



Stratford College

Confident Courageous Caring

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Information for New Families 2026-2027



Welcome to Stratford College

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Part 1: School Culture

Introduction

Welcome to Stratford College! These next few years are a time of incredible growth, discovery, and transformation—both academically and personally—and we are committed to making that journey as smooth, inspiring, and rewarding as possible for your child(ren). We know that transitioning to a new school can bring a mix of anticipation and questions.

Our commitment is to foster a truly exceptional student: one who is *Confident* in their intellect, *Courageous* in their actions, and deeply *Caring* toward others. We are excited to welcome you into our thriving community.

This booklet is your go-to guide for navigating daily life here, understanding our school culture, and discovering how we can work together to help your child(ren) thrive.

History

Stratford College is a fee-paying, co-educational secondary-level school recognised by the Irish Department of Education and Science (DES). In the early 1950's members of the Jewish Community decided it would be advantageous and desirable to have a second level school and so Stratford College was founded. It was first located in a house called 'Stratford' on Terenure Road East.

Ethos

Stratford College was founded by the Dublin Jewish Community and provides a secondary education within a Jewish ethos, as defined by The Chief Rabbi of Ireland. It also welcomes pupils from other denominations and those of none. This richness of heritage combined with our experience of valuing other minority groups and of individuals makes our school truly unique. We welcome students from primary schools who share our commitment to such cultural and religious diversity.

Our Mission Statement aims to provide a teaching and learning community committed to quality and excellence in education. We are dedicated to:

- Providing a nurturing environment where everyone can develop self-esteem and a sense of their place in, and responsibility to, society.
- Instructing Jewish students in their religion while fostering mutual respect for all traditions.
- Promoting personal achievement and academic success.
- Respecting the unique potential of every student and encouraging each to maximise it.

The founding values continue to inspire the school today; those of educating our students in an inclusive academic environment which seeks to foster in young people a sense of personal and academic achievement, of respect for diversity and of service to the community.

Patronage/Trusteeship and Management

The responsibility for the provision of Jewish education in Dublin is Dublin Talmud Torah, an elected group of people from the Jewish Community and one of several Jewish institutions in Dublin. Dublin Talmud Torah dates back to 1920s. The Patron, Trustees and management of the school belong to this body.

The Role of Board of Management

The BOM manages the school on behalf of the Trustees of Dublin Talmud Torah (incorporating Stratford Schools).

Current Members of the Board of Management

Ms Aoife Cassidy, **Chairperson**

Mr Shai Meyer, **Trustee Nominee**

Mr Jonathan Joseph **Trustee Nominee**

Ms Naomi Taylor, **Trustee Nominee**

Ms. Shengli Zhao, **Parents Nominee**

Mr. Darren McQuillan, **Parents Nominee**

Ms. Delia Donohoe, **Teacher Nominee**

Ms Helen O'Kelly, **Teacher Nominee**

Mr. Nathan Barrett, **Secretary to the Board**

Current Management and Administrative Details

Chairperson of the Trustees: Ms Marian Brattman

Chairperson of Board of Management: Ms Aoife Cassidy

Principal: Mr Nathan Barrett

Deputy Principal: Ms Delia Donohoe

Bursar: Ms Geraldine Power

School Secretary: Ms Jade Earle

Communications Administrator: Ms Trish Connolly

School Caretaker: Mr John Madden



Part 2: School Structure

School Opening Hours:

School Day:	Monday – Thursday	8.55 am – 3.45pm
	Class Tutor Time	10.51am – 11.00am
	Break	11.00am – 11.15am
	Lunch	1.11pm – 1.47pm
	Friday	8.55 am – 1.10 pm
	Class Tutor Time	10.55am – 11.00am
	Break	11.00am – 11.10am
School Building Opening Hours	Monday – Thursday	8.00 am – 6.00 pm (excluding co-curricular activities)
	Friday	8.00 am – 3.30pm (excluding co-curricular activities)
School office opening hours:	Monday – Thursday	8.30am – 4.30pm
	Friday	8.30am – 2pm
Class structures:	Two groups of 18 students approx. in each year. Six one-hour class periods Monday – Thursday, Four one-hour class periods on Fridays.	

School building morning access:

The school will open to receive pupils at the hour of 7.45 a.m. No responsibility is accepted for pupils arriving before that time. Classes will commence each day at 8.55 a.m. No pupils should arrive later than 8.50 a.m.

Classes will end Monday to Thursday at 3.45 p.m. and on Friday on 1.10 p.m..

Breakfast Club

Our club, The Early Risers, runs every morning from 7:45 to 8:45 in the Hall. Students enjoy a healthy breakfast, spend time with friends and start the day in a calm and welcoming space. Breakfast options include cereal, toast, fruits and tea. Light activities such as games and wellbeing activities are also available.

Parents Association

The aspiration of the Parents' Association is to make parents and guardians a valued partner in the educational journey of their child. A journey that will enable their child to learn and develop socially, emotionally and academically. The Parents' Association works with the principal, staff and board of management to build effective co-operation and partnership between home and school. The PA Committee helps to ensure that all parents and guardians feel part of our school community through the organisation of formal and informal events throughout the academic year. All parents and guardians are automatically members of the Parents' Association and are encouraged to become actively involved in the PA Committee, which represents the interests of students.

Email StratfordCollegePA@stratfordcollege.ie



Part 3: Some Operational Details

School Calendar

The school calendar is published on the website. Please check back regularly in case of additions to the calendar.

The calendar complies with DES regulations and the Jewish religious calendar. The most solemn Jewish holy days fall in the Autumn and in the Spring and are subject to change. When they fall outside regular school holidays the school observes them and makes up the required days at other times during the year.

All planned school closures are published to the school calendar. Families will be notified via Tyro of any major changes.

School Policies and Procedures

Stratford College, through the Board of Management has a responsibility for preparation and maintenance of school policies in accordance with current governance legislation and educational safeguarding.

Uniform

- Students from First Year to Fifth Year wear a full school uniform. The school tracksuit is worn on days when a student is timetabled for PE.
- Sixth Year students do not wear a school uniform. They are required to dress conservatively.

The Schoolwear House is the supplier of the Stratford College uniform. . The Schoolwear House will have all the school uniform items available for purchase online at www.schoolwearhouse.ie and instore. The full list of uniform is available on the school website here: <https://www.stratfordcollege.ie/content/gallery/Stratford-College-Uniform-List-2026.pdf?v=1779275578>

Booklists

Booklists are published annually in June and are available on the website here: [https://www.stratfordcollege.ie/content/files/STRATFORD COLLEGE BOOKLISTS 2026-2027_4June2026.pdf?v=1780574010](https://www.stratfordcollege.ie/content/files/STRATFORD_COLLEGE_BOOKLISTS_2026-2027_4June2026.pdf?v=1780574010)

Each book will come with a link to download the electronic version of the book.

Device

All students require a device as well as books. The specifications for any suggested device are available here: <https://www.stratfordcollege.ie/content/files/Uniform/Recommended-Digital-Device-Specifications-June2026.pdf?v=1781621388>

Dietary Arrangements

In keeping with Kosher requirements Students should not bring ham/pork products or shell fish into the school.

Stratford College does not operate a tuck shop. Student can bring in their own lunch. Or they can order and pay for lunch from Deli613 and it will be delivered daily. The order form for Deli613 is issued via Tyro to all families on the Thursday of each week in advance of deliveries. For more details please visit www.deli613.ie

Student Code of Behaviour and Discipline

General Classroom Procedure

1. Classes are one hour long
2. Students are expected to have everything they need for class.
3. Class Tutors, Deputy Principal and Principal only, may give permission to students to leave the school. Permission to go home can only be given if home has been contacted.
4. Students must sign in at the office if they are late in the morning, and demerit applied by the teacher that has them for that class (if no note provided). If a student has permission to leave early, they must also sign out at the office.

Class Tutors 2026-2027

Tutor	Class Group
Linda Finnegan	1X
Kirstie McAdoo	1Y
Venita Kenny	2 nd Year
Gillian Skehan	3Y
Olivia Wieder	3X
Leona Talbot	4X
Gemma McGill	4Y
Sheenagh Maxwell	5X
Helen O'Kelly	5Y
Susanne Mahon	6Y
Delia Donohoe	6X

Serious disciplinary issues will be referred to the Principal/Board of Management with a recommendation for suspension and/or exclusion.

Exams and Reports Schedule

1. Winter House Exams are held in mid-November for 1st, 2nd, and 5th year. Class tests are held for 3rd, 6th and TY.
2. Summer House Exams in May for 1st, 2nd, TY and 5th year.
3. Mocks for 3rd and 6th Year are held in February, and are corrected externally.

Exam Regulations

1. Full uniform must be worn
2. No sport for the duration of the exams
3. Students should take their places five minutes before the start of the exam.
4. Students are not allowed to leave the exam hall before the time allotted.
5. No food, drink, sweets, toys or bags allowed in the exam hall for the duration for the exams. Water will be allowed.
6. Students should be fully equipped for each exam. Students will not be allowed borrow from other students.
7. Any communication between students during exams will result in cancellation of exam attempt.

Winter exams are held at the end of November for First, Second, Fifth Year and Transition Year. These classes take End of Year exams during the last two weeks of the academic year.

Student Wellbeing

“Student Wellbeing is present when students realise their abilities, take care of their physical wellbeing, can cope with the normal stresses of life, and have a sense of purpose and belonging to a wider community.” (Junior Cycle, Wellbeing Guidelines, NCCA 2017).

Stratford College is committed to the nurturing of the whole person so that they may be guided with respect and care to respond to the demands of modern life with resilience, optimism and a sense of ownership. The practice of wellbeing has been introduced to promote the wellbeing and health of the school community which is important to the emotional, social, cognitive and academic development of young people. We recognise that promoting the wellbeing of our students is a shared responsibility and requires a whole-school approach.

Supervision includes before school, after school, break-time and lunch –time supervision.

- Students may not pass beyond the school hall door before 8.55 am.
- Once students come into the hall they may not leave.
- Only Jewish students may enter the Herzog Room at 8.35 am.
- 6th Years and Prefects are allowed out at lunchtime.
- Students may not eat outside or on the corridors.
- Students may not go outside until 1.30pm

- Mobile phone use is strictly forbidden during lunchtimes. Immediate confiscation of phone if student found using one, and demerit to be applied.
- Smoking and Vaping is not permitted on the School grounds.

Health and Safety

In the case of accidents, students should report to the Office, and seek a teacher with First Aid training. A phone call home or to the emergency services should be made as necessary. The teacher involved should fill in the Accident Report Book. There is a First Aid Box in the Office and in the Science lab.

Part 4: School Communication

Stratford College Communications Information for Parents and Staff

The Board of Management believe that:

- Good communication between home and school is important because with positive and active partnership the child gets the best that primary education can offer.
- Teachers can do a better job where they are supported by and working closely with parents.

We know from research that children do better, behave better and are happier at school where parents and teachers work closely together and when parents are able to give their children support at home.

Parents are encouraged to:

- Develop close links with the school
- Collaborate with the school in developing the full potential of their children
- Share the responsibility of seeing that the school remains true to its ethos, values, and distinctive character
- Become actively involved in the school and Parents Association
- Participate in policy and decision-making processes affecting them.

In all matters pertaining to the wellbeing and education of pupils, only the parents/legal guardians will be consulted by staff. It is essential that all parents and legal guardians are named on the enrolment form.

Things that the school needs to know to keep your children safe and healthy:

- It is vital that the school is immediately informed if family events/situations occur that may cause anxiety to your child and could affect his/her education. Your first point of contact should always be your child's class teacher.

- The school should always know who is collecting your child. The school secretary should have list of people and their contact information who you have authorised to collect your child. Should this change the onus is on you to inform the school secretary of the change. You can provide this information by email or by dropping into the school office. Under no circumstances will a child be released to anyone unauthorized/unknown to the school. If, at any time, parents alter the pick-up arrangements for their child, the school should be given written authorization by the parent immediately. In an emergency, the parent must leave a message on the answering service or speak with the principal/teacher.

Structures in place to facilitate open communication and consultation with Parents

Annual Consultation throughout the year including:

- Induction for incoming 1st Years (March – November)
- Parent/teacher meetings one-to-one (a short, written record of the meeting is maintained by each teacher).
- Class teachers / SET meet with parents whose children have additional educational needs.

Generally, communication sent from the school will be 'paperless'. Emails sent via Tyro from the school will be sent to the email address(es) provided at enrolment, unless otherwise requested by parents. All paper communication sent from the school will be sent to the student's home address as given on the enrolment form, unless otherwise requested by parents.

Other structures and processes including:

- Parents are invited to discuss and contribute to the drafting and review of school policies. The PA receive policies in draft form and provide feedback to the Board. The document once ratified by the Board is made available to all parents via the school website or in hard copy if requested. Any feedback arising is brought to the attention of the Board.
- Parents are invited to events throughout the year.

Procedures for parents to initiate communication with the school

Please do not email the Year Head Directly. If a parent / guardian wishes to consult with a teacher, he/she can contact the school secretary, usually via email, to arrange a suitable time. In the unlikely event that a parent has a complaint, our school Complaints Policy outlines the procedures to be followed.

On some rare occasions a parent may need to speak to a staff member urgently. Sometimes these meetings need to take place without prior notice. The Principal will aim to facilitate such meetings making every effort to ensure that the students do not lose out on any of the teaching/learning time.

If parents wish to drop in lunch boxes, sports gear during class time etc, this can be done through the secretary's office so that learning is not disrupted.

Online and Social Media Communication

Stratford College has official online communications and social media accounts that are operated by the school i.e. a web page and social media accounts. Parents are encouraged to visit these sites

regularly to keep up to date on school matters, comment and contribute to posts and share information to help publicise the school and the achievements of our children. The list of social channels may be updated from time to time.

The school name or anything that identifies the school should not be used on online or on social media that is not officially operated by the school (for example class Facebook or Whatsapp forum which might be set up by parents) by members of the public including parents without express written permission from the principal or Board of Management. Stratford College will request removal of any online or social media sites that are not approved by the school.

Communication through the school office

Through the Tyro system emails can be sent by teachers directly to parents. All incoming emails are communicated through the office at admin@stratfordcollege.ie.

Communication by email- response time

Response times to emails from the school secretary can vary depending on the demands in the office at any given time. It is considered reasonable that 3-5 school days are allowed for a response (with the exception of holiday periods during which email may only be checked intermittently).

Response times to emails to the Principal can also vary greatly depending on the demands at any given time. Priority must be given to the pupils, staff and overall running of the school.

Teachers are in class during the day and will not have time to access emails. They may be engaged in planning, meetings or personal matters after school hours and so again 3-5 school days is considered to be a reasonable response time.



Part 5: School Management Information System (MIS)

Tyro is our Management Information System (MIS). Tyro is a design-led, cloud and mobile based school administration platform – which handles all core school data from attendance, assessments, and behaviour to the mandatory September and P- POD returns. Tyro provides collaborative data management and innovative reporting tools giving school management, administration, teachers and parents the ability to monitor and improve the progress of their students and a real-time view of school activity.

Each family will be given details to log in and set up access to their child(ren)'s account. Visit here for more information: <https://www.tyro.school/>

Our Learning Management System (LMS) is [SchoolWise](#)

- Schoolwise sits on top of Office 365 and Tyro – so it synthesises all the data from Tyro and utilises the applications in Office 365 to give us a school portal to start from every day.
- It has comprehensive functionality to help streamline the SEN team's work and providing data analysis of CAT tests etc.
- Planning using Junior Cycle and Leaving Cert Learning Outcomes/class plans/subject plans will be possible through using Schoolwise. Progress of Learning Outcomes can also be tracked.
- Gradebooks and assignments - with Schoolwise we can link back to the Learning Outcomes and planning.
- Calendar/communications - End of day communications with students/staff re: their assignments etc. Again all encapsulated within Schoolwise and sent out every evening.
- Ideally, we should all be able to move between Office 365 – OneNote – Teams – Schoolwise - Tyro as each of us want to.
- See [The Schoolwise Survival Guide](#) for more information.

SchoolWise helps your son/daughter track their progress. Students have their own Gradebook in SchoolWise. This is where they can see all their assessments for each class group, the grading information (grades, feedback, etc). This can be accessed directly in a group or from their profile menu. Please see [Schoolwise Help Centre](#) for more information.

As not everyone learns in the same way, a digital system of organisation does not suit everyone either. The teachers will continue to upload the homework to Schoolwise, but students can also keep track of their homework or upcoming events in their journals too. Here they can have a tangible copy of their timetable and their school calendar. The journal also contains key school policies such as our Positive Behaviour Policy, our Acceptable User Policy which parents and students need to sign at the beginning of the year. It also has really student-centered tools like how to track their grades and set goals for progression, how to create a study timetable, and a keywords section. While Schoolwise will still allow parents and students the ability to view and track their assignments, feedback, and grades,

the diary will be there to allow students to keep track of their own progress, thus reinforcing their self-management skills. Class tutors will refer to it regularly throughout the year. '

[Office 365 Education](#) is a collection of services that allows teachers to collaborate, share resources and schoolwork with students and fellow teachers. It has several built-in features that allow for effective distance learning.

Office365 incorporates:

- Microsoft Outlook (e-mail)
- Microsoft Teams
- Microsoft OneNote
- Microsoft Forms
- Microsoft Stream

There may be some additional applications that teachers use, and the teacher will provide the student with the information required to access them. Again, students must, in all cases, use their studentnameYYYY@student.stratfordcollege.ie account as the login.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

The purpose of the Parent/Teacher meeting is:

- To establish and maintain good communication between the school and parents
- To let parents know how their children are progressing in school
- To help teachers/parents get to know the student better as individuals
- To help realise that home and school are working together.
- To share with the parent the problems and difficulties the child may have in school
- To review with the parent the child's experience of schooling
- To learn more about the child from the parent's perspective
- To get general feedback from the parents regarding the school
- To identify ways in which parents can help their children
- To negotiate jointly decisions about the child's education
- To inform the parents of standardised test results according to school policy.

Organisation of parent teacher meetings

Parent Teacher Meetings (PTM) are scheduled across the school year. Appointments are made by way of an on-line platform. In order to facilitate the operation of the school and the needs of children and other parents, it is important that meetings should be kept to the allocated time. Times of meetings are agreed beforehand and should be adhered to so that all parents are seen on time in so far as is possible.

For children with designated additional educational needs, formal scheduled parent/staff meetings relating to the child's Individual Education Plan or School Support Plan will take place in September/October. However, if a parent wishes to arrange a meeting at any stage during the year

to discuss their child, they may do so by prior appointment. In the case of separated/ divorced parents, Stratford College will facilitate requests made by parents to meet their child's teacher(s) individually for parent/teacher meetings.

Contact Details:

Stratford Schools:

Address: 1, Zion Road Rathgar Dublin 6

Tel: 353-1-4922315

Email: admin@stratfordcollege.ie

Web: www.stratfordcollege.ie

Feedback

Comments, questions, and feedback on this Induction Manual are always welcome and appreciated and should be directed to the Principal.
