

MARIST COLLEGE

Athlone, Co. Westmeath

Providing quality education since 1884





Principal's Address

Michael Dermody
Principal



Our **GOAL** is to *ensure*
that **EVERY**
Student
REACHES their
POTENTIAL

Paul Kelly
Deputy Principal



Welcome to Marist College. We are an all-boys, post-primary Catholic Secondary School in the trusteeship of the Marist Brothers. We provide a Catholic education and cater for the cultural, educational, moral, religious, social, linguistic and spiritual values of all our students.

Since 1884, Marist College has been providing quality education for young boys across the Midlands region. If you become a 'Marist boy' you will be following a path that has produced thousands of young students, educated and equipped for the next phase of their life.

Marist has a very proud tradition of academic excellence; our state examination results reflect the school's high academic standards and the importance we place on teaching and learning. We offer a comprehensive academic curriculum which is delivered by a team of professional, dedicated and committed teachers, whose goal is to ensure that every student in front of them reaches their potential.

Education is more than what happens in the classroom, Marist College seeks to provide a holistic educational experience for all its students. We provide a wide range of extra-curricular activities which provide our students with many new learning opportunities and experiences.

The Marist ethos has at its very core, care of the student; there is a culture of welcome and happiness within our corridors. The size of our school and small classes helps to create a sense of family and community within Marist College. Everybody knows and looks out for each other, nobody gets left behind or overlooked.

We operate a transition programme from Primary to Secondary school that will make the move smooth and seamless for your son. First year students are mentored by our Marist Leaders and are guided through their journey in the school.

Marist College embraces modernity while remaining faithful to the past and our traditions. 21st Century teaching and learning is blended with a caring and compassionate approach to all of the students in our care.

It is my hope that as you browse through this prospectus and view our school video, you will discover a vibrant school community, where our students are actively learning, challenged and, most importantly, happy during their time in Marist College.

Choosing a secondary school for your son is a daunting task, if you choose Marist College you do so safe in the knowledge that you are following an established path and tradition that extends back to 1884.

Michael Dermody, PRINCIPAL



Why Choose Marist College?



Mission Statement

To create in our students a sense of:

Self Worth: for a happy and fulfilled life; good self esteem is fostered by emphasis on strengths rather than weakness, by providing a variety of opportunities for success outside the classroom.

Respect and Tolerance: for self and others.

Responsibility: for one's own actions based on a clear view of right and wrong and the strength to say no even to peer pressure. For the community based on a sense of justice, duty and responsibility to others.

Initiative and Openness to life's Opportunities: which will foster an optimistic, grateful approach to life in general and an ability to cope with difficulties.

Christian Living: Giving by example and instruction an awareness of the Christian way of life, of the spiritual and moral guidance of the church, and promotion of devotion to Mary, the mother of God.



Curriculum



Junior Cycle

All first year students will study the new specification for the Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA). In Marist College we offer a broad range of subjects for Junior Cycle.

One Hour Classes

At Marist College we believe the one hour duration of each class allows:

- more opportunity for student centred learning and formative feedback
- the embedding of practical work on a continuous basis
- differentiated lessons which cater for students of all abilities
- focused participation and richer learning experiences

Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement

COMPULSORY

English	Irish	Maths	History
Geography	Business	Science	Religion

OPTIONS (Choose two)

French	German	Wood Technology
Graphics		Technology

WELLBEING

CSPE	SPHE	Physical Education	Guidance
Wellbeing		Digital Literacy	

SHORT COURSES

Physical Education	CSPE	SPHE
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The new JCPA affords a significant continuity of experience for each student as he makes the transition from primary to post-primary school. The JCPA provides greater choice of learning experiences in the curriculum and facilitates the development of eight Key Skills. Key skills support students in how they learn and to take responsibility for their own learning.



Senior Cycle

We offer an extensive range of Senior Cycle subjects at all levels. Through our subject options we cater for the progression of all our students into third level education.

Senior Cycle

COMPULSORY

English	Irish	Maths	Guidance
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OPTIONS (Choose four)

History	Geography	Accounting	Business
Economics	Biology	Chemistry	Physics
French	German	Agricultural Science	
Construction	Design & Communication Graphics		
Physical Education	Applied Maths	Technology	

Additional Subjects Offered

LCVP	Religion
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Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP)

The Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP) is a Senior Cycle programme designed to give a strong vocational dimension to the Leaving Certificate. The programme gears students towards self-directed learning, being innovative and enterprising and acquiring attitudes and skills appropriate to the world of work. Students who are eligible to take the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme follow the Leaving Certificate curriculum as usual, in addition to two Link Modules - Preparation for the World of Work and Enterprise Education.

Achieved maximum grades in LC 2023



Ben Donegan



Michael Henry



Conn O'Hara



Paidi O Leochain



Conor Gill



Academic Achievements

Academic excellence has been the hallmark of Marist College for many years. As a school, we strive to ensure that all our students realise their full academic potential. Their performance in State examinations illustrates that Marist College students are consistently achieving above the national average.

Our position as the preeminent academic school for boys across the Midlands is reflected in the various league tables and statistics published over the last number of years.

**1 in every 3
(33.2%) of our
2023 Leaving Cert
Students achieved
in excess of
500 points.**

**Marist College –
Top ranked Boys
School in Westmeath
and the Midlands**

Progression to Third Level

Year	Percentage
2022	92%
2021	94%
2020	91%
2019	89%
2018	88%
2017	93%
2016	100%

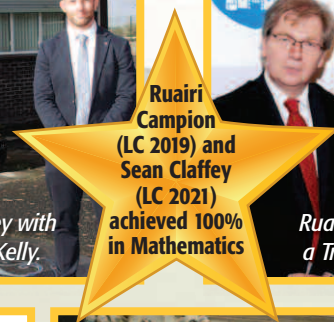
Leaving Cert Success!

Leaving Certificate Examination Points Statistics
– Marist College vs. National Average

Leaving Cert. Points	Marist College	National Average
600+	8%	4.8%
500-599	25.2%	19.6%
400-499	29.9%	27.3%
300-399	27.3%	24%
200-299	6.4%	14.2%
100-199	2%	6.9%
<100	1.2%	3.2%



Sean Claffey with Mr. Paul Kelly.



Ruairi Campion (LC 2019) and Sean Claffey (LC 2021) achieved 100% in Mathematics



Ruairi Campion was awarded a Trinity College Scholarship.



Naughton Foundation Scholarship –
Conor McNamara (2021)
and Rory Kilgarriff (2022)



Ericsson Bursary
Award -
AJ Costello



Trinity Entrance Exhibition Awards -
Sean Healy, Ciaran Cronin,
Darragh Elliot



UCD Entrance Scholarships - Cian McCarthy,
Odhran Dolan, David Dolan, Eoghan Duffy,
Thomas O'Brien, Brian Connell, Fionn McDonnell



University of Galway
Excellence Scholarship
2022 - Conor McNamara



Transition Year

The Transition Year programme aims to promote the personal, social, educational and vocational development of students and to prepare them for their role as autonomous, participative and responsible members of society.

The emphasis in Transition Year is on self-directed learning and the curriculum attempts to provide breadth and balance to cater for varied interests and potential. The year is designed to provide a bridge to help students make the transition from a highly structured and exam-orientated environment to one where they will take greater responsibility for their own learning and decision-making.

During Transition Year we aim to utilise a wide variety of approaches to teaching and learning, including activity-based learning, group work, project work and educational trips.

The overall aims of Transition Year are:

- Education for maturity, with an emphasis on social awareness and increased social competence.
- Education through experience of adult and working life as a basis for personal development and maturity.
- Promotion of general, technical and academic skills with an emphasis on inter-disciplinary and self-directed learning.





Learning Outside the Classroom



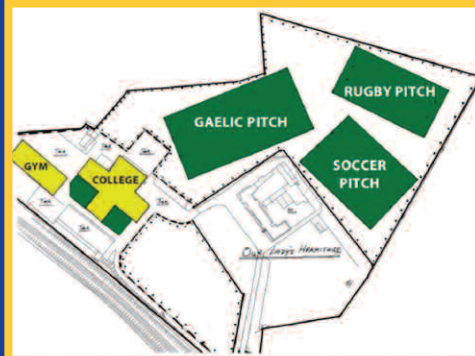
At Marist College we strongly believe in the importance of providing our students with a wide range of educational experiences both inside and outside the classroom.

Extra-curricular activities play an important role in this, as they provide students with opportunities to take part in a variety of sports, clubs and hobbies which allow them to have fun, develop new skills, make new friends and work effectively with others.

We encourage all our students to take part in extra-curricular activities and offer a wide range of options.

College Facilities

- 20 acre campus
- 3 full size pitches
- Gymnasium
- Conditioning room
- Basketball court



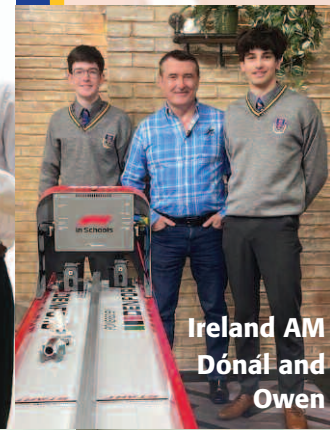
THE MARIST COLLEGE IS SITUATED ON A 20 ACRE SITE



**Ireland's fastest
ever F1 in Schools
car, built by
Catalyst Racing,
2022**



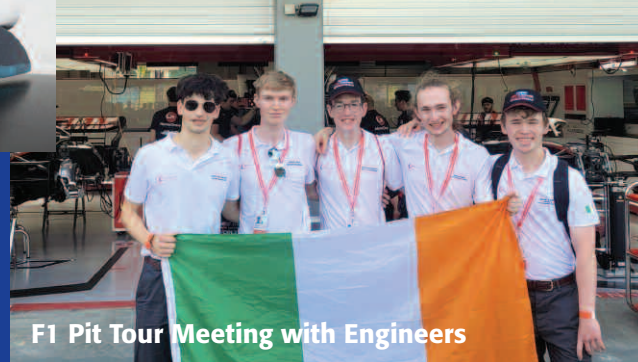
**Catalyst Racing Receiving
2nd place at 2022
National Finals**



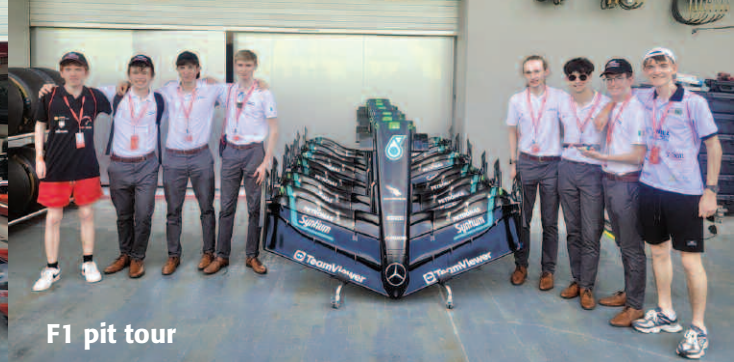
**Ireland AM
Dónal and
Owen**



**F1™
in Schools
Ireland**



F1 Pit Tour Meeting with Engineers



F1 pit tour



**Vintius Racing receiving the
"Outstanding Sportsmanship"
Award, 2019 World Finals**



Catalyst Racing 2022

F1 in Schools is the largest global STEM competition for secondary school students. Marist College claims a rich history in the F1 in Schools competition. With four teams reaching the World Finals and one achieving the title of All Ireland Champions, Marist teams have been succeeding in the competition since 2016. Our students have travelled to Texas, Abu Dhabi, Kuala Lumpur and most recently, Singapore.



CanSat European Winners

A CanSat is a simulation of a real satellite, integrated within the volume and shape of a soft drink can. The challenge for the students is to fit all the major subsystems found in a satellite, such as power, sensors and a communication system, into this minimal volume. The CanSat is then launched to an altitude of a few hundred metres by a rocket or dropped from a platform or captive balloon and its mission begins: to carry out a scientific experiment and achieve a safe landing.

Marist Cansat team represented Ireland at the European Cansat Finals in the Azores in June 2019. They competed against 17 European Countries to claim the top prize. They also hold the title for Irish National Champions 2018. The competition is run by SFI (Science Foundation Ireland) and ESA (European Space Agency). They are the first Irish team to win the top prize at the European level.





21st Century Learning

At Marist College, we believe in nurturing an education which promotes the well-rounded, 21st Century pupil. Through cross-curricular activities, focus on academic achievement and the promotion of extra-curricular fulfilment our students are educated with the learning, literacy and wellbeing at the heart of modern education.

Our focus is to provide students with an educational structure which encourages collaboration, creative initiative and critical thinking. These key skills, which are central to the teaching methods of our staff, form the core elements of not only 21st century learning but also the new Junior Cycle currently being implemented.

Here at Marist College, we strongly feel that our pupils are sufficiently prepared to address the range of interpersonal, creative and technologically centred skills at the heart of the modern Irish educational system.

Since 2014, we invested heavily in our distance learning programme. All teachers now have Microsoft Surface Pro devices, WiFi access, interactive classrooms and the Microsoft Office education suite is now embedded in everyday Learning and Teaching, in particular Microsoft OneNote.

Microsoft OneNote:

OneNote helps teachers organise lesson materials and share them with their students. In OneNote, teachers create notes that can include text, pictures, PowerPoints, video tutorials, written examples, tables, and drawings. Class notebooks allow for creativity and collaboration to flow easily in any classroom. With OneNote teachers can interact with students and provide feedback in written and audio format on homework, projects and assessments. For students, OneNote is an interactive learning system that makes content more engaging and accessible.

Classrooms must be student-centred. Students can interact with the materials and with each other, using OneNote to work individually or in groups. Teachers can present to the whole class or share items just with the students who need them.

The interaction doesn't end with the classroom. Because the OneNote notebooks are stored online, after the lesson is over students can access them from any internet-connected device for use at school or at home. This has proven to be a major benefit for students keeping up to date with classwork and homework when absent or representing the school at extra-curricular activities.

Microsoft Teams:

Microsoft Teams allows teachers to set up specific teams for classes and create collaborative classrooms, connect in professional learning communities (PLCs), and communicate with students. Teams allows for remote learning, where teachers can conduct online classes. It has proven a very helpful app during the Covid-19 pandemic.



ICT Resources used to aid teaching and learning:

- School email and Microsoft Office 365 cloud storage for students
- Access to Class Notes and Homework on OneNote (Virtual Class Notebook)
- Online Collaboration Space through Class Notebook
- Microsoft Surface Pro tablets used for teaching
- Interactive whiteboards and wireless projectors in classrooms
- Microsoft software licences for students e.g. Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Publisher etc.
- WIFI access across the school for students and teachers
- Computer and Coding classes

What is Office 365?

Office 365 is a cloud-based service that brings together the best tools for the way students and teachers work today. By combining best-in-class apps like Excel and Outlook with powerful cloud services like OneDrive and Microsoft Teams, Office 365 lets students create and share from school or home on any device.



Student Supports

A Whole-School Approach to Wellbeing

Our Wellbeing programme aims to foster happy, confident, responsible and resilient students who feel connected to Marist College.

Participation in Wellbeing initiatives builds resilience and creates a sense of pride and belonging to our school community.

Transition from Primary to Secondary School

Our First Years are assisted in making this transition successfully through the following:

- Opportunity for parents to meet with the school management team as part of the enrolment process
- First Year Induction Programme
- Individual meeting(s) with a Guidance Counsellor and/or Year Head
- Mentoring Programme for First Years promoted by the Senior Prefect Buddy System

VShare

Parents can stay involved and up-to-date with their child's progress through VShare, our secure, online student record system. Access through our website facilitates parents to view up-to-date assessment results, timetables, attendance and other information, all this from the comfort of your home.

Text System

Marist College offers a text service to parents to notify them of student absences, keep them informed of all school activity and alert them to event changes. This may include reminders for parent-teacher meetings, sporting activities, school emergencies, general notices and unplanned closures.

Monitoring Progress

We aim to foster the academic ability of each student to the full extent of their potential. Through our assessment procedures we encourage each student to reach that potential. Teachers regularly monitor the progress of students. Parents have access to online monthly grades for each subject.

At whole-school level, we have procedures in place for identifying students in need of support or encouragement at an early stage.

Anti-Bullying

We believe that each student has the right to an education free from fear and intimidation. We want Marist College to be bully free where all students feel safe and happy. In a proactive approach to address the issue of bullying and to educate and empower our students, the school has put in place a structure of communication involving management, year heads, class teachers and the school's guidance counsellor.

First Year Homework and Social Club

We provide a Homework and Social Club for First Year students. Our aims are to assist students to complete their homework, while helping them to settle into Marist school life and socialise with other students in their year group. The club is supervised by teachers, along with the help of our student Marist Leaders, who are on hand to support and encourage students in a productive environment.

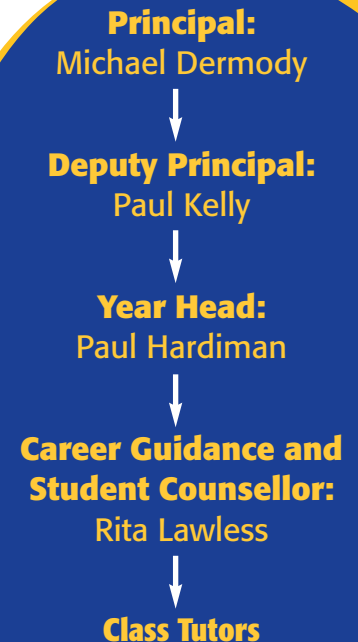
Canteen

Our school canteen, supplied by A Slice of Life, is on offer each morning break and lunchtime. Students can buy hot food, sandwiches and drinks during their breaktimes.

Book Rental Scheme

Marist College operates a Book Rental Scheme which is open to all incoming 1st Year students.

Our Anti-Bullying Policy is available on www.maristathlone.net





Special Educational Needs

We believe that every student has a right to have the best possible learning opportunities. We recognise that some students may have particular needs and we take specific action to support and encourage these students within a caring environment. We enable all students to participate fully in learning activities and experiences by providing a curriculum that responds to the individual development of each student. We work closely with parents and outside agencies to monitor progress carefully, and provide effective, additional support to meet student needs.

Resource and Learning Support Classes

We recognise that all students learn at different paces, and gaps in learning can occur for various reasons. To support students where this has occurred, Marist College offers resource and learning support classes. For students who may need extra help, learning support and resource classes focus on developing key skills in all curriculum subjects.

Supports for mainstream students with Special Educational Needs include but are not limited to:

- One-to-one teaching
- Small group resource
- Assistive technology (where applicable)
- SNA support (where applicable)
- Reasonable Accommodation for State Exams (where applicable)

Enabling
ALL OUR *students*
TO PARTICIPATE
Fully in **LEARNING**
ACTIVITIES and
Experiences



Student Voice



Student Council



Senior Marist Leaders



Marist College
VALUES

The Marist Brothers opened their first school in 1844. Since then, they have provided a wide quality education for boys throughout the world. Our commitment to excellence is as important in the way we live as it is in the way we work. We are committed to being True to Ourselves, the Environment, and the Community. We are committed to the Quality Relationship between the Marist Brothers and the Marist Community.

Deputy Head Boy Killian Redmond,
Head Boy David O'Shea



**Marist College
Open Evening and Enrolment
2024-2025**

Wednesday 25th October 2023 at 6.00pm

5th and 6th class boys along with their parents are welcome to attend

**Applications for enrolment will open
on Monday 16th October**

Enrolment will close on Friday 10th November at 5:00pm

Enquiries to the Principal, Mr. Michael Dermody

Tel.: (090) 64 74491 • Email: principal@maristathlone.net

Website: www.maristathlone.net

Twitter: @MaristAthlone • Instagram: @marist_athlone