

Lumen Christi College



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS



2024-2025

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ROLE OF GOVERNORS

The Board of Governors has a statutory obligation to provide an annual report to parents on the implementation of College Policies, the College Curriculum, and the management of the College in the year previous to the report's publication.

Parents of all registered pupils in the College and all persons employed by the College are entitled to a copy of this report.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Governors 2024-25

Mrs Edel Moore Chairperson (Trustee)

Fr Gerard Mongan Trustee Representatives

Mr Martin Coyle

Mr Noel Mc Caul

Mrs Jacinta Bradley DENI Representatives

Mr Emmet McGinley

Professor David Hassan

Mr Michael Harron Elected Parent

Ms Catherine Hughes Elected Teacher

Mr Patrick O'Doherty Co-opted Members

Mr Michael McGee

The Principal, Dr M. Ferris, is a non-voting member and Secretary to the Board.

CURRICULUM PROVISION

Staffing

In the 2024-25 academic year, we welcomed Mr Niall Hanna (Physics), Mrs Ailish O’Kane (Chemistry) Mrs Christine Kelly (Chemistry) Mr Brendan Mc Laughlin (History) and Dr Laura Gallagher (English) to the staff.

Miss Gillian Farren (ICT), Ms Clodhna Bonner (Geography/RE), Mr Paul Porter (French/Spanish) took up temporary posts for one year. Miss Caitlin Cochrane (Biology/Science) and Miss Shannon Mc Cafferty (Art) took up temporary maternity covers.

We celebrated the retirement of longstanding member of staff Mr Declan Mc Laughlin (English) and we bid a fond farewell to Mr Lukas Arkinson (Design and Technology), Miss Liuping Yang (Mandarin), Ms Kelly McLaughlin (Chemistry), Mr Óhran Duffy (CA), Ms Noelle Martin (CA), Miss Emma Deery (Science Technician), Mrs Yvonne Harrison (Canteen Assistant), Mrs Elaine Doherty (Receptionist) and Mrs Martina Reid (Cook), all of whom moved to pastures new. We thank them all for their contribution to the college and wish them every success in the future. We were deeply saddened by the passing of Nick Jones, a valued member of our support staff. Nick contributed greatly to the life of our school community through his dedication and hard work. His commitment and kindness touched the lives of both staff and students, and he will be greatly missed.

Academic & Pastoral Arrangements

157 applicants sought admission to the College at Year 8, 124 of whom were admitted into five classes of mixed ability, determined according to choice of languages and friendship groups. At Key Stage 3, class sizes range from 20 to 26 in number; at Key Stage 4, from 9 to 28, streamed only for some classes in English, Mathematics and Further Mathematics at GCSE; and at A-Level, class sizes range from 4 to 24.

Lumen Christi College continues to offer the full Northern Ireland Curriculum at Key Stages 3 and 4 in accordance with statutory guidance. All classes have allocated pastoral time with their Form Tutor for one period each week.

At Key Stage 4, in 2023-2024, most students took a minimum of ten subjects and some students took eleven GCSE subjects, while at Sixth Form, all students took at least three A-Level subjects. Learning for Life and Work was provided for in the GCSE curriculum using the collapsed timetable model as well as through the timetabled weekly Pastoral lesson. We continued our engagement with the Confucius Classroom Project, in collaboration with Ulster University and Hanban University in China, which enabled Mandarin lessons to be delivered to the Year 8 students and as an option in the Year 13 Outreach Programme.

Lumen Christi College is a member of the Foyle Learning Community with links to twelve local post-primary providers, allowing access for post-16 students to a range of subjects beyond those taught on site. In the academic year 2024-25, students availed of this opportunity as follows:

As part of this collaborative approach, the College also facilitates access to additional subjects on our site for these post primary partners. In the academic year 2024-25, the following subjects hosted students:

Year group	Number of students	Subject	FLC Partner school hosting LCC students
13 – AS	1	Irish	Thornhill College

Year group	Number of students	Subject	FLC Partner school accessing provision in LCC
14 – A2	1	Software Systems Development	Thornhill College
14 – A2	1	Music	St Brigid's College
13 – AS	1	Spanish	St Cecilia's College
13 – AS	2	Digital Technology	St Cecilia's College
13 – AS	1	French	Thornhill College
13 – AS	1	Spanish	St Columb's College
13 – AS	1	Maths	St Joseph's College
13 – AS	1	Spanish	Foyle College

Summary of EF Audit 2024-25

Course Classification	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Year 14
General	14 (14 delivered)	14 (14 delivered)	14 (12 delivered)	14 (10 delivered)
Applied	8 (7 delivered)	8 (7 delivered)	11 (6 delivered)	9 (7 delivered)
Total	22 (offered) (21 delivered)	22 (offered) (21 delivered)	25 (offered) (18 delivered)	23 (17 delivered)

Public Examination Headlines

At GCSE level 98.4% of our pupils attained Grades A*-C in at least seven subjects including English and Mathematics. 91 students achieved 7 Grade As or more and 74.4% of all entries attained Grade A*- A. 48 students achieved 10As or higher. At A-Level, results were again excellent; 54.1% of all our entries resulted in Grade A*-A and 85.2% of students achieved three Grade A*- C grades while 46 students achieved 3 or more A grades.

PARENTS' INFORMATION

Ongoing and updated information for parents on all aspects of college life is available on-line on the school website: www.lumenchristcollege.co.uk. Policy documents are available in written copy to parents on request to the school office and the School Development Plan is available for inspection by parents in the school.

Parents' Information Evenings were held for Years 8, 11, 13 and 14 and information was provided on a wide range of issues, including: careers advice, subject choices, relationships and sexuality education programme, child protection, digital awareness, special educational provision, study skills, drugs awareness and preparation for university as appropriate.

Year 8 parents and pupils were invited to the college in June to afford them the opportunity to ask any questions and discuss individual concerns, and to familiarize themselves with the college environment in preparation for September. The college continued the operation of its Uniform Recycling Scheme, in partnership with the Creggan Hub and supported by the Parents and Friends Association.

Open Evening was held in January and was very well attended by prospective pupils and parents.

A formal complaints procedure to the Board of Governors exists for parents and is available on the school website

Parents and Friends Association (PFA)

Dr Karen Walsh, Chairperson of the PFA, attended the Year 8 induction session in October to present the work of the Parents and Friends to our new parents/carers. She extended an invitation to new parents to join the group. Dr Walsh and members of the PFA served the refreshments after the event and chatted to new parents to make sure everyone felt welcome.

The PFA were again delighted to provide the prizes for the Student Council competition, held annually during Anti-bullying Week, to raise awareness of this most important issue.

Members of the Parents and Friends again gave up their time to attend the college's Open Evening in January to welcome prospective students and their parents and to speak about their personal experience of the school. This help is always most beneficial.

The popular Christmas Bonanza Draw was held in December and raised an impressive £3419.04. The effort that members put into sourcing prizes and selling tickets is to be greatly commended. The support of the Student Well-being Team, Sisters IN and college staff in helping to sell tickets was also much appreciated, as was the unstinting support of our whole parent body.

The standout event of this school year was undoubtedly the Fashion Show held on Wednesday 16th April which raised £3588.15. It was an immense pleasure to see the whole school community, students, staff and parents, having such a good time together. The talent and professionalism of the students and staff who modelled or performed on the night was outstanding. The unique creations of the Key Stage 3 LLW classes were truly inspirational, as was their message promoting sustainability. Sisters IN are also to be commended for the lovely outfits they sourced in local charity shops whilst encouraging recycling. We are indebted to our wonderful sponsors: Dunnes Stores, Different Class Menswear, Bonny & Bold, Black Tie Showroom, Aoife Harvey, Sass & Halo, HAN, MFC Sports, Shannon McCafferty, Esquire Formal Wear, One Luxury, Paul Martin Menswear, Tomorrow's Men's & Bridalwear, Mulvenna Eyewear, Doherty's Bakery, Sisters IN and Mr Donal Neill (Pain Fireworks), without whose support the event would not have been possible.

We are grateful to the PFA for sponsoring the Amazon gift vouchers for the Lunchtime Walk initiative to promote well-being, Easter eggs during Children's Mental Health Week and the extra bars of chocolate for the choc-swap during World Mental Health Day 2024. Applications were received for sponsorship from 6 students participating in the Ulster Project and a grant of £50 was given to each.

After consultation with the PFA, the college decided to offer an in-house Uniform Recycling Scheme for 2 days at the end of June this year, in addition to continuing our partnership with the Creggan Hub in the Rathmor Centre, providing access to pre-loved uniform over the summer break. The feedback from those who availed of this service and from the facilitators was very positive indeed.

The refurbishment of the Careers Room was completed in June, thanks to funding from the PFA. This is now a multi-purpose space, which has not only added greatly to students' experience of careers but has also provided the college with a place to host events and visitors from other schools. Their support also enabled us to complete the Seamus Heaney corridor, which is a fitting tribute to the Nobel Laureate.

The PFA make a significant contribution to the life of the college, and we are indebted to them for their enthusiastic support and hard work.

PREMISES

The school canteen was painted, and a digital screen installed to share menus and prices with students. Several areas of the school have been refurbished.

A boardroom table and chairs were installed in the Careers suite to host conferences.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SECURITY OF STAFF AND STUDENTS

The fire alarm is checked weekly.

The defibrillator is tested in line with scheduled reminders from Heart Start (National Defibrillator Network).

All students have access to an independent counselling service (Family Works).

The college's teaching and support staff have access to Inspire.

USE OF STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS 2024-2025
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AUGUST	Staff Induction Analysis of Examination Results Review of Target Setting Staff Conference- Sharing good practice Middle Management Meeting Departmental & Pastoral Meetings Pupil Well-being & Child Safeguarding training E safety training Special Educational Needs updates Induction for all Year Groups Year 8 Induction for parents and pupils Induction of new staff, BT and EPD teachers Leavers' destinations
OCTOBER	Target Setting Launch of Safer School App/ Use of mobile technology CCEA Analytics Middle management meeting Department & Pastoral meetings Finance presentation
NOVEMBER	Staff Meeting Department & Pastoral meetings Staff Training – Entrance Assessment
DECEMBER	Department & Pastoral meetings
JANUARY	SDP- “Vision, Value and Ethos” Middle management meeting Department meetings Preparation for Open Evening Marking and reporting
FEBRUARY	Department & Pastoral meetings
MARCH	Department & Pastoral meetings Middle Management Meeting
APRIL	SDP 2- “Reflection on the College Vision” Pupil Pursuit feedback GCSE/A level moderation Trauma Informed Practice- Level 1
MAY	Staff Inset-Use of AI Review of SDP 2024-25 Staff Conference 2- Sharing Good Practice Departmental Action Planning ETI – Exploring the 9 contributory areas Finance update.
June	Learnspark Webinar 1 - Neuro- Differentiated Instruction Learnspark Webinar 2 - Managing Workload without Reducing Standards

REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2024-25

SEPTEMBER	Senior Prizegiving Year 8 HIP Psychology Year 8 Step up YENI Workshop Year 8 & Year 11 class photographs Year 9/10 HPV Vaccinations Year 10 Study Skills - Learnspark Year 11 Retreat Year 12 First Friday Mass Year 13 Deloitte Accountancy Workshop Year 13-14 Induction evenings Year 14 QUB Talk Year 14 Personal Statement Presentation University of Stirling Foyle Hospice Male Walk/Run Year 8 individual photos Official Opening of Peacemakers Youth Workshop on New Ireland
OCTOBER	Year 8, 11 & 13 Love for Life Year 8 -12 Flu Vaccines Year 8 PE Cross Country Race Year 8 CAT Tests Year 8 Induction Evening Year 8 Halloween Quiz Year 10 Irish-Gael Linn Quiz Year 10 Aware Workshops Year 11 Spanish Student Visit Year 11 Retreat Year 11 Induction Meeting Year 12 Geography Field Trip Year 14 Deloitte Presentation Year 13 Retreat Year 14 First Friday Mass Year 14 Study Skills – Learn Spark Year 14 PWC Talk Year 14 Letterkenny Road Safety Talk Year 12 & Year 14 Parent Teacher Meeting SEAG Familiarisation World Mental Health Day
NOVEMBER	Year 9 Study Skills Inspire Education Year 9 Retreat 10D & 10E Seó Bóthair Irish students Year 11 Study Skills YENI Year 13 Geography Field Trip Year 14 HLA talk by NWRC Year 13/14 St Mary's University Talk Year 14 Atlantic Technologies University Talk Bar Mock Trial Royal Courts of Justice Belfast Castlecomer Community College Visit Flu Jab mop up SEAG
DECEMBER	Year 9 Parent Teacher Meeting Year 14 Talk Foyle Woman's Aid Christmas Dinner / Christmas Jumper Day / Non-Uniform Day Christmas Carol Service Internal School Exams PLP Review Staff Wellbeing Session

	Staff Festive Morning Tea Toast & Technology
JANUARY	Year 9-14 Vaping Workshops Year 10 Project Business Workshop YENI Year 11/14 RSE Year 11/ 12 Vaccinations Year 12/14 Retreats Year 13 Scottish University Talk Year 14 Workplus HLA talk Year AILO Preliminary Round Gael Linn Quiz- Ulster Final KS3 CCEA Adaptative Literacy Assessments INSET & Open Day Pupil Pursuit Pope John Paul (II) Awards Ceremony Reports issued
FEBRUARY	Year 10 First Friday Mass Year 10 Parent Teacher Meeting Year 10 Parent GCSE Choices Meeting Year 12 GCSE Chemistry Practicals Year 12 Careers Fair Year 12 Parent/Student A Level Choices Meeting Year 13 Careers University of Galway Talk Year 13 Careers University of Ulster Visit Kumon Maths Festival Mayor's Visit Primary School Confucius New Year Celebration Target Setting Day
MARCH	Year 8 Confucius New Year Celebration Year 8 First Friday Mass Year 8 RSE Year 9/10 HPV Mop Up Year 10 Irish Quiz P1-4 Year 12 NWRC talk Year 12 GCSE DA Biology Practical Part 1 & Part 2 Year 12 GCSE TA Biology Practical Year 12 GCSE DA Physics Practical Year 12 GCSE TA Physics Practical Year 12 GCSE English Moderation Speaking & Listening Year 13 / Year 11 Parent Teacher Meeting Year 13 English Trip Seamus Heaney Home Place AS/A2 PE Moderation No Smoking Day Prague Music Trip Saturday School
APRIL	Year 8 BMI Year 12 GCSE Art Exam Year 12 GCSE Music Exam Year 12 GCSE PE Moderation Year 14 A2 Music Performance Credit Union Awards Fashion Show INSET Saturday School
MAY	Year 11 Study Leave Year 10 Silver Fáinne Exam Year 10 Workshop - White Ribbon Group Year 13 AS Physics Practical Year 13 AS Spanish Speaking

	Year 14 A2 Chemistry Practical Year 14 A2 Spanish Speaking Year 14 A2 Physics Practical KS3 Exams Leavers' Mass YCT 1 Exam
JUNE	Year 8 Retreat Year 8 RSE Year 8 & 9 Gaeltacht residential Year 8 Fun Morning Year 8 Cúpla Focal Exam 9B Wellbeing Event Year 9 Geography Field Trip Year 9 Trip to Knock Year 10 Life NI Talk Year 10 Retreat & Cinema Trip Year 10 Memories Assembly Year 11 LLW collapsed timetable day Year 13 Induction to Year 14 Day CCEA Adaptive testing English- mop-up session End of Year Art Exhibition Folk group collaboration with St Cecelia's College Foyle Search & Rescue presentation GEMX- Technology & Design KS3 Water Safety Talk KS3 Reward Event KS3 Prizegiving Primary 7 Induction Meetings Sports Day UCAS Apply Day Staff Mass & Breakfast

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS

ART AND DESIGN

Early September, the department welcomed Dr Kyle Leyden, Tessa Carr and Helen Higgins from The Courtauld Institute of Art to the school. The Courtauld is the major centre for the study of the history and conservation of art and architecture in the United Kingdom. Degrees are awarded by the University of London. The Courtauld was ranked first in the United Kingdom for History and History of Art in The Guardian's 2011 University Guide. Our A level students benefited greatly from a morning of theoretical and practical investigation of Impressionist artwork. This experience was of particular relevance in terms of the A2 Written Study and A/S art references relating to their own work. Their invitation to visit them in London was warmly appreciated.

The Art Department attended GCSE and A2 agreement trials with CCEA in Belfast, in October and November 2024. The department felt that these were very useful meetings, particularly in relation to ongoing issues at CCEA with grade boundaries.

The department wished Mrs O'Neill well as she began her maternity leave in December 2025. Her replacement Miss McCafferty has, since this time, proved to be an excellent addition to the department. Her textiles specialism has added significantly to the vibrancy of the department, with textile work occurring across all key stages.

The department undertook an educational visit to Manchester in January 2025. This four-day trip took in art galleries, shopping, theatre visits, Manchester history and much more. Feedback from students who took part was extremely positive. Mr Kerr was accompanied on the trip by Mrs McCarron and Mrs Dobbins. The department wish to acknowledge the assistance, positive engagement, initiative, and goodwill shown throughout the visit by Mrs McCarron and Mrs Dobbins. Their cooperation and willingness to give so generously of their time and energy ensured that the trip ran safely and successfully.

In January the department was once again successful in the Chinese New Year art competition, with four of our pupils picking up prizes.

The department were very pleased and excited to be part of the major undertaking that was the Lumen Christi College Fashion Show. Pupils were very excited to be involved in this venture. Miss McCafferty's own work added significantly to the occasion and Mr Kerr stylishly graced the catwalk.

The department were very pleased that GCSE, AS and A2 moderations in May and June have passed off successfully.

The department greatly appreciate the hard work and enthusiasm of our technical support assistant Ms Sarena Hickey who joined the department at the beginning of the academic year. Her hard work and congeniality have been of enormous help in the day-to-day activity within the department.

The school year ended with an end of year art exhibition featuring the best GCSE and A level artwork. The exhibition took place, for the first time, across both art rooms. This worked very well and will hopefully be the same next year. All students were represented with at least one piece of work. The evening was very well attended with very positive comments from both pupils and guests alike.

BIOLOGY

The Department was pleased with the excellent set of results achieved at GCSE and A2, and the ALPS scores of 5 for A2 Biology, and 2 for AS Biology. GCSE and A2 results exceeded the Northern Ireland grammar school averages, and all departmental target grades were successfully met. To further support academic achievement, the department provided after-school academic support sessions for pupils in Years 11, 12, and 14. These sessions were aimed at enhancing examination preparation and consolidating subject knowledge.

In October 2024, five Year 10 pupils participated in an event at the University of Ulster to celebrate World Anatomy Day. This enrichment opportunity enabled students to explore potential career pathways in the sciences and engage with professionals in the field.

BUSINESS STUDIES

The Department was delighted with the results achieved at GCSE, AS and A2.

The Business Studies Department used a wide variety of teaching strategies to enhance the learning of the students at Key Stage 4 and 5. Year 14 students spoke to GCSE students about their experiences of GCE Professional Business Services. During Careers week, the Business Studies Department delivered a PowerPoint presentation outlining the specification of GCE Professional Business Services and the benefits of studying it. A question-and-answer session also took place. Ms Doherty spoke to all the Year 10 classes outlining the specifications of GCSE Business and Communication Systems and the benefits of studying it. Year 11 students completed an online course on Social Media branding via the Ulster University Discover Academy.

CAREERS

National Careers Week (3rd-8th March) was promoted as a whole school event with all year groups assigned a specific Careers focus. This was delivered during the Pastoral period.

National Careers Work- Pastoral Focus

Year 8- "I want to be...."- Ideal job frames.

Year 9- "5 minutes of positivity activity"

Year 10- "School Principal for the Day" activity

Years 11 & 12- "Learning from Failure" Assembly and class-based activities.

Year 13- "Making a good impression" activity.

Year 14- Moving Forward

Throughout the course of NCW, the Careers Department invited past pupils and local professionals to talk about their career paths which included the fields of Law, Actuarial Science, Media, Physiotherapy.

Key Stage 3

Year 10 pupils and parents received a presentation on Post 14 options, delivered by the Assistant Head of Careers, alongside a GCSE Subject Choices booklet. 2 Year 11 pupils spoke to parents and pupils about the importance of making informed decisions and the factors that influenced them making their Post 14 choices. This was warmly received by both parents and pupils.

All students received a 1:1 face to face Guidance Interview with a member of the Careers Team. A Post 14 options query service was set up by the Head of Careers on Google classroom to facilitate questions/ enquiries on GCSE choices.

Post 14 Subject Choices Week took place from **17th- 24th February** which allowed depts. to give pupils an insight into what studying their subject at GCSE level involves.

Key Stage 4

On 24th June 2025, Year 11 students completed their Personal Career Plans as part of the Learning for Life and Work Collapsed Timetable Day. Each student uploaded their individual PCP using Google Classroom and are encouraged to review and update this document regularly.

The LLW Collapsed Timetable Day featured guest speakers, including Chris Gray, CEO of Gray's Communication and Maggy McCartney, Human Resources Manager at LCC, who provided valuable insights into their respective career pathways and professional roles. In addition, students engaged in an employability-focused task requiring the application of entrepreneurial skills. Year 11s were challenged to design proposals for the repurposing of land in Derry to generate economic, social and community benefits.

GC remains a platform to share Careers information/opportunities for Year 12 students. This proves very resourceful, with pupils taking the initiative to register with masterclasses/ workshops/ local volunteering opportunities (Foyle Hospice, WHSCT) of interest. The Head of Careers also shared details of Post 16 options including local apprenticeships.

All Year 12 students received a Guidance Interview from the Careers Adviser assigned to the school by the CSNI. All interviews were completed by early March 2025, in advance of students making their Post 16 choices. A Post 16 options query service was set up by the Head of Careers on Google classroom to facilitate questions/ enquiries on Post 16 options.

The Careers Department hosted a Year 12 Careers Fair on Friday 7th February. Students had the opportunity to engage with a range of professionals in the fields of Law, Medicine, Software Engineering, Personalised Medicine, Environmental Science, Entrepreneurship, Finance, Engineering. It was encouraging to welcome back so many past pupils who shared their career journey since leaving the college. We were also fortunate to welcome as the keynote speaker, Prof David Hassan, Associate Dean of the Faculty of Life and Health Sciences @ UU.

Post 16 Subject Choices Week took place from 17th-24th February which allowed depts. to give pupils an insight into what studying their subject at A' level involves. A selection of Year 13 students spoke to Year 12 form classes and gave them invaluable advice on maximising their potential in Year 12 and making informed choices re: Post 16 options based on their own experiences. A follow up session on Post 16 Subject Choices took place in February prior to students submitting applications to 6th form.

A Year 12 Information Evening took place in February 2025 and as part of the Post 16 options presentation, we were delighted to welcome back 2 of our past pupils, Leah Mc Cready, Physiotherapist @ Derry City FC and Jack Heaney, Founder of Seasonal Outdoor Services Ltd, who spoke about their career paths since leaving the college and offered sound advice on Post 16 and Post 18 options.

The NWRC delivered a presentation to all Year 12 pupils on its Post 16 opportunities.

Key Stage 5

A Careers Bulletin was posted weekly on Year 13 & Year 14 Careers Google classrooms. Additional updates were posted regularly relaying Careers information and key opportunities, including VWE (Virtual Work Experience). This platform will continue to be used to share Careers information with pupils @KS5.

It was a successful year for pupils participating in QUB's Pathways Programme 2024/25 with 8 of our current Year 14s on target to secure conditional, reduced offers (at least 1 grade) at QUB alongside a range of other exciting benefits.

All Year 13 students engaged with work-related learning / experience from October 2024-August 2025. These placements ranged from three to five days, with several students completing multiple placements.

In March 2025, 'Speakers for Schools' was launched with the Year 13 students. This online platform gave them access to a wide range of work experience opportunities across a broad range of sectors, incorporating both virtual and in-person placements. Many students availed of virtual programmes with organisations including: Sensata; Emily Catherine Illustration; Caxton CV; The Home Office; QA Ltd; Tata Consultancy Services; Slaughter and May ('Excellerators Programme' - a combination of virtual and in-person placement over 6 months); The Home Office; NI Assembly and the NHS. Students also engaged in a series of online workshops to enhance their work-related learning, for example, 'Find your Fit in the Tech Industry' and 'Get Into Youth Work'.

Students completed in-person work experience with a variety of organisations such as: NI Water; E&I Engineering; Boots Ltd; NI Probation Board; Kainos; The Nerve Centre; The Gasyard; Kingsbridge Healthcare Group; Seagate; Museum of Free Derry; Templemore Nursing Home; Murphy's Pharmacy; Aspace 2. Work-related learning was provided in collaboration with local businesses across a range of industries including Pharmacy; Accountancy; Finance; Architecture; Computing; Education; Engineering and Law.

Additional work-related opportunities taken up by students included:

WHST Allied Health workshops

Medical/ Dental Conference @ Western Health and Social Care Trust

Deloitte Accounting/Audit Interactive workshop

LJMU Nursing workshop

Medicine @ QUB event

QUB 3-day Business Insight Programme

1 Year 13 student successfully participated in Cambridge's STEMSMART programme.

1 Year 13 student was accepted onto the Aspiring Professionals Programme

1 Year 13 student was accepted into Newnham College, Cambridge's 12-week Essay Writing masterclass programme

Medic Mentor Online Programme: Medicine 9 pupils
Dentistry 4 pupils

1 student attended Christ College Cambridge's Summer School

Siofra Gallagher, Year 13, won the Peterson, Cambridge, Kelvin Biological Sciences competition and Jahnvi Sharma, Year 13, was highly commended for her entry.

Anya Ashok won the Credit Union Trailblazer Award for Leadership for her coordination of the college's Medical Society

Kiernan Nash, past pupil, received the JP Mc Manus Award. This is the 3rd year in succession a pupil from the college has been awarded the scholarship

Sisters In Programme 2024/25

We, as a college, were delighted to take part in the SistersIn Initiative 2024/25, the aim of which is to "enable, empower and develop female pupils in education to become the leaders of tomorrow; to help them discover their full potential & open new possibilities for their professional journeys by building leadership capability and confidence". As part of the programme the students gained real-life leadership experience through leading projects within school and in their local community. With support and guidance from their female mentors who came from a range of professional backgrounds, the students were able to put into practice the skills developed and drive some positive change. 10 of the girls decided, as their project, to promote positive mental health and well-being. As part of World Mental Health Day, in October, they coordinated and delivered in-house assemblies across Key Stages 3-5 to raise awareness about the importance of looking after one's mental health with practical tips. In addition, they hand-made bracelets to sell, alongside yellow ribbons and raised £675 for AWARENI. In addition, they organised "Just Dance" sessions during lunchtimes and gained support from pupils across all year groups. They also organised morning and break-time walks around the school for pupils who struggled to interact socially. The remaining 2 girls in the team ran an after-school literacy club. The primary focus of this endeavour was to enrich the minds of Key Stage 3 students, providing them with a more creatively flexible environment to write outside of class time. Building upon lessons covered in class with consolidation exercises, the girls also wanted to promote creative writing and poetry and supported pupils with entries for the Foyle Poetry Competition, alongside internal poetry competitions for Halloween. The whole team also helped to coordinate, alongside the college's PTA, a Fashion Show. This involved liaising with KS3 LLW classes to create a sustainable item of clothing, the winners of which showcased their design on the night. The girls were also tasked to create their own outfit, promoting local charity shops in the area, and modelled their creations on the night. They hosted a café during the interval of the fashion show and took responsibility for baking the treats available for free to attendees on the night. The students' goal was to raise funds for both the school and a local charity. The SistersIn Leadership Programme 2024/25 has not only served to increase the students' self-confidence and leadership skills but has also provided them with the unique opportunity to give back, not only to their school but also to their local community, two values we as a college hold dear.

Having completed the SistersIn programme 2024/25, the girls spoke about their involvement in the initiative at all Key Stage assemblies and at staff inset and attended the SistersIn Celebration Event in Belfast alongside other participating schools and were commended for their involvement by special guests, Michelle O'Neill - First Minister and Emma-Little-Pengelly, Deputy First Minister. One of the pupils was asked to speak about her experience as a mentee of the programme at the SistersIn Celebration event in the Waterfront Hall in front of an audience of over 700 people. Another of the mentees, alongside 11 other SistersIn representatives from across the whole of NI, delivered an inspiring speech in the Senate Chamber at Stormont on Friday evening. The girls spoke about their vision, hopes and dreams for the future of NI, a future that they will be actively involved in creating, for themselves. The SistersIn team were runners-up in the Trailblazer Award Category in the Derry Credit Union Young People's Awards 2025.

Talks/ Presentations/ Workshops

University talks (UU, QUB, Scottish Universities tour, ATU, University of Galway, St Mary's University College, Belfast)

Year 14 Personal Statement presentation – University of Stirling

Brasenose College, University of Oxford presentation- Year 13/14 students, including students from the FLC
PWC Higher Level Apprenticeship presentation to Year 14 students, facilitated by past pupils, Daniel Mason and Cian Martin

Workplus presentation on HLAs – Year 14

Credit Union Financial Management presentation- Year 14

Interview Practice -5-week workshop afterschool facilitated by the Head of Careers

Mock Interviews were arranged for Year 14 students whose course of choice had an interview as part of the selection process. (Medicine, Dentistry, Oxbridge Applicants, Higher Level Apprenticeships, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Nursing, Teaching). These mock interviews were conducted by professionals in the sector, many of whom are parents of pupils in the school. The Head of Careers also conducted mock interviews in the disciplines outlined above.

The Head of Careers held a workshop for students applying to St Mary's University College, Belfast and conducted mock interviews alongside a St Mary's PGCE student and past pupil, Alex Caldwell.

Year 13 &14 Careers Information sessions for parents were delivered in September 2024

All Year 13 pupils attended a half-day session in June during which they registered with UCAS 2026 and begin the application process.

Leavers' Destinations

93.1% of students took up places at 3rd level institutions, of which 65.4% are attending Russell Group Universities.

4 students successfully gained places at Oxbridge, 3 at the University of Cambridge and 1 at the University of Oxford, to read MML, Geography, Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology and Medicine.

CHEMISTRY

The Chemistry Department welcomed two new members of staff this year, Mrs Ailish O'Kane and Mrs Christine Kelly.

The Chemistry Department has demonstrated exceptional dedication and professionalism throughout the academic year. Teachers offered afterschool revision sessions to provide additional support and reinforce learning. Communication within the department has been strong and effective. Teachers maintained regular contact with the HoD and the department technician, fostering a collaborative and well-coordinated working environment. This academic year we undertook a thorough evaluation of the current teaching resources used across Key Stages 4 and 5. As a result of this reflective process, the team collaboratively developed a range of new, high-quality resources aimed at enhancing student understanding and engagement. This initiative reflects the department's ongoing commitment to continuous improvement and pedagogical excellence, ensuring that the teaching of Chemistry remains dynamic, inclusive, and impactful. It is particularly pleasing to report that Chemistry continues to attract high numbers at A Level, reflecting both the strength of teaching and the enthusiasm of our students. A highlight of the year was the participation of 12 Year 13 students in the prestigious Cambridge Chemistry Challenge in June. These students demonstrated outstanding commitment by pushing themselves beyond the curriculum and striving to deepen their understanding of the subject. 3 students gained Copper certificates: J Mahmud-Oates, J Rankin and E McNutt. 4 students gained silver certificates: S Gallagher, L McLaughlin, D O'Hagan, E Lundy and K Ferguson. This was an incredible achievement for all of them and we look forward to building on this success in the coming year.

DRAMA

During the 2024–2025 academic year, the Drama Department implemented a revised scheme of work, incorporating a broad spectrum of classroom activities. These updates were informed by comprehensive evaluations conducted by both pupils and teaching staff throughout the preceding academic year. Annual reviews of each unit are carried out by departmental staff, and feedback from the 2023–2024 cycle indicated that the modifications made to the curriculum significantly enhanced the relevance and enrichment of the drama experience for pupils.

To further support curriculum development, a pupil questionnaire was administered via Google Classroom following the completion of each unit. This initiative aimed to gather student feedback to inform planning for the 2025–2026 academic year. A representative sample of Year 9 students participated, with an engagement rate of 95%. The evaluations, completed at various points throughout the year, yielded detailed and meaningful insights, enabling responsive adjustments to units of work based on student voice.

Notably, several Year 9 students have since joined local drama clubs, attributing their interest to their experience of studying drama at Lumen Christi College. Additionally, pupils benefited from a series of workshops, delivered by Key Stage 5 students, focusing on voice work, mime, and improvisation. These sessions were well received and proved to be both enjoyable and rewarding for all participants.

As part of the College's extra-curricular programme, the Drama Department reintroduced a drama club, which operated during Terms 1 and 2 on Wednesday afternoons. The club was open to students from Years 10 to 14 and was supported by two Year 14 students alongside Mrs Peace. Attendance was consistently strong, and students responded positively to the opportunity to develop their skills and showcase their talents.

ENGLISH

The English Department said farewell to our colleague, Mr. Declan McLaughlin, who left the college, having taught English for 26 years. We will miss his dedication, his erudition and his wit. However, he will mostly be remembered for the relationships he forged with the children in our school and will be sincerely missed by the pupils. We also welcomed Dr Laura Gallagher to the department and are looking forward to having her in our team.

The English Department began the academic year with a celebration of our pupils' love for reading! KS3 pupils engaged fully in our 'Summer Reading Challenge' and we celebrated their engagement with prizes and photographs on social media.

We were delighted with the continued popularity of our extra-curricular activities. Ms. Lester ran the Bar Mock Trial for KS5, and Mrs. Peace ran a Drama club for Year 10 and above. Mrs. McMenamin facilitated the public speaking competitions. Mrs Dobbins ran a KS3 debating club.

Pupils competed in a series of competitions throughout the year, and we are very proud of their achievements. In Year 8 pupils participated in the annual *Lumen Christi College Halloween Poetry Competition* with prizes awarded to first, second and third place.

Our KS3 pupils also competed in the *Derry Feis* with prizes being awarded in the Favourite Poem category.

We were delighted to participate in the *2025 Foyle Poetry Schools Competition* and had great success with pupils at KS3 pupils being awarded 2nd and 3rd place. Six of our pupils were also highly commended and will have their work published in the anthology.

Local writer, Grainne McCool visited our school prior to the Foyle Schools Poetry Competition and delivered a poetry workshop which our Key Stage Three pupils thoroughly enjoyed.

Our Year 10 pupil was awarded 2nd place in the 2025 English Poetry 'Special Moments' Competition, organized by Ulster University and in partnership with Seamus Heaney, HomePlace and the John Hewitt Society.

Mrs. Dobbins and the AS English Literature class attended an event in Seamus Heaney, Homeplace, where they listened to a lecture delivered by the University of Ulster and viewed the exhibition.

We were fortunate to have a visit from past pupil, Jack Gallagher who spoke to Yr 13 pupils about his career and how the study of A 'Level English Literature has been integral to his success.

The library prefects maintained good order in our college library and assisted Ms Sarena Hickey. The library continues to be a place that is enjoyed by all pupils at lunch and break times.

Attainment

Our GCSE results were excellent with pupils attaining a level of success beyond the NI Grammar School average. At A 'Level our results were superb, and we attained an ALPS score of 3 at A2. Mrs. McMenamin ran the GCSE Extra-English club, with pupils attaining their target grades and beyond.

FRENCH

The French Department has enjoyed a dynamic and successful year, marked by a series of enriching events (both within and beyond the classroom), student achievements and new initiatives. Through competitions, celebrations, and student-led initiatives, we are proud to be cultivating globally minded, linguistically capable learners.

KS3-5 European Day of Languages Celebrations

In September 2024, our annual celebrations for European Day of Languages continued across all classes, with students participating in a wide range of activities which promoted the acquisition of skills and qualities developed through learning a modern language. Students in Years 8 and 9 participated in class quizzes and tried some French tongue-twisters while Year 10 students took part in a multilingual café where students sampled French cuisine while practicing conversational French. Students in Key Stage 4 and 5 who speak another language at home or at school were encouraged to 'teach' their classmates some new colloquial phrases or facts about their heritage, thus promoting a deeper appreciation for linguistic diversity and encouraging cross-cultural understanding among students.

Success in All Ireland Linguistic Olympiad

We were delighted that two Sixth Form students, Declan and Rory, qualified among the top 50 problem-solvers in Ireland in the preliminary stage of the prestigious All Ireland Linguistics Olympiad and advanced to the National Final of the competition in Dublin City University on 12th March. 884 students from 85 schools across 28 counties took part in the preliminary round so this is a great achievement for our students, demonstrating exceptional analytical and problem-solving skills, reflecting the department's commitment to developing critical thinking through language learning.

Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators Competition

Students in all French classes were encouraged to participate in the Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators Competition, organised by Queen's College, Oxford. Over 22 000 students nationwide participated in the competition, so we were very pleased that Hannah in Year 9 was recognised as the Area Winner for Northern Ireland in the Level 2 French section for her translation of a contemporary French poem. Her work was praised for its linguistic accuracy and creative interpretation, showcasing the high standard of language proficiency nurtured within the department.

Language Ambassadors

This year saw the launch of the Language Ambassadors programme with our Year 13 French class. Students took on leadership roles to promote the benefits of language learning across the school, supporting our in-school language events and most importantly, mentoring our Year 12 French students who were preparing for the GCSE Speaking examinations. Feedback from students was most positive, with Year 12 students noting that they felt much more confident in their French speaking skills and had enjoyed the opportunity to converse in French in a relaxed environment, with most sessions timetabled before and after school. We look forward to progressing this role further next year and encouraging our senior students to become enthusiastic advocates for multilingualism.

National Careers Week

During National Careers Week, the French Department collaborated with the Careers Department to highlight the value of language skills in the global job market. Video testimonies of guest speakers, including former pupils and professionals working in international roles, inspired students to consider languages as an asset in their future careers. We strongly believe that participation in National Careers Week and our role as Careers informants help students make meaningful connections between their French language studies and future career opportunities.

Leavers' Destinations

Following excellent results in their A2 examinations, we wish our Year 14 students 'bon courage' as they embark upon third level education in a variety of courses such as Renewable Energies (UU), Chemistry (Glasgow), Computer Science (QUB) and Politics and International Studies (UU). We are particularly pleased that following her participation in the Pelican Programme, Fianaid will continue her study of French as part of her studies of Modern and Medieval Languages at Newnham College, University of Cambridge.

French Language Assistante

We are appreciative of the diligence and expertise of our Assistante, Madame Prigent, who continues to be a great support to both students and teachers. Madame Prigent is an asset to our department, and we thank her for the support and guidance she has provided to our students, particularly with additional lessons in advance of external examinations. Her lessons have significantly enhanced our students' oral proficiency and cultural understanding, and the small-group conversation classes have boosted their confidence and fluency considerably, particularly in preparation for oral examinations.

GEOGRAPHY

The 2024/25 academic year has been a productive one for the Geography Department, marked by successful fieldwork projects, enriching academic opportunities, and impactful environmental initiatives led by our pupils.

Fieldwork Activities

GCSE Unit 3 Fieldwork – Curly Burn River

In October, our Year 12 pupils undertook a comprehensive investigation of downstream changes along the Curly Burn River. This essential component of their GCSE Unit 3 study enabled students to collect and analyse primary data using a variety of fieldwork techniques and equipment. The hands-on experience significantly deepened their understanding of fluvial processes and river landforms.

AS Level Unit 3 Fieldwork – Umbra Nature Reserve

Our Year 13 students conducted their AS Unit 3 fieldwork at Benone Beach, focusing on ecological succession along a dune transect at the Umbra Nature Reserve. Pupils examined changes in vegetation and soil characteristics from the youngest to the oldest dunes. This work reinforced theoretical learning in the classroom and enhanced students' ability to apply geographical techniques and interpret data.

Year 9 Fieldwork – Curly Burn River

We were pleased to extend fieldwork opportunities to our Key Stage 3 pupils. In June, three Year 9 classes participated in a river study along the Curly Burn River. Using fieldwork equipment, pupils gathered accurate data on river characteristics, gaining valuable hands-on experience and laying a strong foundation for future geographical study. Their enthusiasm and engagement were particularly commendable.

Enrichment Opportunities

In October, our Year 13 students attended a lecture at Queen's University Belfast titled *"The Processes That Shape Our Weather and Climate,"* hosted by the Geographical Association. This event offered valuable insights into atmospheric processes and climate systems, complementing their AS Level curriculum and encouraging academic exploration beyond the classroom.

Environmental Initiatives

The Geography Department has continued to champion sustainability through the dedicated efforts of our Environment Prefects and Eco-Team:

- **Recycling Initiative:** Environment Prefects led a successful campaign to reinstate recycling in all classrooms. They addressed pupils at each Key Stage Assembly to raise awareness and promote participation.
- **Form Class Support:** Form Teachers nominated two pupils per class to assist with the regular emptying of recycling bins, fostering a collaborative and responsible school culture.
- **Recognition and Support:** All Eco-Team members received specially designed badges, generously funded by the 'Friends of Lumen Christi'. We extend our sincere thanks to Mrs. O'Hare for her instrumental role in securing this support.

These initiatives demonstrate a commendable level of leadership and responsibility from our students, and we are proud of their commitment to sustainability.

Academic Support and Progression

Before Easter, a four-week programme of revision classes was offered to all GCSE Year 11 and Year 12 students. These sessions provided access to a wide range of revision materials and expert exam guidance.

For AS and A2 students requiring additional support, personalised one-to-one assistance was made available through their teachers, ensuring tailored academic help.

We are also delighted to see a growing number of students expressing interest in studying Geography at AS Level in the upcoming academic year. Furthermore, we are thrilled to have appointed Miss Caitlin Tohill as a permanent member of the Geography Department.

In summary, the Geography Department has enjoyed a successful and engaging year, with strong participation in fieldwork across multiple year groups, enrichment activities for our senior pupils, and notable achievements in environmental stewardship. We remain committed to providing our pupils with meaningful learning experiences and promoting values that reflect our responsibility to the wider world.

HISTORY

We welcomed Mr Brendan McLaughlin to the History Department this year. The subject continues to be popular within Lumen Christi with a strong student uptake at both GCSE and A Level. Pupil performance at both levels remains well above the N. Ireland Grammar school average and is testament to the continued hard work and dedication of all the members of the History Department. The Department was very pleased with the results achieved by our final year History students, with all the outcomes being online with the targets set. Our A2 students went on to study a huge variety of courses at university, including Law, Medicine, Teaching, Business Information Technology, Architecture, Archaeology, Anthropology, Politics, Music, Software Engineering, Biomedical Science and Nursing.

The Department continues to enhance the online learning resources available to History students across the key stages and several new revision resources for GCSE and A level have been added to Google Classroom to which every History student signs up.

Extracurricular / Super curricular Activities

After-school revision sessions were offered to support Year 11,12, 13 and 14 students. These sessions were well-attended and contributed to improved engagement positive outcomes in August. Several Year 13 and 14 A level History students participated in The Bar Mock Trial competition. We competed against 16 top grammar/secondary schools across the North and finished a commendable 2nd, having won all three of our cases. A Year 14 History class attended a workshop on A New Ireland, where the guest speakers included Colm Eastwood MP and the former Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar. D Hegarty and a Year 14 History student and Head Boy attended the John Hume and Thomas P. O'Neill Chair Peace Lecture, where the keynote speaker was the Taoiseach, Simon Harris.

HOME ECONOMICS

The Home Economics Department continues to deliver a dynamic and relevant curriculum that supports pupils in developing essential life skills, with a strong emphasis on nutrition, family life, and child development. It remains a popular and valued subject across Key Stage 3, with a focus on nutrition, food preparation, budgeting, and

sustainable living. Pupils enjoy the hands-on nature of the subject and develop confidence in their practical abilities.

GCSE Child Development

The GCSE results were well above the N. Ireland average with 100% A*- B grade.

The number of pupils opting for GCSE Child Development has remained steady over the past three academic years, with 16–17 students enrolled annually. This consistency reflects sustained interest in the subject and its relevance to pupils considering careers in childcare, education, health and social care.

Cookery Demonstrations

This year, the department welcomed representatives from the **Livestock and Meats Commission (LMC)** who delivered **cookery demonstrations to Year 10 classes**. These sessions were highly engaging and informative, offering pupils insight into the nutritional value of red meat, sustainable farming practices, and practical cooking techniques. Feedback from pupils was overwhelmingly positive, and the demonstrations enriched the curriculum by linking classroom learning with industry expertise.

ICT

In **September**, our Year 13 Software Systems Development (SSD) pupils took part in the prestigious Queen's ICT Ambassador Programme. Through this initiative, students received invaluable training delivered by Sentinus and Queen's University, focusing on BBC Micro:bit programming and cybersecurity activities. This experience enabled our pupils to further develop their digital skills and confidence in emerging technologies. Following the four-week training, the Year 13 students demonstrated leadership by running an after-school Coding Club for Year 8 pupils. To support this initiative, the ICT department invested in new robotics equipment, providing Year 8 students with hands-on opportunities to enhance their problem-solving, creativity, and critical thinking skills. These activities have contributed significantly to fostering a culture of digital innovation and collaboration across year groups.

In **November**, Mrs McShane had the pleasure of accompanying a Year 11 GCSE Digital class to the Envisage 2064 Schools Competition, hosted at the University of Ulster, Magee Campus. This event celebrated 40 years of the UU School of Computing and Engineering and challenged pupils to pitch innovative computing ideas for the year 2064. Our students excelled, securing an impressive 2nd place and winning a prize of £500. This achievement is a testament to their creativity, teamwork, and forward-thinking approach, and provided them with a valuable opportunity to engage with peers from other schools and gain insight into the future of technology. Mrs McShane, Mr Gibbons and Miss Farren attended CCEA agreement trials during the month of November for GCSE/GCE Digital Technology and Software Systems Development. The agreement trials were very beneficial and provided information which was applied to internally assessed units throughout the school year.

In **January** the ICT Department members participated in the Open Day activities providing prospective pupils with hands-on coding experience using the Mini Sphero robots, BBC Micro-bits and iPad. The feedback was excellent and prospective primary 6 and 7 pupils thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

During the month of **February**, we celebrated Safer Internet Day. Senior Prefects visited each assembly on the week beginning Monday 10th February to deliver a special assembly provided by the Safer Internet Organisation. The ICT department delivered a series of themed lessons across all year groups. These lessons focused on key topics such as online safety, responsible digital citizenship, and strategies for protecting personal information. Pupils engaged in interactive discussions, scenario-based activities, and practical exercises designed to raise awareness of current online risks and promote safe, respectful behaviour in digital environments. The initiative reinforced the importance of e-safety and empowered students to make informed choices online. A significant number of pupils were accepted on to a range of Computer Science courses throughout the months of February, March and April. Some have also gone to higher level apprenticeships or 'Earn as you learn' programme. Most students studying the SSD A-Level are currently studying Computer Science.

During the month of **May**, all staff participated in a comprehensive AI training session delivered by a representative from the Education Authority (EA). The session focused on practical ways to integrate artificial intelligence into teaching and learning, with demonstrations of tools such as Microsoft Copilot and Google Gemini. Staff explored how these AI-powered resources can enhance classroom engagement, support differentiated instruction and

streamline administrative tasks. The training also highlighted best practices for using AI responsibly and effectively to enrich the curriculum and improve pupil outcomes. Feedback from staff was extremely positive, with many expressing increased confidence in adopting AI to support innovative and effective teaching.

June was a busy month for all in the department. Mrs McShane assisted Mrs O'Hare in the creation and administration of three audits, one for parents and one for teaching staff and one for pupils. Results were collated and analysed using Google Forms. The ICT department also worked closely with C2k during the month of June/July to upgrade the school's IT infrastructure. As part of this initiative, 78 new PCs were installed for both teaching and non-teaching staff. This significant investment has greatly improved the reliability and performance of our technology resources, ensuring that staff have access to up-to-date equipment to support teaching, learning, and administrative tasks. The upgrade has been well received and has contributed to a more efficient and effective working environment across the school. The ICT department oversaw the installation of a new Clevertouch digital screen in the school canteen. This innovative addition has enhanced the pupil experience by providing dynamic digital menus and up-to-date information in an engaging and accessible format. The digital screen allows for greater flexibility in communicating daily meal options, special announcements, and healthy eating messages, supporting both the school's commitment to digital transformation and the wellbeing of our pupils. In addition, the ICT department engaged in specialist online training with Clevertouch, focusing on the effective use of interactive screens within the school. Staff learned how to schedule and manage digital content, enabling the screens to automatically switch between breakfast and lunch menus, as well as display a rolling three-week lunch menu. This has improved communication within the school and ensured that pupils and staff have up-to-date information in a visually engaging format.

The department continues to recruit healthy numbers into GCSE Digital Technology, A-level Digital Technology and Software Systems Development. Currently there are three classes for Year 11 and two classes for Year 12 Digital Technology (Programming). There are 5 classes at A Level, also. The programming route at both levels seems most popular.

Students undertook examinations and the performance analysis shows excellent achievement. It reflects the hard work of both staff and students. We are particularly delighted with the outstanding results achieved in A2 Software Systems Development this year, with the entire cohort attaining grades A*– C. Notably, our school was awarded three of the only A* grades in Northern Ireland, and this success is especially significant as it was the first year the course was delivered by two new teachers.

IRISH

Our results at GCSE levels remain excellent and have again surpassed the NI Ireland Grammar School average. We congratulate all our students on their outstanding achievements.

The Irish Department continues to provide a wide range of opportunities for pupils to engage with the language beyond the classroom. These experiences are central to departmental life and contribute significantly to the development of pupils' linguistic confidence and cultural awareness.

European Day of Languages

This annual event was marked on 26th September 2024. KS3 pupils took part in a variety of activities through the medium of Irish. Year 8 pupils played Bingo using their newly acquired number vocabulary. Year 9 pupils participated in a digital map challenge, identifying countries in Irish. Year 10 pupils enjoyed an Irish-language version of 'Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?', with questions based on European languages. The day was both educational and enjoyable for all involved.

Tráth na gCeist – Gael Linn

Year 10 pupils attended the Gael Linn quiz in the White Horse Hotel, Derry. One team achieved second place and progressed to the Ulster Final in Canavan's Hotel, Tyrone, where they again secured second place. This was a significant achievement and a source of great pride for the department.

Gaeilge 24

On 14th November 2024, pupils and staff across all Key Stages participated in the all-Ireland initiative Gaeilge24. Participants wore the official t-shirts and made a concerted effort to speak Irish throughout the day. Year 12

members of An Cumann Gaelach rewarded spontaneous use of Irish with spot prizes and organised a school-wide Seanfhocal (Irish proverb) hunt. They were excellent role models for younger students.

Year 8 explored Irish mythology, learning about legendary figures and stories through the medium of Irish.

Year 9 enjoyed a range of Irish board games, promoting language use in a fun and interactive setting.

Year 10 had a cinema day, watching the Oscar-nominated Irish-language film *An Cailín Ciúin*, which deepened their appreciation of Irish-language media.

Additional activities included a Gaeilgeoir an Lae teacher competition, where pupils voted for the most enthusiastic Irish-speaking teacher. Staff were encouraged to use Irish phrases throughout the day.

#DÚSHLÁN 2024

Year 10 pupils took part in ‘#DÚSHLÁN 2024’, a national competition designed to encourage the use of Irish in fun and creative ways. Pupils completed 30 challenges over 50 hours, both in school and at home. The initiative provided an excellent opportunity for pupils to use Irish naturally with their peers and families.

Guest Speaker – Aodhán Ó Baoill

Year 12 pupils welcomed Aodhán Ó Baoill, a professional working in Irish media, who spoke about career opportunities available through Irish. His visit was both informative and inspiring, encouraging pupils to consider the practical value of Irish in the world of work.

Seachtain na Gaeilge 2025

A wide range of activities took place during this year’s Seachtain na Gaeilge:

- Year 8 pupils participated in a Tráth na gCeist.

- Year 9 pupils enjoyed a selection of Irish board games during class.

- Year 10 pupils watched *An Cailín Ciúin*, accompanied by popcorn and treats, deepening their appreciation of Irish-language cinema.

Feis Dhoire Colmcille

Pupils from KS3 to KS5 were given the opportunity to compete in this year’s Feis. A total of 23 entries were submitted from Lumen Christi College in the poetry and conversation categories. Many pupils achieved medals, and two were awarded scholarships to attend the Gaeltacht.

Cúpla Focal & Fáinne Airgid Awards

- Year 8 pupils completed the Cúpla Focal oral assessment, facilitated by our Language Assistant and past pupil, Jack McGowan.

- Year 10 pupils undertook the Fáinne Airgid speaking examination, conducted by Erin Hamilton from Derry and Strabane District Council.

Examiners were highly impressed with the fluency and enthusiasm demonstrated by the pupils.

An Cumann Gaelach

Weekly meetings of An Cumann Gaelach continued throughout the year, providing GCSE pupils with the opportunity to use Irish in a relaxed and supportive environment. Pupils also played an active role in supporting departmental events and preparing for their speaking exams.

An Ghaeltacht

Many pupils at KS3 and KS4 attended the summer residential course at Coláiste Bhríde, Rann na Feirste. The immersive experience was thoroughly enjoyed by all and significantly enhanced pupils’ confidence and enthusiasm for the language.

Conclusion

The 2024–2025 academic year has been another successful and enriching year for the Irish Department. Pupils have embraced every opportunity to use Irish in meaningful and enjoyable ways, both within and beyond the classroom. Their achievements are a testament to their commitment and the vibrant culture of Irish that continues to flourish within the school.

LEARNING FOR LIFE AND WORK

Year 10 – Project Business

Year 10 pupils engaged in an employability workshop facilitated by Yong Enterprise NI on Tuesday 28th Jan. Working in teams, students were given the chance to create their own jewellery company, taking on different roles and making decisions around target market, customer experience, branding and problems that might be faced as a company. Teams also took part in an interactive challenge to make bead bracelets and compete to become the most profitable company.

Blast Off

Year 9 pupils were due to take part in an Employability workshop called “Blast Off” facilitated by Young Enterprise NI on Wednesday 19TH March. However, due to a funding issue this event was unable to take place. Resources for the event were sent to us electronically and each year 9 teacher had the chance to deliver the course.

Pupils learned through teamwork and active participation, what it means to be enterprising and discovered what is an entrepreneur. Pupils analysed their own enterprising skills and qualities, developed a business idea and developed their creativity and innovation skills. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

School Fashion Show

As part of our ‘Sustainability in action’ for the Lumen Christi College Fashion show on Wednesday 16th April, LLW classes in KS3 took part in a design brief. The winners would then be selected to take part in the School Fashion Show. We set them the challenge of designing an item that is recycled or upcycled and could’ve been one of 3 items A jacket, A bag or A t-shirt.

This project was a great success, and we had many LLW pupils take to the catwalk on the night of the event.

Year 11 Collapsed Timetable Day.

On Tuesday 24/6/25 the year 11 cohort took part in a joint LLW/Careers Day within the school. The day consisted of three sessions for each pupil including a C.V writing workshop, a talk from Trocaire and A Business project overseen by someone from industry.

On the day we had guest speakers come into to give the pupils a talk on their specialist fields. From the employability side of subject, we had Chris Gray from Gray’s Communications and Maggy McCartney head of H.R in the school. To cover the citizenship element, we had Roisin O’ Hara from Trocaire give a talk on how the organisation operates at both local and global level.

Feedback from the pupils was very positive and the whole day ran very smoothly. In the future we plan to build on this and can hopefully get more people from outside organisations into the school.

MATHEMATICS

The Department was very pleased with the results achieved at GCSE and A2, and the ALPS scores of 5 for A2 Maths, and 2 for AS Maths and A2 Further Maths. Extra Maths classes were offered on several different days in the lead up to the examinations and large numbers of pupils availed of this help. For Careers Week, A’ Level Maths students went in to all the Y12 classes to talk about the benefits and demands of doing A’ Level Maths and Further Maths. There were many certificates awarded to pupils who took part in the Senior and Intermediate Maths Challenges. David Green Dunlop and Luke Duffy progressed to the next round of the Senior competition. Darragh Gallagher and Amna Zafar progressed to the next round of the Intermediate competition. Many pupils also took part in the Kumon Maths festival, helping to organize their displays, and explaining Maths concepts to the visiting Primary school children and their families. During the MathsWeek Ireland initiative in October, the Maths department were delighted to host Professor Tom Crawford, who did a very entertaining and engaging presentation on “Using Maths to Clean the Ocean” to a selection of KS4 and KS5 classes.

MUSIC

The Music Department continues to play a vital role in enriching the cultural and creative life of the school. This academic year has seen strong student engagement, successful performances, and curriculum development aligned with national standards.

Curriculum and Teaching

Key Stage 3 (Years 8--10):

Pupils have explored a wide range of musical genres, including classical, jazz, world music, and contemporary styles. Practical work has focused on keyboard skills, ensemble playing, and music technology.

Key Stage 4 (GCSE Music):

This year, we had 27 students studying GCSE Music – 12 in Y12 and 15 in Y11. The pupils have made excellent strides in the 3 units of composition, performance, and listening.

In the academic year 2024/5, the Music Department had relatively small exam classes due to lack of uptake in the subject. (There was no AS music class this year for the first time.) Nonetheless, it was a productive year for the young musicians within the college.

Extra- Curricular:

The College Choir had a busy and highly rewarding year. Their first performance was at the Senior Prize Giving on September 5th, setting the choral flavour for the year ahead. In October, they competed in the City of Derry International Choral Festival, where they performed two beautiful pieces, Shenandoah and The Sound of Silence.

Under the direction of Mrs McNay - the school orchestra resumed in Oct with excellent commitment and renewed enthusiasm. It is very encouraging to see orchestra numbers growing aligned with an increase in EA music service lessons. Their performance at the annual Carol Service was a highlight of the service which included the participation of past pupils. It is hoped the orchestra will continue to grow this year and additional performance platforms will be provided.

Soon after, preparations began for the annual Christmas Choral Service, which featured a festive and sacred program performed in collaboration with past pupils, creating a memorable highlight of the school year. The Carol Service featured the school orchestra, choir, past pupils including our organist Edan Bradley.

In Term 2, the choir turned its focus to the International Festival of Young Choirs in Prague, where they proudly represented the school in several concerts during the trip from March 27th to 30th. These experiences not only showcased the talent and dedication of our students but also provided them with invaluable opportunities to grow musically, culturally, and personally.

In February, our college singers took part in a special choral workshop with Andrew Nunn from the Royal Scottish Academy of Music. Andrew has visited the school many times and always gets the very best out of our pupils. The workshop resulted in many of our singers' awarded invitations to the NI Youth Choir.

EA lessons

During the year the EA music service delivered lessons in violin, viola, trumpet, trombone, flute, and clarinet to around 60-70 pupils. Many of our pupils continue to represent the school in the EA senior orchestra. There has been an increase in instrumental lesson numbers (particularly in strings), which had previously been adversely affected by Covid.

We also ran classical guitar lessons with Manus Noble and piano lessons with Maurice Kelly. In the future we hope to run voice lessons in the department. In addition, many of our pupils excelled in grade exams throughout the year and took part in stage musicals in local theatres. We are immensely proud of the external achievements and pursuits of our young musicians and singers.

The Music Department remains a cornerstone of the school's creative identity. In the context of rising numbers at Y11 and in the EA music provision it is hoped that exam class numbers will continue to rise in the coming years

including a return to A level music. Continued investment and support from within the school will ensure that students receive a high-quality, inclusive musical education that fosters talent, confidence, and collaboration.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Physical Education Department is proud to report another year of outstanding academic achievements at both GCSE and A-Level. Our students have demonstrated exceptional commitment and dedication, achieving results that significantly surpass the Northern Ireland Grammar School averages.

Curricular and Departmental Activities

Year 8 Inter-Class Cross Country Race. In November, the annual Year 8 Inter-Class Cross Country race was held, a cherished tradition within the department. The 2,000-metre course around the school grounds tested the endurance of all participants, with three boys and three girls representing each class. Congratulations to Class 8A for their victory.

Year 12 Personal Survival Module. Year 12 GCSE PE students successfully completed their Personal Survival module at Templemore Sports Complex between September and December. This essential component of their Controlled Assessment was met with enthusiasm, culminating in students earning bronze and silver certificates and achieving excellent marks.

GCSE & A-Level Practical Assessment Week. A dedicated practical assessment week was held in December for GCSE and A-Level students. This provided an excellent platform for pupils to demonstrate their skills in their chosen sports for the Controlled Assessment component of their examinations.

National Careers Week

To support National Careers Week, the department facilitated valuable guidance for students. Year 12 pupils benefited from insights shared by past students via video link, who discussed their positive experiences and the advantages of pursuing A-Level PE. To aid younger pupils in their option choices, subject teachers also delivered an informative presentation to Year 10 students about the GCSE PE course.

Extra-Curricular Success and Engagement

Our extra-curricular sports programme continues to thrive, with high levels of participation in athletics, netball, and both boys' and girls' Gaelic football. This year saw remarkable success across multiple disciplines: **Girls' Gaelic Football:** The team reached the semi-final of the Erne Cup. **Netball:** The Minor, Junior, and Intermediate teams all won their respective regional leagues. **Athletics:** Clara Casey (Year 12) achieved outstanding individual success, winning the district and Ulster Schools 800m and 300m titles. She also won the Tailteann Games and was honoured with the role of female captain for the Ireland schools athletics squad. **Cross-Country:** The Minor and Intermediate teams secured an impressive 3rd place in the All-Ireland schools competition.

U17 European Netball Championships Trip In March, Mrs. Deery accompanied a group of pupils to the Under 17 European Netball Championships at the Antrim Forum, providing them with an inspiring opportunity to watch international-level competition.

Key Events

Annual Sports Day Sports Day remains a highlight of the school's sporting calendar, fostering a wonderful sense of community and healthy competition. The day began with track and field events, while many other students participated in recreational sports including basketball, swimming, and badminton. The afternoon's inter-class football and rounders leagues were fiercely contested, generating fantastic class spirit among players and supporters alike.

Sports Prizegiving The Sports Prizegiving ceremony was held in June as a key part of the Junior Prizegiving Celebrations. The prestigious Victor and Victrix Ludorum trophies were awarded to the top male and female

athletes in Years 8-11, based on points accumulated on Sports Day. Most Valuable Athlete awards for each sport were also presented to deserving students.

Acknowledgements

The success of the Physical Education department would not be possible without the unwavering support of our parents, support staff, dedicated external coaches and teaching colleagues. We extend our sincere gratitude to everyone involved. Special recognition is owed to Mr. Chris Ryan for his exceptional coordination of the extra-curricular sporting programme.

PHYSICS

This year, our students showcased exceptional performance in the Physics Olympiad Challenge at both the Senior (Year 13) and Intermediate (Year 12) levels. For the first time ever, a student from our school, Luke Duffy, achieved a remarkable Platinum award in the Senior Challenge. This outstanding accomplishment places him among the top 150 physics students nationwide, a testament to his dedication and our program's quality. We are also very pleased with the growing interest in physics among our senior students. For the upcoming academic year, we'll have three classes in both Year 13 and Year 14, indicating a strong student perception of the value and utility of a physics qualification. This level of engagement reflects a promising trend for the department's future.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

The Department was very pleased with the results achieved by our students, with all the results being above the targets set. Our A2 students went on to study a huge variety of courses at university, including Law, Architecture, Business Technology, Accounting and Finance, Politics, Nursing and Planning.

Catholic Schools Week, with the theme of 'Alive in Christ' (Sunday 19th January – Saturday 25th January 25) was celebrated in school. The week celebrated the unique role of Catholic education, exploring themes of hope, purpose, and freedom through prayer and school activities centered on living life to the full in Christ. Students completed work on the five different themes which included discussions, debates, and artwork on the importance of our faith and the role of Catholic Schools.

Mrs McCaffrey and Ms Lester took class 10B and folk group members to the 'Walled City Passion Play' on Monday 14th April 25. The students had the opportunity to form part of the crowd in a modern, dramatic interpretation of the Easter story which took place in the open air, finishing in Guildhall Square.

A 'St Clare Retreat Day' organised by Mrs McCaffrey and Ms Lester was held in the college on 9th May 25. We hosted 200 students and their teachers from many schools in the diocese. It was a very successful day, attended by the Servant Sisters from 'The Home of the Mother' and Sr Clare's own sisters also. There was also a follow-up in St Cecilia's on 23rd June 25 where students recorded a song for Sr Clare.

Our Year 9 students went on pilgrimage to Knock on 23rd June 25. We had a beautiful day learning the story of Knock and attending mass in the Apparition Chapel.

Chaplaincy

We spent this year consolidating the large amount of work and the many initiatives that have become a central part of College life. The Morning Prayer initiative continued to flourish with prayer in the College Chapel every morning at 8:40am.

- With our tradition of First Friday Mass continuing, we also celebrated several Seasonal Masses, and ended the year for our senior students with our Leavers' Mass. A huge debt of gratitude is owed to the many priests from the Diocese of Derry who continue to support us in every way they can, and especially to Fr Gerard Mongan, our college Chaplain.
- Sixty Year 9 students participated in our Annual Pilgrimage to Knock in June.
- Our annual Reconciliation liturgies were held over several afternoons to facilitate the Priests' Mass schedule in the parishes.
- Our Retreat Programme continued with Year 13 spending the day in the spirit of the Celtic Saints in the Iosas Centre. Our Year 11 group went to St Columb's Park House. The Year 12 and 14 groups had a one-day retreat in school facilitated by the Derry Diocesan Youth Retreat Team. The Year 9 & 10 Retreats took place in school and were staff led. The Year 8 group spent a prayerful day in June under the direction of Mrs Maire Gormley from Buncrana Parish. Our thanks extend to the many teachers who give of their time and talents to facilitate this programme of retreats. We are truly blessed to have such a wonderful group.
- We continued the tradition of having the Christmas Carol Service in the Long Tower Church.
- Senior students were involved in the Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage and the Youth Pilgrimage to Rome, both in July.
- The school Chaplaincy service continues to provide a 'listening ear' for our students.

SPANISH

Exam Results

We were extremely pleased with this year's A Level results. Both AS and A2 are well above the NI Grammar School average. The GCSE results were also excellent and were well above the NI Grammar school average.

Spanish Assistant

This year we had 2 Spanish assistants covering 6 hours between them; Miss Nerea Fernandez from Bilbao can only do 1 day this year so we will also have Miss Ana Imbernon who is working in several other local secondary schools. The language assistant is an indispensable asset for A level teaching, and it is always helpful if we have one with previous teaching experience.

GCSE & A Level

We were pleased with the uptake at both GCSE and A level. At GCSE we have 48 students who have chosen to study Spanish. At A/S 12 pupils have chosen to do Spanish and we also welcomed 2 AS students from the FLC from St Cecilia's. It is always nice to know that some of our students go on to study Spanish in Further Education and this year 2 of our leavers have gone on to study Spanish at University. We always encourage our former students to come back to let us know how they are getting on and to give advice and encouragement to our current A level students on how best to maximise their time and progress. We also time-tabled our yr 14s to come in and help current yr 12s with their oral work and this was mutually beneficial to both as the yr 12s were able to improve their pronunciation and the yr 14s were able to gain valuable leadership experience. Due to the nature of the GCSE course and oral exam, teachers are not allowed to practise the compulsory oral topic with their class, so this proved particularly useful for this year group.

Visiting School

Last October we again welcomed a group of visiting Spanish pupils from Galicia in Spain. They stayed in Derry with host families, and they shadowed some of our yr 12 pupils for 2 weeks. They came into Spanish lessons and our pupils enjoyed the chance to hear about life for pupils of the same age in Spain.

Anthea Bell Prize Translation Competition 2025

This year some of our pupils entered the Anthea Bell translation competition with Ojasvi Solanki 8B receiving Commendation Level 1 for Spanish.

Careers Fair

It was great to see past pupils in at the Careers fair and especially a former A level Spanish student (Ronan Dale) giving future ICT programmers advice on the benefits of having a language (Spanish) in industry. Ronan gave a fascinating insight into industry and on how Spanish has benefitted him in his career.

TECHNOLOGY

Attainment

The Department was pleased with the results achieved at A2, ALPs score 3 and at AS, the ALPs score was 2. GCSE scores have improved significantly this year, and we will strive to improve them further this year.

Amelia Earhart Competition in conjunction with The Royal Academy of Engineers May

The Amelia Earhart competition is a superb event which enables students from our year 9 cohort to take part in an Engineering Competition. We entered one team this year and the pupils won Best STEM Challenge poster for a second year. Last year's group won Best Teamwork 2024. The Challenge is facilitated by the University of Ulster in conjunction with RAE, and it allows the pupils to view the excellent facilities on offer in UU Magee Campus. We would like to thank Ms. Aoife McKinney, past pupil and qualified technology teacher, for accompanying out pupils to the event.

Toast and Technology December

The Technology Department in Lumen Christi facilitated the "Toast and Technology" event this academic year 24/25. The event is a showcase of GCSE Technology Controlled Assessment work completed during the previous academic year. It allows departments to gain an insight into the level of GCSE and A Level Controlled Assessment work completed locally. The event was well received and included local Derry schools, 3 schools from Omagh and a school from Donegal. Management provided a hot breakfast, and it is an event we plan to hold annually, showcasing the practical work completed by our students.

Teacher Training February -April

Ms. Alex Caldwell completed her final year teaching practice (St. Mary's Teacher Training College Belfast) in the Technology and Design Department. She is a past pupil of Lumen Christi College and achieved an A* grade in the subject before continuing to university. She formed excellent relationships with the pupils and was a welcome asset to the department. She is moving to Doha to take up a permanent position.

James Kane Foundation

A bid for funding was made to the "James Kane Foundation" during the academic year. We are waiting to hear from the foundation after we progressed through the first round of applications. The funding will assist in the purchase of materials that will allow for a series of tasks, undertaken by our pupils, focusing on the enhancement of key manufacturing skills lost during the past 5 years.

Repair and Share Rathmore Workshop

Before Christmas 2024, Repair and Share Rathmore Derry got in touch with the school about the possibility of AS students taking part in a series of 3 workshops designed to include prospective designers. The workshops initial outing was to Coneen Group 5-mile town.

The Cooneen Group, established in 1966 is one of the largest and most diversified garment manufacturers in Europe. They deal in military wear and other types of clothing.

Kadie Harkin, Elena McClune and Maebh Domain attended the workshops and gained a wealth of knowledge about Sustainable resourcing and manufacturing,

Moderator-AS and A2

Mr. Molloy applied for the position of moderator at A Level for CCEA. He successfully attained the position and attended agreement trial and pre-moderation training. This insight into levels of marking will be of significant value to the department over the coming years.

Morgan Reid- Solidworks

One of our past pupils, Morgan Reid, a leaver in 2022, is currently on his placement year from his university course. He is currently involved with CAD systems, and particularly SolidWorks. All our students study CAD-SolidWorks from year 8-14 and we were grateful that he could come to the college and share with our older students some short-cuts / hacks that could enhance their knowledge and understanding of this computer-based software.

School Visit

Mr. Molloy availed of a visit to St. Killian's College, Carnlough, to have professional discussions with the Head of Technology in October. The discussion focused upon strategies that other schools are using to challenge their pupils at GCSE and A Level. The discussions were effective and helped to enhance the coursework of the students in Lumen Christi.

GEMX

(Engineering Experts) helped facilitate an event in June in liaison with the Technology and Careers Departments, offering a "Meet the GEMs" forum. This was listed as a speed dating event where several engineers and technicians visit a school and allow kids to interact with them. The session consisted of the 9 engineers listed below, taking an individual table and every 8 minutes 4 pupils sat and asked questions about their profession. Once a buzzer sounded the students progressed to the next table. The feedback from the event was very positive and the students enjoyed the individual experience rather than one individual talking from the front of the assembly hall.

Chemical Engineer, DuPont

Chemical Engineer, LYCRA

Process Engineer, Seagate

Accountancy Higher Level Apprentice, hunters

Chemical Engineer, LYCRA – past pupil – Adam Murray

IT Placement Student, Newcastle University, DuPont

Mechanical Engineer, Derry Precision Tools

Automation & Robotics Eng Tech Consultant, NWRC

Chemical Engineering Student, YALE

Training courses

When marking and moderation was carried out in Mid-May, Mr Molloy availed of the number of refresher courses for machines and equipment in the Technology Department. The first course was training on the centre lathe and took place in Portadown in May. The second course was the abrasive wheels course which took place in the Technology Centre, Omagh, in June. The final refresher course of the year will again take place in Omagh and will encompass circular saw and bandsaw refresher training. Sandwiched between the final two courses Mr. Molloy attended First Aid, one day refresher training in the Catalyst Building, Derry. All the courses are extremely relevant and will benefit the department greatly.

Technology and Design Conference Stranmillis College Belfast

Mr. Molloy attended a conference hosted by Stranmillis College. "Health, Wellbeing and the Future of Technology and Design in NI" was the main focus. The themes listed formed the basis of the discussions:

- The evolving identity of Technology and Design
- Perceived value and recognition
- Challenges faced by teachers.
- Gender representation
- Influences and pupil's subject choices
- Potential direction for reform, including changes to specifications and statutory requirements.

PASTORAL CARE

The Pastoral care of all students is of paramount importance and is a central tenet in all approaches, policies and programmes which exist in Lumen Christi College. This is to ensure that individual needs are met and that all students are given the opportunity to maximise their full potential. Pastoral care is explicit in the relationships which exist in the college between teacher and pupil, teacher and parent and among the pupils themselves.

Key Stage 3

Induction

Induction Meetings for our new Year 8 pupils and their parents were held in June. In addition to a one-to-one meeting with senior staff, who provided them with key information in preparation for September, they had the chance to speak informally with our current Year 8 pupils. The Head of Year 8 and senior staff liaised with feeder primary schools in June to further aid the preparations for the smooth transition of the new Year 8 pupils in September.

On their first day, Year 8 students were welcomed by the College principal, Head of Year 8 and Head of Key Stage 3. Key information was passed on to them to support them with their first days in Secondary school.

The Year 8 classes spent time with their Form Tutor and their Form Class, whilst their parents attended an information session, before we celebrated Mass together with all staff, marking the beginning of our school year. The Head of Year 8 held an assembly for Year 8 students each Monday until the start of October, when they were ready to join the weekly Key Stage 3 assembly.

Year 9/10 inductions began with Assembly with the Pastoral Head for years 9 and 10 and allocated time in form class, during which, time was spent on catching up, renewing friendships and connections and reminders on administration, organisation and school rules.

Student & Parent Information Sessions

In October at the Year 8 Parents' Information Evening, parents received advice on helping organizational skills, study skills, the Key Stage 3 reward system and an overview of the events pupils would be involved in during the year ahead. There was also a focus on Internet Safety and familiarization with the SIMS app. Pastoral staff were available afterwards to answer questions from parents.

In January, the Head of Year 8 and Head of Key Stage 3 visited our feeder primary schools to speak with prospective pupils and invite them to our College Open Day. Parent- teacher meetings took place throughout the year and parents of students in Year 10 attended a Careers Information Night to assist with Post-14 Options.

Pastoral Programme

The Pastoral Care Programme at Key Stage 3 has a clear focus on the preventative curriculum and the holistic development of pupils, whilst covering the statutory requirements. The Pastoral Programme is relevant and engaging, incorporating the ten "In Sync" themes while maintaining and developing our distinctive school ethos. It instils values in the students, encourages positive life choices, develops positive attitudes and ensures students

acquire the skills needed for life-long learning. The programme is delivered by form teachers and evaluated at the end of each unit by both students and staff and updated in line with experience.

The Pastoral Programme in Year 8 began with a focus on 'settling in and transition to secondary school'. It encouraged positive life choices and the development of positive attitudes, particularly through the Hopeful Minds Project and the Moral, Values and Beliefs units. The KS3 Programme ensured students acquired the skills needed for life-long learning through the Learning about Learning, Target Setting and National Careers week themes. Several external agencies supported the delivery of the Pastoral Programme at KS3, including Bogside & Brandywell Health Forum, Cunamh, AWARE, Love for Life, Action Mental Health, LearnSpark, Inspire Education, HIP Psychology, Dry Arch Centre and Young Enterprise, Patricia Breslin: Domestic Violence awareness, Foyle Women's Aid, Foyle Network Foundation, Trócaire, Foyle Search and Rescue.

Study Skills

The theme of 'Learning about Learning' was introduced to parents/carers during the Year 8 information evening, with useful tips on how to assist their children at home with revision.

The Year 8 Pastoral Programme included a 'Learning about Learning' unit which allowed pupils the opportunity to consider how they structure revision, different methods to assist learning and evaluate the success of these methods through the subsequent target setting unit.

The Class Counsellors visited each Year 8 Form Class to provide advice and tips on how to effectively revise via the Learning to Learn Programme at Year 8. Inspire Education provided study skills seminars for Year 9 students in December and LearnSpark completed a further programme entitled, 'Ready Steady Study' for Year 10 students in March.

Relationships & Sexuality Education (RSE)

As part of Relationships Education, Year 8 received a presentation from Love for Life and an in-house programme delivered by the RSE team, coupled with the biological content in science class. Year 9 attended a presentation on Child Sexual Exploitation by NEXUS NI and the Love for Life programme was delivered by Mr Doherty in Year 10. Outside agencies complement the in-house Relationships Education units delivered in the Pastoral Programme.

Faith Development

Each Year 8 RE class participated in a Christmas Liturgy which involved reading and singing.

Key Stage 3 students had the opportunity to attend three bespoke retreats in June 2023 with Year 8 taking part in a retreat on the theme of 'New Beginnings', the focus for Year 9 students was 'Life makes Faith necessary' and Year 10 students enjoyed a retreat on the theme of 'Past, Present & Future' in school. The Year 10 retreat formed part of an end of Key Stage celebration for all Year 10 pupils and afterwards they went to the cinema with their classmates.

Opportunities for Leadership

Through the Key Stage 3 Reward System, pupils were given the opportunity to be Form Captain and Vice-Captain, and this role was rotated half termly. The role allowed students to develop leadership skills by taking responsibility for the Reward Book, supporting cover teachers with class work requirements and consulting with their Form Teacher on all matters relating to their form class.

Elections took place for the Student Council in October where form classes voted to elect their representative. Members shared ideas, information and suggestions with their form class and encouraged their form class to listen, discuss, share their views and, where necessary, vote on actions that need to be taken. They also led assemblies during Anti-Bullying Week.

Every KS3 class, assisted by their form teachers, organised and delivered an assembly to their peers on a range of themes that included Religious Feasts, concern for others, qualities, charity initiatives, health matters and Catholic Schools' Week.

Open Day is an important day in our school calendar. Year 8 students acted as tour guides, leading tours with 20 members of the public, guiding them around the school and delivering a speech at relevant points throughout the tour. KS3 students also acted as hosts in departments, sharing their experiences of being a pupil in Lumen Christi College and answering questions from potential pupils and their parents.

A broad range of extra-curricular clubs were available after school to cater for students' interests. KS3 students were encouraged to take an active part in these activities. They were also provided with significant leadership opportunities as sports teams and class leagues teams elected captains who assisted the coach in the organisation of matches and kit and provided a role model for the rest of the team on match day and training days.

Charitable Work/Giving Back to the Community

KS3 students were encouraged throughout the year to support the different fund-raising activities which took place. They were the driving force behind the Shoe Box Appeal where they donated generously, and hundreds of

shoe boxes were sent to children in Ukraine. All classes in KS3 collected money on the Christmas Jumper/no uniform day the money went to Saint Vincent de Paul. At Christmas time, each form class put together at least one food hamper for the Foyle Network Foundation. Before Easter, there was a sponsored fast and some classes contributed generous donations for Trócaire. The students and some staff took part in the Foyle Hospice Male Run in September and the Female Run in June.

Key Stage 3 Reward System

The Key Stage 3 Reward System is an important aspect of the Pastoral Programme at Key Stage 3 as it recognises and rewards the good work of our students and their contribution to the life of the college. It improves outcomes for students through positive affirmation as a student can gain up to 5 points per week and earn bonus points for excellent attendance, attending extra-curricular activities, fundraising efforts, and getting involved in college life. Certificates of Recognition are awarded at four intervals in the academic year to students who display qualities that we value as a school, such as courtesy, care for others, kindness, diligence, reliability, cooperation, teamwork, leadership and responsibility. These certificates are presented at the Key Stage 3 Assembly and are followed up by a letter home with photos shared on the school Twitter/X account. There are additional awards for class of the term, and Gold Certificates given at Prize Giving for full merits, which is an outstanding achievement. Students were rewarded for their efforts at KS3 via inhouse events and sweet treats with the Principal. It was a great pleasure to be able to acknowledge the achievements of so many students in all aspects of school life throughout the past school year.

Additional events

Other events of note enjoyed by Key Stage 3 students included:

- Year 8 Hallowe'en Quiz organised by the Head of Year 8 and Class Counsellors.
- Year 8 French breakfast to celebrate European Day of Languages.
- Credit Union Quiz
- Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner
- Sports Day
- Year 9 Knock Trip
- Junior Prizegiving

Key Stage 4

Year 11 Induction

In August 2024, we welcomed our Year 11 students back to the college for an induction morning. The Head of Year spoke with all students in the year group and encouraged them to make a positive start by taking care of each other and embracing the opportunity of a new beginning in Key Stage 4. Students spent time as a new form class with their Form Teacher and, through a variety of ice breaker activities, began to get to know each other and develop new friendships.

Year 11 Student and Parent Information Presentations

In October 2024, the Head of Year delivered a presentation to each form class explaining the Criteria for Entry into Sixth Form. Students were reminded of the procedures regarding attendance, uniform and behaviour, and were signposted to where they could access guidance and support within the college. Following on from this, parents/carers were invited to attend a Parent/Carer Information Evening to help them support their child as they navigate the challenges of GCSE. The key areas covered in the presentation and accompanying information booklet were:

- KS4 Pastoral Programme
- Wellbeing and support
- Subject specific exam details (including Year 11 module exam information)
- Criteria for Entry into 6th Year

Year 11 Pastoral Programme

Easing transition and developing self-awareness are key themes at the beginning of the Year 11 Pastoral Programme. Students discussed the different forms of bullying-type behaviour and received a talk from the PSNI

about cyberbullying and the law. Health and wellbeing topics encouraged students to discuss the dangers involved in risk taking activities and empowered them to make good choices in terms of developing healthy diet and sleep patterns. The LLW strand of the Programme afforded students the opportunity to participate in a series of workshops on the themes of diversity and inclusion, human rights and democracy. In addition, group work facilitated by Young Enterprise focused on helping students develop skills in employability and entrepreneurship.

Study Skills

The development of effective study skills is a key component in helping students achieve success and fulfil their potential in Key Stage 4. Young Enterprise facilitated a Study Skills workshop during the first term and gave practical advice on cultivating an effective study routine. An assembly was delivered to all Key Stage 4 students before their January exams, to help them plan ahead and focus on improving organisation and time-management during revision. Students participated in a Pomodoro Technique workshop, facilitated by Mr Smyth, in February 2025. Following on from this, students received a Study Skills presentation over two pastoral lessons that highlighted different study methods and provided advice on managing stress and maintaining good wellbeing when preparing for exams. Year 13 study skills mentors provided useful tips and guidance, based on their own experience, to each Year 11 Form Class. The question-and-answer format provided the opportunity for the study mentors to give valuable insight into their own experience of preparing for their GCSE exams and facilitated discussion on what they may have done differently to prepare more effectively. Students also received a copy of the GCSE Study Skills Booklet which provides subject specific study advice from Heads of Department and senior students. In May, prior to their module exams, students received an exam information presentation from the Head of Year that highlighted important JCQ regulations that must be adhered to during the exam period. This information was also sent to parents/carers.

RSE

In November 2024, as part of the 'Sexuality and Responsibility of Healthy Relationships' unit in the Pastoral Programme, the 'Love for Life' group facilitated a workshop on this important theme.

Year 12 Induction

In August 2024, we welcomed our Year 12 students back to the college for an Induction morning before they returned to subject classes. During this time, students had the opportunity to reconnect with each other and spend time with their form class and Form Teacher. The Head of Year spoke with all students to congratulate them on their commendable Year 11 module exam results and encouraged them to continue to do their best and avail of the support on offer throughout the year ahead.

Year 12 Student Information Presentation

In October 2024, the Head of Year delivered a presentation to Year 12 students in the Assembly Hall, to remind them of the Criteria for Entry into Sixth Form and reiterate the important procedures regarding attendance, uniform and behaviour. Students were also signposted to where they could access help and support within the College.

Year 12 Pastoral Programme

Careers is a key focus during the Year 12 Pastoral Programme. Students received guidance and support from the Careers Department to help them consider their post-16 options and enable them to make the best decisions in terms of A-Level subject choices and future pathway. Each student had an individual interview with the Careers Adviser who provided further advice and guidance. Students and parents also attended a Careers Information Evening in February, when the Head of Careers discussed options post GCSE, and the Head of Year again reminded those present about the Criteria for Entry into Sixth Form. Other units covered in the Pastoral Programme helped facilitate class discussion and provided advice on areas including managing stress, target setting and exam preparation. Before students left on study leave at the beginning of May, we recognised and celebrated their achievements through our end of Key Stage celebration in the Assembly Hall, followed by refreshments in the canteen.

Year 12 Study Skills

A range of study skills sessions were provided to help students prepare for their GCSE exams. In November, Mr Smyth facilitated a workshop on the Pomodoro Technique. Students then had an assembly before their mock exams, highlighting various study methods and strategies to support wellbeing during exam preparation. Students were also provided with a copy of the GCSE Study Skills Booklet, containing subject specific study guidance and advice from Heads of Department and senior students. In May, prior to their GCSE exams, students

received an exam information presentation from the Head of Year that highlighted important JCQ regulations that must be adhered to during the exam period. This information was also sent to parents/carers.

RSE

Students discussed the importance of developing healthy relationships and considered useful strategies to aid conflict resolution, during the corresponding unit in the Year 12 Pastoral Programme.

Faith Development (Year 11&12)

Mr Doherty facilitated a retreat for Year 11 students in October 2024. The day provided an opportunity for personal reflection and continued development of relationships within each Form Class. Guided by their Form Teacher, students were given the opportunity to lead morning prayer during registration each morning. Prayer is a central part of Key Stage 4 Assembly each Tuesday morning. During this time, students are encouraged to think of the needs of others and also to acknowledge and give thanks for the opportunities and blessings they have received in their own lives.

Opportunities for Leadership (Year 11&12)

Each form class elected a Form Captain and Vice-Captain at the beginning of each new term. These students represented their class throughout the year and helped the Form Teacher organise various charitable initiatives. Year 11&12 students had the opportunity to be elected to the Student Council and serve as Anti-Bullying Ambassadors. The Student Council representatives met with their respective form classes to suggest ideas and initiatives that might improve their school experience, and then also met with their Head of Year and the Principal and Vice-Principal to discuss the outcomes. In collaboration with their Form Teacher, students had the opportunity to lead assembly on an appropriate theme. They assisted with the organisation, presentation and delivery of the assembly.

Charitable Work/Giving Back to the Community (Year 11&12)

The annual Christmas Shoebox Appeal was launched in October, with donations being delivered to the children of Ukraine by a local organisation. Students generously contributed to this cause and also to the St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. Following an assembly presentation from a representative of Trócaire during the season of Lent, students were encouraged to take part in the annual 12 hour fast.

Key Stage 5

Induction

Induction sessions were held for both Year 13 and Year 14 students at the start of term. Year 13 spent time with their new form class to get to know each other. Both year groups then met with the Head of Sixth Form to begin the new year and to discuss the demands of AS/A2 study.

Parent information sessions

Information evenings were held for parents/carers of Year 13 and Year 14 students in October 2024. For Year 13, the focus was on transition to Sixth Form and the demands of A-level study. In Year 14, the session included a review of AS performance and target setting at Year 14, together with an overview of the Careers Programme and Post-18 Options provided by the Careers Department.

Pastoral Programme

The aims of the Sixth Form pastoral provision are firmly rooted in the Vision and Aims of Lumen Christi College. Our Sixth Form students are actively encouraged to develop intellectually, emotionally, spiritually and vocationally. The personal well-being of each student is essential for the holistic growth of each individual during KS5. In Sixth Form, we build upon the process of personal development that has taken place in Key Stages 3 and 4. The programme covered topics such as 'Coping with the demands of A-level study, Interview Skills, Alcohol and Drugs, Road Safety' and other topics relevant to Sixth Form. Anti-Bullying week and National Careers week were also covered during Pastoral period. Topics from the Pastoral Programme were also addressed through the seminars by visiting speakers as part of the Year 14 Enrichment Programme.

In October, Year 14 students attended a Road Safety presentation in Letterkenny, reminding everyone of the responsibility and care needed when driving, with a particular focus on the young driver.

In May, our Year 14 students gathered in the Sixth Form Centre for the annual Year 14 Leavers' Breakfast. This was a very enjoyable occasion with students receiving their Leavers' Hoodie, magnet of the College crest and a College

bookmark. A copy of the Year 14 Yearbook was also provided for each student. The Year 14 Leavers' Mass with students and parents/carers took place in our College Chapel, followed by refreshments.

Year 13 and Year 14 Parent Teacher meetings were held, providing an important opportunity for parents/carers, students and subject teachers to discuss progress within each subject and the strategies/support available in helping students maximise their potential in their AS/A2 examinations.

Study Skills

Year 14 participated in a very successful study skills session delivered by Learn Spark in October 2024 which covered a range of learning and revision techniques as the students prepared for their A2 examinations.

Study skills/advice was also covered in the Pastoral Programme for both year groups.

Exam briefings took place for both Year 13/14 before the AS/A2 examinations, highlighting the JCQ regulations with regards to external examinations. A copy of the details was also forwarded to parents/carers.

RSE

A part of the Relationships and Sexuality Education programme, both Year 13 and Year 14 students attended a presentation and workshop delivered by the 'Love for Life' organisation, providing information, skills and values in the area of relationships.

Faith Development

Year 13 students were given the opportunity to enrol in the Pope John Paul II award and then started the Social Awareness and Contribution to Parish Life strands of the award. Year 14 students who completed the award attended the presentation ceremony in St Eugene's Cathedral in February.

Year 13 students attended their annual retreat at the Iosas Centre, Donegal in October.

All students were invited to attend Morning Prayer which takes place each morning in our College Chapel, supported by the Year 14 Liturgy Prefects.

Opportunities for Leadership

Year 13 students were invited to participate in the Rotary Ireland - Youth Leadership Development Competition in Term 1. The winner from our school heat went forward to represent Lumen Christi College at the local final.

Year 13 students were invited to apply for Senior Prefect positions. Interviews were then held in June for the role of Head Boy/Girl and Team Leaders, with students beginning their responsibilities in September 2024. A Child Protection training session was then delivered by Ms King to the full newly appointed Prefect Team.

Sixth Form students were also given the opportunity to become Class Captains, supporting Form Teachers in terms of maintaining Form Class noticeboards or organising charity events/assemblies.

Charitable Work/Giving Back to the Community

Throughout the year, Sixth Form students supported various charity events, including the Shoebox Appeal for Ukraine in November.

Year 13 students participated in the Outreach Programme, with placements including the Heartstart First Aid programme, as well as visiting local primary schools where our students assisted with after-school clubs.

HEALTH EDUCATION & WELL-BEING

The promotion of Health Education initiatives is the responsibility of Ms A. King who is grateful for the support of all subject departments in developing this area across the school. The Pastoral Care Programme as delivered through the Form Class, alongside the preventative curriculum, makes a major contribution to the provision of Health Education in Lumen Christi College. In addition to the pastoral units, the following were provided:

Key Stage 3

Year 8

HIP Psychology: Delivered 'Ready for Action' workshops to all Year 8 students.

The Hopeful Minds Project: Students are equipped with the skills needed to reduce anxiety, rumination and hopelessness. increase coping skills, emotional regulation and resilience, problem solving capabilities and confidence. increase self-belief and self-efficacy.

Foyle Search & Rescue delivered a Water Safety talk to all Year 8 students.

Year 9

Cúnamh delivered a workshop on eating disorders to a Year 9 class as a pilot. Moving forward, this will be delivered to all Year 9 students (as opposed to Year 10).

Foyle Search & Rescue delivered a Water Safety talk to all Year 9 students.

Year 10

AWARE workshops- To give young people knowledge and skills which they can use to maintain good mental health and build resilience, in order to better deal with problems and challenges.

Foyle Search & Rescue delivered a Water Safety talk to all Year 10 students.

Key Stage 4

Year 11

Tea & Talk for World Mental Health Day.

Year 12

Tea & Talk for Children's Mental Health Week.

Key Stage 5

Year 13

Acoustic Café for World Mental Health Day on 10th October.

Year 14

Health & Wellbeing event in September 2024 delivered by Bogside & Brandywell Health Forum.

Acoustic Café for Children's Mental Health Week in February.

ZEST: workshop to all students on 'Mental Health & Alcohol' via the Enrichment Programme.

Whole School

Throughout the year various whole school events took place to help enhance connections within the school community:

World Mental Health Day in October: Raise awareness of mental health. All Year 10 students took part in workshops delivered by AWARE NI. The Student Health & Wellbeing Team manufactured and sold yellow ribbons and raised £675 for AWARE NI. Year 13 students had an 'Acoustic Café' where they had tea and biscuits while listening to their talented peers playing live music. Many thanks to Mrs McCafferty and Mr Bradley for organising this.

Children's Mental Health Week in February: The 2025 theme was 'Express Yourself' and as always, the Take 5 Steps to Wellbeing was at the core.

The Student Health & Wellbeing Team delivered assemblies to all key stages.

A Student Wellbeing Magazine was produced by the Student Health & Wellbeing Team this was shared on the ParentApp as well as a copy given to all students.

Year 12 students had a Tea & Talk event.

In addition, following the success of the Year 13 one in October, Year 14 students also had an 'Acoustic Café'.

Students also had a choc-swap and Just Dance took place over lunchtimes.

Students enjoyed 'music instead of the bell' and there was an Easter egg hunt around the school.

Key Stage 5 students and staff took part in the Darkness into Light Walk in May for mental health awareness and suicide prevention.

All students attended a workshop on the impact of vaping, delivered by the Bogside & Brandywell Health Forum. No Smoking assembly in March for No Smoking Day.

The Parents & Friends Association organised a very successful fashion show, where staff and students modelled clothing from local businesses, including a pre-loved section and a recycled fashion line.

Lunchtime Walks were implemented by Sisters IN and students who took part were entered into a draw for an Amazon Voucher.

The Gardening Club was piloted for Key Stage 3 students.

The Cairde Club continued at lunchtimes. This was supervised by the Student Health Prefects and Classroom Assistants during lunchtimes. This is a social space for Key Stage 3 students, where they play boardgames, do mindful colouring and it's also an opportunity for them to chat to the prefects.

Foyle Hospice Walk/Runs: The female walk/run took place in June 2025. The Male Walk/Run took place in September 2024. Staff, students and parents participated.

Mr Doherty continues to oversee whole school counselling provision, facilitated by Links/Hope every Thursday. Counselling was also made available on Tuesdays. This includes a drop-in service at lunchtimes.

Period Dignity- The school have published a 'Statement of Arrangements'. As well as being sent to parents via the ParentApp, this is also added to the RSE policy. Signage has been placed in all key areas. The female health prefects have continued to oversee the distribution of period products in the female toilets.

Staff

In August 2024, staff were provided with an update on students who have severe allergies. They were advised to watch the EA Videos on how to deal with incidents in school. Throughout the year, staff are also reminded of the dangers of consuming nuts in the workplace.

The Staff Health & Wellbeing committee had several meetings throughout the year to discuss initiatives to promote health & wellbeing for staff and students.

Staff Wellbeing- World Mental Health Day- staff took part in a Bring Your Favourite Biscuit to the staffroom. This promoted the 'Giving' aspect of Take 5 Steps to Wellbeing. There was also a staff brunch in June.

Three of the teaching staff received training as Take 5 Ambassadors. As a result, they will help drive the health and wellbeing initiatives, moving forward.

Canteen

The school cafeteria continued to promote a healthy diet by providing healthy nutritious meals in line with the standards published in "School Food – The Essential Guide". The canteen menu is displayed on the school website and the school TV. It follows a 3-week rotation and includes gluten-free and vegetarian foods on request. The canteen will have new digital signage with the menu and prices visible. There will also be a pre-order system for students to help reduce queues.

Moving Forward

Lumen Christi College have embarked on the 5-year Being Well Doing Well EA Programme in September 2025.

Lumen Christi College will work in partnership with the Emotional Wellbeing Teams In Schools, a programme of support for post-primary schools in liaison with CAMHS.

P&F will organise an anti-vaping workshop for parents/carers.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMME 2024-25

The Outreach Programme for Sixth Form students is a central element of the realization of the Vision and Aims of the school. As a Christian School, where pupils have so many gifts and are given so much, it is our moral responsibility to offer opportunities for them to give back to the local community. Students thus are expected to take on voluntary work throughout the year.

The Community Outreach Programme is a practical way of encouraging pupils to express our Catholic ethos within the local community. Through supporting younger children in after-school clubs, providing music tuition and visiting senior citizens, students are actively living out their calling as Christians to use their talents and gifts to help those in need. Volunteering by the sixth formers includes the following:

- Local primary schools after-school clubs (Nazareth House PS; Long Tower PS)
- After school Homework Club (St Eugene's PS)
- Acting as peer tutors in school
- Self-arranged volunteering (23 students)
- Alexander House residential
- Aras Colmcille project – Long Tower Parish
- Mandarin Chinese
- Young Enterprise
- SistersIn Leadership Programme

POPE JOHN PAUL II AWARD

This award is given to students whose voluntary work is based in their local parishes and centered upon the faith worship of their communities. Thirty-three Year 14 students received the Pope John Paul II award in St Eugene's Cathedral, in recognition of charity volunteering and involvement in parish life.

VOLUNTEER NOW IMPACT AWARD

This Award was managed through the Be Collective platform and seventy-six of our students received the Volunteer Now Impact Award for 50 hours volunteering.

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME 2024-25

The programme continued this year with several activities that rotated on a 3-week cycle. The programme was made up of Seminars (6 weeks), Spirituality, Cookery, Physical Education.

Seminars included:

- Health and Well-Being event
- Volunteering Information - Jane Gribbon
- ASERT - Alcohol/Drugs
- AWARE – Mental Health
- PSNI Road Safety
- Finance – Managing on a Budget
- Prescription Medication – CAMHS
- Alcohol & Mental Health - ZEST
- NW Inter-faith Forum
- Relationships & Sexuality Education
- Citizens Advice Bureau

EXTRA-CURRICULAR PROGRAMME

The Extra-Curricular Programme provides pupils with the opportunity to nurture their physical, social and mental well-being and enables the acquisition of skills that equip them better for life. Numerous clubs operate each day to provide a range of different options for pupils.

Sporting Success

The dedication, expertise and commitment exhibited by the coaches involved in the Extra-Curricular Programme also provide scope for pupils to excel in their chosen disciplines.

It has been another very successful year for sport with both teams and individual students having enjoyed great success in Gaelic, football, netball, swimming & athletics. Special mention to the senior boy's football team who made the NI Cup semi-final.

Cross-Country

District Championships

In total, 43 pupils competed at the District Cross Country championships this year with a phenomenal 31 pupils qualifying for the Ulster finals.

In the team events, the Year 9 Girls team and the Year 10 Boys team both won gold, and Darcie Clarke and Clara Casey won individual gold medals.

Ulster Championships

The Year 10 Boys team won bronze and the Year 9 Girls team and Key Stage 4 Girls team both won silver. Clara Casey and Sophie Holmes both qualified for the All-Ireland Cross-Country Championships, with Clara obtaining a top ten finish at All-Ireland level.

Athletics

District Championships

33 Lumen Christi athletes competed with 12 pupils winning individual medals and hence qualifying for the Ulster Track and Field Championships.

Ulster Championships

Darcie Clarke won gold in the Year 9 Girls 800 m, and Clara Casey won two individual gold medals in the 300 m and 800 m, retaining her 800 m title and becoming the new Intermediate Girls Champion at 300 m.

All-Ireland

Darcie Clarke won silver in the Year 9 Girls 800 m final.

Clara Casey won gold in the U16 800 m final.

Clara Casey captained Ireland in the SIAB Championships.

Clara Casey and Jane Tancred represented N Ireland at the London mini marathon.

Many thanks to the dedication shown by both the large number of athletes who train each week and their coaches.

Swimming

Fourteen pupils entered the Ulster Schools Championship held in Bangor on 7th February 2025. Several pupils reached finals and Grace O'Kane won bronze in the 100 m freestyle.

In the Ulster Championships, Anna Dobrynina claimed two gold medals at Breaststroke.

The Northwest Swimming Gala was held in June 2025 at William Street Baths. The Lumen Christi team was somewhat depleted because the gala this year clashed with Sports Day, with only seven pupils taking part in the competition from the school. Each of the seven won at least one medal, with the boys Under 14 team winning the U14 Shield.

Triathlon

Jenny McKinney has claimed numerous Junior titles this year including the Liam Ball Triathlon and the Mullaghmore Triathlon.

STUDENT COUNCIL (STUDENT VOICE)
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Term 1 (September 2024-2025)

Student Council elections took place for Years 9, 11 and 13 on Wednesday 11 October 2024. Prior to the elections, a Student Council member delivered an assembly to Key Stages 3, 4 and 5. They explained the activities of the Student Council as well as the various roles and responsibilities. There are currently 32 School Council Members and 32 Reserve Council Members.

The theme for Anti-Bullying week was 'Choose Respect' and took place 11-15 November 2024. Anti-bullying week started with Odd Socks Day on Monday 11 November 2024, which provided an opportunity for students to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique.

An Anti-bullying Ambassador delivered assembly to Key Stage 3, 4 and 5 to promote understanding of bullying type behaviour and how students can access support to address this.

Representatives from the Student Council Committee and Anti-Bullying Ambassadors organised a whole school Crossword Competition, involving key words relating to bullying-type behaviour. There was a prize of £10 Gift Card for Foyleside Shopping Centre for each Key Stage.

Key Stage 3 winner – Amelia McFeely 8D

Key Stage 4 winner – Daragh Austin 11D

Key Stage 5 winner – Aaron McCallion 13D

Senior Student Council members helped to sell raffle tickets for the Christmas Draw during the month of December. All proceeds went to the Parents and Friends Association.

Term 1 - 2 (November 2024- April 2025)

Meetings took place between the Student Council members, fellow students, Year Heads, Head of Key Stages and the Vice-Principal, with the aim of hearing the opinions of all students and making improvements for the benefit of the whole school community.

Issues raised by the students and discussed with management were:

- School Trips for KS3 students.
- Girls Soccer Team – if there is demand and an available venue.
- Wearing PE uniform to school on days students have PE
- Hot drinks in the canteen
- Paper towels in the bathrooms
- Displaying menu prices in the canteen
- Mobile phone policy
- Extra-Curricular Provision

ACADEMIC TRENDS 2023-2025

GCSE EXAMINATIONS

	% of pupils entered for 7+ GCSEs LUMEN CHRISTI	% of pupils achieving 7+ Grades A*-C <i>Including English & Mathematics</i> LUMEN CHRISTI	Northern Ireland Grammar School % achieving 7+ A*-C <i>Including English & Mathematics</i>
2023	100	100	94.6
2024	100	99.2	90.5
2025	98.4	98.4	<i>Not yet available</i>

A-LEVEL EXAMINATIONS

	% of pupils entered for 3A Levels LUMEN CHRISTI	% of pupils achieving 3 Grades A*-C LUMEN CHRISTI	Northern Ireland Grammar School % achieving 3 A*-C
2023	100	94.2	83
2024	100	87.9	78.9
2025	100	85.2	<i>Not yet available</i>

Pupil Attendance Rate 2024-25 95.2%

SCHOOL LEAVERS AND DESTINATIONS 2025

No. leaving from Year 12 – 14: 131

Higher Education Degree Course NI	Higher Education Degree Course UK	Non-UK Universities	Teacher Training	FE NI Degree Course	FE NI Non-Degree Course	Another Grammar School	Another School
79	25	6	3	1	8	2	2

Non- UK Universities	Employment	Unemployed	Home Education	Emigrated
1	2	1	1	1

ADMISSIONS:

Year	Admission No	Total Applications	Total Admissions
2022-23	120	164	125
2023-24	120	163	121
2024-25	120	154	125

GCSE Examinations 2025

Subject	No. Entries	Grade A*	Grade A	Grade B	Grade C*	Grade C	Grade D	Grade E	%age Grade A* - A	%age Grade A* - C
Further Maths	67	22	29	11	4	0	1			
%		32.8	43.3	16.4	6.0	0.0	1.5		76.1	98.5
Art	24	7	10	6	1					
%		29.2	41.7	25.0	4.2				70.8	100
Biology	82	31	39	10	1	1				
%		37.8	47.6	12.2	1.2	1.2			85.4	100
Chemistry	83	29	42	6	4	2				
%		34.9	50.6	7.2	4.8	2.4			85.5	100
Design and Technology	46	3	10	24	6	2	1			
%		6.5	21.7	52.1	13.0	4.3	2.2		28.3	97.8
English Language	127	32	62	24	8	1				
%		25.2	48.8	18.9	6.3	0.8			74.0	100
English Literature	127	26	53	36	9	1	1	1		
%		20.5	41.7	28.3	7.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	62.2	98.4
French	36	12	15	2	5	2				
%		33.3	41.7	5.6	13.9	5.6			75.0	100
Geography	46	19	19	5	3					
%		41.3	41.3	10.9	6.5				82.6	100
History	72	17	30	15	5	5				
%		23.6	41.7	20.8	6.9	6.9			65.2	100
H/Econs: Child devt	17	4	12	1						
%		23.5	70.6	5.9					94.1	100
Digital Tech	31	7	14	5	4	1				
%		22.6	45.2	16.1	12.9	3.2			67.7	100
Business & Communication	35	13	15	5	1	0	1			
%		37.1	42.9	14.3	2.9	0.0	2.9		80.0	97.1
Irish	9	7	1	1						
%		77.8	11.1	11.1					88.9	100
Mathematics	127	28	83	13	1	2				
%		22.0	65.4	10.2	0.8	1.6			87.4	100
Music	11	3	5	2	0	0	1			
%		27.3	45.5	18.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.1	72.7	90.9
Sport/PE Studies	33	9	17	4	2	1				
%		27.3	51.5	12.1	6.1	3.0			78.8	100
Physics	84	28	35	13	6	1	1			
%		33.3	41.7	15.5	7.1	1.2	1.2		75.0	98.8
Religious Education	125	34	57	14	7	9	2	2		
%		27.2	45.6	11.2	5.6	7.2	1.6	1.6	72.8	96.8
Science DA	84	13	44	16	7	3	1			
%		15.5	52.4	19.0	8.3	3.6	1.2		67.9	98.8
Spanish	53	13	32	4	3	1				
%		24.5	60.4	7.5	5.7	1.9			84.9	100
Total	1319	357	624	217	77	32	9	3		
%		27.1	47.3	16.5	5.8	2.4	0.7	0.2	74.4	99.1

A-level Examinations 2025

Subject	Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E
Art and Design	6	1	1	3	1		
%		16.7	16.7	50.0	16.7		
Prof Business Services	17	5	5	6	0	1	
%		29.4	29.4	35.3	0.0	5.9	
Biology	48	10	12	13	8	3	2
%		20.8	25.0	27.1	16.7	6.3	4.2
Chemistry	49	14	19	6	5	4	1
%		28.6	38.8	12.2	10.2	8.2	2.0
English Literature	8	5	1	0	2		
%		62.5	12.5	0.0	25.0		
Geography	14	5	4	3	2		
%		35.7	28.6	21.4	14.3		
History	22	1	8	11	1	1	
%		4.5	36.4	50.0	4.5	4.5	
Digital Technology	14	0	3	6	3	0	2
%		0.0	21.4	42.9	21.4	0.0	14.3
French	5	2	1	1	1		
%		40.0	20.0	20.0	20.0		
Further Maths	3	3					
		100					
Mathematics	68	16	24	18	7	1	2
%		23.5	35.3	26.5	10.3	1.5	2.9
Music	3	0	2	1			
%		0	66.7	33.3			
Physics	33	7	11	3	9	2	1
%		21.2	33.3	9.1	27.3	6.1	3.0
Religious Studies	13	1	4	6	2		
%		7.7	30.8	46.2	15.4		
Spanish	4	2	1	1			
%		50.0	25.0	25.0			
D&T Product Design	9	1	5	1	2		
%		11.1	55.6	11.1	22.2		
Software Systems Development	21	3	7	6	5		
%		14.3	33.3	28.6	23.8		
Sport/PE Studies	16	0	7	6	3		
%		0	43.8	37.5	18.8		
Totals	353	76	115	91	51	12	8
		21.5	32.6	25.8	14.4	3.4	2.3

Leavers' Destinations 2025

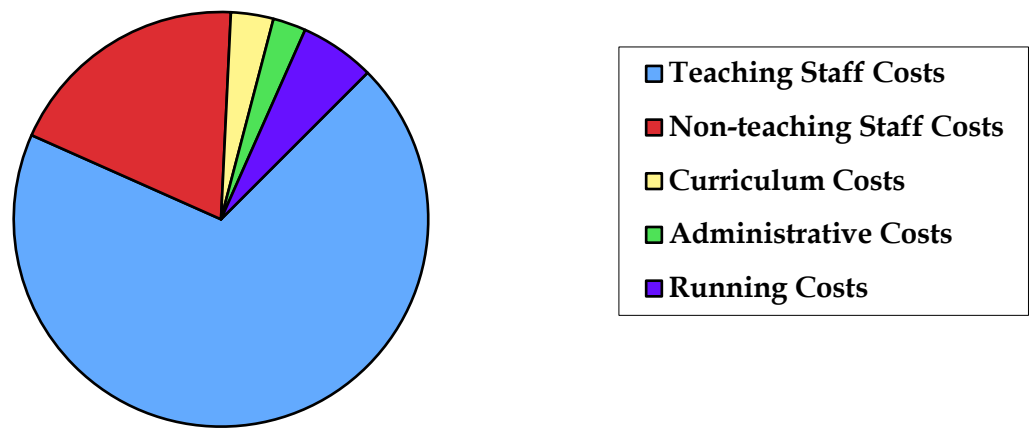
Institution	Course
Belfast Met	Construction
Glasgow Caledonian University	Fashion Design with Business
Heriott Watt University	Robotics, Autonomous and Interactive Systems
Heriott Watt University	Mechanical Engineering
Liverpool John Moores University	Biomedical Science
Liverpool John Moores University	Architecture
Liverpool John Moores University	Computer Science with Data Science
Loughborough University	Product Design and Technology
NWRC	Beauty Therapy
QUB	Medicine (7 students)
QUB	Dentistry
QUB	Software Engineering (5 students)
QUB	Law (2 students)
QUB	Law with Politics
QUB	Adult Nursing
QUB	Pharmacy (2 students)
QUB	Computer Science (4 students)
QUB	Chemical Engineering (4 students)
QUB	Mechanical Engineering (4 students)
QUB	Civil Engineering
QUB	Aerospace Engineering
QUB	Electrical Engineering
QUB	Structural Engineering
QUB	Financial Risk Management
QUB	Actuarial Science and Risk Management
QUB	Advanced Accounting with Placement
QUB	Economics and Finance
QUB	Business Information Technology (4 students)
QUB	International Business with Spanish
QUB	Marine Biology
QUB	Biological Sciences
QUB	Human Biology
QUB	Archaeology & Paleoecology (2 students)
QUB	Music and Sound Design
QUB	Planning, Environment and Development
QUB	Maths
QUB & SDD, Lisburn	HLA- Civil Engineering
Royal Veterinary College of London	Veterinary Medicine
St Mary's University College, Belfast	Primary Teaching
St Mary's University College, Belfast	Primary Teaching
St Mary's University College, Belfast	Primary Teaching

Trinity College, Dublin	Law
UCL	Maths and Statistical Science
University of Aberdeen	Medicine
University of Cambridge	Geography
University of Cambridge	MML
University of Cambridge	Chemical Engineering & Biotechnology
University of Dundee	Forensic Anthropology
University of Dundee	Computer Science
University of Durham	General Engineering
University of Edinburgh	Mechanical Engineering
University of Glasgow	Chemistry
University of Manchester	Maths and Physics
University of Manchester	Computer Science
University of Manchester	Biomedical Sciences
University of Manchester	Physics
University of Oxford	Medicine
University of St Andrews	Computer Science
University of the Arts, London	Fashion Marketing
UU	Law with Criminology
UU	Politics and International Studies with Criminology (3 students)
UU	Accounting and Finance
UU	Personalised Medicine
UU	Art and Design
UU	Computer Science (2 students)
UU	Renewable Energies
UU	Advanced Accounting with Placement
UU	Mechanical Engineering with Manufacturing (2 students)
UU	Business Economics
UU	Construction Engineering and Management
UU	Biomedical Science
UU & CME	HLA- Business Technology
UU& Options	HLA- Accounting and Finance
UU& Seagate	HLA- Mechanical Engineering
UU & Seagate	HLA- Mechanical Engineering
UU & TOAST	HLA- Accounting

INCOME/EXPENDITURE REPORT 2024/2025

Income		£5,635,915
Income from Other Sources		£40,359
Total Income		<u>£5,676,274</u>
Less Expenditure		
Teaching Staff Costs	£3,912,878	
Non-Teaching Staff Costs	£1,080,270	
Curriculum Costs	£188,080	
Administration Costs	£145,772	
Running Costs	£324,940	
Total Expenditure		<u>£5,651,940</u>
Surplus for the year 2024/25		<u><u>£24,334</u></u>

Note



POLICY DOCUMENTS

College policy documents on the following topics are available on request by contacting the Office.

Pastoral

Pastoral Policy

Addressing Bullying Policy

Attendance (Student)

Careers Education Policy

Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

Drugs Education Policy

eSafety Policy

Health Education Policy

Positive Behaviour and Discipline Policy

RSE Policy

Special Educational Needs Policy

Curriculum

Assessment Policy

Curriculum Policy

Educational Visits Policy

Homework Policy

Others

Admissions

Acceptable Use of the Internet Policy

Accessibility Policy

Charges and Remissions Policy

Complaints Policy

Any parent or member of staff wishing to offer comments or suggestions on the policy statements should provide these in writing to the Principal. Any views expressed will be considered in the process of revision by the Board of Governors and Leadership Team.