ERRIGAL COLLEGE

LETTERKENNY

Mission Statement: To enable each student to achieve their educational potential, in partnership with parents, based on the principles of caring, dignity, mutual respect and equality.



POST PRIMARY EDUCATION

PRINCIPAL'S

WELCOME

I am delighted to welcome you on behalf of the school community to Errigal College. This prospectus is designed to provide you with some information to give you and your child a taste of the many and varied activities that we have to offer here in our school.

Errigal College is a close-knit, engaged, friendly community in which student support is seen as our top priority. I often say to people that we see ourselves as a big, small school: big enough to offer a huge range of opportunities, but small enough that we are able to get to know our students, with all their individual strengths and unique characters, and are able to encourage them to strive to be the best they can be.

As a past student of Errigal College it makes me immensely proud to see the school continuing to set high expectations for our students and to challenge students academically, creatively and through the many extracurricular activities on offer. I see it as a privilege to lead the school I attended and to offer students the same opportunities I was afforded as a student.

In Errigal College we have a strong tradition of students, teachers and parents working together to encourage students to reach their potential. We encourage participation in a wide range of activities to develop skills and attributes that will assist students as they go on to thrive in further education and in the world of work.

We offer you a team of top class, committed, dedicated teachers whose prime concern is to help you achieve your dreams and achieve them you will, in a school, with state of the art equipment and facilities. The government has approved a multi-million euro new expansion and modernisation of our school. The completed building works will offer our students a state of the art teaching and learning environment.

In Errigal College, friendships are made, unbreakable bonds are formed and the exciting world of knowledge, success and endeavour is open for you. Have no fears about post-primary school, it is a time to be embraced and enjoyed. You will progress through the years and leave as bright, confident, happy people.

That is indeed my wish for you and I hope we can accomplish that goal together.



Ms. Deirdre Markham
Deputy Principal

Dylan Mc Clintock
Head Boy

Mr. Da



nny Mc Fadden
Principal

Leina Myburgh
Head Girl

Mr. Evan Gorrell
Deputy Principal

Of course, this prospectus cannot take the place of visiting our school. I warmly welcome you to make contact and visit Errigal College and discover first-hand what makes our school community so special.

We look forward to working in partnership with you, and hope that your child will be very happy to take the next step in their learning journey with us.

I look forward to welcoming your child to Errigal College.

Mr. Danny Mc Fadden
Principal

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OUR SCHOOL

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To enable each student to achieve their educational potential, in partnership with parents, based on the principles of caring, dignity, mutual respect and equality.

Errigal College is a D.E.I.S. school (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools) offering all Department of Education approved courses.



The college is unique in Letterkenny as it is the sole provider of co-education through the medium of English. The college can cater for up to 800 students and our students reflect the diverse nature of modern Ireland with many countries represented among our student cohort.



> *"My time at Errigal College was very memorable, filled with a friendly atmosphere and a strong community support system. I had incredible teachers who always encouraged and supported me, making me feel like a part of the family. I gained invaluable skills which I still use in my day to day life."*
>
> Dylan Browne McMonagle, Professional Irish Jockey

Opening of New Building



First Years (2026)



Errigal College Staff 2026



ETB ETHOS

ETB schools are state, co-educational, multi-denominational schools underpinned by the core values of:

- Excellence in Education
- Care
- Equality
- Community and
- Respect.

In an ETB school, 'state', 'co-educational' and 'multi-denominational' can be defined in the following way:

STATE

ETB schools are 'state' schools as they are under the patronage of public bodies.

CO-EDUCATIONAL

In ETB schools, 'co-educational' goes beyond a binary perspective on gender to include the full diversity of gender identities and gender expressions in the school community and underpins respectful relationships across this diversity. Our schools aim to eliminate gender stereotypes and the influence of any such stereotypes.

MULTI-DENOMINATIONAL

In ETB schools, 'multi-denominational' means that all students are given equal opportunities to engage with the curriculum and school life. Our schools strive to enable every student to realise their full potential regardless of any aspect of their identity or background. Our schools provide a safe physical and social environment to all members of the school community that reinforces their sense of identity and belonging to the school community and wider society.



CARE

The school has gone through many name changes: Letterkenny Technical School became Letterkenny Vocational School, and is now Errigal College. Since the introduction of free secondary education in 1966, we have been teaching both vocational and academic subjects. We are proud of our long history of equality and inclusivity, always having been multi-denominational, co-educational and pioneers in S.E.N. and A.S.D.

The wellbeing of our students is paramount because it is central in helping our students to achieve their full potential. We have a number of structures in place to support our students:

STUDENT SUPPORT TEAM

Our weekly student support team meetings allow us to plan ways to support all students and identify and help students who may be in need of extra support. This can range from an informal chat, to arranging counselling, to organising awareness events. The SST helps make sure that students don't 'fall through the cracks' and every child is cared for and supported.

YEAR HEADS AND FORM TEACHERS

Each year group has a designated Year Head and each class group a Form Teacher who has responsibility for the welfare of the students in their year/class group.

GUIDANCE COUNSELLING

Errigal College's Guidance Counsellors play a pivotal role in our school and their aim is to assist all students in their holistic development while providing educational, vocational and personal guidance.



SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS TEAM/LEARNING SUPPORT

Our school has a highly qualified team of Special Education Teachers and Special Needs Assistants who work tirelessly to optimise the teaching and learning of our students with additional needs.

The S.E.N. coordinator and S.E.N. team work closely with individual students to assess their specific educational needs, and in consultation with parents/guardians put in place any additional supports for that student to ensure that they reach their full potential socially, emotionally and academically.

FIRST YEAR INDUCTION & SUPPORT

At the beginning of first year, the students enjoy an induction programme. This has proved to be a great success in easing their transition from primary school. They gain a sense of belonging and ownership of the new school as they enjoy the team-building activities, forming new friendships and familiarising themselves with the layout of the school. This is a time to practise organisational skills and figure out timetables, lockers and the books for their subjects, and most of this is done with only first years in the building. It's also the perfect time to ask questions, and voice worries or concerns.

ASD BASE CLASSROOMS

Errigal College has three base classrooms for our students on the Autism Spectrum. The base classrooms include quiet rooms, a sensory room, a kitchen and a multi-sensory garden.

The teachers and Special Needs Assistants (SNAs) in the Autism Classroom are committed to foster the independence of every student. They focus on inclusion in the mainstream classrooms as well as meeting the individual needs of every student, by recognising that our students learn in a variety of ways, and need various learning environments.

Every course is tailored to meet the needs of every student. Students are offered dual enrolment allowing them to move between the base classrooms and mainstream classes where possible. They undertake the Junior and Leaving Cert programmes, as well as the Level 2 Learning Programme which Errigal College provides.

EQUALITY

SCHOLARSHIPS

THIRD LEVEL SCHOLARSHIPS





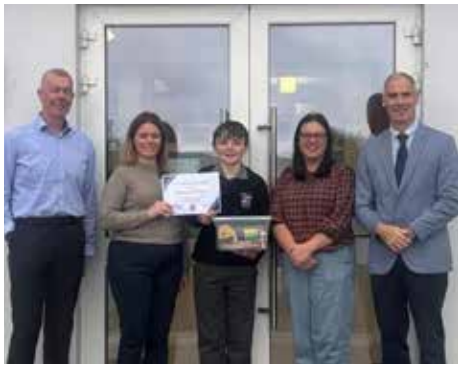
George Moore Scholars Award

Promise and Javier (Class of 2026) each awarded a **€20,000 George Moore Scholarship** to support their third-level studies. Promise is currently studying Business at Technological University Dublin and Javier is studying Computer Science at University College Dublin.

SECOND LEVEL SCHOLARSHIPS







Pictured (L-R): Rosy and Serana (Educate Together), Eamonn (Scoil Cholmcille) and Isla (Ballyraine NS). **Recipients of the First Year Entrance Scholarships 2026.**















EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

JUNIOR CYCLE

The Junior Cycle caters for students in the first three years of their post-primary education.

During second and third year, students complete a number of CBAs (Classroom-Based Assessments).

In addition to the CBAs, students complete state examinations at the end of their three year junior cycle and receive a Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA).

CORE JUNIOR CYCLE SUBJECTS:



CHOICE JUNIOR CYCLE SUBJECTS:



SHORT COURSES:



WELLBEING:



Letterkenny's multinational, multicultural and multi-denominational community is reflected in Errigal College. There are currently students from 56 different countries on our roll.

DID YOU KNOW?

WELLBEING

Under the new Junior Cycle, all students have 400 hours of Wellbeing over the 3 years, this includes SPHE, CSPE, P.E., Wellbeing and Careers and these subjects take in issues such as behaviour for learning, coping with exam pressures, bullying, peer influence, relationships, community, personal development, healthy living, bereavement and separation.






We are the only school in Letterkenny with not one, but two Engineering classrooms!
DID YOU KNOW?
ERRIGAL COLLEGE
LETTERKENNY







EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

SENIOR CYCLE

After the Junior Cycle, our students have a variety of paths to choose:

- An optional Transition Year before deciding on their senior cycle programme
- Established Leaving Certificate (LCW)
- Leaving Certificate Applied
- Senior Cycle Level 2 programme (L2LP)

LEAVING CERTIFICATE

Senior Cycle students follow a two year programme leading to the Leaving Certificate Examination. All subjects are offered at both higher and ordinary level.

We take a student-centred approach to subject options. Students are surveyed well in advance of entering Senior Cycle and every opportunity is taken to ensure that student subject preference is met.

In general, students taking this option study seven subjects.

CORE SUBJECTS:

(✓ denotes an examination subject):



STUDENTS CHOOSE FROM THE FOLLOWING CHOICE SUBJECTS:
(✓ denotes an examination subject):













LIFE, COMMUNITY & WORK (LCW)

The LCW is an enhanced Leaving Certificate Programme. All of our students to take the following 'Modules':

- Me and My Future;
- Community and Work;
- Work Experience.

> *"A great school, with even greater people, making you feel at home right away"*
>
> *Ronan Doherty - Currently a First year student at Dublin City University.*

This programme combines the academic strengths of the Leaving Certificate with a dynamic focus on self-directed learning, enterprise, work experience and the community and also provides students with valuable points in the Leaving Cert.

LEAVING CERTIFICATE APPLIED

The LCA is a distinct, self-contained, two year Leaving Certificate Programme aimed at preparing students for adult and working life. It emphasises forms of achievement and excellence which the established Leaving Certificate has not recognised in the past, and offers specific opportunities to students to prepare for and progress on to further education and training at third level.

In Errigal College, our LCA students are prepared for the demanding transition to adult and working life. The LCA programme helps our students to broaden their education and skills; subjects include Personal Achievement Tasks, Art, Engineering, I.C.T., Social Studies, Hotel, Catering & Tourism and Vocational Studies. Work experience is a key part of this programme.

TRANSITION YEAR

> *"TY has helped me build confidence, try new things and develop skills outside the classroom. It's a year full of opportunities, new experiences and great memories!"*
>
> *Bruno Macke Garrido Simoes*
> *(TY Class 2026)*

AIMS:

- **nurture the development of the student as a whole person by building on their previous experiences,** through a curriculum designed by the school that is aligned to the TY Programme Statement
- **create space and opportunities for meaningful, enjoyable learning experiences** through which the key competencies of the student can be developed in the classroom and school, in the home and in their role as local, national and global citizens
- **expand the student's experience and awareness of diverse future pathways** and nurture the student's capacity to sustain their growth and development through a process of lifelong learning
- **evolve continuously to support the learning and development of the student** through a reflection and renewal process involving students, teachers, school leaders, parents and community partners.



























TRANSITION YEAR (T.Y.)

CORE SUBJECTS INCLUDE:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- PE
- Irish/Irish Culture Studies
- Coding
- Personal Development
- Vocational Preparation
- SPHE

ROTATIONAL SUBJECTS:

- Geography
- History
- Music
- Construction Studies
- Life Skills
- Business
- Cookery
- Spanish
- Languages

CREATIVE ELECTIVES:

- Drama
- Enterprise
- Art

INTEREST- BASED ELECTIVES:

- Environmental Studies
- European Studies
- Future Leaders

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

DIGITAL LEARNING

Errigal College utilises Google Workspace for Education apps and software. Students have access to Chromebooks, iPads, Computer Labs and our new state of the art STEM Lab, where they have every opportunity to hone their digital skills, learn cooperatively and be prepared for the future.

When students enrol in Errigal College they will be provided with an Errigal College student email which gives them access to Google Workspace for Education.

Google Classroom is an important tool to keep up-to-date with teaching and learning and is used for the following:

» Homework, notifications and reminders

» Feedback on work submitted

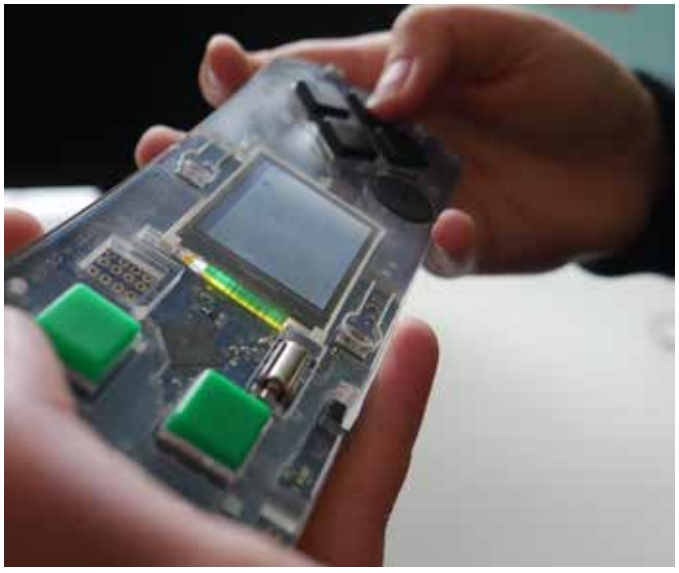
» Classwork, notes and links

Errigal College students enjoy hands-on-learning activities in our STEM lab that allow them to apply Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths skills as they enjoy a 21st-century learning experience in preparation for their futures.

As all the Junior Cycle Skills have a digital focus, the promotion of Digital Learning is key for teaching, learning and assessment.










Norma Foley T.D. and Charlie McConalogue T.D. officially opened our new building in May 2024!
DID YOU KNOW?

EXTRA AND CO-CURRICULAR

ACTIVITIES

We are proud to offer a huge range of extra and co-curricular activities to our students here in Errigal College. Our well developed facilities and dedicated staff allow for a wide variety of choices in areas such as sport, music, drama and dance. Our students are encouraged to join a range of lunchtime clubs and activities including our book club, chess club, bingo, makeup and film clubs.

Throughout the school year our calendar is punctuated by many special events and celebrations. There is something for everyone and the whole school community is invited to take part in all occasions. Maths week, Wellbeing week, Seachtain na Gaeilge, Modern Foreign Languages week, LGBTQ+ week, School Variety Show, Awards Ceremonies and Graduations are just some of the special events celebrated in our school.

We encourage all students to take part in extra and co-curricular activities and grab the opportunity to flourish as individuals outside the classroom.

Our school does not shut its doors after 4 o'clock and is also the venue for a Polska Szkola, Donegal Music Education Partnership music classes, inservice for teachers and our playing pitch is used by local teams.

OUR LUNCHTIME AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS INCLUDE:

MUSIC CLUB	KICKBOXING CLUB
CHESS CLUB	WOOD TURNING CLUB
MOVIE CLUB	BADMINTON CLUB
BASKETBALL	LGBTQIA+ CLUB
DANCE LESSONS	QUIET QUARTERS
BINGO	TABLE TENNIS CLUB
GAA	WELDING CLUB
HOMEWORK CLUB	MATHS CLUB
DRAMA SOCIETY	DEBATE CLUB
MAKE-UP CLUB	GARDENING CLUB
SOCCER	CHOIR
ATHLETICS	JIVING
SEWING	CODING
DARTS CLUB	BOARD GAMES
BOOK CLUB	QUIET QUARTERS
CARD CLUB	GAISCE CLUB
HORSERIDING CLUB	MUSICAL SHOWS CLUB
HARRY POTTER CLUB	CREATIVE WRITING CLUB
YOUNG SCIENTIST CLUB	INDOOR FOOTBALL CLUB















Green-Schools

STEM Passport for Inclusion

THE ALLINGHAM FESTIVAL

SciFest












TRIPS

Our annual international school tours have taken students to the cultural sights of Barcelona, the thrills of PortAventura and the beauty of Lake Garda

ACADEMIC INITIATIVES AND COMPETITIONS

- Gaisce Awards
- Green Schools
- Enterprise competitions
- Balor Theatre Schools Drama Festival
- Junk Kouture

Errigal College was selected to represent Ireland at the Women & Girls in STEM Competition *THREE* times in the last 4 years! This year, our students are heading to Prague for the finals!

DID YOU KNOW?

THEMED WEEKS

- Seachtain na Gaeilge
- Anti-bullying Week
- Wellbeing Week
- Modern Foreign Languages Week
- Maths Week
- Coding Week

SCHOOL PRODUCTIONS

Our performing arts department gives students a platform to showcase their talents and creativity. The stage is a place for everyone to shine through drama and music. First year students are welcomed and actively encouraged to take part in all our productions.

Our commitment to the arts has brought great success to the school in recent years. Highlights include winning 1st place at the prestigious Donegal Secondary Schools Drama festival and reaching the final of the Briery Gap All Ireland Drama Competition.

Through the arts, our school community comes together to create memorable events.

ERASMUS

Erasmus+ is the EU programme that gives students the chance to travel, learn, and collaborate with schools across Europe. At Errigal College, students gain new skills, experience different cultures, and take part in exciting projects. In 2025, our TY students travelled to Athens, Greece with their project *Drama for All: Embracing Diversity.* In 2026 the focus on Connecting Cultures brought students to Majorca and this year, we are planning another exciting exchange - where will we go?

CYCLE AGAINST SUICIDE

RYLA Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

Money Smarts Challenge for Bank of Ireland

JUNK KOUTURE

RESPECT

THE STUDENT COUNCIL

Errigal College's Student Council is a committee that gives a voice to our students. The aim of the Student Council is to promote the interests of the school and the involvement of the students in the affairs of the school, in cooperation with the Board of Management, parents and teachers. This partnership works for the benefit of the school and the students.

Each student is elected by their peers to represent their class group. The student council meets regularly and works closely with the school's leadership team to ensure that our school is a safe and enjoyable place for all members of our school community. The council strives to construct a positive learning environment for all students and gives them a platform to use their voice to raise issues and implement change. Our student council values the importance of student's opinions and concerns which motivates them to bring about change.



PEER MENTORING

Our peer mentors are senior students who help first year students to settle into life at Errigal College. The primary role of a peer mentor is to aid the first year's transition into secondary school. They each work with a small group of first years, meeting with them regularly to answer any questions and to give advice. Our senior students provide support and encouragement to first years, helping them to feel safe and secure as members of Errigal College's student community.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Senior Prefects position is advertised and students must apply. Students are interviewed and after consultations with staff, students are appointed as Senior Prefects.

This role reflects the students' maturity, responsibility, co-operation, work ethic and support for their fellow students. The senior prefect role recognises a student's potential for leadership.





COMMUNITY

SCHOOL COMPLETION PROGRAMME

Errigal College is part of a programme called Letterkenny & Milford School Completion Programme.

The aim of the programme is to address the needs of young people currently at risk of early school leaving, or those with poor attendance or participation within school. Students are identified for support by the school management each year. The programme is co-ordinated by Annette Patton and supported by Linda Gallagher and Jason Doherty (project workers), who work closely with the Home School Community Liaison, Michael Mc Menamin, and as part of the Student Support Team in the school.

THE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Parents' Association of Errigal College plays a vital role in our school, giving parents the opportunity to voice their opinions and ideas on the education of their children, and on issues within the school community. The Parents' Association meet regularly and are deeply involved in the development of school policies on an ongoing basis. The Association has two nominees on the school's Board of Management.

New parents are always welcome to get involved and attend meetings.

> *"Errigal College parents/ guardians are proactive in the school and their children's education. They are in tune with the ethos and mission statement of the school, and their participation in school life is tangible and effective at every level."*
>
> Michael Mc Menamin, H.S.C.L.











ERRIGAL COLLEGE
LETTERKENNY

CO-EDUCATIONAL • STATE • MULTI-DENOMINATIONAL
Excellence in Education
Care
Equality
Community
Respect

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