



# Stratford College

Co-educational Secondary School

Dear Friend of Stratford,

Senior Cycle Redevelopment

After all the excitement following the response of the Minister of Education to the National Council Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) Senior Cycle Advisory Report in March 2022, the most insightful conversations were with my staff and parents over the following days.

Parents asked when would the proposed changes be introduced, and would their children benefit from them? And how, the teachers asked, would all this impact on the 'Points Race'?

There is no doubt the unhealthy obsession with the Leaving Certificate and the so called 'Points Race' students' hopes and dreams were concentrated on very narrow success criteria and pathways and caused unnecessary levels of stress. This was brought home in the starkest of terms by the **UN** and more recently by the **Children's Ombudsman in Ireland**.

## Vision for Senior Cycle Redevelopment

The Minister's Vision for Senior Cycle was spelt out:

- To Empower students to meet the challenges of the 21st century
- To Enrich the student experience and skillset we have in our current system
- To Embed wellbeing and reduce stress levels for our students.

Minister Foley went on to outline a series of checks and balances in the proposed redevelopment of Senior Cycle that would embed wellbeing and reduce stress levels by

- Listening to Student Voice
- Spreading the Assessment Load
- Alignment of Programmes

The last burning question was when will these changes be implemented? The changes will begin as soon as next year. A timeline for the proposed changes is **here**. For more details see Senior Cycle Developments at this **link**.

*Ms Patricia Gordon*  
*Principal*

## Department of Education: Consultation on the Review of the Action Plan on Bullying and the Review of the Anti-bullying Procedures for primary and post- primary schools



The Department of Education (DE) is currently reviewing the Action Plan on Bullying and the Anti-bullying Procedures for primary and post-primary schools. An online questionnaire can be found at this link: [Anti-bullying Action 2022 plan: Have Your Say](#). Written submissions can be made here: [Written Submissions: Have Your Say](#)



## Safe Route to Schools: Stratford receives summary feedback

Stratford College – Summary of Parents' Comments The school distributed the survey to all parents, via their usual communications methods, during October 2021. The following summary results were received by the school on Friday, 17th June 2022.

## Spotlight on 1st Year 2021-22

Watch our 1st Years speak of their experiences of moving into Stratford College Secondary school.



## Follow Stratford!

We know choosing a secondary school for your child can be a daunting and at times challenging experience. It's a very personal decision and takes patience and time.

## VSWare Parent App for easy, paperless communication

We asked - you replied! You prefer paperless communications! In Stratford College we're using VSWare and so for parents/guardians you must install the VSWare parent app to receive regular communication updates and student reports from the school. Read these FAQs for help and support.





## Stratford College Open Day: Sunday 18th September, 2pm - 3.30pm

The Stratford College Open Day is on Sunday, 18th September. Come join us to find out more about the wide range of subjects and sporting facilities on offer to students, to chat with our teachers and to explore our classrooms and learning spaces.

## Summer 2022 Reads for Young Adults

School is out for summer! Now is the time to take the time to relax and catch up on reading... get yourself a comfortable place and check out some of the following lists! Or go visit your favourite public libraries!



## 5th Year Computer Science student makes 'Top 30 Under 30' Tech list for second year running

5th Year student, Ayush, has made it again to the Sunday Business Post's Connected 'Top 30 under 30' list of young tech people to watch! And this time Ayush was on the front cover - amazing!

## Spotlight on ... Sports in Stratford College

This month our social media channels have been showcasing our ever-expanding Sports Department.





## The Rare 'Ole Times!

See these archive photos of our beautiful school building.

## 6th Year Graduation: a beautiful outdoors event

This year's 6th Year Graduation was again held outdoors on Friday, 13th May. It was wonderful to invite parents and family to the graduation for the first time since before the pandemic.

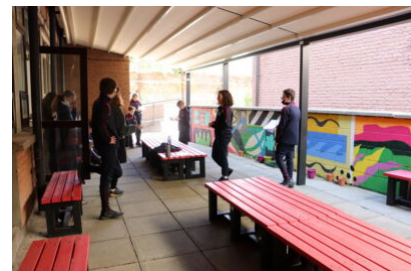


## TY's go on Neoclassical walking tour of Dublin

On Thursday, 12th May the TY students went on a Neoclassical walking tour of Dublin with Ms. Donohoe and Ms. Finnegan.

## WorldWide Global Schools - Global Justice, Sustainability and Active Citizenship

Art, Global Justice, Community Activism are intertwined in murals that explored themes such as Climate Action. The main mural - 'Rising tides' is in an open-art museum/classroom / teaching & learning space: a busy space where students move about in. The goal is to capture attention and trigger action.



## TY's showcase their video at Concern's Agent of Change event

On Friday, 6th May the TY's attended the Agent of Change event organised by Concern as part of their Speak Act Do campaign.