



MERCY SECONDARY SCHOOL KILBEGGAN

Do Chumas a Bhaint Amach



SCHOOL PROSPECTUS

WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL

MERCY SECONDARY SCHOOL, KILBEGGAN PROSPECTUS



Welcome to Mercy Secondary School, Kilbeggan. Our school is a co-educational Catholic school operating under the trusteeship of CEIST. We strive to ensure that each and every student is happy in our school, and that everyone is provided with the opportunity to realise their potential in an inclusive, caring and fun environment. All students from our multicultural society are embraced and there is great respect and trust between all members of our extensive school community. Attending school here has been a pleasure. I have made countless memories, developed skills in a variety of areas and formed friendships for life. Throughout the years I have grown as a person and have appreciated all of the opportunities that I have been provided with. In this prospectus we give you an overview of what school life is all about here. If you require further information, please visit our school website or make contact with the school directly. I wish you all the very best and hope that you enjoy your time at Mercy Secondary School, Kilbeggan.

Emily O'Brien, Senior Cycle Student



I would like to welcome all prospective incoming 1st Year students and their parents to Mercy Secondary School, Kilbeggan. Our school is not only a space for education, but a place of friendships, opportunity, respect, generosity and enthusiasm. The atmosphere here is truly unique and everyone plays their part – students, teachers, SNA's, management and other staff. There is that sense of togetherness, that sense of belonging. I have made so many memories throughout the years. I have toured Barcelona, represented the school in both Soccer and Football finals, and experienced academic success in my areas of interest. As my time here is drawing to a close, I am thankful for the Mercy Kilbeggan journey. Your individualised journey at Mercy Secondary School, Kilbeggan awaits you, I have no doubt that you will enjoy it!

Mark Monaghan, Senior Cycle Student

Students described the school as a family and expressed themselves as feeling safe, cared for and happy in the school

Whole School Evaluation Report



JUNIOR STUDENTS EXPERIENCES AT OUR SCHOOL



Lauren Ennis Ballinagore N.S.

I am really enjoying my time at Mercy Kilbeggan and I have made lots of new friends. I settled in quickly which the 6th Year Mentors helped with, and I have had positive experiences in a lot of new subjects. I really enjoy English and Physical Education. I love sport and I am a member of the school Soccer, Camogie, Football and Basketball clubs. Having different teachers for different subjects is great and I have realised how important it is to check my timetable to plan for my hour-long classes.



Sarah Coyne Boher N.S.

Within minutes I knew I was going to enjoy it here. There is a great atmosphere and I have made lots of friends. Mathematics and Engineering are my favourite subjects so far. The fact that you have specialist teachers for each subject is very good and the homework is very manageable. The school shop is very convenient and I use it from time to time. I have joined the girl's Football, Soccer and Basketball teams.



John Maxwell Castletown Geoghegan N.S.

Upon entering secondary school, I immediately liked it. The time flies by during the day and it seems a shorter day than when in primary school. There is always something to do and the school is full of energy. The school is much bigger than what I was used to, but you can quickly find your way around. I have made a lot of new friends. My favourite subjects are Music and Physical Education. I have joined the lunchtime Guitar Club.



Fayanna Foyle Dalystown N.S.

I was the only student from my primary school to go to secondary school in Mercy Kilbeggan. I was able to make new friends straight away and I am really happy coming to school each day. The school is so welcoming. I have really enjoyed Home Economics and Wood Technology so far and I am looking forward to continuing in these subjects. I also enjoy having lunch with my friends and chatting when walking the Wander Loop. I make use of my locker every day to organise my supplies and the days seem to fly by. I have joined up with the Football, Camogie and Rugby teams.



Isabelle Molloy Durrow N.S.

After spending eight years in primary school, I was really looking forward to the new experiences that secondary school would bring. There is so much going on each and every day. You move from class to class and you can get to know different people. I made additional friends very quickly. I really like Home Economics and Business, and I was very thankful for the taster programme wherein I was able to try out subjects before I selected them. My horse and I are part of the Equestrian team and I also attend the Guitar Club. Having a locker is also very handy!



Fergus Tuite Dysart N.S.

I am really enjoying Mercy Kilbeggan. The teachers are always helpful and make their subject interesting. The taster programme in 1st Year is great and it helped me to decide on my favourite subjects. I really like Wood Technology and Physical Education. I am a member of the boys football squad. I like having different teachers for different subjects and moving rooms between classes. I have got to know new people and I look forward to continuing my journey here.



Oisín McRedmond GaelScoil An Eiscir Riada, Tullamore

I have settled in very well within my class group. My favourite subject is Science and I also like Art and Engineering. I order my lunch once a week. There is so much to do here and I have joined several clubs. I am on the school Golf and Pitch & Putt Team, the Basketball Team, the Hurling Team and I am a part of the Trad Group where I play the Accordion. The early finish on Friday is a good reward for working hard throughout the week within your subjects.



Leo Gaynor Horseleap N.S.

I adapted quickly to secondary school life. I was helped by the teachers, the 6th Year mentors and students in my class. Seeing some familiar faces in the early days was brilliant. Having a locker saves me from carrying around items I don't need. There is so much to do here and there is always something to get involved in every week. At lunchtime I shoot hoops with my friends. At the moment I like History and Wood Technology and I have joined the Hurling and Football teams.



Ellen Jo McLoughlin Kilbeggan N.S.

Settling in at Mercy Kilbeggan has been easy as everyone is made feel welcome. Starting new subjects has been fun and I have learned a lot, thanks to all of my teachers. Engineering and Art have really stood out for me so far. The facilities here are brilliant. I play Football, Camogie and Basketball for the school and enjoy trainings and games with my teammates. I also attend the Quiz Club which has been fun. My advice would be to plan in advance using your timetable, that way you will know when and where you need to be and what you will need to have with you.



Rachel Masterson Loughnavalley N.S.

My first impressions of Mercy Kilbeggan have been very positive. There is a wide selection of subjects, activities and sports to choose from. For example, I am now studying French. You will be placed in classes with some of your old friends and you will quickly make some more new friends. I have been elected as a representative on the Student Council, advocating for student interests. I play the piano and am a member of our school Orchestra. Also, it is not that difficult to find your way around after a day or two!



Hugh Egan Rahugh N.S.

There are a lot of differences between primary and secondary school, particularly as my primary school was very small. I have really enjoyed the change. I like that we have different teachers for different subjects throughout the day. We also have lockers to organise our supplies and you can split the day up into chunks. I have got involved in school sport and in other activities. I play Soccer and Football. English, History and Engineering are my favourite subjects. I try to be active at lunch time and use the astro turf and basketball courts.



Lily McDonnell Streamstown N.S.

I am really enjoying my time at Mercy Kilbeggan and I have made lots of new friends in my class. I really enjoy the practical subjects. I also love sport and I am a member of the school Football, Camogie and Basketball teams. The school is full of life and you get to experience all the great things from the very first moment you arrive. The building is very big, but it won't take long for you to familiarise yourself and find your way. Everyone is really helpful.



Diana Martsuk Tullamore Educate Together

More than anything, I have learned that there is no need to worry about moving to secondary school. I came here from primary school with only two others, which was a big change for me. In 1st Year you get to sample different subjects in a taster programme which really helped me to settle in. I got to choose subjects which I enjoyed and felt that I would be good at. Music has been brilliant so far. I have made so many new friends and joining the Choir group and Badminton Club have enabled me to meet people with similar interests. At times, I use the school shop which is well stocked and I can order my lunch should I wish.



Jayden Cunningham Tyrrellspass N.S.

I am glad I have chosen Mercy Kilbeggan. Everybody is friendly and the teachers are really helpful and understanding. In secondary school you have more responsibility and it is important to be organised. There is Google Calendar and an information screen where you can check to plan your weekly activity schedule. I really enjoy History and I am a member of the school football team. The school uniform half-zip is comfortable and I love the early finish on a Friday.

OUR SCHOOL CURRICULUM

MERCY SECONDARY SCHOOL, KILBEGGAN PROSPECTUS

JUNIOR CYCLE

During the first three years, all students are prepared for the JCPA.

Subjects Offered:

- Irish
- English
- Mathematics
- History
- Geography
- French
- German
- Science
- Business Studies
- Music
- Visual Art
- Graphics
- Home Economics
- Religion
- Wood Technology
- Engineering
- Wellbeing:
 - Physical Education
 - SPHE
 - CSPE
 - Digital Awareness

SENIOR CYCLE

Subjects Offered:

- Irish
- English
- Mathematics
- Applied Maths
- History
- Geography
- French
- German
- Accounting
- Business
- Music
- Art, Craft, Design
- Religion
- Agricultural Science
- Physics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Home Economics
- Construction Studies
- Engineering
- Computer Science
- Design & Communication Graphics (DCG)
- Leaving Certificate Physical Education (LCPE)
- Senior Cycle Physical Education (SCPE)
- LCVP

TRANSITION YEAR

Modules Offered:

- Irish Language & Culture
- Classical Studies
- Mathematics
- History
- Geography
- Art, Craft & Design
- Life Skills
- French
- German
- Accounting
- Business/Mini Company
- Physical Education
- Gaisce
- Future Leaders
- First Aid
- Foreign Trip
- Science/Young Scientist
- Computer Studies
- World of Science
- Junk Kouture
- Food Science
- Music/Choir
- Speech & Drama
- Technical Graphics
- Work Experience
- Woodwork
- Metalwork
- Home Economics
- Religion
- Road Safety
- Horticulture
- Careers
- Sign Language
- Wellbeing
- Pastoral Care
- Political Education
- Pilates

The curriculum is both broad and balanced

Whole School Evaluation Report

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES & SPORTS

Our school believes that extra curricular activities and sports are central to each students personal development. Our selection includes:

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Debating
- Public Speaking
- Music Clubs
- Musical Productions
- Talent/Fashion Shows
- Quiz Teams
- Educational Trips
- Adventure Trips
- Foreign Trips
- Student Council
- Book Club
- Academic Competitions
- Gaisce Awards
- Green Schools
- Board Games
- School of Sanctuary



SPORTS

- Gaelic Football
- Hurling
- Camogie
- Soccer
- Basketball
- Rugby
- Badminton
- Lacrosse
- Hockey
- Netball
- Pitch & Putt
- Golf
- Equestrian
- Volleyball
- Athletics
- Tennis
- Water Sports
- Gymnastics
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Table Tennis
- Olympic Handball

There is a commitment to providing a fully rounded educational experience in a caring and supportive environment

Whole School Evaluation Report



LEARNING SUPPORT

Our learning support department is devoted to providing academic assistance to students, when and where necessary, across subject domains. It strives to ensure that each student is provided with the best possible opportunity to achieve at their own respective level. The department has several contributing teachers.

ASGARD

The aim of Asgard is to provide a holistic learning and caring environment which facilitates autistic students to reach their full educational potential. The teachers, support staff and parents are partners in the student's education. We place emphasis in areas of communication, daily living skills, social skills, literacy, numeracy and other areas like Art, History and Geography, where students can excel. Differentiation is an integral part of the learning environment and all students have an Individual Educational Plan. See our website for a virtual tour of Asgard facilities.



'Friendship is not a big thing...it's a million little things'

CAIRDEAS AGUS CINÉALTAS

Friendship and Kindness are two of the fundamental principles that guide the daily workings of our school and indeed the interactions between all those in our wider community. Acknowledging the importance of these ideals, our Transition Year students launched a new mentoring programme wherein they work with younger Asgard students, helping to guide their development while building lasting friendships along the way. The *'Cairdeas agus Cinéaltas'* programme recognises that students learn a great deal simply by observing and interacting with their peers and that the impact of a great mentor can be lifelong. To this end, students and mentors meet across the week throughout the academic year to enjoy mutual hobbies or interests, to help one another in their studies, and to learn many new skills.



SCHOOL LIFE INFORMATION

SCHOOL NUMBERS

Total: 740 Students

BUS ROUTES & TIMES

- Routes, times and tickets organised by Bus Éireann

EVENING STUDY

- Available to all students
- Monday–Thursday 4.00 to 6.00pm, Friday 1.30 to 3.30pm

SCHOOL DAY

- 8.15am** School opens
- 8.55am** Students assemble outside classrooms
- 9.00am** Classes start. There are six one-hour classes each day
- 3.55pm** Classes finish. (Early finish **1.15pm** on Friday)

FREE BOOK SCHEME

School books and core classroom resources provided for all students.

LUNCHTIME ARRANGEMENT

- There is no permission to leave school for the Junior Cycle cohort. Senior Cycle students and students going to their own home are permitted to leave
- Subsidised healthy lunches available in school, order between 8.15am and 8.55am

STUDENT COUNCIL

- Made up of representatives from each year group
- Voice opinions on behalf of student body on matters relating to them
- Fundraise for local and national charities

MENTOR PROGRAMME

- Big Brother / Sister Programme
- 6th Year students assist 1st Year students with transition into Secondary School

SCHOOL UNIFORM

- Smart leisurewear featuring a crested half zip, a crested polo, navy trousers, black shoes and navy crested jacket

SCHOOL SHOP

- A tuck shop with an array of snacks and drinks is available in school at break and lunchtimes

SCHOOL WEBSITE

- For additional information pertinent to school life, visit our website at www.mercykilbeggan.ie



OUR STAFF

MERCY SECONDARY SCHOOL, KILBEGGAN PROSPECTUS

TEACHING STAFF

Muiread Breathnach
Irish, Religion

Adam Bolger
Science, Chemistry, Biology,
Mathematics

Maria Kate Carberry
Mathematics, Music

Richard Carey
Mathematics, Physics

Aida Carroll
Music, French

Emer Clarke
History, Religion, LCVP

Darragh Coffey
Wood Technology,
Construction Studies, Graphics

Mary Conmy
Music, Religion, SPHE

Sarah Corcoran
Irish, German

Mark Corrigan
Engineering, DCG, Graphics

Craig Cox
Construction Studies, Wood
Technology, Graphics

Majella Coyne
Music, French, Asgard Teacher

Caitlin Ní Chuinneagáin
Irish, Geography, SPHE

Niamh Daly
Biology, Science, PE, LCPE

Ryan Delaney
PE, LCPE, Mathematics

Patrick Dempsey
Biology, Ag Science, Science,
Asgard Teacher

Gareth Donnelly
Deputy Principal

Brendan Doyle
Geography, PE, LCPE, Asgard Teacher

Daniel Duffy
English, Geography, Asgard Teacher

Ruth Duignan
German, English

Mark Dunne
Geography, History, CSPE,
Asgard Teacher

Lorna Eagney
Home Economics, Religion,
Asgard Teacher

Conor Egan
PE, LCPE, Mathematics

Maureen Fallon
Geography, History

Garrett Farrell
Principal

Bernadette Gallen
Deputy Principal

Jennifer Grennan
German, Geography

Maria Glynn
English, Irish, CSPE

Gerry Hagan
Geography, Asgard Teacher

Conor Hardiman
Engineering, Graphics

David Hawkins
English, Visual Art, Asgard Teacher

Jamie Hayes
History, Geography, Asgard Teacher

Edward Heery
Mathematics, Applied Mathematics,
Science, Physics

Shauna Heffernan
French, Irish

Karen Hennessy
Irish, Religion

Ellen Henry
Irish, Accounting, Business Studies

Ciarán Henson
Mathematics, Computers, Asgard Teacher

Shaun Horan
Construction Studies, Wood
Technology, Graphics, Asgard Teacher

Edel Kelly
English, Religion, SPHE

Laura Lee
History, Geography, Asgard Teacher

Kevin Leonard
CSPE, Asgard Teacher, Learning
Support

Neasa Lynch
German, Irish

William Lynn
Biology, Science, Mathematics

Cora Macken
Mathematics, Business

Jennifer McArdle
SPHE, Career Guidance

Ciara McElearney
Visual Art, Art, Craft, Design,
Asgard Teacher

Ann Marie McKeon
English, Irish, Learning Support,
Asgard Teacher

Rebecca Moughty
Visual Art, Asgard Class Teacher

Sarah Mulligan
Mathematics, Learning Support

Helena Munnelly
English, French, Asgard Teacher

Sarah Murphy
PE, Mathematics

Jordan Naylor
Asgard Teacher, Learning Support

Samantha Nolan
History, English, Asgard Teacher

Emily O'Brien
Irish, German, English

Darren O'Meara
Business Studies, Business,
Mathematics, Asgard Teacher

Triona O'Rourke
Geography, Computer Science,
Computer Studies

Donnacha Prendergast
English, Religion

Anthony Quinn
Business Studies, Mathematics, CSPE

Sinéad Shortall
English, Learning Support

Eleanor Stenson
Home Economics, SPHE, Career Guidance

Deirdre Walsh
Computer Studies, Learning Support
Asgard Teacher

Carmel Ward
Science, Mathematics, Asgard Teacher

Pearse Weir Norris
Mathematics, Physics

ANCILLARY STAFF

Ann Kiernan Secretary

Donal Fox Caretaker

Louise Whelan Day Cleaner

SNA STAFF

Emma Buckley

Maurice Colton

Dympna Daly

Megan Delaney

Jan Koutsky

Mary McDonnell

Luke McNamee

Damien Minnock

Denise Murray

Ellie Moran

Mary Nolan

Aoife O'Brien

Andrew O'Sullivan

Martha Scally

Aimeé Spollen

SCHOOL FACILITIES

Art Rooms	Fitness Suite	Meditation Room	History Rooms
Computer Rooms	Astro Pitch	Library	Geography Rooms
Multimedia Rooms	Grass Play Area	Science Labs	Business Rooms
DCG Rooms	Outdoor Track	Science Rooms	Mathematics Rooms
Music Room	Outdoor Courts	Woodwork Rooms	Language Rooms
Staff Room	Outdoor Gym	Metalwork Rooms	Learning Support Rooms
Teacher Workroom	Bike Shelter	Preparation Rooms	Meeting Rooms
Dressing Rooms	Asgard Suite	Home Economics Rooms	First Aid Room
Gymnasium	Dining Hall	Career Guidance Room	



CAREER GUIDANCE & COUNSELLING

JUNIOR CYCLE

Our programme begins in First Year. It involves not only the Guidance Counsellor but the Pastoral Care Team, Year Heads and Teachers of Religion and SPHE. Guidance is provided in the following areas:

- Transition from Primary School to Secondary School
- Study Skills
- Working and co-operating with others
- Taking responsibility
- Appreciation of school and for code of discipline
- Self-awareness and aptitude

SENIOR CYCLE

At Senior Cycle our programme is expanded to include:

- Assistance with career/educational planning
- Career options, occupational choice, third level options
- Preparation for and evaluation of work experience in both Transition Year and LCVP
- Personal guidance/counselling

WELLBEING

We promote wellbeing at our school through a wide range of activities and approaches that support the academic, physical, mental, emotional and social development of all our students.

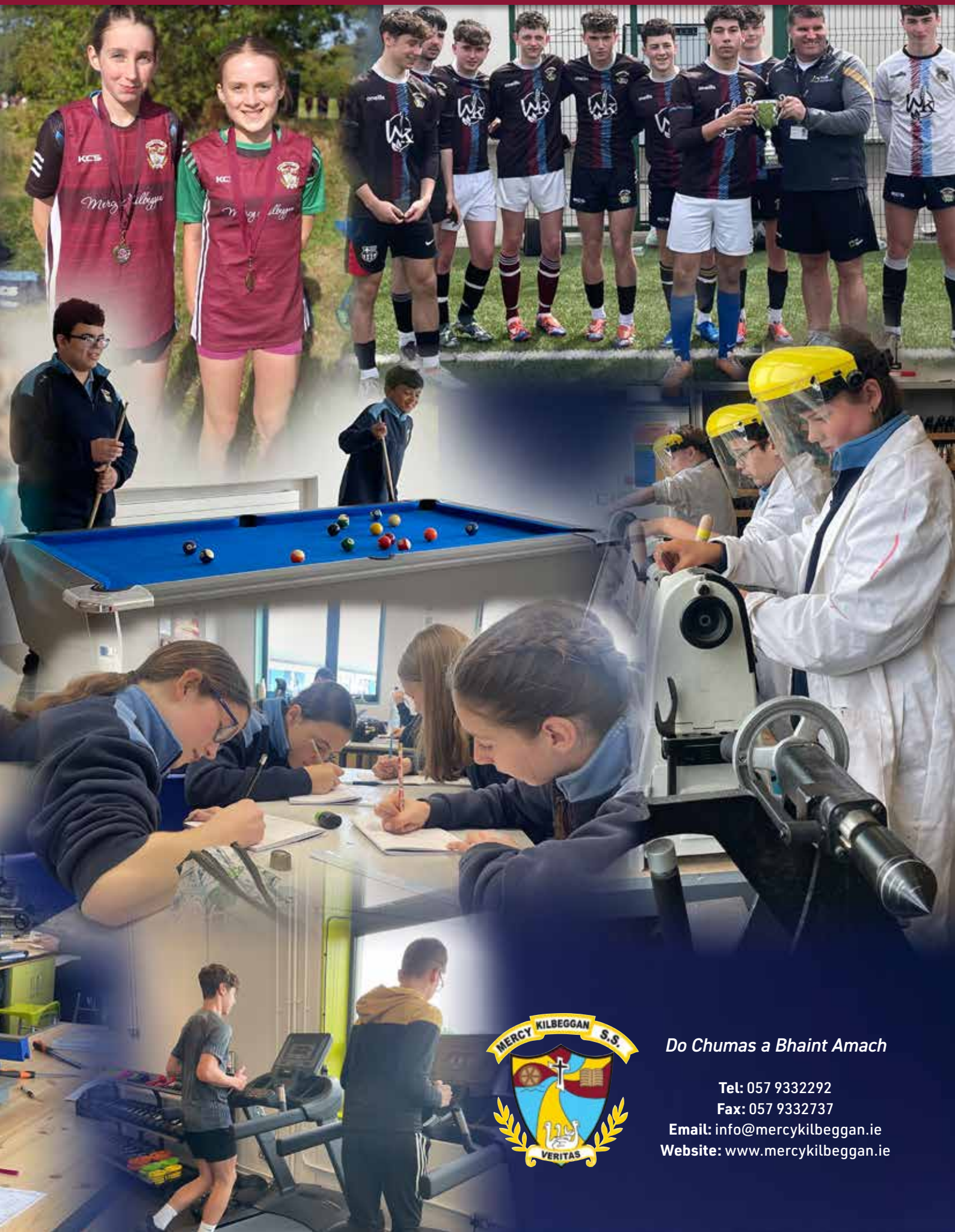
This holistic development of each student is encompassed by the ethos of our school. Moreover, our Transition Year Wellbeing Committee do tremendous work every year in retaining our Amber Flag, in decorating the walls of our school with beautiful and inspirational art pieces and in running awareness activities.



SCHOOL LIFE GALLERY

MERCY SECONDARY SCHOOL, KILBEGGAN PROSPECTUS





Do Chumas a Bhaint Amach

Tel: 057 9332292

Fax: 057 9332737

Email: info@mercykilbeggan.ie

Website: www.mercykilbeggan.ie

MISSION STATEMENT

Mercy Secondary School Kilbeggan is a Catholic co-educational school committed to the holistic education of all students, to ensure that individually, they each realise their full potential in a social and physical environment that is caring, supportive and joyful. We work in partnership with students, staff, parents and the community and welcome all students from our multicultural society.



Scan here to view our website



Mercy Secondary School
Kilbeggan, Co. Westmeath
Tel: 057 9332292
Email: info@mercykilbeggan.ie
Website: www.mercykilbeggan.ie

Principal:
Garrett Farrell
Deputy Principals:
Bernadette Gallen, Gareth Donnelly

