Bautain's vision was of 'a world healed and transformed by the saving wisdom of Christianity'. His constant theme was unity and the search for truth, and his guiding words were of the prayer of Jesus to his Father: 'that they all may be one' - the St. Louis motto 'Ut Sint Unum'. The first St. Louis Sisters came to Ireland in 1859 and set up a



school in Monaghan town. Other schools were opened in Middletown (1875), Carrickmacross (1888), Kilkeel (1921) and Ballymena (1924). The St. Louis sisters also set up schools in Belfast, Dundalk and Dublin.



#### **Access to Documents & Information**

Copies of relevant documents, policies and other information, which may be inspected or obtained by parents or other members of the public, will be available from the school on request, in accordance with the Education (School Information and Prospectuses) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003 and also the Freedom of Information Act (2000). (Please note that a fee will be levied for photocopying and postage). Appointments to talk to one of the Senior Teachers, Vice-principal or Principal can be made through the Main Office.

#### **Charging and Remission Policy**

The School's policy on Charging and Remission is in accordance with Article 131 of The Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 and Regulations as subsequently made of DENI The policy of St. Louis Grammar School is to keep the cost of optional extra activities to a minimum.

#### **Admissions Policy**

For admission in 2019/20 St Louis Grammar School will operate a 3 stage application process.

A full copy of our admissions policy is enclosed and can also be obtained from the EA website.

"Give the young all your care and affection, and try to touch their hearts by the interest you show in them. Keep them, as it were under the shadow of your wing, but never push or constrain them morally."

Abbé Louis Bautain.





#### ST. LOUIS GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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