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**WELCOME**

**FIRST YEAR PARENTS' TALK**

Speakers:

Principal:  
Kiera O'Sullivan

Year Head:  
Olive McGuinness

Deputy Principal:  
Niall Moynihan

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## HOMEWORK

15 minutes per class is the maximum.

Use a quiet, well-lit place free from distraction.

Students must have a note in their journal if unable to complete homework.

A balance between extracurricular activities and homework is important.

Parental involvement with homework is invaluable for the student.

Students are expected to do independent revision work alongside prescribed homework.



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## SUBJECTS FOR FIRST YEAR

Your daughter is currently studying the following subjects:

### Core:

English

Irish

Maths

History

Geography

Religion

### Options:

Art

Business

French

German

Home Economics

Music

Science



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## JUNIOR CYCLE WELLBEING

There is a requirement on all schools to provide students with 400 hours of timetabled Wellbeing classes over the three years of their Junior Cycle.

Our Wellbeing programme is made up of:

- ☐ PE
- ☐ Personal and Health Education (SPHE)
- ☐ CSPE
- ☐ Pastoral Care with their class Tutor
- ☐ Literacy



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### What is it?

- an online tool that helps teachers manage and monitor their students' independent reading practice.



### What is the aim of it?

- to motivate students to read more and to foster a habit of independent reading.



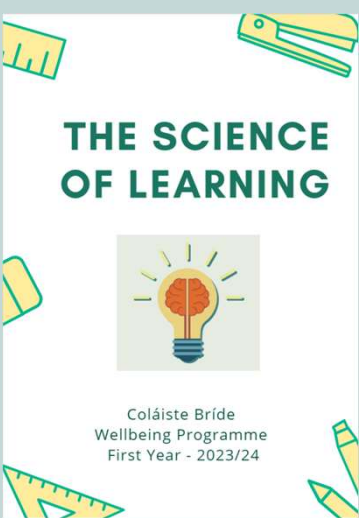
### Why have we introduced it?

- decline in students' reading ages  
- decline in time spent reading

## LITERACY: ACCELERATED READER

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## LEARNING TO LEARN



**THE SCIENCE OF LEARNING**

Coláiste Bríde  
Wellbeing Programme  
First Year - 2023/24


### LEARNING INTENTIONS

	<b>UNDERSTAND</b>	how memory works.
	<b>DETERMINE</b>	conditions necessary for learning to happen.
	<b>EXPLORE</b>	ways in which you can use retrieval practice to help with your revision.
	<b>PRACTISE</b>	alternative ways of making notes.
	<b>CREATE</b>	a set of notes using an appropriate graphic organiser.

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## UNIFORM

All students must be in full uniform each school day:

School jumper, skirt, white shirt, red tie and shoes (not runners).

The school jacket can be worn during the school day.

The PE uniform consists of our school quarter zip top, navy or black plain leggings and runners.

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## COMMUNICATION

VS Ware is the main form of communication between home and school.

School Journal.

Texting system to parents in emergencies.

Phone calls and appointments.

School Reports.

Digital Newsletter.

[www.colaiستهbride.ie](http://www.colaiستهbride.ie)...information on our school and all our school's policies are available on our website.

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## VS WARE

VS Ware is the administration software programme the school uses.

Timetable, fees, behaviour, attendance and exam results & reports will be available on VSware.

Absent or late text notifications.

School information and letters.

10:35

VS WARE

Welcome to VSware

School Name  
Colaiste Bride

Username  
Your Username

Password  
[Masked Password]

Create or reset your password

Login

Don't have an account? [Learn more](#)

Twitter LinkedIn

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## VSWARE

Please install the VSware App on your phone to make sure you receive all school notifications.

This is a parent's App only, students should not have access to your account.



### Notifications

#### School Mail



New Mail from Moyle Park College: "Absence Request denied"



New Mail from Moyle Park College: "Absence Request denied"

#### Donna Adams



Your Absence Request has been approved by the school.



Your Absence Request has been approved by the school.



[View all notifications](#)

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## POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

Through VSware we operate a positive behaviour reward system where students are awarded points or commendations for doing something well.

Students respond very positively when their good efforts acknowledged.



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## SCHOOL JOURNAL

As in primary school, students use their school journal to write in all their homework and as a calendar for upcoming events such as tests.

The journal should be signed each week by a parent/guardian.

Support your daughter's transition by talking through her timetable and homework with her each evening and helping her plan for the next school day.

Notes in relation to absences or lateness can be written in the appropriate sections of the school journal. However, we would encourage parents to use the VSware App for absence notes.

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## ATTENDANCE: WHAT YOU CAN DO?

Make school attendance a priority

Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day.

Help your daughter/ward maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.

Try not to schedule dental and medical appointments during the school day.

Check on your daughter's attendance to be sure absences are not adding up



Every student. Every day.

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## ATTENDANCE

Attendance is an  
Essential  
Ingredient of  
Academic  
Success

Every day and  
every class  
counts....

## Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....

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## ABSENCE/LATE NOTES

<b>1</b> <b>Record of ABSENCE</b>	<b>Student Name:</b> _____ <b>Class:</b> _____ Absent from: / / to / / No. of days: _____ Reason: <input type="checkbox"/> Illness <input type="checkbox"/> Urgent Family Reason <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Appointment Details _____ Signed by Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: / / Signed: _____	<b>1</b> <b>Record of ABSENCE</b>		
	<b>1</b> <b>LATE NOTE</b>		<b>Student Name:</b> _____ <b>Class:</b> _____ Date: / / <b>Arrival Time:</b> _____ Reason: _____ _____ _____ Signed by Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: / / <b>Tel no.:</b> _____	<b>1</b> <b>LATE NOTE</b>
	Date: _____ Late time: _____ Signed: _____ Date signed: _____		Date: _____ Late time: _____ Signed: _____ Date signed: _____	

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## SIGNING OUT

Students are not allowed leave the school grounds or absent themselves from class without permission.

Breaches of this are dealt with very severely as it is extremely important that your daughter is where she is supposed to be at all times.

We have a duty of care to your daughter, and it would be negligent of us to not enforce this.

If your daughter is feeling unwell, she should inform her teacher and go directly to the office. The office will contact you immediately

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## SIGNING OUT CONTINUED

If your daughter is feeling unwell and needs to go home, then she will have to be collected from the school.

If a parent or guardian is unable to collect her and you make alternative arrangements, you should inform the school of who will be collecting your daughter.

This is important to ensure the health and safety of your daughter.

If your daughter has to sign out for an appointment, etc they must show this note to their Year Head before 11:00 am each day.

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## YONDR

Every student has a pouch to secure their phone for the school day.

Before school begins each morning (on arrival at the school campus) students are expected to place their phone in their Yondr pouch.

Teachers will have access to unlockers to enable phones to be used for classroom-based learning activities.

Our school reception area is an 'Unlocked Zone'. With permission, a student may briefly access their phone to make a call/ send a message in case of emergency.

If a student needs to contact their parent or vice versa, the office will facilitate a call/message.



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## YONDR CONTINUED..

At the end of the school day students will unlock their pouches using the UNLOCKERS placed at student exit areas.

The initial feedback from students, teachers and parents is very positive.

We encourage parents to not allow students to have devices in their bedrooms at night, this has impacts on their sleep and on their general wellbeing.



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## EXTRACURRICULAR

Athletics	Chess Club
Basketball	Board games
Camogie	Traditional Music
Football	Multi-Cultural committee
Soccer	Book Club
Rugby	Cooking Club
Equestrian	Green Schools Committee
Hockey	German Club
Junior Choir	Golf
Badminton club	Gardening Club
Dry Rowing	
Crochet club	
Irish Dancing	

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## IMPORTANT EVENTS IN FIRST YEAR

- ❑ December 18<sup>th</sup> to December 22<sup>nd</sup> End of Term 1 House Exams
- ❑ February 20<sup>th</sup>: First Year Parent Teacher Meeting
- ❑ April: Second Year Subject Choice Talk for Parents
- ❑ End of April: Second Year Subject Choice Deadline
- ❑ May: First Year Tour

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## RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALL STUDENTS



Be in school every day – attendance and punctuality are crucial



Always do their best



Be prepared for each class



Abide by our Code of Positive Behaviour



Our school's ethos places great value on being respectful to every member of our school community.