

Clonturk Community College



CDETB in Partnership with Educate Together

Information Booklet for Incoming First Year Students 2021/2022

College Philosophy

City of Dublin Education and Training Board and Educate Together opened Clonturk Community College in September 2016.

Co-educational, equality-based and managed on democratic principles, Clonturk Community College provides an education for students that contributes both to their personal development as well as to the social, economic and cultural development of their community.

Clonturk Community College places the learning needs of students at the centre of the curriculum process and the use of creative and participative teaching and learning approaches in the College reflects this.

Aim

Our College aims to provide an education for students that contribute both to their personal development as well as to the social, economic and cultural development of their community.

Our vision for the College is of a welcoming and vibrant College community in which all members will experience a real sense of active participation and belonging. Students work together in an atmosphere of dignity and respect.

Clonturk Community College offers highly qualified and experienced teachers and a rich range of sporting and extra-curricular activities.

Mission Statement

Our vision is of a welcoming and vibrant College community in which all members will experience a real sense of active participation and belonging.

This vision will be built upon:

- ❖ A student centred College community
- ❖ Positive learning experiences
- ❖ Active teaching methodologies at the core of these learning experiences
- ❖ A positive culture of achievement and success
- ❖ A curriculum designed to meet the needs of all the students
- ❖ Mutually respectful relationships between all members of the community
- ❖ An environment that ensures happiness and safety for all
- ❖ An extensive range of pastoral supports
- ❖ An Ethical Education Curriculum
- ❖ Extensive and engaging extra-curricular activities
- ❖ Promoting and encouraging active participation by all in the College community
- ❖ Providing students with the knowledge and skills needed to live, learn, and work in the wider community.
- ❖ Following the four pillars of Clonturk Community College (see image below)



Welcome from the Principal

Welcome to Clonturk Community College.

In Clonturk CC we are committed to developing an excellent school where students are happy, proud, ambitious and involved.

Clonturk CC is a 21st Century school which embraces and combines the best of technology, alongside the proven and effective traditional teaching methods. As Principal, I will ensure that Clonturk CC strives for the highest academic standards. These are built on the foundation of exceptional pastoral care structures. Our learners are safe and respected in school, which then allows them to flourish thus reaching their full potential. Part of our roles as teachers will be to support our students to become active citizens as they strive towards meaningful engagement with the Clonturk community.

We encourage the development of 21st Century learning skills, allowing learners to take ownership of their learning; to explore, enquire and direct their own learning experiences. All our learning practices are facilitated by a team of passionate and dedicated teachers. Our school provides technology-enhanced learning environments, as we aspire to be a Digital School. Learners will use iPads and other technologies in the classroom on a daily basis, allowing us to build the school of the future, now.

We would encourage you to choose our school as you enter the next stage of your educational journey.

Wesleigh Alexandra O'Hagan

Teaching and Learning in Clonturk CC

Teaching and Learning is the core business of Clonturk Community College. We are a Tradigital college, which means we blend modern innovative technologies with the best of traditional teaching methodologies. This leads to a variety of approaches, which ensure that our learners are challenged, nurtured, motivated and successful. Our approach to Teaching and Learning puts the learner at the centre of the educational experience. There is focus on developing skills needed for life beyond the classroom and on nurturing wellbeing. Different types of learning will be reported on and there will be an increased focus on the learners developing skills as well as knowledge.

Clonturk Community College has all the resources with which to implement the new framework for Junior Cycle and ensure that the first three years of your child's secondary level education is an enriching experience. As a College that utilises iPad technology to enhance learning, we can ensure that our students experience a multi-faceted educational experience that is both fun and rewarding. Along with the latest teaching, learning and assessment strategies ensures a focus on critical thinking, communication and creativity.



Organisation of First Year Students in Clonturk CC

Students are generally allocated to mixed ability classes based on their language selection. This means that students are allocated to classes where there is a range of abilities.

All first year students study the following core subjects.

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|----------------|--|
| 1. English | 7. Civic, Social and Political Education (short course) |
| 2. Irish | 8. Student Enrichment (non-exam) |
| 3. Mathematics | 9. Physical Education (short course) |
| 4. History | 10. Social Personal Health Education (non-exam) |
| 5. Geography | 11. Modern Foreign Language* German / French / Spanish/Italian |
| 6. Science | 12. Digital Literacy (short course) |

**The Modern Foreign Language will be selected prior to starting first year.*

In addition to the above subjects all students must choose two more subjects from the list below:

Optional Choice Subjects: ***

1. Art, Craft and Design
2. Business Studies
3. Home Economics
4. Music
5. Materials Wood Technology
6. Technical Graphics
7. Modern Foreign Language
(German, French, Spanish, Italian)

**** Students will be asked to select their subject preferences prior to starting first year.*

In the case of oversubscription with both Modern Foreign Language or an Optional Choice Subject, Clonturk CC will ensure that the maximum amount of students will be accommodated. However, some students may be offered their second choice.

Blended Learning

Blended learning is an approach to education that combines online learning and interaction with teachers online with traditional in class learning methods.

It requires the physical presence of both teacher and student with some elements of student autonomy.

In Clonturk, all pupils have iPad. On the iPad there are apps such as one note and Microsoft teams. Every teacher and pupil use one note in classes for things like lessons, homework, classwork and worksheets. Pupils will become familiar with the use of these apps very quickly.

We are lucky here in Clonturk that if we needed to move quickly to online learning that we are equipped to do this. Back in March 2020, students and teachers moved to online learning within a day. The work was uploaded to one note and pupils logged in daily to complete the tasks set for them. Teachers can mark the work online and ensure that pupils are receiving regular feedback from teachers.

Another great example of blended learning was Microsoft teams, teachers and pupils used this to do virtual classes in real time. This allowed teachers to share their screen with pupils to allow them to use PowerPoints and other resources, just like the classroom. Pupils were able to stop the teacher and ask questions. They could type into the box on teams to ask questions. They also can be set up to use break out rooms so pupils can do virtual group work. This allows pupils to maintain a connection and work with their friends in an online space.

The transition to the online platform was very smooth and the staff and pupils at Clonturk are well equipped with the technology and skills required if the need for the blended learning was to arise again.

Option subjects in Clonturk Community College

Art, Craft and Design in Clonturk Community College

In Art, Craft, Design you will have the opportunity to create images and objects using a variety of tools, materials and special equipment

What will I learn in Art, Craft, Design?

- investigate by looking and recording your observations and experiences
- learn a variety of new crafts •learn to work in 3-D e.g. construction, sculpture or clay work
- learn about the design process and how to use it to create new design objects and images
- learn to make links between your artwork and that of other artists, craft workers, architects and designers from different countries and historical periods.

What is the Art, Craft, Design Junior Certificate exam like?

- In Art, Craft, Design, you will be examined in two ways:
- course-work-in third year, you will do a College-based project, chosen from a list of themes. You will research your theme, do preparatory work and complete a painting or graphic design, a craft piece, and a 3-D piece. You will relate your work to other artist's work.
 - an examination in which you will draw an object and a person.

Business Studies in Clonturk Community College

Business Studies helps students learn how to make informed decisions in the everyday business of living. It gives a better understanding of the world of work. It encourages students to think about how and why people start up in business and why they should consider being their own entrepreneur.

What will I learn in Business Studies?

Three main business topics, Accounting (30%), Business (40%) and Economics (30%)

- How to collect and record financial information for themselves, family, clubs and for a business
- What their rights and responsibilities as a consumer are
- How to calculate wages and wage related taxes
- Good communication skills such as presenting, letter writing and report writing
- How to open a bank account, write cheques, calculate interest on your savings
- What finance options you have and how to calculate the cost of overdrafts, loans and Hire Purchase

Business Studies is now Common Level and the written exam in June of 3rd year is worth 90% and CBA2 (December of 3rd Year) is worth 10%.

Home Economics in Clonturk Community College

Home Economics students learn how to live a healthy lifestyle that will positively impact their health and wellbeing. Home economics teaches students how to become informed and responsible consumers. It develops students' creativity and design skills. Home economics develops students who are environmentally conscious and dedicated to a sustainable and responsible way of life.

What will I learn in Home Economics?

Some of the things you will learn about are:

- How to nourish your body and keep it healthy both physically and mentally.
- How to plan, prepare and cook healthy balanced meals.
- How to be an informed and responsible consumer.
- Roles and relationships within the family and how to sustain a healthy family life.
- Textiles and craft work –developing textile skills and creativity

What is the Home Economics Junior Certificate exam like?

- Students will complete a project in creative craft
- Students will complete practical cookery exam (worth 50% overall grade)
- Students will complete a written examination (worth 50% overall grade)

Music in Clonturk Community College

Music plays an important part in all our lives and in the world we live in.

If you choose to study music at Clonturk Community College you will learn the following skills:

- - Participating and Music-making: You will learn how to perform music by playing instruments or singing with your classmates.
- - Creating and exploring: You will learn to express your creativity through learning to compose your own music. You will explore many different styles of music including pop, rock, jazz, classical and traditional Irish music.
- - Appraising and responding: You will learn how to express your opinions about the various elements of music so that you can develop your own style and taste in relation to music. You will learn how music works so that you will be able to understand and describe different styles of music just by listening.

All students are welcome to take up music from first year.

Students do not need to know how to play an instrument already.

Clonturk Community College music department has an excellent collection of instruments and music technology equipment.

At the end of third year students will sit a practical exam (30%) where they perform three songs and a written exam (70%).

Wood Technology in Clonturk Community College

Wood Technology is one of the technology subjects offered at junior cycle. In Wood Technology you will learn to design small projects and the skills required to use tools and equipment to make your designs. You will work mainly with wood but also with other materials. You will learn about wood as a material and how it is produced.

What will I learn in Wood Technology?

Some of the things you will learn include:

- how to design a project given a brief description of what you are to make
- how to use the internet for research purposes
- how to use free hand sketching to communicate your ideas
- how to prepare a design drawing/plan of a project you design
- how to read design drawings and make small projects from these drawings
- how to safely use a range of hand and power tools in producing your design.

What is the Wood Technology Junior Certificate exam like?

There are two parts to the exam:

- coursework—you will design a project based on a given design brief(instructions). You will then make the project and prepare a project folder to accompany it (70%).
- written examination—there will be a two hour written paper which examines the woodwork theory you have learned over the three years (30%).

Technical Graphics in Clonturk Community College

Technical Graphics is one of the technology subjects offered at junior cycle. In Technical Graphics you will learn how to represent 3-D objects on paper and on computer. You will develop problem solving and creative thinking skills through the solution of graphical problems.

What will I learn in Technical Graphics?

Some of the things you will learn include:

- How to produce drawings using drawing equipment, freehand sketches and computers
- How to read and interpret drawings and diagrams
- How graphics relate to the design and manufacture of products.

What is the Technical Graphics Junior Certificate exam like?

You will sit a three-hour examination paper.

It is made up of two sections:

- short answer questions which you complete on the sheet provided and
- longer questions which require more detailed answers. The longer questions allow you to show, in greater detail, the drawing and problem solving skills you have learned.

Student Enrichment

As part of our Student Enrichment Programme we offer Ethical Education which is taught in a modular fashion meaning students experience a range of teachers and a number of topics over the school year.

Ethical Education aims to encourage and provide a space for students to develop awareness of different perspectives, reflect on their own views and biases and to think critically, question and take action on equality and justice issues in their communities.



Student Support Team

Our Student Support Team is made up of

- Guidance Counsellor
- Learning Support Teacher(s)
- SNA Staff
- Class Tutor(s)
- Principal / Deputy Principal



Reference to “Student Support Team” is taken to include all or some of these staff. Below we have explained some of these roles for you.

Guidance Counsellor

Clonturk Community College has one Guidance Counsellor, who works to support students during their time in the College.

What do Guidance Counsellors do?

Guidance Counsellors are professionally trained to undertake the following task within the College guidance programme.

Guidance Counsellors empower students to make decisions, solve problems, change behaviour and resolve issue in their lives in relation to Personal, Educational and Career Issues.

Personal Counselling –this provides individual, group or class work to promote interpersonal communication skills, decision making, self-awareness and the ability to plan.

Educational Guidance – This involves individual, group or class work to assist decision making in relation to choose of courses, subject and levels. It includes such topics as motivation and learning, study skills and examination techniques.

Career Guidance - this involves individual, group and class work to assist decision making in relation to education and training courses, employment opportunities, job search skills work and other life roles.

Class Tutor

The Class Tutor takes particular responsibility for his/her class Tutor group. The Class Tutor will get to know each student so as to become the person with the best knowledge of the student. The Class Tutor will work with the Student Support Team if any issue arises.

The main job of a Class Tutor is to oversee the welfare of that year group so that learning, at every level of the person, is supported. Essentially a pastoral role, however Class Tutors also deal with serious discipline issues.

Tutors also monitor the progress of all pupils in their Tutor group and also liaise with parents if any issue arises.

House System

In addition to the Class Tutor system Clonturk Community College will continue to offer its extremely successful Clann House system.

The overall objective of the House System is to connect all year groups within the school, providing them with the opportunity to further develop skills and experiences in order to become confident and well-rounded individuals.

Student Mentors

The Mentor system has been introduced into Clonturk CC this year. Its main aim is to ease the transition for new students to Clonturk CC.

The duties of the Mentor vary but ultimately they are here to help new students understand the daily routines of Clonturk CC. We believe that the Mentor system is of enormous benefit to the new students of Clonturk CC but also to the Mentors who benefit from an active participation in the living of school ethos 'Achieving Excellence Together'.

Day to Day life in Clonturk Community College

How is secondary school different to primary school?

- In primary school you have one teacher and one classroom for all subjects. In secondary school you can have a different teacher for each subject and move around to different classrooms.
- On your first day you will be given induction with your Tutor and assigned TY student mentors who will help guide you around the school.
- Each class has a base classroom. In the classroom each student will have a locker where they will be able to store their belongings. Students will have contact with their Tutor in their base class every morning.
- In secondary school you do more subjects than in primary school. This is an exciting challenge and you need not worry about this as everyone is facing the same challenge.
- In secondary school each teacher will give homework so it is important that each student starts school with a plan for their study. It is recommended that first year students do 1-2 hours of homework per night.



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Dress Code Policy

The students of Clonturk Community College are not required to wear a formal uniform in Clonturk Community College.

With the support of Parents/Guardians students are expected to dress in a manner which encourages and values individuality and self-expression yet also promotes respect and dignity for all.

Students will be encouraged to develop an awareness of what is appropriate and safe to wear in a school setting. In order to support this learning an official dress code has been developed in consultation with students and parents and is available on our website. This set of guidelines is provided to support the right choices in terms of their school clothes.

Timetable

In Clonturk CC you have a timetable of your classes for the week. Your timetable will be given to you on your first day. It is a good idea to keep a separate copy of your timetable at home.

- In Clonturk CC the day is longer than in primary school. Classes start each day at 8.30 am and end at 3.25pm, Monday to Thursday. However, on Friday we finish at 12.55pm.
- Break is from 10.30 am to 10.50am and Lunch from 12.55pm to 1.30pm. During Lunchtime you will eat your lunch in your base classroom and then spend the rest of lunch outside on the school grounds.



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Student Council

The students of Clonturk Community College vote for representatives in each class to represent them during the school year. Clonturk Community College is run as a participatory democracies, with respectful partnership between students, parents and staff. This means that all members of a school community are supported and encouraged to make meaningful contributions to decision-making.

The Student Council provides an opportunity for students to make their voice heard. The committed students also learn to develop their communication, planning and organisational skills which will be of benefit to them in their future lives. Moreover, the contribution made by a Student Council to the development of our College policies in a number of areas can have significant benefits for students and the school.

The Student Council generally meet several times each term. These meetings are facilitated by a teacher with council representatives collecting ideas and suggestions for the agenda from each class ahead of each meeting. Suggestions are then discussed, prioritised and are brought to the attention of the school's principal and to staff meetings.



Student Council 2018/2019

Extra-Curricular activities in Clonturk Community College

Clonturk Community College has a very broad programme of extra-curricular activities available to student in the College. Students are encouraged to take part in these activities as participation is seen as healthy and a very good way to make friends.

A selection of our extra-curricular activities can be seen below:

Gaelic football	Green Schools	Student Council	Amber Flag	SCC* see below
Irish Debating	Art Club	Music Club	IMTA Maths competitions	Poetry Aloud
Global Passport	Localise	Neat Streets	Fighting Words	Games Club
Ladies Gaelic Football	Schools Climate Action	Basketball	Handball	And many more!



Clonturk CC receives Amber Flag



Finalists in Pi Quiz



Ladies Football



Climate Strike



Boys Basketball



'Makers in Schools' Technology Initiative



The City of Dublin ETB's Sports and Cultural Council (SCC) promotes and co-ordinates inter-school sporting and cultural events for all students in the CDETB's 22 schools. Students in Clonturk CC along with those in other CDETB school's are provided with an extensive programme of activities with various competitions, festivals and exhibitions which are hosted in our sister schools throughout Dublin. The aims of the SCC are to educate, organise, promote and encourage our students to develop their abilities through participating in a wide range of sporting and cultural events.

To date Clonturk CC students have been involved in a range of SCC activities including Swimming Galas, Battle of the Bands, Athletics, Creative Poetry and Photography workshops. More information can be found on www.sccdublin.ie.

