

## Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide quality, holistic and inclusive education for the community. Our aim is to create a safe and caring environment, which encourages pupils to reach their full potential in an atmosphere of mutual respect.

School Prospectus

# Pobalscoil Átha Buí

Athboy Community School was formed by the amalgamation of St. James' Vocational School and St. Joseph's Secondary School in 2004. In November 2011 the school moved to a new, state of the art building provided under the Public Private Partnership Scheme for Schools. The school provides a wide range of subjects in practical, academic and vocational areas of the curriculum. A co-ordinated system of pastoral care, combined with the promotion of extra-curricular activities, facilitates the holistic development of all pupils.



## Pastoral Care

A structured system of pastoral care supports students throughout their time in the school. A Year Head monitors the overall progress of each student in the year group and liaises with parents/guardians and other members of the Pastoral Team where appropriate. These include a School Chaplain, Guidance Counsellor, Anti-Bullying Co-ordinator, SEN Co-ordinator, Principal and Deputy Principal. A group of Senior Prefects assist management with organisational tasks for pupils' benefit. The school also has a group of Peer Mentors who have been trained to assist fellow students, particularly students who are new to the school.

The Guidance Counsellor is available to provide a confidential counselling service to students and can also be contacted by parents / guardians. The School Chaplain arranges and facilitates opportunities for students to develop spiritually and express their religious faith in various liturgical celebrations, recognising all faiths. Where appropriate, the school avails of advice and assistance from external agencies and voluntary organisations.

**“The school provides a wide range of subjects in practical, academic and vocational areas of the curriculum.”**

## Discipline

A high standard of conduct and attendance is expected of our pupils and the school requires the full support of parents in upholding the school rules. Concern for the pupils extends to their conduct outside school. Positive attitudes to discipline and co-operation with the school authorities are also expected. The school's Awards Policy recognises pupil achievement in various aspects of school life. Initiative is encouraged and opportunities are provided for positive leadership.

## Special Needs

The brief of Community Schools is to cater for the needs of all the students who live within the community of the school. The school offers a special programme for those pupils who need learning support, as well as providing for the needs of the very able students. An Cuan, the school's Special Needs Unit, caters for students presenting with autism.

## School Policies

Various school policies have been developed with the co-operation of all the partners of Athboy Community School. These are available from the school office or can be viewed on the school website [www.athboycs.ie](http://www.athboycs.ie)



# Curriculum

## Junior Cycle

All of the following core subjects:

Civic, Social and Political Education

English

Geography/History

Irish

Mathematics

Physical Education

Religious Education

Social and Personal Health Education \*

Digital Media Literacy \*

\* *Non-examination subjects.*

Four of the following options (chosen after sampler modules):

Art, Craft and Design

Business Studies

French

Geography/History

German

Home Economics

Materials Technology (Wood)

Metalwork (Materials and Technology)

Music

Science

Technical Graphics

## Transition Year

This is an optional, but highly recommended, programme which allows participants to mature as young people and develop in personality and confidence. It is an activity based and self-directed programme that involves learning both inside and outside the classroom. The course involves many projects, assignments, investigations and research as well as portfolio work.

## Leaving Certificate

All of the following core subjects:

English

Irish

Mathematics

Religious Education \*

Career Guidance \*

Physical Education \*

LCVP Link Modules

\* *Non-examination subjects.*

Four of the following options:

Accounting

Agricultural Science

Architectural Technology

Art, Craft and Design

Biology

Business

Chemistry

Design and Communication Graphics

Economics

Engineering Technology

French

Geography

German

History

Home Economics (Social and Scientific)

Music

Physics

## Leaving Certificate Applied

This is an alternative two year modular Leaving Certificate programme combining continuous assessment and a terminal examination. Modules include English and Communication, Gaeilge, Mathematical Applications, a foreign language, Hotel Catering and Tourism, Information and Communications Technology, Arts Education, Religious Studies, Leisure and Recreation, Social and Health Education, Enterprise, Vocational Preparation, Guidance and Work Experience.

## Sport and Physical Education

In addition to the timetabled Physical Education classes, students are encouraged to participate in a wide range of sporting teams which represent the school. These include Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Football, Golf, Camogie/Hurling, Pitch and Putt, Rugby and Soccer.



## Extra/Co-Curricular Activities

The staff of Athboy Community School are actively involved in the promotion of sporting, cultural and other extra-curricular activities among the pupils. This complements the work of the many sporting and cultural organisations in the area and ensures the overall development of all the talents of our pupils. "Mol an Óige agus Tíocfaidh Sí."

In addition to sport, students are encouraged to become involved in activities such as Choir, Concerts, Debating, Gaisce (the President's Award), Musical Productions, School Bank, Speech and Drama and Quizzes. Students regularly avail of trips abroad, student exchange programmes, field trips, visits to the theatre and various exhibitions

## An Ghaeilge

Déantar gach dalta a mhealladh chun Gaeilge a labhairt chomh minic agus is féidir. Fáiltítear roimh comhfhreagrás trí Ghaeilge.

All students are encouraged to speak Irish as often as possible. Correspondence through Irish is welcome.

## Parents

Parents and guardians are important partners of the school community and are represented on the Board of Management. They are kept informed about school issues through Newsletters and Information Nights. Information regarding student progress is communicated through the School Journal, ePortal System, Parent/Teacher Meetings and Progress Reports which may be requested through the relevant Year Head. Parents and guardians are welcome, by appointment, to consult with any member of staff. The Parents' Association assists in developing school policies.

## Students' Council

This is a representative body elected by the students with the help of a liaison officer from the teaching staff. They meet once a week and work towards improving student life in the school. They are also encouraged to make recommendations in relation to school policies.

## For Further Information / Tuilleadh Eolais Ó

Phone / Fón: 046 9487894

E-mail / ríomhphost: athboyacs@eircom.net

**or write to:**

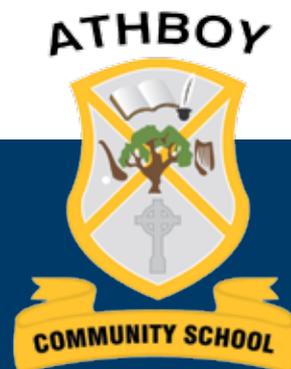
**The Principal,**  
Athboy Community School,  
Athboy,  
Co. Meath.  
C15 XY73

Fax / Faics: 046 9432658

Website / Suíomh Gréasáin: www.athboyacs.ie

**nó scríobh chuig:**

**An Príomhoide,**  
Pobalscoil Átha Buí,  
Baile Átha Buí,  
Contae na Mí.  
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