



Reports and Meetings

Christmas Report

- Assessment 2— percentage result from each subject including grade for effort and homework

June Report

- Assessment 4—percentage result from each subject together with teacher comments

Meetings

- 1st December 2020- Parent Teacher Meeting

Student Diary

All students are encouraged to be independent learners and use their diary effectively to record all homeworks, attendance, school notices and keep a record of their Standardised Assessment Results. Parents are asked to kindly monitor their daughter's diary and sign it each week. Form Teachers check diaries weekly. Students are expected to record their Personalised Target Percentage for each subject in their diary together with the results of each Standardised Assessments.

Tracking Assessment Key Stage 3									
Grade Boundaries: A = 80% - 100%, B = 65% - 79%, C = 50% - 64%, D = 35% - 49%									
+ = Above Target O = On Target - = Below Target									
Subject	Target Grade	A1 (+O-)	Class A2	A2 (+O-)	Class A3	A3 (+O-)	Class A4	A4 (+O-)	Class A5
Art									
English									
French									
Geography									
History									
Home Econ.									
Maths									
PE									
Music									
RE									
Science									
Technology									

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____ Date _____ Date _____ Date _____ Date _____ Date _____



Homework

Homework is an essential element of learning, it consolidates work that has been undertaken in school and extends knowledge and understanding. Homework encourages students to learn independently, developing important self management skills. Students are expected to record all homework in their diaries and complete it to a high standard. There are a range of types of homework that may be given including: written; reading; learning; research and practical tasks. At least one hour should be spent each evening completing homework.

Meetings with Form Teacher/ Year Tutor

Throughout the year if you would like to talk to your daughter's Year Tutor or Form Teacher kindly ring the school office to organise a meeting.

Attendance

Full attendance at school is essential for success. If your daughter is absent she must give an absent note to her form teacher. The school operates 'Truancy Call', if your daughter is absent from school you will receive a call home. Any student who is late to school must directly report to their Form Teacher. Your daughter's % attendance record at school includes her punctuality each morning. There is a reward system in school where each month students who have full attendance are entered into a draw for vouchers. Parents are asked to kindly keep all medical appointment outside the school day, where possible.

Positive Behaviour

St. Mary's operates a positive behaviour system where pupils receive 'Achievement Points' for working hard and making a positive contribution to the life of the school. Rewards are given to students including: Student of the Month Award, Merit Badges, Praise Postcards and Certificates. Behaviour points are given if a pupil does not follow the school rules. An after-school detention will be issued when 8 Behaviour Points have been given.



ST MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL NEWRY

Year 8 Curriculum Guide



MISSION STATEMENT

Optimum Semper Facere - Always Do One's Best

We will work in collaboration with other educational institutions and in partnership with parents and students to maximise academic and creative potential of students, enabling them to achieve the highest educational standards, thereby enriching their lives the community and the economy.





Key Stage 3 Curriculum

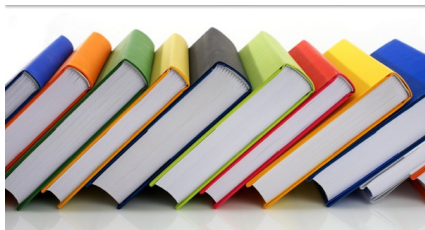
In St. Mary's all students follow the N. Ireland Curriculum. There are three aspects to the curriculum:

1. Areas of Learning (Subjects);
2. Cross Curricular Skills;
3. Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities;

1. Areas of Learning

Your daughter will be studying a range of subjects, some are a continuation from the primary school curriculum, while others are new:

- Art and Design
- Citizenship
- Drama
- Employability
- English
- French
- Geography
- History
- Home Economics
- ICT
- Mathematics
- Music
- Personal Development
- Physical Education
- Religious Education
- Science
- Technology and Design



2. Cross—Curricular Skills

Each of your daughters' subjects develop important cross curricular skills, these skills help her to become an independent, lifelong learner, they include:

- ◆ **Communication**
Development of language skills in all areas of the curriculum and in everyday situations.
- ◆ **Using Mathematics**
Ability to apply knowledge and understanding of Mathematics throughout the curriculum and in everyday life.
- ◆ **Using ICT**
Ability to handle and communicate information, solve problems and ask questions through the effective use of ICT in different contexts.

3. Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities

These skills are developed across all subject areas and are essential for everyday life, education and work, they include:

- ◇ **Managing Information** eg, recording and presenting information.
- ◇ **Thinking, Problem Solving and Decision Making** eg, making connections, generating possible solutions.
- ◇ **Being Creative** eg, experimenting with ideas
- ◇ **Self Management** eg, being aware of personal strengths and interests
- ◇ **Working with Others** eg, group and peer work

Connected Learning Projects

All students complete connected learning projects in Years 8-10 which include a range of subjects. These projects allow students to apply their knowledge and skills across subject areas:

- | | |
|---------|-----------------------|
| Year 8 | Africa School Project |
| Year 9 | Fair Trade |
| Year 10 | China |



St. Mary's—A Rights Respecting School

St. Mary's is a Rights Respecting School. The school puts the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child at the heart of the school, all students learn about the convention and human rights across subject areas.

Assessment

Students undertake a number of assessments throughout the year where progress and attainment are closely monitored. These assessment include;

- Class tests
- Projects and practical work
- Group activities
- Research tasks and reports
- Debates and presentations
- Standardised Assessments

Standardised Assessments

In each subject your daughter will have an individual Personalised Target Percentage. This is based on her attainment in baseline assessment completed at the start of Year 8. She will complete 4 Standardised Assessments in each of her subjects throughout the year, (under exam conditions) and her performance in each is closely benchmarked against her Personalised Target. Assessments will take place during the week ending:

- * Assessment 1—23rd October 2020
- * Assessment 2—11th December 2020
- * Assessment 3- 5th March 2021
- * Assessment 4—18th June 2021



