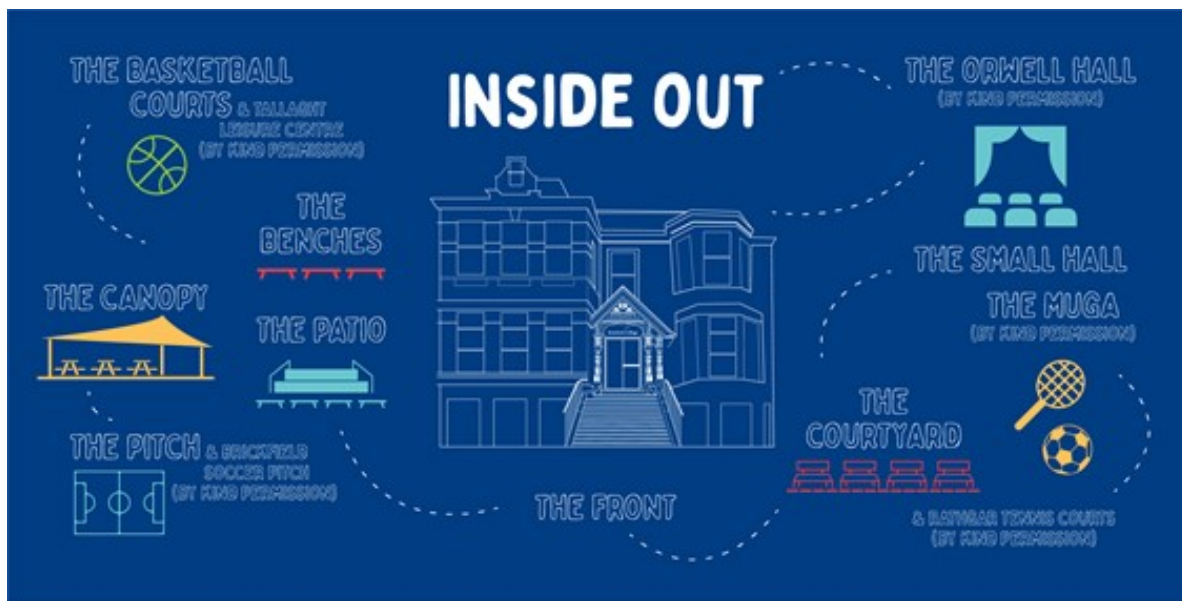




Stratford College

Co-educational Secondary School

Dear Friend of Stratford,



Thank You!

Firstly, it is two years since schools were closed as part of national efforts to manage this Public Health Emergency. Thank you to our Board of Management, Patrons, staff, students and parents for the sterling efforts made over this extended period in anticipating, preparing and supporting this unprecedented crisis by prioritising your children's welfare.

In a recent questionnaire, anticipating the lifting of restrictions, the themes of concern centered on parents worry over the impact the measures had on the academic and social development of their children in general, the staff who missed professional collegiality and students missed out on school life.

All agree that our work load increased exponentially and we are still readjusting to these increasing demands.

Roadmap

As we begin to unravel the measures we are mindful of staff unease at the lifting of restrictions (33%) and new behaviours, protocols and procedures that need to be (re) learnt by your children in the 'new normal'. And we are conscious that Covid 19 is still very much around and of high risk health issues that some experience personally and among our extended families. We need to be mindful of each other now more than ever.

Therefore, we are going to procedure in a measured and cautious way over the next 3 months with our timetable unchanged and the vast majority of class groups remaining at 18 students or less for the remainder of the year.

Retention of some measures

We will take note of the measures you would like retained going forward. We are mindful of a high number of people who will continue to wear masks for their own safety and the need for continuing rigorous sanitizing of all areas. PPE equipment and additional cleaning will remain as before. We also hear the majority of parents desire for on-line parent teacher meetings to continue. Outdoor teaching and learning spaces have been further enhanced by the installation of a retractable awning over the new benches and painting of a wall mural.

Feile22@Stratford

See the many **photos**, the **photo montage** and images on Stratford's **Instagram** from a fabulous day on 16th March 2022 to mark national celebrations and commemoration at the end of the Covid-19 pandemic!

Thanks to everyone who made it possible!

Ms. Patricia Gordon
Principal

Junior Cycle Step Up Project report launched: results of Stratford College's teaching and learning practices



In 2018 Stratford College in Rathgar, Dublin 6 was one of 9 schools nationwide who were chosen to participate in a Department of Education initiative called Step Up. The goals identified for the Step Up project were to achieve higher quality learning experiences and outcomes for students through more effective implementation of aspects of the Framework for Junior Cycle (2015). Stratford College's report can be accessed at the following link here.



3rd Year Assembly - Together Again!

And so it finally happened ... after two years, our first face-to-face assembly in the hall on Thursday, 3rd March. The whole school together! Fittingly it was the third year assembly and as Ms Gordon reminded us, it was the third years - as first years - who were the year group who first had to do an online school assembly. So we have gone full circle.

Spotlight: Being in First Year in Stratford College

This month our social media spotlight is on the experience of our First Year students. The move from primary to secondary school is always significant and can be both exciting and challenging.



Senior Classics Trip to Rome 2022!

The 5th and 6th Year Classics students jetted off to Rome on Sunday morning, 27th February with Ms Donohoe, Ms Corrigan, Ms Caspi, Ms Brusey and Mr Fadden!

Gael Linn Diospoireachtaí - Craobh Reigiunach! Brilliant Senior debate & Juniors receive trophies

Tuesday, 1st March - our Junior and Senior Irish debaters competed in the Regional Finals in Sandymount. Not a win for the Juniors but very happy with our trophies! A brilliant Senior debate! Very close but pipped at the post.



Stratford past pupil (2021) awarded Trinity College Dublin Entrance Exhibition

Congratulations to Alexey Gorelov (2021) who will be honoured with a TCD Exhibition Award on Wednesday, 3rd March 2022.

5th and 6th Years go on Adventure Activity Day!

Wednesday morning, 23rd February proved to be sunny and spring-like when the 5th and 6th Years drove off to the Wicklow hills to the Avon Activity centre near Blessington.



3rd Years visit Museum of Literature Ireland (MOLI) & do a Literary and Historical Treasure Hunt

As the last hurdles of Covid were lifted our 3rd year students had their first school tour in three years. Covid arrived half way through their 1st year, putting an end to all the trips that normally mark that last term: Arts week, 1st year Mentor trip, Friendship week and Sports Day. In their stead were 2D classes conducted on the screen, requiring no further movement than walking down the stairs.

Student Council members and the Green Schools committee take part in Leadership Training

Students from the various leadership positions throughout Stratford College, the Student Council and the Green Schools committee, participated in a virtual Leadership Skills training session on Tuesday 15th of February.



6th Year student reads at National Holocaust Memorial Day Commemoration in the Mansion House

Senior students and Staff from Stratford College attended the annual National Holocaust Memorial Day Commemoration at the Mansion House on Sunday 30th January.