

WELCOME TO MALAHIDE PORTMARNOCK ETSS!



Swords Enterprise Park, Feltrim Road, Swords. Tel 01 9631299. www.mpetss.ie

MISSION STATEMENT: COMMUNITY — COLLABORATION — CREATION



Aoife Kelly Gibson-Principal

Welcome from Principal Aoife Kelly-Gibson

I am delighted to welcome you, our new students, to be part of this new educational experience for young people. The student voice is integral to our vision for education. Our aim is to provide a setting where students develop not only in their academic ability but also their life skills. Enabling them to apply critical thinking, entrepreneurial and innovative skills to their future lives.

What MPETSS is about:

Malahide Portmarnock Educate Together Secondary School is committed to an inclusive student-centred educational experience based on Collaboration, Cooperation and Creation.

We strive to create a community of academic excellence which is welcoming, democratic, diverse and safe. Our vision is for students to become independent lifelong learners, who reach their full potential and become active members of society. At MPETSS we work to develop empathy and an understanding of difference in our ever-changing world.



Our School

Our newly-built school is situated on the edge of our catchment area on the Feltrim Riad in the Swords Enterprise Park. The school comprises of three floors with General, Specialist & Support classrooms, science labs, Technology, Design & Computer Graphics, Home Economics Kitchens, Art & Music Rooms.

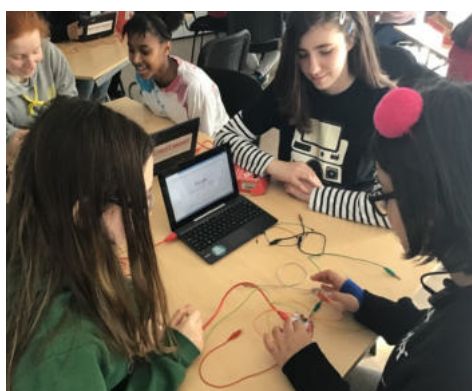
We have a generous community space, library and outdoor areas for PE and extra-curricular sport. We await our permanent PE Hall that will be built in phase 2.

Students

We currently have 354 students and are due to open enrolment for 144 for First Year 2023.

Staff

We have a staff of 41, which includes Teachers, SNAs, Caretaker, Secretaries and two visiting Spanish teachers !



The Educate Together Ethos



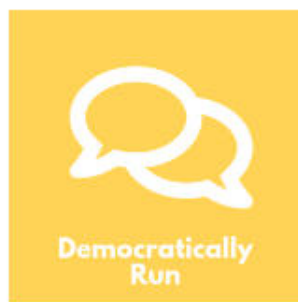
Equality-Based

All children have access to the school and no one religion or world view is given priority over another within the school



Child-Centred

Our child-based approach means that we put all children at the heart of all policies & practices and involve them in the decision-making where appropriate



Democratically Run

All children are encouraged to explore their full range of abilities and are provided with equal opportunities regardless of their gender or identity



Co-Educational

The school is run on a democratic basis, encouraging active participation by parents and students in the daily life of the school whilst positively affirming the professional role of the teachers

MPETSS Board of Management

Two Patron Representatives:

Two Parent Representatives:

Two Staff Representatives:

Two Community Representatives:

Two Associate student members:

David Graham (Chairperson) & Amanda Downes

Ronan Kelly & Lisa Doyle

Thomond Ni Ghoill & Clíodhna Ni Rhuairc

Michael Dowling & Gillian Whelan

Student Council Elected

Curriculum



At Malahide Portmarnock Educate Together Secondary School, our students study a broad range of subjects at Junior and Senior levels.

60 Minute classes:

All our classes are 1 hour long which supports our active learning model. We take a team-based, ICT mediated approach to learning with an emphasis on critical thinking and problem solving as opposed to note learning for exams. MPETSS is an iPad only school using educational apps together with e-books .

Students are due in for 8:30am. Classes start promptly at 8:40am with Tutor time four mornings a week. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, classes finish at 3:28pm. Wednesday finish is at 2:00pm.

Students do not leave the building during break or lunch. They bring their lunch with them. We will be researching and collaborating with the school community on food service in our Community Space when we have settled properly into the building and the second phase is built.

JUNIOR CYCLE

Junior Cycle Core Subjects: English, Irish, Maths, Science, Modern Foreign Language (French), History, PE, SPHE (Social, Personal & Health Education), Ethical Education.

Optional Subjects: May include: Geography, Technology, Technical Graphics, Home Economics, Business, Art, Music & Classical Studies.

Short Courses: May include: Artistic Performance, CSPE CSPE (Civic, Social & Political Studies)

SENIOR CYCLE:

Senior Cycle Core Subjects: English, Irish, Maths, Science, Modern Foreign Language (French), Careers & PE.

Current Optional Subjects: Biology, Technology, Art, DCG, History, Geography, Chemistry

As the school grows and teachers become more available, we will be offering more options.

Leaving Cert Applied

Leaving Cert Applied (LCA) is split into four half-year sessions, with more emphasis on continuous assessment instead of the end of year exams

Vocational Education	General Education
Mathematical Application	Social Ed
Agriculture/Horticulture/Hotel Catering & Tourism	Leisure & Recreation
Office Admin & Customer Care	Arts Education
Intro to Inf Tech	Irish

Short Course Electives
Arts & Music
Child Care & Community
Tutor
Personal Reflection
Ethical Ed/SPHE
MFL
French & Irish
Work experience-1 day per week

Transition Year (Compulsory at MPETSS)

Core: Maths, English, Irish, Science, Life Skills, Law & Ethics, Technology, Science STEM, History / Geography, Career Guidance, PE, French, Creative Arts

WELLBEING:

Guidance Counselling is a holistic process which values each individual student and focuses on three inter-related strands—Personal & Social, Educational and Vocational Guidance. The Guidance and Counselling Dept at MPETSS seeks to empower our students to make decisions, solve problems, change behaviours and resolve issues in their lives. It is viewed as an ongoing process which begins on the student's entry to 1st year and on to 6th year.



Our Guidance Counsellor, Caitriona works closely with the students to provide support for mental health, well-being, relationships, study skills, subject choice, college advice and career information. We are recognised as a One Good School by Jigsaw and have strong links with Pieta House, Cahlm's, NEPS and Planet Youth.

Programme:

- Transition from Primary to Post Primary
- Restorative Practice Anti-Bullying Programme
- Digital Literacy/iPad
- Reading Programmes
- Extra curricular activities
- Lunchtime clubs
- Positive Behaviour Management
- Parent Council
- Pastoral Care
 - Garden/Relaxation spaces
 - Break out room
 - Giving back to the Community
 - Shout Out Board
 - LGBTQ+ support

BEHAVIOUR & RESTORATIVE PRACTICE:

Our staff are trained in Restorative Practice which helps to support relationships and to provide us with the tools to manage conflict and in managing conflict in general. The students are also working on modules in class around Restorative Practice so that they can help each other and the whole school community.



Ethical Education

Ethical Education involves exploring different worldviews and beliefs, considering ethical dilemmas and the process of ethical decision making. Ethical Education invites students and teachers to engage with issues and problems facing society and aims to develop the skills of critical thinking, discussion and debate.

Ethical Education embodies the values of an Educate Together second-level school that promotes



Extra- Curricular Activities:

GAA Football Hurling & Camogie		Basketball	Soccer	Badminton
Knitting Club	Chess Club	Gardening Club	Debate Club	Star Wars Club
Book Club	Choir	Gaeilge Club	STEM Club	Basketball

Achievements:

The National Educate Together Olympics is a meet up of all our secondary schools nationwide. Our team enjoys the collaboration, encouragement, team spirit and are very successful in a number of disciplines including shot- putt, relay and distance running!

We have also had great success at GAA football with our boys team and have introduced a girls team also, many of who are playing GAA for the first time!



School Trips

Our school trips are growing. So far we have enjoyed away trips to Carlingford, Inis Mor and Berlin!

Support for Educational Needs

OUR PARTNERSHIPS:

GAEITY SCHOOL OF ACTING, BRIDGE 21 TRINITY COLLEGE,
DIGITAL EXCELLENCE, SCHOOLS CLUSTER , FINGAL STUDENT ENTERPRISE PROGRAMME
FINGAL CC SPORTS PROGRAMME, FINGAL CC ARTS, LAURA LYNN,
LOCALISE YOUTH VOLUNTEERING, BRIDGE 21 TRINITY COLLEGE.

Our award winning Debate Team following their super debating at the Educate Together National Debating Competition.



Gaeity School of Acting



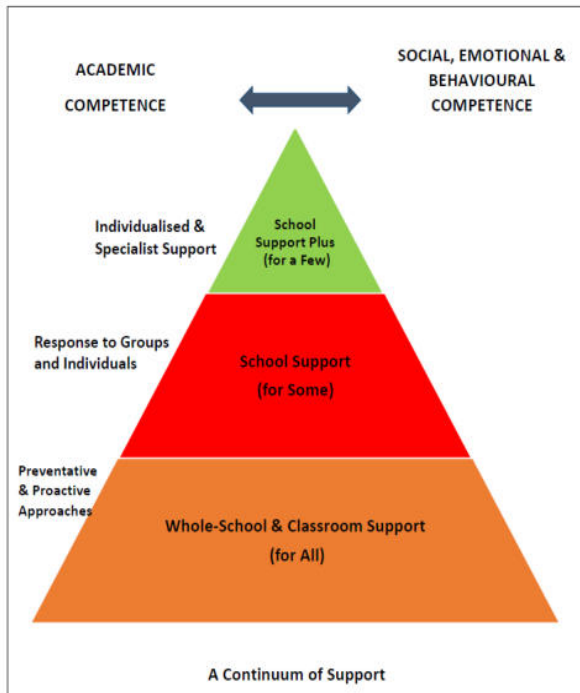
We are partnered with the Gaeity School of Acting and projects involve the creation of an app on Shakespeare that brings his works to life in the modern age

Giving back To The Community

At MPETSS, we have been working with Localise, an organisation which promotes youth volunteering in the community. We have worked with Anovocare in Swords and recently hosted an online Christmas Party for young Students in the CRC school



Support for Educational Needs at MPETSS



As you will know from our Website, we are a mainstream, [restorative school](#) and we prioritize 'Connection before Curriculum'. The Support team in MPETSS sees the relationships we build with students and their families as key to ensuring their success in school. We try to solve problems before they arise.

When a student joins us, we rely on parents to keep the school informed of issues that their child is having (via the Tutor). Parents are notified of your child's tutor in the first week of term.

This information outlines the support structure in our school:

1. How Support is delivered within MPETSS.
2. What to do if your child has previously received learning support.

How support is delivered within MPETSS.

Learning Support interventions in MPETSS are delivered according to the guidelines set out by the Department of Education – The Continuum of Support. This is a framework designed to assist schools in identifying and responding to students' needs.

The Continuum of Support is a problem-solving model of assessment and intervention that enables schools to gather and analyze data, as well as to plan and review the progress of individual students. What this means in practice is that there are three tiers of support:

When your child joins us, we will work to get to know them by the end of the first term and then have a discussion about where we feel your child should be placed on the continuum and outline to you what that means for your child.

If your child has previously received support.

How support is delivered in post primary is different from Primary due to the nature of the subjects and timetable constraints and resource allocation.

We work on identifying students' strengths and support needs within the first term and focus on students making a positive transition to Post-Primary. We work on finalising a support timetable by mid-term for all students. For students with more complex support requirements, someone from the team will be in contact in the new year to plan this with you, their school and any agencies involved with your child.

If you intend on applying to our school, please ensure you have any relevant recent (within two years) assessments/reports from any professionals working with your child, and your child's certificate of exemption from Irish if they have one.

If you have indicated on your enrolment and application forms that your child has support needs and has professional reports or an Irish exemption you will be on our list, and we will be in contact regarding supports in the January to May term, prior to your child joining MPETSS.

Promotion of Student Voice, Volunteering and Team work.

Student Council at MPETSS

We have a very active Student Council with members of all years.

Elections are democratically run with candidates given time to present to their potential voters and correctly run voting processes in place.



Student Council Elections

Sustainability & Horticulture

We love planting and are exploring vegetable growing this year. We have saplings ready to plant in our new build grounds and are developing our skills. The students are enthusiastic about working outdoors and bringing new things to life. We plan on having our vegetable and herb garden for our cookery classes. Our Caretaker is brilliant at woodwork...lucky us!



Charity Fundraising

We enjoy working as a team to arrange fundraising for different charities. This is from our fundraising for Laura Lynn Children's Hospice.



Follow us on Social Media

Website: www.mpetss.ie

Twitter: @mpetss

Facebook: Malahide Portmarnock Educate Together Secondary School