



Coláiste Bhreandáin Naofa

Béal an Mhuirthead, Co. Mhaigh Éo



PROSPECTUS 2025

Achievement through endeavour • Déanann cleachtadh máistreach



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Mr. Howard Treacy
Deputy Principal



Mr. Michael Walshe
Principal

WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear parents, guardians, and pupils, as the Principal of St. Brendan's College, I am delighted to take this opportunity to introduce myself and to enlighten you on the ethos of this school.

I know that I speak on behalf of our Board of Management, our staff, and the students of this college when I say how much we look forward to welcoming 6th class students from all over the Barony of Erris. We are very proud of our college and hope that you will consider us when making your decision on the kind of second level education you would like. In St. Brendan's College, you will find that the entire school community will help to ensure that your transition from primary to secondary education is both enjoyable and beneficial.

As a student of St. Brendan's College, you can be confident that you will be educated and cared for by our dedicated, highly-qualified, and attentive staff. St. Brendan's College is a dynamic establishment and the high standard of education offered here is shown by a focus on evaluation, modification, and innovation. The recent Department of Education inspection of our school highlighted the positive and happy atmosphere in our school. We were delighted to be described as 'a beacon for education in the North-West', an accolade that is a tribute to all in our school community.

We are very proud of our magnificent Sports Hall with its superb playing courts and specialist equipment, designed to aid students in developing a healthy attitude towards sports and fitness. We work with local community groups, including Foróige and the Erris Athletics Club, by making our sports available to them. We believe that we are a school which recognises the ideal of the school as part of the local community.

Students of our college learn in modern attractive surroundings and have access to the very best resources in state-of-the-art classrooms. In this modern school, we have a progressive approach to education and we are responsive to the needs of students, parents, and the community. Our school is unique in that we offer an extensive choice of over 15 subjects, both practical and academic, which will match our students' aptitudes and interests. Our curriculum is constantly changing to meet the needs of our students. Guidance on subject choice will be available to all students on enrolment.

We hope that this prospectus will give you an appreciation of the many subjects we offer in St. Brendan's College, and that it will demonstrate our wide variety of enjoyable and interesting extra-curricular activities in areas such as sport, music, education, and social pursuits. We constantly strive to educate our students for life and we believe that through our subject choice and extra-curricular activities we have found a balance that ensures that all our students reach their full potential.

In conclusion, both as a native of Erris and a past student of St. Brendan's College, you have my assurance that the staff of our college will continue to provide the high level of education that we feel every student in Erris is entitled to and deserves.



Mr. Michael Walshe

Principal



1st Year Group 2024-2025

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Brendan's College is committed to providing the highest educational standards and facilities for our students. We aim to build a partnership between all those involved in the provision of a top quality service – The ETB, School Management, teachers, parents and pupils.

This will enable our students to reach their full potential and prepare them for participation as good citizens in society.



5th Year LCVP Student present the proceeds of an Non-Uniform wear purple day to past student James O' Donnell who ran 5 km every day in November with his friend Cormac for Mayo Mind Space.



Leaving Certificate Results Day

HISTORY AND MANAGEMENT

We are very proud of the long tradition of excellent education provided by St. Brendan's College, serving the people of the Barony of Erris since 1936.

St. Brendan's College was established at its present location here in Logmore, Belmullet, in 1982. Prior to that the school, known as Belmullet Vocational school, was situated at Shore Road, Belmullet. It catered for students who wished to pursue a vocational education since its opening in 1936.

In 2009 our new building and sports hall were opened by the Tanáiste Ms Coughlan. The present school offers an extensive choice of subjects in a state of the art building with unrivaled facilities. We consider it a fitting place for the educational needs of the people of Erris in the 21st Century.

St. Brendan's College is under the Management of Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim ETB and the School Board of Management.



Leaving Certificate Results Day 2024



Leaving Certificate Results Day



Student Council 2024



Leaving Certificate Results Day



Geography Field Trip



Geography Field Trip



Geography Field Trip



Climate Change Action Week Poster Competition



Bio Diversity Scavenger Hunt Winners

GENERAL INFORMATION

School Day

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

9.00 – 16.00

Morning Break

11.00 – 11.20

Lunch

13.20 – 14.00

Friday

9.00 – 13.20

Break

11.00 – 11.20

School Uniform

The school uniform consists of the following.

Boys: Charcoal Grey shirt /white polo shirt.
Charcoal Grey trousers.

Maroon V. neck jumper or new crew neck jumper

Girls: Charcoal Grey blouse//white polo shirt
Charcoal Grey skirt/ Charcoal grey trousers.

Maroon V. neck jumper or new crew neck jumper



Winner of the Climate Change Poster Competition



Christmas Cake Decorating



Christmas Cake Decorating



2nd year Geography Students taking part in Globe Ireland Air Quality Campaign as part of Climate Action Week



Maths Olympiad



Science Week



Maths Olympiad



Science Week



Science Week The Bug Doctor



Science Week The Bug Doctor



Science Week The Bug Doctor



Science Week The Bug Doctor



Science Week The Bug Doctor



ENROLMENT

Applicants for First Year should ensure that they comply with all entrance and enrolment procedures. These include submission of completed Enrolment Form by specified date and acceptance of the College's Code of Behaviour. A full copy of the College's Admission Policy is available upon request or on the school's website.



PARENTS

Our parents/guardians are always welcome. We value your contribution.. All parents/guardians are invited to meet teachers in various capacities on numerous occasions throughout the academic year. There is an active Parents Association which is very supportive of the college.





1st Year Poster Competition



Leaving Certificate Higher Level English attending a production of King Lear at the Dean Crowe Theatre Athlone

CURRICULUM

In St. Brendan's College we understand the educational needs of the young people of Erris and so we provide a wide range of courses.

- Junior Certificate
- Leaving Certificate
- Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme

St. Brendan's offers a wide range of academic and practical subjects.

At Junior Cycle all subjects are offered at Higher, Ordinary and Foundation Level where feasible.



Members of the 1st Year Forum and Student Council who attended the Comhairle na nÓg AGM



Anti-Bullying Week



1st Year Quiz Winners



'Odd Socks' Day



1st Year Quiz Runners Up



Junior Certificate Results Day 2024



Junior Certificate Results Day 2024

JUNIOR CERTIFICATE

Core Subjects.

Irish
English
Mathematics
French
Geography
Science
History

Optional Subjects.

Material Technology (Wood)
Technical Graphics
Music
Art
Material Technology (Metal)
Business Studies
Home Economics

Non-Examination Subjects

Religious Education
S.P.H.E. (Social, Personal and Health Education)
C.S.P.E. (Civic Social and Political Education)

Computer Studies
P.E.

Core Subjects

Core subjects include French, Science and History subject. The reason we have included these subjects in the core is that we are planning for the students' future careers. There are some third level institutions that require entrants to have a third language, so by ensuring that everybody gets an opportunity to study French, we are ensuring the widest possible range of career paths are open to our students.

Science is also a core subject because a science subject is essential for careers in medical, engineering and scientific fields.



Junior Certificate Results Day 2024



Junior Certificate Results Day 2024



JCSP - JUNIOR CERTIFICATE SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

The Junior Certificate School Programme aims to provide a curriculum framework that assists schools and teachers in making the Junior Certificate more accessible to those young people who may leave school without formal qualifications. It attempts to help young people experience success and develop a positive self-image by providing a curriculum and assessment framework suitable to their needs. On completion of the programme students receive a profile which is an official record of their achievements from the Department of Education and Science.

DIGITAL LIBRARY

JCSP Library Project
Digital Library

"Encourage reading beyond the school day. 24/7/365 access to the collection"

This collection consists of a wide range of teenage and young adult titles including selection in Irish to suit all year groups, interests and ability levels. In addition, the library hosts a collection of titles to support teacher CPD.

Membership of this digital library is free for students, staff and parents in St. Brendan's College.

Compatible with most major devices incl. iPad, Kindle Fire, Sony Reader, Kobo, Smart phone etc.



Junior Cycle Schools Programme has provided funding for 4 new tablets for the Engineering, Technology and Woodwork Departments. Pictured are Mr. O' Carroll JCSP Co-ordinator, and Mr. McLoughlin Engineering Teacher.



Transition year and First year Mini-Companies attending the Cara Iorrais Christmas Markets

SENIOR CYCLE

The following subjects are on offer at Senior Cycle for students to choose from.

All subjects, except Religious Education and Computer Studies, are offered at Higher and Ordinary Level.

- Irish
- English
- Maths
- French
- Religious Education
- Computer Studies
- Biology
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Geography
- Art (with craft option)
- Design & Communication Graphics (Technical Drawing)
- Accounting
- Business
- Engineering
- Technology
- Architectural Technology (Construction Studies)
- Home Economics (Social & Scientific)
- L.C.V.P. (Link Modules)

Where feasible we are prepared to change the subject choice to meet the needs and demands of students.



5th year LCVP Students Enterprise visit to Cathal Shevlin Engineering.



Michael Conroy, Motors gives an Enterprise Talk the 5th year Business Students



5th year LCVP Students Enterprise visit to Colaiste Uisce



Michael Conroy, Motors gives an Enterprise Talk the 5th year Business Students



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

High quality teaching and learning is paramount in our school. Students are consistently encouraged to do their best at all times. Success in examinations is vigorously pursued at both Higher and Ordinary Level. Specific recommendations on homework and the use of Homework Journal are issued by the college for the benefit of both students and parents/guardians.

A tradition of excellent Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate results exists in St. Brendan's College. Our past pupils have excelled in a wide variety of careers and third level courses. These achievements range from winning University Scholarships to National Apprenticeship Awards.



Students Attending a French Film in the The Arts Centre



French Food Tasting Day



French Food Tasting Day



French Food Tasting Day

BOOK SCHEME

A Book Rental Scheme is in operation in the school. Considering the price of books today, this is a major saving for parents. The books are bought by the school and then rented to the students. First years pay a rental fee of €20 and a deposit of €40. The deposit is refunded when the books are returned. First year books can cost well over €200, but on the rental scheme all the student pays is €60, which is a significant saving. This rental scheme continues into 2nd year, right through until the end of Leaving Cert. The fee from 2nd year on is €50 per annum.



Music Day



Music Day



TRANSITION YEAR

The core subjects are:

- English
- Irish
- Maths
- Science
- International Studies
- Home Economics

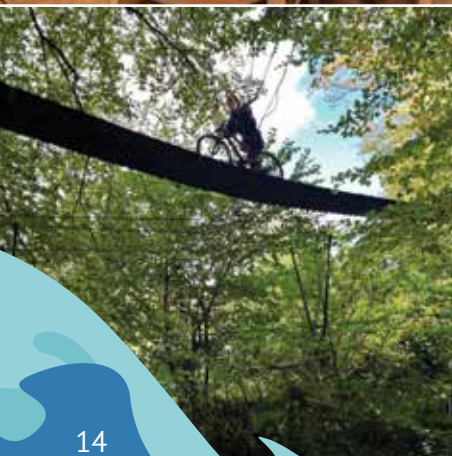
The TYP will involve a selection of the following:

- Art
- Career Guidance
- Excursions
- First Aid
- GAISCE Award
- Environmental Education
- Drama

- Car Maintenance/Construction/Technical Drawing
- Mini-company/ Business
- Music
- Outdoor Pursuits
- Physical Education
- Political Studies/European Studies
- Science
- Visiting Speakers
- First Aid Course
- Self Defence
- Photography
- Safe Pass





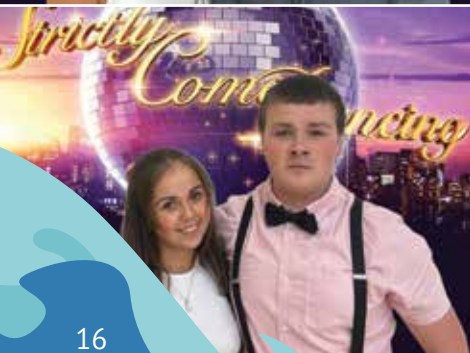


TY MUSICAL BACK TO THE 80'S

Prospectus 2025



TY STRICTLY COME DANCING 2024





1st year Induction Day



1st year Summer Camp



1st year Induction Day

STUDENT TRANSFER PROGRAMME

- The transition from Primary to Secondary school can be a challenge for students and to facilitate their transfer, an induction day for first year students is held at the start of the year.
- An Open Day is held in February/March for all sixth class students.
- School Enrolment/Open Evening is held for parents/guardians and students.
- An aptitude test is given in April/May to assess pupils' needs. This is also an opportunity for the students to make themselves more familiar with the school environment.
- A class tutor is appointed to each student group.
- Study skills seminars are organised for students.
- The school prospectus is circulated to sixth class students.
- Big Brother/Big Sister programme. A mentoring system is in place whereby each first year student is matched with a senior student who will be there to advise them throughout their first year at school. All students receive training from Mayo Children's Initiative.
- All students will receive individual timetables which will be colour coded.
- All students will be offered the opportunity to take part in our Summer Camp which is funded by North Mayo School Completion Project.



1st year Summer Camp



1st year Summer Camp



1st year Induction Day



1st year Summer Camp



1st year Summer Camp



1st year Summer Camp



SUPPORT SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

The overwhelming majority of students complete their education in this school without undue difficulty or need for specialist support.

A range of support is available to students

- Tutors and Year Head System
- Academic Tracking
- Guidance Counsellor
- Pastoral Care
- Home School Community Liaison Officer
- Learning Support and Resource Teaching
- Anti Bullying Programme
- Big Brother Big Sister Mentoring
- Programme
- Student Council
- Mentoring
- Care Team
- After School Study
- Special Needs Assistant
- Parents Association



Mrs. Mary Gaughan
Home School Community Liaison Officer



Seamus O' Malley
Special Needs and Inclusion Education
Co-ordinator



Róisín Heavey
School Completion Co-ordinator

Róisín Heavey - SCP Project Worker.

As Project Worker for the North Mayo School Completion Programme, Róisín will be working in St. Brendan's College 3 days per week. She will be providing a range of supports to many students depending on their individual needs. These supports include:

- Homework Club
- Breakfast Club
- Big Brother Big Sister Mentoring Programme
- Transfer Programmes/Summer Schemes

Róisín will also provide targeted group work and individual work. The targeted work will focus on:

- Social & Personal Development
- Learning Support such as Literacy and Numeracy
- Study/Organisational Skills.

These will be offered in various innovative and creative ways through the use of sport, art, cooking, games and mentoring.



Barbara Padden
School Careers and Guidance Counsellor

Guidance and Counselling

Guidance is regarded as a core element of the St. Brendan's College overall programme. The guidance programme seeks to respond to the needs of the students at all stages of their education. The objectives of the guidance programme are not only framed by reference to the legislative requirements, but are also referenced by the good practices evident in our school.

The Guidance Department endeavours to support all our students in their journey through secondary education. My role involves counselling, providing information, educational guidance, career guidance, individual appointments and providing for the personal, educational and social development of all our students.

Educational guidance and career guidance are delivered as part of a structured whole school programme. Students participate in psychometric testing and have individual appointments to help them with subject choice. The Guidance Department has developed a career guidance programme spanning the three years of the Senior Cycle. In the period from Transition Year to Sixth Year students participate in Career Guidance classes, careers

counselling, mock interviews, college visits and college presentations. Students are also assisted in the completion of many applications including CAO, HEAR, DARE, UCAS, UNICAS, PLCs, SUSI and Access programmes.

Personal counselling is available for all students. Students may from time to time need care, support and guidance to help them cope with particular situations or difficulties they may be encountering. We work in conjunction with the Pastoral Care Team and liaise with the Senior Management Team to provide the range of supports which a student may need.

Every individual is a valued member of our college community and, through the provision of a comprehensive guidance and counselling curriculum; we ensure that they are given every opportunity to develop to their fullest potential. Our academic performance is excellent, with the vast majority of students entering third level education annually. In pursuit of academic excellence, we never lose sight of the individuality of each student in our care. Our level of care and support for students is unparalleled. Students of St. Brendan's College thrive because they are supported, encouraged, cared for and feel a real sense of belonging.



NUIG Open Day



Careers Fair



Congratulations to 5th year students who graduated from ATU Sligo



Careers Fair



Colour Run in aid of the Laura Lynn Children's Hospice



Colour Run in aid of the Laura Lynn Children's Hospice



Colour Run in aid of the Laura Lynn Children's Hospice

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

All members of St. Brendan's College community are expected to treat one another with respect, good manners and courtesy at all times.

We expect and promote high standards of behaviour centered on respect:

- Respect for Self
- Respect for fellow students
- Respect for staff
- Respect for property



Hospice Coffee Morning



Hospice Coffee Morning



Juvenile Boys Gaelic Team

EXTRA AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Our school has excellent facilities which provide the opportunity for students to engage in sport and other activities. The school is very committed to the development of the full range of each student's talents and aptitudes. To this end, a wide selection of activities outside the regular school timetable is offered, currently including:-

- Sport – Gaelic Football, Rugby, Soccer, Basketball, Cross Country, Pool, Athletics, Gymnastics, Golf.
- Drama – Musical, Christmas Variety Concert, Drumming Workshop, Poetry Workshop
- Fundraising – Students are involved in various fundraising activities including – Angel Day, Anti-Bullying, Annual Card Game.
- Big Brother Big Sister – Part of our mentoring programme for our young students
- Educational Trip – Geography Fieldtrip, Biology Fieldtrip, CSPE – visit to Dáil Eireann, History Trips – visit to Stormont
- Competitions - Maths Olympiad, Mini Company
- Debates – Gael Linn, Concern, Public Speaking
- Oiche Ghaelach
- Ploughing Championship
- Hillwalking
- Quizzes
- Seachtain na Gaeilge
- Toraíocht Taisce – Treasure Hunt

The school is greatly indebted to teachers who give so generously of their time and expertise in the promotion of these activities on a voluntary basis.



3rd year Trip to Kilmanham Goal



1st and 2nd year Gaelic Team



U-15 Boys Soccer Team



First Year Boys meet Kerry Star Kieran Donaghy



U-17 Boys Soccer Team, Connaught Finalists



EXTRA AND CO CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



Junior Boys Basketball Team



Junior Girls Basketball Team



Senior Girls Soccer Team Connaught Quarter Finalists



Senior Boys Gaelic Team



Senior Girls Basketball Team



Senior Girls Gaelic Team Connaught Quarter Finalists



U-19 Boys

Congratulations to Larissa Hrivula, Kayla Doherty, Riona McIntyre, Patrick Ruane, and Patrick Conroy, Leaving Certificate Class of 2024 whose amazing achievements in both Leaving Certificate Engineering and Technology were recognised at The National Engineering and Technology Teacher’s Association Conference in ATU, Sligo recently. Pictured with teachers Mr. Reilly, Mr. Murphy, Mr. McLoughlin and Mr. Walshe, School Principal.



ACHIEVEMENTS

St. Brendan’s College has a long tradition of providing excellent education to girls and boys in the area and can boast many achievements

- Excellent academic reputation in the state examinations.
- University Entrance Scholarships
- Scholarships : The Donogh O Malley Scholarship Scheme
- All Ireland Scholarship Scheme
- Gaelic County Titles
- Debating Titles
- ECDL
- Gaisce: The President’s Award
- YSI

AWARDS

Students are nominated for awards in recognition of

- Extra Curricular Activities
- Student of the Year
- Outstanding Achievement
- Attendance and Punctuality
- Project Awards
- First Aid
- Safe Pass



Congratulations to Meghan O’ Donnell who was awarded the Aiden McDonnell Memorial Scholarship and Dionne Lavelle who was awarded The Frank Durkan Memorial Scholarship at DCU recently.



Congratulations to Patrick Ruane who was presented with The James Massey Keegan Scholarship at the University of Galway for exceptional academic performance in his Leaving Certificate examination. Patrick is currently studying Medicine at the University of Galway.



FACILITIES

St. Brendan's College is in a new state of the art building with most up to date facilities in the area including:

- Fully networked ICT classrooms
- Science Laboratories
- Engineering Rooms
- Construction Rooms
- Technology Room
- Language Laboratory
- Home Economics Room
- Art/Craft/Design Room
- Learning Support
- Library
- Canteen
- Sports Hall
- Hardcourt Areas
- Pitch
- Music Room
- Technical Graphics Rooms
- School Lockers





Graduation Class 2024

Coláiste Bhreandáin Naofa

Béal an Mhuirthead, Co. Mhaigh Éo

