

A photograph of a modern, two-story school building with a blue facade. The building has large windows and a flat roof. A tree with red leaves is on the right, and a bare tree is on the left. The sky is blue with some clouds. A purple banner is at the bottom.

Drumglass High School

**Drumglass High School
PROSPECTUS**

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**Putting
Children
First**



Welcome to Parents and Prospective Students

Welcome to Drumglass High School. I hope you enjoy looking through our school prospectus. If you like what you see please come and visit us, we would be delighted to meet you. I believe you will find a happy school where pupils are valued and learning is at the centre of all that we do.

Our school motto "Promoting and Rewarding Success" underpins our philosophy. Regardless of a child's ability or success we aim to develop their individual talent and potential. Our school is an all ability school, firmly bedded in secure pastoral and personal care cemented by excellent working relationships between staff and students. We take a real pride in the achievements of all of our pupils.



Our school building offers a stimulating, modern environment in which to learn and progress.

We have a Christian ethos and Christian values permeate school life. We value our relationship with the local community and have excellent relationships with local primary schools. Working closely with parents and carers is extremely important to us. We believe that a strong, positive relationship between home and school can make a real difference to a young person fulfilling their potential.

A progressive, modern and family orientated school, we hope that you will visit us and see for yourself what is on offer. My best wishes go with you and your child for the next phase of their education. I look forward to meeting you and your son or daughter in the near future.

Mrs Mary Shilliday
Principal

"Promoting and Rewarding Success"

History and Tradition

With a proud history of delivering education to young people in Dungannon and the surrounding district for over half a century Drumglass High School began life as Dungannon Intermediate School built in 1957. Originally consisting of the boys' school and girls' school these were amalgamated in 1977 to form Dungannon Secondary School. In 1992 the school was renamed Drumglass High School after the parish in which it is situated.

In 1997 the school was chosen as one of the "Pathfinder" schools to be built by Private Finance Initiative (PFI) and in September 2000 Drumglass High School was opened as the first school in Northern Ireland to be completed by the PFI. The present school campus was designed with the most modern facilities. These are maintained and managed by Martins Facilities Management and Mount Charles to a high standard.

A child-centred school, pastoral care is given a high priority and every effort is made to create a secure, supportive and caring environment in which all pupils are valued and encouraged to achieve their full potential.





Our Mission Statement and Aims

We at Drumglass High School, Dungannon try to promote and reward success. We strive:

- to provide all pupils with a professional, supportive and caring environment
- to develop each pupil's personal and academic potential
- to offer each pupil a high quality modern vocational and academic pathway to further and higher education, entrepreneurial skills, training, apprenticeship or employment and lifelong learning.

We Aim:

1. To help pupils develop their abilities, interests and attitudes in a happy, purposeful, caring environment.
2. To encourage the all-round development of each pupil so that he or she may contribute as fully as possible to their school and community.
3. To promote the acquisition of knowledge, skills, concepts and attitudes which will equip pupils for work and leisure.
4. To build on established links with the Home, Primary Schools and the wider community.
5. To prepare pupils for the transition from school to further and higher education and/or training, and the world of work.
6. To develop an awareness of the Christian values in our society and to encourage understanding and tolerance of others.

Transition from Primary School

At Drumglass High School we recognise that transition to post primary school can be an exciting and challenging time. We are aware that our pupils come from many different primary schools, some large and some small. Our aim is simple – we work hard to ensure that the move between schools is as stress free, well supported and smooth as possible. We have strong links with all of our feeder primary schools and children from primary five onwards may already have visited Drumglass for our popular link days:

- School Pantomime
- Primary 6 Taste and See Day
- Maths Fun Road Show
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Events

Drumglass staff visit all of our local primary schools to talk to the primary seven pupils about our school and answer any questions that they may have. Staff also meet with primary school teachers to ensure that we are well informed and fully prepared for the arrival of the new pupils.

All of our new year eight pupils visit the school with their parents in June. Parents attend an information session and pupils get to see the facilities before meeting up again to sample lunch in “Zest”, our quality canteen. All new year 8 pupils attend an induction day at the end of August. These events are organised by the year eight pastoral team who ensure that pupils are familiar with their new school.

In addition, all year 8 classes are linked to prefect mentors who accompany them between classes and assist the new pupils with their new routines.







Staff

Drumglass High School operates under the overall leadership of the Principal who works in close consultation with the Vice-Principal. The school is fortunate to have a team of outstanding teachers supported effectively by dedicated classroom assistants, administrative staff and ancillary personnel.

All staff members are fully committed to the welfare and development of our students academically, vocationally and pastorally.

Pastoral Care

Drumglass has a long tradition of placing pastoral care and the individual needs of the pupils at the very centre of what it does. As a school we are more focused on a student's exit skills and qualities than on their skills and qualities on arrival. We place the individual child at the centre of all that we do, providing as wide a range of learning experiences as possible. Our aim is to best equip our pupils for the world they will enter as citizens and as contributors to society.

Every new pupil will be allocated a form teacher, whom we will try to ensure is with them throughout their time at the school. Form teachers work in conjunction with our very experienced pastoral team to evaluate and assess the needs of each pupil and provide the necessary support.

Our central focus within learning is to provide the conditions and environment which allows each child to reach their full potential. With the support of home, organisations within the wider community and the pastoral care team we aim to provide a safe, friendly, warm and caring school environment which supports young people in their learning and ensures that their welfare is of paramount importance.





Special Educational Needs and Learning Support

Drumglass High School has an excellent record in catering for pupils with special educational needs. The Special Educational Needs Department (SEN) provides support, guidance and information to all subject teachers and to the parents of pupils who require additional support.

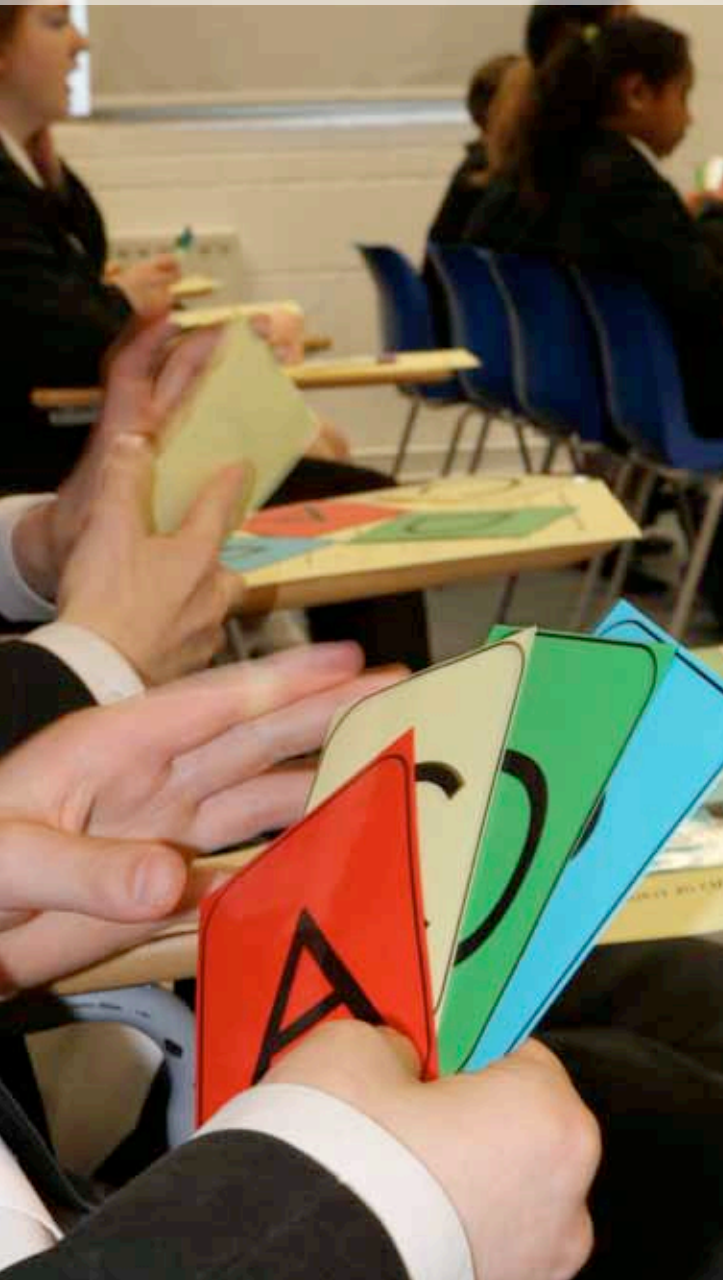
The SEN Department is managed by the school Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO), Mrs J Moore. Mrs Moore oversees the Special Needs Policy and works with an experienced team of classroom assistants and general assistants to provide support for children who have a statement of special educational needs.

The SEN Department works in close harmony with parents and outside agencies to ensure a fully inclusive curriculum. Outside agencies include the SELB SEN Department, the Educational Psychology Service, Peripatetic Support, Hearing Support Service, Vision Support Service, Parent and Family Clinic, the Autism Team and other relevant external agencies to ensure that all of the pupils' additional needs are met.

Members of the SEN team monitor the needs of the pupils on a daily basis. The team provides the pupils with emotional support and builds confidence through praise, rewards and the development of relationships.



Catering for pupils with English as a Second Language (EAL)



The EAL department aims to support and guide EAL/newcomer pupils in order to ensure full inclusion and participation in school life. Opportunities are created to develop the pupils' English language skills, promote the sharing of pupils' home culture and reward their learning.

Two members of staff work in the EAL department; the EAL Co-ordinator Mrs McKillion, a member of the teaching staff and a native Polish speaker assisted by the EAL classroom assistant, Mrs Kelpsaite, a native Lithuanian speaker. In addition to the focused support that newcomer children receive from the EAL department, all departments liaise with the SELB's Inclusion and Diversity Service for advice and curriculum support.

The EAL department supports pupils in many ways including:

- offering ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes
- supporting curricular work in the classroom through classroom assistance and working with subject teachers
- providing opportunities for newcomer pupils to express their own culture by active participation in school events
- offering classes and exams to pupils in their native language where possible
- providing early morning and afternoon homework clubs
- running an EAL club where pupils can seek guidance and support in an informal environment
- meeting with parents to discuss academic and pastoral issues

Inclusion of all nationalities and cultures is central. All pupils are encouraged to share their background and experiences through various school events. We value the international dimension of our pupil body and it is our experience that all pupils benefit from working together in a friendly, supportive environment.

Facilities

In 2000 the school moved into the new building. This was designed with the most modern facilities and is maintained to the high specifications under contract by H&J Martins Facilities Management and Mount Charles. The school has a wide range of both general and specialist classrooms. Our general classrooms are bright, appealing and well equipped. Each one has an interactive white board.

Our specialist rooms include Science Laboratories, a Library with an Apple Mac Suite, Art and Design Studios, a Music Room including a Recording Studio, Computer Suites, Home Economics rooms, a Fitness Suite, a Design and Technology Centre, a Careers Suite, a Drama/Lecture Theatre, a Business Education Room, and Language rooms.

In addition the school has a large Assembly Hall/Gymnasium used for PE classes, assemblies and public events, while the Sports Hall provides an indoor facility to compliment the outdoor pitches and sports facilities.

Zest, our restaurant, catering for pupils, staff and guests is run by Mount Charles to the highest standards.

School offices are centrally located for ease of pupil access.

Our modern, well maintained facilities provide our staff and pupils with a first class environment for learning and teaching.





Our Curriculum

Key Stage 3: (Years 8, 9 and 10)

On entry to Drumglass High School our Key Stage 3 pupils follow the Northern Ireland Curriculum through the following Learning Areas: English, Mathematics, Science and Technology, The Arts, Environment and Society, Modern Languages, Learning for Life and Work, Physical Education and Religious Education.

Infused within the curriculum are the cross-curricular skills of Communication, Using Mathematics and Using ICT, which are developed through the different Learning Areas along with Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities.

Pupils in Years 8-10 take the following subjects:

Art and Design

Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)

Drama

English

Geography

History

Home Economics

Information and Communication Technology

Local and Global Citizenship

Mathematics

Music

Personal Development

Physical Education

Religious Education

Science

Technology and Design



Key Stage 4 (Years 11 and 12)

Senior students study a broad range of subjects both academic and vocational. Care is taken in Year 10 to ensure pupils select the right pathway.

The curriculum consists of a compulsory core element and optional subjects.

Core Curriculum:

English

Mathematics

Science

Information and Communication

Technology

The compulsory core also includes non-examination Physical Education, Religious Education, Personal Development and Careers Education, Information Advice and Guidance.



Key Stage 4 Options:

Most pupils select GCSE subjects (or equivalent) from the following:

Art and Design

Business and Communications Technology

Business Studies

Child Development

Digital Media

French

Geography

History

Home Economics

Hospitality

Learning for Life and Work

Motor Vehicle and Road Users Studies

Performing Arts (BTEC)

Polish

Science (Double Award)

Sport (BTEC)

Religious Education

Technology and Design

In addition to these a number of subjects are offered in school or in partnership with South West College. These include Occupational Studies courses in a range of vocational areas and GCSEs in Construction and Engineering.



Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)

In Drumglass CEIAG is at the heart of the curriculum. The central aim of the school's CEIAG programme is to help young people to acquire the skills, attitudes and abilities they will need to chart their path through life with confidence and to be effective in a variety of adult roles and spheres of life. In support of this over-riding aim, the CEIAG programme in Drumglass High School helps pupils to develop:

- Knowledge and understanding of themselves and others as individuals – their strengths and limitations, personal qualities, interests, abilities, skills, potential values, motivation and needs and to be able to consider how their attributes and ambitions relate to future lifestyles, education, training and employment opportunities.
- Knowledge and understanding of the world in which they live, the major roles which people play concurrently or sequentially in various spheres of life, employment and other careers opportunities available and routes of entry accessible to them.
- Skills and personal qualities to manage their career development, including the ability to make considered choices, formulate and implement personal career plans and cope with transition from school to adult life.

Guidance Interviews are carried out with all Year 11 and 12 pupils by personnel from the local Training and Employment Agency. In Year 12 all pupils have the opportunity to do one week's work experience. The school enjoys close links with the community and opportunities are made for the pupils to attend careers conventions, industrial visits, talks from visiting speakers and mock interviews. Each Year 12 pupil is trained in interview techniques and undertakes a mock interview with invited mentors from the business world. During careers education classes, pupils develop their Personal Career Plan.





Sport

In addition to the school's PE teachers a significant number of staff, as well as external coaches, are involved in coaching various sports teams and clubs.

Facilities include a large modern sports hall, a fully equipped gymnasium, a high quality fitness suite, three badminton courts, a full sized netball court, four tennis courts, a basketball court, a tarmac netball court, two gravel pitches, a grass rugby pitch, a grass football pitch and extensive school grounds.

A school Sports Day as well as inter-house competitions are organised annually. Teams and individuals can avail of a wide range of sports including:

Athletics
Badminton
Basketball
Cricket
Cross-country

Football
Gymnastics
Hockey
Netball
Rugby

Swimming
Table Tennis
Tennis
Trampolining
Volleyball



Extra-Curricular

At Drumglass we aim to provide children with a well-rounded educational experience, in keeping with this we offer a rich extra-curricular programme.

The list below gives an insight into the range of activities on offer to all.

Athletics

Badminton

Choir

Cookery club

Craft club

Drama

E.A.L. club

European School Project

Football Academy (boys and girls)

French Club

Geography Clinic

Horse Riding

ICT Club

Maths Clinic

Rugby

Hockey

HUB homework clubs (junior and senior)

Music Tuition (including piano, guitar and drums)

Netball

Scripture Union

School Council

Educational visits such as the European Ski Trip and trips to the UK mainland further encourage the personal, social and intellectual development of our students.



Drumglass High School Football Academy

At Drumglass High School football is the sport of choice for many of our pupils, Drumglass is a footballing school. Our Football Academy has a team of coaches, both internal and external, who work with the pupils every Wednesday after school. The Academy coaches both girls' and boys' teams for all age groups. Competitive League and Cup matches run throughout the year. Both boys' and girls' teams have frequently achieved notable success.

Parents and the School

We see a child's education as very much a team approach with the school and the parents working closely together to support the child. We are always available to discuss issues and if parents have concerns about their son or daughter they are encouraged to contact the school immediately.

Parents are kept informed about their child's progress four times per year; three report cards and one full report are sent home. All reports are accompanied by our newsletter which keeps parents informed about the life of the school.

Teachers also communicate with home through the pupil's school diary and a calendar of events is sent to parents annually. This is backed up by our text messaging service. Parent afternoons are held once per year for each year group. These provide an opportunity for discussions on a child's progress and parents are encouraged to attend.

Our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) organises a number of events each year. Its aims are to support the education of the pupils through fund raising and to further the positive relationship between home and school. We always welcome support and assistance with the PTA. We value the school/home partnership and endeavour to quickly develop beneficial relationships with home during a child's time at Drumglass.



Transport Arrangements to Drumglass High School, Dungannon

Ulster Bus route:

- Moygashel

SELB Bus routes:

- Ballynakelly
- Bush
- Castlecaulfield
- Donaghmore
- Eglis
- Killyman
- Moy/Benburb
- Newmills
- Pomeroy
- Tamnamore

The buses follow the SELB routes catering effectively for our pupils. More detailed information on specific routes can be obtained from the SELB or the school office.



School and Management Information

Drumglass High School is a secondary school located on the outskirts of Dungannon, County Tyrone, Northern Ireland. It is a state controlled school for girls and boys aged 11 to 16. It is within the Southern Education and Library Board area.

Postal Address:

Carland Road
Dungannon
Co Tyrone
BT71 6TJ

Tel: 028 8772 2421

Fax: 028 8772 0150

Email: info@drumglasshigh.dungannon.ni.sch.uk

Website*: www.drumglasshigh.org

Virtual Learning environment: drumglasshighvle.org.uk

Principal: Mrs M Shilliday

Vice Principal: Mr M Thompson

School building opens: 8.20am

Morning registration: 8.35am

Classes begin: 8.55am

Morning break: 10.35am – 10.55am

Lunch break: 12.35pm – 1.10pm

End of school day: 2.50pm

The SELB annually publishes a transfer booklet giving details of the School and its administration procedures. This can be obtained from the Transfer Office of the SELB. It is also available on the Board's website www.selb.org.

**website under development*





Drumglass High School

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