



St Mary's College Dundalk

School Profile

St Mary's College is a co-educational Catholic Secondary School under the Patronage of the Marist Fathers and the Marist Education Authority Schools (MEAS). It has currently a population of 905 students who are offered programmes at Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate, including Leaving Certificate Applied and LCVP. A Transition Year programme, which is not compulsory (approximately 90% of 3rd year students opt for the programme), is also offered.

The school was founded in 1861 as an all-boys school and it included a boarding school until the early 1980's. It became a co-educational school in 1990 and in 2016 it transferred into its current fully-equipped, modern PPP building. This has facilitated the expansion of the curriculum to provide more breadth and balance than before and a wide range of new subjects have been incorporated into the school programme. A WSE of the school in 2013 provided the impetus for the commencement of a School Improvement Programme [SIP] and the further development of the School Plan to encompass the benefits provided by the new accommodation and the skills of the teachers of the new subjects. This Plan is rooted in the educational philosophy and ethos of the Marist Fathers.

The new school building has been designed to accommodate 900 students. The current staff allocation is 58. The College curriculum includes the following subjects:-

Current Junior Cycle Subjects				
Gaeilge	Maths	English	Religion	History
Geography	Science	Business	Art	French
German	Technology	Wood Tech'ogy	Graphics	Home Economics
Music	Wellbeing	CSPE	SPHE	PE

Current Leaving Certificate Subjects				
Gaeilge	Maths	English	Religion	History
Geography	Accounting	Business	Economics	French
German	Technology	Construction	DCG	Home Economics
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Ag Science	Computer Science
Art	Music	PE & LCPE	LCVP	Guidance

Outside of the Junior and Senior programmes, the College offers a diverse range of co-curricular and extra-curricular experiences, which we believe play a crucial role in the holistic development of our students. These experiences, ranging from sports, sciences, languages to social outreach and the arts provide opportunities for students to explore their interests and talents beyond the academic curriculum. Participating in these activities

enhances our students' social skills, boosts their self-esteem and wellbeing, and helps foster a sense of belonging and identity within our Marist community.

The College has always placed a great emphasis on its Catholic Marist ethos and the core values of this ethos are displayed in prominent places throughout the school building. Links with the inherited tradition are to be found in the name-plates on the corridors which are associated with the locations in southern France where the Marist Order was founded. The College maintains strong links with its Marist European partner schools in France and Germany and meetings with Principals and teachers from these schools take place regularly.

The College aims, with the resources available, to provide the best possible environment in order to cater for all students. We show special concern for the disadvantaged, and we make every effort to ensure that the uniqueness and dignity of each person is respected, and responded to, especially through the pastoral care system in the College.

The community spirit in the Marist is strongly emphasised in the relationship between the school and its parents' and student councils. Both councils offer meaningful opportunities for parent and student voice to have a genuine advocacy in the College. Many parents are past pupils and the lay Marist organisation is supportive of all aspects of Marist ethos and its promotion. Working together as a College community, the Board of Management, parents / guardians, staff and students aim to provide an environment which will allow each student develop intellectually, physically, morally, socially and spiritually so that they will be able to grow to fulfil their role in society.