



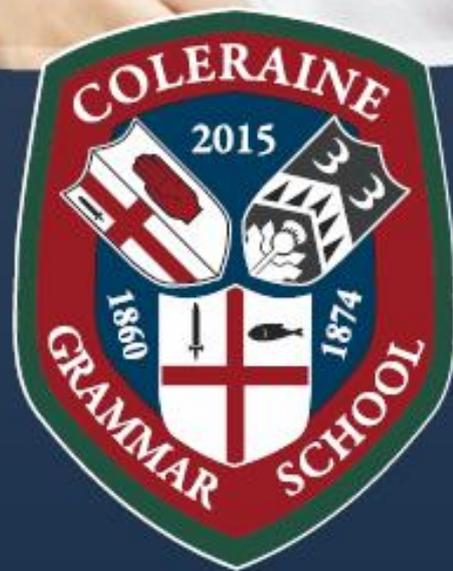
COLERAINE

GRAMMAR SCHOOL

In Scientia Opportunitas

Year 8 Parents' Guide

2022/2023



Foreword

It is a great pleasure to welcome you all to Coleraine Grammar School.

I hope and expect that this is the beginning of a successful seven year journey for each new Year 8 pupil, and that you are all able to fulfil your potential academically, in extra-curricular activities and in your personal development.

Over the next few months, our aim is to help pupils make the transition from primary school to grammar school as smoothly as possible. When school begins at the end of August, pupils will study many familiar subjects and quite a few new ones too. This helps with the transition because pupils are able to build on existing strengths, and also find new subjects to enjoy.

Equally, pupils will be able to continue many activities and clubs from primary school and also broaden their horizons and make new friends by engaging in new experiences.

The teaching and support staff of school are here to help our pupils make the transition to grammar school and enjoy a happy and successful school career. In return, we ask our pupils to show commitment to their school, work hard and always treat every member of the school community with respect.

I look forward to seeing you all at our Lodge Road campus next school year.

Dr David Carruthers

Headmaster





Our school motto:

In Scientia Opportunitas

"With Knowledge comes Opportunity"



Coleraine Grammar School Values

Respect

Responsibility

Resilience

- R** Responsibility
- E** Equality
- S** Self-discipline
- P** Perseverance
- E** Excellence
- C** Commitment
- T** Tolerance



The School Day

The school day starts at 8.55am with registration. Each registration class will see their form tutor every morning when they will take the register, share school notices, collect any absence notes and sign homework diaries. This is also valuable time for the new pupils to ask any questions they have about the school; their form tutor should be their first point of contact for any concerns they might have.

www.colerainegrammar.com/about/the-school-day

Timetable	
Registration:	8.55 - 9.05
Period 1:	9.05 - 9.55
Period 2:	9.55 - 10.45
Assembly:	10.45 - 11.00
Breaktime:	11.00 - 11.15
Period 3:	11.15 - 12.05
Period 4:	12.05 - 12.55
Lunchtime:	12.55 - 13.45
Period 5:	13.45 - 14.35
Period 6:	14.35 - 15.25

School Calendar

First Day of School for Year 8: 31st August

Pupils will spend the morning with their form teacher and their form class.

- Pupils will have individual and class photos taken during the morning by a professional photographer.
- Pupils will receive their homework diary and timetable, both of which their form tutor will hand out and explain how to use properly.
- On their first full day of school pupils should bring a school bag with a pencil case, their break and either a packed lunch or lunch money.
- Pupils will be given a “Pupil Guidebook” to fill in with their form tutor, which will answer all their most common questions regarding their first few days in school.

Year 8 only	Wednesday 31 August 2022 (9.00am - 12.00 noon - no lunch in school)
All pupils return to school	Thursday 1 st September 2022 (8.55am -12.55pm - no lunch in school)
All pupils in school	Friday 2nd September (8.55am - 3.25pm - lunch available)
Staff Day	Monday 26 th September 2022
Half-term	31st October - 4th November 2022 inclusive
Staff Day	Wednesday 30 th November 2022
Christmas	Thursday 22 nd December – Tuesday 3 rd January 2023 inclusive
Staff Day	Friday 13th January 2023
Half-term	15 th , 16 th , 17 th February 2023
Easter	Monday 3 rd April – Friday 14 th April 2023 inclusive
May Day	Monday 1 st May 2023
Staff Day	Monday 29 th May 2023
End of term	Friday 30 th June 2023 at 12 noon

Transportation to and from school:

By car – you should leave your son/daughter on the Lodge Road and not drive into the school grounds as there is not enough room for a large volume of traffic. Similarly in the afternoons, please collect pupils from the Lodge Road. If you need to collect your son/daughter

from school to attend an appointment during the school day, then you may park in the visitors' carpark and collect your son/daughter at reception.

By bus – Some buses will collect and drop off pupils at the school gates on Lodge Road, others will leave from the station on Railway Road. Please check this information with Translink in August. Bus passes will

Timetable

In Coleraine Grammar School we use a 2 week timetable which alternates between week A and week B.

This is a sample Year 8 timetable.

The subject appears first in the box, then the teacher's initials followed by the room number.

A list of these abbreviations will be given to new pupils during registration on their first day in school. Please encourage your son/daughter to know what lessons take place each day.

As you can see from the sample timetable, this will alter weekly. Pupils will all be given a printed version of their timetable when they arrive in August.

Lockers

Each pupil in Year 8 is supplied with a locker. Please encourage your son/daughter to make good use of his/her locker as this will help them to carry the minimum weight in their schoolbag during the school day.

Pupils may leave their books in their lockers during the day, carrying only what they need for each lesson. They may visit their lockers before school, at breaktime, lunchtime and at the end of the school day.

Pupils should NOT visit their lockers between classes.

Week A	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reg	Rg HTN AR2	Rg AG HR1	Rg GH GR2	Rg HTN AR2	Rg AK IT2
1	Ar HTN AR2	Hi AG HR1	Gg GH GR2	Lw MCY MR2	It AK IT2
2	Ar HTN AR2	Ti TC SD2	Ma TIL R09	Gg GH GR1	It AK IT2
3	Ga RBV	Ch ORY C3	Ph GR P3	Hi AG HR1	En LMA R14
4	Ga RBV	Bi DS B1	Sp KLY R01	Ch ORY C3	Bi DS B1
5	Sp KLY R01	Re LMC R16	En LMA R12	Ma TIL R09	Mu SC MR1
6	Ma TIL R09	Ea LMA R14	Fr RX R02	Ph GR P3	Mu SC MR1
Week B	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reg	Rg HTN AR2	Rg AG Hr1	Rg LMC R16	Rg HTN AR2	Rg LMA R14
1	Ar HTN AR2	Hi AG HR1	Re LMC R16	LW SC MR1	En LMA R14
2	Dr LMA R10	Gg GH GR1	Ma TIL R09	Gg GH GR1	Ma TIL R09
3	Ga RBV	Ch ORY GR1	En LMA R14	Mu MCY MR2	Fr RX R02
4	Ga RBV	Bi DS B1	En LMA R14	Pe AG HR1	Hi AG HR1
5	TIL R09	DR D1 B1	LMC R16	RE R02	HE3 HE3
6	KLY R01	DS B1	LMC R16	RE R02	HE3 HE3



School reports

There are three reporting periods during the school year. One of these reports will have both data and teacher comments. The other two reports will be data only. There will also be a pastoral meeting offered to you during Term 1 with your child's form tutor and then meetings with your child's classroom teachers later in the year to discuss their academic progress.

Use of the pupil planner and absence notes:

Your son/daughter's pupil planner is not only for recording homeworks, it also contains:

- A copy of school policies which are most pertinent to pupils;
- A list of school holidays;
- Pro-formas for absence notes;
- A section for parental comment and signature at the end of each week;
- Space for the pupil to copy in their timetable.

Parental Contribution

You will be given further documentation on how to make these parental contributions. This will outline your various payment options and gift aid information.

What should my child do with their mobile phone whilst in school?

Mobile phones must be turned off during the school day and stored carefully. You may contact your son/daughter via the school office if necessary.

The mobile phone policy is available on the school website:

www.colerainegrammar.com/about/policies



Coleraine Grammar School

Term 3: 2021/22 Pastoral Leader: Mrs R. Smyth

Year 8

Pupil Name: Joe Bloggs

Percentage Attendance: 100%

Subject	Pupil's %	Class Avg	Observations	Teacher
Art	87	87	Joe is a capable and hardworking pupil who has made very good progress in Art this term. He has used the Art Elements to produce drawings of a high standard and his sketchbook shows an ability to gather relevant research and to present work well.	KN
Biology	97	84	Joe has settled into the demands of Year 8 Biology very well. He has performed well in all assessments and is an enthusiastic, diligent pupil who has shown clear understanding of the concepts covered this term.	LH
Chemistry	98	82	Joe is a capable pupil who has worked well throughout the term. He thoroughly deserves this excellent result as his positive approach to study is to be commended. Well done, Joe!	ORY
Drama	81	78	Joe is a highly imaginative and enthusiastic participant. He has shown great flair in his ability to use the drama strategies to convey meaning and to reflect feelings and attitude. He also works very well as part of a group and takes a leading role in structuring and devising an improvisation.	DSN
English	85	84	Joe has produced a good term's work. He can organise himself to work independently but can also collaborate with others. Written work is clearly expressed and responses to reading material are perceptive. He asks focused questions and can express his ideas clearly in a variety of speaking tasks. Joe has adjusted well to Key Stage 3 work and is making steady progress.	TW
French	90	94	Joe has made a fantastic start to French this year. He has achieved good marks in reading and listening sections of the exam and has shown improvement in the written exam. He has worked hard and consistently.	KD
Geography	94	90	This is through award winning music that the pupils have achieved this result.	
History	94	89		
Home Economics	88	85		
ICT	80	80		

Coleraine Grammar School						
Term 1 Report 2020/21						
Pupil Name: Joe Bloggs						
Attendance: 98.0%						
Pastoral Leader: Mrs R. Smyth						
Year Group: 8B1						
Pupil	Art	French %	Class Average	Effort/Love	Teacher	
Art	87	87	87	2	Mr T. Smith	
Biology	97	84	84	1	Mr D. Stewart	
Chemistry	98	82	82	1	Mr J. Evans	
Drama	81	78	78	1	Mr J. McEvoy	
English	85	84	84	1	Mr J. McEvoy	
French	90	94	94	1	Mr J. McEvoy	
Geography	94	90	90	1	Mr J. McEvoy	
Home Economics	88	85	85	1	Mr J. McEvoy	
ICT	80	80	80	1	Mr J. McEvoy	
Mathematics	85	84	84	1	Mr J. McEvoy	
Music	85	84	84	1	Mr J. McEvoy	
Physics	85	84	84	1	Mr J. McEvoy	
RE	85	84	84	1	Mr J. McEvoy	
Sp	85	84	84	1	Mr J. McEvoy	
Technology	85	84	84	1	Mr J. McEvoy	
Physical Education	85	84	84	1	Mr J. McEvoy	
Learning for Life and Work	85	84	84	1	Mr J. McEvoy	
Pastoral Leader	85	84	84	1	Mr J. McEvoy	

Key People Year 8 pupils need to know



Pastoral Leader of Year 8:
Mrs R. Smith



**Vice Principal in charge of
Pastoral Care on Lodge Road
Campus: Mr T. A. Hamilton**



SENCO:
Mrs S. Taggart



**School
counsellor:**
Jean Anderson



And you will get to know your classmates!



Librarian
Mrs Ledwith



Key areas in school

Canteen:

Pupils should remain on the school grounds and are permitted to eat a packed lunch in the "packed lunch hall" during lunchtime or buy a hot meal in the Canteen.

There are some areas outside which are deemed "out of bounds" in order to ensure the safety of our pupils at all times. Pupils will be shown the Year 8 playground area during their August induction days by their form tutor.



Recreation during lunchtimes is supervised by teaching and ancillary staff in the canteen, lunchrooms and outside.

Library:

All pupils automatically become members of the library and receive a library card. Junior classes are allowed to borrow 2 fiction books and 2 non-fiction books for a period of 2 weeks. The library accepts requests for new books and will reserve books, should you wish to do so.

The school library has a reading programme called **Reading Olympics** which is now a well established course for Years 8, 9 and 10. Pupils come to the library with their English teacher for one period per fortnight until Easter. There are 3 levels to the Reading Olympics Scheme: Bronze Award, Silver Award and Gold Award. All pupils tend to really enjoy this challenging scheme.

The library is a fun place to go and Mrs Ledwith holds various competitions throughout the year as well as celebrating important dates in the literary calendar.

Some key information:

What to do if your child is unwell, injured or has a medical condition:

- If your child is feeling unwell during the school day they should tell their class teacher, who will issue them with a "Pupil feeling ill" card that the pupil takes to reception, from where their parents/carers can be contacted.
- If your child is injured during the school day, there is a qualified first aider on the Lodge Road site, Mrs C. Barry, who can be located in the school reception.
- If your child has a medical condition that may require medication during the school day, please follow the school protocol for leaving the necessary materials in the school reception. You will be required to complete a medical form in this instance and the medication will be labelled and stored safely there for use when your child requires it. AM1/AM2/AM3 medical forms may be found in the Policies section of the school website.



Uniform and Games Kit

Expectations about neat and tidy appearance:

Coleraine Grammar School pupils are expected to wear their School uniform with pride as such should be neatly turned out. That means top buttons of shirts should be fastened at all times, ties are an adequate length and shirts are neatly tucked in. Girls' skirts should be knee length and all pupils' footwear should be fit for purpose. No training shoes or high heels are permitted. Blazers should be worn at all times in school (except in a warm classroom). Please refer to the full school uniform policy on our website for more information.

The school is currently addressing an unexpected supply issue with sports kit, and we will provide more information via text, email, Facebook and the school website as soon as we can.

All school policies pertaining to uniform, pastoral care, SEN, social networking etc can be found in full on our school website via the following link:

www.colerainegrammar.com/about/policies



Learning support

Mrs Taggart will endeavour to meet with every new year 8 pupil who has any SEN and their parent/carer before starting CGS, in order to plan how the pupil can be supported. We value parental

communication so please do contact Mrs Taggart at any stage during the academic year if you feel your child needs any SEN support.





Extra-curricular programme

At CGS we offer a wide range of extra-curricular clubs, sports and societies which are very active and give our pupils the opportunity to engage in a variety of pursuits. Whether pupils' interests are focused on sport or music, drama or outdoor pursuits, problem solving or performing, there is something for everyone.

Some examples of extra-curricular clubs available for Year 8s are:

- Junior Choir
- Junior Orchestra
- Junior Scripture Union
- Modern Foreign Languages Club
- Puzzle Club
- Athletics
- Badminton
- Cricket
- Cross Country
- Golf
- Hockey
- Rugby
- Swimming
- Surfing
- Tennis

(For more information about sports see our Coleraine Grammar Sport page on Facebook.)

Pupils will also be able to continue their instrumental tuition or take up a new instrument with the Education Authority Music Service in CGS. Specialist private music tuition on piano, voice and drum kit is also available for pupils. Details about registration and cost will follow in August.



How can my son/daughter get involved in extra-curricular activities?

Pupils should listen out for announcements in assembly, watch out for flyers and posters in school or ask their form tutor. These methods of communication will give pupils the time and place to go to in order to join the activity.



Address: 23 – 33 Castlerock Rd, Coleraine, BT51 3LA

Phone: 028 7034 4331

Address: Lodge Road, Coleraine, BT52 1LZ

Phone: 028 7034 3178

Fax: 028 7035 2632

Email: info@colerainegrammar.com

Web: www.colerainegrammar.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/colerainegs