

**Success for All** *Caring and Responsible* **Mutual Respect** *Meeting the needs of the Individual*



**LISNAGARVEY HIGH SCHOOL**





**SUCCESS  
FOR ALL**



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# Principal's Welcome



Dear Parents

Welcome to the Lisnagarvey High School Prospectus. In this booklet you will find information on our school aims and values, our educational provision in its widest sense and our many achievements. Continually, for the past ten years, the school's performance at GCSEs including English and Maths have been in the top tier of the very best secondary schools in Northern Ireland. In both 2019 and 2020, we were placed in the top 5% of secondary schools due to outstanding examination results at GCSE including English and Maths. The 2019 results were the highest ever in the school's history, at GCSE and this level of performance is realised through our values.

Our shared values of mutual respect between staff and pupils, high expectations of success within a caring and supportive environment form the basis of our positive school ethos. Within our wider school community, we promote tolerance and understanding of one another and value diversity.

In ensuring your child is happy and successful at Lisnagarvey, we recognise the importance of strong partnerships with parents. All parents are welcome to contact the school at any time to discuss their child and I can ensure you we have an open policy where parental involvement and support is encouraged.

At Lisnagarvey, we focus on developing the whole child and have a very strong record of sustained academic achievement. The school provides a wide curriculum to meet the range of pupil needs while our programme of extracurricular activities, trips and other events enhance learning and develop a range of skills including team-work, self-confidence and leadership.

Our vision is based on our values, and they underpin all that we do. Lisnagarvey High School is summed up as:

- **Learning which meets the needs of the individual**
- **Happiness based on mutual respect, care and responsibility**
- **Success for all**

Through these values in partnership with parents we have created a caring and stimulating environment in which both students and staff achieve their full potential. Our results are testament to this with the school being in the top category of high performing secondary schools at GCSE and A levels.

Subsequently in the last eight years, the school has been oversubscribed with applications for places.

I personally feel this is due to our partnership with parents and our commitment to educate each child to the same level of service that we would expect and hope for our own sons and daughters.

**Jim Sheerin, Principal**



# General Information

Lisnagarvey High School is a controlled co-educational community high school serving the needs of young people aged 11-18 years, living in the Greater Lisburn Area. The school offers its pupils the most up-to-date facilities for academic, social and recreational development. The school prides itself on working tirelessly with a high level of commitment and expertise to produce an excellent standard of teaching and learning, and a wide range of educational experiences. At Lisnagarvey we value the relationship between home and school and recognise it as the basis for our shared success.

We hope this prospectus provides a flavour of life at Lisnagarvey. We welcome any enquiries and those wishing to visit the school or take a tour of our facilities are invited to telephone for an appointment with our Principal, Mr Jim Sheerin. Although the information contained in this booklet is correct at the time of publication it may be subject to change at a later date.



## Head Boy – Charlie Laird

### What can you remember about starting Lisnagarvey?

When I first walked through the doors of Lisnagarvey High School I felt extremely daunted by how enormous it seemed, in comparison to my primary school. It felt strange going from being the biggest fish in a small pond to being the smallest fish in a huge lake! Despite this, by the time the final bell rang, my worries had left me. I had made some new friends already and the staff had been friendly and kind.

### How did you feel when you found out you had been appointed Head Boy?

When I first found out I was Head Boy I was surprised (and slightly nervous). I quickly realised what a wonderful opportunity it was. I was eager to become more of a team player, grow my leadership skills, improve my confidence and get more involved in school activities.

### What lasting memory will you take away with you at the end of this year?

When leaving Lisnagarvey High School this summer, I will take many fond memories with me. Most of all, I will cherish the friendships and bonds that I have created in my 7 years at the school. I will also never forget the teachers and staff members who have helped me achieve, more than I ever thought I could on that first day in year 8!

### What advice would you give to someone who is considering coming to Lisnagarvey?

Do not scare yourself or get yourself worked up about starting 'big school'! It really isn't as daunting as it may seem, especially at Lisnagarvey High School. All the staff are extremely helpful and friendly. They will make the whole process of transitioning from primary school to secondary school enjoyable, exciting and easy for you!

## Head Girl – Rachel Edgar

### What can you remember about starting Lisnagarvey?

As I was the only one from my Primary School to attend Lisnagarvey, I felt a mixture of nervousness and excitement. However, all those feelings seemed to disappear when I was welcomed by the friendly teachers and the Senior Leadership Team. I was then introduced to my form tutor and form class where I got the opportunity to explore the school grounds, by taking part in fun activities - which not only helped me find my way around the school but was a good way to meet new friends!

### How did you feel when you found out you had been appointed Head Girl?

I was absolutely delighted when I found out I was chosen to be Head Girl. I felt so proud and excited to take on this responsibility in my final year. To be selected as Head Girl is such an honour! Although I worked hard and put in a lot of effort over the years, I am extremely grateful to Mr Sheerin, my teachers and my fellow students for all their support. I hope to inspire young girls to also strive for a leadership role in the school.

### What lasting memory will you take away with you at the end of this year?

It is very difficult to choose just one memory - I have experienced so many great times here! From celebrating Lisnagarvey's 60th Anniversary, attending yearly prize nights (where I was recognised and awarded for my achievements with the Orr Cup and the Technology and Design Cup) and collecting my GCSE/A-level results to starring as the lead role in Lisnagarvey's first ever musical "Grease" and being chosen as Head Girl – it is a struggle to pick just one special moment! I love the feeling of community that we have here in Lisnagarvey. There's much more to our school than just the weekday classes.

### What advice would you give to someone who is considering coming to Lisnagarvey?

The best advice I could give to any new student is to GET INVOLVED! There are so many extra activities and clubs to join that you are sure to find something that suits you. Whether it be joining an extra-curricular activity, volunteering in the school community, or even just putting yourself forward for a school performance – your gifts and talents will never go unnoticed here. When it comes to schoolwork you should always try your best but rest assured that there is a lot of support and encouragement provided by our staff. Lisnagarvey runs after school clubs, Saturday support classes and hothousing (supported revision day before an exam) so that you can reach your full potential in no time. We are one big family here in Lisnagarvey. You will be encouraged to become the very best you that you can be!

Number of pupils enrolled at Lisnagarvey on 01/12/23	635
Number of pupils with a statement of Special Educational Needs	66
Annual Attendance Rate for 2022/2023	87%



## Admissions Criteria

In the event of the school being over-subscribed, pupils will be admitted according to the following criteria:

- A Pupils who have a sibling living at the same address, currently enrolled in Lisnagarvey High School. The term 'sibling' includes adopted/fostered and half-brothers/sisters.
- B Pupils who have previously had a sibling attending Lisnagarvey High School for a period of three consecutive academic years within the last seven years. Name must be indicated on the form.
- C Pupils who have a parent who is employed within the school on a permanent basis, or who is a Governor of the school.
- D Children who, at the date of their application, are the eldest/only child of the family. This must be stated on the Transfer Application. Twins/triplets etc. count as 'joint eldest' where appropriate.
- E In the event of oversubscription, preference will be given to applicants on the basis of the initial letter of their surname (as entered on birth certificate) in the order listed in the 'Parents Guide to the Transfer Process' booklet.





## FAQs

### Will my teachers be strict?

Your teachers won't be strict, they will make your lessons fun and engaging. They will also be firm but fair to make sure that you achieve your very best.

### Will my subjects be difficult?

There may be some subjects that are new to you but your teachers are always here to help. New subjects are exciting challenges, not something to worry about.

### How much homework will I have?

You will get one homework each week from each of your subjects, two from English and Maths. It will take a bit of getting used to but they are well spread across the week to help you manage your time.

### What is lunchtime like?

We have an excellent canteen with a variety of hot food and a sandwich bar where you can choose your own fillings. You will have an account linked to your fingerprint which can be topped up at the payment machines. Of course, you are free to bring your own packed lunch.

### Will I really get out early on a Friday??

Absolutely! We finish every Friday at 1:45pm. This gives you a chance to get your homework done and enjoy your weekend. We also finish slightly earlier on a Wednesday (2:55pm, rather than 3:30pm).

### What if I get lost or have a problem?

We're all pretty friendly here at Lisnagarvey. If you get lost, ask a teacher or an older student and they will point you in the right direction. If you have a problem, talk to any teacher or your sixth form mentor.

## Year 8

We all remember our first day at 'big school.' That feeling of awkwardness, trepidation, fear and panic. We have all been there. Here at Lisnagarvey we will do our very best to smooth the transition and try to alleviate all thoughts of worry and anxiety. Our staff are approachable and friendly. We are all here to help, as we know this can be a daunting experience for some students. We are also fortunate to have older students who are proactive in looking out for their younger colleagues.

**It doesn't take long before our Year 8 students feel at home, and primary school is a distant memory. I can't guarantee there won't be bumps in the road, but rest assured that if a child encounters a problem, they will not be facing it alone. I hope the information on these pages is useful for any prospective Year 8 students and I look forward to welcoming a host of new faces in September.**

*Mr P Barrett, Head of Year 8*

## Year 8 Induction

We understand the emotional and intellectual challenge that the transition from Primary to Secondary School poses for our Year 8 pupils, so a comprehensive Induction Programme is organised to address this. Successful pupils are invited along to Lisnagarvey at the start of June to complete Baseline Tests in Mathematics and English to determine class groups. During this day, pupils also have the opportunity to participate in various other lessons.

In the second phase of induction, Year 8 pupils are brought in earlier than the rest of the school at the end of August. During this time they get to explore the school, meet their teachers and get to know their classmates. This helps students familiarise themselves with school before it gets into full swing, boosting their confidence.

## So what is Year 8 really like?

**Don't just take our word for it, here are some thoughts from a few of our current Year 8 pupils. We have included their former primary schools, so hopefully you can pick out a few familiar faces.**



### Morgan Tate - Maghaberry Primary

On my first day, I felt worried but also excited. I fit in well here and love coming to school now! The best things for me so far have been meeting the teachers and all my new friends. I'm really enjoying cooking in H.E and I love attending Cadets after school.



### Jacob Stewart - Knockmore Primary School

At first, I was very scared. I quickly made a few friends and (now I know all of my classes) I'm really enjoying school! I even like moving around the school to get to different lessons. I especially love practical subjects like H.E, Technology and Science.



### Seth Campbell - Riverdale Primary School

On my first day at Lisnagarvey I was anxious. However, I can tell you now: I love my new teachers, new subjects and new classmates. My 'favourite thing' about Lisnagarvey is EVERYTHING! History and Maths are my favourite subjects. Joining the Cadets has had a huge impact on my school life. I now feel prouder of myself and my confidence has grown.



### Jude Annett - Brownlee Primary School

I remember feeling nervous and a bit confused on my first day. The school was big and I had to get used to walking between lessons. Now I have joined the Combined Cadet Force and I've made so many new friends. One of my favourite things is the great energy of our team on the pitch when we play Rugby. We work together so well!



### Lacy Llewellyn-Jones - Old Warren Primary School

Everything here feels bigger compared to my primary school. I was nervous in the beginning, but the nerves went away when I reconnected with old friends and made some new ones. I love the calm atmosphere in Sewing Club and the excitement of Netball matches. The Fun Run at Stormont was great too - even the teachers were running!



### Lucas Balmer - Ballymacash Primary School

After a couple hours of being at LHS, I felt as if I had been here for years! You really don't need to be frightened about being a year 8 in our school because everyone is nice and helpful. I made so many new friends, very quickly. I love learning Technology and PE is brilliant fun!



### Lily Thompson - Lisburn Central Primary School

By the time I had finished my first week here I had met so many lovely new friends and teachers that all my fears disappeared. I love History and I'm even enjoying Maths more now. The teachers make the lessons fun!



### Mason McFarlane - Largymore Primary School

When I started Year 8 here I felt overwhelmed by the newness of everything - new school, new people, new subjects. However, now I have tons of new friends! My absolute favourite thing is Football. I also like going to the quiet room when I need space and calm.



### Mackenzie Cragg - Tonagh Primary School

When I started in September, I thought I would get lost in this big place... but I now know the school so well that I feel at home. What I enjoy the most is learning in new subjects like Drama. We are even making our own wooden Christmas decorations in Technology!



### Holly Donald - Ballycarrickmaddy Primary School

I met my best friend when I came to Lisnagarvey. Things are different here from how it was at primary school, but that's not a bad thing! There are more subjects, but I love being up on my feet in active Drama and R.E lessons and Google Classroom helps me with homeworks. I am also now Left Wing in afterschool Football!



### Jodie Bell - Killowen Primary School

I couldn't sleep the night before my first day at Lisnagarvey. There were so many things running through my head. Would I make new friends? Would I get lost? Would I do well? The staff are friendly, and the school doesn't feel so big anymore. I'm happy to report that I HAVE new friends and I AM doing well!



### Eva Flannery - Rowandale Integrated Primary School

Thankfully, after feeling very nervous on the first day, I've made lots of new friends. Everyone here is so kind! I love learning about personal story writing in English and I've seen a huge improvement in my sketching and shading in Art lessons. I feel like I can really achieve my best in Lisnagarvey!





# Learning at Lisnagarvey

## Class Structure

One of the core values at the heart of Lisnagarvey High School is **success for all** and from the very first day of Year 8, we aim to prepare our pupils for achievement at GCSE. We use a range of information to place our students into class groups which are designed to meet their academic needs. At Key Stage 3 there is also focused streaming in English and Maths, to ensure that students have the best opportunity for success. A well-developed diagnostic system evaluates those pupils who require special educational support or assistance with their learning.

## Homework

Homework forms an essential part of the teaching and learning process. It helps to reinforce and extend work that has been carried out in class, as well as encouraging the habit of personal, independent study. Homeworks are assigned online via Google Classroom and are submitted online or in person, as appropriate. Teachers will provide a variety of feedback on homework tasks and at times will include pupils in the marking process. Homework is expected to be submitted on time and to a high standard and teachers will take action if a pupil persistently fails to meet expectation.

## Digital Learning

Digital Learning is a valuable way of encouraging student engagement and is embedded across the curriculum, via the Google Classroom platform. We set homeworks via Google Classroom but students can also use it to access classwork materials to assist with learning outside the classroom, revision and to catch up on any missed work. All Year 8 students are trained in the use of Google Classroom in their initial Digital Skills lessons.

## The Classroom Environment

Every pupil at Lisnagarvey has the right to fulfil their academic potential in a protected and safe environment and so we expect the highest standards of self-discipline and motivation. We take a positive approach to behaviour management and in the event of indiscipline, a series of clear sanctions are followed. Where required, pupils will be issued detentions or placed onto a Year Head Monitor. In the event that a pupil is significantly disrupting learning, they will be removed under the 'Time Out' system.

Our Behaviour Management Policies and Strategies are based upon our core school values, and copies are available to anyone on request. The school expects and encourages the co-operation of parents in matters of discipline and policies are sent annually to all parents, for their agreement and signature.



# Curriculum

## Key Stage 3

Pupils study a wide range of subjects as part of a varied and balanced Key Stage 3 curriculum. Literacy, numeracy and ICT are embedded across all subject areas, along with opportunities for pupils to develop their creativity, enquiry and communication skills.

**Art and Design Business Studies Citizenship Digital Skills Drama English Employability Geography History Home Economics ICT Literacy Mathematics Music Physical Education Personal Development Religious Education Science Spanish Technology and Design**

## Key Stage 4

Students in Years 11 and 12 study a number of compulsory subjects, selected to ensure they leave school with key skills and qualifications required for future employment. They are then offered a large number of optional subjects, building their own curriculum, tailor-made to their specific needs.

### Compulsory Subjects

GCSE English (Essential Skills available)  
GCSE Mathematics (Essential Skills available)  
ICT – GCSE or OCN Level 2 Certificate  
Learning for Life and Work (inc. CEIAG)  
Statutory Physical Education  
Statutory Religious Education

### Optional Subjects

Applied Science (OCN)  
Art and Design (GCSE)  
Business and Communication Systems (GCSE)  
Business Services (Occupational Studies)  
Business Studies (GCSE)  
Business Studies (OCR Level 2)  
Carpentry & Joinery (Occupational Studies)  
Child Development (GCSE)  
Childcare (OS)  
Contemporary Cuisine (Occupational Studies)  
Drama (GCSE)  
Engineering (Occupational Studies)  
English Literature (GCSE)  
Food and Nutrition (GCSE)  
Further Mathematics (GCSE)  
Geography (GCSE)

### Optional Subjects

Health and Social Care (BTEC)  
History (GCSE)  
Horticulture (Occupational Studies)  
Music (GCSE)  
Motor Vehicle (Occupational Studies)  
Moving Image Arts (GCSE)  
Performance Skills (QCF)  
Prince's Trust (Level 2 Certificate)  
Public Services (BTEC)  
Religious Studies (GCSE)  
Science – Double Award (GCSE)  
Science – Single Award (GCSE)  
Spanish (GCSE)  
Spanish (OCN)  
Sport (OCN)  
Technology and Design (GCSE)  
Travel and Tourism (BTEC)





# Student Life

## School Council

Lisnagarvey High School Council provides a safe and secure environment where pupils can discuss school issues and talk openly without pressure. Our pupils are at the core of what we do, so it is vital that we involve them in all aspects of school life and in doing so, give them a sense of ownership of their own education.

The role of the School Council is to represent students' views to Senior Leadership in meetings with Dr B McKinstry (Head of KS3). They are a valuable resource working in partnership with the management of the school, to improve the school atmosphere, conditions and facilities, and to generate good relations between students, staff and leadership. A pupil from each Form Class is elected each year to formally represent their peers in school affairs and to make a positive contribution to the life of the school.

**Our School Council is a formal, but fun method of taking our pupils views into account. Their experience as the main users of the school is invaluable. We are keen to listen to their views and concerns, in order to make the school the best it can be.**

Dr B McKinstry - Head of KS3

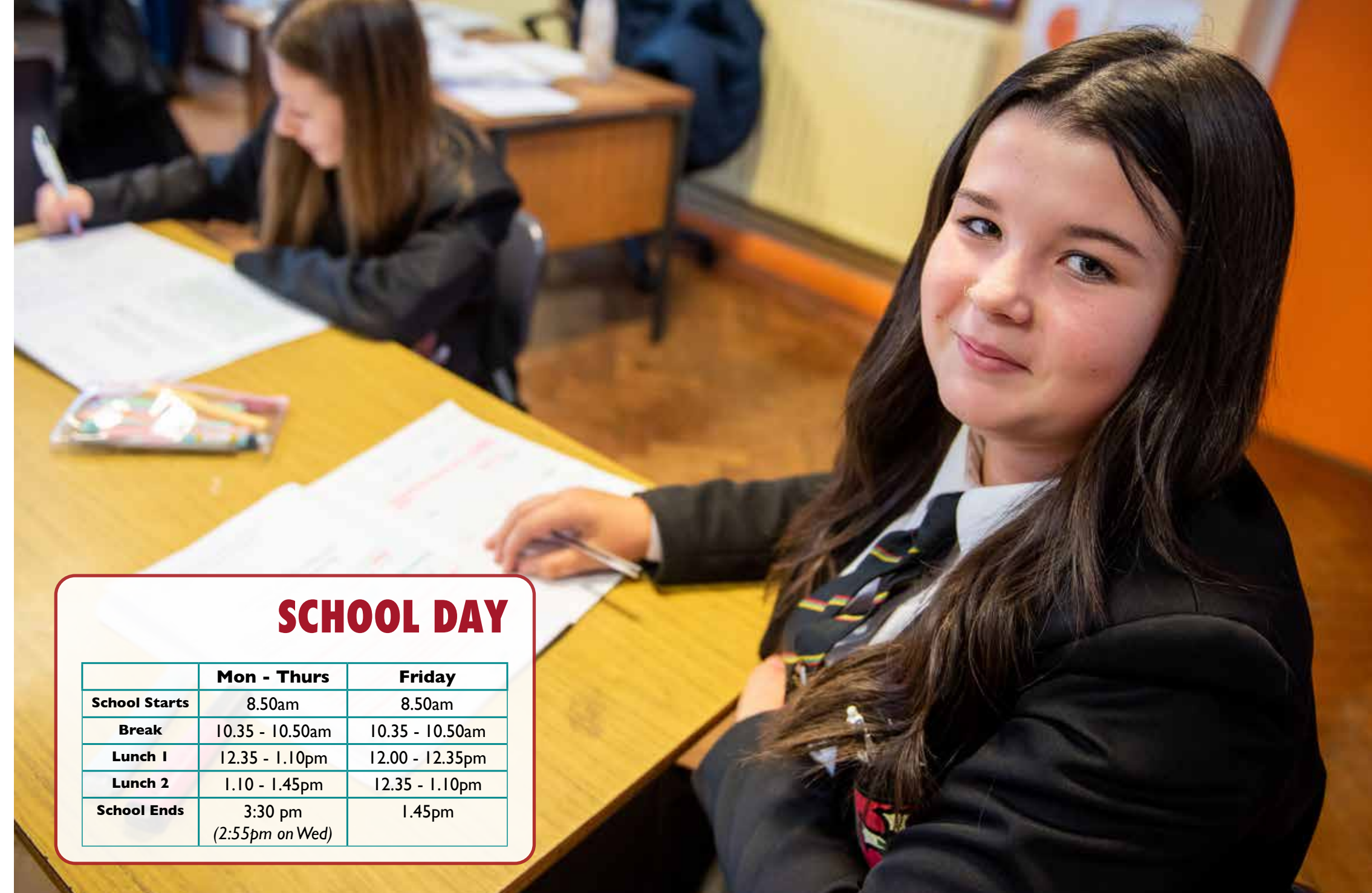
## Anti-Bullying

The staff of Lisnagarvey High School strives to eradicate bullying behaviour in school through the series of anti-bullying initiatives. The clear message in our school is that bullying will NOT be tolerated. We want any pupil who feels threatened to know that they may report their fears in the knowledge that the pupil displaying bullying behaviour will be firmly dealt with.

The school's Anti-Bullying ethos is reinforced throughout the year as the topic is discussed in lessons, at dedicated assemblies and during national Anti-Bullying Week. Every student knows what action to take if they experience bullying behaviour, or witness to a bullying incident and all staff are well trained in dealing with issues swiftly.

Pupils displaying bullying behaviour will be sanctioned for their actions but the main focus of staff is to provide support to all pupils involved in incidents of bullying behaviour. Often, pupils who display bullying behaviours, do so as a response to ongoing issues in their own lives. We support those students, as well as offering security and support to pupils who have experienced such behaviours.

The full Anti-Bullying Policy is available from the school website.



## SCHOOL DAY

	Mon - Thurs	Friday
<b>School Starts</b>	8.50am	8.50am
<b>Break</b>	10.35 - 10.50am	10.35 - 10.50am
<b>Lunch 1</b>	12.35 - 1.10pm	12.00 - 12.35pm
<b>Lunch 2</b>	1.10 - 1.45pm	12.35 - 1.10pm
<b>School Ends</b>	3:30 pm (2:55pm on Wed)	1.45pm





# A Caring Environment

## Pastoral Care

Effective pastoral care is instrumental in the creation of a supportive atmosphere in the school for both pupils and staff. Pastoral Care supports the development of the whole pupil intellectually, spiritually, socially, emotionally and personally. It is the responsibility of all teaching staff and is therefore fully incorporated into the classroom, however each student has specific pastoral teachers responsible for their well-being.

- **Class Tutor** – Class Tutors monitor the progress of all students in their form class, including issues such as attendance and punctuality. The class tutor is the first port of call for any student with an issue or any parent wanting to discuss concerns they may have over their child's progress or well-being.
- **Year Head** - Each Head of Year has extensive experience in the field of guidance and Pastoral Care and takes a keen interest in every student in their designated year group. The Year Head is there as a support for class tutors and to assist in any pastoral concerns that may arise. They also liaise with external agencies to ensure each child is cared for and that their needs are being met.
- **Head of Pastoral Care** - Mrs Knipe co-ordinates pastoral care across the entire school, heading up the many staff who make up the Pastoral Care Team. She provides a source of information and a listening ear for students and staff alike and works alongside the school counsellor, and other external agencies, to ensure every student is supported.

Every teacher has a pastoral role and every contact between teacher and pupil presents an opportunity to develop the caring and learning environment which we seek to provide at Lisnagarvey.

## Child Protection

As a school we are committed to the protection and safeguarding of our student body thus enabling pupils to fulfil their potential in a secure environment. Child Protection is paramount at Lisnagarvey High School and we strive to foster positive relationships between staff and pupils in order to facilitate good levels of communication. Our Child Protection Policy and Procedures ensure that staff listen effectively to pupil concerns and report incidents to the Designated or Deputy Designated Teacher.

**Designated Teacher**

**Mrs G Curran**

**Deputy Designated Teacher**

**Mrs L-A Knipe**

# Special Educational Needs

We have excellent facilities to cater for pupils who have Special Educational Needs (SEN). Such needs may stem from one or more sources: Intellectual, Academic, Learning, Social, Emotional, Behavioural, Medical and Physical Sensory. The modern and engaging SEN Suite consists of a designated area of small rooms suitable for teaching individual pupils, for pupils with medical needs and when pupils need a moment away from the hustle and bustle of school life. The suite also provides a wide variety of teaching materials and dedicated technology in the form of desktop computers, laptops and iPads.

The Special Needs Co-ordinator (Mrs C Campbell) and Deputy (Mrs K Bell) provide direction and training to all of our teachers. All Subject teachers are responsible for the teaching of pupils with special educational needs. Pupils with SEN are placed on the Special Educational Needs Register and will have an Individual Education Plan. Pupils who have a Statement of SEN will have this reviewed annually to ensure the provision is sufficient to meet their needs within mainstream schooling. Our teachers can also avail of the services of a Support Teacher or Classroom Assistant to assist pupils with SEN. Pupils may be withdrawn from class and given targeted literacy, numeracy or curriculum support in an individual or small group situation. To further support any student with additional needs, we can access various EA support services.



# Digital Skills

We are living, learning and working in an increasingly digital world and we believe that it is essential that our students are prepared. We have dedicated one period a week at Key Stage 3 to teach 'Digital Skills'. In this class, students will cover a range of topics and have a safe environment to explore the digital space.

Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
<u>Unit 1 - The Basics</u> Getting to grips with digital learning at Lisnagarvey, including Google Classroom and other resources.	<u>Unit 1 - Digital Citizenship</u> Having a healthy life online, focusing on social media, cyberbullying and screen time.	<u>Unit 1 - Level Up</u> Building upon current basic skills when creating documents and presentations. Introduction of spreadsheets.
<u>Unit 2 - Internet Safety</u> Staying safe online, including issues such as gaming, scams and stranger danger.	<u>Unit 2 - Digital Literacy</u> Managing information online, including proper research and avoiding bias and fake news.	<u>Unit 2 - Careers</u> Exploring career options and support services online in lead up to GCSE choices.
<u>Unit 3 - Skills Application</u> Putting all previous work into practice by completing a variety of curriculum-based tasks.	<u>Unit 3 - Collaborative Project</u> Working together online to create a presentation based on Units 1 & 2.	<u>Unit 3 - Preparing for KS4</u> Focus on skills and issues relating to digital learning at KS4, including referencing, originality and health and wellbeing.







## Partnering With Parents

Here at Lisnagarvey we really value the contribution parents and guardians make to their child's education. Developing and maintaining positive and lasting relationships with our parents is extremely important to us.

### Communication

The school uses the Teachers2Parents text service, enabling staff to contact parents directly via text. This service is used in many ways, for example, to inform parents that their child has performed well in class or has completed necessary coursework. Teachers may also contact parents by phone to discuss progress. Letters and longer announcements are sent home via email.

The school website is an excellent first point of contact, with important information being updated regularly and the school Facebook page is also a great way to keep up to date with school events.

### SIMS Parent App

The SIMS Parent app is a vital tool which allows parents to be kept informed of their child's attendance, achievements, behaviour and progress. The app is also used to share information letters and school reports. Signup information is emailed home before term starts, as part of the parent information pack.

### Google Classroom

Parents can be kept informed of activity on their child's Google Classroom by signing up for Guardian Emails. These daily or weekly emails provide a summary of assignments which have been set, scores which have been returned and class announcements which have been posted. Links are sent to all parents via email, early in Term 1.



### Parents Meetings

Each year, parents will be invited to discuss their child's progress, at a meeting arranged by the relevant Year Head. An afternoon is set aside for each year group, during which teaching staff will be available for short progress meetings.

### Information Sessions

From time-to-time, information sessions will run in order to keep parents informed of significant issues which may affect their child's academic or personal progress. Sessions are also run at the start of each year for parents of senior pupils, to provide information about GCSE and A Level study and give advice on how to support learning at home.

### Representing Parents

There are two parent representatives on the Board of Governors, who are there to represent the entire parental body in key decision-making and important school planning. Our 'Friends of Lisnagarvey' association is also open to any parent who would like to get more involved in the life of the school.

## Music

Music is the heartbeat of any school and we have a thriving musical community at Lisnagarvey High School. Under the direction of the Head of Music, Miss M McKitterick, students enjoy a varied programme of curricular and extra-curricular activities.

### Facilities

The music suite contains a teaching classroom and three dedicated practice rooms. The teaching classroom has a full suite of iMacs, with specialist music software and hardware, as well as class sets of main teaching instruments. Each practice room contains a variety of contemporary instruments with numerous acoustic and electric guitars, electric and standard drum kits, pianos and microphones.

### Choir

The school choir contributes significantly to the life of the school, performing at many school events such as prize day and the school carol service. Our choir also performs in the local community, particularly at Christmas time. There are a number of extremely talented vocalists who have the opportunity to perform solo pieces individually and as part of choral performances. Any student in the school is welcome to come along and give Choir a go, with rehearsals taking place during Wednesday and Thursday lunchtimes.

### Music Tuition

Students across all year groups are offered the chance to receive tuition from school staff or peripatetic music tutors. Tuition is available in the following areas:

- Woodwind (flute, clarinet, saxophone etc)
- Piano
- Guitar and Bass Guitar
- Drum Kit and Percussion

### Friday Club

Friday Club is a time for students of all abilities to come together and perform. The sessions are led by Mr Sheerin and Mr Liddle, focusing on the development of voice, guitar and drums. Pupils suggest songs they would like to learn and work towards performing them in different groups. Their hard work is then showcased in two school concerts, one at Christmas time and the other at the end of Summer Term.







# Preparing for the Future

## Careers Education, Information Advice & Guidance (CEIAG)

CEIAG is embedded across the school curriculum, with the core aim to assist students to acquire the skills, attitudes and abilities to be able to confidently face the challenges of progression into the adult world of work and to meet the needs of employers. In recent years there has been a huge drive in relation to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) as Labour Market Information (LMI) indicates that within such areas lie significant job opportunities, even within the current economic climate.

### CEIAG at Key Stage 3 (Years 8-10)

Pupils are introduced to the concept of planning for their future through participating in a timetabled programme of study entitled 'Education for Employability'. The programme looks at the requirements of individuals and groups in the adult world of work at a local, national, and global level.

Across the three years, students will receive specialist talks and presentations from guest speakers, across a range of industries. They also have the chance to participate in a number of workshops and events based on a variety of skills and careers.

### CEIAG at Key Stage 4 (Years 11-12)

At this stage of their education it is important that all students identify and focus on their strengths in order to be matched against appropriate career paths. Students will have received careers guidance when selecting their subjects and so should have a more narrowed focus on their career options.

In Year 11, each pupil has the opportunity to complete a week-long work experience placement, in a bid to give them experience of their desired career choice.

In Year 12, every student meets with a Careers Guidance Adviser who assists them in making informed choices regarding their future. Pupils also undertake interview training and have the opportunity to participate in a mock interview day, conducted by members of the local business community.



## Citizenship

The very ethos of our school is one of inclusion and mutual respect. Through many Key Stage 3 subjects, pupils study the core themes of Citizenship in an engaging and challenging environment. The core themes of Citizenship are:

- Diversity and Inclusion
- Equality
- Human Rights and Social Responsibility
- Democracy and Active Participation

Across an array of Key Stage 3 lessons, pupils engage with these themes through debates, discussions, role plays and other active learning experiences which help them to consider what it means to be a good citizen at a local and global level.

## Personal Development

Personal Development is at the core of what we do here at Lisnagarvey. Our positive learning environment enables young people to develop self-awareness, understand the importance of individual responsibility and make informed and responsible choices. We link with external agencies to ensure students benefit from a wealth of factual, specialist information on a range of relevant issues.

Key Stage 3 pupils also have a Personal Development lesson each week where they follow the InSync programme. These lessons give pupils the opportunity to explore topics such as managing change, feelings and emotions, self concept and managing influences. Pupils also receive information and guidance on issues such as relationships and sexuality, drugs awareness and managing risk.





# Enriching Learning

At Lisnagarvey we are dedicated to giving our pupils every possible opportunity to develop socially, physically and creatively. We have an extensive range of extra-curricular activities, designed to support learning, develop additional interests and give students an experience to remember.

## Clubs and Societies

**Art Club**  
**Book Club**  
**Choir**  
**Coding Club**  
**Combined Cadet Force**  
**Cookery Club**  
**Crafts Club**  
**Crochet Club**  
**Debate Club**  
**Digital Art Club**  
**Film Skills Club**  
**Gardening Club**  
**Music Clubs (Drums, Guitar, Ukulele, Bass and Band Practice)**  
**Music - Instrumental and Vocal Tuition**  
**Performing Arts Club (coinciding with school productions)**  
**Scripture Union**  
**Young Enterprise**

## Subject Support

**Art – GCSE**  
**Business Studies – GCSE, OCN & A Level**  
**Childcare – OS**  
**Child Development - GCSE**  
**English – KS3, GCSE & Essential Skills**  
**Geography – GCSE**  
**Health & Social Care – BTEC**  
**History – GCSE**  
**ICT – GCSE & A-Level**  
**Life and Health - A Level**  
**Maths – KS3 & GCSE**  
**Moving Image Art - GCSE & A-Level**  
**Music – GCSE**  
**Religious Education - GCSE**  
**Sport Studies – OCN**  
**Science - GCSE**  
**Technology and Design – GCSE**  
**SEN Homework Club**

## Sport

**Archery**  
**Basketball**  
**Football - Boys**  
**Football – Girls**  
**Hockey - Girls**  
**Indoor football**  
**Netball**  
**Running Club**  
**Rugby - Boys & Girls**  
**Volleyball - Boy & Girls**  
**Fitness Club**

# Trips and Visits

Learning outside the classroom is a vital part of our co-curricular activities. Pupils attend various events throughout the year, across a range of subject areas and enjoy various events in school such as author visits and enterprise workshops. There are also numerous trips throughout the year, such as the Year 8 residential visit to Ballykinler, the Geography field visit to Colin Glen and the English trip to Crumlin Road Gaol.

Alongside these visits, there are a number of European trips, including:

- **History Battlefields Tour to Belgium and France – visits to WWI battlefields and recreational visit to Paris.**
- **Geography visit to Naples, Italy – exploration of volcanic and limestone features as well as Italian culture.**
- **Ski trip to Alpe d'Huez, France – six days of ski school and other activities such as skating and bum boarding.**
- **Football tours to Liverpool and Barcelona – including stadium tours and cultural visits.**
- **Business Studies trip to London – visits to important business locations, such as the London Stock Exchange, as well as various tourist attractions.**







## Sport

There is a diverse and exciting sporting programme on offer at Lisnagarvey High School. Pupils enjoy a varied Physical Education curriculum, as well as a rich extra-curricular programme. We are fortunate to have links with local clubs, representing a range of sports, and value the coaches who come into school to share their expertise with our pupils. The school fields sports teams throughout the year that represent the school in various leagues, cups and tournaments, with great levels of achievement. Our football teams are particularly successful, with a number of pupils representing the Lisburn District teams at their respective age groups. The rugby teams have shown great promise with some pupils now showcasing their talent within Instonians and Lisburn Rugby Clubs. We also have pupils who compete in local netball teams, athletics, swimming and dance competitions.

### Physical Education

#### Key Stage 3 Curricular Provision

All pupils in Years 8-10 have one double period and one single period PE class per week. Activities include Netball, Football, Hockey, Rugby, Gymnastics, Basketball, Dance, Swimming, Fitness Training, Volleyball, Athletics, Rounders, Cricket, Handball and Table Tennis.

#### Key Stage 4 Curricular Provision

Students in Years 11 and 12 have one double period of PE per week. As well as team sports, they are given the opportunity to participate in a recreational programme including Volleyball, Table Tennis, Self Defense, Unihoc and Dodge ball. Students also have the option of choosing OCN Sport Studies at KS4.



## Extra-Curricular Sport

There are a wide variety of sports on offer at Lisnagarvey High School. These sessions are open to anyone interested in developing their skills, trying something new or those representing sports teams.

**Mixed**  
**Archery**  
**Strength & Conditioning**  
**Running Club**  
**Table Tennis**  
**Volleyball**

**Boys**  
**Basketball**  
**Football**  
**Rugby**

**Girls**  
**Football**  
**Hockey**  
**Netball**







# Sixth Form

As students approach the end of Key Stage 4, they will undoubtedly be thinking of what their post-16 life holds. At Lisnagarvey High School we strive to give all of our students the very best opportunities for academic success, but also to prepare young people for life beyond A-Levels. Students flourish in our supportive Sixth Form environment and we offer a personalised approach to every student.

## Supported Learning

As an inclusive, caring and child-centred school, Lisnagarvey High School enhances and supports personal, social and academic development of each individual student in all aspects of school life.

All staff play an important role, both within and beyond the classroom, ensuring that all students are given every opportunity to reach their full potential, regardless of ability or background.

An induction programme for Sixth Form students before they begin in September, eases the transition from Year 12 and gives them the opportunity to build new friendships and develop their communication and team-work skills.

This continues through enrichment activities and Class Tutor time. Each student has a class tutor who meets them twice per week and is the first point of contact for parents. The Head of Sixth Form monitors and supports all aspects of student progress and development.

We value the relationship between parents and guardians and encourage both formal and informal contact, should the need arise.

## Sixth Form Committee and Prefects

The Sixth Form Committee plays a key role in Lisnagarvey High School. It is led by Sixth Form students, who have applied to take part and are responsible for helping to organise school events, rewards, charity events and the school formal. The Sixth Form help set the agenda for the meetings and are responsible for the communication of the outcomes to the Principal and Senior Leadership Team.

Prefects are chosen from Sixth Form based on their conduct, work ethic and contribution to school life. Their role supports students and staff, and prefects and play an active role in key events such as Open Evening.

## Careers

Careers Education, Information and Guidance (CEIAG) is a central component throughout all years at Lisnagarvey High School. In Sixth Form students continue to have careers education.

The primary aim in careers is to assist students to know themselves better; to be aware of education, training, labour demands (LMI), career opportunities and to make the transition from school to an ever-changing working economy. Careers Education is embedded in the teaching of every subject.

Careers lessons put great emphasis on getting students prepared for the next stage of their educational journey or the start of their chosen career path. Students receive individual support so they can make the decision that is right for them. All students have a link teacher to assist them with university applications and career interviews take place with the careers staff and the Department for Education Officer.

The Careers Department have good relationships with local Employers, Universities, Further and Higher Education Colleges so that students benefit from expert advice; many visit the school to give presentations which assist the students in making informed decisions for their future.

Students engage in Career Conventions with ambassadors from the world of work and avail of many opportunities to attend annual Open Days in local and national universities. In Year 13, students are able to experience the world of work for one week in a career area that is of interest to them.

## A Level Curriculum

### Pathways - 3 A-Levels

Students who select the 3 A-level route will be able to select from a range of qualifications, including:

- GCE A-Level
- BTEC Level 3 (Single and Double Award)

Students will select one subject from each option block.

### Pathways – Transition

In recent years we have become more aware of students who wish to remain at Lisnagarvey, but feel unable to study three A-Levels.

In order to try and provide such students with progression routes, we offer a one-year course, which includes:

- OCNNI Level 3 Diploma in Employability and Professional Development Skills
- CCEA Level 3 Certificate of Personal Effectiveness
- GCSE English and Mathematics repeat classes
- Participation in an enrichment programme

## Key Stage 5 Curriculum

We are pleased to offer a variety of subjects, including:

- GCE Moving Image Arts
- BTEC Level 3 Business Studies
- BTEC Level 3 Children's Play, Learning and Development (offered in collaboration with SERC)
- GCE Life and Health Sciences
- BTEC Level 3 Information Technology
- BTEC Level 3 Uniformed Protective Services
- BTEC Level 3 Single Award Health and Social Care
- BTEC Level 3 Travel and Tourism
- BTEC Level 3 Double Award Health and Social Care
- BTEC Level 3 Sports Studies
- GCE Maths

## Collaboration

Alongside the variety of subjects on offer at Lisnagarvey High School, students can also avail of collaboration subjects, which are offered in partnership with other schools in the Lisburn Area Learning Community. Participating organisations provide the following subjects:

- Art (Forthill College)
- Digital Technology (Laurelhill Community College)
- English Literature (Laurelhill Community College)
- Engineering (SERC)
- Law (Forthill College)
- Media (St Patrick's)
- Government and Politics (St Colm's)
- History (Laurelhill Community College)
- Hospitality (SERC)
- Performing Arts (Laurelhill Community College)





The school welcomes visits from prospective pupils and their parents. Enquiries should be marked for the attention of 'The Principal' and addressed to:

**Lisnagarvey High School**

**Warren Gardens**

**Lisburn BT28 1HN**

**Telephone: 028 9266 2636**

**Email: [info@lisnagarvey.lisburn.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@lisnagarvey.lisburn.ni.sch.uk)**



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