

Welcome Parents/Guardians

1st Year class of 2024



Order of the Evening

- * Welcome by Principal-Ms. Josephine Donohue
- * Deputy Principal -Mr. Gary Kenny
- * Guidance Counsellors- Ms. Siobhán O'Neill/Ms. Alma Walshe
- * School Website
- * Questions

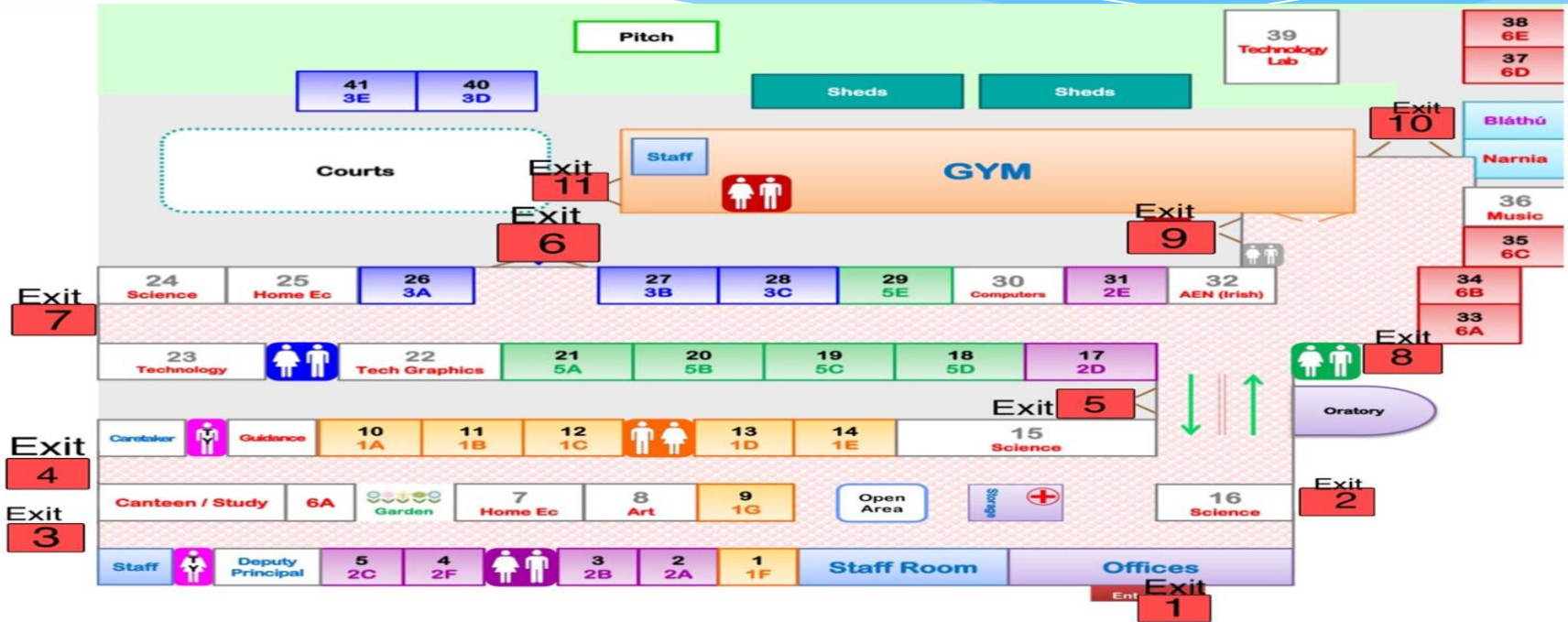


Welcome

- * Mercy Ballymahon Community
 - * Zones/Canteen
 - * Students with Additional Educational Needs
- Our team will be in contact after Midterm



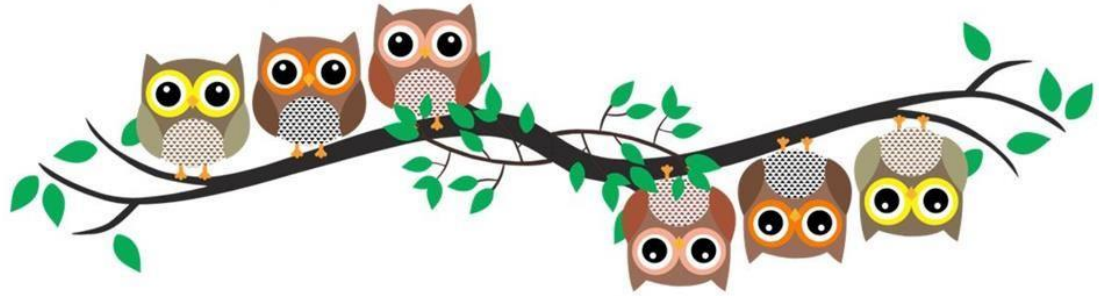
School Map



AEN- sen@mercyballymahon.ie



If a child can't learn
the way we teach,



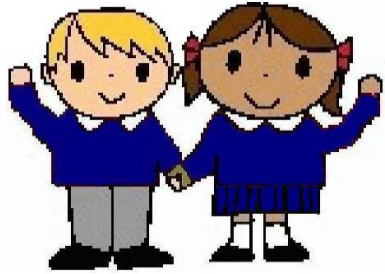
maybe we should teach
the way they learn.

-Ignacio Estrada

Our Philosophy

Bī
Cineāta





Uniform

Claffey's Ballymahon
(Blue Shirt for all)

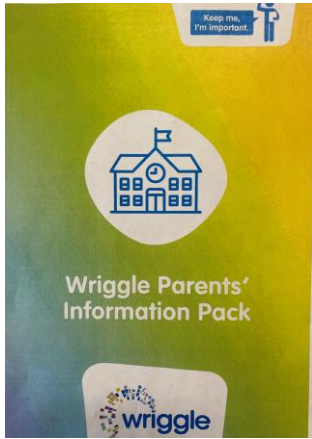
Penneys/Dunnes Stores/
Marks & Spencers



Bus Eireann Athlone. Closing
date usually in April



iPad



iPad Information (Parent Pack available on our website)



Why we use Wriggle?

- * Secure Device Management- All Ipad's are set up to be safe, secure and personalised for each student.
- * Only school approved Apps are installed on the device.
- * The App store is disabled on every device.
- * The students device is managed, secured and supported for educational use only.
- * 'Wriggle Connect' is a training platform for parents (Now free)

Wriggle - 'In
their own
words'





Mercy Secondary School Ballymahon

Your Wriggle Store Information



Key Dates and Important Information

Online Store Opens:
2nd April

Online Store Closes:
11th June

Store Code: 36159216

Visit your Wriggle School Store
store.wriggle.ie to purchase your
device



To learn about
Wriggle Learning!

Click Here

What's included in your child's Wriggle Technology Bundle?

- iPad 10.2 9th Gen 64GB €415
- Heavy Duty Case €50
- Wriggle Services and Support for 3 years €99. See what's included [here](#)
- Device Management license included
- Provisioned Educational Apps (chosen by your school) available on your device
- FREE access to 100s of short training videos in safely using technology for learning for parents and students on Wriggle Connect. See what you have access to [here](#)
- Insurance offering available at time of purchase or alternatively at <https://wriggle.ie/parents/ordering/insurance-repairs/>.

Order your iPad

1. Go to www.wriggle.ie/order
2. Enter our schools' login code (36159216) and click 'Login'
3. Select the device and case (optional) from the store.
4. Enter details to insure the device (optional)
5. Payment options- Pay outright or in monthly installments.
6. Store Opens **April 2nd to June 11th.**



Ordering options

- * iPad 10.2 9th Gen 64GB €415
- * Wriggle Services and Support for 3 years € (€99)
- * Heavy Duty Case- €50 (**Optional**)*
- * Gadget Insurance- (See parent pack for T+C) from €5.79 a month (**Optional**)
- * Wriggle Connect **Family**- Free
- * Payment options- (i) Pay outright
(ii) **Humm finance**
(36 months)
(iii) Credit union

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

- * iPad must be relatively new.
- * Memory capacity -64GB
- * Parents contact Wriggle directly and arrange delivery of device for set up.
- * Email enrolment@mercyballymahon.ie for BYOD details.
- * **NB- In line with our Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) all iPad devices from 1st to 6th Year must be managed by Wriggle learning.**



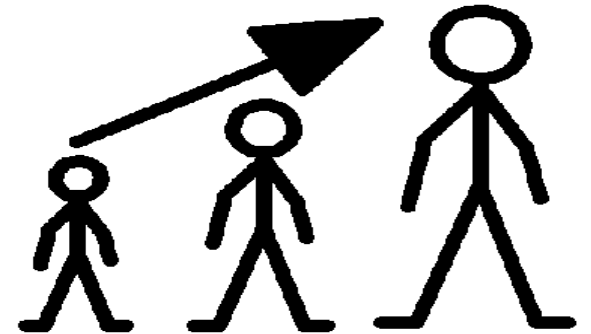
Textbooks-
Physical and
eBooks
(Tradigital)

Good News!

- * **Free books for Junior Cycle students from September 2024. (Department of Education)**
- * **Guidance will be issued to Schools in March.**
- * **Books will be uploaded in school.**

Guidance Counsellors

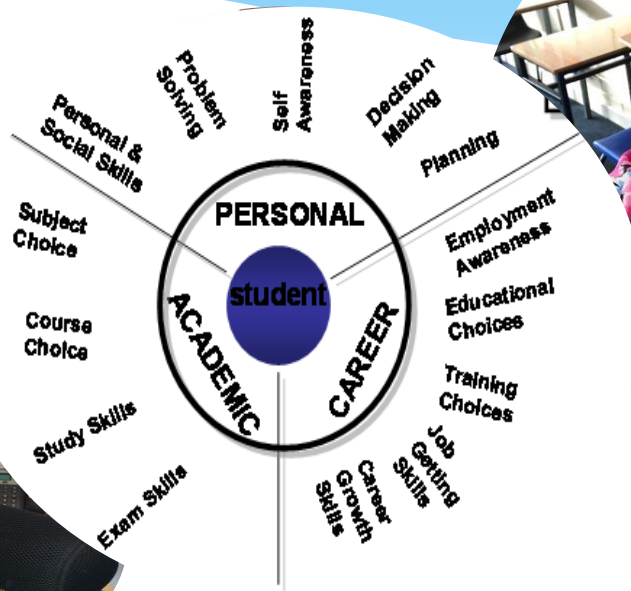
Ms. Siobhán O'Neill/Ms. Alma Walshe



GUIDANCE TEAM

Siobhán O'Neill

Surnames A - F



Alma Walshe

Surnames G - Z

Core Subjects

- * Irish
- * Mathematics
- * English
- * History
- * Science
- * *Well Being*
 - * CSPE
 - * SPHE
 - * PE
 - * *Wellbeing Modules*
- * *Religious Studies*



Choose '4' Optional Subjects

1. French
2. Spanish
3. Visual Art
4. Music
5. Geography
6. Business
7. Applied Technology
8. Home Economics
9. Technical Graphics

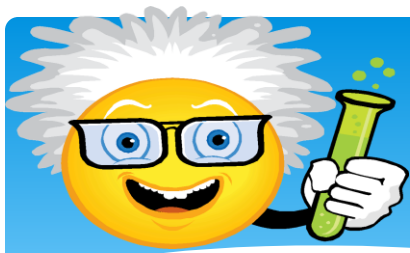


Modern Languages



- * FRENCH
- * SPANISH



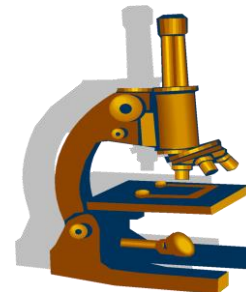


Things to Consider



All students are advised to take a Language.

Together with a Science subject at LC it meets entry requirements for 99% of courses on CAO



Non-curricular Languages

Latvian, Lithuanian, Romanian, Slovenian,
Modern Greek, Finnish, Polish, Estonian,
Slovakian, Swedish, Czech, Bulgarian,
Hungarian, Portuguese, Danish, Dutch,
Croatian, Maltese, Russian.



Choices for the Leaving Certificate

- * Subjects which **cannot** be started after Junior Certificate
 - * French
 - * Spanish
 - * Music*
 - * Graphics (DCG)*



* *Meeting with Teacher to assess prior to selection*

Choices and Leaving Certificate

- * Subjects which can be started after Junior Certificate
 - * Art
 - * Home Economics - Social and Scientific
 - * Business Studies splits into 3
 - * Accounting*
 - * Economics
 - * Business
 - * Technology*



Choose '4' Optional Subjects

1. French
2. Spanish
3. Visual Art
4. Music
5. Business
6. Geography
7. Applied Technology
8. Home Economics
9. Graphics



Career Guidance tools for all



Join
to create a
Career Profile



Discover
your Career
Interests



Match
your Interests to
Careers & Courses

[START HERE!](#)[MORE INFO](#)[Courses](#)[Careers](#)[Apprenticeships](#)[Career Sectors](#)[Site Search](#)[SEARCH NOW](#)

School

I am a second level student researching my subjects, courses and career options



I am an undergraduate / graduate researching career opportunities



Adult Learners

I want to return to education and explore options and supports available



CAREER SKILLS COMPETITION
by CareersPortal



School

School

Starting your Career Path

What's it like to be a ...

CareersPortal @ School

CareersPortal provides all the tools you need to help you find and develop your career. We believe you deserve the best, and encourage you to spend time discovering what makes you different and unique, so you can build your own future.

Here you will find links to our Junior Cycle, Transition Year and Leaving Certificate pages. Select the programme which is relevant to you and make use of the resources we have developed to guide you in exploring your future.



Junior Cycle

Start exploring some of the amazing careers that your Junior Cycle prepares you for. Learn how to study better and check out Subject Choices for Leaving Cert.



Transition Year

Get prepared for your Work Experience and discover the World of Work. Explore the skills you need for a successful career.



Leaving Cert

Explore all your options after school, including CAO and PLC Courses. Improve your Study Skills to maximise your results.



Leaving Cert Applied

The LCA is a more practical Leaving Cert that has been designed to prepare students for work and adult life.

CALCULATE YOUR POINTS



Subjects: 0

CAREER SKILLS COMPETITION

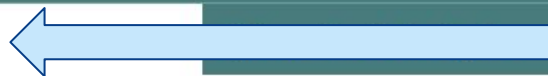


HAVE YOU GOT



WORK EXPERIENCE





Junior Cycle

Have you ever thought about what you would like to do when you leave school? The Junior Cycle is a good time to start thinking about different career options and considering what **subjects** you might choose for Leaving Cert. We have lots of useful tools to help you start exploring yourself and the thousands of exciting career paths that lie ahead.

Explore different **Career Sectors** - for example, business, medicine, or beauty to get a picture of the types of skills and jobs involved in working in that particular area.

Search hundreds of occupations in our **Career Explorer** to find out what the job involves, the type of person it would suit, what you might earn and the qualifications you would need.

You can also watch lots of **career videos** or read **career stories** with people employed in a variety of jobs across the country to

DISCOVER CAREERS

[View All](#)

Horse Exercise Rider - Tanya Moran - Horse Exercise Rider



Hotel Finance Manager - Hotel Finance Manager

GUIDANCE RELATED STUDY

Download classroom resources used in the Guidance Related Learning programme for Junior Cycle students.

Guidance
Related
Learning
for Junior Cycle

[Resources](#)

School

[Junior Cycle](#)[Understanding the Junior Cycle](#)[Junior Cycle Subjects](#)[Options after Junior Cycle](#)

Junior Cycle Subjects

In the Junior Cycle, students will study a combination of **Full Subjects** and **Short Courses**. Of the Full Subjects, *English, Irish, Maths* and *History* are compulsory while all the others are optional i.e. students will choose the remaining subjects during their school's subject choice process. For students who may struggle at this level, an additional range of subjects known as **Learning Programmes** has been designed, three at Level 2 and three at Level 1.

Short Courses are typically half the size of full subjects and do not have a terminal exam. Short Courses offered can vary between schools. **Wellbeing** is central to the Junior Cycle, meaning that subjects such as *SPHE, CSPE* and *PE* are also compulsory.

Practical

These subjects are 'hands-on' and involve working with tools and machinery on physical things like wood, metals and plastic. They may involve designing, planning and building things.

Wood Technology

(Optional)

Applied Technology

(Optional)

Coding

(Short Course)

Practical

These subjects are 'hands-on' and involve working with tools and machinery on physical things like wood, metals and plastic. They may involve designing, planning and building things.

Wood Technology

(Optional)

Applied Technology

(Optional)

Coding

(Short Course)

Digital Media Literacy

(Short Course)

Engineering

(Optional)

Science

These subjects demonstrate how to explore nature using carefully planned methods, and teach the basic methods and findings of scientific investigation.

Mathematics

(Compulsory)

Science

(Optional)

CSI: Exploring Forensic Science

(Level 2)

Food, Glorious Food

(Level 1)

Artistic

These subjects involve developing creativity and the appreciation of the work of others. This involves learning the methods and techniques of the subject and producing your own work using these skills.

Music

(Optional)

Artistic Performance

(Short Course)

Graphics

(Optional)

Visual Art

(Optional)

Enterprise in Animation

(Level 2)

Humanities

These subjects explore the ways in which humans live and communicate in the world. Human life is examined by looking at our past, our present and into our future. These subjects help people to express themselves clearly and develop their reasoning ability.

French

(Optional)

History

(Compulsory)

Italian

(Optional)

Spanish

(Optional)

English

(Compulsory)

German

(Optional)

Gaeilge/Irish

(Compulsory)

Jewish Studies

(Optional)

Chinese Language &

Culture

(Short Course)

Classics

(Optional)

Philosophy

(Short Course)

Social

These subjects explore common issues faced by all people living in society. They develop the skills and knowledge used to manage personal resources and guide human behaviour.

CSPE

(Wellbeing)

Physical Education

(Wellbeing)

Geography

(Optional)

Home Economics

(Optional)

Religious Education

(Optional)

SPHE

(Wellbeing)

A Personal Project - Caring for Animals

(Level 2)

Around the World in 80 Days

(Level 1)

Keeping Well, Looking Good, Being Great

(Level 1)

Business

These subjects teach the skills and knowledge needed to understand how business works.

Business Studies

(Optional)

Business Studies

(Optional)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The Junior Cycle Business Studies specification aims to stimulate your interest in the business environment and how you interact with it.

It develops skills, knowledge, attitudes and behaviours that allow you to make informed and responsible decisions with all of the resources available to you, ensuring your own, and society's well-being, while becoming more self-aware as a learner.

*This is an **optional** Junior Cycle subject and requires a **minimum of 200 hours of learning***

HOW WILL BUSINESS STUDIES BE USEFUL TO ME?

Business studies encourages you to develop an appreciation of how people's lives are shaped by economic and social factors. You are enabled to make informed decisions, to better manage your personal financial resources and to be adaptable, creative and enterprising.

Business studies also improves knowledge and understanding of good business practice and of business as a

CAREER GUIDANCE

Subject Group: Business

These subjects teach the skills and knowledge needed to understand how business works.

Career Sectors

This subject builds skills and knowledge that are particularly useful for careers in the following Career Sectors:



Accountancy & Taxation



Advertising, Marketing & Public Relations



Banking & Financial Services



Business Management & Human Resources



Clerical & Administration



Public Administration, Politics & EU

Junior Cycle Subject:

Applied Technology

(Optional)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Technology is mainly about using a design process to solve technological problems. In Applied Technology, you will use the design process to work through a task or problem in order to arrive at a solution, which is usually in the form of an artefact or finished product. You will learn how to safely use the tools, materials and equipment necessary to make this product.

*This is an **optional** Junior Cycle subject and requires a **minimum of 200 hours of learning.***

HOW WILL APPLIED TECHNOLOGY BE USEFUL TO ME?

Applied Technology will help you to solve many technological problems you may experience in your every day life. This subject teaches you to think about a problem and then use your knowledge and skills to design a solution to that problem. It will also teach you skills in the use of basic tools and equipment. You will also be able

CAREER GUIDANCE

Subject Group: Practical

These subjects are 'hands-on' and involve working with tools and machinery on physical things like wood, metals and plastic. They may involve designing, planning and building things.

Career Sectors

This subject builds skills and knowledge that are particularly useful for careers in the following Career Sectors:



Biomedical Technologies & Medtech



Construction, Architecture & Property



Engineering, Manufacturing & Energy

Junior Cycle Subject:

Graphics

(Optional)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Graphics is recognised as the underpinning language of the technology disciplines and is transferable across a wide range of subjects such as mathematics, science and art. Students will use a variety of media to communicate their ideas and designs through this unique language. Throughout the course, students will explore the geometric world to gain an appreciation of the importance of graphics in the world around them. They will develop cognitive and practical skills such as graphical communication, spatial visualisation, creative problem-solving, design capabilities and modelling, both physically and through the use of computer-aided design.

CAREER GUIDANCE

Subject Group: Artistic

These subjects involve developing creativity and the appreciation of the work of others. This involves learning the methods and techniques of the subject and producing your own work using these skills.

Career Sectors

This subject builds skills and knowledge that are particularly useful for careers in the following Career Sectors:

Junior Cycle Subject:

Geography

(Optional)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

In Geography you will study about places, people and what shapes the environment. You will learn how the environment influences people, and how they change the environment. You will develop your ability to draw and understand maps, graphs and diagrams, as well as studying photographs and collecting information outside the classroom through fieldwork.

HOW WILL GEOGRAPHY BE USEFUL TO ME?

Everybody uses geography in their daily lives. When you think of where to go on holiday or wonder what tomorrow's weather will be like, you are thinking geography. When you look at an atlas map, or a town plan, or a weather map, you use what we learn in Geography. Geography prepares you for careers in town planning, outdoor pursuits education, weather forecasting, tourism and transport. Geography keeps you informed of topics which arise in conversation, current affairs, newspaper reports, and on TV, such as climate change, renewable energy and aid to poorer nations.

The Geography Specification consists of three main strands:

Exploring the Physical World: This strand focuses on facilitating students' exploration of how the physical

CAREER GUIDANCE

Subject Group: Social

These subjects explore common issues faced by all people living in society. They develop the skills and knowledge used to manage personal resources and guide human behaviour.

Career Sectors

This subject builds skills and knowledge that are particularly useful for careers in the following Career Sectors:



Earth & Environment



Education & Teaching



Farming, Horticulture & Forestry



Tourism & Hospitality



Transport & Logistics

Home Economics

(Optional)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Home Economics is a subject where you will learn how to take care of yourself, others, your home and your environment. As Home Economics is a very practical subject, you will carry out a lot of activities in school and at home.

HOW WILL HOME ECONOMICS BE USEFUL TO ME?

In Home Economics, students learn how to address these practical, real world, perennial problems of individuals, families, households and society in socially responsible ways. Practical perennial problems or concerns are endured from generation to generation by families and require critical decision-making skills to resolve them. Home Economics education uses a systems approach to empower individuals and families with the knowledge and skills to address these real-life concerns of everyday living.

The Home Economics course consists of three strands:

Food, Health and Culinary Skills: This strand will encourage students to develop a healthy, sustainable attitude and positive relationship with food through practical experiential learning.

Responsible Family Living: This strand facilitates students to explore, from a systems perspective, responsible family living. Students develop lifeskills to enable them to manage resources responsibly and sustainably in the home, family and community.

Textiles and Craft: This strand focuses on students' textile skills, knowledge and creativity.

CAREER GUIDANCE

Subject Group: Social

These subjects explore common issues faced by all people living in society. They develop the skills and knowledge used to manage personal resources and guide human behaviour.

Career Sectors

This subject builds skills and knowledge that are particularly useful for careers in the following Career Sectors:



Business Management & Human Resources



Community & Voluntary



Education & Teaching



Farming, Horticulture & Forestry



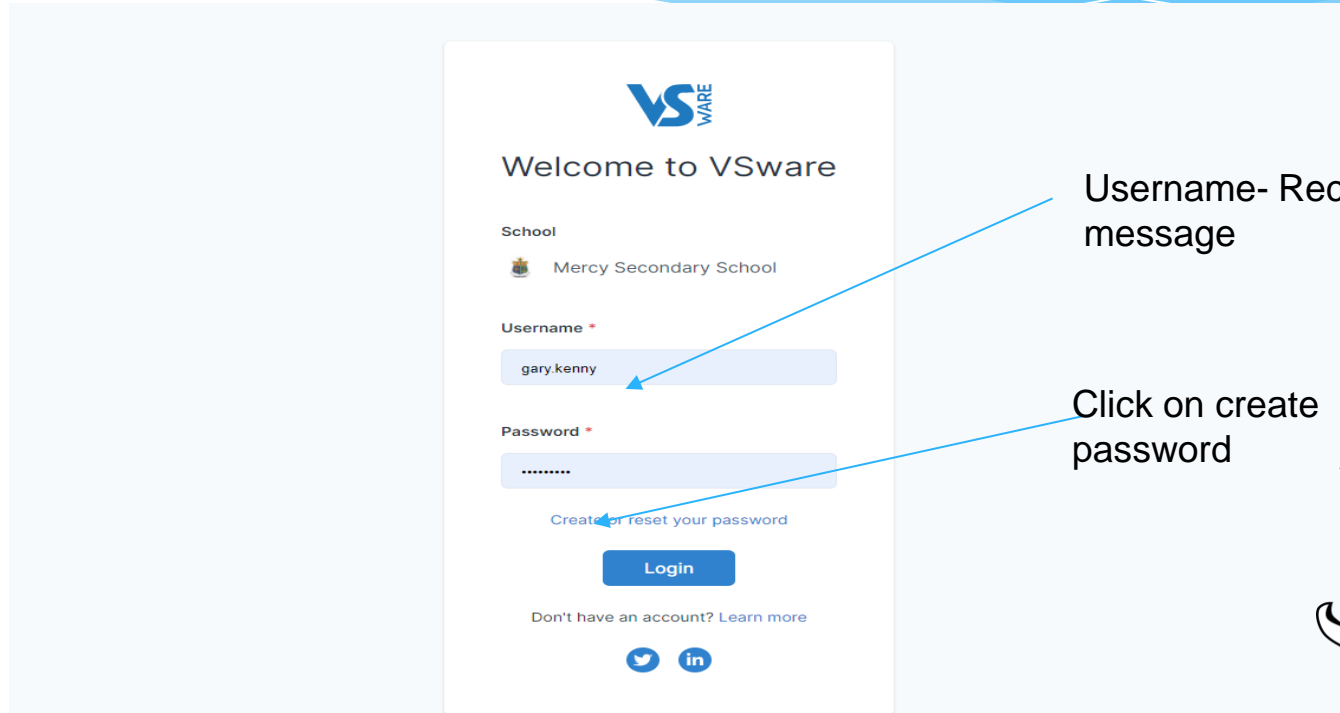
Psychology & Social Care

Making your Choice

- ❖ Consider what interests your child
- ❖ Think about what they are good at
- ❖ Link with username will be texted to parents tomorrow
- ❖ enrolment@mercyballymahon.ie
- ❖ Deadline **Friday March 8th, 2024**



Vsware login



The screenshot shows the Vsware login interface. At the top is the Vsware logo. Below it is the text 'Welcome to VSware'. The 'School' section shows a school crest and the name 'Mercy Secondary School'. The 'Username' field contains 'gary.kenny'. The 'Password' field is masked with dots. Below the password field are links for 'Create' and 'reset your password'. A blue 'Login' button is at the bottom. At the very bottom are social media icons for Twitter and LinkedIn, and a link for 'Don't have an account? Learn more'.

Username- Received by text message

Click on create password



Subject options

Pick an area to explore



Attendance

Monitor your child's attendance at a glance, view records from an entire year or specific lesson.

[Learn More >](#)



Assessment

View your child's full academic record, track progress over time and download term assessments.

[Learn More >](#)



Behaviour

Keep track of your child's behaviour, monitor progress & teacher feedback.

[Learn More >](#)



Timetable

View your child's timetable, see realtime data for which lesson they are in at any given time.

[Learn More >](#)



Personal Info

Overview of your child's key info. Ensure that this is up to date.

[Learn More >](#)



Fees

Overview of school fees for the year, pay directly via card online.

[Learn More >](#)



Student Options

Submit next year's subject preferences directly to the school.

[Learn More >](#)

Click on Student options



Enter subject preferences

6 subjects should be chosen. (4 preferences and 2 reserves) Science is a core compulsory subject. It is preselected as preference number 1. Please do not change this. Please indicate your preference, in rank order, (1 being your first preference) in the drop down boxes. Closing date is Friday 4th March 2022.

On the table(s) below choose subjects in order of the highest priority of preference (1, 2, etc).

Closing date: 04/03/2022

Subject Set 1

Preference	Subject Choice
1	Science ▼
2	Select a subject ▼
3	Select a subject ▼
4	Select a subject ▼
5	Select a subject ▼
6	Select a subject ▼

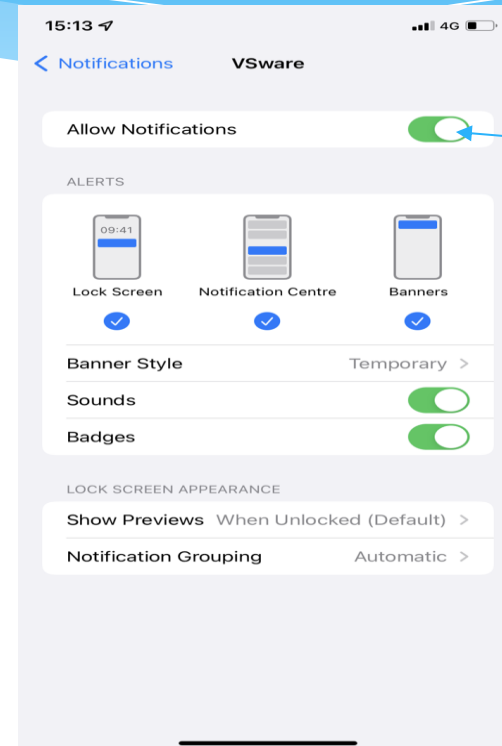
Enter subject choices in order of preference



Vsware App

iPhone: Download from the App store

For Android devices: Visit the Google Play Store on your device and search for 'VSware'



Turn on notifications.



Presentation available on our School Website- www.mercyballymahon.ie

mercyballymahon.ie



Mercy Secondary School Ballymahon



- Home
- Return to School Forms
- About Us
- Parents Zone
- Recruitment
- Curriculum
- Extra Curricular
- Guidance
- Administration
- Booklists
- News
- Gallery
- Contact

Click on
Parents Zone



Social Media!



The image shows a screenshot of a Twitter profile for 'Mercy Ballymahon'. The profile page includes a navigation sidebar on the left with options like Home, Explore, Notifications, Messages, Bookmarks, Twitter Blue, Profile, and More. The main content area shows the profile header with the name 'Mercy Ballymahon' and '432 Tweets'. Below the header is a profile picture featuring a crest and a background image of a school building. The bio section provides the school's address in Ballymahon, Ireland, along with contact information and the date it was joined (May 2013). It also shows '100 Following' and '442 Followers'. At the bottom, there is a tweet from the account dated 7m ago, mentioning a '#BestBuddies' programme where 1st years made cards for their 6th year buddies.

Mercy Ballymahon
432 Tweets

Mercy Secondary School Ballymahon, Main Street Ballymahon, County Longford, Ireland email:info@mercyballymahon.ie Phone: 0906432267 Fax: 0906432615

Ballymahon mercyballymahon.ie Joined May 2013

100 Following 442 Followers

Followed by Ballymahon Daily, Digital Schools, and 10 others you follow

Mercy Ballymahon @mercyballymahon · 7m ...
As part of our [#BestBuddies](#) programme in the school, our 1st years made cards for their 6th year buddies to wish them luck in their mock exams 🍀🍀





Guidance Counsellor:

Ms. Siobhán O'Neill, Ms. Alma Walshe

Address:

Ballymahon, Co Longford

E-Mail:

guidance@mercyballymahon.ie

enrolment@mercyballymahon.ie

Phone:

090 64 32267



Mercy Secondary School, Ballymahon.

