



HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMME

2026-2027 EDITION



WHY CORK

- Cork is a small city with friendly inhabitants
- CEC chooses schools with a very strong emphasis on academic achievement
- Ireland is a very family-focused country
- A high standard of living is enjoyed by the host families chosen to host these students
- Students will live in peaceful residential areas with the potential to participate in sports or other extra-curricular activities
- Cork City is ideal to expand a student's knowledge of Irish history and culture
- Friendly and experienced staff at CEC are assigned to look after and offer pastoral care to the high school students
- Close liaison with the school where the student is placed by CEC staff ensures that staff are kept up to date with academic issues
- Regular meetings between the student and CEC staff assist in monitoring the student's academic progress and welfare
- Reports are sent to the agent on a monthly basis to update on the student



WHY CEC

Since 2014 CEC has been accredited by The European Association for Quality Language Services. EAQUALS is the only organisation to offer independent and widely-recognised certification for language schools.

- **Quality English Membership**

Cork English College was the first school in Ireland to be accepted into the Quality English network. All QE schools provide high quality English language training and offer a high degree of personal service and individual attention. For more information on the Quality English schools please visit the website www.quality-english.com. The same standard of service is offered to students who choose to take the High School programme offered by CEC. Today we are one of the leading companies in this field in Ireland.

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1



English
Education
Ireland



Authorised Exam Centre

EDUCATION SYSTEM IN IRELAND

THE SCHOOLS

Students may opt to attend day schools and live in homestay or in boarding schools.

All boarding schools are privately run but are monitored and given state recognition by the Irish Department of Education.

Secondary School System

Students attend secondary school in Ireland from 12/13 to 18/19 years old.

The junior cycle is from 1st to 3rd year. At the end of 3rd year students sit a state exam called the Junior Certificate.

TRANSITION YEAR (OR 4 TH YEAR)

4th (or transition) year is optional in some schools and compulsory in others. In many schools students study a large number of subjects. The aim of this year is to give students a chance to explore many different subjects and interests. At the end of this year they may be able to take a more mature approach to their subject choice for 5th and 6th year. Two weeks' work experience is also included in this course in most schools. The work experience is a chance for students to sample life in the workplace and students are encouraged to choose a placement in an area in which they have an interest and would like to pursue a career. **Finding the work placement remains the task of the student** on the high school programme and it is expected that the student will use the assistance of the school he/she is attending to arrange this. **CEC will only assist in cases where the student has gone to great efforts and despite these efforts was unable to secure a placement. The application process for a work placement is as important as the work placement itself. This involves compiling a CV, writing email applications and the related follow-up.**

5th and 6th (the senior cycle) year are in preparation for the final state exam called the Leaving Certificate which permits students to study at third level.

TYPE OF SCHOOLS

- Standard Day Schools. The teachers are paid by the state and the schools get a capitation grant for each student. All schools charge registration fees. Most of these schools were originally run by religious orders and had either nuns, brothers or priests teaching there. Today most have lay teachers but the ethos is still mainly religious.
- Community and comprehensive schools are wholly state run. They tend to offer a wider variety of practical subject choices. These schools are usually also co-educational.
- All of the above schools are classed as standard day schools. Students attending them are accommodated in a local homestay.
- Private Secondary Schools: These schools are fee-paying. They are under inspection by the Irish Department of Education and the teachers receive a state salary.
- Boarding Schools: All boarding schools are privately run. Students may attend full-time or 5 day boarding schools. They are recognised by the Department of Education and are under their inspection.

EDUCATION SYSTEM IN IRELAND

JUNIOR CYCLE

- In the first 3 years of secondary school students prepare for the Junior Certificate. Students study on average 11 subjects. The Junior Certificate exam tests content covered in 2nd and 3rd year mainly.
- Maths, English, History, Geography and CSPE (politics) are compulsory. Students also study a modern language and usually business studies, art and science. However, there is a wide variety of subjects and these vary from school to school.
- Students may take exams at higher or ordinary level. Maths and English also have a foundation level for students of weaker academic ability.
- Students sit the Junior Certificate (state examination) at the end of 3rd year. The results of the Junior Certificate are issued in September.

TRANSITION YEAR

The focus of this year is on the personal development of the student. In most schools students study a large variety of topics. This enables them to choose their subjects for the Leaving Cert in a more informed and mature manner.

In most schools, students do at least two weeks' work experience. They are supposed to consider an area that they might like to work in and try to get work in this area. So if a student thinks that they might like to be an accountant then they should try to obtain a placement in this field.

Usually, schools organise at least one trip away during this year. Very often this is to an adventure centre where students do canoeing, abseiling, horse-riding etc. If a school organises such a trip, students are expected to participate. The cost is usually in the region of €200-300€ . There may be several other day trips organised by the school. The cost of these ranges from €10 to approximately €50. The student is expected to cover the cost of these him/herself as the cost of these activities is not included in the HSP fee.

SENIOR CYCLE

- The final two years in school are spent preparing for a state exam called the Leaving Certificate.
- Students will study Maths and English plus 4-5 other subjects. They may choose ordinary or higher level.
- The subjects available during Senior Cycle are: Maths, Applied Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, History, Geography, German, French, Spanish, Russian, Chinese, Italian, Classical Studies, Economics, Business Organisation, Accounting, Home Economics, Art, Building Construction, Technical Drawing, Music, Agricultural Studies, Agricultural Sciences, P.E. , Engineering, Physics, Chemistry, Latin and Greek.
- Please note that not all subjects are offered in every school and the choice in a school can vary from year to year depending on enrolments.
- Usually, foreign students who wish to sit the Leaving Certificate must do at least two subjects at higher level and score at least a C grade honour (55% or more) in each of these. They must also pass the 4 other subjects for validation in their own country. The pass rate in Ireland in most exams is 40%.
- The results of the Leaving Certificate are issued in August

CEC PLACEMENT AND GUARDIANSHIP SERVICES

APPLICATION PROCESS

The student makes the application through an agency or directly and the application is sent to CEC. At this stage, we begin to make applications to the schools where we place students having first assessed any special requests regarding subjects. We attempt to match the school to the student in terms of previous subjects studied in the home country and we also take the student's ability into account.

SELECTION OF SCHOOLS

The schools are carefully selected and we endeavour to choose schools very close to areas where the homestays are located. These areas are middle-class residential areas. We aim to choose schools where a high degree of emphasis is placed on the all-round education of the students and where the schools are renowned for their dedication to their students. A wide range of subjects as well as extracurricular activities are other reasons to choose a particular school.

SELECTION OF HOMESTAYS

Homestays are selected on the basis of their suitability to host students of this age. We endeavour to place these students with long-standing homestays who have children of their own in school-going age but this is not always guaranteed. The host families selected will reside in the areas in which the students will be attending schools in an effort to minimise the time spent travelling to and from school each day. In many cases the students can walk to school.

The idea is that the students should be integrated as much as possible into Irish family life and that they will be treated as part of the family. The student is expected to obey family/house rules and to obey the curfews as outlined by CEC for their age group.

CONSIDERATION OF INDIVIDUAL NEEDS AND WISHES

Where possible, CEC will endeavour to take the wishes of individual students into consideration. However, as the number of places in each school is limited, we may not always be able to place a student in the area/type of school of his/her choice. This is rarely the case except when a student requests a particular boarding school or in the case of a very late booking.

GUARDIANSHIP IN THE HOST COUNTRY

A senior, long-standing member of the CEC staff is assigned the guardianship of the high school students and is also the first point of contact for schools. This person also closely liaises with the homestay hosts and is responsible for sending out reports on each of the students to the agencies/parents.

SCHOOL REPORTS

Regular reports are sent out to the agency/ parents on the student. These reports are not meant to indicate how well or badly a student will do in their exams. However, it would be fairly accurate to say that a student who is doing little work is likely to do badly in their exams. At Christmas and in summer, all schools issue a formal report based on the results of exams that students sit at these times. However, if a student is seen to be working well throughout the year teachers are more likely to be sympathetic to them if they do badly in their final exam. Some schools also issue a report halfway through the first term.

The end-of-year examinations are the most important assessment for students.

Students on the High School Programmes have to attend a meeting with CEC staff once a month during their stay. Students are requested to bring samples of their school work/test results, homework, etc to these meetings. These meetings form the basis of a report which is then forwarded to the agent /parents. Students are also asked about their experience with the host family as well as their overall level of satisfaction with the programme at these meetings. To summarise, these reports are more general than academic in nature.

VALIDATION OF PROGRAMMES

At the end of the year CEC will supply the documentation supplied by the schools and Department of Education here. If further certification by the Department of Foreign Affairs or the local embassy is required, this will also be supplied.

If the Ministry for Education in the student's home country/region has specific subject or grade requirements then the agency must inform CEC of this. This is the responsibility of the agency.

CONVALIDATION

For convalidation of the programme in their home country, students generally need to sit the end-of-year exams and pass a minimum of 5 subjects. The pass rate for all exams in Ireland is 40%. In TY some schools operate a system of continuous assessment.



DURATION, DATES AND TIMETABLE

SCHOOL YEAR

The school year runs from the end of August to the end of May/beginning of June. There are 3 terms; August-Christmas, January-Easter and Easter-end of May/ beginning of June. There is a week-long mid-term break around the last week in October and another mid-term in the second term (usually mid-February).

Students sitting the Junior or Leaving Certificate normally do these exams during the first 2-3 weeks of June, which renders their school year longer. Any student on the HSP intending to take these exams will have to pay a separate fee for the additional weeks of accommodation.

All standard-day schools follow the same calendar. This is usually decided around April or May of the previous year. The mid-term breaks will have the same dates in all schools. Private schools may vary their Christmas and Easter holidays so that they start a little earlier or return a little later. However, all schools do the same number of days per year.

School calendars for fee-paying schools are often not issued until mid-June. Please note that start dates may vary from school to school depending on the year attended by the students. Below is the timetable for the school year 2026 - 2027

2026 First term

Starts week of Monday, 24th August 2026

Mid -Term

Starts week of Monday, 26th October 2026
Finished Friday, 30th October 2026

Christmas holidays Starts week of Monday 21st December 2026 and finished Friday 1st January 2027

2027 Second Term

Mid Term starts Monday, February 15th and ends Friday 19th February 2027

Inclusive unless changes are required as part of contingency arrangements to make up for time lost due to unforeseen school closures.

Easter Holidays: Schools close on Friday, 26th March and re-open on Monday, April 12th, 2027

(Unless changes are required as a part of contingency arrangements to make up for time lost due to unforeseen school closures. Where contingency arrangements are required a school authority may reduce the length of the Easter break by remaining open up to and including Wednesday 1st April 2026 All schools will re-open on Monday 13th April 2026.)

All schools will re-open on Monday 12th April 2027.

Third Term Finishes: Friday May 28th , 2027 **

**** Exact finish date depends on in house end of year exams**

DURATION OF PROGRAMME

SCHOOL YEAR

Minimum 1 Year (September-June)

A one-term stay is from August/September to Christmas. However, it is important to note that not all schools offer a one-term stay.

Please note that it is easier for students to integrate when they commence school at the start of the school year in September. This is particularly important if the student wishes to take the end of year house exams which take place in May/ June each year. All class content covered throughout the school year can be tested in these exams.

Sample day school Timetable

09:00 - 09:45	Maths
09:45 - 10:30	Irish
10:30 - 10:45	Break
10:45 - 11:30	Science
11:30 - 12:15	Science
12:15 - 13:00	English
13:00 - 13:45	Lunch
13:45 - 14:30	Geography
14:30 - 15:15	History
15:15 - 16:00	French

The time the lessons start and finish can vary from school to school. Schools normally start between 8.45 am and 9.00 am and finish between 3.30 pm to 4.15 pm. Most schools finish at approximately 1.00 pm on Wednesdays. However, there are some exceptions to this. Generally, a school that does not finish early on Wednesdays will finish earlier on all other days in the week.

ACCOMMODATION

HOMESTAY ACCOMMODATION

- For high school programme students this type of accommodation is arranged on a full-board basis. All of our homestays have been hand-selected and visited by our representative. Homes are chosen on the basis of a friendly atmosphere, good food and clean comfortable surroundings. Houses are located in good residential areas. Only one student of the same mother tongue is placed with each homestay. The students are given their own room. This must be warm and have a desk for study purposes. Homestays are given a set of guidelines to ensure that they are aware of CEC requirements and are checked regularly to ensure they meet these standards.
- In the case of day pupils the agency will be given homestay details for a student not later than 10 days before their arrival.

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION

- Accommodation in boarding schools may vary from large dorms where there may be 8-25 students to smaller dorms that have just 4 students. In some schools senior students may have an individual room.
- Students share communal bathroom facilities. These facilities may not be ultra modern or luxurious but they will always be clean. The Department of Education may inspect any boarding school to ensure that hygiene and health and safety standards are maintained.
- Boarding school places are limited and students should book as early as possible if they wish to attend such a school.
- Some schools are co-educational but most schools in Ireland are single sex. As far as possible we will place a student in a school of their choice. However, places are limited. Early booking is advisable to avoid disappointment.

BOARDING SCHOOL VS HOMESTAY

Candidates for a boarding school should:

- Be extroverted
- Independent
- Enjoy sport
- Be sociable
- Not be attached to life's luxuries

Students living in homestay:

- Have more freedom
- Are more likely to experience Irish culture & family life
- Have more variety in their food

While many parents choose boarding schools for their children, many students would actually prefer to live in a homestay.

From experience we believe it is better to encourage a student to choose a homestay programme where possible.

PARTNER HIGH SCHOOLS

BISHOPSTOWN COMMUNITY SCHOOL (BISHOPSTOWN)



Type of school: State School - Co-educational/Day

Number of students: 200+

Description:

Bishopstown Community School is a co-educational, second-level school and opened its doors to pupils in 1979. The aim of the school, in keeping with the original community school concept, is to cater for the spiritual, recreational, social and academic needs of the pupils in the area.

The school is committed to providing schooling facilities structured to the individual needs and interests of the pupils and providing specialist guidance on the students' particular abilities and aptitudes.

The pupils are encouraged to work hard, to participate fully and enjoy school life, so that their individual talents are nurtured and each student will reach his/her full potential. The excellent academic record reflects the co-operation between the dedicated, hard working teaching staff, the pupils and their parents. The aim of the school is to ensure that the pupils, on leaving, will be well prepared to face the modern world with confidence and self-awareness.

Subjects:

Core subjects: Irish, English, Maths

Optional subjects: Accounting, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Geography, Art, Music, French, German, History, Business Organisation, Construction Studies, Home Economics, Technical Drawing, Engineering

Extra-curricular activities:

Sports: Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Circuit Training, Dance, Football, Hurling, Indoor Soccer, Soccer, Swimming, Table Tennis, Tennis, Unihoc, Volleyball

Other Activities: Drama, Charitable Activities, Chess, Culture Trips, Debating, Exchange Programmes, Field Trips, Music, Orienteering, Quiz Teams, Young Scientist of the Year Project.

Transition Year Programme:

This is an optional one-year programme after Junior Cycle which aims to promote personal development and maturity in students, with an emphasis on inter-disciplinary and self-directed learning. Students are assessed on their portfolios at the end of the year and receive Department of Education Certification.

As well as a core academic element, the programme involves a selection of the following modules: Information Technology, Work experience, Mini-company, Cultural visits, European educational project, Drama, Media Studies, Art & Design, Music, Outdoor pursuits

Facilities:

Gymnasium, computer rooms, large common area, canteen.

PARTNER HIGH SCHOOLS

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS COLLEGE (SYDNEY HILL, CORK)

Type of school: Private School – Boys only/Day

Number of students: Approximately 600

Description:

- A smooth transition from primary to second level education
- A caring environment in which pupils are introduced to Christian values and ideals
- A century-long tradition of academic excellence
- Physical education and a wide range of sports and extra-curricular activities
- Excellent Facilities
- An unrivalled record in placement of pupils after the Leaving Certificate in University and Third Level

Subjects:

Irish, English, Maths, French, German, Latin, History, Geography, Chemistry, Physics, Applied Maths, Biology, Technical Drawing, Computer Studies, Physical Education, Religious Knowledge, Art, Business Organisation, Accounting, Economics

Extra-curricular activities:

Sports: Rugby (main sporting activity of the College), Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Cricket, Equestrian, Gaelic Football, Golf, Hurling, Indoor Football, Mountain Walks, Rowing, Sailing, Swimming, Table Tennis, Volley Ball, Wind Surfing

Other Activities: Business Projects, Career Projects, Charitable Activities, Chess, Choir, Class Projects, Computer Club, Craft Work, Debating, Educational Tours, Exchange Programme, Field Trips, Music and Drama, School Orchestra, Quiz Team, School Magazine.

Transition Year Programme:

Pupils who have completed the Junior Certificate Course follow a one-year Transition Programme. It involves:

- Academic studies relevant to Leaving Certificate Examination
- An opportunity to sample a wide range of subjects which are not normally included as part of the syllabus
- Career Guidance during which students take IQ tests and explore the various careers suited to them based on their skills and competence
- A work experience programme, which includes the placement of pupils in the workplace

Facilities:

All-weather pitch; specialist rooms for Art, Computer Science, Biology, Physics, Chemistry and Music; canteen facilities; spacious college grounds.



PARTNER HIGH SCHOOLS

CHRIST KING GIRLS SECONDARY SCHOOL (DOUGLAS, CORK)

Type of school: State School – Girls only/Day

Number of students: 950

Description:

Christ King Secondary School aims, with the resources available, to provide the best possible environment to cater for the cultural, educational, moral, physical, religious, social, linguistic and spiritual values and traditions of all students. We make every effort to ensure that the uniqueness and dignity of each person is respected, and responded to, especially through the pastoral care system in the school. We realise too, that we must cater for the changing needs of today's world and towards that end, we frequently review our various programmes. Being keenly aware of the ever-increasing effect of outside influences on the lives of our students, we are even more concerned today to maintain Christian values and practices.

Subjects:

JUNIOR CYCLE

Core subjects: English, Irish, Maths, French, History, Science, Religion, Geography, Health Education, CSPE, PE, Computers

Optional subjects: Business Studies, German, Home Economics, Music, Art, Italian

SENIOR CYCLE

Core subjects: English, Irish, Maths, French, Religion

optional subjects: German, Italian, History, Geography, Religion, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Music, Art, Business, Accounting, Economics, Social and Scientific, Applied Maths

Extra-curricular activities:

Basketball, Athletics, Gaelic Football, Hockey, Tennis, Soccer, Dance Club

Facilities:

Library, computer rooms, Multi Media room, Science labs, school stage.



Christ King Girls' Secondary

PARTNER HIGH SCHOOLS

DOUGLAS COMMUNITY SCHOOL (DOUGLAS, CORK)

Type of school: State School - Boys only/Day

Number of students: 600

Description:

Douglas Community School is an all-boys post-primary school. It provides a wide range of subjects at honours level to secondary students and also adult and community programmes. Our first-class facilities, educational, recreational and sporting, are much used by the wider community. Moreover, Douglas has one of the widest choices of subjects in any school in the country and, thus, offers its pupils an excellent education in a safe and secure suburban school environment.

Subjects:

Irish, English, Maths, German, French, Geography, History, Business Studies, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Engineering, Construction Studies, Woodwork, Technology, Religion

Extra-curricular activities:

Sports: Football, Tennis, Gymnastics

Other Activities: Music, Drama, Debating

Transition Year Programme:

We have pioneered many educational initiatives, including the Transition Year. Apart from academic core elements, this programme offers the following modules: European Studies, Physical Education, Computer Studies, Religious Studies, Career Guidance, Media Studies, Public Speaking, MiniCompany, Work Experience, Environmental Studies, Intercultural Studies, Understanding Europe, among others

Facilities:

Douglas is an extremely well equipped school, with science rooms (Physics, Chemistry and Biology), language rooms, Business room, Geography room, practical studies rooms (Engineering, Construction Studies, Woodwork and Technology), Religion room, Library, Careers Library, Special Tuition room, Art room, two Computer rooms, and an Oratory where students may reflect and pray in peace and quiet.

The school is also well equipped for all sports with two grass playing fields, one all-weather playing field, two tennis courts and a large multi-purpose sports hall.



PARTNER HIGH SCHOOLS

ST. ANGELA'S GIRLS COLLEGE (CORK CITY CENTRE, CORK)

Type of school: Private School - Girls only

Number of students: Approximately 300

Description:

St. Angela's is an all-girls school located in the city centre of Cork. The main focus in the college is on academic success and the majority of the pupils go on to study at third level institutes, both in Ireland and abroad. The school is very involved in the local community and supports local charities and charities in Pakistan by organising fundraising events. As well as nurturing a sense of community and academic prowess, there is a strong emphasis in the school on respect for both teaching staff and fellow pupils. The welfare of all pupils is of the utmost importance and new arrivals to the school are well looked after.

Subjects:

The range of subjects is very wide and includes science, business subjects as well as foreign languages. Pupils of the school have frequently been awarded scholarships for best grades in areas such as German.

Extra-curricular activities:

Sports: Basketball, Hockey, Table Tennis, Athletics, Equestrian Events, Tennis, Swimming, Camogie, Outdoor Pursuits Trips

Other Activities: Debating and Public Speaking, Feis Maitiú, Drama and Dance Workshops, Quizzes, Concert/Theatre/Art Gallery outings

Transition Year Programme: **Obligatory**

Core Studies: Irish, English, Maths, Religion, French, Communications, Careers, German/Latin

Additional courses and modules: Word processing, First-Aid, Social and Health, Film Studies, Sport/Dance, Drama, Boat Building, European Studies, Japanese, Italian, Film Making, Music Appreciation, Art History, Sign Language, Environmental Studies, Community Work, Refugee Studies.

Facilities:

Gym, computer rooms, library, guidance room, Science labs, Art room, Geography room, learning support room, Home Economics rooms, video conferencing facilities, Music room, school bank.



PARTNER HIGH SCHOOLS

COLAISTE MUIRE (CROSSHAVEN, CORK)

Type of school: State School - Coeducational/Day

Number of students: 500 - 600

Description:

Coláiste Muire (Realt na Mara) – Our Lady Star of the Sea was opened in 1947.

The school is set in Crosshaven, one of Cork’s most picturesque villages, which delivers a unique combination of country views and seascapes together with a wonderful quality of life.

Subjects:

Accounting, Irish, Maths, Art, Business, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, CSPE, Economics, English, French, German, History, Home Economics, Metalwork, Music, P.E., Religion, Science, SPHE, Technical graphics.

Extra-curricular activities:

Sports facilities include a sports’ hall, basketball courts and a sports’ field. Sports offered are rugby, basketball, hockey, sailing, canoeing, kayaking, camogie, hurling, football, soccer, golf and pitch and putt.

Transition Year Programme:

A varied transition year programme also forms part of the curriculum. The TY programme gives students the opportunity to explore other areas of interest apart from, and in addition to, the usual subjects taught in other years.

Facilities:

The school initially commenced as a single-sex school but is now a co-educational school. The facilities are state-of-the-art with spacious, modern classrooms, computer rooms and other classrooms dedicated to the study of specific subjects



PARTNER HIGH SCHOOLS

URSULINE SECONDARY SCHOOL (BLACKROCK, CORK)

Type of school: State School – Girl's only/Day

Number of students: Approximately 300

Description:

The Ursuline Secondary School is a 6-year cycle school, (3 years to Junior Certificate and 3 years to Leaving Certificate) with a strong Catholic ethos. Students likely to benefit from greater individual attention are taught in small classes, particularly at Junior Cycle. Students have the services of a Career Guidance Counsellor.

Subjects:

Junior Certificate

Core Subjects: Irish, English, Mathematics, History, Geography, French, CSPE, Science, German, Business Studies, Music, Art, Home Economics, Religious Education

Non-Exam. Subjects: Computer Studies, Physical Education, SPHE.

Leaving Certificate

Core Subjects: Irish, English, Mathematics, French, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, German, History, Geography, Accounting, Business, Home Economics, Art, Music Non-Exam. Subjects: Religious Education, Computer Studies, Physical Education, SPHE.

Extra-curricular activities:

Sports: Hockey, Tennis, Badminton, Table Tennis, Basketball, Athletics, Outdoor Pursuits

Cultural/Creative: School Opera, Guitar, Recorder Lessons, Drama, Visits to Art Exhibitions, Galleries, Visiting Drama Groups, Theatre Outings, Debating, Public Speaking, Dance Workshops, Outside Speakers on a wide range of subjects

Other Activities: Youth Enterprise Companies, School Bank, Community Care Group, Charitable Activities

Transition Year Programme:

We have a highly successful 4th year programme, which was the prototype for many of those set up by other schools. Students choose their Leaving Certificate Academic subjects and are also exposed to a wide range of disciplines that will provide personal development.

Subjects: Music Appreciation, General Science, Drama, Personal Development, Women's Health, Young Enterprise, Current Affairs, Technology, Art/Art Appreciation, Management and Consumer Studies, Film Studies, Computers, School Magazine, First Aid, Public Speaking, Careers, Community Care, Creative Writing, Local History, P.E.

Facilities: All areas are equipped to the highest modern standards.



PARTNER HIGH SCHOOLS

CARRIGNAFOY COMMUNITY COLLEGE (COBH, CORK)

Type of school: State School – CoEducational/Day

Number of students: Approximately 300

Description:

The college is a vibrant educational institution that has become an integral part of Community life in Cobh since being established in 1935. The school continues to nurture links with varying clubs and organisations within the town and surrounding areas.

Junior Certificate

Core Subjects: Irish, English, Maths, French or German, Science and CSPE, History, Geography, Business Studies, Art, Technical Graphics, Metalwork, Materials Wood Technology, Home Economics as examination subjects.

Leaving Certificate

Core Subjects: Irish, English and Maths, Business, Biology, Physics, Social and Scientific, Business Studies, Art, Technical Graphics, Construction Studies, Engineering, French or German, Geography

Non-Exam. Subjects: LCVP, Religious Education, Career Guidance and Physical Education are studied as part of the normal curriculum.

Extra-curricular activities:

Sports: Basketball, soccer, Gaelic Football, swimming, sailing, horse riding, outdoor pursuits such as orienteering, abseiling, canoeing, etc

Cultural/Creative: Educational field trips, school exchanges, school tours, public speaking, debating, young scientist competition, access to VEC school of music, classes in piano, violin, guitar, flute and clarinet

Transition Year Programme:

Subjects: A one-year programme, this varied and interesting programme bridges the gap between Junior and Senior cycle. Its aims are as follows: Maintain and improve standards in academic subjects, improve computer skills, develop interpersonal skills, promote both teamwork and independent learning, offer an insight into the world of work through the work experience module.

Facilities: Two science laboratories, a science demonstration room, Interactive Whiteboards, art room, Computer Rooms, technical graphics rooms, materials technology wood rooms, gymnasium, and prayer/reflection room



PARTNER HIGH SCHOOLS

REGINA MUNDI COLLEGE (BALLINLOUGH, CORK)

Type of school: State school – girls only/day

Description:

With an outstanding reputation, Regina Mundi College has carved a very special place for itself within the fabric of Cork society. They are very proud of their tradition of excellent academic and exam success, consistently exceeding national averages for both Junior Cycle and the Leaving Certificate.

The characteristic spirit of the school embodies that of a caring, student-centred family. The students are educated in an encouraging and supportive learning environment where the individuality of each person is respected. The ethos of the school is Christian, based on the philosophy, official teaching and practice of the Roman Catholic Church, while respecting other traditions, values and beliefs.

Regina Mundi College, in collaboration with Wriggle, is enabling students to use tablet devices for learning anytime and anywhere by becoming a 1:1 school. The term 1 to 1 (or 1:1) means 1 device per student, so every student in a 1:1 school has their own device for learning. These devices are pupil owned and are managed by the school and Wriggle. This is done to give every student access to the appropriate websites/applications in order to ensure that they will reach their potential and to prepare them with the skills they will need for college, work and life. The mottoes of the school are: “Sapientia et virtute” (with wisdom and courage), and “Each for all and all for each”.

Junior Cycle: Irish, Mathematics, English, French, German, Latin, Science, Home Economics, Art, History, Geography, Religion, Music, Civic, Social & Political Education, Business, Social, Personal & Health Education, Physical Education.

Transition Year Programme:

Core Subjects: Irish, English, Maths, French, German, Pastoral Care, Religion, Career Guidance, Physical Education
Students select 4 of the below subjects.

Accounting, Business, Music, Art, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Geography, History, Home Economics, Latin

The following modules are offered to students: Leadership, Economics, Spanish, STEM, Coding, Beauty Therapy, First Aid, Chinese, Japanese, Mental Health Matters, Media, Numeracy, Creative Writing, Cookery, Musical Theatre, YSI, Folklore, History & Art Appreciation, Development Module, Psychology, GAA Future Leaders.

Senior Cycle: Irish, English, Maths, French, German, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Home Economics, Art, History, Geography, Business, Accounting, Religion, Physical Education, Agricultural Science, Music

Extra-curricular activities:

Sport: Hockey, Basketball, Camogie, Swimming, Tennis, Athletics, Rowing, & Sailing

Activities/clubs: Choir, Orchestra, Physics & Astronomy, Coding, Art, Debating, Green School, The Monthly Mundi



PARTNER HIGH SCHOOLS

COLAISTE CHRIOST RI (TURNERS CROSS, CORK)

Type of school: State School - Boys Only / Only

Description:

Coláiste Chríost Rí is a Catholic secondary school committed to academic and sporting excellence within a strong Gaelic tradition. The school fosters respect, inclusion, and personal growth through a balanced, values-based education.

Junior Cycle:

Core Subjects: English, Maths, French or Spanish, Science, History, and Geography

Elective Subject: Business Studies, Visual Art, Graphics, Materials Technology Wood, and Engineering

Non-Exam. Subjects: Computer Studies, Physical Education, SPHE.

Transition Year Programme:

Subjects: Students will participate in the subjects mentioned Below for the leaving certificate cycle, but will also get broader curriculum with the following subjects.

Horticulture, Folklore, Public Speaking, Mental Health, Road Safety, Community Work, Financial Planning, ECDL, Mini-Company, Sports Science, and YSI.

Senior Cycle: Economics, Chemistry, Construction Studies, History DCG, Accounting Biology, Geography, Engineering, Agricultural Science, French, Art, Business Physics, and Spanish

Non-Exam Subjects: Career Guidance, Religion, SPHE, PE & a Digital Portfolio class.

Extra-curricular activities:

Sports: Basketball, Gaelic Games - Hurling & Football, Athletics

Cultural/Creative: Drama, Horticulture, Chess, STEM, Music and History Club

Facilities

The school has a dedicated sports complex with a fully equipped gym.



APPLICATION PROCEDURE

APPLICANTS AND REASON TO APPLY

- Students should be aged between 12-18 years old.
- They should be an average student or better.
- Minimum Level of English required to join the programme is B1.
- Be in good health.
- Be able to supply reasonable reports/references from their school.
- Students should want to come to Ireland to study in school here.
- Students may study here to gain entry into an Irish or British university.



APPLICATION PROCESS

The agency sends a completed application form to CEC. CEC then suggest a suitable school. We do not offer several school choices. If the student accepts the school then the agency collects a booking deposit from them. In the case of a boarding school, it is very important that a student accepts an offer immediately. Otherwise, they may lose their place. As places on the CEC HSP are limited early booking is strongly advised.

Students must complete the application form, medical form, medical consent form, and contract.

APPLICATION AND OTHER FORMS FURTHER ON IN MANUAL

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STUDENTS BEFORE THEIR DEPARTURE

Students should:

- Pack clothes that are suitable for the Irish climate.
- Write, phone or e-mail the host family.
- Buy a small gift for the host family.
- Make sure that to bring adequate pocket money for the first few weeks.
- Make sure that the passport is valid for the whole duration of the programme.
- If bringing a mobile phone, get the handset unlocked so that an Irish sim card can be used.
- Check the weight of bags before going to the airport. Excess luggage can be costly.
- Get teeth checked by a dentist.
- EU members must bring an E111 card to avoid medical payments. Non-EU members must have health insurance. CEC can arrange this on request. A fee will apply

Cork English College in this document is referred to as CEC.

CEC Shall

1. Arrange a suitable school for a student.
2. Arrange airport transfers to and from the school or homestay at the beginning and end of the school year. This applies to Cork Airport only . Transfers to and from Dublin airport can be arranged but this will incur additional costs.
3. Pay school fees.
4. Purchase school uniforms and books.
5. Act as guardians to the student.
6. Hold regular meetings with the student.
7. Be available to the students in the unlikely event of them having a problem.
8. Organise a suitable homestay for day school students. This homestay will provide full board accommodation consisting of breakfast, packed lunch and evening meal. There will only be one student of the same nationality per homestay if students are attending a day school.
9. In some boarding schools there are free weekends. It is our policy to place 2 students together on these weekends in a homestay.
10. Purchase bed linen for residential students. This will consist of 2 sheets, 1 pillow, 2 pillow covers, 1 duvet and 2 duvet covers.
11. Organise homestay accommodation for residential students during official school holidays and breaks. Usually there will be more than one student per family.
12. Send full information on the school to our agent.
13. Where required, send our agent the required letter for visa application.
14. Provide documents for convalidation purposes. 15. Send regular reports to the agents/parents on the student's progress. These reports are not academic reports. Academic reports are issued at Christmas and in summer by the schools. Some schools also issue academic reports at Easter/ mid-term.

AGREEMENT

All programs exclude:

1. Travel to and from Ireland
2. Local travel and transportation: e.g. monthly bus pass
3. Mid-term, weekend, and other transfers except for first and last transfers
4. Accommodation during the Christmas holidays
5. School extras such as sports tuition, trips, EFL courses, etc
6. Medical expenses
7. Personal expenses, private tuition, extra books or uniform etc
8. Sports clothes or equipment

School Uniform:

For day students on the one-term programme will include

- 1 Jumper
- 2 Shirts/blouses
- 1 tie
- 1 pair of trousers or skirt
- 1 jacket (if part of school uniform for that particular school)

For residential pupils on the full-year programme will include

- 2 Jerseys
- 2 pairs of trousers/ skirts
- 4 Shirts/blouses
- 1 tie

Lost, torn or extra items will be replaced at a cost to the student.

Sports clothes or equipment are **not** supplied by CEC.

Shoes: Students are advised to purchase a comfortable pair of black, leather shoes to wear to school.

Books:

Books for a maximum of six subjects are supplied (this applies to students on the full-year programme only. Students attending for one or two terms will have to pay for their books in addition to the programme fees.

If a student loses a book or a uniform item, then they will have to replace it at their own expense.

Accommodation:

Day school students doing the Junior and Leaving Certificate stay in Ireland for an extra 2-3 weeks. There is an additional fee for this.

In Transition Year (4th year) students do 2 weeks of work experience.

AGREEMENT

Airport Transfer:

The homestay host will meet the student at the airport. Transfer to the airport at the end of the academic year will also be arranged.

CEC is not responsible for paying for transfers for Christmas break or any other break. However, we will be happy to assist in arranging these transfers for the student. The cost will be met by the student. We will always have someone in the local airport to help a student check in when going home on these dates and meet them on their return to Ireland. For students staying in homestays, this service is usually provided by the homestay host at no extra charge.

Extras:

Students or CEC will be asked to pay for extras when they are supplied. Boarding schools normally operate an account system. Invoices are sent to CEC at the end of each term. The final account is usually in August or September. CEC will issue invoices to cover these accounts to our agents.

Surety Bond:

All boarding schools will look for a deposit from students to cover expenses occurring throughout the year. This will usually be at least €600. Once all expenses have been paid the balance is returned to the student at the end of the school year (usually in August or September). We ask the agency to collect this bond and hold it until the final accounts are being submitted.

Cancellation of Programme:

Where due to illness, a student has to return home we will be as sympathetic as possible. In the case of day school students, we will return to the student the money that remains in their account that would be used to pay the family.

In the case of boarding schools, some organise insurance to cover the student in case they have to return home. This usually costs €100 approx. and is an optional extra. If a student requires this cover then we will try to organise it. If a student decides to return home for any other reason other than illness then they are likely to lose all fees.

OUR AGENTS Shall

1. Promote the academic year programme
2. Supply the students with full information on the school offered and the services of CEC
3. Help students to fill in the required application forms
4. Obtain the last school report and letters of recommendation from the student's school
5. Check the level of English of the student. Get a report from their English teacher. CEC can, on request, provide a level test for this purpose which the agent can administer
6. Collect the fees from the student's parents on time and transfer them to CEC
7. Assist students with the visa process where required
8. Deal with the schools only through CEC

AGREEMENT

Student Rules:

- Students are expected to attend school every school day unless they are given permission by CEC or their homestay. Unexplained absences are not permitted. All schools record attendance and this is stated on official school reports.
- Students must attend school for the whole school day.
- Where students miss school on a regular basis, they may be asked to leave by the school.
- Students are expected to obey all school rules as laid down by each school.
- Students are expected to live as part of their host family. During the week evening time should be devoted to studying. At the weekend they cannot stay out any later than the time agreed with their family and CEC. Please refer to the curfew times.
- If a student is asked to leave a school then they are likely to forfeit all fees that have been paid.
- Any student who is found in possession of drugs or involved with drugs shall be asked to leave the programme immediately.

Communication:

All communication with the schools or families must be through the CEC office. They must never be contacted directly. Delegates should not be contacted directly.

VISAS

To gain a visa for entry into secondary school here the student must:

1. Complete the application form CORRECTLY. These are available from the local embassy or visa office.
2. Send this in with the required fee and photographs.
3. Supply two letters.

The first letter is from CEC stating that the student has been accepted to do an academic year and that they have paid fees. We will need evidence of this from the agency.

The second is from the school confirming acceptance into the school and that fees have been received. Where parents are divorced, permission must be given by both parents for the student to travel. It is recommended to apply for a long-term rather than short-term visa.

Registration in Ireland

All non-EU students who are 16 years of age or older must register with the local authorities. CEC will help them to do this

High School Booking Form 2026/2027

(this form is to be printed, completed and returned to CEC)

Booking

1. Details of health problems/allergies
2. Details of hobbies/pastimes
3. Schools Attended (with dates)

Present Year

Year to take in Ireland

How would you describe your ability at English?

- Poor
 Fair
 Good
 Very Good
 Fluent

Which programme are you applying for?

- Boarding School
 Day School with Family
 Co-ed/Single sex school

I have read the attached conditions and services.

PARENT(S) SIGNATURE:

STUDENT'S SIGNATURE:

Medical Form

Full Surname

First Name

Mother's Name

Father's Name

Address

Tel Number

Family Doctor

(this form is to be printed, completed and returned to CEC)

Medical Form

Have you ever suffered from either Anorexia Nervosa or Bulimia?

Previous Operations:

Immunisations (please tick):

- Whooping Cough
- Poliomyelitis
- Rubella
- Measles
- Tetanus
- Diphtheria
- BCG
- Meningitis
- Others (Specify)

Infectious diseases (please tick):

- Measles
- German measles
- Mumps
- Chicken Pox
- Whooping Cough
- Scarlet fever
- Others (Specify)

Previous Medical History:

- Asthma
- Diabetes
- Epilepsy
- Urinary Infections
- Hay fever

Any problems with:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ears | <input type="checkbox"/> Skin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nose | <input type="checkbox"/> Feet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throat | <input type="checkbox"/> Speech |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teeth | |

Your doctor may have a record of previous inoculations with dates

Allergies

Present Medication

Is there any reason why your son/daughter should not participate in sports or PE?

Is there any other matter in the personal or family history with which the medical officer should be acquainted?

PARENT(S) SIGNATURE: _____

Date

High School Booking Form 2026/2027

(this form is to be printed, completed and returned to CEC)

Consent Form

Date / /
day month year

To Whom It May Concern:

In case of accident or emergency we the parent(s) of

(Student's name) give permission for Marc Cullen of Cork English College or a representative from his school to sign consent forms for our son/daughter in case they need an anaesthetic or surgery.

Signed: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

STUDENT CONTRACT

EXPECTATIONS OF IRISH SCHOOLS

Students must

- Be dressed in accordance with the school code.
- Be punctual for all classes.
- Always attend class unless ill or for a good reason.
- Apply themselves to the course provided.
- Behave respectfully towards staff and other students.
- Style their hair in a manner that is acceptable to the school

Class rules

- Classroom must be kept tidy at all times.
- Students must walk not run on corridors and stairs.
- Lockers only to be used at breaks and after school and not between classes.
- Chewing gum and tip-ex are forbidden in schools.
- No eating in class.
- Homework must be completed and presented on time.
- Jewellery limited to a watch, a ring and earrings (girls only).

Discipline

- Trains you for life afterschool.
- Helps you respect authority.
- Facilitates a learning atmosphere in the classroom.
- Without discipline a student's safety might be put at risk.
- If you force a teacher to discipline you, then it reflects badly on you.
- The school may suspend you or send you home if you do not obey school rules.

Typical sanctions in an Irish School

- Reporting to the year head.
- Reporting to the principal.
- Interview by disciplinary board.
- Detention
- Suspension.
- Expulsion from the school

Discipline problems that foreign students experience

- Smoking is not accepted in Irish schools or outside when the student is wearing a uniform. You may be fined or suspended. Continuing to smoke may result in expulsion.
- Our mealtimes are different to many countries. The potato is part of the staple diet here and many meals have potatoes plus vegetables and meat. Irish food is plain food.
- People in Ireland go to bed earlier than in some other foreign countries.
- Alcohol is forbidden to all people under 18 years old in Ireland. If students are found with alcohol or to have consumed alcohol, they may be sent home immediately.
- Possession of drugs either inside or outside the school will mean that a student is automatically sent home.
- Students must return to their boarding school on time if they have been given permission to leave. Failure to do so may lead to suspension or expulsion.
- Any student that is involved in theft/shoplifting may be asked to leave the programme

NB: Please note that a student does not have to go through all of these procedures. If they breach the school disciplinary code very seriously, they may be asked to leave immediately.

CEC staff will not mediate/intervene to alter a decision by the school.

STUDENT CONTRACT

PROBLEMS & COMMUNICATION

- The student talks to his or her teacher, tutor or prefect.
- The student rings or sends an SMS to the school emergency number: **00353 87 9102516**
- The student may also contact their agent in their home country.
- The student rings their parents only after they have followed the above procedure.

HOMESTAY RULES

- The student must behave as one of the family
- Show respect to others at all times.
- Have meals with the hosts.
- Return home by the correct time in the evening.
- Cannot stay out overnight in a friend's house without prior permission from Cork English College
- During the week it is expected that students will stay at home in the evening and do their homework.

I have read these details and agree to abide by the rules outlined above.

Student's Signature: _____

STUDENT CONTRACT

SCHOOL RULES

I undertake

- To treat each person in school with respect
- To co-operate with my teachers and classmates
- To complete all homework written/aural/oral/practical on time
- To have all my books and equipment for all classes every day
- To keep my school journal neat and tidy and use it only for school business
- To comply fully with the school's code on the wearing of the school uniform/ jewellery/ hairstyle
- To attend school punctually on each school day
- To go directly and punctually from class to class during the school day
- To comply with instructions issued by any staff member
- To follow the school regulations on safety and health matters
- To take care of my own property and respect that of others
- To refrain from littering
- To respect the school environment
- Not to engage in boisterous behaviour
- Not to interfere with fire or safety equipment
- Not to smoke, vape, use alcohol or any banned or illegal substance in school
- Not to engage in unacceptable behaviour which would bring my family or my school into disrepute

Student's Signature: _____

I have read these rules and agree that my son/daughter will obey the rules outlined. If not then I agree to whatever sanction is brought against them.

Parent's Signature: _____

Witness: _____



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