



Presentation Secondary School & St Patrick's Secondary School, Castleisland Co Kerry.

Memorandum AN EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIP

Introduction

Presentation Secondary School, Castleisland is an all-girls secondary school, which is under the trusteeship of CEIST and whose vision is to prepare accomplished, confident and independent young adults who follow their passions, develop a love of learning and become positive role models in society.

St. Patrick's Secondary School, Castleisland is a lay secondary school for boys of Catholic ethos which strives to provide an inclusive and holistic education for its whole school community.

This Educational Partnership brings together the many individual and unique elements of both schools and collectively provides new and worthwhile experiences for both school communities, (staff, students, parents and management bodies) and at the same time recognises, respects and values the identity of each school as an individual provider of education.

Rationale

The primary objective of this educational partnership is to expand and broaden educational experiences for the whole school communities of the schools named in this partnership by;

- (i) Providing a wider range of subject choices at Junior & Senior Cycle.
- (ii) Providing a variety of extra-curricular activities.
- (iii) Providing a co-ed element in transition year option in selected aspects.
- (iv) Sharing of a teacher for Leaving Certificate Physical Education from both schools (sanctioned by the Department of Education – Teacher Sharing Scheme from September 2023 onwards)

Operating Elements

This partnership offers:

- Expanded curricular options for students across all year groups.
- An opportunity for students from both schools to participate in a performing arts event annually, where feasible. This may vary annually following consultation between the senior management of both schools.
- A co-ed element in transition year in selected subjects and workshops and on Irish trips/outings.



- Both schools will share a teacher from Presentation Secondary School Castleisland for Leaving Certificate Physical Education commencing in September 2023 and a teacher from St Patrick's Secondary School in September 2024.

From September 2024 onwards, both schools will receive the Teacher Sharing Scheme allocation as follows:

- **Presentation Castleisland:** in order for the sixth year cohort of boys and girls to complete year two of their Leaving Certificate Exam Physical Education in June 2025. This teacher will be provided by Presentation Castleisland.
- **St. Patrick's Secondary School:** in order for the fifth year cohort of boys and girls to start year one of their Leaving Certificate Exam Physical Education in September 2024. This teacher will be provided by St. Patrick's Secondary School.

This Teacher Sharing Scheme was agreed with the Department of Education – Allocations in April 2023

1) Curriculum Options for 1st & 5th Year

- A number of subject options are offered to Junior and Senior Cycle students. Availability depends upon the number of students opting for these subjects.
- Priority of places allocated is given to students in their own school.

The partnership allows for the provision of:

Junior Cycle:

- **Boys:** Home Economics, Music, Art & Spanish.
- **Girls:** Graphics & Wood Technology.

Senior Cycle:

- **Boys:** Chemistry, Art, Home Economics, Music & Spanish.
- **Girls:** Technology, Design and Communication Graphics (DCG), Physics & Agricultural Science

1st Year students will be offered a period of taster modules in both schools between October Mid-term and Christmas, to assist in making subject choices commencing in the January each year.

2) Extra-curricular



- Students from both schools will have the opportunity to participate in a performing arts events. This may vary annually following consultation between management of both schools.

3) School Policies

- Code of Behaviour, Anti-Bullying & Child Protection.
- Each cohort of students will respect and adhere to the principles of the above named policies of the school which it co-operates with and will also adhere to the policies of its own school while involved in any form of activity of the co-operating school.

4) Facilities

Toilet facilities will be provided in each school for those students that will attend the co-operating school for the purposes of subject and extra-curricular provision.

5) Admissions

Each school named in the partnership will add the following clause to its admissions policy:

All elements of the educational partnership defined by this memorandum applies only to the schools named in the partnership and all aspects of the partnership are available only to those students that are enrolled as full time students in Presentation Secondary School and St. Patrick's Secondary School.

6) Standardisation

The following areas from both schools will be standardised over time:

- Internal examinations: Christmas & Summer house examinations and mock examinations.
- Timetabling.
 - As per agreed timetable arrangements for 2026-27 school year.

Monday- Thursday	
Time	Period
08:55 – 09:35	Period 1
09:35 – 10:15	Period 2
10:15 – 10:55	Period 3
10:55 – 11:10	Break (15 min)
11:10 – 11:50	Period 4



Monday- Thursday	
Time	Period
11:50 – 12:30	Period 5
12:30 – 13:10	Period 6
13:10 – 13:45	Lunch (35 min)
13:45 – 14:25	Period 7
14:25 – 15:05	Period 8
15:05 – 15:45	Period 9
Friday	
Time	Period
08:55 – 09:35	Period 1
09:35 – 10:15	Period 2
10:15 – 10:55	Period 3
10:55 – 11:10	Break (15 min)
11:10 – 11:50	Period 4
11:50 – 12:30	Period 5
12:30 – 13:10	Period 6

Timetabling above is subject to review for the 2027/28 school year and thereafter.

7) Guiding Principles for Transition Year

A partnership is workable when both parties have clearly defined goals and agree in principle to well defined robust structures and processes.

Shared Objectives and Common Goals

- Curriculum sampling: boys and girls will mix for a select number of subjects in both Presentation Secondary School and St. Patrick's Secondary School.
- Improved student outcomes: Openness to a greater diversity of educational experience.
- Relationship building: Further development and maintenance of the positive partnership relationship between both schools

Guiding Principles for Transition Year Partnership

- Leadership and collegiality are important to foster effective partnership between both schools.
- Trusting relationships which respect to personnel and procedures of both schools.
- Agreed decision making procedures.
- Clarity of roles and responsibilities.



- Regular evaluation and review to measure success and identify areas for improvement.

Conclusion

All activities which are undertaken between both schools will be done by agreed decisions and will be reviewed on an annual basis. Any concerns, suggestions or issues by staff pertaining to

The partnership will be discussed jointly by the management of both schools. All decisions in relation to the partnership must be brought before the respective Boards of Management/Management.

The Boards of Management/Management of the respective schools will review this policy on an annual basis. In the absence of specific update

Date of next review: **May 2027**

Signed: T Long
Principal (St Patrick's Secondary School)

Date: 05/02/2026

Signed: Piero D'Souza
Principal (Presentation Secondary School)

Date: 05/02/2026