



Dear Parent/Guardian,

June 2020

Firstly, a warm welcome to your son/daughter as they begin secondary school in St. Flannan's College. Circulars for your attention:

- School calendar
- First Year book list
- Technology Letter (Phone use)
- Other information which should assist the transition from primary to secondary school.

Students should print out school map from the school website and bring it with them on the first day. In the event of difficulties printing same please contact the office.

Use the following link: <https://www.stflannanscollege.ie/about/school-floor-plans/>

Please note that the School Calendar included is a provisional one. This is due to the changing advice from the government on return to school and all school guidance related to this.

First Day of Term: The first day of term for First Year students is Monday 31st August. Students should meet in the Assembly hall at 9.00a.m. There will be a full day of school until 4.00p.m. Students are advised to bring a packed lunch and something for small break. Students are not required to have textbooks however a notepad and biro would be useful. First years did not complete their Cat4 Aptitude Tests. In order for these to be completed we will divide the group in two with one doing the assessments and the other becoming familiar with the school - class groups, meeting Year Heads, the allocation of lockers, becoming familiar with the school and activities that will help getting to know other students etc. We will reverse the arrangements in the afternoon.

Lockers: Students who have reserved lockers will also be allocated their locker number so your child should bring a strong lock to put on their locker. Please note that students cannot use any locker other than the one issued to them. From day two onwards students will be required to bring books as per their timetable.

Students are assigned to classes temporarily until we received the Cat4 assessments.

Uniform. School uniform is a compulsory requirement of the Behaviour Code of St. Flannan's College and is an important aspect of school discipline. The uniform for male students is a grey trousers, grey polo shirt, blue jumper both with the school crest and dark shoes. Female students are required to wear either, the school knee length plaid skirt or grey trousers, grey polo shirt, blue jumper both with school crest and dark shoes. Please note white runners are not acceptable neither are grey jeans or grey tracksuit pants. St. Flannan's College school uniform is available from McCannon's, Market Street, Ennis or Pyne's, Abbey Street, Ennis. Students are expected to present in a well groomed manner taking due care that their school uniform is well maintained. Students may wear jackets of their own choice to and from school however students are NOT permitted to wear hoodies in school. Offensive logos or language on clothing will not be tolerated.

Uniform Grants: The Department of Social Welfare supports families who may need assistance through the Back to School Clothing and Footwear Scheme. To avail of this grant please contact the Department directly.

Book Lists: On the first day of term First Year optional subjects will be allocated, so textbooks for those subjects should not be purchased until your son/daughter's subject option has been confirmed.

School Diary: A school homework diary is compulsory for all students and will be distributed to students on the first day of term. It is an important way of tracking homework and Parents/Guardians are requested to sign the diary daily. The cost of the diary is included in the Insurance/Administration contribution. Most students paid this contribution when they accepted their place in the school. Replacing the school diary costs 5 euro if required during the school term.

Online Payments: The school is moving to an online payment system for the coming academic year and beyond. Parents/Guardians will get a text, when payments need to be made. There is a link to this system on the top of the school web site. www.stflannanscollege.ie.

Mobile Phones: Use of mobile phones is not permitted during or between class periods. Please refer to our mobile phone policy on the school web site. Students are not permitted to take photographs of other students or staff, record other students or staff or upload students/staff/school activities onto social network sites. There are serious disciplinary consequences should this happen. If your son/daughter uses social network sites then it is important that Parents/Guardians monitor such sites regularly. It would be greatly appreciated if Parents/Guardians did not contact the school office with messages for students except of course in the case of emergency.

Contact Details: It is important that the school has up to date contact details for every students. Please inform us of any changes of address or telephone number particularly mobile phone numbers as this is critical in the event of an emergency or illness. You will also receive text alerts from the school using the number you have on file. Updated details should be sent by letter or e-mailed. We cannot take updated information over the phone.

Lunch Time: First Year and Second Year students do NOT have permission to go into town at lunch time and must stay on the school grounds where there are canteen facilities. Students may bring their own lunch or purchase lunch. It is in the interest of student care and safety that we do not permit First Year student to leave the grounds. Those students who go home at lunchtime must provide a letter detailing where they will be during lunchtime. Your co-operation is essential in this matter.

Attendance: Regular and punctual attendance for the full school day is vitally important for effective learning and social integration. Students who are late for school and class tend to disrupt the teaching and learning environment for other students. Students who are late must provide a written explanation to their Year head and sign the late book in the school office otherwise they will be recorded as absent.

Smoking: State legislation requires that the school is maintained as a smoke free zone which includes school grounds and facilities. Please be aware that any student found smoking in the school building will automatically incur a three-day suspension from school. Students smoking on the school grounds will incur a one-day suspension. Please note vape and e-cigarettes are included in this Policy.

Vehicular Access to the School Grounds: Vehicular access to the school grounds is restricted to Staff and College employees only. Please do not drive into the school grounds. Students should be dropped off and collected outside the school grounds. The main gate is not a pedestrian entrance or exit, students should not be dropped off at the main gate. Your co-operation is essential in this matter for the health and safety of all students. Parents/Guardians of students with exceptional needs should contact the school Principal to make access arrangements.

Insurance/Admin & Locker Receipts: have been prepared for monies received. They are available to collect from the office or please contact the school should you wish to have it posted.

Visitors: All visitors including Parents/Guardians must report to reception upon entering the school and sign the visitors' book.

Leaving School for an appointment: If your child needs to attend an appointment during school time please ensure that you provide them with a note from the school diary explaining the time and date of the absence. This should be shown to your child's year head in advance of the appointment and your child will then receive a sign out pass from that Year Head. The Parent/Guardian must come into the school and collect the student and sign them out at the main reception. Upon returning from the appointment the student must sign themselves in at reception. Students must not leave school without being correctly signed out.

1) Provide signed note to Year Head explaining absence.

2) Get sign-out pass from Year Head.

3) Parent/Guardian must collect and sign out student at reception and give the sign out pass to the secretary.

4) If returning the student must sign themselves back in.

We look forward to seeing you in August and hope you all have a happy and enjoyable summer.

Yours Sincerely

Fr. Ignatius McCormack

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Ignatius McCormack". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Principal

ST. FLANNAN'S COLLEGE – SCHOOL CALENDAR 2020-2021 – **PROVISIONAL DATES**

Please note: All dates are provisional due to the changing advice from the government on return to school and all school guidance related to this.

OPENING DATES

1st Yr	31st August (Mon.)	- 9.00a.m. . – 4.00p.m. – Meet in the Assembly Hall – No books required for first day.
2 nd Yr	4 th Sept. (Fri)	- 9.00a.m. - Meet in the Assembly Hall at 9.00a.m. – full day
3 rd Yr	2 nd Sept (Wed).	- 2.00p.m. - Meet in the Assembly Hall – full day after this
5 th Yr	3 rd September (Thurs)	- 9.00a.m. - Meet in the Assembly Hall 9.00a.m. – Full day
6 th Yr	2 nd Sept. (Wed)	- 9.00a.m. - Meet in the Assembly Hall 9.00a.m. – Full day
T.Y.	8 th Sept (Tues.)	- 9.00a.m. - Meet in the Assembly Hall 9.00a.m. – Full day

PARENT/TEACHER MEETINGS – Parents(s)/Guardian(s) should ask their child to provide a list of their teachers and subjects for the Parent/Teacher Meeting. On each of these days school will finish fifteen minutes early at 3.45p.m.

Meetings are from 4.15p.m. to 6.45p.m.

3rd Yr – Tuesday 20th October

1st yr - Tuesday 3rd November

6th yr - Tuesday 8th December

2nd Yr - Monday 11th January 2021

5th yr - Monday 25th January 2021

T.Y. - Monday 25th January 2021

HOLIDAY BREAKS – 2020 -2021

October Mid Term	-	Monday 26 th October 2020 to Friday 30 th October 2020 inclusive
Christmas	-	Tuesday 22 December 2020 will be the final date of the school term. School resumes on Wednesday 6 th January 2021
February Mid-Term	-	Monday 15 February 2021 to Friday 19 th February 2021 inclusive.
St. Patrick's Day	-	Wednesday 17 th March 2021
Easter	-	Friday 26 th March will be the last day of school – Reopens on Monday 12 th April
May Bank Holiday	-	Monday May 3 rd 2021
School Year Ends	-	Friday 4 th June 2021 is the last day of the school year

EXAMS 2020/2021

Christmas Exams – 3rd Year – November 23rd to November 27th.

6th Year – November 30th – December 4th.

Trial Exams - 3rd Year – February 1st – 5th

6th Year – February 8th – 12th

TRANSITION YEAR WORK EXPERIENCE/L.C.V.P. WORK EXPERIENCE – dates to be confirmed

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Christmas Carol Service – Wednesday 9th December

Leaving Certificate Graduation Mass – Thursday 20th May 2021

Student Award Night -/Thursday 27th May 2021

Transition Year Awards/Grad – Monday 31st May 2021

GUIDANCE COUNSELLING/CAREERS – Parent(s)/Guardian(s) and students welcome – all meetings in the Assembly Hall

T.Y. students 2021/2022 - 11th February 2021 – 7.00p.m.

Subject Choice for 3rd and CURRENT T.Y. - 2021/2022 – 11th February 2021 at 8.00p.m.

Leaving Cert. Progression Night – Tuesday, 10th November at 7.30p.m.

2020/2021 T.Y. Information Night – Thursday 10th September, 8.00p.m.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING – 8.00p.m. – Room 2 – beside the main office – all welcome to attend

Monday October 5th 2020,

Monday January 18th 2021,

Monday April 5th 2021.

ST. FLANNAN'S COLLEGE – 1ST YR. BOOKS LIST, 2020-2021

NOTE: Optional Subject – Books marked with * should NOT be purchased until students receive subject option

Students will be allocated option when school re-opens. They will not be available before then. Teachers will inform students of copies etc. to be purchased. Students do not require books on first day of school – please bring biro and note book. Books will be required from the second day of school onwards,

SUBJECT	BOOK	AUTHOR	PUBLISHER	PRICE APPROX
IRISH	Ta Gaeilge Agam 1 Hardback A4 Copy 1 Ordinary A4 Copy	R O'Baille	CJ Fallon	21.95 2.50 1.35
ENGLISH	Novel – to be decided Fire and Ice 2	P Kelly	Gill	27.95
MATHS	Texts and Tests 1 (New Edition) Casio FX83GT Calculator Maths Log Book Geometry Set		CJ Fallon	20.20 18.99 4.00 3.95
SCIENCE	The Nature of Science + Student Investigation Journal A4 60 Page display folder – plastic pockets in a book format	Tim Gill	Mentor	29.95 3.50
French*	Bienvenue en France 1 – 4 th Edition	J Dunne	Folens	27.40
German*	To be decided			
History	Artefac Textbook & Research Portfolio/Sources and Skills Book	G O'Neill & E Jenkinson	Educate.ie	24.95
GEOGRAPHY	Cyclone Complete Junior Cycle Geography Pack (Textbook and Skills book).		Gill Education	30.95
BUSINESS	It's Time for Business – New Edition		Ed. Co	31.95
Wood* Technology	Wood Technology Book and Work Book New Edition 2019	M Cross	Ed. Co.	29.95 26.99
Technical* Graphics	World of Graphics Graphics Solutions (on line)		Educate DCGsolutions.com	29.95 26.50
ART*	Ard Odyssey A4 Sketch book 2B & 4B Pencils	C McKeever N McDonagh C Kavanagh	Gill	13.50 2.50 .55
CLASSICAL* STUDIES	To be decided			
Home* Economics	@home – Junior Cycle Home Economics + Activities/Key Terms Book + Practical Book	E Flood		27.95 (for bundle)
C.S.P.E.	Make a difference + Workbook 4 th Edition	Harrison & Wilson	Folens	28.50
S.P.H.E.	Health and Wellbeing 1	Potts/O'Grady	Ed. Co.	13.95
RELIGION	A Question of Faith and accompanying Activity Book	Whelan/McDermott	Ed. Co.	29.95 Includes Activity book
MUSIC*	To be decided.			



Dear Parent/Guardian,

First Year students – phone use

Over the past two to three years we in St. Flannan's College have noticed a dramatic change in how incoming first years are accessing technology and how they are using it. When entering first year many students may only in recent months have gained access to their very own phone. The use of this device will increase significantly in their first couple of months in secondary school. The school outlines very clearly to students on several occasions during first term what appropriate and inappropriate use of a phone looks like. Unfortunately, and in spite of this the misuse of this personal technology still occurs. We are asking you for your support in ensuring your child is very closely monitored and informed as to how this technology can be used in a positive manner in their school life and personal life.

The school's SPHE program and Digital Wellbeing class along with several other interventions throughout the year ensures that all first-year students will be engaged in activities around the positive use of technology and we believe that this needs to be strongly reinforced in the home environment also.

Webwise.ie

Webwise.ie is the Irish Internet Safety Awareness Centre which is co-funded by the Department of Education and Skills and is co-financed by the European Union's Connecting Europe Facility.

<https://www.webwise.ie/>

Webwise.ie is a fantastic resource for schools **and parents** in researching best practice and what to look out for when it comes to teenagers and technology.

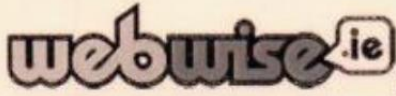
Please refer to the points on the next page and ensure your child is best prepared to start and continue secondary school in a positive technology environment.

The School Mobile Phone Policy

The school mobile phone policy can be found on the school website on the following link.

<https://www.stflannanscollege.ie/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Mobile-Phone-Policy.pdf>

Knowing what your child does ONLINE!



www.webwise.ie/category/parents/advice/

Central to the vast majority of bullying is inappropriate or misuse of technology especially around social media apps.

Did you know?

90% of offensive or abusive texts/messages are sent from children's bedrooms.

75% of all teenagers are on social media

Some teenagers are spending up to 40 hours per week on social media.

65% of teenagers do not make their social media profiles private.

70% of teenagers have accepted requests from people they do not know personally.

30% of teenagers have been asked to send pictures and/or personal information to someone they met online.

40% of teenagers have come across something worrying or upsetting online.

Important questions to be asked:

Do you pay for your child's phone bill/credit?

Have they unlimited data access on their phone account?

Do you as Parent/Guardian have access to their social media/online accounts i.e. Snap Chat, Instagram, Facebook, Kik, Tumblr, WeChat, WhatsApp, Viber, Netflix? Yes you should!

Are you aware of the length of time your child is on a device daily/weekly?

Does your child bring their device to bed at night?

Is your internet router password protected and if so, do you change this password regularly?

Do you use age appropriate filters on internet access?

How do you educate your child around social media and the internet?

Does your child know how to stay safe from strangers online?