



St Clare's College

Beginning of Year Update 2026/27

Welcome to a New School Year

A very warm welcome back to all of our returning students and their families. We are especially delighted to welcome our new First Year students, students joining us in other year groups, and their parents and guardians to the St Clare's College community.

We know that the beginning of a new school year brings a lot of information for families. To make things a little easier, we have brought together a number of important updates in this short newsletter for you to read and refer back to.

Mobile Phones & Smart Devices



This year, St Clare's College is introducing an updated Mobile Phone and Smart Device Policy, with the aim of creating a **distraction-free learning environment while supporting student wellbeing and positive social interaction**.

1st–3rd Year: Students are strongly encouraged to leave mobile phones at home. Where a student needs to bring a phone to school for any reason, it must be **switched off and stored securely in their locker for the duration of the school day**. Junior Cycle lockers now contain **individual coded phone-storage boxes**, providing additional security for devices brought to school. Phones may not be used during the school day, including at break or lunchtime.

TY, 5th & 6th Year: Students may bring phones to school and carry them with them, but they **must not be used during the school day**, including break and lunchtime, unless a teacher has given explicit permission.

We also ask parents and guardians **not to contact students directly on their mobile phones during the school day**. If you need to contact your child urgently, please contact the School Office on **049 8544551**.

The full Mobile Phone and Smart Device Policy will be shared separately through Compass and will also be available on our school website.

Communication with Home - Compass Chronicles



This year, we are beginning the transition from using the school journal as our primary method of day-to-day communication between teachers and home to using **Compass Chronicles**, alongside our other methods such as journals, letters and phone calls.

Where a staff member needs to communicate a message home arising from class, this will now generally be recorded through Compass.

The school journal remains an important daily resource. We ask parents and guardians to continue to check journals regularly, ensure homework is being recorded correctly and continue to sign the journal each week.

Parents and guardians are also very welcome to continue using the school journal to send messages from home.

We hope this transition will provide families with a clearer and more accessible record of communication from school, and we thank you for your continued cooperation and support.



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A New Approach to 3rd & 6th Year Parent-Teacher Meetings



This year, we are changing the format of our Parent-Teacher Meetings for **3rd and 6th Year students**.

We believe that regular communication between home and school is particularly important during examination years. With this in mind, we are amalgamating our 3rd and 6th Year Parent-Teacher Meetings and providing **two opportunities during the school year** for parents and guardians to meet with their child's teachers — one earlier in the school year and another later in the year.

We strongly encourage parents and guardians of our 3rd and 6th Year students to attend these meetings. Having two opportunities also provides greater flexibility for families who may be unable to attend on one of the scheduled dates.

The school calendar is displayed on the home page of the school website.

AMS Cardiac Screening - October 2026



Advanced Medical Services (AMS) will visit St Clare's College in **mid-October** to provide a comprehensive, doctor-led cardiac screening service for students who wish to avail of it.

The screening includes:

- a personal and family history questionnaire;
- a physical examination with a medical doctor;
- a 12-lead Electrocardiogram (ECG); and
- assessment and reporting of the medical data and ECG by a Consultant Cardiologist.

The cost of the screening is a **discounted rate of €80 per student**. Students with Laya Health insurance can avail of the service free of charge with a current individual membership number. Those with other private health insurance may be able to claim back a portion of the fee.

The deadline for booking is Thursday, 1 October 2026.

Places are limited, so early booking is advised. Full booking information will be issued to families in the coming days.

New PE Uniform



We are proud to introduce a **new St Clare's College PE uniform** this year.

The new PE uniform is **compulsory for all First Year students** and **optional for students from Second Year upwards**.

The uniform is available from **The Sports Shop, Main Street, Cavan Town**.

New School Website Coming Soon



We are currently working on a brand-new St Clare's College website and look forward to launching it soon.

The new website will provide parents, guardians and students with easier access to school news, policies, important information and updates.

Wishing Everyone a Wonderful Year Ahead

We wish all of our students and their families a **happy, positive and successful 2026/27 school year**.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership with St Clare's College.