

**Coláiste  
Mhuire  
Co-Ed.**

**20  
21  
22**

**PROSPECTUS**

Castlemeadows,  
Thurles,  
Co. Tipperary

2021-2022



# CONTENTS



# CONTENTS

	
<b>Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed.</b>	<b>2021-22</b>
<b>PROSPECTUS</b>	
Castlemeadows, Thurles, Co. Tipperary	2021-2022

Mission Statement	3
Virtual Open Day	4
Welcome from the Principal	5
Welcome from the Deputy Principal	6
Welcome from the Year Head	6
Academic Excellence	7
Subject Choice	8
Student Support Services	9
Wellbeing	10
Extra and Co-Curricular Activities	11
Sports	12
Transition Year	13
Bialann (Cafeteria)	14
Facilities	14
Digital Learning	15
Arts & Culture	16

To navigate, please click on page title or number and then use icons



Previous  
Page



Next  
Page



Contents



under your feet:  
ly my dreams;  
under your feet;  
tread on my dreams  
- W. B. Yeats

## Mission Statement:

Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed.  
aspires to develop a  
caring and inclusive  
learning community  
which optimises the  
potential of each person.

SCHOOL MOTTO:

***“Rath as Saothar -  
Success Through Effort”***

OUR CORE VALUES:

***Excellence in Education  
Care  
Equality  
Community  
Respect***



# Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed

Cordially invites you to our



# VIRTUAL OPEN NIGHT

**Thursday 21st October @7:30pm**

View Live @ [www.cmco.ie/virtual-open-night/](http://www.cmco.ie/virtual-open-night/)  
or on facebook - Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed., Thurles

Don't forget to do our **Virtual Quiz**  
– fabulous prizes to be won!

Application Forms available  
at [www.cmco.ie](http://www.cmco.ie)

Follow us on:

 Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed, Thurles  
 colaistemhuirethurles  
 @colmhuirecoed



*Scan the code  
with camera  
to join our  
Virtual Open Night*

**“Rath as  
Saothar  
– Success  
Through  
Effort”**





# Welcome from the Principal

At Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. we believe in offering our students the highest quality of education in a safe, happy, caring and academically challenging environment.

Every pupil is a valued member of our school and while your child is with us he/she will develop into a mature, happy, responsible young adult prepared to face the future with confidence.

Through the provision of a comprehensive curriculum, we ensure that each pupil is given every opportunity to develop to his/her full potential in our school. Students of Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. are supported through the Le Chéile Mentoring Programme and are encouraged to become independent young adults.

Coláiste Mhuire Co Ed., a growing school with increasing enrolments, also provides a wide range of

curricular and extra-curricular activities, all of which are facilitated by our dedicated teachers and support staff.

The school motto is **"Rath as Saothar-Success Through Effort"**. This motto underpins our core values of **Excellence in Education, Care, Equality, Community and Respect**. These values ensure every child will be assisted in attaining his/her full potential during their time with us.

Together with you, the parents/guardians, we will strive to unlock that potential, while providing the best possible education for your child.

**Denis Quinn**





# FÁILTIÚ

## Welcome from the Deputy Principal

Dear Parents

The secondary school you choose with your child is a key decision for you and is likely to shape your child's outlook and future. Thank you for your interest in our school. We are really glad that you are giving the Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. family this opportunity to share our story.

I feel proud and privileged to be the Deputy Principal, working with Denis, the Assistant Principals and the teachers to lead and administer our wonderful school. We are a progressive and vibrant community,



dedicated to maintaining the highest standards in teaching and learning. Our sense of unity and co-operation and the positive working atmosphere we uphold is unrivalled. Education in Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. is truly about the development of the whole child and nurturing their full range of talents and abilities.

If you would like to talk to me directly, please feel free to contact the school.

Le gach dea-ghuá

**Clare Wallace**

## Welcome from the Year Head

Dear Parents

It is both a great privilege and a wonderful opportunity to be the Year Head to first years. The transition to post primary education is both an exciting and challenging time for child and parent. My aim above all as Year Head is to make this progression as smooth as possible.

In my own career path to date, I have always placed an emphasis on building relationships. In getting to know your son/daughter I will be visible, accessible and approachable at all times. I am proud of the rapport that has built up over time between our teachers and students in Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed.

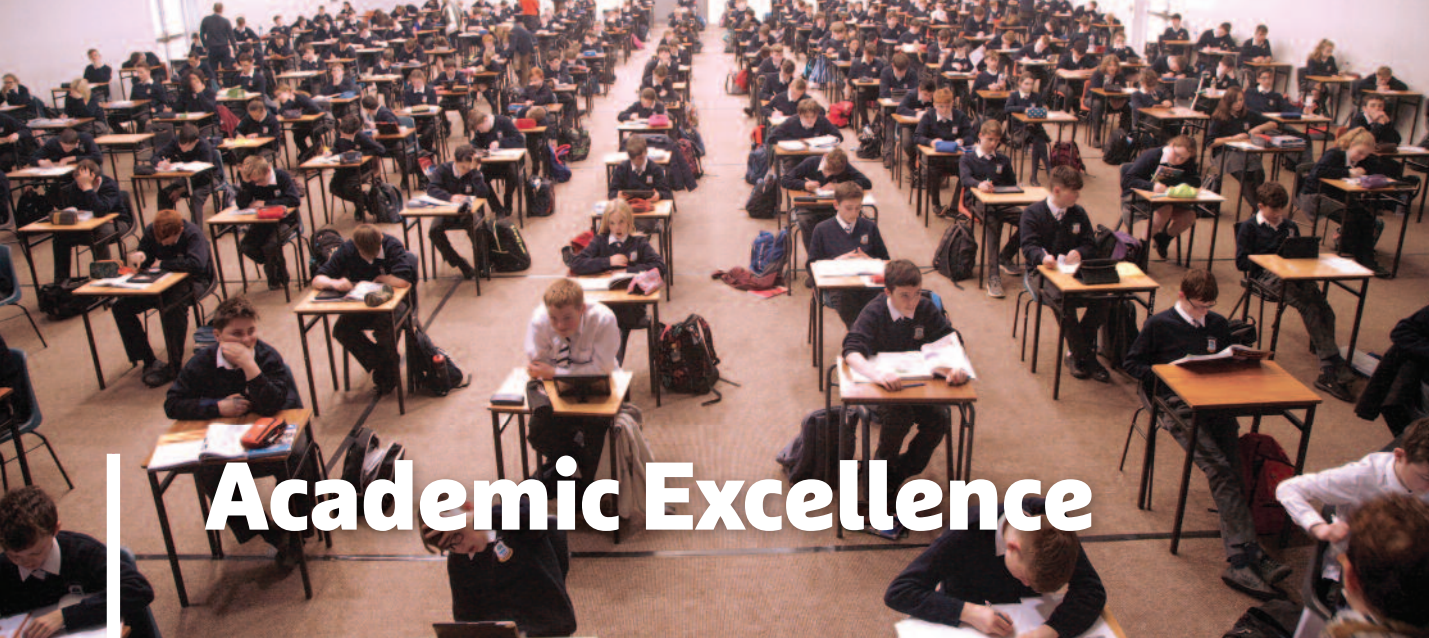


I believe the strength of this rapport is forged through our school's core values of Excellence in Education, Care, Equality, Community and Respect. It is my hope to further enhance these skills and qualities in our young school leaders.

Additionally, as Year Head, I will ensure the necessary platforms are in place in order to harness and nurture each student's ability and talent, thus allowing their individuality to flourish.

Please feel free to contact me at any stage throughout the school year.

**John Brennan**



# Academic Excellence



At Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed., academic achievement and excellent exam results are our primary focus. This is achieved by providing:

- Excellent and dedicated teachers
- Strict but fair learning environment
- Academic tracking
- Positive merit system
- Caring and inclusive environment.

## Academic Tracking

Our academic tracking is a very involved process which includes regular examinations.

Students and parents work in cooperation with teachers to record target grades and other areas of learning.

## Merit System

Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. operates a positive merit system based on rewarding academic achievement and positive behaviour.

We use our school app Compass to track students' merits. We have also incorporated our Wellbeing E.N.E.R.G.Y. programme into our merit system.

## STEM Subjects

Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. provides all the STEM subjects i.e. Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

## STEM Activities

- BT Young Scientist
- Scifest Ireland
- Robotic Challenge
- Formula One Competition
- Teen Turn
- Digital Champions
- Interschools Games Fleadh
- Computer Science Inclusive
- STEM Passport
- Scratch Programming

*The focus on care is also supported by teachers who act as class tutors and by assistant principals whose role as year heads is centred on student care."*

*Dept. of Education  
Inspection Report*

## DID YOU KNOW?

- Our students create e-portfolios
- Our students have won enterprise competitions at European level
- Junior students have the option of a "digital school bag" and the use of digital devices in their day to day class routine





# Subject Choice

## SUBJECTS

### Junior Cycle Core Subjects

- English
- Irish
- Mathematics
- History
- Science
- Coding or Digital Media Literacy
- SPHE
- CSPE
- PE
- Study Skills

### Junior Cycle Optional Subjects

- Business
- Wood Technology
- Engineering
- Graphics
- Home Economics
- Art
- Geography
- French
- Music

### Leaving Cert Subjects

#### Core:

- English
- Irish
- Mathematics

#### Optional:

- French
- Japanese
- Geography
- History
- Accounting
- Business
- Economics
- Enterprise Studies (LCVP)
- Agricultural Science
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Applied Maths
- Construction Studies
- Design & Communication Graphics
- Engineering
- Art, Craft & Design
- Home Economics
- Music

### Leaving Cert Applied

#### Core:

- English & Communications
- Mathematical Applications
- Social Education
- Irish & French
- Leisure & Recreation
- Vocational Preparation & Guidance
- I.C.T.
- Arts Education

#### Specialisms:

- Engineering
- Graphics & Construction Studies
- Childcare
- Hotel, Catering & Tourism

*We are proud to offer four hundred hours of Wellbeing in Junior Cycle.*



*The school offers a very broad curriculum, and subject option lines are changed every year in line with student's preferences*

*Dept. of Education Inspection Report*

*High expectations are set for all aspects of school business.*

*Dept. of Education Inspection Report*

### Taster Programme

Students will study all optional subjects during Year 1. They will then select three of these subjects to study for the Junior Cycle.

*Leaving Cert subjects available at Higher and Ordinary level.*

*Optional subjects are subject to demand*



# Student Support Services



## At Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed., our core values are:

- Excellence in Education
- Care
- Equality
- Community
- Respect

These values are enshrined in the ethos of our school community.

## First Year Support Structure

### First Year Induction Programme

We have developed a comprehensive induction programme to help with the transition from primary to second level school.

Our induction programme begins in January and includes sixth class

students visiting the school on four occasions throughout the semester. During this time they will meet their new friends and teachers, engage in team building activities and learn the geography of the school.

Our care structure for students includes:

- Guidance Counsellor
- Class Tutors
- Year Heads
- Student Support Team

### Le Chéile

We have a buddy system for first year students called the “Le Chéile” programme, whereby trained senior students help first years to feel safe and happy in school.

Students can also arrange to see our guidance counsellor for wellbeing or academic issues.

*The school is characterised by an open enrolment policy and an ethos of excellence in education, care, equality, community and respect.*

*Dept. of Education Inspection Report*

### DID YOU KNOW?

- We were awarded **Health Promoting School Status.**

- The carefully constructed **induction programme** ensures that the transition into first year is well supported.

*Dept. of Education Inspection Report*







Our intentions are:

- To create a caring environment in the school that is favourable to student learning.
- To instill confidence, self-discipline, self-direction and integrity in every student.
- To nurture positive self-esteem in our students allowing them to grow in confidence.
- To provide a holistic support structure for all our students.

*Students are proud to be attending Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. and they feel safe and cared for in the school.*

*Dept. of Education  
Inspection Report*

*The quality of care provided for students is very good.*

*Dept. of Education  
Inspection Report*



*Embracing friendship, collegiality and diversity*



### DID YOU KNOW...

- Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has **two** guidance counsellors.
- We were one of the first schools in Ireland to offer the Junior Cycle PE short course.
- We have our own Study Skills programme.
- We have developed a Whole School E.N.E.R.G.Y programme.
- We run a First Year Belonging Plus programme.
- We teach Internet Safety lessons.
- We provide a short course in SPHE.
- We have received Ambassador Schools' Awards for the promotion of Positive Mental Health in our school community.
- We are involved in the Safe and Supportive Schools programme.



Energy Leaders





# Extra and Co-Curricular Activities



Dunmore Adventure Centre

## DID YOU KNOW THAT EVERY YEAR WE PARTICIPATE IN

- Wellbeing Week
- Standup Week
- Science Week
- Seachtain na Gaeilge
- Maths Week
- French Week
- Active School Week
- Sustainability Awareness Week
- Internet Safety Week
- College Awareness Week



Students enjoy sharing their artwork with the wider community at our annual Art Exhibition

## Arts & Culture

At Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. we offer:

- Lunchtime music tuition
- Drama Club
- Choir
- Gaisce Awards
- Art Exhibitions
- School Tours Nationally and Internationally
- Competitions involving Debates, Quizzes etc
- Gaeltacht Scholarships
- Excellent computer facilities to develop your coding skills
- Outings to Theatres, Cinemas, Third level college open days etc.
- Intergenerational choir

## Academic

- After School Study
- Maths Week Activities
- Library Club
- CMCO Bake Off
- Enterprise Competitions
- Field Trips
- Seachtain na Gaeilge Initiatives
- Science Week Activities
- Student Council
- Debating Club
- School Bank
- World Global Schools
- Ar Aghaidh Linn



County Enterprise Final 2021 Intermediate Winner Cormac Kiely proudly displaying his award and honey produced by his enterprise 'Kiely's Wooden Bee Hives'.

## DID YOU KNOW...

We were awarded the Bronze Global Passport for emerging engagement with Global Citizenship Education



Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. prides itself in promoting #GirlsInStem - offering students the opportunity to participate in female only STEM programmes, such as Teen Turn and STEM Passport.





# Sports



County Champions - Holycross-Ballycahill GAA players with the U17 County League Hurling Final trophy.



U19 All-Ireland Hammer Throwing Champion - Azoulas Varnele



Junior Girls Basketball Team

## DID YOU KNOW?

- Our first year boys Soccer team has won the Mid Tipperary Futsal Competition several times.
- We share the "Dome" with Semple Stadium and it houses our multi-sport indoor arena and gym.
- We have Soccer teams from u/14 to u/19 in boys and u/14 to u/17 in girls and both groups participate in the South East League, Tipperary and Munster Schools competitions.
- Our first year boys Soccer team has won the Mid Tipperary Futsal Competition several times.
- Our Basketball teams compete in county, league and cup competitions.
- We participate in the Active School Flag Initiative.

At Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. we offer a wide range of sporting activities, including:

- Hurling
- Camogie
- Gaelic Football
- Volleyball
- Soccer
- Rugby
- Badminton
- Table Tennis
- Athletics
- Orienteering
- Basketball

Other activities are catered for upon interest



Our thriving u/14, u/15 and Senior rugby teams have enjoyed success in Munster Development Schools, Munster Cup and Blitz competitions in Thomond Park.





# Transition Year

Delphi Adventure Centre



At Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. we have developed a vibrant and innovative Transition Year programme based on the following principles:

- Education for maturity, with the emphasis on personal development, including social awareness and increased social competence.
- The promotion of general, technical and academic skills, with an emphasis on inter-disciplinary and self-directed learning.
- Education through experience of adult and working life, as a basis for personal development and maturity.

## Academic Curriculum

- English & Communications
- Irish Language
- Maths
- Science
- French
- Japanese
- Materials Technology
- ICT
- Chinese Language and Culture
- Irish Culture and Heritage
- Tourism
- Social Studies
- Art



## Social Personal Development Curriculum

- Work experience
- Development of an eportfolio
- Gaisce Awards
- SciFest
- Young Entrepreneur competition
- Community Care
- TV TV
- First Aid



Eoin Ó'Crádóg ag déanamh agallamh beo faoina thionscnamh le Áine Ní Bhreislin ó Raidió na Gaeltachta ag taispeántas an BT Eolaí Óg. Eoin also won the Best Project award at the SciFest@College 2020 competition recently.

- Road Safety
- Robotics Challenge
- ICT coding and App development courses
- Creative Engagement project
- Range of sporting events
- School musical
- Careers Portal
- AIB Future Sparks
- BT Young Scientist
- Develop Me Team Building
- Fire Safety
- GAA Future Leaders

Our Transition Year students have arranged and participated in many trips and school tours, such as the following:

- Adventure Centre
- Tourism Trip
- Local Heritage Walking Trail
- Adventure Journey



Kayleigh Cronin & Kaitlyn Ryan won the SciFest@College 2021 Best Project Award with their Wellbeing App called 'Give Me That E.N.E.R.G.Y.' and are looking forward to competing in the SciFest National Final in November.





# Bialann (Cafeteria)

Our Bialann (Cafeteria) is run by Pat's Catering, a family business that strives to create a warm and friendly environment where students can socialise and avail of freshly home cooked nutritious food at affordable prices.

Breakfast is available from 8:30am and is free of charge to all students. Dinner is available at lunch time and the deli counter also offers a wide variety of foods at break and lunch time.

*I love the Bialann. It gives me a chance to have breakfast with my friends and the food is delicious. Friday Chips and Curry is famous!*

*1st year student*



*Students relaxing in one of our new outdoor spaces*

*The atmosphere in the Bialann is second to none. Lovely to see students mixing and eating nutritious food!*

*Sixth Class Teacher*

## Facilities

Students are not permitted to leave the school premises at lunchtime, but instead can make full use of our spacious and leafy campus, with large playing fields, basketball courts and our state of the art Dome.

Hot, healthy, low cost meals are available in our recently refurbished school Bialann.

*It is exciting to see the building of our new classrooms commence.*

*Parents Association*



### Academic

- 5 Computer Suites
- 2 Engineering rooms
- 2 Woodwork rooms
- 1 Lecture Theatre
- 1 Home Economics room
- Computer Hub
- 2 Science labs
- Music room
- Chrome books for student use
- Library
- 2 Media labs

### Extra Curricular

- Dome and high performance gym
- Playing fields
- Basketball courts
- Table Tennis tables
- Computerised Library
- Computer Hub
- Indoor Board Games
- Hurling Wall
- Indoor Basketball, Badminton and Tennis courts





# Digital Learning

*Effective methodologies were used by teachers and students during lessons. Student use of digital technology was a feature of many lessons.*

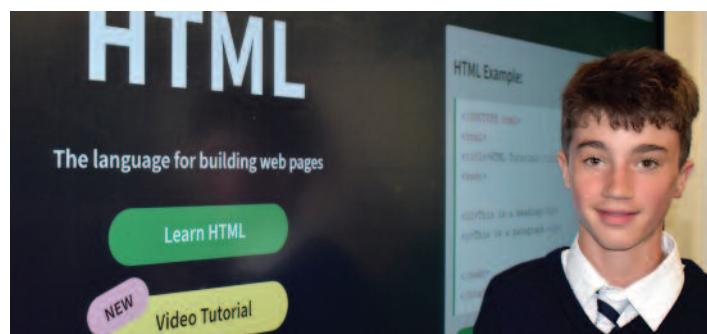
*Department of Education Inspection Report - September 2019*

The digital learning opportunity presented in recent times was greatly supported by the embedded digital technologies in our school. G Suite allowed our teachers to

- Hold online “face to face” sessions with our students
- Share resources and materials
- Allow students to post up work
- Provide feedback on work given

We also set up a Remote Hub on our school website as a support to parents and this can be accessed at [www.cmco.ie/remote-learning/](http://www.cmco.ie/remote-learning/)

*New Development Chrome Books for Students 2022*



We set up a Google Classroom for our incoming first years which includes:

- Virtual tours of the school
- Answers to questions posed by students
- Letters from current first year students to incoming first years
- Videos on how to use the lockers
- A virtual treasure hunt
- A webquest about the school website



*Nathan is building a circuit on the breadboard by programming a Micro:bit.*

## DID YOU KNOW...

- Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. set up Google G Suite in 2012.
- All Junior Students study Digital Literacy or Coding.
- We were a pilot school for Coding.
- We have presented at ICTEdu every year for the last 7 years.
- We were highly commended for our Digital Integration in our MML report.
- Our students have been Digital Champions for the last 5 years.
- All our students login to the School Portal Compass and into Google Apps.
- We lead out on the use of “Compass”, our school app which enhances parental communication.
- We have Google Certified Trainers on our staff.





# Arts & Culture

School Musical "Little Shop of Horrors"

## Music

Every year, Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. students participate in

- Lunchtime instrumental sessions
- Intergenerational Choir with local Nursing Home "Padre Pio"
- Junior and Senior Choir Competitions
- School Musical/Virtual Performance
- Annual Tipperary ETB Talent Show
- Rap workshops

## Languages

Our students enjoy participating in various language & cultural events throughout the year –

- Poetry Aloud
- English and Irish Debating
- European Languages Day
- French Theatre & Film Studies
- Cultural Studies

*Les élèves à Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. aiment apprendre le Français et participer au théâtre, à la semaine française, au cinéma français et ils aiment aussi créer les films français.*



*Our students enjoy performing in the Intergenerational Choir with Padre Pio Nursing Home in Holycross.*

## DID YOU KNOW...

**That each year\* our school produces a school musical**

Our recent productions include:

- Little Shop of Horrors
- Grease
- Hairspray
- Mama Mia
- Camp Rock
- Back to the 80's
- Bring it On

All First Years participate in these productions.

\* Subject to Covid regulations

## DID YOU KNOW...

**Our students have participated in Creative Engagement Projects**

Through Creative Engagement, our students have

- Carved a life sized horse Enbarr – a horse in Celtic Mythology
- Built an outdoor atrium

*Our Art Department strives to create an environment that embodies creativity, learning and instruction based upon the visual arts.*



*Champion Irish Jockey Rachel Blackmore appreciating Enbarr - a TY Creative Engagement project*



Scan the code with camera to view our Virtual Choir Performance





## Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed.

Castlemeadows, Thurles, Co. Tipperary

Tel: 0504 21734 - Fax: 0504 23166

Email: [colaistemhuire@tipperaryetb.ie](mailto:colaistemhuire@tipperaryetb.ie)

Facebook - Colaiste Mhuire Co-Ed., Thurles

Instagram - [colaistemhuirethurles](https://www.instagram.com/colaistemhuirethurles)

Twitter - [@colmhuirecoed](https://twitter.com/colmhuirecoed)

Web - [www.cmco.ie](http://www.cmco.ie)

