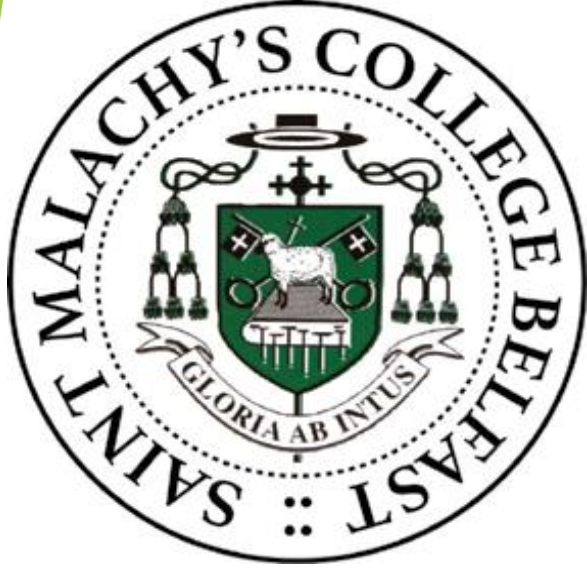




SDP KS3 Update

(August 2025)

Key Messages

- ▶ To reflect on SDP Outcomes and progress made in 2024/25
- ▶ To share next steps 2025/26

Whole School Areas of Focus

- ▶ Raising Standards through High Quality Teaching and Learning
- ▶ Raising Standards through High Quality Pastoral Care
- ▶ Curriculum and Extracurricular Development to include Collaboration and Careers Education
- ▶ Pupil & Staff Development, Accommodation and Resources

Areas of Focus 2023-26

(Raising Standards through High Quality Teaching and Learning)

Smart Target - By June 2026 in all departments there will be a continued focus on improving the quality of provision with emphasis on the areas outlined below

- ▶ Continued focus on Retrieval Practice and Reteaching Material where necessary (Rosenshine)
- ▶ Continue to develop Digital Learning opportunities within and between departments (Extend KS3 Timetable Provision & Collaboration opportunities)
- ▶ Continue to strengthen pupils' employability skills through their subject learning experiences (*Communication/Creativity/Innovation/Entrepreneurship*)
- ▶ Refresh our focus on developing pupils TS & PC (Awareness of, and opportunities to reflect on skills development)
- ▶ KS3 Careers Provision to be reviewed and updated
- ▶ KS3 Preventative Curriculum under review - updated PV Curriculum in place 2025/26
- ▶ Renewed focus on ensuring consistency in the quality of KS3 Assessment Practice and pupil feedback

Progress Made 2024-25

(Raising Standards through High Quality Teaching and Learning)

Smart Target - By June 2026 in all departments there will be a continued focus on improving the quality of provision

Actions

- HODs led their teams focus on these SDP priorities as relevant to individual departmental position
- HOS presented on the new Inspection Model placing it within our College context
- Three HODs presented on approaches to Departmental Self-Evaluation to whole staff
- KS3 Pupils continued to experience lessons in the Digital Hub

Progress Made 2024-25

(Raising Standards through High Quality Teaching and Learning & Curriculum and Extracurricular Development to include Collaboration and Careers Education)

Smart Target - *By June 2025 lessons learned from our focus on Rosenshine's Principles will be used to inform the planning for, and introduction of, a wider framework for teaching and learning within the College*

- ▶ Work of the T & L Group was ongoing throughout the year
- ▶ T& L Group and Colleagues completed work on the College Framework for T&L
- ▶ Whole staff presentation on the Framework in April' 25
- ▶ Three Areas of Focus
 1. Effective Teaching Strategies
 2. Effective Assessment Strategies
 3. Effective Behaviour Management Strategies (inc. College Routines)

Next Steps 2023-26

(Raising Standards through High Quality Teaching and Learning & Curriculum and Extracurricular Development to include Collaboration and Careers Education)

- ▶ *Departments to gauge progress made in 2024/25 and identify actions for 2025/26 in relation to KS3 Curriculum Development (Slide 4 list of areas)*
- ▶ *T& L Group to make use of the new Framework Document to support self-evaluation of T&L experiences within their lessons*
- ▶ *College to meaningfully engage with DE's 'Science of Learning' CPD programme*
- ▶ *KS3 pupils will experience increased allocation of timetabled lessons in the Digital Hub*
- ▶ *To plan for, and trial a Skills Pupil Profile*

KS3 Outcomes (2023-26)

(Raising Standards through High Quality Pastoral Care & Pupil and Staff Development, Accommodation and Resources)

- ▶ The Behaviour Management Policy and Stepped Consequences are fully implemented in an appropriate and consistent manner
- ▶ Implementation of the Positive Behaviour Chart (inc. Rewards) is sustained and further enhanced, as possible
- ▶ The Preventative Curriculum is reviewed and updated to ensure relevant and appropriate educative support to pupils for the issues they may be experiencing inside and outside school
- ▶ The College attendance figures will be in line or exceed the NI average for schools of a similar type
- ▶ The College's approach to Addressing Bullying in school will be compliant with statutory requirements and be reflective of best practice

Progress Made 2024-25

(Raising Standards through High Quality Pastoral Care)

- ▶ Key Target - 'By June 2025 SIMS Behaviour and Intervention Data will evidence a consistent application of the 'Stepped Consequences' demonstrating that Pupils are being positively supported to meet high expectations for behaviour, attitude and attainment, both during and outside of class contact time.'

Progress

- User friendly Behaviour Management Data was disseminated and reviewed on a regular basis by KS3 Pastoral Teams to inform timely interventions (*Lowest level of demerits across the previous 5 years*)
- Consistent use of sanctions as per 'Stepped Consequences'
- Behaviour and Intervention Data continued to be shared with Parents/Carers via Parent app
- Targeted support for individual KS3 pupils to support their progress
- Rewarding Pupil Achievement/Embedding Implementation of 'Positive Behaviour Chart' (*Tutor/HOY and HOS Awards, alongside Year Group Reward Trips maintained - Junior Prizegiving Ceremony embedded*)
- *Work completed to review and update our Preventative Curriculum*

Progress Made 2024-25

(Pupil Leadership)

- ▶ Year 10 members of the Student Council delivered an assembly to all KS3 Year Groups on the 2025 Children's Mental Health week theme, 'Know Yourself Grow Yourself' (Term 2)
- ▶ KS3 Pupils involved in collection of food for North Belfast Foodbank Dec'24 as part of College community outreach program - 600kg of food collected for most vulnerable in our local community
- ▶ KS3 pupils benefited from a series of activities led by the Year 13 Service Leadership Project - Year 9 Addressing Bullying Event - Year 8 Football Blitz - Year 13 Peer Mentoring Program - Year 9 Water Games Trocaire Fundraiser - PLC Breakfast Club

KS3 Next Steps 2023-26

(Raising Standards through High Quality Pastoral Care & Pupil and Staff Development, Accommodation and Resources)

- ▶ Maintain successful implementation of the College's Positive Behaviour Management Policy through consistent application of 'Stepped Consequences'
- Continue to implement recommendations from Attendance Policy Working Group (*Pupil Attendance Role and Responsibilities Appendix 4/ Attendance Tier System*)
- *KS3 Pastoral Team to work with Support Staff to further refine our approach to managing attendance*
- *All staff to complete Level 1 ABSIT Training*
- ▶ Introduce our refreshed KS3 Pastoral Programme to ensure relevance, age appropriate and progression and extend work into other Key Stages
- ▶ Continue to embed Positive Behaviour Chart
- ▶ Continue to embed the role of the KS3 Student Council Sub-Committee
- ▶ HOS/HOY to regularly link with their Prefect counterparts to oversee the development of the Prefect Leadership role and provide support and guidance
- ▶ Continue with our Renewal of focus on the five principles of our Catholic Ethos

Welcome

Head of Year 8



Ms Keelan:
jkeelan622@c2ken.net

Hello parents and carers. I am delighted to welcome you all to our virtual information session this afternoon.



Here at St. Malachy's we pride ourselves on creating an effective communication network between school and home, helping to build a rapport with parents/carers and the wider College community

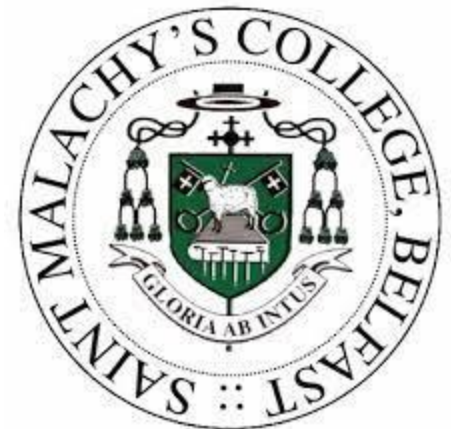
- To forge excellent home / school links from the outset and establish Head of Year / Tutor / Parent links
- To help us understand the transitional demands of the pupils
- To help your child achieve his very best by becoming involved in our school community
- To give an insight into the possible changes we all may experience in the first term of the academic school year for 2025/2026
- To help you prepare for the start of your son's first year at St. Malachy's
- To familiarise yourself with blended learning (in-class and use of googleclassroom, googlemeet and googledrive) at the College
- To champion Health & Wellbeing and to maximise boys' potential

**Our aims
for 2025**

Year 8 Form Tutors

- **8A: Mr McGinn:** cmcginn681@c2ken.net
- **8B: Miss Walls:** jwalls509@c2ken.net
- **8C: Ms O'Reilly:** soreilly802@c2ken.net
- **8D: Miss McVeigh:** jmcveigh348@c2ken.net
- **8E: Mr O'Neill:** eoneill905@c2ken.net
- **8F: Ms Evans/ Mr Linden:** cevens843@c2ken.net

mlinden288@c2ken.net



The role of the tutor

- First point of contact
- AM and PM Registration
- Appointments/ absences should be communicated to the tutor
- Delivering pastoral programme through tutorial and enrichment periods
- Mentoring of pupils
- Monitoring behaviour
- Integral role in the transition process



New Routines

This is a brand new experience for our Year 8s as they navigate new friendships, new locations, new subjects and a wealth of new teachers.

- Your son's form teacher and Head of Year will continue to check in with them throughout this transition process to ensure they are settling in

What you can do

- ✓ Check in with your son at least once a week
- ✓ Help your son pack his bag the night before school
- ✓ Check your son's homework diary to ensure all homework is completed
- ✓ If your son does not understand any homework ensure he attempts it and then send in a letter to the class teacher. If homework is not attempted it will be classed as a 'no homework'
- ✓ If your son has no written homework ensure he uses the time for revision/ recapping
- ✓ 1.5 hours of homework a night
- ✓ Discuss merits/ demerits with your son - notifications through parentapp

The School Day

Time (8.40am Entrance AI)	Period
9:00 - 9:10am	AM Registration
9:10 - 10:00am	Period 1
10:00 - 10:50am	Period 2
10:50 - 11:10am	Break
11:10 - 12:00pm	Period 3
12:00 - 12:50pm	Period 4
12:40 - 1:30pm	12:50 - 1:30pm Late Lunch (KS3)
1:30 - 1:40pm <i>Followed by 5 min movement</i>	PM Registration
1:45 - 2:35pm	Period 5
2:35 - 3:25pm	Period 6

Important information

- Pupils are not permitted on site before 8.30am
- Pupils enter via the main gate
- AM Registration starts at 9am
- If your child is late (any time after 9am) they must sign in at student reception – please note 5 lates without a valid reason will result in a detention
- Pupils can use the canteen before registration



Uniform

The College uniform consists of:

SHIRT:

White regulation shirt (no coloured/patterned T-shirts should be worn underneath.) Shirts MUST NOT be worn "out" i.e. over the trousers.

TIE:

College Tie only.

PULLOVER:

If a pullover is worn, it must be a College pullover. (Sixth Form students may wear a plain black V-neck pullover but the College tie must be seen.)

BLAZER:

Black with the College badge.
Must be worn to and from school and when moving around the College.

TROUSERS:

Black regulation school trousers.
(Chinos, denims, etc. are not permitted.)

SOCKS:

Plain black socks. (Light coloured or patterned socks are not permitted.)

SCARF:

If a scarf is worn, it must be a College scarf.

SHOES

Plain black school shoes.
(Boots- including Doc Marten style boots or shoes, trainers, trainer-style shoes, canvas or suede shoes are not permitted.)

HAIR:

Style to be acceptable in the judgement of the College authorities; neat; clean. (Styles not acceptable include: longer than collar length; no shorter than a No2 cut; too long at the front; spiked; dyed etc.)
Hair longer than collar-length is not acceptable, even if

tied back or up in any way.

Students must also be clean shaven. Sixth form students who present unshaven will be asked to go home to shave. If suitable transport is not available, students will work under supervision in the Sixth Form Centre.

Students with inappropriate haircuts will be referred to the Head of Year who will contact parents, a Saturday Detention will be issued. For a very extreme haircut or a second offence of inappropriate haircut, an extended Saturday DT will be issued by the VP. Parents will be informed and work will be provided.

Persistent offences will be regarded as a major breach of College discipline and will incur an official suspension.

JEWELLERY:

Jewellery must not be worn - this includes any type of earring or facial piercing.

SCHOOLBAGS:

Must be waterproof and strong, suitable for the carrying and protection of books. There must be no graffiti of any kind on schoolbags.

OUTDOOR WEAR:

The official College Overcoat which is plain, black and longer than blazer length is compulsory. Students may only wear the official College Overcoat. To ensure Road Safety, it is recommended that students wear reflectors such as armbands or attached to schoolbags when travelling to and from the College.

N.B. All items of clothing, sportswear and personal property must be marked clearly with the owner's name and class.

- Regulation school shoes
- Black socks
- Hair no less than a no.2 (immediate Saturday Detention)
- Hair cannot be longer than shoulder length
- No jewellery
- Blazer must be worn to/ from school and to/ from class

Making Year 8 a positive experience

- Good communication links between school and home
- Create a sense of partnership - enrichment
- Healthy communication between students and parents at home
- Make full use of our Pastoral team
- Contact the College if there are any serious Safeguarding or Child Protection issues. These will be dealt with by our experienced team (Further details will be provided in our Welcome Booklet)
- If there are any personal or work related issues throughout the year, please let us know

At St. Malachy's we have an "Excellent" pastoral care status (ETI). Creating and maintaining open and extensive communication pathways are crucial aspects for this.

Parent App

- We communicate to parents via parentapp
- You will receive permission slips, reports, merit and demerit information via parentapp
- For the start of Year 8 any key information will be emailed: First enrichment activity 9th September Hip Psychology/ Translink Safety Bus 11th September



SIMS parent can also be accessed using:
www.sims-parent.co.uk

Watsap

- **Class Watsap groups are prohibited in the College**
- **Please ensure you discuss with your son how to conduct himself online**
- **Once a comment is made over social media the impact can be extremely serious**
- **No sharing of inappropriate images**
- **No sharing of images of boys in uniform**
- **Phones should not be on in school**



Services	What it does	Where to find it from outside school
 Office 365  Outlook	Access to Office 365 tools and services for online collaboration and productivity including: • Outlook Email • Teams • One Drive • One Note • Word • Excel • PowerPoint	www.c2kschools.net Alternatively, sign into the mobile app with your C2k username (auser123@c2ken.net)
 G Suite  Classroom	Access to G Suite tools and services for online collaboration and productivity including: • Classroom • Drive • Docs • Sheets • Slides	www.c2kschools.net then View All > G Suite for Education Alternatively, sign in to the mobile app with your C2k username (auser123@c2ken.net)

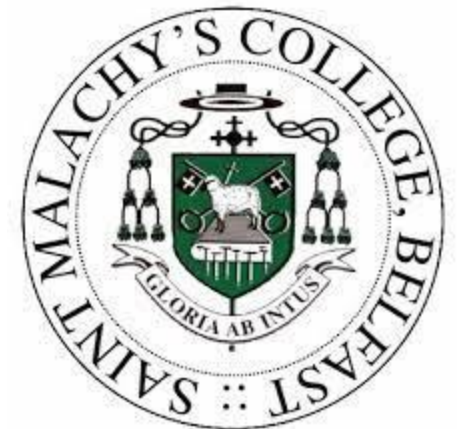
Baseline Testing

Conducted within the first few weeks of term

- CAT 4: measuring ability
- PIE: progress in English
- PIM: progress in Maths

This information is not communicated with the boys or home. It is used only by class teachers to help inform their teaching

No preparation is required!



Positive Behaviour Policy

- Outlines the rewards, sanctions and the pathways to Merits and Demerits, Man of the Month, Head of Year awards
- Outlines the associated interventions, stepped consequences and positive rewards
- Provides pupils with a clear insight into the consequences of their actions and inactions
- Discuss all aspects of the policy with your son to ensure success
- We respect the rights of every individual in the College and do not tolerate any derogatory language
- We have a 'zero tolerance' policy to physical violence and all parties involved in such instances will be issued with a suspension
- School policies are available to download from the College website
- Anti-bullying policy is summarised in your son's homework diary – all students have a responsibility to respect the rights of every individual
- All policies are available online and will be emailed to parents



Positive Behaviour Policy

- Merits and demerits will be communicated to you via parentapp
- A 'red flag discussion' means a teacher has had a conversation with your son regarding work or behaviour but has not issued a demerit (first warning)
- A 'pastoral discussion' or 'mentoring session' means a member of staff has had a pastoral chat with your son
- You receive this information so that you can have an informed discussion with your son
- Your sons form teacher will monitor merits/ demerits and contact you if necessary
- Class teachers are not available to discuss reasons for demerits



Using mobile phones in Year 8

- Your son may bring a mobile phone to school but it must be switched off
- It must remain switched off during break and lunch
- A mobile phone can only be turned on if a class teacher requires it for a lesson
- The phone must be completely switched off after this
- Failure to comply may result in demerits for 'mobile misuse' or confiscation by Head of Year
- Your son must not use his phone to contact you if he feels unwell - he must go to his form teacher, class teacher or matron



Pitch contract

If your son would like to play on the 4G pitch at break or lunch he must sign a contract

By signing this contract your son is agreeing to wearing the correct shoes on the pitch, respectful behaviour to all supervision staff and no slide tackling throughout play

If any of these conditions are broken it could result in your son being suspending from using the pitch for a period of time



College drugs policy

- Smoking (including chemical/ electronic cigarettes) is forbidden.
- Pupils cannot bring this any such materials on site
- Vaping or possession of a vape will incur sanctions
- If a pupils is with a group of boys who are vaping they may be issued a sanction



Chewing Gum

- Chewing Gum is banned within the College
- If a pupil is found with chewing gum this may result in a sanction
- A significant investment has been put into cleaning the site over the Halloween break



Child Protection

- Our Child protection policy is accessible online
- Details of the school safeguarding team are displayed around the college, in your sons homework diary and are communicated to your son on their induction days
- Information on how to report a concern is contained in the policy



Pastoral Programme

Our year 8 pupils follow a pastoral programme in line with the preventative curriculum

- Tutorial period (with tutor) once every 2 weeks
- Enrichment period (involving the full year group and outside speakers) once every 2 weeks

We strive to educate our boys on the main issues and challenges they will face over the next few years and equip them with the understanding and skills to succeed

- Settling in/ friendships/ Positive Masculinity
- Preparing for examinations
- Mental health and resilience – The Happiness Programme
- Goal setting
- Becoming a digital citizen - e-safety

The 5 Pillars of our College Ethos

The 5 pillars of our ethos are embedded into our pastoral programme

- September: Welcoming and Inclusive
- October/ November: Reflective and Worshipping
- January: Life-affirming
- February: Person Centered
- March/ April: Gospel inspired



Extracurricular Activities

- Basketball
- Running Club
- Folk, Chamber & Junior Choirs
- Year 8 Mass Vocal & Instrumental Groups
- Spanish Club
- Soccer
- Chess Club
- Brass Group
- Gaelic
- Visual Arts Club
- Rugby
- Homework Club
- Irish Club
- Drama Club
- Junior Strings
- Animation Club
- French Club
- Science Club
- French Film Club
- History Club
- Debating Society
- Clarinet/Sax Ensemble
- Hurling Club
- Zoology Club
- Jazz Band
- Junior Irish Trad Group
- Junior Maths Support
- Flute Ensemble



**Your son will
find something
to suit them**



Contact Information

Please ensure that you regularly update us if any contact address, phone numbers, or family circumstances change

- Website: www.stmalachyscollege.com
- Facebook: St. Malachy's College - @stmalachyscollege
- Twitter: @St_Malachys
- Instagram: @stmalachys

