Monaghan Collegiate School
Corlatt Monaghan Co Monaghan Phone: 047-82060 / 047-82405
E-mail: mcsadministrator@monaghamcollegiateschool.ie
Monaghan Collegiate School is easily located on the N2 Dublin/Castleblaney Road,
just on the outskirts of Monaghan Town.
Message from the Principal

Thank you for your interest in Monaghan Collegiate School. I hope that you find this prospectus useful and informative. I would be more than happy to talk you through any questions that you may have and look forward to meeting you.

Monaghan Collegiate School has a proud history of service; rooted in the local community and responsive to its needs. We are privileged to enjoy the dedicated support of our parents/guardians. We also have a strong sense of a learning community within the school with excellent pupil teacher relationships. We are pleasantly situated on the outskirts of Monaghan town in a beautiful rural setting.

I am acutely aware that to be asked to educate someone’s son or daughter is an immense privilege and a great responsibility; one which I take very seriously. Our expressed intention is to foster a passion for learning in each young person, so that whatever sphere of employment they may enter, they will view themselves as lifelong learners; always willing to adapt and change to meet the needs of a changing world.

Our door is always open to listen to your concerns and while we may not always be able to change things, we assure you that we will always act in the best interest of the young person as far as humanly possible. Our vision is one of parents, teachers and pupil working together so that your son or daughter may flourish as an individual.

Yours in education,

Johnston Reid
Message from the Chairperson of the Board of Governors

Monaghan Collegiate School, formerly Monaghan Diocesan School was originally founded by an Act of Dublin Parliament in 1570 and underwent a number of transitions up until 1902. From the inspiration of the original Diocesan School, the school was re-established in 1950 under the combined patronage of the Church of Ireland and Presbyterian churches. It is supported and run by the Board of Governors in conjunction with the Board of Management and has three Trustees.

Based on our Protestant tradition and history, the school is committed to providing for the welfare (spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical) of all our pupils in an inclusive and caring environment, and to the development of mutual respect and tolerance grounded in Christian compassion.

Rt. Revd John McDowell

Bishop of Clogher
Ethos

Monaghan Collegiate School, formerly Monaghan Diocesan School was originally founded by an Act of the Dublin Parliament, “for the erection of free schools” in 1570, and underwent a number of transitions until 1902 when it fell into abeyance.

Drawing inspiration from the original Diocesan school the present school was re-established in 1950. The school is under the joint patronage of the Presbyterian and Church of Ireland churches together with the smaller churches as detailed in the composition of the Board of Governors. The school is run by the Board of Governors as the patron body, in conjunction with the Board of Management as detailed in the Constitution of Monaghan collegiate School.

Based on our Protestant tradition and history, the school is committed to providing for the welfare (spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical) of all our students in an inclusive and caring environment.

Our ethos is manifested in a number of ways including,

- the Christian values of honesty, care, integrity and hard work,
- a New Entrants welcome service,
- a daily act of public worship,
- an annual prize day service,
- a Christmas Carol service,
- an Easter service,
- a Leaving Certificate service,
- an Overseas leaving service.

Our motto is ‘Working together so that we may flourish as individuals’. This involves the whole school community, The Board of Governors, Board of management, Principal, Teaching Staff, Non-Teaching staff, Parents/Guardians, Pupils and Past Pupils fostering an environment within which all feel valued and encouraged to participate in a positive lifelong learning experience.
Why choose Monaghan Collegiate School?

A myriad of threads have to come together in a young person's life to ensure that they can achieve their full academic potential and discover their academic, artistic and sporting interests. We endeavour to create a healthy, creative and inspirational learning environment in which students feel connected to their community and build resilience, pride and a sense of shared responsibility.

At Monaghan Collegiate we feel that we provide the perfect platform not only to allow your son/daughter to meet the challenges of examinations but also to prepare them for the broader demands that life will put upon them.

Monaghan Collegiate School is dedicated to providing a caring and supportive environment to ensure that your child is fully integrated into the School Community. Our ethos, based on Christian compassion is at the heartbeat of the school's Pastoral Care programme.

Key Features:
- Co Educational Post Primary School
- Protestant Ethos
- Proven Academic record at all levels of ability
- Comprehensive wide choice of subjects
- State-of-the-art facilities
- Rooted in the community
- Safe, secure and caring environment
- Text book rental scheme
- Evening Study
- Scripture Union
- Student Centred Learning
- Excellent sports and recreational facilities
- Strong emphasis on a tripartite co-operation between parent, pupil and school

Who we are:

Mr Reid
Principal

Mr Killoran
Deputy Principal

Mrs Wright - Kendrick
1st Year Head of Year

Mrs O’Connor
Bursar
A Child entering First year in September 2020 will experience all Junior Cycle subjects through their new specifications. Monaghan Collegiate School is offering the subjects indicated in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compulsory Subjects</th>
<th>Choice Subjects</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Business Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish</td>
<td>Modern Foreign Language (French)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Home Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Wood Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Religious Education</td>
<td>Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>Graphics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Visual Art</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Music</td>
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**Wellbeing**

As part of the new Junior Cycle students will experience a new area of learning called Wellbeing. This will build on the work schools are already doing in support of students’ wellbeing and will make it more visible for students. Through the Wellbeing programme students will gain the knowledge, attitudes and skills to enable them to protect and promote their own wellbeing and that of others. The four main pillars of the Wellbeing programme are Civic, Social and Political Education (CSPE), Physical Education (PE), Social, Personal and Health Education (SPHE) and Guidance education.
Changing approach to Assessment

The most significant change in the new Junior Cycle is in the area of assessment.

A dual approach to assessment involving, classroom-based assessment across three years and a final externally-assessed, state-certified examination can enable the appropriate balance between preparing students for examinations and facilitating creative thinking, engaged learning and better outcomes for students.

This approach will recognise and value the different types of learning that takes place in schools and will allow for a more rounded assessment of the educational achievements of each young person. Classroom-based assessments (CBAs) will be completed by students in each subject. CBAs aim to create opportunities for students to demonstrate their learning in areas that are difficult to capture in a timed pen and paper exam.

The RSE component of the SPHE programme will be conducted in Monaghan Collegiate School in harmony with the ethos of the Protestant school.

State Certified Examination

At the end of 3rd year, students will continue to undertake an examination in each subject, externally set and corrected by the State Examinations Commission.

Reporting

A new reporting structure at Junior Cycle will contribute to the personal and educational development of students. It will support and underpin ongoing learning and assessment. Linking classroom assessment and other assessment culminates in the awarding of the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA) which will offer parents/guardians a clear and broad picture of their child’s learning journey over the three years of Junior Cycle.

The JCPA will record students’ achievements in the following:
1. The State-Certified examinations
2. Classroom based assessment
3. Wellbeing
4. Other Areas of Learning (such as social, cultural, pastoral, scientific, sporting, entrepreneurial and other skills)
Junior Cycle
Transition Year (TY)

In Transition Year students continue to study the core subjects in conjunction with sampling Leaving Certificate subjects. The knowledge gained together with career investigations and work experience enables them to make informed choices regarding Senior Cycle subjects.

Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning and to take advantage of the many opportunity available to them. The skills acquired are a good foundation for further study and for building in the future as they become active members of society.
Information Technology in T.Y.

To build on the students’ virtual learning and computer skills acquired during Junior Cycle each Transition Year student avails of the opportunity to register and complete seven modules of the previously known as ECDL which is now part of the International Computer Driving Licence. Certification is accredited World Wide and enables the student to develop their skills in E learning, studying Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint, On line collaboration, On line essentials, I.T. Security and Computer Essentials. Further information regarding Information Technology is detailed under ‘Google Classroom’.
Transition Year (TY)

Alongside academic study Transition year pupils gain the opportunity to develop a holistic approach and personal progress through a broad range of diverse activities through some of the following activities:

- TY Drama production
- Gaisce Award
- School Newsletter
- Work experience
- Driving School and Road Safety
- Charity Work
- Training courses including First Aid, Manual Handling and Safety
- Variety of lectures and talks
- Student Enterprise awards & Mini company
- School Tour
- Career Research & Guidance
- Interview skills
- Competitions
Leaving Certificate

The traditional Leaving Certificate examination is the terminal examination of post-primary education. Students normally take seven subjects, the three core subjects plus four subjects of their choice. Monaghan Collegiate Schools boasts a broad range of subject choices with 17 subjects to choose from in addition to Career Guidance from our fully qualified and experienced Guidance Counsellor, Physical Education, Professional Development and R.S.E. Most further education courses require six subjects for entry, some colleges require French for matriculation purposes.

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<td>Physics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>D.C.G.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Business Studies</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Exam subjects</td>
<td>Construction Studies</td>
<td>Optional Extras</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career Guidance</td>
<td>French</td>
<td>Applied Maths</td>
</tr>
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<td>R.S.E.</td>
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Results Day at Monaghan Collegiate School

Leaving Cert students can be assured of top quality careers advice during the Leaving Cycle and full support at the time of the results from a dedicated and experienced staff. Parents and guardians are invited to join with pupils and staff for light refreshments on results morning.

The Deputy Principal Mr Killoran congratulating Sandra Mancewicz on an excellent Leaving Certificate result. Sandra gained 605 points and is currently reading Veterinary Medicine at the University of Environmental and Life Science, Poland.
Monaghan Collegiate School continues to strive to create an engaging learning environment which supports collaboration and communication. Enabling students to connect to educational content securely at school and at home is key to creating a 21st century learning experience.

Monaghan Collegiate School is using G Suite for Education to develop and enhance students’ ICT skills and bring Virtual Learning into the classroom.

Collaborative learning is also prioritised with students making excellent use of their school email accounts, Google Docs, Slides and Sheets to work together and learn with and from each other on a wide variety of projects.

Excellent support from dedicated professionals
Monaghan Collegiate School is a member of the Droichead Process, in conjunction with the Teaching Council of Ireland. Droichead is an integrated professional induction framework which is based on a whole school approach in supporting newly qualified teachers’ (NQTs) professional learning.

**Guidance and Counselling**

A career guidance and counselling service is provided by a fully qualified guidance counsellor and a highly experienced team of staff including the principal who is also a qualified counsellor.

- Transition from primary to secondary school
- Psychometric testing
- Subject choice guidance and introduction to career information pathways
- Online Career investigations
- Meetings with individual students

At senior level, the guidance and counselling programme also provides:

- Subject choice assistance
- Aptitude testing - individual careers folder for career progression and development.
- Parents/Guardians information evening.
- Career Research visits to
  - Higher Options Exhibition at the RDS Dublin
  - UCAS, Belfast
  - Queen’s University Belfast
  - Dublin City University
  - Other open days by arrangement
- Transition from second level to third level.
- Full assistance on Leaving Certificate Results Day.
- Follow up of every student.
Monaghan Collegiate School are at present, one of four registered centres for Cambridge Assessment Admissions Testing in the Republic of Ireland. As a centre, we administer a variety of tests, mainly for both Cambridge and Oxford Universities. These tests include BMAT, STEP, OLAT, CAT, HAT, PAT and many more. Further details on specific tests, dates and fees can be found online via the following link: http://www.admissionstestingservice.org/. For our centre, direct enquiries can be made and test registration can be administered, by making contact with our Careers Advisor and Admissions Test Administrator, Ms Joanne Murnaghan, Monaghan Collegiate School on 047 82060 or email admissionstesting@monaghancollegiateschool.ie

Special Education Needs

Our school is dedicated to the implementation of an effective system for meeting the needs of all our pupils in accordance with our mission statement. We believe that all our children have a right to an education, which is appropriate to their individual needs. We strive to ensure that all our children feel that they are a valued part of our school community. We are fully committed to the principle of inclusion. This is achieved by careful consideration of the needs of each child and by either modifying the environment, the activities or by providing support that will help the child to participate in them. We use the Continuum of Support Framework set out by the Department of Education & Skills to identify and support children with additional needs. Like this framework, we recognise that special educational needs occur along a continuum, ranging from mild to severe, and from transient to long term and that pupils require different levels of support depending on their identified additional needs. By using this framework, it helps us implement a staged approach to ensure that our support and interventions are incremental, moving from class based interventions to more intensive and individualised support, and are informed by careful monitoring of progress. A committed and dedicated staff assisted by the Special Education Needs Co-Ordinator is central to ensuring that we all ‘work together so we may flourish as individuals’.
Admission Policy

The School admits pupils based on its admission policy available at the School Office and in accordance with the Department of Education and Skills regulations regarding age. The School does not operate academic selection. Early application is advisable, however we recommend application on or before 30th November of the academic year prior to entry.

Tuition Fees/Grant Aid

Under the provisions of the 1968 Education Act, Monaghan Collegiate School is funded by a combination of grant money through the Secondary Education Committee grant scheme (SEC Grant) and School Tuition Fees. Our Tuition Fee also includes the text book rental fee, school journal and pupil 24 hour insurance cover. The SEC Grant, MCS School Support Scheme and other Grant information is available from the School Bursar Mrs. Siobhán O’Connor. Please note there are deadlines for applications and we recommend you contact the Office on or before the end of November of the year prior to entry to apply for a place and receive the necessary information in a timely manner.

Secondary Education Grant (SEC)

The SEC Grant Committee has administered the Protestant Block Grant Scheme as agreed with the Department of Education since the introduction of the free education scheme in 1967. The scheme is open to necessitous Protestant pupils and grants are means-tested in accordance with strict criteria. Assistance is available with the registration process initially through the School Office and through the Support Team at the SEC. For further information see the SEC Grant for eligibility www.secgrant.ie

SEC Grant Registration Process key dates:
Step 1 Registration – closing date midnight 30th November 2019
Step 2 Application – closing date midnight 14th January 2020
Step 3 Printed Form with verification documents received by SEC - 14th February 2020
Text Book Rental

The school offers a text book rental scheme for all students and the cost is incorporated into the school fee incurring no extra cost to you. This proves a considerable saving for parents/guardians. Pupils are requested to care for the books and return text books at the end of the Junior/Senior cycle.

School Personal Accident Insurance Facility

All students are covered for 24 hours a day, including social, domestic and leisure, as well as school activities. The policy offers comprehensive protection with meaningful benefits. Details available from the School Administrator. There is no extra cost to Parents/Guardians for this Policy. Supervision is provided on the school premises from 8.40 am to end of the school. Also during Evening Study/extra-curricular school activities. Please note personal belongings are the responsibility of the owner and not covered by the school’s insurance policy.
Transport

School transport is co-ordinated by Bus Eireann School Transport Section. See www.buseireann.ie for details. If you have concerns regarding transport please do contact us and where possible we will endeavour to make representations on your behalf.

Evening Study

Evening Study operates after School from 4.05 pm to 6.30 pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings in the current academic year. It is supervised by teaching staff and charged separately.
Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme

The LCVP is a Leaving Certificate with a focus on enterprise and preparation for working life. This two-year programme combines the academic strengths of the Leaving Certificate with a dynamic focus on self-directed learning, enterprise, work and the community. In most ways the LCVP is like the established Leaving Certificate. What makes it different is that students take some of their Leaving Certificate subjects from a specified set of vocational subject, they study a recognised course in a modern European language, and have two additional courses, called Link Modules, in the areas of Preparation for the World of Work and Enterprise Education.

Students are encouraged to:

1. Be innovative and enterprising
2. Take responsibility for their own learning
3. Adapt to changing circumstances
4. Evaluate data and devise solutions to problems
5. Communicate their thoughts and ideas effectively
6. Work with others as part of a team
7. Investigate and plan career options
8. Use information and communications technologies
9. Investigate local business and community enterprises
10. Learn from their experiences.

These skills and qualities are equally relevant to the needs of those preparing for further education, seeking employment or planning to start their own business.
International Students

For many years our school has welcomed pupils from all over the world. Our intimate school setting and excellent teaching and learning facilities has attracted students from the following countries: Italy, Spain, Germany, Finland, United States of America, South Africa, Canada, Iceland, Brazil, Mexico, Thailand, China and Japan. Some students have stayed to successfully complete their Leaving Certificate and gone on to University both in Ireland and abroad. Many students have recommended us to their siblings and friends. The overseas students come to experience our education system and culture and we are pleased to say that they greatly enrich our school. We host an International Day each year so that the students can showcase their country and culture and enable all students to learn from each other.

Overseas students are also prepared for one or more of three examinations from the Cambridge suite of examinations. This enables the student complete an internationally recognised qualification in English which is highly beneficial in education, the world of work and in some cases to obtain a working visa.
The School Diary

Every student is given a School Diary at the beginning of the school year. The Diary includes the school’s Code of Behaviour, Calendar, Anti-Bullying Code and Homework Policy. There is no cost for the School Diary.

This diary is designed to:

- Assist in organising homework on a daily basis
- Monitor student behaviour and attendance
- Provide permission slips for various out of class activities
- Ensure communication between teachers and parents/guardians.
School Locker
All pupils have access to a school locker to store books.

School Uniform
Pupils are expected wear full school uniform with dignity and pride during school hours and on the way to and from school. Uniform can be purchased locally and details are available upon application to the school. All personal belongings should be labelled clearly with the name of the pupil.

PE Uniform
We have introduced a PE uniform for Junior Cycle which will be compulsory for new entrants from September 2020.

Scripture Union
Scripture Union meetings are held weekly during lunchtime and pupils from all year groups are welcome. There is a varied programme with bible studies, visiting speakers, music, quizzes and fun activities. We organise a number of activities during the year, the highlight for many being the Scripture Union Weekend. Our group joins with Scripture Unions from other schools for an evening of friendship in the form of an Annual SU Dinner Dance.
Sport

Sport plays an important part in life at Monaghan Collegiate School and pupils are encouraged to engage in some form of sporting or athletic activity. Participation in sport helps build friendships, teamwork and a sense of camaraderie. An important aspect of school sport is recognising the importance of a healthy life-style and the value of participating enthusiastically in physical and sporting activities. There are a wide variety of sports on offer within Monaghan Collegiate including soccer, basketball, rugby, table tennis, athletics and badminton.
Girls Basketball

[Image of Girls Basketball team]

Boys Soccer

[Image of Boys Soccer team]
Ulster Champions & All Ireland Semi Finalists Girls Table Tennis

Thomas McAdam, Ulster Track & Field Champion
Transitional Year Fitness programme
Extra Curricular

- Choir
- Fiddle
- Debating
- Junk Kouture
- Lego
- AIB ‘Build a Bank’
- Athletics
- Basketball
- Soccer
- Table Tennis
- Tennis
- Rugby
- Tag Rugby
- Scripture Union
Prefects
Student Council
Monaghan Collegiate School
Parents’ Association

A lively Parents’ Association meet regularly and support a variety of activities during the school year. They also host a number of social events and fund raising activities to help enhance the facilities for each pupil in the school.
And finally

While there may not be universal acceptance that school days are happy days, it is accepted that they are the most formative part of a child’s life. With that reality in mind, we at Monaghan Collegiate School are dedicated to ensuring that the schooling experience your child receives here will produce a well-rounded individual, socially, morally and academically. It is our aim that at the end of their school days your child can reflect on them as happy and fulfilling, having equipped them well to move into the “real world”.

The Senior Leadership Team operates an open door policy where concerns are dealt with as soon as possible. If you have a concern about your child, big or small, then we will share that concern and try to resolve it where possible.

Thanking you,

Johnston Reid, Principal
Yours in education