

St. Gerard's Senior School

2026 - 2027

The background of the lower half of the cover features a photograph of a modern school building with large glass windows and a set of stairs leading to the entrance. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. A white curved line separates this section from the top half of the cover.

NEW PARENT / GUARDIAN INFORMATION HANDBOOK



ST. GERARD'S SCHOOL ~ MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

St. Gerard's is a lay Catholic, co-educational school founded in 1918 by John James. John James was a man of faith and his philosophy of education emphasised the dignity of each individual and the development of the whole person. Grounded in these principles, St. Gerard's has developed into the vibrant School which it is today - educating pupils from Montessori to Leaving Certificate. The School motto "Memor" - to be mindful - encourages each person in our School community to strive for excellence in all endeavours.

MISSION

St. Gerard's School seeks to enable each young person to realise their full potential as a unique individual by providing an educational environment which:

- Promotes academic excellence through the provision of a broad and dynamic curriculum.
- Instils a love of learning and an appreciation and enthusiasm for the world beyond the classroom - in particular promoting excellence in sport, music and the performing and visual arts.
- Sustains a happy, secure and encouraging environment in which all members of the school community flourish and are nurtured and valued.
- Supports pupils in Catholic faith formation while welcoming pupils of other faiths and none.
- Fosters Christian values of kindness, honesty, integrity, self-discipline and self-esteem as well as positive relationships characterised by dignity, respect, equality and care and concern for others.
- Encourages a keen sense of social awareness and sustainable care for the environment.

Overall, St. Gerard's School seeks to develop educated, resilient, thinking and caring individuals with the self-confidence to act and make decisions which will enrich their lives and contribute to the lives of others.

VISION

In a rapidly changing, diverse, and multi-cultural society, St. Gerard's will :

- Remain at the forefront of international best practice in education from early childhood to Leaving Certificate by adopting a dynamic and innovative approach.
- Be at the cutting edge of co-educational, holistic, inclusive and Catholic educational thought and practice.
- Demonstrate commitment to social justice as a faith-based School.
- Equip and empower young people to become innovators, leaders, advocates, critical thinkers and compassionate citizens of the world.

CORE VALUES

- **Commitment to Academic Excellence** - a culture of achievement, in an inclusive educational environment.
- **Commitment to Holistic, All-round Development** - a balanced and broad curriculum which supports each student to reach their full potential.
- **A Caring, Inclusive Catholic Education** - which encompasses faith formation, respect for diversity and a commitment to social justice.
- **The Importance of Community** - a partnership approach between parents, pupils, staff and the local community.
- **The Dignity of the Person** - respect for each individual member of our School community.
- **Futures Oriented** - rooted in tradition but with a focus on innovative practice.

ST GERARD'S SCHOOL CALENDAR 2026 - 2027

1st Year Induction Day - Day 1 - Friday 28th August 2026

Staff In-Service Day 1 / 1st Year Activity Day: Monday 31st August 2026

Staff In-service Day 2 / All Year Groups return: Tuesday 1st September 2026

First full day of Classes & Games Wednesday 2nd September 2026

School Days

Breaks and Bank Holidays

Christmas and Summer Exam Weeks

School Year Ends - 4th June 2027

State Exams start 9th June 2027

August 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2026

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October 2026

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November 2026

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29	30					

December 2026

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January 2027

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February 2027

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28						

March 2027

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28	29	30	31			

April 2027

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2027

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2027

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

SCHOOL POLICIES

On Commencing in St. Gerard's Senior School all students will have signed up to the following policies/forms for the duration of their time with us;

- Code of Behaviour Policy
- I.C.T Acceptable Use Policy, AI and Academic Integrity
- Permission for Use of Photograph Form
- Medical Form

All other School Policies including our new “Bí Cineálta” (Kindness) Anti-Bullying Policy may be viewed on

<https://www.stgerards.ie/senior-school/parent-information>

Note: the I.C.T. Acceptable Use Policy covers the use of all internet enabled personal devices / Camera use / Internet & Email use / Images and Video / Cyberbullying.

N.B. 1st to 3rd years are not allowed to bring any mobile device to school.



HOW WILL MY YEAR GROUP BE ORGANISED?

Junior Cycle: 1st / 2nd / 3rd Year Groups

Form classes are set in 1st year for the Junior Cycle based on **5 x Form Classes with 20 students in each.**

Form classes are set with an equal mix based on:

- Primary / Junior School attended
- Gender
- Mixed ability

All subjects are taught in the Form Class and only split during the day for subject choice classes.

Senior Cycle: 4th & 5th Year Groups

Form classes are re-set in 4th year for the Senior Cycle based on 5 x Form Classes, to encourage more mixing.

New 2nd to 5th Year Students are assigned class “Buddies” to help them get to know the school / locate classrooms & lockers / where to go for break / lunch / games etc.



St. Gerard's Daily School Timetable 2026 - 2027

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8.45 - 9.44	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1 8.45 - 9.37	Period 1	Period 1
9.44 - 10.43	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2 9.37 - 10.30	Period 2	Period 2
10.43 - 10.58	BREAK	BREAK	Period 3 10.30 - 11.23	BREAK	BREAK
10.58 - 11.57	Period 3	Period 3	BREAK 11.23 - 11.38	Period 3	Period 3
11.57 - 12.56	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4 11.38 - 12.31	Period 4	Period 4
12.56 - 13.35	LUNCH	LUNCH	Period 5 12.31 - 13.24	LUNCH	LUNCH
13.35 - 14.34	Period 5	Period 5	LUNCH 13.24 - 13.45	Period 6	Period 5
14.34 - 15.33	Period 6	Period 6	GAMES 14.00	Period 6	Period 6
15.50 - 17.00	GAMES	GAMES	GAMES	GAMES	NO GAMES School Ends
	ARKLOW BUS 17.15	ARKLOW BUS 17.15	ARKLOW BUS 17.00	ARKLOW BUS 17.15	ARKLOW BUS 16.00
EVENING PREP	17.15 - PREP DINNER 17.45 - 20.45 EVENING PREP	17.15 - PREP DINNER 17.45 - 20.45 EVENING PREP	17.30 - PREP DINNER 16.30 - 20.00 EVENING PREP	17.15 - PREP DINNER 17.45 - 20.45 EVENING PREP	6TH YEAR PREP 16.00 - 18.00

EVENING PREP/STUDY

The office will email a google form to register for Evening Prep before return to school.

- The Prep Cost for 2026 – 2027 will be €1,650 (including evening meal).
- Students MUST attend games from 4 – 5pm before attending Prep.
- Students MUST sign up to the Prep Code of Behaviour before they will be admitted.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
SUPPER 17.15 EVENING PREP 17.45 - 20.45	SUPPER 17.15 EVENING PREP 17.45 - 20.45	SUPPER 17.30 EVENING PREP 16.30 - 20.00	SUPPER 17.15 EVENING PREP 17.45 - 20.45	- EVENING PREP ONLY 16.00 - 18.00
				OPEN TO ONLY 6TH YEAR STUDENTS AT NO COST.



SCHOOL BUS ~ ARKLOW TO ST. GERARD'S (RETURN)

The School facilitates a daily return bus service from Arklow. The following was the route used in 2025 – 2026:

1. **Old Rugby Club Road (AM) Homesavers/Arklow cvrt (PM)**
2. **Beehive**
3. **Wicklow Town - Bus Stop opposite Tesco**
**evening stops at Marlton Road & at Hudson Garage
4. **Bus Eireann Bus Stop, Rathnew Cemetery, Rathnew**
5. **Ashford - Bus Stop opposite Centra**
6. **Bus Eireann Bus Stop – bottom of Rossmore Industrial Park Newtown**
7. **Kilpedder - Bus stop at the footbridge**

Please note that Stops are pick up only and the bus cannot wait therefore we advise that all students are at the bus stop at least 5 minutes before scheduled departure time. The driver will share a tracking link in the what's app group again this year.

A form will be sent in July 2026 to register your interest. The bus has capacity for 59 passengers. The total cost of the bus services will be divided by the number using the service. And final cost will be confirmed in August.

The charge is per seat and set for the year, irrespective of the number of journeys taken by an individual student.

This is an unsupervised bus service. The Bus Service provider is Moroney's whose protocols are aligned with current Government Guidelines for School Buses.

The bus will leave the school in the evenings at the following times:

<i>Mondays, Tuesdays & Thuredays</i>	Departs School 5.15pm
<i>Wednesdays</i>	Departs School 5.00pm
<i>Fridays</i>	Departs School 4.00pm

Any bus queries should be directed to accounts@stgerards.ie



GIRLS' UNIFORM

BOTH FORMAL AND SPORTS UNIFORM ARE AVAILABLE FROM UNIFORMITY

C COMPULSORY ITEM

01 ST. GERARD'S GIRLS' SCHOOL BLAZER

Compulsory for all Girls

02 ST. GERARD'S GIRLS' PULLOVER

Compulsory for all Girls

03 ST. GERARD'S GIRLS' GREEN STRIPE BLOUSE

Compulsory for 1st – 5th Year Girls

04 ST. GERARD'S GIRLS' WHITE BLOUSE

Compulsory for all 6th Year Girls

05 ST. GERARD'S GIRLS SKIRT

Compulsory for all Girls

06 NAVY KNEE SOCKS & TIGHTS

Compulsory for all Girls

07 SCHOOL FOOTWEAR

Black formal footwear
Compulsory for all Girls

08 UNIFORM LABELS

Compulsory for all Girls

09 ST GERARD'S SCHOOL COAT

Optional

10 ST. GERARD'S GIRLS' TROUSERS

Optional



ST GERARD'S SENIOR SCHOOL SCHOOL UNIFORM GUIDE - GIRLS' FORMAL

TO AVOID ACCIDENTAL LOSS OF PROPERTY, IT IS RECOMMENDED ALL ITEMS BE CLEARLY MARKED, WITH NAME TAPE OR INDELIBLE MARKER



GIRLS' SPORTS & P.E. UNIFORM

AVAILABLE FROM
UNIFORMITY

01 ST. GERARD'S GIRLS' TRAINING TOP

02 ST GERARD'S GIRLS 1/4 ZIP MIDLAYER

03 ST. GERARD'S GIRLS' NAVY POLO SHIRT

04 ST. GERARD'S GIRLS' HOCKEY TOP

05 ST. GERARD'S GIRLS' HOCKEY SKORT

06 ST. GERARD'S GIRLS' HOCKEY SOCKS

07 ST. GERARD'S GIRLS' TRACKSUIT BOTTOMS

08 ST GERARD'S GIRLS' TRAINING SHORTS

09 ST GERARD'S KITBAG

OPTIONAL SPORTS UNIFORM

10 ST GERARD'S GIRLS' SPORTS LEGGINGS

11 ST GERARD'S GIRLS' P.E. T-SHIRT

12 ST GERARD'S GIRLS' WHITE P.E. SHIRT

13 ST GERARD'S GIRLS NAVY SPORTS BASELAYER



C COMPULSORY ITEM

SALE

NEW INCOMING STUDENTS 1st to 6th Year Groups 26/27

BOYS' UNIFORM

BOTH FORMAL AND SPORTS UNIFORM ARE AVAILABLE FROM UNIFORMITY

01 ST. GERARD'S BOYS' SCHOOL BLAZER

Compulsory for all Boys

02 ST. GERARD'S BOYS' PULLOVER

Compulsory for all Boys

03 ST. GERARD'S BOYS' BLUE SHIRT

Compulsory for all 1st - 5th Year Boys

04 ST. GERARD'S BOYS' WHITE SHIRT

- Compulsory for all 6th Year Boys
- Compulsory and worn for special occasions 1st - 5th Year

05 ST GERARD'S TIE

Compulsory for all Boys

06 ST. GERARD'S BOYS' TROUSERS

Compulsory for all Boys

07 SCHOOL FOOTWEAR

Black Formal Shoes
Compulsory for all Boys

08 UNIFORM LABELS

Compulsory for all Boys

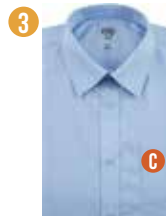
09 ST GERARD'S SCHOOL COAT

Optional



ST GERARD'S SENIOR SCHOOL SCHOOL UNIFORM GUIDE - BOYS' FORMAL

TO AVOID ACCIDENTAL LOSS OF PROPERTY, IT IS RECOMMENDED ALL ITEMS BE CLEARLY MARKED, WITH NAME TAPE OR INDELIBLE MARKER



C COMPULSORY ITEM

BOYS' SPORTS & P.E. UNIFORM

AVAILABLE FROM
UNIFORMITY

- 01 ST GERARD'S 1/4 ZIP MIDLAYER
- 02 ST. GERARD'S BOYS' TRAINING TOP
- 03 ST. GERARD'S BOYS' NAVY P.E. POLO SHIRT
- 04 ST. GERARD'S BOYS' RUGBY JERSEY
- 05 ST. GERARD'S BOYS' RUGBY SHORTS
- 06 ST. GERARD'S BOYS' RUGBY SOCKS
- 07 ST. GERARD'S BOYS' TRACKSUIT BOTTOMS
- 08 ST GERARD'S KITBAG
- 09 ST. GERARD'S BOYS' NAVY P.E. SHORTS



OPTIONAL SPORTS UNIFORM

- 10 ST GERARD'S P.E. T-SHIRT
- 11 ST GERARD'S BOYS' WHITE P.E. SHIRT
- 12 ST GERARD'S BOYS' BLACK SPORTS BASELAYER
- 13 ST GERARD'S BOOT BAG



C COMPULSORY ITEM

TO AVOID ACCIDENTAL LOSS OF PROPERTY, IT IS RECOMMENDED ALL ITEMS BE CLEARLY MARKED, WITH NAME TAPE OR INDELIBLE MARKER

SPORTS PROGRAMME

Games is compulsory unless excused on medical grounds.

Please email this to the Head of Year, Healthcare Officer and relative Head of Sport

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday

4pm - 5pm

Wednesday

2pm - 4pm
(Depending on Fixture)

Saturday

9am - 12pm
(Depending on Fixture)

Sporting Options - Term One

September - St. Patricks Day

Main Sports

- Hockey for Girls
- Rugby for Boys

Other Sports

- Tennis
- Basketball

Other Sports we participate in:

- Tennis
- Basketball
- Senior Soccer



Sporting Options - Term Two

St. Patricks Day - Summer

Leinster Schools Competitions:

- Athletics
- Tennis
- Cricket
- Sailing
- Rock Climbing

Recreational:

- Soccer
- Basketball
- Hockey
- Tag Rugby
- Badminton
- Touch Rugby
- Hockey & Rugby Development





Extra Curricular Activities



(Notification sent via. School App at the start of the year)

Tennis Coaching

Golf Lessons

Martial Arts

Archery

Show Jumping



WEEK EVENTS

Arts Week

Catholic Schools Week

Christmas Bazaar Week

Modern Languages Week

Science Week

Seachtain Na Gaeilge

Wellbeing Week

Active Schools Week

CLUBS

Book Club

Chess Club

Craft Club

Debating Club

Drama Group

Gaeilge Club

Games Club

Science Club

Model United Nations Club



OTHER ACTIVITIES

Annual Carol Service

Annual Retreat

Annual Transition Year Musical

Art & Photo Competition / Poetry Competition

Debating / Public Speaking / Soroptimists

Drama Festival

Extra-Curricular Music Tuition / Extra-Curricular Sport

Irish Computational Thinking Quiz

Irish Maths Teachers Association Quiz

Irish Science Teachers Association Quiz

Music Festival / Summer Concert / Choir

Prize & Sports Day

St. Gerard's Day

Student Council / Young Social Innovators / Green Schools Committee

Parent and Child Tennis Evening

Parent and Child Golf Competition

Young Scientist Exhibition

Youth Parliament / Model United Nations

