



St Paul's High School
Ardcoil Naomh Pól

St Paul's High School

Prospectus



Quality education for all



Contents

Principal's Welcome.....	1
Our Mission Statement.....	2
Bigger IS Better.....	4
Where Every Child Belongs.....	5
Care and Welfare at St Paul's.....	6
Academic Standards at St Paul's.....	8
A Rich and Varied Curriculum at St Paul's.....	11
Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) at St Paul's.....	14
Sporting Life at St Paul's.....	15
Musical Life at St Paul's.....	20
Dramatical Life at St Paul's.....	22
Curriculum Enrichment at St Paul's.....	23
Uniform at St Paul's.....	24
Transport and Dining Facilities at St Paul's.....	25
Travelling the World with St Paul's.....	26
Pupil Leadership at St Paul's.....	28
Spiritual Development at St Paul's.....	29
Past Pupil Success at St Paul's.....	30
In Partnership with Parents at St Paul's.....	31
Final Word from Chair of Board of Governors.....	32



We endeavour to develop skills and capabilities to help our students grow into healthy, mature and successful adults, capable of making informed and responsible choices and having the potential to make a valuable contribution to the world of work and society in general.

Principal's Welcome

Dear Parent and prospective pupil.

I am delighted to welcome you to the St Paul's High School Prospectus.

St Paul's is at the heart of the South Armagh community, dedicated to providing a comprehensive and enriching education for all children. We are fortunate to be supported by exceptional primary schools that work closely with us, ensuring a smooth and enjoyable transition for pupils moving from primary school to St Paul's.

As a Catholic school, St Paul's has proudly delivered Quality Education for All since 1966. Guided by Christian values of truth, integrity, compassion, and kindness, every decision we make is centred on the well-being and success of our pupils. We believe in giving our pupils a meaningful voice in shaping their school experience and in offering a broad, diverse curriculum tailored to meet their individual needs.

At St Paul's, we are committed to nurturing the whole child. Our mission is to inspire our pupils during these formative years, equipping them with the attitudes and values that will support their growth into engaged, fulfilled members of the workforce, their community, and wider society.

I hope you enjoy exploring our Prospectus and visiting our school. This Prospectus offers just a glimpse into a vibrant school that provides extensive opportunities both during and beyond the school day. For those considering joining St Paul's, I encourage you to visit our induction website, www.stpauls728.org, to access much more information.

Thank you for your interest in St Paul's High School.

Dáithí Murray
Principal





Our Mission Statement

Our Values

At St Paul's High School, we are a Catholic community which is part of a worldwide dynamic reality with the power to positively change lives, create futures, and enrich the lives of everyone in the school's wider community and society.

Our school, established in 1966, is founded on the ministry and message of Christ. We put the person at the centre of the education journey. We nurture development and we celebrate the unique talents of each individual.

We are committed to providing a quality education for all and inclusion is an integral part of our Christian message. St Paul's is an inclusive centre of learning where we listen, encourage constructive dialogue and support the development of mutual understanding of all faiths, cultures and backgrounds.

Truth, compassion, integrity and kindness are the guiding principles that shape our relationships with each other and provide a code for our conduct within school and when with our families and community.

In St Paul's, we recognise that upholding and protecting the dignity, self-esteem and self-worth of the individual is what provides a learning and teaching environment that enables human potential to flourish.



We fully embrace Shared Education and recognise the educational and social benefits to our learners, the promotion of equality of opportunity, good relations, equality of identity, respect for diversity and community cohesion which sharing can provide.

Our outreach programmes at home and abroad are well established and reflect a school community that is compassionate in pursuit of the common good and care for the marginalised; and the welfare of all in the school community and beyond.

We encourage openness to dialogue with our learners which influences and shapes the school community. In so doing, we create confident, capable, critical thinkers who are ready to contribute to and shape their world.

Our Vision – our destination

St Paul's will be a Catholic, person-centred school recognised for quality education for all, where every pupil's dignity and unique gifts flourish.

Our pupils will leave as confident, capable, critical thinkers who live truth, compassion, integrity and kindness.

We will be a leading partner in Shared Education and community outreach, shaping a kinder, fairer society.

Our Mission – our purpose and practice

Our mission is what we do every day to realise the vision. We place each pupil at the centre of learning and work together to deliver:

- ▶ Excellent teaching and strong pastoral care.
- ▶ A broad, balanced curriculum with clear academic, vocational and enrichment pathways.
- ▶ Inclusion in practice, removing barriers and providing effective support for additional needs.
- ▶ A safe, caring environment that safeguards wellbeing and builds positive behaviour.
- ▶ Meaningful partnerships with families, parishes, employers, universities and the wider community.
- ▶ Shared Education that promotes equality of opportunity, respect for diversity and good relations.
- ▶ High-quality professional learning and shared leadership for all staff.
- ▶ Open dialogue and pupil voice, clear communication, and evidence-informed continuous improvement.

Our Aims – what we intend to achieve

1. Live our Catholic ethos

To be a Christ-centred, person-centred community, living the Gospel values and celebrating the richness of Irish cultural heritage while respecting all traditions.

2. Place each pupil at the centre

To recognise and nurture every pupil's unique gifts, upholding their dignity, self-esteem and self-worth, and fostering truth, compassion, integrity and kindness.

3. Provide quality education for all

To offer a broad and balanced curriculum with clear academic, vocational and enrichment pathways, strong support for pupils with additional needs, and the removal of barriers to learning.

4. Raise expectations and achievement

To deliver excellent learning and teaching, set ambitious standards, and equip pupils to become confident, capable, critical thinkers who make informed and responsible choices.

5. Embrace inclusion and Shared Education

To promote equality of opportunity, respect for diversity, good relations and community cohesion through meaningful collaboration with partner schools.

6. Strengthen partnerships and outreach

To work closely with families, parishes, employers, universities and the wider community, and to sustain outreach at home and abroad in service of the common good and care for the marginalised.

7. Invest in staff and shared leadership

To support high-quality professional learning, share effective practice and resources, and develop leadership at all levels within a culture of trust and collaboration.

8. Ensure a safe, caring environment

To provide a pupil-centred school that safeguards wellbeing, builds cheerful co-operation and positive behaviour, and enables every member of the community to flourish.

9. Communicate, celebrate and improve

To listen and act on pupil voice, communicate clearly, celebrate success, use evidence well and commit to continuous reflection and improvement.



Reuben McKevitt

St Monnina's PS, Cloughoge



“ On my first day at St Paul's I was very nervous and excited about my new school. I had waited all summer and this was the start of a new journey for me. Finally, the time came! I, along with a vast number of new pupils, entered the school's towering buildings. The biggest challenge to me was knowing that you'd lose some of your old Primary School friends, but you would also make new friends. I love PE for the wide range of sports we can play. It is truly amazing! I have made it on to the school soccer team and I am pleased about this. My advice to you, when you come to St Paul's, is you should be open to participating in all the extra-curricular activities. Through taking up the African Drums here, I am travelling to London with the Music Department to march in the London St Patrick's Day Parade. The rest is now in your hands and St Paul's will open up many opportunities for you to grasp!! ”

Grace Hughes

Dromintee PS



“ Starting my new school, first year in St Paul's, filled me with both fear and excitement. This is because I was leaving behind familiar people, places and ways of learning. The biggest challenges for me were finding my way around this big school and how to make new friends. However, I soon got used to the size of the school and I have made loads of new friends. The teachers here are very friendly. I love all subjects, but I particularly like Maths with Miss Grant and Irish with Miss O'Hagan and Mrs Treanor. I also love being on the Year 8 girls' football team and have enjoyed the blitzes we have participated in so far. My advice to anyone starting St Paul's is to give yourself time, make new friends and don't be scared. You will love it here! ”

Ava O'Hare

St Joseph's PS, Meigh



“ When I first started St Paul's I was very excited, but after a few days I then felt nervous and sad. The biggest challenges were that I found it stressful getting from class to class on time and I was separate from some of my best friends from primary school. However, in just a few weeks, I've really settled in. I know how to get around, I've made lots of lovely new friends and I'm really enjoying school. My favourite subject in St Paul's is Irish with Mrs Treanor. My granny always taught me a cúpla focal agus is grá liom Gaeilge! My advice to anyone starting St Paul's is to give everything a try and give it your best shot. ”

Grace Taylor

St Peter's PS, Cloughreagh



“ When I first joined St. Paul's I felt nervous because I was joining a new school, had to make new friends and it was very different to when I was in primary school. I knew we would be going to lots of different classes, whereas we would just stay in the one room for all of our lessons in primary school. The biggest transition for me was probably moving to this school without my cousin. My cousin and I were in the same class for four years so it was sad when I found out he wouldn't be going to the same school as me. My favourite subject in St. Paul's is most definitely Irish with Mrs Trainor and Miss O'Hagan. My favourite extra-curricular activity is Gaelic football and soon enough I would like to join the camogie team. I tried out for the netball team but sadly I didn't make it! My advice for new first years coming to St. Paul's would be don't be messing about and just get on with your work because, as I said, we only have forty minutes to complete our work. Also, always be kind to people and they will show it back to you. I hope that you really enjoy your journey in St. Paul's! ”

Bigger IS Better

St. Paul's, with an enrolment exceeding 1700 pupils, is undoubtedly considered a large school. Our size can sometimes be a concern for parents and prospective pupils.

However, our extensive reach belies a close-knit community spirit. We welcome pupils from our contributory parishes, enhancing our school's local identity. These include:

- ▶ Parish of Lower Killeavy
- ▶ Parish of Upper Killeavy
- ▶ Parish of Dromintee
- ▶ Parish of Loughgilly
- ▶ Parish of Lower Creggan (including Newtownhamilton area)
- ▶ Parish of Ballymacnab (including Cladybeg and Ballylane areas)
- ▶ Parish of Newry (west of the railway line, covering areas from Kidd's Road to both sides of the A25 Camlough Road)

A larger St Paul's offers numerous advantages, contributing to a richer educational experience for all:

- ▶ A broader social network
- ▶ A greater variety of specialised staff members
- ▶ Enhanced facilities
- ▶ More choices in subject offerings at each key stage
- ▶ An expanded range of extra-curricular activities
- ▶ Increased opportunities for personal and academic growth
- ▶ Greater overall success

Where Every Child Belongs

As a non-selective, co-educational school, we welcome, and cater for, local children of all academic abilities. We know that each child is much more than the measure of a score at age eleven and we take great pride in nurturing children and see them grow academically, spiritually and socially – some at different rates than others.

Objective metrics from established diagnostic tests such as Progress in English (PTE), Progress in Maths (PTM) and Cognitive Abilities Testing (CAT4) are used to 'loosely gather' pupils into streams on entry. Placements are carefully tracked throughout the year, in each year group, and this allows movement within this fluid and agile streaming process – acknowledging that children grow and develop at their own unique rates.

We are very proud of all our pupils, from those who set high academic expectations of themselves and of us, but equally proud of our pupils with typical abilities and those children who experience moderate to profound barriers to learning. It is rewarding to see siblings, each with their own academic strengths, having the opportunity to have pride in the same St Paul's uniform, walk the same St Paul's corridors and become the very best version of themselves. Indeed, it is rewarding to witness academic high achievers mentor our pupils in the DEN and see each other as friends.

St Paul's is a school without labels and without boundaries. It is a microcosm of the best of society and where every child belongs.

Charlie McSherry

St Malachy's PS, Ballymoyer



“ It was the night before I started St Paul's, when I was getting my uniform ready, that it hit me that I was starting a new school. I was so excited, but also nervous. I really hoped I would be in a class with some of new friends – which I was. I was very nervous going into the Assembly Hall for the first time, as it was so loud and crowded. My favourite subjects are PE and Technology and Design with Mr Montgomery. My advice to all new students is don't ever be afraid to ask for help! ”



Elaine Hughes

Parent of Erin Hughes (DEN) and Isla Hughes (mainstream)



“ As the proud parents of three girls with different strengths and abilities, we are just so grateful to have a school like St Paul's in our community – where each of them gets the chance to shine and grow individually. Our daughter, Erin, is part of the 'Autism Family' and is currently in the DEN. Since joining St Paul's she has had so many opportunities afforded to her, both in her education and with travelling as part of the school's Inclusion Choir. We are delighted that her younger sisters will follow in her footsteps to St Paul's, knowing they will be just as happy as Erin is there. ”

Care and Welfare at St Paul's

DE's Policy for School Improvement **'Every School a Good School'** April 2009; states that every school should ensure that **'the highest standards of Pastoral care and Child Protection are in place'**.

The Board of Governors, Principal and all teaching and non-teaching staff have responsibility for the care and welfare of all pupils, maintaining a learning environment which is characterised by positive relationships and mutual respect between pupils and all members of staff.

Recent inspection reports from the Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) identified **'arrangements for care and support are highly effective and based on the intrinsically linked work of the pastoral and academic teams. There is a clear commitment to inclusion and a culture of care and respect which permeates all aspects of the life of the school. The staff have a detailed knowledge of the pupils and provide them with the required knowledge and skills to respect diversity, challenge stereotypes, grow in confidence and self-esteem, and participate in the work of the school and wider community.'**



Sarah McKernan receiving The Brian Conlon Foundation Academic Scholarship Award presented by our guest speaker Kate Fearon.

The school liaises closely with an appropriately wide range of external agencies to support the pupils' social and emotional well-being. The pupils who require additional support with their learning benefit from a whole-school culture of early intervention and individualised support to meet their specific needs.'¹

A follow-up inspection report confirmed that **'an inclusive ethos permeates the school; this is evident in the very high quality of the working relationships at all levels; the mutual respect, care and appreciation of one another demonstrated by the staff and by the pupils; and the importance placed on meeting the needs of those pupils who experience barriers to learning. The nurturing and supportive approach to helping pupils overcome their barriers through a wide range of interventions has resulted in these pupils achieving high standards, the development of their personal and social skills and access to progressive career pathways. This work demonstrates very well the synergy of the school's academic and pastoral provision.'**²



St Paul's places great attention and value on supporting our pupil's care and welfare through many varied mediums, here are some of the highlights offered throughout the school year:

KS3 Care & Welfare Programme

- ▶ AM registration class with form teachers
- ▶ Weekly assemblies with Year Heads
- ▶ Counselling referrals
- ▶ NI Anti Bullying Forum Workshops
- ▶ Cara-Friend Workshops
- ▶ PIPS Programmes
- ▶ PSNI eSafety Talks
- ▶ PSNI Health & Safety Talks
- ▶ Christmas Panto
- ▶ End of year trips

KS4 Care & Welfare Programme

- ▶ AM registration class with form teachers
- ▶ Weekly assemblies with Year Heads
- ▶ Counselling referrals
- ▶ PIPS Programme
- ▶ Aware Workshops
- ▶ PSNI Safety Talks
- ▶ Addiction Prevention Workshop

KS5 Care & Welfare Programme

- ▶ AM registration class with form teachers
- ▶ Weekly assemblies with Year Heads
- ▶ Counselling Referrals
- ▶ Love for Life Programme
- ▶ PIPS Programme
- ▶ Enrichment Programmes
- ▶ RSE Programme
- ▶ Financial Advice Programme
- ▶ Road Safety Programme
- ▶ PSNI Safety Talks



1. <https://www.etini.gov.uk/publications/post-primary-inspection-st-pauls-high-school-bessbrook>, Source: Education and Training Inspectorate, 2016.

2. <https://www.etini.gov.uk/publications/sustaining-improvement-inspection-st-pauls-high-school-bessbrook-county-armagh>, Source: Education and Training Inspectorate, 2019.



Clodagh Reel (Year 14 pupil)

St Joseph's PS Meigh



“My name is Clodagh Reel, and I am a past pupil of St Joseph's Primary School, Meigh. During my time at St Paul's, I have been involved in a wide range of extracurricular activities, including both senior choirs, the ladies' Gaelic football team, and the traditional music group. These opportunities have been among the most rewarding aspects of my school experience, making memories and helping me to gain a place on our international projects trip to Kenya in November 2025. Through my involvement in these activities, I've had the chance to compete at various competitions – winning the prestigious Feis Ceoil competition with the Senior Girls' Choir and earning an Ulster medal with the ladies' Gaelic football team. Alongside my extracurricular commitments, I achieved 4A*s and 5 As at GCSE level. These results led me to choose A Levels in Chemistry, Biology and Irish. They have strengthened my ambition to pursue a career in veterinary medicine. Whilst I'm excited about moving on to university, I will genuinely miss my time at St Paul's – especially the strong sense of community that makes the school so special.”

Daithí Murphy (Year 14 pupil)

St. Malachy's Primary in Camlough



“The things I love most about St Paul's are the amazing people that make every day exciting – from classmates to teachers. Everybody in St. Paul's creates a welcoming and friendly environment that allows us to succeed. I am so fortunate to be afforded the opportunity to travel to Kenya and New York this year. At GCSE, I achieved three A* and seven A, but it didn't come without hard work and dedication. I am currently studying Mathematics, Chemistry and Professional Business Services– I also did Biology at AS Level. I am presently applying to University, I hope to pursue a career in the Finance sector. My time at St. Paul's has been the best years of my life. I will miss the amazing school trips and events, the inside jokes and memories, and the amazing sense of belonging throughout this building.”

Ellie Phelan (Year 14 pupil)

Dromintee Primary School



“My favourite thing about St. Paul's is the variety of activities it offers, including sports, drama, and music. There is something to fit everyone here at St Paul's. Also, the opportunities to travel abroad are amazing. I'm so excited to be one of the pupils travelling to Kenya at the start of November. In my GCSEs, I got six A* grades and four A grades. I honestly couldn't have achieved so well in my GCSEs without the support I received both in school and at home. My teachers were such a support during GCSEs and worked so hard to ensure that I did the absolute best I could. I'm currently studying Biology, Chemistry and Maths for A-Level. I also studied Geography at AS level. When I leave St. Paul's this year I'm planning to go on to study medicine – hopefully in Queen's University Belfast. I love music so I'm involved in the Senior Girls' Choir and Senior Mixed Choir and it's definitely these I'll miss most when I leave St. Paul's. They have offered me such amazing opportunities, namely singing in St. Peters Basilica in the Vatican City and performing on RTE. I'll miss how much fun it is to be involved in something so lovely with my friends.”

Academic Standards at St Paul's

At St Paul's, we believe that academic excellence, where each child achieves to the best of his or her ability, is a key ingredient in personal happiness and the cornerstone of a successful future. Our strategic tracking, assessment, and reporting processes are designed to ensure that no child is overlooked. By seamlessly integrating academic and pastoral care, each Pastoral Team actively contributes to fostering high yet attainable academic standards, instilling this aspiration in all our pupils.

At St Paul's, we monitor the progress of our pupils in Years 8 to 11 through three assessment intervals each year, culminating in external GCSE examinations for all Year 11 students in May and June. For pupils in Years 12 to 14, we conduct assessments at four intervals annually, with students sitting external GCSE, AS, and A2 exams in May or June of their respective years. This strategic assessment framework has consistently driven improvements in academic standards at both GCSE and A Level and other important Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications.



Erin McCullough (A Level Leaver 2025)

St Malachy's PS, Carnagat



“When I was choosing my secondary school, after completing the transfer test, there wasn't much of a competition. I attended all the local grammar schools' open days and St Paul's was a clear stand out for me. Of course my siblings had attended St Paul's as well, so it was a natural pull. However, I was also drawn to St Paul's because of the many extracurricular activities and sports it gives students the opportunities to engage in. Over the years, I have participated in netball, Gaelic football, the orchestra and many other school-run programmes, that have provided some of my favourite memories. In fact, I can safely say that my years in St Paul's, have been some of the best years of my life. Among the many amazing memories I have, there are a few are clear stand outs. In St Paul's I always loved how many school trips the school provided– giving so many opportunities to travel. I travelled to Salamanca in Year 12 with the Spanish Department, attending language classes and learning about Spanish culture; then to London with the Inclusion Choir to mark St Brigid's Day in the Houses of Parliament; and finally the standout– our International Project to Kenya in 2024. This was a life– altering experience and one I will never forget.

Not only did St Paul's provide me with a fantastic social life, it also was the cornerstone to my academic achievements. My GCSE results consisted of 9A* and 1A. Then to add to this, in my final year, I managed to achieve A*A*A* in my A-Levels of Maths, Chemistry, History and Biology. It is the first time, in the history of our school, that anyone has achieved 4A* and I was the only pupil in the north of Ireland to achieve this in 2025. These grades are obviously a testament to my own hard work. However, none of this would have been possible without the amazing teachers that helped me throughout the years. My A Level teachers, Mrs McGarvey, Mrs McCartan, Mr McArdle, Mrs McEvoy and Mrs Rafferty, were not only educators, but friends. I am currently studying Actuarial Science, with a year placement at Heriot-Watt University. I chose this course because of my love for maths, which I can only thank one person for, Mrs Aine Kearney.

St Paul's, for me, fostered a true community. Not only did it care about its students' academics, but their well-being too. I was always pushed to be the best that I could be and given the adequate support to do so.

My biggest achievement, disregarding academics, would have to be winning the Rotary Youth Leadership competition in 2024, which allowed me to travel to the EU Parliament in Strasbourg and speak on climate change. This was truly an amazing experience, which wouldn't have been possible without St Paul's.

Looking back now, I am so grateful for the years I spent in St. Paul's, where everyone was a friend (including staff). I will always remember the years spent here fondly, and I will always appreciate how this school gave me the ability to reach my full potential.”

Fergal Boylan (A Level Leaver 2025)

St Joseph's PS, Meigh



“St Paul's was my first choice due to the warm, welcoming atmosphere I experienced during the 2018 Open Day. Hearing my brother and two sisters speak so positively about their time there, coming home each day with stories about their experiences, further strengthened and confirmed my decision to choose St Paul's. During my time at St Paul's I have had many memorable and enjoyable experiences. One of the highlights was travelling to Kenya with some of my closest friends. This was a trip that opened my eyes to the level of poverty faced by communities in other parts of the world and helped me form new friendships. Another standout memory was winning the Rannafast Cup in 2023. This was a moment of great pride for me, and our school, and a reward for the early mornings and late evenings of training that finally paid off.

At GCSE I achieved 4A*s and 6As. My chosen subjects were Further maths, Spanish, Business Studies and PE. When I progressed into Sixth Form at St Paul's, I chose to study Mathematics, Biology and Professional Business Studies at A-Level and achieved A grades in each. This is something I am extremely proud of, as it reflects the hard work, dedication and determination I put into my studies. I believe I was able to achieve these A-Level results because I learned how to balance my studies effectively, supported by excellent teaching throughout my time at St Paul's. One teacher in particular who made a significant difference was Mrs McCartan (Mathematics). She consistently invested extra time into her students, helping us build confidence and reach the grades we were capable of.

I am currently studying Actuarial Science and Risk Management at Queen's University Belfast. I chose this course because I have always had a strong interest in Mathematics and the financial world. I hope to go on and obtain a degree in actuary.

My greatest achievement outside of academics has been captaining my Killeavy U21 team to championship success, as well as representing Armagh in the U20 Ulster Championship.

A piece of advice which I would give to a new Year 8 student would be to embrace every possible opportunity which comes your way, as you never know what may come out of them. St Paul's is a friendly and welcoming school with great subjects, clubs and sports. Teachers care about every pupil and help them to do their best. It's a school where you can make friends, feel supported and succeed and I would definitely encourage the younger generation to choose our school. There are many things I miss about St Paul's, but what stands out most are the everyday moments, especially sitting at the circle table in the canteen with my friends. It was always great craic and those simple daily interactions are something I still miss a lot!”





A Rich and Varied Curriculum at St Paul's

Our extensive curriculum is designed to challenge, inspire and motivate all our pupils to be the best version of themselves possible. To ensure this becomes a reality, we have specialist staff that provide the guidance and support that will cement this success.

We are passionate about ensuring that, regardless of their starting points, backgrounds or individual needs, all our pupils are afforded an equal and ambitious curriculum and have an equitable chance to succeed. Our provision stretches beyond the NI Curriculum and maximises opportunities for all our pupils. Via our pupil-centred and flexible subject choice processes, at both GCSE and Level 2 and A Level and Level 3, we are able to accommodate the choices of all our pupils. We are alert to the demands, and opportunities, within the local, national and global labour markets and invest in researching new subject areas that will equip our pupils better, as they prepare to enter third level education or the labour force. We want to ensure that our pupils have the necessary skills and knowledge that will enhance their employment opportunities and enable them to become effective contributors to the economy.



Our pupil-centred and flexible subject choice processes are supported by our Careers Education, Advice, Information and Guidance (CEAIG) Department. Careers provision at St Paul's aims to fully support all pupils in recognising their skills and qualities and matching them to the most suitable subject areas and courses. We recognise that while a fully academic curriculum will suit most of our pupils, this may not suit others. Where suitable, we encourage pupils to explore a hybrid or vocational curriculum that will still challenge them but will also maximise their chances of success.

Most pupils will complete nine GCSE subjects, but there are opportunities for pupils to take ten or more subjects.

At Post 16, all pupils will complete 3 A Level subjects. While most of our Post 16 pupils will take the third level university route, we equally encourage those who wish to pursue foundation degrees or Higher-Level Apprenticeships.





KS3 CURRICULUM

- ▶ Art & Design
- ▶ Careers Education
- ▶ Digital Technology
- ▶ Drama
- ▶ English
- ▶ French
- ▶ Geography
- ▶ History
- ▶ Home Economics
- ▶ Irish
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Music
- ▶ Personal Development & Citizenship/LLW
- ▶ Physical Education
- ▶ Religious Education
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Technology & Design

KS4 CURRICULUM

- ▶ Art & Design
- ▶ BTEC Sport
- ▶ Business Studies
- ▶ Careers Education
- ▶ Childcare
- ▶ Computer Science
- ▶ Construction
- ▶ Digital Technology
- ▶ Drama
- ▶ English Language
- ▶ English Literature
- ▶ Food & Nutrition
- ▶ French
- ▶ Further Mathematics
- ▶ Geography
- ▶ Health & Social Care
- ▶ History
- ▶ Irish
- ▶ King's Trust
- ▶ Learning for Life & Work
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Music
- ▶ Occupational Studies
- ▶ Physical Education
- ▶ Religious Studies
- ▶ Science (Double Award)
- ▶ Science (Single Award)
- ▶ Spanish
- ▶ Technology & Design

KS5 CURRICULUM

- ▶ Art & Design
- ▶ Biology
- ▶ BTEC Sport
- ▶ Cambridge Technical Business
- ▶ Cambridge Technical IT
- ▶ Chemistry
- ▶ Childcare
- ▶ Construction & the Built Environment
- ▶ Digital Technology
- ▶ English Literature
- ▶ Environmental Technology
- ▶ Food Science & Nutrition
- ▶ French
- ▶ Health & Social Care
- ▶ History
- ▶ Irish
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Music
- ▶ Physical Education
- ▶ Physics
- ▶ Professional Business Services
- ▶ Religious Studies
- ▶ Sociology
- ▶ Spanish
- ▶ Sports Science & the Active Leisure Industry
- ▶ Technology & Design

At KS4, where applicable, we also offer subjects at Level 2 equivalencies.

At KS5, where there is a demand for subjects not offered at St Paul's, we work in partnership with Newry & Mourne Area Learning Community and endeavour to ensure pupils are still able to access subjects they are interested in.



Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) at St Paul's

The CEIAG Department plays a vital role in preparing students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life. The department's mission is to help students understand themselves, develop their capabilities, explore career options, and implement personalised career paths – whether that leads to university, apprenticeships, further education, or full-time employment.

CEIAG staff work closely with students, encouraging them to realize their full potential and providing the necessary support and guidance to make informed decisions about their future. They maintain an "open door" policy, welcoming students to discuss their aspirations and access advice from CEIAG staff as well as external careers advisors from NI Careers Service.



In partnership with education, training, and industry stakeholders, the CEIAG Department empowers students to navigate the evolving job market. Flexibility, adaptability, and lifelong learning are emphasised as crucial for long-term success. To this end, the department organizes a wide range of enrichment opportunities, including work experience placements, college/university open day visits, apprenticeship presentations, guest speaker events, interview skills, careers fairs and the annual St Paul's Careers Week. Through these comprehensive initiatives, the CEIAG Department equips students with the self-awareness, career knowledge, and decision-making skills required to transition smoothly into the next stage of their academic and professional journeys.



Sporting Life at St Paul's

Gaelic Games at St Paul's

Since our inception in 1966, St Paul's has worked hard to establish its reputation in Gaelic Games and are very proud of achievements in Gaelic football for both our boys and girls, hurling and camogie. Our sporting achievements are valued within St Paul's and in the local community. We have a dedicated team of staff that is committed to coach and manage teams in a positive manner – actively encouraging pupils to wear the maroon with pride.

Girls' Gaelic Football

Ladies Gaelic Football is an immensely popular sport in St Paul's. This year as always we entered teams in:

- ▶ U20 level – This team won the U20B shield competition this year, defeating a strong St Dominic's in the final. We are also very proud of last year's captain Annie Stanfield of Killeavy GAC who deservedly received an Ulster Colleges' All Star in 2024.
- ▶ U16 level – this group played in the B competition playing four group games and progressing to the semi final.
- ▶ U14 level – this year the school entered three teams to the competition as there was such a large number of girls wanting to play football for their school. Our first team played in the B competition, our second played in the D competition progressing to the shield semi final and were narrowly defeated by St Cecilia's College Derry. Our third team played a number of blitz competitions throughout the year. Over 100 girls represented St Paul's at this age group.
- ▶ Year 8 – several teams have participated in Blitz Competitions throughout the year.



Annie Stanfield
Ulster Colleges' Football All Star 2024/2025



Gavin O'Rourke
Previous GAA Future Stars Winner 2023/2024

We have many St Paul's girls who have been selected to represent both Armagh and Down in their respective age groups this year. Charlotte Havern received a Queens Future Star All-Star Award. This is a fantastic achievement for a very talented athlete. U16 – this group played in the B competition playing four group games and progressing to the semi final.

Camogie

In recent years, camogie has been firmly reestablished here at St Paul's and we are particularly proud to boast that Caitin Byrne, from Mullaghbawn GAC, was a recipient of an Ulster Colleges' Camogie All Star in 2024.



Photo by Piaras Ó Midheach, used with kind permission of Sportsfile.

Boys' Gaelic Football

The MacRory Cup is the blue-ribbon event of the Danske Bank Ulster Schools sporting calendar for boys. We began competing in this competition in 2013, having won an All Ireland Colleges senior B title and the Danske Bank Ulster Colleges, Mac Larnon cup in 2012 and reached the MacRory Final in our opening year, narrowly beaten by St Pat's Maghera. One of the highlights of boys' football at St Paul's has been the Rannafast Cup win of 2022/2023. St Paul's made history on this occasion by being the first former vocational school to win a senior a colleges' championship in Ulster.

As the boys move through each year, they are entered into a variety of competitions, including:

- Year 8** Joe Canning Cup, Caoimhin Mallon Blitz
- Year 9** Corn Colmcille
- Year 10** Loch an Luir Cup
- Year 11** Treanor Cup/Oisin McGrath Cup/Paddy O'Hara Cup
- Year 12** Rafferty cup
- Year 13/14** MacRory Cup/ Mc Larnon cup (depending upon seeding)

We are also very proud of how many of our current and past pupils go on to play an active role in both their club and county teams and can point to the fact 30% of the Armagh Senior Panel who won the All-Ireland in 2024 are past pupils of St Paul's.

Hurling

St. Paul's Hurling has been building year on year and we now have a strong cohort of committed players in each of our year groups who have made regular occurrences in Ulster Finals this year.

This year we entered teams at:

- ▶ Year 14
- ▶ Year 12
- ▶ Year 11
- ▶ Year 10 – This team won the Corn Bro Mallon Final
- ▶ Year 9

In March 2025 our year 10 hurlers captured the Danske Bank Bro Mallon Ulster Title with a strong showing in each of their games throughout the competition. This group of dedicated young hurlers now take a step up to Leopold Cup hurling in their year 11 hurling campaign which begins this Autumn and we wish them the very best of luck in their endeavours.

A growing number of St Paul's hurlers are now selected across each of the County Under 15, 17 and 20 hurling squads. We are proud of their efforts and look forward to following their progress in the coming months and years.

Soccer at St Paul's

At St. Paul's High School, we are proud to offer an outstanding extra-curricular soccer program for both girls and boys. Our commitment is to develop every player's potential and passion for the game. You will benefit from the guidance of experienced coaches who focus on developing skills, strategy, and teamwork. Whether you're a beginner or an advanced player we currently have teams for all Year Groups in Key Stage 3. We train on our well-maintained fields, equipped with the latest soccer equipment and in partnership with Camlough Rovers FC where we play our home fixtures. You will be afforded the opportunity to represent St. Paul's in local, regional, and national tournaments, showcasing your talent and school spirit. You will enjoy weekly training sessions that enhance physical fitness, build confidence, and create lasting friendships. Our school teams will play in the following competitions in 2025/2026:

- Year 8 Boys** – South Down Cup, Mid Ulster Cup, Co. Down School Blitz
- Year 9 Boys** – South Down Cup, Mid-Ulster Cup
- Year 10 Boys** – South Down Cup, Mid-Ulster Cup, Northern Ireland Schools Cup
- U14 Girls (Years 8, 9 & 10)** – Mid Ulster Cup, Pat Jennings Cup
- Year 9 Mixed Girls' & Boys Team play in the NI Schools Mixed Competition that we won in 2023 and reached the final in 2024.



Athletics at St Paul's

Athletics has become another important part of the extra-curricular sports programme offered by St Paul's. All pupils are given the opportunity to represent the school in a variety of athletic events throughout the year. Cross Country takes preference in term 1 with team members representing the school in the district competition in January. Top achievers qualify for the Ulster Championships later in the year. In the Summer term, pupils experience a range of athletic track and field events during curriculum PE. Those who excel in their specific disciplines compete for St Paul's at regional and provincial level.

Dance at St Paul's

At St. Paul's, dance isn't just an extracurricular activity; it's a vibrant tradition that has thrived for 23 years, marked by numerous victories in both Northern Ireland and Ulster Dance competitions. Our commitment to excellence is epitomised by Isla Byrne, whose talent and dedication earned her a coveted spot on Team Ireland, this year, at the prestigious Dance World Cup in Prague.

In addition to our competitive achievements, St. Paul's boasts a vibrant and inclusive dance community, exemplified by our hugely popular Year 8 lunchtime dance club. Whether they're exploring hip-hop, jazz, or contemporary styles, students in the Year 8 dance club are encouraged to embrace the joy and world of dance at St. Paul's!

Sports Day, each May/June, signals the end of the sporting calendar in St Paul's and is a much anticipated event. This was re-established after Covid 19 and is organised by the PE Department. The April/May PE Scheme of Work involves trials in the various track and field disciplines and Sports Day sees the winners of the trial, in Year 8-10, compete against each other for the big prizes. According to the overall outcomes, a male and female Victor Ludorum in each year group is awarded and is a much sought after accolade.



Aoibhe Hoey (former student and leading lady)



“ My involvement in the musical life of St Paul's began when I joined this school in first year. Following in my sister Cara's footsteps, I joined the Junior Girls' Choir and, subsequently, became a member of the Senior Girls' and Mixed Choirs. I was also a mentor for the Inclusion Choir, where pupils who have mild to moderate barriers to learning perform together. Involvement in choral singing has opened many doors for me throughout my time in St Paul's. I have travelled, twice, to Rome to sing in various basilicas and I have accompanied the Inclusion Choir to London, to celebrate St Brigid's Day in Westminster. Our choirs attend annual feiseanna, including Feis Ceoil, and we also perform at the annual Spring Concert in school. As part of my personal musical development, I attended singing lessons with Fiona Flynn here and studied for my Grade 8 Classical Singing and Grade 8 Musical Theatre exams. However, music in St Paul's is not just about singing and playing instruments. It also transfers to the stage. In 2022, I really enjoyed my musical role as one of the 'Merry Murderesses' in Chicago. Last year, I was privileged to be selected as 'Nancy' in Oliver! This production will be my lasting memory of St Paul's, where I had the opportunity to perform alongside family and friends and where I also made new friends too. The production of Oliver! was the best example of inclusion in action in our school where, regardless of ability, we all were as one and each of us valued the other – no matter what our abilities or roles on the stage were. I would advise any prospective pupils to get involved in music at St Paul's. It will definitely be one of the most rewarding things you will ever do and you will make many new friends in the process. ”

Elen McCabe (former student and leading lady)



“ Whilst doing my A-Level's at St Paul's, I studied Maths, Chemistry and Music. From the very first day, I immersed myself in the vibrant musical life of St Paul's – joining the choir, orchestra, brass ensemble and taking singing lessons with Fiona Flynn. Before coming to St Paul's, I had already commenced trumpet lessons with Naomh Mathers. However, during lockdown, I decided to make good use of my time and took up the French horn to fill a gap in the orchestra. Choosing music as one of my GCSE subjects ignited my passion for the art form. It quickly became my favourite subject and I was thrilled to achieve an A* in it. The curriculum encompasses three key components: Performing, Listening and Appraising and Composition. Through my studies, I discovered a deep love for composition, where I relish the creative freedom to craft my own music from my own ideas. It truly is a rewarding experience. The Music Department at St Paul's feels like one big family, offering something for everyone – whether it's choirs, orchestra, ethnic percussion, brass ensembles or participating in the school's musical productions every two years. I was fortunate enough to be part of two musicals, playing 'Mona' in Chicago and 'Bet' in the most recent production of Oliver! Being involved in music in St Paul's comes with amazing opportunities, like travelling to Rome and performing in stunning basilicas throughout the city. One January, our A Level music class ventured to Liverpool for an unforgettable weekend, where we attended a performance by Liverpool's Philharmonic Orchestra. We had an insightful afternoon with one of the directors of the Philharmonic Hall, who introduced us to various careers paths in music, followed by an exhilarating experience of watching the orchestra rehearse and enjoying a live performance of Beethoven's Symphony No.5 in C minor. The next day, we had the opportunity to appreciate the Beatles Museum. I have built great friendships with teachers within this department, where I have formed some of my closest friendships and made memories that will last a lifetime. ”

Musical Life at St Paul's

The value of music in St Paul's lies in its contribution to the enjoyment and enrichment of our pupils' lives and, indeed, the lives of the wider St Paul's community.

The high-quality music education we offer enables lifelong participation and enjoyment of music, we well as providing the foundations for those who wish to pursue a career in this field. Outside curriculum music, there are ample opportunities for our pupils to contribute to musical life at St Paul's:

- ▶ Junior Girls' Choir
- ▶ Junior Boys' Choir
- ▶ Senior Girls' Choir
- ▶ Senior Mixed Choir
- ▶ Inclusion Choir
- ▶ Orchestra
- ▶ Irish Traditional Group
- ▶ Ethnic Percussion Groups

Our various musical groups participate in various feiseanna and, in recent years, our Senior Mixed Choir have competed in Feis Ceoil. In 2022, we won the ESB School Choir of the Year – the first time in our history.

The annual Spring Concert serves as the highlight of our musical calendar and our various vocal and instrumental ensembles entertain the wider community to a very high standard.

Supporting our Music Department, we have a range of tutors who provide private tuition on site and pupils are encouraged to take their grades in their preferred music discipline.



Dramatical Life at St Paul's

As with our sporting and musical reputations, our footprint on the stage goes beyond the boundaries of South Armagh. In collaboration with our Music Department, St Paul's has a wonderful tradition of producing top class dramatic and musical productions since its inception in 1966.



Since 2006, our musical productions run every two years and are much anticipated inside and outside school.

- 1972 Oh! What a Lovely War
- 1976 H.M.S. Pinafore
- 1979 The Pirates of Penzance
- 1984 Oliver!
- 1991 The Sound of Music
- 2000 Grease
- 2006 Viva Mexico
- 2008 Oklahoma
- 2010 The Fiddler on the Roof
- 2012 Les Misérables
- 2014 The King and I
- 2016 The Sound of Music
- 2018 Beauty and the Beast
- 2022 Chicago
- 2024 Oliver!

We were delighted to stage the crowd-pleasing production of Oliver! forty years after it first graced the St Paul's stage. Indeed, already we are thinking ahead to 2026 for a musical to mark our Diamond Jubilee year.

Beyond these landmark events, our Key Stage 3 pupils access drama classes and there also is a very successful Drama Club after school.



Curriculum Enrichment at St Paul's

At St Paul's, we recognise that learning and personal development is enhanced beyond the curriculum content. To this end, we have a very diverse extra-curricular programme that seeks to meet the needs of all our pupils and ensures they have school memories beyond the classroom.

We encourage pupils to get involved in at least one extra-curricular activity and this serves as an opportunity to make even more new friends.

- ▶ Extra-curricular Activities
- ▶ Sports Clubs (see previous section)
- ▶ Musical Groups (see previous section)
- ▶ Drama Club
- ▶ Rebel Readers
- ▶ Carnegie Shadowing Group
- ▶ Literacy Club
- ▶ Coding Club
- ▶ Science Club
- ▶ Art Club
- ▶ Quiz Team
- ▶ St Vincent de Paul Society
- ▶ Young Enterprise Teams
- ▶ Year 8 Spelling Bee
- ▶ Chess Club
- ▶ Baking Club

We are particularly aware of the need to enrich the curriculum for our Post 16 pupils – beyond the three subjects they have selected for A Level. Some of the opportunities on offer are:

- ▶ Year 8 Mentoring Group
- ▶ Inclusion Choir Mentors
- ▶ RSE Programme
- ▶ Personal Training
- ▶ Financial Management Programme
- ▶ John Paul 2 Award
- ▶ Sports Coaching Team
- ▶ Young Enterprise – Company Programme
- ▶ Sign Language
- ▶ Politics in Action
- ▶ DEN Mentors

- ▶ Nurture Numeracy Support
- ▶ First Aid
- ▶ Public Speaking Workshop
- ▶ Debating Society

We also embrace opportunities for pupils to represent St Paul's and get involved in external competitions, beyond sport, music and drama. These include:

- ▶ Abair Gael-Linn Public Speaking Competition
- ▶ Tráth na gCeist
- ▶ Feiseanna
- ▶ European Day of Languages
- ▶ Francofest
- ▶ Hispanofest
- ▶ Creative Writing Competition
- ▶ Irish News Young Readers
- ▶ CREST STEM Bronze Award
- ▶ BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition
- ▶ All Ireland Concern Debating Championships





Uniform at St Paul's

The St Paul's uniform is designed to be smart, comfortable, affordable and it is readily available in local shops.

Wearing the St Paul's uniform correctly signifies pride in being a pupil of this school and is clearly associated with our high standards and the high expectations we have of all our pupils.

All Pupils

- ▶ School blazer
- ▶ White shirt
- ▶ Tie
- ▶ Black trousers (boys)
- ▶ Grey skirt (girls)
- ▶ Tights (girls)
- ▶ Black socks (boys)
- ▶ Black shoes
- ▶ Jumper (optional)

PE Uniform

- ▶ School crested jersey, half zip, shorts or joggers
- ▶ For Year 8-10 pupils, full PE uniform is to be worn on 'PE day'

St Paul's also operates a pre-loved system each summer and parents are free to take items they may require, free of charge.

Should parents have any concerns regarding uniform, please contact Ms C Fearon (Vice Principal) or Mrs M McMahon (Vice Principal).



Transport and Dining Facilities at St Paul's

St Paul's draws its pupils from our rural catchment area. Many pupils, therefore, travel to school each day by bus.

We have bus boarding bays at the front and side of the building, to accommodate the large numbers of pupils who travel to school via either Translink, EA or private bus companies. The bus bays are clearly marked and supervised by staff, to ensure all pupils safely board their designated bus. For pupils who travel by car, parents are able to use the one way traffic system and leave them at the back of the school.

Our staff works closely with Translink and EA bus inspectors to ensure the safety of all pupils travelling via buses. Strong partnerships allow any issues to be quickly resolved.



Our pupils have access to a modern dining facility during each designated lunch and a wide range of food options are on offer each day. These facilities are also available for pupils who prefer a packed lunch. Picnic tables are also situated in the quad and many pupils enjoy eating lunch here on good weather days. We also have Breakfast Club, open to KS3 pupils, which operates from 8:30am each morning.





Travelling the World with St Paul's

Come to St Paul's and you will see the world! We actively try to enhance the mindset of all our pupils by allowing access to a wide range of educational travel experiences that cater for all age groups and interests.

In Year 8, one of the main highlights is our annual Christmas Panto Trip to the Gaiety Theatre in Dublin. The Christmas Panto 2025 will be Beauty and the Beast and we know it will be an amazing experience. During Year 8, alongside Year 9/10 during Wellbeing Week, our Year 8s also get the opportunity to travel to the annual Balmoral Show. Regardless of coming from a farming background or not, this is a trip all our pupils are keen to attend. Our Year 8 ends with our annual trip to Emerald Park and marks the beginning of the summer holidays.

In Year 9, we offer a very successful Ski Trip to Italy. This is firmly re-established now, since 2017, and we have 78 pupils and staff heading for the Andalo Ski Resort in late January 2026. They will get the opportunity to try a thrilling new sport, as well as sample Italian culture and create memories of a lifetime. As with our Year 8s, Balmoral and Emerald Park remain on the Year 9 trip agenda.

Year 10 marks the end of Key Stage 3 education and, each year, the respective Head of Year 10 organises the Barcelona Trip. Each year, approximately 240 pupils and staff depart for a fun-filled experience. For those who opt not to travel to Barcelona, we have a designated Wellbeing Week. This consists of outdoor trips, sports and hikes. It is much enjoyed by all and is firmly part of our inclusion agenda here at St Paul's.

During Key Stage 4/5, trips tend to be subject linked to enhance the pupils' knowledge of the given subject area – as well as the obvious enjoyment that comes with that.

Language learning, via educational trips, is well catered for in St Paul's. Pupils in Year 8-14 have the opportunity to attend summer colleges in the Donegal Gaeltacht, where they can practise, and expand, their oral Irish – as well as immerse themselves in our culture. French and Spanish language trips rotate on a biennial basis. Last year, our Spanish Department ran a very successful trip to Salamanca for GCSE and A Level pupils of Spanish. Pupils attended language classes in the morning and cultural classes in the afternoon and this firmly benefitted their language skills and contributed towards exam preparation.



Our Art Department organises trips each October/November for pupils of GCSE/AS/A2 Art and Design. They have travelled to Florence, Rome and Paris. This year, Florence was the return destination for inspiration. Museums and iconic sites were visited for research, and enjoyment, purposes. Pupils are afforded the opportunity to gather information that helps inform their final assessed pieces – all of which are displayed at our annual Art Exhibition, each June.

Our Business Studies Department has organised numerous educational trips and, in February 2026, will be making a return visit to the 'Big Apple'. Here, they will follow a tailored programme that will assist in their studies. As well as taking in the sights and sounds of this city, we are delighted that past pupil, Raymie Hanratty, has offered to host a seminar on the challenges he faces in running his highly successful companies.

Our Music and Religion Departments also now work collaboratively in organising a trip to Rome every three years. This caters for our choristers, as well as our A Level pupils of Religion. During this four day trip, visits are made to key cultural sites and various basilicas in Rome, involving choral performances and scripture readings. It is truly an uplifting experience and one which pupils and staff cherish and we look forward to returning here in February 2026.

Linked to music in St Paul's, our Inclusion Choir have also done some globe-trotting! Two years ago saw the first highly successful trip to Lake Garda. This involved substantial fundraising and we are grateful to the local community for their contribution. Travel for the Inclusion Choir continued last year, when they travelled to London. During this trip, the Inclusion Choir performed, at the invitation of past pupil and MP, Conor McGinn, as part of the St Brigid's Day celebrations at Westminster.

The group also attended a Lion King show at the Lyceum Theatre and were thrilled at the sights and sounds. What was special about this adventure was that Inclusion Choir mentors travelled to assist the pupils and ensured that barriers to learning were supported effectively – with kindness, compassion and integrity.

Another branch of the Music Department is our ethnic percussion sections, to include the African and samba drums. Assisted by past pupils now based in NYC, such as Mickey McCreesh and Oliver Boyle, a slot to participate in the NYC St Patrick's Day Parade up Fifth Avenue was secured for March 2025. The experience was incredible for all involved, with many parents also making the trip over and lots of past pupils there to support us. The St Patrick's Day Parade destination is London for March 2026 and plans are already afoot for Chicago for 2027.

After a sojourn, our International Projects has been relaunched for our Post 16 pupils. Options available include:

- ▶ Medjugorje Pilgrimage (July)
- ▶ Kenya Humanitarian Trip (November)





Micheál Kane (Head Boy)

St Malachy's PS Camlough



“Hello, my name is Micheál Kane and I'm one of the Head Boys here at St. Paul's. I have made so many good memories throughout school. However, the highlight for me would probably be going to Barcelona in Year 10. Essentially, this was a holiday with all your friends and no family – who wouldn't like it! In November, I am travelling to Kenya with twenty others in my year group. I am very excited about this opportunity and anticipate it will be something I will remember forever. For my GCSEs I got 2 A* 7As and 1B – which I was very proud of. Currently, I'm studying Maths, Spanish and Professional Business Services because I enjoy them so much and am interested in them. For university, I would like to go to Ulster University to complete a course in Communication, Advertising and Marketing. This is because I love being creative and really getting behind an idea you create, but also because I love talking and sharing opinions. Alternatively, I would like to go to Queen's University and do Business Management or Finance. There are so much great things about St Paul's; however, what I think sets us apart from other schools is the connection that the students have with each other and the connections the students and teachers have. I love going around our Year 14 study talking to everyone as it shows how our school is like a family where everyone is comfortable with each other. Also, the student-teacher relationships are very good. The teachers here are so supportive and do anything to help you and, best of all, they are great craic once you get to know them! I love being involved in the school community, whether that being on the football team or just helping around the school. When I found out that my peers and teachers voted me as Head Boy I was thrilled and couldn't believe it. I act as a representative of the students. I am very approachable, so therefore people come to me with any concerns they may have.”

Áine Hughes (Head Girl)

St Malachy's PS Camlough



“Hello, my name is Áine Hughes and I am one of the Head Girls in St Paul's. I am a proud past pupil of St Malachy's Primary School in Camlough. My favourite memory from Key Stage 3 is Barcelona, as it was one of the best trips I have been on with the school. I made long lasting memories that are still talked about today. In my GCSEs I achieved 1A*, 2As, 5Bs and 2C*. For A levels, I study Professional Business Studies, Religion and Health and Social Care. Business studies is one of my favourite subjects and I also studied it for GCSE as well. I am delighted to have been given the opportunity to travel to New York, in February 2026, as part of my learning for this course. For UCAS I want to apply for two Higher Level Apprenticeships, one in Business and one in Quantity Surveying. Also, I want to apply to the Business Management with placement in Queen and Communication, Advertisement and Marketing in Ulster. I want to apply to a variety of places to keep my options open, but I would put a Higher Level Apprenticeship as my top pick, as it's something I've always wanted to do. It will also allow me to 'earn while I learn'. My favourite thing about St Paul's is the community we have built here and the lifelong friends I have made. St Paul's has given me many opportunities and experiences that have helped me become the person I am today. Being elected by my fellow peers and teachers to be their Head Girl has given me an immense sense of pride. It's something I've always wanted to achieve. I also feel that being elected as Head Girl has given me this new confidence to be committed to my goals and aspirations for my future. I also will endeavour to be the pupil voice and represent my peers to the best of ability.”

Pupil Leadership at St Paul's

We have a strong pupil voice at St Paul's throughout all key stages. We recognise that encouraging leadership roles in school can help our young people gain valuable experience that assists their own personal development and helps prepare them for their future workplace roles.

Examples of pupil voice at St Paul's include the following platforms:

- ▶ Pupil led assemblies
- ▶ Junior Student Council
- ▶ Year 8 Mentor Team
- ▶ Subject Ambassador Team
- ▶ Senior Student Leadership Team

Our pupils are also encouraged to apply for leadership roles outside St Paul's, to include:

- ▶ SSUNI (Secondary School Union of Northern Ireland)
- ▶ Lions Award
- ▶ Rotary Club Award



Spiritual Development at St Paul's

Pope Francis said, 'Education cannot be neutral. It is either positive or negative; either it enriches or it impoverishes; either it enables a person to grow or it lessens, even corrupts him. The mission of schools is to develop a sense of truth, of what is good and beautiful.'

St Paul's is a Catholic school and seeks to live out our Christian values of truth, integrity, compassion and kindness. As a Catholic school, our aim is that all the pupils in our care are nurtured in a lived and living faith. This is reflected in our weekly assemblies and all communication with our pupils and parents. We endeavour to provide spiritual nourishment which is meaningful and prompts our pupils to appreciate what is important in their lives.

We are lucky to have a Chaplain here at St Paul's and Father Seamus White works closely with our Lay Chaplain, and Religion Department, to ensure that the spiritual development of all our pupils is nourished. In line with our school motto, In Caritate Radicati, charity is at the heart of our many enriching activities at St Paul's. Our Pastoral Team actively encourages our pupils to develop their sense of social responsibility and social justice. This leads to our school community supporting many local, national and global causes.

Central to religious life in St Paul's is our beautiful oratory. Mass is celebrated here two mornings a week and is well attended by staff and pupils. This sacred space provides a quiet place for individual prayer and reflection, amidst the hustle and bustle of school life.



Past Pupil Success at St Paul's

A past pupil of Dromintee Primary School, **Maeve McShane** studied Religion, Nutrition and Food Science and Health and Social Care at A Level. She has graduated, from St Mary's University College, Belfast, as a Bachelor of Education in Religious Studies and IT (Post Primary), achieving First Class Honours. Maeve is now teaching in St Paul's.



A past pupil of St. Brigid's PS, Drumilly, **Orlagh McKenna** studied AS Religion and Biology, Chemistry and Maths at A Level. Orlagh has graduated, from Queen's University of Belfast, as a Bachelor of Medicine, Surgery and Obstetrics. She is now a junior doctor in Craigavon Area Hospital.



Past Pupil **Peter Finnegan** at his graduation. Peter is a past pupil of St Malachy's PS, Ballymoyer. Peter studied Double Award Construction and Business Studies for A Level and has graduated from Ulster University as a Bachelor of Science in Building Surveying, with Distinction, and has secured employment with Qestcon Chartered Surveyors in Dungannon.



A past pupil of St. Monnina's PS Cloughoge, **Claire McKevitt** studied Maths, Spanish, Cambridge Business & BTEC Sport at A Level. She has graduated, from Liverpool John Moores University, as a Bachelor of Science in Sport Psychology – with First Class Honours. Claire is in Liverpool to study a Masters in Sport, in LJMU, to continue on the journey of becoming a Sport Psychologist.



A past pupil of Jonesborough Primary School, **Caoimhe Hanrahan** studied Chemistry, Biology and Religion at A Level. She has graduated, from Queen's University of Belfast, as a Master of Pharmacy and has started work locally as a pre-reg pharmacist.



A past pupil of St Joseph's & St James's Poyntzpass, **Ciaran Rafferty** studied Cambridge Technical IT, Cambridge Technical Business Studies and Religion at A Level. He has graduated, from Ulster University, as a Bachelor of Science, with First Class Honours, in Marketing.



A past pupil of Bunscoil an Iúir, **Mairead Campbell** studied Biology, Chemistry and Irish at A Level. She has graduated, from Queen's University of Belfast, as a Bachelor of Dentistry with Distinction. Mairead is working within a foundation dentist post in Manchester.



A past pupil of St Malachy's Primary School, Carnagat, **Conor Cinnamond** did A Levels in Spanish, French and Health & Social Care. He has graduated, from the Queen's University of Belfast, as a Bachelor of Arts, with First Class Honours, in Spanish & International Relations– also achieving a Distinction in Spoken Spanish.



In Partnership with Parents at St Paul's

When you entrust St Paul's with your child, we see that as the beginning of a parent-school partnership where we work together in the nurture and care of your son or daughter in their journey towards becoming young adults.

For this partnership to be meaningful and effective, we provide many opportunities for all parents to become closely involved with their child's education and holistic development.

Working in partnership with all our parents involves the following:

- ▶ P7 to Year 8 Parent Transition Evening (June)
- ▶ Year 8 Mass of Welcome (September)
- ▶ Year 8 Parent Information Evening (September/October)
- ▶ Year 11 & 13 Parent Information Evenings (September/October)
- ▶ Parent-Information Evenings
- ▶ Progress statements twice a year for Year 8-11
- ▶ Progress statements three times a year for Year 12-14
- ▶ Written reports once a year for each year group
- ▶ Annual Reviews for all pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs
- ▶ Target Setting meetings for pupils who are underachieving





Final Word from Chair of Board of Governors

Hello everyone, I hope you have enjoyed reading our prospectus and I'm sure you appreciate the wide range of subjects on offer to suit every student.

However, as a parent and grandparent myself, the choice is more than academic. Here at St Paul's we pride ourselves on our holistic offering, ensuring your choice of school caters for all your child's needs and aspirations.

In choosing St Paul's, we say thank you and look forward to welcoming you in September.

Thank you
God Bless

Eileen Fearon
(Chairperson of the Board of Governors)



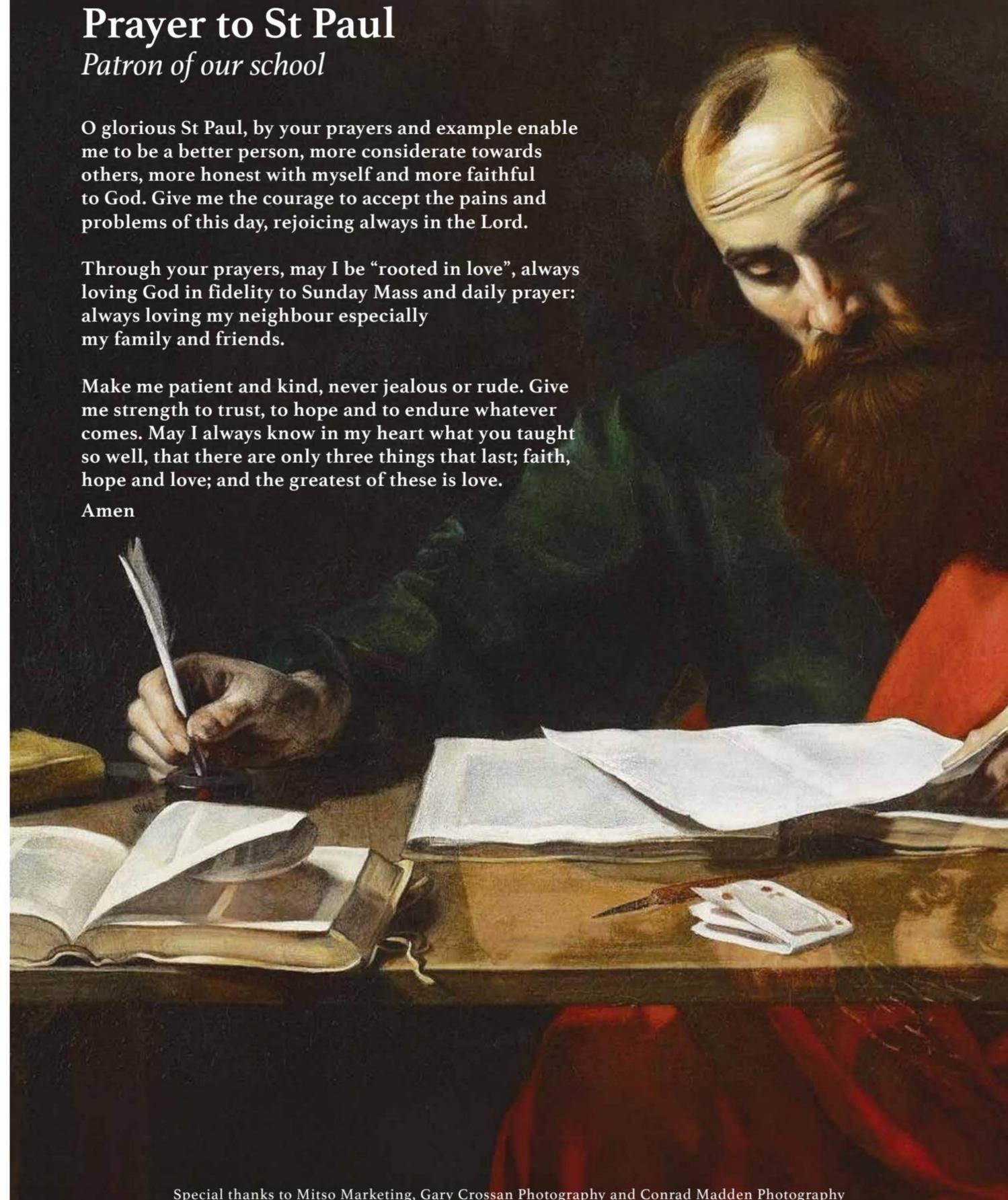
Prayer to St Paul *Patron of our school*

O glorious St Paul, by your prayers and example enable me to be a better person, more considerate towards others, more honest with myself and more faithful to God. Give me the courage to accept the pains and problems of this day, rejoicing always in the Lord.

Through your prayers, may I be "rooted in love", always loving God in fidelity to Sunday Mass and daily prayer: always loving my neighbour especially my family and friends.

Make me patient and kind, never jealous or rude. Give me strength to trust, to hope and to endure whatever comes. May I always know in my heart what you taught so well, that there are only three things that last; faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

Amen





St Paul's High School

ArdSCOIL Naomh Pól

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