

Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed.

PROSPECTUS 2025/26

Castlemeadows, Thurles, Co. Tipperary

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Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. cordially invites you to our **Open Night**

Tuesday 23rd September 2025

Principal's address commencing at **6:30pm** SHARP
Tours start from **7:00pm**



Register for
Open Night using
this QR code



“Rath as Saothar – Success Through Effort”



Colaiste Mhuire Co-Ed., Thurles



colaistemhuirethurles



@colmhuirecoed



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
and Respect**

Your Future Starts Here

Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed.

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.

DID YOU KNOW?

Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. is an ETB, state, co-educational multi-denominational secondary school



Welcome from Principal



Every pupil is a valued member of our school. Our goal is to ensure that, while they are with us, they develop into a mature, happy, responsible young adult, prepared to face the future with confidence.

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you and your family. Choosing a secondary school is a significant decision. We are delighted that you are considering us for your child's journey. Our vibrant, growing community, supported by dedicated staff, provides a positive and nurturing environment for every student.

At Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed., our core values of Respect, Care, Excellence, Equality and Community are at the heart of everything we do. We offer a wide range of academic and extra-curricular activities, from the arts and sciences to various sports and clubs, ensuring every student has the opportunity to discover new passions and build lasting friendships.

We understand that the transition to secondary school can be challenging. To ensure a smooth transition, our First Years receive extensive support from Le Chéile leaders (senior student mentors) and a dedicated Student Support Team, fostering a secure and welcoming environment.

We look forward to welcoming your family into our community. And remember, if we can help you with your decision we are just a phone call away.

Rath as Saothar

Denis Quinn

Fáilteú



Clare Wallace
Deputy Principal



Annmarie Bergin
Deputy Principal



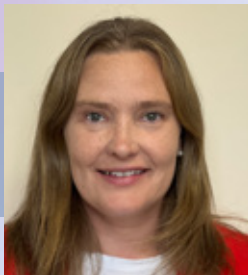
John Brennan
First Year Head



Mary C Ryan
Home School
Community
Liaison



Patricia Hickey
Guidance
Counsellor



Lorna Byrne
Guidance
Counsellor



Julie Delaney
AEN Coordinator



Paddy Stapleton
Wellbeing
Coordinator

**Our school
will ensure
the necessary
platforms are
in place in order
to harness and
nurture each
student's ability
and talents, thus
allowing their
individuality to
flourish.**

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.

Our academic tracking is a multi-faceted process that includes regular examinations and use of the Athena tracking system.

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 achievement, positive behaviour and effort.

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
- Internet Safety initiative
- CS_LINC (TU Dublin)
- STEM Passport
- Scratch Programming
- BD STEM Stars

DID YOU KNOW?

- Our students create digital 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



“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

Subject Choice

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:

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



“The school offers a very broad curriculum, and subject option lines are changed every year in line with student preferences.”

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.

“All teachers promoted very high quality learner experiences through structured collaborative activities.”

Dept. of Education Inspection Report

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

Leaving Cert subjects available at Higher and Ordinary level. Optional subjects are subject to demand

Wellbeing

Optimising Potential

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.

DID YOU KNOW?

Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. has two guidance counsellors.

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 have our own School Internet Safety website.

We provide a short course in SPHE.

We have received Ambassador Schools' Awards for the promotion of Positive Mental Health in our community.

We were awarded the 'One Good School' Gold Award by Jigsaw.

“The quality of care provided for students is very good.”

Dept. of Education Inspection Report

“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

Student Support Service

“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

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.

Our care structure for students includes:

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



'Chacha' - our Educational Assistance Dog plays an important role in supporting our students by creating a calm, welcoming atmosphere in school.

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 three 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.

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 carefully constructed induction programme ensures that the transition into first year is well supported.”

Dept. of Education Inspection Report



Sports

DID YOU KNOW?

Our u/16 Boys Basketball team are All-Ireland Champions, and our girls and boys teams have enjoyed numerous victories in county, league and cup competitions.

Two Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. students captained the Tipperary Minor Hurling and Minor Football teams in 2024 and are currently members of the Tipperary U20 teams.

We share the “Dome” with Semple Stadium and it houses our multi-sport indoor arena and gym.

CMCO Equestrian team successfully qualified to compete in their first All Ireland Interschools Equestrian Final.

Our athletes compete in Cross Country and Track & Field competitions every year and have enjoyed success in the County, East Munster, Munster and All-Ireland Schools championships, including winning gold in the All-Ireland Junior Boys hammer throw recently.

CMCO u/14, u/15 and Senior Rugby teams have played very competitive rugby and enjoyed success in the Munster Emerging Schools blitz days and Munster Cup competitions.

Our u/17 Hurling team were crowned Munster Champions for three consecutive years, our u/19 hurlers are looking forward to competing in the TUS Corn Thomais Mhic Choilm (Munster Senior B) competition, our u/15 hurlers were Munster finalists this year, while our u/14 Gaelic Football and Hurling teams were crowned county champions for the last two years.

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 Cup competitions.

Our Camogie teams enjoyed success across County and Munster competitions this year.



Equestrian Team members



2024 All-Ireland u/16 Basketball Champions



Senior Camogie Team



All-Ireland Hurling Glory – Cathal O'Reilly (Tipperary Minor Captain), lifted the Irish Press Cup in 2024 and added U20 All-Ireland success in 2025. A recent graduate, Cathal is an outstanding role model who balanced academics and sport to achieve at the highest level in both.



Sixth year student **Dylan Cotter** is currently a member of the County Tipperary U20 Gaelic Football team and his commitment to both his sport and his education showcases the core values we instill in all our students.

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

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

Other activities are catered for upon interest

Extra and Co-Curricular Activities



Agricultural Science Farm Walk & Talk visit

Arts & Culture

At Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed.

we offer:

- Drama Club
- Choir
- Gaisce Awards
- Art Exhibitions and Competitions
- School Tours Nationally and Internationally
- Competitions involving Debates, Quizzes etc.
- Excellent computer facilities to develop your coding skills
- Outings to Theatres, Cinemas, Third level college open days etc.
- Creative Writing
- Chess Club
- Green Schools
- Wood Turning Club
- Club Gaeilge 'Tae agus Plé'



Chess Club

Daltaí ó Choláiste Mhuire ag glacadh páirte i dtionscnamh 'Gaeilge 24' de chuid Chonradh na Gaeilge



Academic

- After School Study
- Maths Week Activities
- Library Club
- CMCO Bake Off
- Enterprise Competitions
- Field Trips
- Gaeltacht Scholarships
- Science Week Activities
- Student Council
- Debating Club
- School Bank
- World Global Schools
- Ar Aghaidh Linn
- Young Social Innovators

DID YOU KNOW THAT EVERY YEAR WE PARTICIPATE IN

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



Business Studies students displayed their coded Budgeting Game at CCPC Ireland's national Global Money Week event.

DID YOU KNOW?

In an endeavour to promote sustainability, the Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. sustainability committee has introduced a chicken coop nestled within the school grounds.

Arts & Culture

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

Music

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

- Junior and Senior Choir Competitions
- School Musical
- Annual Tipperary ETB Talent Show
- Music Generation
- Rap workshops



DID YOU KNOW?

That each year our school produces a school musical.

Our recent productions include:

- Mary Poppins
- School of Rock
- Beauty and the Beast
- Aladdin
- 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.

DID YOU KNOW?

Our school choir has triumphed at the AIMS Choral Festival for four consecutive years, including 1st place wins in the Senior Choir competition and Cameo competition sections.

Languages

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

- Poetry Aloud
- Language Scholarships
- European Languages Day
- French Theatre & Film Studies
- Cultural Studies



Niall Ryan proudly represented Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. in the 2025 ARTiculation Tipperary Regional Finals in Clonmel.



Cormac Cleere, winner of the Junior Photography category at the Tipperary ETB Culture Day.

Transition Year



International Tour - Spain

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.



Winners of the Most Innovative Design in the Relove Fashion competition.



Ballyhass Adventure Centre

Academic Curriculum

- English & Communications
- Irish Language
- Maths
- Science
- French
- Japanese
- Materials Technology
- ICT
- Chinese Language and Culture
- Irish Culture and Heritage
- Tourism
- Artificial Intelligence
- Art
- Sustainability

Social Personal Development Curriculum

- Work Experience
- Development of an eportfolio
- Gaisce Awards
- SciFest
- Young Entrepreneur competition
- Community Care
- TY TV
- First Aid
- Road Safety/Driver Theory
- 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
- First Lego League

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

- Adventure Centre
- Tourism Trip
- International School Tour
- Adventure Journey

Digital Learning



Student Digital Team

We are the only school in Thurles to have achieved the prestigious

‘Digital Schools Award Europe’

@awards4selfie

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

- 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/digital-technologies

“ This school has excellent and supportive teachers, along with a welcoming staff. Students benefit from resources like Chromebooks and interactive exercises, and apps like Compass for navigation and grade tracking, as well as Google Classroom for easy communication with teachers. ”

Bohdan, 3rd year

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.
- We participate in the STEM Passport for Inclusion.
- All our students log in to the Student Portal Compass and to Google Workspace.
- We lead out on the use of “Compass”, our school app which enhances parental communication.
- We have Google Certified Trainers on our staff.



Junior Cycle Coding students proudly representing CMCO in the RTE Learn Microsoft Dream Space brAln_waves National Final

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

- Virtual tours of the school
- Answers to questions posed by students
- Opportunity to use Google Classroom before starting in first year
- Videos on how to use the lockers
- A virtual treasure hunt
- A webquest about the school website

Facilities



Academic

- 5 Computer Suites
- 1 C.A.D. Lab
- 2 Engineering Rooms
- 2 Woodwork Rooms
- 1 Lecture Theatre
- 1 Home Economics Room
- 3 Science Labs
- Music Room
- Chrome Book Trolleys
- Library
- 2 Media Labs
- Quiet Room

Extra Curricular

- Performance Gym and Hall
- Hurling Wall
- Playing Fields
- Basketball Courts
- Table Tennis Tables
- Indoor Board Games
- Online Library
- Indoor Volleyball, Basketball, Badminton and Tennis Courts
- Outdoor Gym





Enbarr - created by TY students

Testimonials

“I think this school excels in both academics and extracurricular activities, offering something for everyone. Whether you’re into sports, music, or clubs, there’s something for everyone to enjoy. There is a great balance between academics and other interests”

Abbey

“I think the lunches here are fantastic, and I love the Engineering and Home Economics classes. It makes a big difference to have such friendly teachers who always greet you with a smile when you walk into school”

Isabel

“In CMCO there are so many opportunities to get involved in different committees & extracurricular activities. I enjoy being in the Student Council and Sustainability Committee”

Eoin

“Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. allows its students to flourish both socially and academically”

Stephen

“There are loads of different subjects to choose from like Woodwork, Art, Engineering, French etc., and many competitions to enter every year. The teachers make learning enjoyable as well”

Ava

“Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. is an amazing school; it’s a school where I feel safe and where I feel that the teachers and staff care about everyone”

Cody

“I think you should come to Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. because of the overall vibe in the school. Enjoying classes while still working is a great feeling. Sitting down in the canteen at lunch with my friends is one of the highlights of my day. We are all laughing and having fun. The extracurricular activities are absolutely class here too”

Cormac

“I love the wide variety of sports available here”

Aimee

“Friendly and caring”

Rachel

“If you’re facing any issues, there’s always someone available to help and support you. You can talk to the teachers whenever you need guidance”

Aoife

“Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed. exudes an atmosphere of positivity and learning. The vibrant community embraces growth and collaboration among students, making it a wonderful place to thrive academically and personally”

Jack

“Our school is a friendly and welcoming school. All the teachers are kind and supportive and always available if you have a question”

Edward

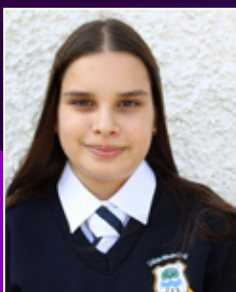
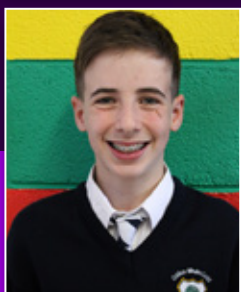
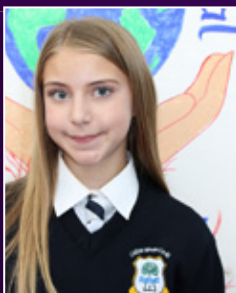
“I’ve grown so much here in this school, not just academically, but also personally. If you’re looking for a place to belong, this is it!”

Tiana

Why Choose Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed?



- High quality educational experience which allows every child to achieve their potential
- Co-educational experience which supports social development
- A broad range of Junior and Senior Cycle subjects available at higher and ordinary level
- Dedicated teachers who combine expertise with genuine care, building strong relationships and ensuring every learner feels valued and encouraged
- A school where every child matters and feels like they belong
- Connection to the local community which augments your child's experience
- An ethos which protects and nurtures every learner in our school community
- A tradition of excellence in the delivery of practical subjects - Construction Studies, Engineering, Design and Communication Graphics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Home Economics, Computer Science/Coding and Art
- Genuine care for every child
- Good behaviour is the norm
- A robust anti-bullying (Bí Cineálta) policy
- Diverse range of sports and extracurricular activities
- Family atmosphere; a friendly welcoming vibe which is commented upon by all visitors
- A listening ear to students and parents and we really hear what you say
- We know our students individually



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X: [@colmhuirecoed](https://twitter.com/colmhuirecoed) | **Web:** www.cmco.ie