



# Cross & Passion College



# Mission Statement

“Cross and Passion College is a Catholic, all-ability school committed to providing opportunities for all pupils to develop their unique talents and abilities in a positive, challenging and caring learning environment”

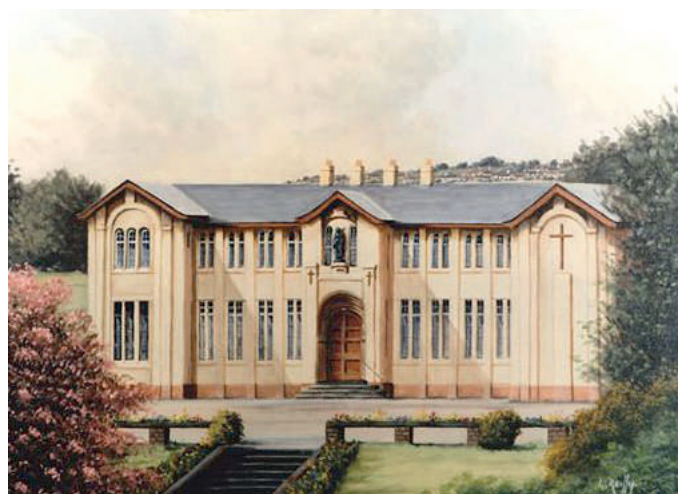
## SISTERS OF THE CROSS AND PASSION

The Sisters of the Cross and Passion were founded by Elizabeth Prout in Manchester, England, in 1852, during the time of the Industrial Revolution.

Elizabeth witnessed dire poverty and identified education as a means for people to escape from poverty, find employment and improve their quality of life.

From modest beginnings, Elizabeth and her companions established a tradition of education in many countries which sought to respect the culture and values of those countries, and to respond to the challenges of the times. Today, the sisters still endeavour to respond creatively to the new challenges of the age whether in education or other areas of social need.

Today the school community, at Cross and Passion College, endeavour to live out these values and give every member of our school community the opportunity to reach their potential in all aspects of their lives.







# Welcome to Cross & Passion College

I am delighted to welcome you to Cross and Passion College. Our school is a unique place with a long tradition of academic excellence and service to the community. It first opened in 1913 in Market Street and later moved to the present site on Moyle Road. The school became co-educational in 1963. During the 1970s, it was decided that Cross and Passion Convent Grammar School should merge with Star of the Sea Secondary School, forming one of the first, and currently most successful, all-ability schools in Northern Ireland.

Pupils join us at age eleven and usually leave aged eighteen, having grown in stature, wisdom and knowledge, but of equal importance, having developed as potential leaders, ready to make their mark on society.

Our core business is to educate young people and prepare them for the opportunities and challenges of life. Pupils consistently achieve very highly and, while that is a key priority in the school, so too is the development of character, sincerity, goodness and kindness. Our school community is values-driven and this enables our pupils to be fulfilled and to contribute to society in the widest possible sense.

As a school which is highly committed to the overall development of young people, the provision of extra-curricular experiences and activities for our students is a high priority, with sport, music, drama and art being particular strengths. In the last few years, pupils of Cross and Passion have become All-Ireland Champions in debating, junior camogie and senior hurling.

We are an inclusive school; we welcome and value young people from all backgrounds and abilities, to strive for and achieve success. Every child is supported through their journey in Cross and Passion, with challenging personal targets and goals, a choice of pathways to success and guided by a team of professionals dedicated to helping them reach their potential.



Currently, around 750 young people attend the school and their days are characterised by learning, developing self-awareness, building enduring friendships and stretching themselves to reach beyond their comfort zone. We believe that the key to success in any aspect of life is for an individual to feel cared for and to enjoy what they are doing. Pastoral Care permeates all aspects of our work and we aim to make learning enjoyable. A strong sense of community enriches the school and creates a sense of family and mutual dependence.

**Paul McClean**

*Principal*



## School Ethos shared and lived in our School Community



### Our Core Values

The core values of the school are inspired by the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and the legacy of the sisters of the Cross and Passion Order who founded our school.

- Respect for ourselves, each other and the environment
- Compassion for the pursuit of Justice
- Moral Integrity and Honesty
- Commitment to living in, and contributing to Community Life



### Ethos in Action

We are committed to creating a vibrant faith community and promoting the spiritual and moral development of the young people in our care.

#### We create opportunities for young people to:

- Develop a strong set of Christian values, which will inspire and guide them in all aspects of their lives;
- Develop a close personal relationship with God and deepen their knowledge and understanding of their faith;
- Develop a sense of social justice and service to others.

#### We will:

- Strive to create a school community where each individual feels valued, worthwhile and respected;
- Encourage all members of the school community to witness Gospel values in their actions and dealings with others;
- Provide opportunities for individual and community worship;
- Provide Religious Education programmes for pupils at all key stages;
- Provide opportunities for pupils to actively participate in social justice campaigns at both local and global level;
- Encourage participation in activities which promote respect for diversity and mutual understanding.

### Our Beliefs about Learners and Learning

- All pupils in Cross and Passion College have worth, dignity and value and will learn best when they believe they can have self-respect, self-esteem and confidence.
- Every pupil has the potential to learn, achieve and make progress.
- Every lesson is important and pupils are expected to participate fully.
- Pupils have different learning styles, strengths, abilities and aptitudes. As such, we plan activities which will promote success for all.
- We have high expectations of our pupils in all learning situations.
- As teachers, we regard ourselves as highly professional and committed to self-evaluation, to sharing good practice and to our own professional development.





## School Prayer

Lord, this is our school  
May it be a centre of learning,  
A place of hope and opportunity for all,  
A place where goodness will flourish and peace will reign.  
O Lord, make us worthy members of our school community.  
Help us to listen to the needs of others and together as a people of faith,  
Take steps to build a more just and caring world.  
Help us not to turn away from commitment or challenge,  
but to follow your example with confidence.  
We ask this through Christ Our Lord.  
*Amen.*





## A school where we care for each other

In Cross and Passion College, we seek to develop the unique talents and totality of needs of each child in a caring environment where honesty, integrity and openness are fundamental values. We strive to establish an atmosphere of caring and mutual respect conducive to learning. Our system of pastoral care exemplifies fairness, compassion, tolerance and forgiveness, while at the same time sets high standards of respect, self-discipline, commitment and generosity.

### Supporting Individuals

Cross and Passion College places great emphasis on caring for all members of the school community and on building a strong sense of belonging. We seek to develop a network of positive, supportive relationships based on respect for the dignity, value and self-worth of each individual.

Each class has a Form Teacher who remains with that class right through the school where possible. The Form Teacher meets with the class at the beginning of each day and is the first point of contact for each child.

- The Year Head and Form Teacher monitor the general progress and well-being of pupils and communicate regularly with parents/carers.
- The Pastoral Assistant works closely with the Year Heads and their pastoral teams and is available to provide on-going support for pupils.



### Supporting Learning

Through our 'Learning to Learn' programme (L2L), pupils can learn more effectively and so become learners for life. 'Learning to Learn' makes pupils aware of their strengths as a learner. Central to the programme is building the capacity to self-motivate and to have the self-confidence to succeed and cope with challenging circumstances. We teach students to become reflective learners and to set personal goals for improvement.

We provide small group/individual support to pupils through mentoring with a view to:

- helping pupils develop a sense of purpose and direction in their lives;
- helping them identify aspects of their school experience which they can improve – attendance, homework, application to classwork, behaviour, use of time;
- helping them set realistic targets and formulate action plans.

In addition to this, our 'sector leading' (ETI 2015) Pastoral Support Group, which meets at the start of each day, provides one-to-one support for pupils who are struggling with various barriers to their learning. Each pupil negotiates individual targets which will help them to make a success of each lesson.





## Promoting Good Behaviour

We encourage pupils to work to the best of their ability and to behave in a responsible manner, showing respect for other pupils, staff and property. We believe that children will learn best in an ordered environment where there are good relationships based on mutual respect for all in the school community. Teachers actively seek the cooperation of all pupils by encouraging self-discipline and a sense of responsibility, by having clear expectations of behaviour for our pupils in all situations, and by insisting on high standards in relation to uniform, attendance and punctuality.

## Promoting Links with Parents

We see parents as key partners in the education of their child and strive to maximise the potential of their support for their own child and for the school in general.

We are committed to:

- Seeking parents' views and opinions on various aspects of school life;
- Keeping parents informed of all matters relating to their child's progress and well-being;
- Keeping parents informed by distributing key policy documents;
- Organising Parent Information evenings at key milestones in a child's school career;
- Investigating any complaints and concerns parents may have and working cooperatively to resolve difficulties.

## Promoting Health and Well-Being

We have a primary responsibility for the care, welfare and safety of the pupils in our charge. We seek to provide a caring, supportive and safe environment, where individuals are valued for their unique talents and abilities, and where all our young people can learn and develop to their full potential.

We seek to protect our pupils by helping them to learn about potential risks to their well-being and by helping them to acquire the confidence and skills they need to keep themselves safe.

In addition, through whole-school programmes and campaigns, we highlight crucial issues such as anti-bullying, healthy eating, education for love, drug awareness etc. The Student Council takes an active role in the planning and delivery of these initiatives. Sixth Form students operate a 'Buddy' system where they pair up with junior pupils to act as a 'listening ear' and to provide on-going support.







## Key Stage 3. Building for success

A quality Key Stage 3 experience for young people is crucial, as it is at this stage that they develop their confidence and self-belief, as well as the skills and attitudes necessary to be successful learners.

### We are committed to:

- Ensuring the smooth transition from Primary School through a series of planned activities and consultation with Primary School teachers and parents;
- Setting high expectations and encouraging high aspirations;
- Fostering a love of learning and genuine spirit of enquiry;
- Meeting the needs of all types of learners and promoting success for all.

### We provide:

- A broad and balanced curriculum which builds a sound foundation for progression to Key Stage 4;
- A 'Learning to Learn' programme where pupils acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to become confident, successful learners;
- Opportunities for pupils to reflect on their own progress, to set challenging targets and to aspire to high levels of achievement;
- Support for pupils to make connections in their learning across all areas of the curriculum.



### We also:

- Track pupil progress by assessing levels of ability and achievement when they enter the school;
- Set pupils according to their abilities and aptitudes;
- Monitor their academic progress closely and engage the young people as full partners with their parents and teachers in discussing strategies for improving learning;
- Provide Key Stage 3 pupils with a wide range of activities which will enable them to identify and develop their talents and strengths;
- Strongly encourage them to play a full and active part in the life of Cross and Passion College.
- Create opportunities for all pupils to build friendships outside their learning groups, through involvement in form class activities and lunch time clubs.







## The Curriculum (Years 8 to 10)

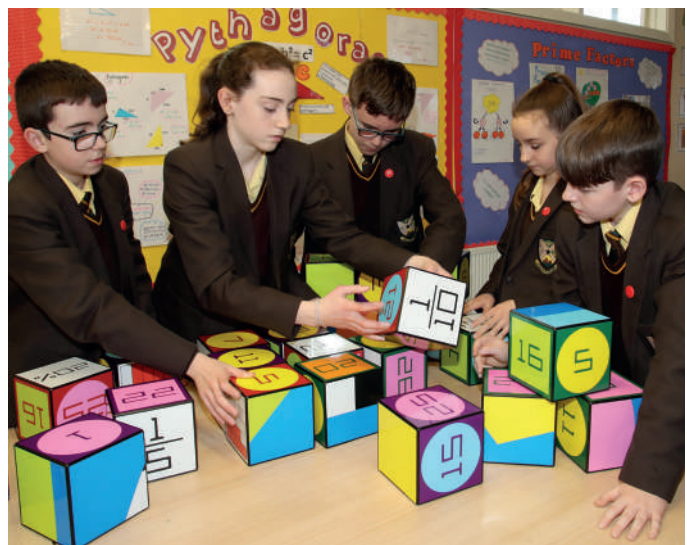
Learning Areas		
Art & Design	Home Economics	Physical Education
Drama	Information Technology	Religious Studies
English	Investigative Learning	Science
French/Irish/Spanish	Learning for Life and Work	Technology
Geography	Mathematics	
History	Music	

## Learning at Home

Pupils are expected to develop good study habits early in their school career. As such, pupils are expected to engage in purposeful activities set by their teacher which will:

- Reinforce the learning taking place in class
- Engage them in individual research
- Prepare them for subsequent lessons

As the school's ICT facilities continue to develop, pupils will increasingly be involved in "e-learning" activities where they will have access from home to a range of multi-media resources.





## Key Stage 4. Pathways to success

A significant strength of Cross and Passion College is our extensive experience in providing opportunities for success for pupils of all abilities. At Key Stage 4, pupils choose from one of two pathways to Post-16 Education or Training. Each young person will be given guidance and support to enable them, along with their parents, to make a well-informed choice based on their strengths, interests, aptitudes and possible career paths.

### The Key Stage 4 Curriculum Offer

Agriculture BTEC

Art

Business Communication

Business Studies

Child Development

Construction

Countryside and Environment BTEC

Creative Media

Digital Technology (Multimedia)

Drama

English Language

English Literature\*

Food and Nutrition

French

Further Mathematics\*

Geography

Health and Social Care

History

Home Economics

Hospitality

Irish

Learning for Life & Work

Mathematics

Motor Vehicle and Road User Studies

Music

Occupational Studies

Physical Education

Religious Education

Science - Double Award\*

Science - Single Award

Spanish

Sport BTEC

Technology and Design

Travel & Tourism BTEC

\* Pupils will normally need to achieve a Level 6 or higher in these subjects if they wish to take them for GCSE.

### Revision and Exam Preparation

In addition to the “Learning to Learn” programme which enables pupils to build further on the skills acquired at Key Stage 3, pupils receive extra guidance on planning and preparing for public examinations, tailored to meet the requirements of the specific subjects being studied.

These Study Skills Workshops are designed to meet the needs of the year groups involved and, along with a comprehensive programme of additional revision classes and study timetable, provide all pupils with a clear framework for success.







## A Proven Track Record of Success

- Pupils in all Pathways consistently achieve A/A\* or Distinction/Distinction\* grades.
- We have significantly narrowed the gap between the achievement of boys and girls.
- The school's record of academic success is consistently well above the NI average for the percentage of students achieving five or more GCSEs including English and Maths at A\* - C in a non-selective school.
- On average, 80% of pupils achieve seven or more GCSEs at A\* - C.
- Our top achievers at GCSE rank among the top achievers nationally.
- In the last three years, over 90% of our GCSE students have returned to complete Post-16 courses.
- Every year, almost all A Level students progress to university courses.
- In each of the last three years, at Post-16 level, pupils have significantly outperformed their peers in both non-selective and grammar schools.

## We provide:

- Quality learning experiences where expectations are high and every young person is encouraged to achieve their "personal best";
- A focused, one to one academic mentoring programme at strategic points in GCSE courses;
- A comprehensive programme of exam preparation;
- After-school revision classes in many subjects;
- A planned programme of revision and examination support throughout the examination season;
- On-going feedback to parents and pupils on the progress of each individual child towards the achievement of their personal targets.

***"In the last two years, around 75% of the year 14 pupils achieved 3 or more A levels at grades A\*-C, or equivalent, placing the college significantly above the respective NI average for similar non-selective schools and above the average for grammar schools who have a similar proportion of free school meal entitlement."*** Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) May 2018

In 2018 & 2019, these pupil outcomes have further improved to 89.1% (2018) and 90.6% (2019).



# Developing Unique Talents & Abilities

## Ben O’Kane

Ben is a past pupil of St Joseph’s Dunloy and is a passionate Dunloy supporter with Arroy connections! Ben is a fanatical sports boy who lives and breathes Hurling, with Gaelic Football being another of his interests. He has won honours with both his club and in school, scoring a brilliant goal as a Year 8 that helped CPC clinch the Danske Bank Ulster Schools Thompson Cup with a dramatic win over St Killian’s.

According to Ben, one of the best things about CPC is the positive attitude everyone has and this reflects across all school life. He has got the opportunity to meet and develop new friendships with boys from other clubs. His favourite subjects in school are Maths and PE. His ambition is to become a PE teacher and he certainly has all the leadership and personal qualities to achieve this. He is described by his peers as funny, trustworthy and overall Ben is a true gentleman.



## Rian McMullan

Rian is from Loughgiel and attended St Patrick’s Primary. Not only is Rian fanatical about Hurling, he also backs this up with a prodigious talent. Rian has represented the school with distinction, winning a number of Ulster Schools A titles; most notably he is the holder of three Ulster Schools Foresters Cup medals and the Ulster Schools Mageean Cup. His talent was recognised at provincial level when he was awarded the Danske Bank Hurler of the Month. On top of this Rian has won a plethora of medals with his beloved Loughgiel.

He is studying PE, Construction and Science at A-Level and hopes to get involved in the Construction industry as a career. Rian has made the most out of his time in CPC and says that the friendships he has made and the camaraderie with his peers makes CPC a special place. His advice to young people about taking part in sport are to never miss training and never think you have it made as you can always improve. Rian is certainly a model for this attitude!

## Stevie Magill

Steven (Stevie) Magill hails from Cloughmills and, even though he has only been in Cross and Passion College a few months, he has made a point of making himself known to everyone – your day only fully comes alive when Stevie says hello! He is delighted to be a pupil in Cross and Passion because he has made so many friends, everyone is always included! His favourite subjects are Science and PE and he loves all the fund-raising events with his Form Class to help local charities. Stevie is looking forward to studying Agriculture at KS4 – his dream is to become a rich farmer, but first he’s sure to add more to our school community by taking on leadership roles as he moves up the school.

## Callum Magee

Callum is a real gentleman and is a very proud Cushendun resident and is a former pupil of St Ciaran’s Primary. He has made a real impact at CPC with both pupils and staff. His favourite subjects in school are PE, English and Maths. Maths in particular is one in which he has a real flair, as he has a love of calculating. Since joining CPC he has made a number of new friends and he puts this down to the lunch time clubs for Year 8 pupils. He gets the opportunity to take part in the library, ICT and Walking clubs and the craic in these is mighty! His pastimes, when not in school, are hanging out with his friends in the picturesque village of Cushendun and hurling. He has great advice for all new pupils into CPC; make sure you are Ready, Respectful and Safe, have fun and enjoy all the great opportunities to take part in all the various activities in school and make new friendships.

## Cara Casey

Cara Casey, a past pupil of St Patrick’s Loughgiel, has quietly and confidently made the most of her time in Cross and Passion. Her unassuming nature and steady sense of responsibility meant that she was a clear choice for Class Prefect throughout KS3. In year 12, Cara helped plan, organise and facilitate a conference for over 200 young women to mark International Women’s Day. Cara’s attention to detail reaped further reward with an impressive set of 10 A\*/A grades in her GCSEs : success which was further recognised by being awarded the Glentaisie Cup for Geography and the Home Safety Schools’ Cup at Prize Giving. Cara has also experienced great success outside of the classroom, winning Ulster and World titles with the Loughgiel School of Irish Dancing. Cara is hoping to study dentistry at university and in the meantime, she is continuing to add to the community life of our school in her role as Pope John Paul II volunteer and as a sixth form Buddy.

## Cassie McArthur

Cassie McArthur is a Year 12 pupil who has fond memories of her time in St Olcan’s PS, Arroy. She has continued making her mark, by becoming involved in all aspects of life here in CPC. Cassie’s first passion is sport, playing Netball and Camogie for her school. The Dunloy camog has claimed her 6th Ulster Title. Cassie notes one of her highlights of school life to date as captaining CPC to Ulster glory in Year 10. She also says, “I love the feeling of ‘community’ that there is here in CPC. Everyone looks out for each other and having the opportunity to become an anti-bullying ambassador was my way to look out for others too”. With ambitions to become an architect, Cassie has taken time away from her studies to enjoy Languages Alive trips to Madrid, Peace IV trips to Belfast and spent the summer in the Gaeltacht. She is certainly making the most of her time here in CPC.







## Cealach O'Connor

Cealach O'Connor is a leading light in the promotion of the Irish language in CPC. A past pupil of Gaelscoil an Chaistil, she completed an additional GCSE in Gaelige and is studying A level Irish. Cealach has recognised the efforts by all staff, but especially those in the languages department, who she says always go the extra mile to ensure the students enjoy their experience of learning. Cealach was rewarded for her efforts by receiving the Corn na Maill cup at CPC's prestigious annual prize giving. Cealach is also very generous with her time participating in the Pope John Paul Award. She is also a talented soccer player and helped form a girls team here in CPC. Cealach now plays for Ballymonee Girls Youth Academy.

## Tara McAfee

Tara McAfee is the middle sister of 3 girls who all attend CPC. Leaving Barnish PS, and following in her big sister Emma's success, Tara has been commended on a number of occasions during her 3 years for the outstanding progress she is making across all areas of the Key Stage 3 curriculum. She doesn't put that down to luck. Tara's competitive nature and her quest for excellence have come from her experiences in, and her love for PE and sport, participating in Camogie, Netball and Rugby. Indeed, Tara transfers all these values learned, into her academic studies and is a wonderful example of how hard work and commitment pay off.

## Seonáidh Douthart

Seonáidh Douthart is a multi-talented girl who is very proud of her Armoy roots and being a former pupil of St Olcan's Primary School. Seonáidh is the oldest of the Douthart family and is sister to Conlan and Shea. What you might not know about Seonáidh is that she plays Rugby for Ballymena (BRFC), and trains weekly at Eton Park - her daddy is a rugby coach there. She is also very busy with the Loughguile School of Irish Dancing and has achieved success at local and provincial level. Seonáidh simply loves sport, and says that it has been influential in bringing new circles of friends into her life. Unsurprisingly, Seonáidh's favourite subject is PE; she enjoys Food and Nutrition too. Since starting at Cross and Passion, we are delighted to hear that Seonáidh has also developed a love for Maths and Science. In fact, she really enjoys anything practical and active! Seonáidh loves school and never likes to miss a single day because of all the catching up she would have to do! In the future, Seonáidh would like to work with children, possibly becoming a teacher. She would be a natural!

## Pablo Mitchell

Pablo Mitchell is a past pupil of St. Mary's Rathlin and has been a proud 'Islander' all his life. Like a number of our pupils, Pablo, and his brother Zach, make the journey by boat each morning and evening (weather permitting) and they regularly go the extra-mile by attending and supporting school events in the evening time, requiring them to stay in Ballycastle overnight. Pablo is a great example of someone who has thrown himself into the community life of the school and has involved himself in, and led, many school ventures, ranging from the School Eco-Committee, Choir, Drama Performances, Charity work and many other areas. In 2019, he was a finalist in the Michaela Foundation 'Wing's volunteering awards. On his native Rathlin Island, Pablo helps out by entertaining at the Festival, including stilt walking - we haven't had a chance to see this in school yet. Pablo's values and personal qualities are his biggest achievement and his honesty, enthusiasm and independence have made him highly popular.

## Tiernan Heggarty

Tiernan Heggarty is a past pupil of St. Patrick's and St. Brigid's Primary School and has many happy memories of his time there. That said, he has thrived since joining Cross and Passion College and has made the most of the many opportunities, particularly in sport, that have come his way. Tiernan is a talented and committed sportsman and has represented the school in Gaelic Football, Hurling and Rugby. Tiernan's two sisters also attend the school and his older sister Caitlin was a top achiever at GCSE level; he is following in Caitlin's footsteps and has experienced great success in his subjects over the last few years also. We have no doubt that with the excellent commitment he demonstrates in lessons, and at home, that he can certainly reach his potential. Tiernan has been a class prefect and says he really enjoyed the opportunity to be a voice for his classmates and a role model. We certainly agree he has all the skills and qualities that we seek to develop in pupils here in the College.

## Íde Hughes

Íde Hughes is a talented and ambitious pupil who has picked up a huge array of experiences during her time in school. She is one of a large group of pupils in the school whose parents work on our teaching and non-teaching staff, Íde's mum is Mrs Caitlín Hughes, our Head of English. She has two sisters, Sorcha - a recent past pupil, and Muirín in first year. Some of the highlights in Íde's school career have been her participation in school drama performances and her most recent contribution was a starring role as Sister Mary Robert in 'Sister Act'. Her comic timing, skills in articulation and beautiful singing voice have also been used in other areas of school life, namely her participation in the very successful School Debating Team and as part of our many musical and choir performances. Íde goes the extra mile to make positive contributions to many areas of school life and has been a prefect, is a member of our Joint School Council and is also one of our leading Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, having led workshops for younger students in helping them see the importance of caring for each other.





## Post 16 Studies. Preparing to move on



Our aim is to prepare and enable pupils to move into the world of Further and Higher Education or employment, confident in their own abilities, aware of their strengths and aptitudes, possessing the qualifications, personal qualities, skills and attitudes they need to pursue their chosen career path.

We focus on the holistic development of each young person and provide opportunities for them to develop their faith and spirituality, to explore their own value system, to develop independence as well as the opportunity to study subjects in a wide range of general and applied courses.

Cross and Passion College is one of only a few schools in the local area which can provide pupils with such an extensive choice of subjects Post-16. The curriculum also meets and exceeds the requirements of the Entitlement Framework.

### 'A'-LEVEL AND EQUIVALENT (Level 3 qualifications)

Agriculture (BTEC)
Applied Science (BTEC)
Art
Biology
Business (CTEC)
Business Studies
Chemistry
Children's Care Learning & Development (BTEC)
Construction (BTEC)
Creative Media Production (Print-Based)
English Literature
French
Geography
Health and Social Care
History

Nutrition and Food Science
Irish
IT (CTEC)
Life & Health Sciences
Mathematics
Music
PE
Performing Arts
Physics
Psychology
RE
Spanish
Sport (BTEC)
Technology & Design
Travel and Tourism (BTEC)







### Debating Success

In Cross and Passion College we believe in the development of our pupils as expert communicators.

Our Debating Society offers pupils the opportunity to strengthen vital skills, not only as debaters but as researchers and supporters.

The process of debate offers profound and lasting benefits. With its emphasis on critical thinking, effective communication, independent research and teamwork, the art of debating teaches skills that impact positively on our students' school experience.

### All-Ireland Champions

Looking to the future, which is our responsibility as educators, debating is a lifelong skill which provides students with the chance to stretch themselves academically, to open their minds to our world as a global village, to understand contentious issues and so grow as citizens of the world.

Debating is offered to all pupils from Years 11 – 14.

### Current competitions:

- Concern All Ireland Debating Competition (2016 winners)
- Debating Matters (2016 Northern Ireland winners)
- Soroptimist International Public Speaking
- Northern Ireland Schools Debating (2015 Finalists)





In Cross and Passion College, we place great importance on developing young leaders. We give pupils the opportunity to develop key skills which will be essential for many aspects of their lives. We also promote the development of a sense of social responsibility in our pupils by encouraging them to be meaningful contributors to the local and global community. Many of our young people have outstanding leadership potential and, throughout their school career, we afford them the opportunity to develop leadership qualities and skills.

## The Pupil Leadership Team

This team of Year 14 students is nominated by staff and pupils to become leaders of the student body. Following a rigorous selection process involving a written submission and interview, they are allocated roles within the team. The Leadership Team strives to promote inclusion and friendship in Cross and Passion College. These students bring many positive qualities and attributes to their role and represent the rich diversity of talents that make up the Cross and Passion College School Community. They are given the opportunity to develop key leadership skills while feeling their voice is being listened to and their opinions valued and respected.

### They have opportunities to:

- Represent the pupil community at public events.
- Become involved in public speaking;
- Lead and organise pupil activities – Collaborative Inductions to Year 11 and 13 pupils;
- Organise and plan the contribution of pupils to Open Evenings;
- Engage in mentoring programmes with younger pupils;
- Play an active role in planning and organising aspects of sixth form provision;
- Be positive role models and a source of inspiration for younger pupils;
- Organise social and fundraising events, including the School Formal.

## School Council – Student Voice

We believe that our pupil community has much to contribute to the plans we make to improve and enhance the quality of young people’s experience in Cross and Passion College. At present, pupils contribute to planning and evaluation in the following areas of school life:

### CPC School Council

We have both Senior and Junior School Councils in Cross and Passion College. Each council has several meetings throughout each term to discuss various aspects of school life and ensure that pupil views are taken into account in the strategic and operational planning that takes place in school. We examine what is working well for pupils and deal with any issues raised. The aim is to ensure pupils have a voice in their school life, and that they develop skills and abilities in leadership, teamwork and administration.





## Joint School Council

In 2010 we established a Joint School Council between Cross and Passion College and Ballycastle High School. The aim of the Council is to deal directly with the collaboration of the two schools and to listen to the voice of pupils involved to ensure they are having as positive an experience as possible.

The Joint School Council is always busy dealing with any concerns pupils may have and discovering new ways to enhance the collaboration further. One of their first successes was to survey the school and local communities and then make a presentation to the Road Service on the need for a pedestrian crossing on the Moyle Road. Six weeks after hatching the idea, the crossing was fully installed!



## Sports Leadership

Our Post 16 pupils are given the opportunity to gain the Community Sports Leadership Award during enrichment time in Year 13.

The Level 2 Award in Community Sports Leadership is a nationally recognised qualification that enables successful learners to lead groups of people in sport/activity, under indirect supervision. The qualification teaches generic leadership skills such as organisation, planning, communication and teamwork through the medium of sport. It is a fun and practical qualification and the pupils involved will take part in activities such as; planning and organising the Cumann na mBunscol camogie and hurling blitzes, leading and evaluating fitness lessons, maintaining a safe sporting environment and coaching in the community. They also complete the Foundation Coaching Award in Hurling/Camogie and the GAA Safeguarding children and young people in sport course.

## Prefects

Prefects serve a very important role within Cross and Passion College. Prefects are elected at the beginning of every term. They attend training sessions where their role is outlined and expectations of how they can positively contribute to the life of the school are shared. Again, this gives pupils of all ages an opportunity to develop key leadership skills which will prove invaluable to them in the future.

## Pope John Paul II Award

Participation in the Pope John Paul II Award offers our students opportunities to volunteer in their school, parish and local community; developing skills, relationships, friendships, spirit of community and their faiths. The programme greatly enhances self-confidence and supports our young people as they develop as leaders. The programme begins in Term 1 of Year 13 and concludes with an award ceremony early in Term 2 of Year 14. The award is run in conjunction with 'Living Youth' Down and Connor Youth Commission.



At Cross and Passion College, pupils in Years 11 to 14 enjoy the benefits of a very close collaborative arrangement with Ballycastle High School, which enables both schools to offer a greater choice and a broad, balanced curriculum. This arrangement ensures that all of our young people are challenged, and offers them opportunities to study subjects from a wide range of specialisms.



Rendering is artist's impression only, subject to confirmation and approval.

## The Purpose of Shared Education is:

- To enhance educational opportunities for all young people in post primary education in North Antrim, enhancing choice and promoting quality;
- To improve outcomes for young people at Key Stages 4 and Post-16 study;
- To make the best use of educational resources available;
- To promote and nurture mutual respect and understanding, as well as community cohesion;
- To provide the local and wider community with young people who have the knowledge, skills and attitudes to make valuable contributions to the economic and community life within the area.



## Key Facts

- Each school in the partnership retains its own identity and ethos.
- The commitment to sharing can be traced back as far as the 1960s, when pupils from Ballycastle High attended Latin lessons in Cross and Passion College, and collaborative Further Mathematics lessons took place in Ballycastle High School.
- The partnership is now well established and is deeply embedded in the life of both schools.
- In excess of 300 pupils from both schools share lessons on a weekly basis.
- The schools share much of the curriculum at Key Stage 4 & Post-16. Pupils still have the option to attend classes only in their own school, if that is their wish.
- Pupils from both schools have a Joint Student Council which meets regularly and represents the voice of pupils in making decisions about the partnership.
- Planning is underway for a brand new £40m state-of-the-art shared campus, consisting of two new schools, with a shared facility incorporating practical subjects and cutting edge sports facilities.





### Through our Personal Career Planning programme, pupils are encouraged to:

- Reflect on their strengths, personal qualities, aspirations and aptitudes;
- Research information relating to a wide range of career opportunities;
- Use labour market information to help inform their career planning;
- Explore progression routes to Further/Higher Education and employment;
- Consider a range of options and make realistic choices;
- Actively participate in workshops/programmes hosted by Young Enterprise;
- Learn from professional speakers from industry and employment;
- Attend Open Days and Careers Conventions/Fairs;
- Attend any organised talks relating to their areas of interest;
- Engage in a period of meaningful work experience.
- Attend mock interviews;
- Choose the pathway in which they are most likely to experience success.

### Links with Employers and the Business Community

The Careers and Employability programmes are greatly enriched by the involvement of employers and the business community. We have developed very effective links and we listen carefully to the employability needs of local employers. We use this information to help inform our curriculum.





## The Extra-curricular Programme. Developing Special Talents

Our school mission statement reflects the importance we attach to developing the talents and gifts of our young people. We, therefore, place a strong emphasis on giving them the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities aimed at developing their special talents. We also strive to promote the positive use of their leisure time.

### Lunchtime Activities

The school offers a full programme of lunchtime activities to cater for all tastes. In addition to a range of activities in recreational sport, pupils can become involved in any of the following:

- Careers Research
- ICT
- Guitar Club
- Traditional Music
- Choir
- Walking Club
- Homework Club
- ECO Club
- The MAD Group (Making A Difference)
- Lego Club
- Chess and Board Games Club

### Sport

The extra-curricular activities take place at lunchtime and after school. The programmes are led by our own teaching staff. However, from time to time visiting coaching specialists are brought to the school.

- Athletics
- Badminton
- Basketball\*\*
- Camogie\*\*
- Cross Country
- Dance\*\*
- Gaelic Football\*\*
- Golf
- Gymnastics
- Hurling\*\*
- Netball
- Orienteering
- Outdoor Pursuits
- Rugby
- Skiing
- Soccer\*\*
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Trampolining
- Walking\*\*

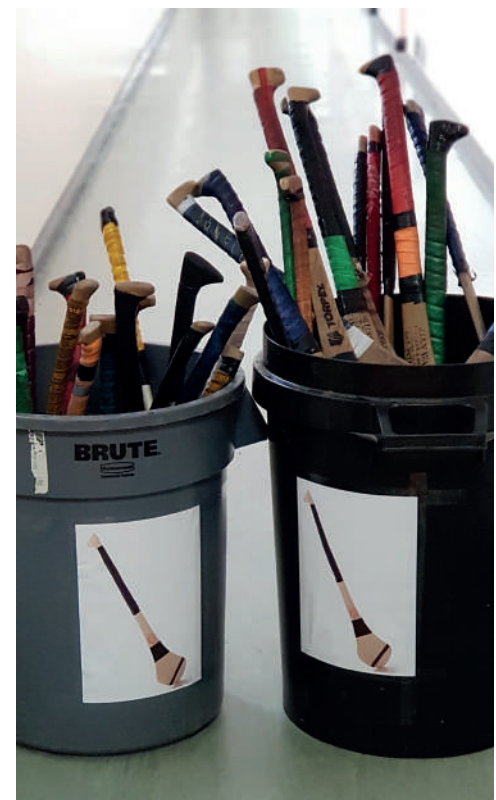
\*\*Denotes activities offered as recreational sport at lunchtime

### Team and Individual Sports

The school has achieved remarkable sporting success in recent years. Most notably we have won All-Ireland Colleges titles in both Camogie and Hurling, as well as numerous regional titles in Netball and Soccer.

Recent Success:

- All Ireland Junior 'A' Camogie Champions 2008
- Ulster Schools Junior 'A' Camogie Champions 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 & 2019
- Ulster Schools Senior 'A' Camogie Champions 2017, 2018 & 2019
- All Ireland Senior Schools Hurling champions 2009, 2010 & 2015
- Ulster Schools Mageean Cup Senior Hurling champions 2014, 2015 & 2019
- Ulster Schools Foresters Cup Hurling Champions 2017, 2018 & 2019







## Educational Visits

- As part of the 'Languages Alive' programme, there is an annual trip to France or Spain for pupils in Years 8/9
- A Ski Trip takes place in the second term biennially
- Outdoor Pursuits Activity programmes are organised every year
- Theatre Visits
- Art Exhibitions
- Science Exhibitions
- Joint school trips to Poland (History/Religious Studies)
- Visits to facilitate a range of leisure activities including Bowling, Ice Skating, Swimming and Hill Walking
- Opportunities to take part in a range of educational visits related to curriculum areas, for example: visits to the Gaeltacht; Agricultural visits; Psychology and Drama trips to London and many more.

## Music

The Music Department provides excellent facilities for a whole range of musical activities. Through their experience in Music, pupils will have the opportunity to learn a wide variety of instruments (keyboards, ukuleles, drums and many more), the fundamentals of music, and be given the chance to explore Music Technology to help them compose music.

A thriving extra-curricular programme caters for pupils with a wide range of musical tastes and includes:

- Senior Choir
- Junior Choir
- Irish Traditional Group
- Guitar Club
- Rock Bands
- Small Ensemble Groups

Pupils are given the opportunity to perform at school concerts, events, and liturgical services. Individual or small group tuition is available in woodwind, brass and string instruments. We also offer guitar, drum, and singing lessons. Through these lessons pupils have the option of entering for grade exams.



## Performing Arts

The school's Performing Arts Department is well established and thriving. With new state of the art facilities, Performing Arts is becoming a more popular subject at GCSE and A Level. Pupils are given opportunities to perform short play extracts, monologues, and to participate in Dance Drama, which gives them the opportunity to express themselves, use their imagination, and perform for an audience. In addition to this, a school musical is produced every two years - our most recent very successful productions have included:

- The King and I
- Me & My Girl
- Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
- Bugsy Malone
- Little Shop of Horrors
- Grease
- The Wizard of Oz
- Sister Act

Pupils are also given the opportunity to take part in the planning and production of School Christmas concerts. Pupils experience how to use lighting, sound and work backstage and develop both leadership and technical skills. Drama visits, both in and outside school, are organised to improve their experience and understanding of performance. The Performing Arts/Drama students also get to participate in many workshops delivered by outside agencies with excellent reputations in the fields of commercial and performance entertainment.















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