



Holy Family Community School

▶ 6th Year Information Meeting

▶ Tuesday, September 5th, 2023

▶ Welcome

- If you have any questions re the presentation this evening, please put them in the chat box and we will endeavour to answer them at the end or email info@hfcs.ie
- If you have a specific question about your son/daughter please email info@hfcs.ie and direct it to the relevant person you wish to speak to.



Student Support Team

Their core purpose is to coordinate the support available for all students in the school.

- ▶ Principal: Ms. Ingrid Fallon
- ▶ Deputy Principals: Ms. Denise O'Keeffe, Mr. Liam Ferguson, Mr. Derek Maher
- ▶ Guidance Counsellors: Ms. Kay O'Connell, Ms. Ursula McDonnell and Ms. Charlene Perris
- ▶ Chaplain: Mr. Noel McConnell
- ▶ Additional Needs Coordinator – Mr. Michael Savage



Pastoral Care Team

Year Head: Ms. Siobhán Connaughton

Tutors:

Rang 61 – Mr. Sean Murphy

Rang 62 – Ms. Joanna Phipps

Rang 63 – Ms. Caroline Ryan Clarke

Rang 64 – Mr. Kyle O'Rourke

Rang 65 – Mr. Noel McConnell

Rang 66 – Ms. Roisin Kelly

Chaplain: Mr. Noel McConnell

Subject teachers, SNA's, Secretaries and Caretakers

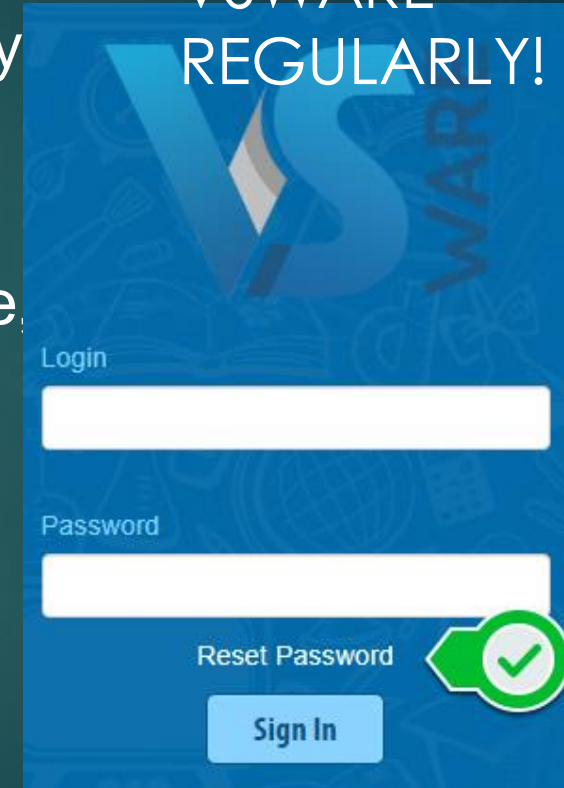
Communication between Parent/Guardian and school.

- ▶ *The School Secretary, Ms. Lorraine O'Connell, is the main channel to contact teachers, Tutor, Year Head, Deputy Principals and Principal.*
- ▶ Phone calls (01-4580766)
- ▶ Emails to info@hfcs.ie
- ▶ **Absence notes sent via Vsware.**
- ▶ Notes in dialann for individual subject teachers or contact made through email/phone call.
- ▶ All meetings between parents/guardians and staff members must be made by appointment.

Communication between school and Parents/Guardians.

- ▶ **VSware** is the management and communication system used by the school also acts to communicate messages to Parents/Guardians.
- ▶ Parents/Guardians can look at their child's timetable, attendance, assessment results and behaviour record on VSware.
- ▶ In order to receive messages, please ensure that you download the VSware app on your mobile device and allow notifications.
- ▶ Instructions on how to download the VSware app can be found here: <https://support.vsware.ie/en/parent-app-overview>

CHECK
VSWARE
REGULARLY!

The image shows a login interface for the VSware system. It features a blue background with a large, stylized 'V' logo. The text 'Login' is positioned above a white input field. Below this, the text 'Password' is positioned above another white input field. To the right of the password field, there is a green circular icon with a white checkmark. Below the password field, there is a 'Reset Password' link and a 'Sign In' button. The overall design is clean and modern.

Other forms of communication

- ▶ Website www.hfcs.ie
- ▶ Twitter @hfcsrathcoole
- ▶ School reports
- ▶ Parent/Teacher meeting
- ▶ Meetings for specific issues
- ▶ Information Meetings
- ▶ Dialann




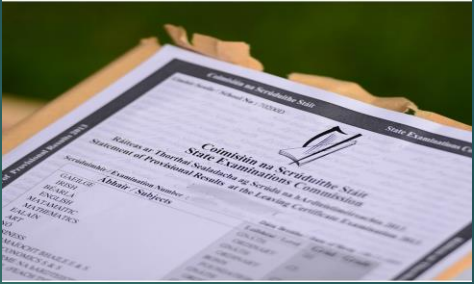
Tips for Success/Supervised Study

- ▶ Good habits, setting goals and developing a positive work ethic from the start.
- ▶ It is recommended that students spend 2 hours per evening at homework/revision. Extra hours at the weekend.
- ▶ Subject's curriculum largely completed by the Mock examinations.
- ▶ Leaving cert assessments will be ongoing.
- ▶ Project work will start at the end of October/early November. Project work to be completed in school under the direct supervision of the teacher.
- ▶ Essential that balance is maintained. A good study plan this year incorporating breaks/exercise will ensure that your son/daughters will be well prepared for their Leaving Certificate exam.
- ▶ Supervised study began yesterday for all year groups except First Years.
- ▶ Preference is given to our exam students.
- ▶ Study runs from 3.55 – 5.55pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday each week. There will be seven sessions throughout the year. Each session is four weeks and costs €60. Alternatively, to guarantee your son/daughters place in study, the school offers study at a reduced cost of €350 for the year. Payment can be made through the school's Easy Payments Plus on www.hfcs.ie.

Leaving Certificate Grades and CAO points system.

| Higher Level Grades | Higher Level Points | % Bands | Ordinary Level Grades | Ordinary Level Points |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| H1 | 100 | 90-100% | O1 | 56 |
| H2 | 88 | 80-89% | O2 | 46 |
| H3 | 77 | 70-79% | O3 | 37 |
| H4 | 66 | 60-69% | O4 | 28 |
| H5 | 56 | 50-59% | O5 | 20 |
| H6 | 46 | 40-49% | O6 | 12 |
| H7 | 37 | 30-39% | O7 | 0 |
| H8 | 0 | 0-29% | O8 | 0 |

|  LCVP <i>Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme</i> | | |
|--|----------|-------------|
| LCVP Grade | % Score | LCVP Points |
| Distinction | 85 - 100 | 66 |
| Merit | 65 - 79 | 46 |
| Pass | 50 - 64 | 28 |



- ▶ 6 subjects used to calculate points.
- ▶ Maximum points for 6 Higher level subjects (H1): 600 points
- ▶ Maximum points for 6 Ordinary level subjects (O1): 336 points
- ▶ Maximum points for 6 Higher level subjects (H7): 222 points
- ▶ Maximum points for 6 Ordinary level subjects (O7): 72 points
- ▶ 25 bonus points for H6 or higher in Higher level Maths.
- ▶ However some courses require minimum grades at certain levels so check with the career guidance teacher for confirmation of requirements before changing levels.

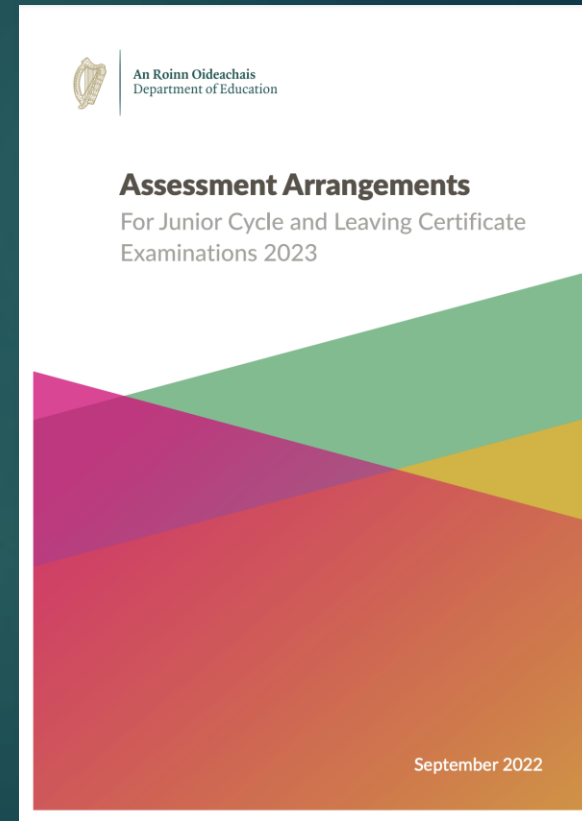


Languages

- ▶ Irish oral exam: 40%
- ▶ Irish written and aural exam: 60%
- ▶ French/German oral exams: 25% (H), 20% (O)
- ▶ French/German written and aural exam: 75% (H); 80% (O)
- ▶ Many subjects have a practical component worth a % to the overall grade. Essential that this work is completed to a high standard.

Update on Assessment for senior cycle 2023/2024

- ▶ Minister for Education has confirmed that, as for 2023, adjustments will be made to the assessment arrangements for students due to sit State examinations in 2024.
- ▶ They will be the same as the assessment adjustments that have applied for students who sat the 2023 examinations but updated as relevant.
- ▶ Details on the adjusted arrangements will be issued to schools in due course. Please view the document below for the revised changes.
- ▶ gov.ie-Leaving Certificate 2023 (www.gov.ie)



Looking forward



- ▶ Career guidance appointments should be made during this term if students need information on the course they wish to pursue.
- ▶ Courses accessed through the Central Applications Office (CAO) which also cover apprenticeships
- ▶ Courses outside of the state (UCAS)
- ▶ Post Leaving Certificate (PLC) courses

SCHOOL POLICIES



All HFCS policies and useful information are available on the school website



<https://www.hfcs.ie/our-policies-and-useful-information/>



The Code of Behaviour and Discipline should be read by students and parents and is available in the students' journals and on the website. It must be signed in the dialann.

Health and Safety

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01

Always have an appointment

02

Do not enter school grounds except by prior arrangement

03

Drop off and pick up students at the front of the school

04

Do not stop on the roundabout or in the school gateway or across the driveways of houses

Personal Electronic Devices

PLEASE READ
AUP POLICY
ON SCHOOL
WEBSITE

Must be off and out of sight at all times during school day

Students **must not** take photographs or recordings of any member of the school community.

Students must not use their personal electronic devices to abuse, threaten, harass or bully other students or staff or use these devices to invade the privacy of any member of the school community. Infringement of these rules is taken very seriously by the school.

Parents must not phone students during the school day

Please read www.cybersafeireland.org and www.webwise.ie

School Procedures

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Classes begin at 8.45am and finish at 3.40pm (1pm on Wed.). Students must be in school 5 minutes before first class in the morning and last class in the afternoon

Morning break is from 10.45am - 11.00am Lunch break 1.00pm – 1.40pm
Wednesdays: morning break is from 10.55 to 11.10am.

6th Year students are allowed to go to the village during lunch break. Students who wish to stay in school must remain in the school yard from 1pm – 1.20pm and go to their base rooms from 1.20 to 1.40pm.

6th year students must remain in their base rooms at morning break and not move from room to room.

A seating plan and cleaning roster is posted on each base room wall which students must adhere to.

Attendance & Punctuality

- ▶ Regular attendance and punctuality is extremely important.
- ▶ Please avoid family holidays during term time
- ▶ Students who are absent for 20 days will be reported to TUSLA.
- ▶ Detention may be given to regular latecomers



General Sickness Procedures and leaving school early

- ▶ Please do not send a sick child to school,
- ▶ Student must not use mobile phone to contact Parent/Guardian if they feel ill in school.
- ▶ The student must get the teacher's permission to go to reception.
- ▶ The school secretary then contacts the Parent/ Guardian.
- ▶ Please ensure that a correct phone number is on VShare to contact you.
- ▶ Student must be collected by Parent/Guardian and sign out at reception when collected.
- ▶ Any student being collected by a Parent during the school day must present a note to the Year Head or send a note via VShare.

Detention

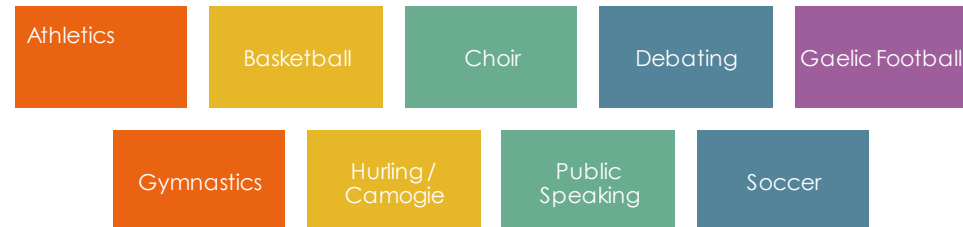
- ▶ Is on Wednesdays from 1.15 p.m. to 2.15 p.m.
- ▶ Parents/ Guardians will be informed by the school when detention is given and the reason for detention.
- ▶ Parents must organise transport home for their son/daughter.
- ▶ Failure to attend detention may result in suspension.
- ▶ If a student is unable to attend detention, a note must be presented to the Behaviour Management Co-ordinator, Ms. Brona Redmond.



Extra-curricular activities

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- ▶ Encourage your son/daughter to get involved in activities.
- ▶ Students must remember that good behaviour will be expected during extra-curricular activities and when representing the school.
- ▶ Students are expected to do assigned homework if they miss class due to participation in an extra-curricular activity.
- ▶ Voluntary Contributions fund extra-curricular activities.



Students

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We want our students to be happy in HFCS

Bullying will not be tolerated and should be reported to the school

Students are expected to show manners and use "please" "thank you" "excuse me" etc.

Students are expected to show respect for each other and to watch out for one another

Students are asked to treat others as they would like to be treated

Complaints/Concerns

- ▶ Stages:
 - ▶ Teacher/Tutor/Year Head
 - ▶ Principal
 - ▶ Representatives of the Board of Management
 - ▶ Full Board of Management
 - ▶ Teaching Council
-
- ▶ Complaints procedures on school's website

Dates for diary

- ▶ 6th year Wellbeing & Retreat: 26th September.
- ▶ Parents' Council AGM – 6.45pm Thurs 5th Oct 2023 (new members always welcome)
- ▶ In-house exams: 23rd to the 27th October.
- ▶ Parent/Teacher meeting: 16th November from 4.15pm to 6.45pm.
- ▶ Mock Exams: 29th January to the 9th February, 2024. Payment of €45 should be paid through the Easy Payments Plus system.
- ▶ Please keep an eye on the school website www.hfcs.ie for important school dates.

Thank you for your support



PARENT
SUPPORT

