



Holy Family Community School

- ▶ 6th Year Information Meeting
- ▶ Tuesday, September 10, 2024
- ▶ Welcome
 - If you have any questions regarding the presentation this evening, please put them in the chat box and we will endeavour to answer them at the end or you can email info@hfcs.ie
 - If you have a specific question about your son/daughter please email info@hfcs.ie and direct it to the relevant person you wish to speak to.



Student Support Team

- Their core purpose is to coordinate the support available for all students in the school.

- ▶ Principal: Ms. Ingrid Fallon
- ▶ Deputy Principals: Ms. Denise O'Keeffe, Mr. Liam Ferguson, Mr. Derek Maher
- ▶ Guidance Counsellors: Ms. Kay O'Connell, Ms. Ursula McDonnell and Ms. Charlene Perris
- ▶ Chaplain: Mr. Noel McConnell
- ▶ Additional Needs Coordinators – Mr. Michael Savage and Ms. Hayley O'Keeffe



Pastoral Care Team

- ▶ Year Head: Ms. Colette Phillips
- ▶ Tutors: R.61 Ms. Bróna Redmond
- ▶ R.62 Ms. Inés Quinlan
- ▶ R. 63 Mr. Brendan Weldon
- ▶ R. 64 Mr. Shane Keightley
- ▶ R. 65 Ms. Charlene Perris

School Procedures

Classes begin at 8.45am and finish at 3.40pm (1pm on Wed). Students must be in school 5 minutes before first class in the morning and first class in the afternoon

Morning break is from 10.45am - 11.00am

Lunch break 1.00pm – 1.40pm

Wednesdays: morning break is from 10.55 to 11.10am.

6th Year students are allowed to go to the village during lunch break. Students who wish to stay in school must remain in the school yard from 1pm – 1.20pm and go to their base rooms from 1.20 to 1.40pm.

A seating plan and cleaning roster is posted on each base room wall which students must adhere to.

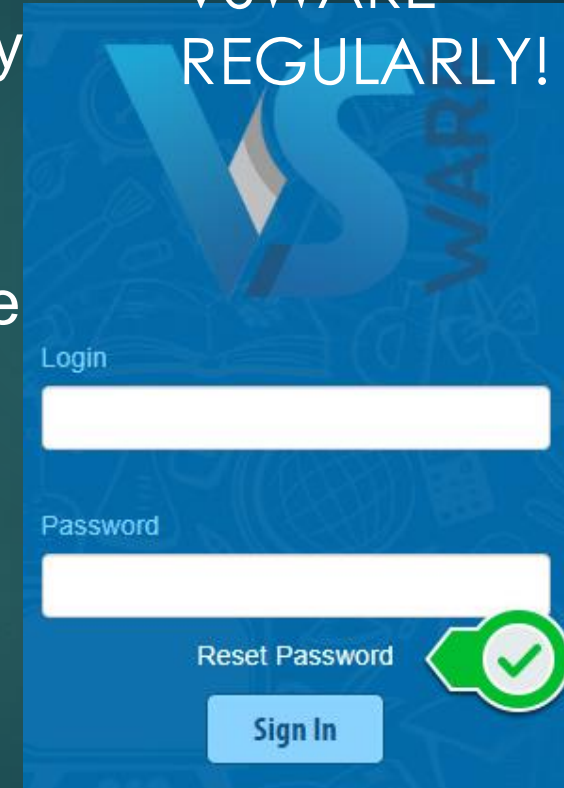
Communication between Parent/Guardian and school.

- ▶ The School Secretary, Ms. Lorraine O'Connell, is the main channel to contact teachers, Tutor, Year Head, Deputy Principals and Principal.
- ▶ Phone calls (01-4580766)
- ▶ Emails to info@hfcs.ie
- ▶ **Absence notes sent via Vsware.**
- ▶ Notes in dialann for individual subject teachers or contact made through email/phone call.
- ▶ All meetings between parents/guardians and staff members must be made by appointment.

Communication between school and Parents/Guardians.

- ▶ VShare is the management and communication system used by the school also acts to communicate messages to Parents/Guardians.
- ▶ Parents/Guardians can look at their child's timetable, attendance assessment results and behaviour record on VShare.
- ▶ In order to receive messages, please ensure that you download the VShare app on your mobile device and allow notifications.
- ▶ Instructions on how to download the VShare app can be found here: <https://support.vshare.ie/en/parent-app-overview>

CHECK
VSHARE
REGULARLY!

A screenshot of the VShare login interface. The background is blue with a faint 'VSHARE' logo and a pattern of school-related icons. There are two white input fields: the top one is labeled 'Login' and the bottom one is labeled 'Password'. Below the password field is a 'Reset Password' link with a green arrow icon pointing left. At the bottom is a blue 'Sign In' button. A green checkmark icon is overlaid on the right side of the form area.

Login

Password

Reset Password

Sign In

Other forms of communication

- ▶ Website www.hfcs.ie
- ▶ Twitter @hfcsrathcoole
- ▶ School reports
- ▶ Parent/Teacher meeting
- ▶ Meetings for specific issues
- ▶ Information Meetings
- ▶ Dialann



Leaving Cert Curriculum

- ▶ Students are advised to set study goals.
- ▶ It is recommended that students spend 2 hours per evening at homework/revision. Extra hours at the weekend.
- ▶ October Assessments October 21 to October 25
- ▶ Subject curriculum largely completed by the Mock examinations.
- ▶ Mock Exams February 4 to February 14 2025
- ▶ Project work will start at the end of October/early November. Project work to be completed in school under the direct supervision of the teacher.
- ▶ Essential that balance is maintained. A good study plan this year incorporating breaks/exercise.
- ▶ Supervised study

Supervised Study

- ▶ Study runs from 3.55pm – 5.55pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday each week.
- ▶ There will be 7 sessions throughout the year. Each session is four weeks in duration.
- ▶ The first 6 sessions cost €65 each with the 7th shorter session €40
- ▶ Alternatively, the school offers study at a reduced cost of €380 for the year. Payment can be made through the school's Easy Payments Plus on www.hfcs.ie.

Leaving Certificate Grades and CAO points system.

Higher Level Grades	Higher Level Points	% Bands	Ordinary Level Grades	Ordinary Level Points
H1	100	90-100%	O1	56
H2	88	80-89%	O2	46
H3	77	70-79%	O3	37
H4	66	60-69%	O4	28
H5	56	50-59%	O5	20
H6	46	40-49%	O6	12
H7	37	30-39%	O7	0
H8	0	0-29%	O8	0

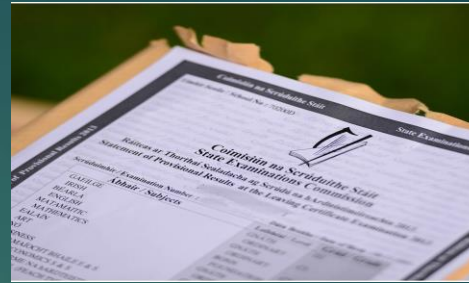


LCVP

Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme

LCVP Grade	% Score	LCVP Points
Distinction	85 - 100	66
Merit	65 - 79	46
Pass	50 - 64	28

CAO Points System



- ▶ 6 subjects used to calculate points.
- ▶ Maximum points for 6 Higher level subjects (H1): 600 points
- ▶ Maximum points for 6 Ordinary level subjects (O1): 336 points
- ▶ Maximum points for 6 Higher level subjects (H7): 222 points
- ▶ Maximum points for 6 Ordinary level subjects (O7): 72 points
- ▶ 25 bonus points for H6 or higher in Higher level Maths.
- ▶ However, some courses require minimum grades at certain levels so check with the career guidance teacher for confirmation of requirements before changing levels.



Languages and Oral Exams

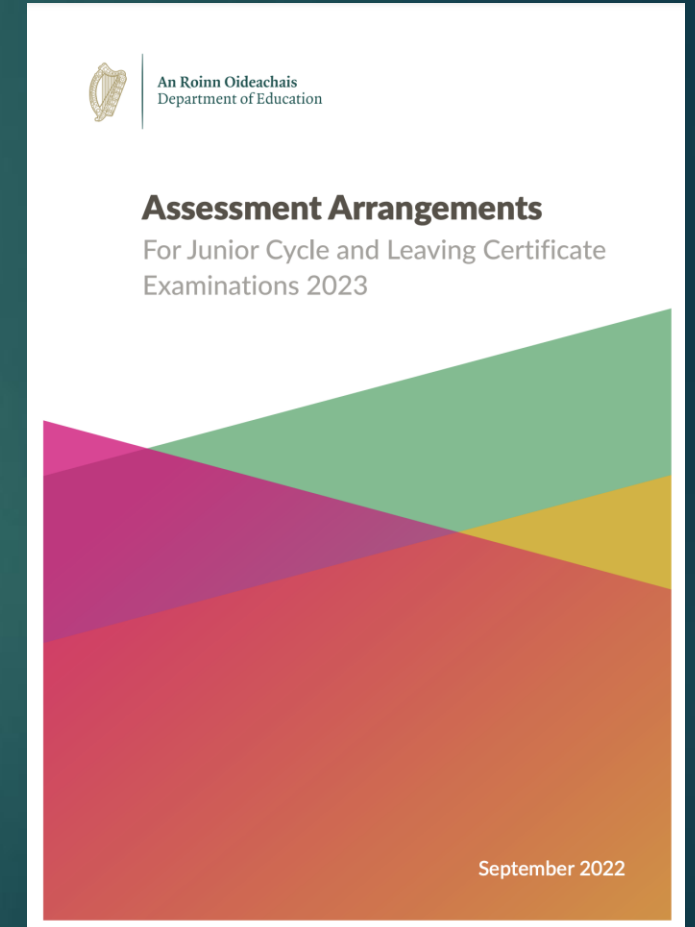
- ▶ Irish oral exam: 40%
- ▶ Irish written and aural exam: 60%

- ▶ French/German oral exams: 25% (H), 20% (O)
- ▶ French/German written and aural exam: 75% (H); 80% (O)

- ▶ Many subjects have a practical component worth a significant percentage of the overall grade. It is essential that this work is completed to a high standard.

Update on Assessment for senior cycle 2024/2025

- ▶ The Minister for Education has confirmed that, as for leaving cert class of 2024, adjustments will be made to the assessment arrangements for students who are due to sit State examinations in 2025.
- ▶ Revised changes can be viewed at gov.ie-Leaving Certificate 2025 (www.gov.ie)



Looking forward



- ▶ Career guidance appointments should be made during this term if students need information on the course they wish to pursue.
- ▶ Courses accessed through the Central Applications Office (CAO) which also cover apprenticeships
- ▶ Courses outside of the state (UCAS)
- ▶ Post Leaving Certificate (PLC) courses

Health and Safety

15

01

Always have an appointment

02

Do not enter school grounds except by prior arrangement

03

Drop off and pick up students at the front of the school

04

Do not stop on the roundabout or in the school gateway or across the driveways of houses

Health and Safety: New Building

- ▶ Accessing or attempting to access the construction site for the new school building is forbidden.
- ▶ Parents/guardians must not drop off or collect at either roundabout outside school. Top roundabout is now an access point for construction machinery
- ▶ Students must be aware of new fire evacuation route/procedures. Fire drills will take place.

SCHOOL POLICIES



All HFCS policies and useful information are available on the school website



<https://www.hfcs.ie/our-policies-and-useful-information/>



The Code of Behaviour and Discipline should be read by students and parents and is available in the students' journals and on the website. It must be signed in the dialann.

Personal Electronic Devices

PLEASE READ
AUP POLICY
ON SCHOOL
WEBSITE

Must be off and out of sight at all times during school day

Students **must not** take photographs or recordings of any member of the school community.

Students must not use their personal electronic devices to abuse, threaten, harass or bully other students or staff or use these devices to invade the privacy of any member of the school community. Infringement of these rules is taken very seriously by the school.

Parents must not phone students during the school day

Please read www.cybersafeireland.org and www.webwise.ie

Attendance & Punctuality

- ▶ Regular attendance and punctuality is extremely important.
- ▶ Please avoid family holidays during term time
- ▶ Students who are absent for 20 days will be reported to TUSLA.
- ▶ Detention may be given to regular latecomers



General Sickness Procedures and leaving school early

- ▶ Please do not send a sick child to school,
- ▶ Student must not use their mobile phone to contact a Parent/Guardian if they feel ill in school.
- ▶ The student must get the teacher's permission to go to reception.
- ▶ The school secretary then contacts the Parent/ Guardian.
- ▶ Please ensure that a correct phone number is on VSware to contact you.
- ▶ Student must be collected by Parent/Guardian and sign out at reception when collected.
- ▶ Any student being collected by a parent during the school day must present a note to the Year Head or send a note via VSware.

Detention

- ▶ Wednesdays from 1.15 p.m. to 2.15 p.m.
- ▶ Parents/ Guardians will be informed by the school when detention is given and the reason for detention.
- ▶ Parents must organise transport home for their son/daughter.
- ▶ Failure to attend detention may result in suspension.
- ▶ If a student is unable to attend detention, a note must be presented to the Behaviour Management Co-ordinator, Ms. Brona Redmond.



Stages for Complaints/Concerns

- ▶ Subject Teacher
- ▶ Tutor
- ▶ Year Head
- ▶ Principal
- ▶ Representatives of the Board of Management
- ▶ Full Board of Management
- ▶ Teaching Council
- ▶ Complaints' procedure is available on the school's website

Student Life

We want our students to be happy in HFCS

Bullying will not be tolerated and should be reported to the school

Students are expected to display good manners and courtesy to all members of the school community.

Students are expected to show respect for each other and to watch out for one another

Lunchtime Arrangements

- ▶ 6th Year students have permission to go down to the village for lunch. Alternatively, students may stay in school for lunch.
- ▶ 6th Year students may use the small kitchen in the social area to prepare lunch. The use of the kitchen is a privilege and students are expected to keep it clean.
- ▶ Students may also use the pool table in the social area at lunch time.
- ▶ There is a cleaning roster for each student's base classroom. This roster must be adhered to.

Extra-curricular activities

25

- ▶ Good to encourage your son/daughter to get involved in activities.
- ▶ Students must remember that good behaviour will be expected during extra-curricular activities and when representing the school.
- ▶ Students are expected to do assigned homework if they miss class due to participation in an extra-curricular activity.
- ▶ Voluntary Contributions fund extra-curricular activities.

Athletics

Basketball

Choir

Debating

Gaelic
Football

Gymnastics

Hurling /
Camogie

Public
Speaking

Soccer

Dates for diary

- ▶ **September:** 6th year Wellbeing & Retreat
- ▶ Higher Options (16 euro to be paid on school's Easypay Plus system)

- ▶ **October:** Parents' Council AGM: Tuesday 8th of October at 7pm (in the school).
- ▶ In-house exams: 21st to the 25th October.

- ▶ **November:** Parent/Teacher meeting: 12th November from 4.15pm to 6.45pm.

- ▶ **February:** 4th-14th Mock Exams: Payment of €45 should be paid through the Easy Payments Plus system.

- ▶ **End of May:** 6th Year graduation night. (Date to be finalised)

- ▶ Please keep an eye on the school website www.hfcs.ie for other important school dates.

Get involved in the HFCS Parents Council

Follow us
on
Facebook



HFCS Parents Council Group

Follow us
on
Instagram



@hfcs_parentsouncil

To join the
Parents Council
email



parentscouncil@hfcs.ie

Thank you for your
attention and support



PARENT
SUPPORT

