

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

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, due to exceptionally high exam results over the last eleven years, the school has been oversubscribed for the past nine years. 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 – Thomas Duncan

What can you remember about starting Lisnagarvey?

I can remember feeling both overwhelmed and so excited when I first joined Lisnagarvey. Transitioning from a small school with only eight classrooms to a school with over twenty was a challenging adjustment! However, the amazing support from staff helped me, and many others, to become more accustomed to the environment. Most of all, I was excited to learn about interesting subjects that I hadn't had the opportunity to study (in depth) at primary school (such as technology and history). It was amazing meeting new people, making lasting friendships, and being part of a new community.

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

When I found out that I had been appointed Head Boy, I was over the moon. I was so happy that all the hard work over the years had actually paid off and that I was now part of something so important. I can remember exactly where I was when I received the email. I was on a five-hour coach trip in Scotland! If you ask me, the most difficult thing I've done as Head Boy was trying to contain myself on the coach!

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

A memory that I will take away with me, is being appointed as the Lord Lieutenant's Cadet for County Antrim. This was made possible because I joined Cadets when I came to Lisnagarvey. Along with this, opening my GCSE results letter to see that I had passed my GCSEs is one of my favourite school moments. It proved that all the hard work and dedication had finally paid off, and that I would be going to Sixth Form!

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

One piece of advice I would give to someone thinking about coming to Lisnagarvey is to consider our extra-curricular activities! We have amazing after-school clubs and teams such as archery, football, rugby, singing, and so many more! Two extra-curricular activities that really stand out to me include the school production and Cadets. For as long as I can remember, Lisnagarvey High School has produced some of the best pantos and musicals — our most recent shows include Rock of Ages and Grease. Finally, our Army Combined Cadet Force has been crowned as the best within schools (every year since 2023), and this really sets us apart. Choose Lisnagarvey. Choose success for all!

Head Girl – Katie Crookshanks

What can you remember about starting Lisnagarvey?

When I first started Lisnagarvey, I felt nervous. Everything was new and, as there weren't too many people coming from my primary school, it seemed like I was starting all over again. It took a little time to adapt to my new environment and to the increase in subjects and homework. However, with the help and support of the teachers, who were very welcoming, I began to settle in. There was a wide variety of after-school clubs. Something for everybody. I had an interest in sport from primary school, so I went to netball, hockey, and football, which led to me representing the school in the teams. This gave me confidence and helped me make new friendships.

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

When I was appointed Head Girl, I couldn't quite believe it! Year 8 me would never once have thought I'd have the confidence to apply for the position. However, over the last few years, I have been so supported and encouraged by teachers who believed in me that I now believe in myself. When I got the call to say I had been successful, I was absolutely over the moon and excited for the year ahead. I felt proud that I had pushed myself out of my comfort zone and "gone for it!" I think this proves to any young people thinking of joining the school that there are no limits to what you can achieve. Anything really is possible if you put your mind to it. I believe in the school values and try to embody them.

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

I have lots of great memories from my time at Lisnagarvey, from playing on different sports teams to helping at school events such as discos and open nights. Participating in the Peace Forum Conference was a great honour. I got to represent the school and meet new people from different schools around the country. What stands out above all, is the time I got the opportunity to visit London on our Sixth Form trip. This was such an amazing experience to share with my friends and teachers. It was a great opportunity to travel, see new sights, and gain more independence. If you get this opportunity, I highly recommend it!

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

My advice to anyone considering coming to Lisnagarvey is: GO FOR IT! What I know for certain is that it's a big jump from primary school, and it's normal to feel anxious, but Lisnagarvey is the perfect school to continue your academic journey and be the best you can be. I truly believe that if you work hard and have the desire to learn, there can be "success for all." I would advise anyone joining us to get involved in different activities and clubs around the school. That way, you can find out what you enjoy, build confidence, and make friends along the road. Our school is one big family and, once you step through the front doors, you are instantly part of it!

Number of pupils enrolled at Lisnagarvey on 01/12/25	614
Number of pupils with a statement of Special Educational Needs	71
Annual Attendance Rate for 2024/2025	88%



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 either employed within the school on a permanent basis, or who is a Governor of the school. Employees must have worked in the school for a minimum of one year.
- 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 a five digit number 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.

Year 8 is a time when students really begin to shine; finding their feet, building friendships and growing in confidence each day. We celebrate successes, support one another through challenges and make sure no child ever feels overlooked. Our aim is to make sure every child feels proud to be part of our year group. I hope these pages help you imagine the exciting journey ahead, and I look forward to welcoming our new students into Year 8 this September.

Miss L Sherry, 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.



Sophia Duncan – Ballycarrickmaddy Primary School

When I first walked into the school, I felt very excited but I was nervous too. All the teachers were very welcoming. My favourite thing so far has been meeting new teachers and making new friends. It is so easy to build friendships because everyone in year 8 is looking for a friend!



Samuel Naga – Forthill Integrated Primary School

I felt nervous on my first day but, thanks to my teachers and friends, I was quickly reassured. After the first week I already felt comfortable, like I belonged. I had made really good friends already. If I'm being honest, EVERYTHING has been so good here. I love my teachers, after school clubs and my classes. My absolute favourite thing has been football. Playing matches and representing the school has been amazing.



Daniel Houston – Old Warren Primary School

I was very excited to start Lisnagarvey because my brother was already at the school and I couldn't wait to join the Cadets with him. I was also a bit nervous about the size of the school and about having so many new teachers. My favourite thing so far has been making new friends and learning new things at Cadets. It might seem strict or scary but Cadets is A LOT of fun! I have made lots of new friends and learned about drills, teamwork and discipline.



Caleb Keenan – Old Warren Primary School

When I first walked through the corridors of Lisnagarvey I felt anxious. We were told to go to straight to the assembly hall on the first day. When we got there, there were games and activities set up for us to do (Tug of War and Tag were great). This really helped us get to know each other – it was so much fun that all my nerves went away. My advice would be to join a club. If you like football then you can go to training, it's great!



Malek Abdullah – Lisburn Central Primary School

I was really excited when I first came to Lisnagarvey. It felt really good getting to know new people. I love being able to study so many new subjects! There are also so many after school clubs to choose from. Football is my favourite thing. I have made a lot of new friends at Football Club.



Ella Portis – Tonagh Primary School

When I started secondary school, I was so nervous! I was so worried I wouldn't be able to make friends on my first day. It didn't take me long to realise everyone else felt exactly the same way and that made it so much easier. Making new friends has been the best thing about first year, so far.



Jonah Crothers – Lisburn Central Primary School

Becoming a first year in Lisnagarvey has been fun and interesting. When I first started, I was quite worried about getting lost in such a big school. I was surprised about how I quickly found my way around! I also made friends easily. I have had so many new experiences already. In Home Economics we made apple crumble and we've been building Christmas decorations in Technology and Design class. I have also joined the Scripture Union and the Cadets. There's so much to do here!



Megan Nelson – Old Warren Primary School

It felt strange at the beginning of the year. I thought starting a new school was going to be hard but on my first day I quickly realised I was going to be okay. There were lots of new people to meet, like teachers and classmates. My form teacher made it easy for us to get to know each other. I have really loved doing the Teddy Bear project in Art class. I also joined the netball team and we have already won TWO matches!



Jessica Lindsay – Ballycarrickmaddy Primary School

On my first day, I was so anxious about not being able to make any new friends. However, as soon as I got through the door, I realised all the other girls were feeling exactly the same way as me. I made new friends quickly and they are the best friends I could ever ask for! The building felt HUGE to begin with, because I went to a small primary school in the country, but I found my way around. In English we have been writing letters to pen pals and it's been really fun! The teachers are so kind and fun that I really can't remember what I was worried about.



Will Champion – Magheraberry Primary School

I really enjoyed my first day. I felt confident and excited, it helped that my best friend from primary school came here too. I thought I'd get lost in a bigger school but I found it easy to get around, to be honest. Rugby training is really fun, I'm getting better at playing full back. My favourite thing? That's easy, I love the fact that we get out early on Fridays!



Phoebe Knowles – Old Warren Primary School

The thing I was most worried about, when I started at Lisnagarvey, was having to move from class to class. I wasn't sure how I would find my way around in such a big school. Now I think that's one of the best things about secondary school, it's actually fun! I have made so many new friends already.



Zak Murray – Seymour Hill Primary School

I remember being in the car, pulling up to the school on day one. I was really worried but it didn't take long for me to realise there was nothing to be nervous about. Once I had made it through the door, I felt good. The students and teachers were friendly. So far, my favourite thing has been using things like test tubes and instruments in Science class. Oh, and I love it when we go to the fitness suite for PE.





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)

Computer Aided Design (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 KS4). 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 KS4

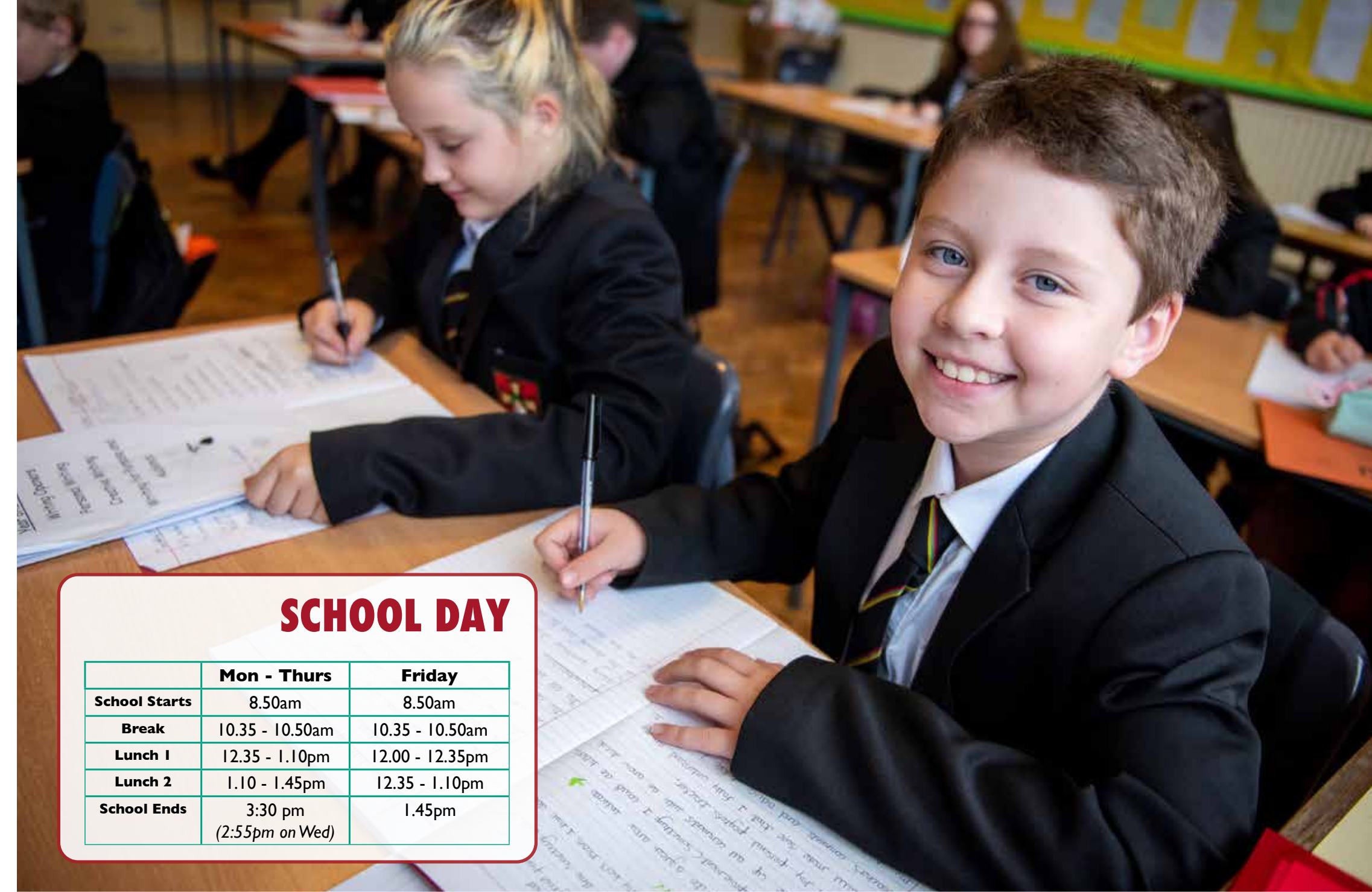
Anti-Bullying

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 behaviour 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, and recording all incidents on BCAFs.

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
School Starts	8.50am	8.50am
Break	10.35 - 10.50am	10.35 - 10.50am
Lunch 1	12.35 - 1.10pm	12.00 - 12.35pm
Lunch 2	1.10 - 1.45pm	12.35 - 1.10pm
School Ends	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.

Safeguarding

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. Safeguarding 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
Safeguarding Team

Mrs G Curran
Mrs G Curran, Mrs L-A Knipe, Mrs L. Smyth Todd

Special Educational Needs

Our Special Educational Department celebrates neurodiversity and is designed to meet the needs of those pupils who, for various reasons, have a Statement of Special Educational Needs, Literacy and Numeracy Difficulties, Behavioural Difficulties, or specific medical needs.

Pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs may receive specialist support, which will be awarded through the Education Authority. This may be in the form of adult assistance, additional teaching or access to ICT etc. At Lisnagarvey we are also able to refer pupils to various EA services, such as Educational Psychology, Autism Advisory Intervention Service, Behaviour Support, Inclusion Service and the Literacy Service.

Within the SEN department, we also offer a variety of tailored intervention programmes to not only help pupils boost their Literacy and Numeracy skills but to develop confidence and raise self-esteem.

We work alongside parents, Classroom Assistants, Subject Teachers, Year Heads and the Pastoral Care and Child Protection teams to ensure that a holistic approach is used to meet the needs of our pupils throughout their learning journey.



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> Internet Safety 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.

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 McKittrick, 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, and pianos.

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
- Ukulele
- 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, Mr Liddle and Mrs 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.



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
Cadets
Careers Support
Choir
Coding Club
Combined Cadet Force
Cookery Club
Crafts Club
Crochet Club
Debate Club
Digital Art Club
Dungeons and Dragons
Film Skills Clubs (Production, SFX)
Gardening Club
Music Clubs (Choir, 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
Carpentry & Joinery - OS
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
Motor Vehicles - OS
Maths – KS3 & GCSE
Moving Image Art - GCSE & A-Level
Music – GCSE
Religious Education - GCSE
Sport Studies – OCN
Science - GCSE & OCN
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
Running Club
Table Tennis

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, the Young Enterprise trip to Bloomfield Trade Fair 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
- GCE Business Studies
- GCE Mathematics
- 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

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 (Fort Hill Integrated College)
- Applied Biology (Laurelhill Community College)
- Digital Technology (Laurelhill Community College)
- English Literature (Laurelhill Community College)
- Children's Play, Learning and Development (SERC)
- Engineering (SERC)
- Law (Fort Hill Integrated College)
- Media (St Patrick's)
- Government and Politics (St Colm's)
- History (Laurelhill Community College)
- Hospitality (SERC)
- Performing Arts (Laurelhill Community College)
- Technology & Design (Forthill Integrated College)
- Religious Studies (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



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www.lisnagarvey.org.uk