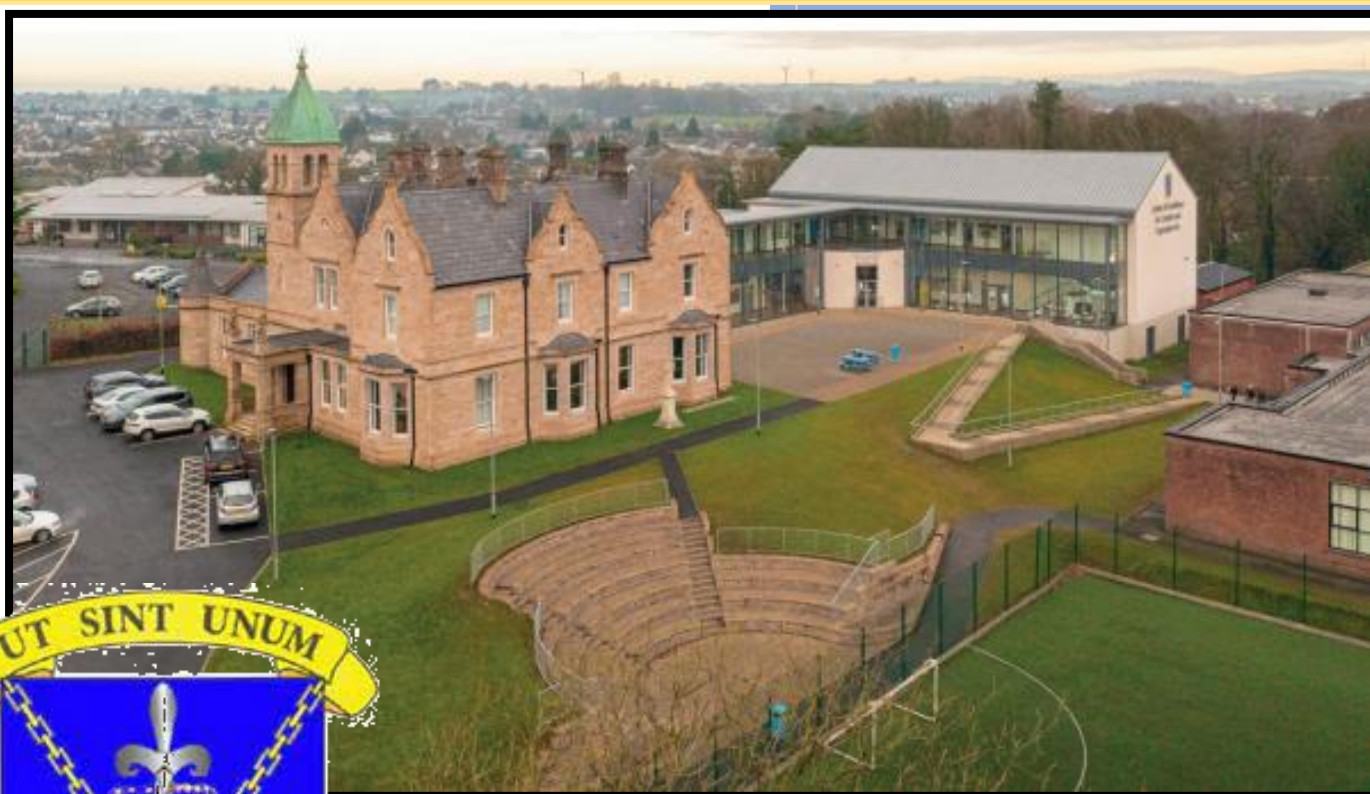


2023/2024

# Annual Report of the Board of Governors



**St Louis Grammar School**

**Ballymena**

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## INTRODUCTION

It is with a deep sense of gratitude that we reflect on the year 2023-2024. A year that included the beginning of the one hundredth anniversary of the St Louis school and community. A milestone and a time for reflection. We began with concelebrated Mass led by Bishop Donal Mc Keown and former pupils, Reverend Fathers Gerry Fox, John Burns, Martin Kelly and current Governor, Father Michael McGinnity. This was a unique occasion and we heard a little of the journey and sacrifice that the early Sisters of Saint Louis made in establishing the school. We were deeply touched by Sister Eithne's contribution and the fact that so many of the Sisters were able to join us, along with over 400 past and present pupils, staff and parents, who also enjoyed a stunning afternoon tea and a tour of the school.

The centenary prompted a deeper appreciation of the St Louis community and of the need to strengthen relationships with former pupils and supporters of the school. To that end we appointed Marcus Cooper as Director of Engagement and Fund Development. The Friends of St Louis have worked hard to develop a range of events and we have also established active partnerships to support the school so that we have sufficient funds to provide for all the additional activities that are not funded by Government, in order to ensure that our students have the very best educational experience and preparation for the future. We believe firmly in maximising the potential of every child in our care.

The school motto 'Ut Sint Unum', that all may be one, reinforces our family centred approach and ethos. The spiritual development of our students is an intrinsic part of school life and we were delighted when we were awarded the Spirit of Catholic Education award. We strive to live the Gospel values in all aspects of school life and in our care and attention to others. Once again our pastoral care system has been recognised for excellence, having been nominated in the UK National Awards for Pastoral Care in Education. The mental and emotional wellbeing of our students is a priority and we achieved Take 5 Level 3 accreditation for the second year running.

It was another year of outstanding academic success, with 100% of students gaining A\*-C at GCSE in 7 subjects (including Maths and English), and 97.5% achieving A\*-C at A level in three or more subjects. I would like to acknowledge the exceptional work of the Mrs O'Neill as Principal, and the entire staff team who work tirelessly to stimulate and support students. Their commitment and the strive for excellence are exemplary, coupled with pupils' own hard work and the support of their parents and carers. A further reflection of this dedication is the wide range of sporting achievement and the diverse range of extra-curricular activities. The dizzying list of new sporting opportunities, including access to our new Strength and Conditioning Suite, competitions, quizzes, trips, workshops, all make an exciting and creative life at St Louis. This year also saw us achieve the 'Gaelbhratach' Award for excellence in Irish language promotion, as well as students establish an Eco Council, fostering environmental awareness and sustainability.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the contribution of Governors, who bring their free time, energy and expertise to the many challenges faced by the school organisation. I would also like to thank Eugene Reid for his contribution as Governor and who stepped down this year.

This report indicates how the Governors and others with responsibilities for the school i.e. the Department of Education and the Principal, discharged their duties, toward the school, referring specifically to the 2023-2024 year. On behalf of the Governors, I would like to thank you for your support and continued interest in St Louis Grammar School Ballymena.



Mrs Mary Black CBE  
Chairperson Board of Governors

## MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Board of Governors is comprised of nominees of the Trustees and the Department of Education, as well as an elected Parent Representative and an elected Teacher Representative.

Mrs M. Black  
Mr A. Law  
Mr S. McCann  
Mrs S. McCarry  
Mr G. McGarry  
Very Reverend M. McGinnity  
Mrs J. O'Neill  
Mr E. Reid  
Dr C. Wilson  
Mr D. Wright

The Board of Governors has overall responsibility for the effective management of the school. As well as the nominees of the Trustees (Sisters of St Louis) and the Department of Education, its membership includes an elected parent governor and a teacher elected by the teaching staff. The principal Mrs J O'Neill is also a non-voting member. The Board therefore represents all the main interests concerned with the school.

The Governors have particular responsibilities in relation to the curriculum, the appointment and dismissal of staff, admissions to the school, discipline, school finances and buildings. An important function for the Governors is to consider the needs of the school in terms of staff, buildings and other resources and to advise the various other authorities if they believe that these needs are not being met. An equally important function is to ensure that the resources available to the school are being used effectively. The post of governor is voluntary and the school is grateful for the time and expertise they contribute to the development of the school.

Responsibilities of the Board of Governors includes: management of the school to ensure that the best possible education and opportunities are provided for all pupils, monitoring and evaluating school performance, promoting self-evaluation across all areas of school life, fostering links with the local community, maintaining school buildings and personnel responsibilities.

## AIMS OF ST LOUIS GRAMMAR SCHOOL:

- To be a community inspired by the Catholic faith, living out Gospel Values and reflecting all traditions of our Irish Cultural Heritage.
- To enable pupils to acquire a sense of purpose and have a good opinion of themselves by giving all access to a religious, academic, moral, social and physical education with appropriate provision for pupils with special needs, in an attractive school environment.
- To provide teachers with the necessary accommodation, equipment and training to achieve the above aims.
- To involve Parents, Educational Bodies and Industry in the work of the school and benefit the greater Ballymena Community.
- To foster a spirit of cheerful co-operation and provide a caring environment which promotes high achievement and self-esteem among staff and pupils.

The Board of Governors believe that the five general aims above provide a framework which indicates what the school believes in, what it aims to do for your children and what values we want to give them. The whole curriculum, taught in the classroom and outside, is designed to achieve these aims.

## KEY STATISTICAL INFORMATION

### ENROLMENT

The total enrolment for 2023-2024 was 1,181.

	<b>Year 8</b>	<b>Year 9</b>	<b>Year 10</b>	<b>Year 11</b>	<b>Year 12</b>	<b>Year 13</b>	<b>Year 14</b>
Males	77	85	78	93	75	88	72
Females	83	97	88	81	84	84	96
<b>TOTAL</b>	160	182	166	174	159	172	168

### INFORMATION ABOUT APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS

Currently, our Year 8 admission figure is determined by the Department of Education as 139.

### YEAR 8 APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS

Year	Admissions No	Total Applications (All Preferences)	Total Admissions
2023-2024	139	218	160*

*\*This table includes pupils who were admitted to the school lwith a statement of special educational needs/on Appeal/ via Exceptional Circumstances Body/via Temporary Variation*

### SIXTH FORM ADMISSIONS

Year	Combined Intake
2023-2024	340

### ATTENDANCE RATE

Year	Percentage
2023-2024	94.7

## STAFFING

**Principal:** Mrs J O'Neill

**Senior Teachers:** Mrs S McCarry, Mrs E McDonald, Mrs C McFadden, Mrs B McGreevy, Mr C Morgan

### **Teaching staff**

Mrs A Blacker	Mrs D Loughlin	Mr C McNaughton
Mr D Boyd	Mr C Lynch	Mr G McNeill
Mr R Browne	Mrs C Marron	Miss Y McNeill
Mrs M Buckley	Mr P McAleer	Mr N McNicholl
Mrs D Burns	Mrs F McAuley	Mrs M McPhilomey
Mrs M Campbell	Mrs L McCann	Mrs C McShane
Miss B Canavan	Miss N McCann	Mrs H McToal
Mrs E Casey	Ms S McCann	Miss K McVey
Mr S Cassidy	Mrs S McCarry	Mrs C Morgan
Mr K Convery	Miss S McCaw	Mr C Morgan
Mrs S Devlin	Mrs J McClintock	Dr N Mulholland
Mrs M Dillon	Mrs C McCloskey	Miss K Mullan
Mrs E Doherty	Mrs C McCollum	Miss P Murray
Mrs J Doherty	Mr G McCorley	Miss C O'Boyle
Mrs R Dumbleton	Mrs L McCrory	Miss A O'Brien
Miss R Finlay	Mrs E McDonald	Mr C O'Driscoll
Mrs S Fullerton	Mrs C McDonnell	Mrs A O'Hara
Mrs L Gildea	Mrs C McFadden	Miss S Pickering
Mr C Gillan	Mrs S McGinn	Mr A Quinn
Miss C Glavin	Mrs B McGreevy	Mrs E Scott
Mrs M Grant	Mrs P McIntosh	Miss J Scullion
Mr D Guiney	Miss N McKendry	Mrs R Stevenson
Mrs D Johnston	Miss A McKeown	Mrs K Toner
Mrs J Kernohan	Miss E McLaughlin	Mr P Trainor
Miss E Lavery	Mr M McLernon	Miss S Warnock
Miss A Logan	Mr T McMenamin	

## TEACHING SUPPORT STAFF

Mrs A Allen	Mrs S Keenan	Mr M McLaughlin
Mrs R Allen	Mrs K Kennedy	Mrs J McMullan
Miss S Baird	Mrs A Killough	Mrs S McNeill
Mr S Beagan	Miss N Kinney	Mrs L Meeke-Cunning
Mrs C Boyd	Ms M Kiszko	Miss A Mosoczy
Mrs S Campbell	Mrs A Kusnierek	Ms C Mulvenna
Mr C Clepea	Miss C Laverty	Mrs N Neeson
Mr R Close	Miss G Lennon	Ms M O'Loan
Mr M Cooper	Mr C Lindsay	Mrs A O'Neill
Mrs C Donnelly	Miss K Little	Miss E O'Neill
Mr S Doran	Mrs B Logan	Mrs L O'Neill
Mr S Dougan	Mrs L Loughran	Mr S O'Reilly
Mrs A Glavin	Mr m Loughran	Mrs K Preston
Mr C Graffin	Mrs S Martin	Mrs H Rea
Miss M Hamilton	Mrs A McAlister	Miss C Reid
Mrs R Hazzard	Mrs E McCann	Mrs J Robb
Mr P Heffron	Mrs S McCluskey	Mrs T Stewart
Mrs M Henry	Mrs J McCorley	Mrs R Tudor
Mrs E Herald	Miss K McCrory	Mrs C Wallace
Mr M Herald	Mrs D McHugh	Sr L Walsh
Mrs R Irwin	Miss W McIlhatton	Mrs T Weir
Mrs J Johnston	Miss E McKeever	Miss N Williams
Miss E Junkin	Mrs L McKeever	Mrs A Wilson
Miss A Karacova	Mrs S McLarnon	Mrs E Worthington
Mrs A Kearney	Miss L McLaughlin	Mrs A Wright

This year, teachers Miss Canavan, Miss Lavery and Mr McNaughton said farewell to St Louis. Non-teaching staff members Mr Elliott, Miss Doherty and Mr Began also left the school. We thank these members of staff for their dedication and commitment to the school and wish them lots of happiness in the years ahead.



## THE CURRICULUM

The curriculum at St Louis Grammar School is much wider than just formal lessons during the school day. It includes all the opportunities for learning encouraged by the school, including Drama, Sport, Music and cultural activities. The curriculum offered at St Louis provides pupils with a broad and balanced learning experience which not only fulfils all the statutory requirements of the Northern Ireland Curriculum but also encompasses opportunities for pupils to enhance their spiritual, cultural, personal and physical development in the context of a living faith.

The curriculum offered is built on established good practice. Pupil need/choice is accommodated where possible. Personal development is enhanced by the inclusion of a range of extra-curricular pursuits, Enrichment provision in Sixth form and Learning for Life and Work (LLW) as part of the Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 curriculum. The 'Cross-Curricular Skills' and 'Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities' are embedded within programmes of study. The Governors and staff recognise the importance of a partnership involving themselves, the pupils and their parents.

### Key Stage 3

All Key Stage 3 pupils study the following subjects:

Art & Design, Biology, Chemistry, Design & Technology, Drama, English with library skills, French, Geography, History, Home Economics, Digital ICT, Irish, Learning for Life and Work (incorporating Careers), Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Physics, Religious Education and Spanish.

### Key Stage 4

The school offered 21 subjects at GCSE in 2023/24.

The vast majority of Key Stage 4 pupils studied nine GCSEs, with some opting to study ten. Compulsory subjects were English, English Literature, Mathematics and Religious Education. Pupils then choose five other subjects out of the following: Art and Design, Biology, Business Studies, Computer Science, Drama, French, Geography, History, Home Economics, Digital ICT, Irish, Music, Physical Education, Science (Double Award / Single Award), Spanish, Technology and Design.

### Key Stage 5

In 2023/24 Sixth Form pupils (Years 13 and 14) were able to select from 27 options at A Level.

Pupils in Year 13 studied for Advanced Subsidiary Level (AS Level) examinations. AS module examinations are normally taken at the end of Year 13. Year 14 pupils pursued Advanced Level (A2) courses and were entered for A2 module examinations in June. Throughout 2023-24, Careers education was compulsory for all Sixth Form pupils.

Any combination of AS/A Level subjects could be taken from the following: Art and Design, French, Mathematics, Biology, Further Mathematics, Music, Business Studies, Geography, Physical Education, Chemistry, Physics, Government and Politics, Religious Education, Design and Technology, History, Drama, Nutrition and Food Science, Spanish, Economics, Digital Technology, English Literature, Irish, Health and Social Care. The following BTEC options are also offered: Business, ICT, Sport Studies, Engineering, Construction and the Built Environment.

## PASTORAL CARE & DISCIPLINE

Pastoral principles are based on a commitment to Catholic values. A climate is fostered in which each pupil becomes aware of being a cherished individual. Interaction between pupils and staff at St Louis takes place in an atmosphere of mutual respect and tolerance.

In order to promote effective learning matched to pupil needs and aptitudes, courses of study skills, a programme of Learning for Life and Work and individual counselling are provided. Pupils at KS3 also study Personal Development as a stand-alone subject which covers R.S.E. The R.S.E course and the preventative curriculum is also enriched through collaboration with external agencies.

The School's Code of Discipline informs pupils, parents and teachers of the standards of behaviour expected. It provides a framework which enables pupils to develop their own self-discipline.

The school has carefully co-ordinated an Anti-Bullying Policy designed to ensure the well-being of all pupils.

In accordance with DENI guidelines the school operates a Child Protection Policy, copies of which may be obtained from the school.

### Complaints in Connection with Child Protection

If a parent/guardian has a concern about a child's safety, Mrs McGreevy, the designated teacher with responsibility for Child Protection should be contacted. In her absence, Mrs Toner deputy designated teacher for child protection should be contacted. If there is still a concern, then Mrs O'Neill should be contacted. If concerns remain then the parent should write to the Chairperson of the Board of Governors.

## ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

Knowing what your child is doing at school is important. Monitoring progress has always been a key responsibility of teachers. Parents received two reports last year and were invited to attend parent teacher meetings to keep them updated on their son/daughter's progress.

This year the tracking of each pupil's progress through Continuous Monitoring (CM) tasks was continued for each key stage. Personalised target setting for each pupil also continued. Underachievement and low achievement continued to be identified and intervention strategies were implemented. The mentoring programme, for example was implemented for those pupils who struggled to achieve their targets. Pupils continued to be motivated through the House System with House rewards given half-termly and termly. These included cinema trips. Any assessment arrangements will be suitably flexible to adapt to the changing legislative requirements.

The CM tracking was linked to the reporting format also available in SIMS. On numerical reports at KS3, parents were provided with a visual summary in the form of a bar graph of their child's progress against the personal target for each subject as well results and Behaviour and Effort scores and summative comments from their form teachers. Written reports also include comments from subject teachers and summative comments from Heads of Year.

As all assessments should provide opportunities for every pupil to experience a sense of success, Assessment for Learning strategies remained firmly embedded in practice.

CM tasks were reviewed by the Quality Assurance Committee as part of the school's monitoring and evaluation processes.

The school will implement any modifications to our Assessment Policy which the legislators choose to make.

## CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION & GUIDANCE

The Careers Department is responsible for all aspects of careers education, guidance and resources within the school. Our Careers Programme is delivered to ensure that pupils are sufficiently informed to make confident decisions about their education and career.

Employability is offered to all pupils in Key Stage 3 and 4 through Learning for Life and Work. In Employability lessons, pupils are provided with opportunities to help them develop those skills that are required for the world of work, such as communication, problem solving and collaboration.

Careers is provided as a discrete element and in a cross-curricular mode across a wide range of subjects. All classes in Years 10-14 have a timetabled careers education class. All Year 13 pupils spend a week on Work Experience. Year 13 and 14 pupils visit the local university open days, while admissions officers from a range of UK and Irish universities are only part of a group of speakers from higher and Further Education, professions and industry who address Sixth Form students. All Year 10, 12, 13 and 14 pupils are provided with the opportunity to have an interview with careers staff at specified times during the day.

Year 12 pupils engage in guidance interviews with careers advisors from the Department of Economy took place virtually. During the year, pupils also have access to the school's careers advisor who offered specialist advice at key transition stages. Pupils make extensive use of ICT and the careers library to access university prospectuses and careers software. Parents of pupils in Years 10 and 12 also have the opportunity to attend meetings with teachers whereby they could discuss decisions relating to subject options and career pathways. In the completion of their Higher Education application forms, Year 14 pupils are offered a wide range of group and individual support.

## EXTERNAL RELATIONSHIPS / EDUCATION FOR MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING

The development of the Learning Community, Ballymena Learning Together, is an important step in terms of community relations in Ballymena but also for curriculum collaboration. The nine post primary schools are working closely together on a range of joint programmes. St Louis invites pupils from local schools to study various subjects.

The school is fully committed to involvement in community activity and cultural awareness. Integral to the educational process and central to the Christian message is the fostering of caring relationships. Throughout the school year, fund-raising is organized regularly with many local and national charities receiving significant donations. Links have been established with Friends of Romania and Lower Sixth pupils travel to Romania, bringing medical supplies and support to poor families and children in that region. The school has strong links with missionary groups in Ghana through our links with the St Louis Order who are heavily involved in missionary work in Africa. The school also works with voluntary/community groups in the greater Ballymena area and further afield. This year our pupils were involved in community programmes in association with St Vincent De Paul Society and Ballymena District Council, raising awareness of local and global social and citizenship issues.

The school strives for a strong partnership with parents. It continues to play an active and constructive role in the local community. The help of outside agencies has been enlisted as and when it is necessary.

The school also feels that it is an extremely valuable exercise to improve the links with the primary schools within the catchment area of the school. Mr McAleer facilitated Sport and Health and Well-being programmes in our feeder primary schools throughout the year. Our pupils also attended local primary schools to promote European Day of Languages and Maths week.

The Year 8 pupils were also able to attend the summer induction event in August 2023. The school continues to believe that these links with our feeder primary schools are very important to the effective delivery of pastoral care for our new pupils.

There are several links between school and the world of work - including work experience, mock-interviews, visiting speakers, Careers Conferences.

The link with the Education Authority has been strengthened through the expertise and support given by the Board Officers who seek to help departments and individual teachers in the implementation of various aspects of the Northern Ireland Curriculum.

## LINKS WITH PARENTS / GUARDIANS

During 2023-2024, St Louis endeavoured to maintain strong communication links with parents. Parent teacher meeting and twice annually reports provided opportunities for teacher to update parents on pupil progress. Parent information events were also held for Year 8 and 11-14 to distribute key information such as exam/coursework dates and career pathways to parents. Parents were also invited into the school to attend a Revision Techniques workshop with Paul Gray from LearnSpark.

Various mediums were used by the school to communicate with parents – these included the school app and website, social media, the school's text messaging service and the termly newsletter, Kintullagh Voice. Frequent communication between teachers and parents was facilitated by the school's pastoral care structure and parents are always welcome to contact the school if they needed to discuss any relevant issues.

This year, the school conducted surveys with parents and pupils about a range of issues to better inform the school's planning for next year.

## EXTERNAL EXAMINATION RESULTS 2023/24

### GCSE

Number of pupils in Year 12 in 2023/24: **158**

% Entered for 7 or more subjects	% Entered for 5 or more subjects	% Achieving 7+ at Grades A* - C (incl. English & Maths)	% Achieving 5+ at Grades A* - C (incl. English & Maths)
100%	100%	99%	100%

### A Level

Number of pupils in Year 14 in 2023/24: **165**

% Entered for 3+ A Levels 100%	% of those pupils achieving		
	3+ at Grades A* - C	2+ at Grades A* – E	1 or more passes at Grades A* - E
100%	97.6%	100%	100%

## TREND DATA FOR EXTERNAL EXAMINATION RESULTS

### A-Level Trend Data

	2021-2022		2022-2023		2023-2024	
	School	NI average	School	NI average	School	NI average
% achieving 3+ A Levels A*-C	98.8	79.7*	97.5	83.8	97.6	79.9
% achieving 2+ A Levels A*-E	100	99.6*	100	98.7	100	99.6

### GCSE Trend Data

	2021-2022		2022-2023		2023-2024	
	School	NI average	School	NI average	School	NI average
% achieving 7+ GCSE A*-C	100	90.5*	100	94.4	98.7	91.4
% achieving 7+ GCSE A*-C (incl. English & Maths)	100	89.9*	100	93.6	98.7	90.5
	100	FSME NI average 93.6*	100	FSME NI average 84.8	100	FSME NI average 75.8
% achieving 5+ GCSE A*-C	100	96.1*	100	97.6	100	96.6
% achieving 5+ GCSE A*-C (incl. English & Maths)	100	94.3*	100	95.9	100	94.2

\*2018-2019 NI Average stated for comparison



## SPORT

How the curricular aims of the school have been met in relation to Sport:

- The P.E. Department has attempted to provide a range of sporting activities which represents a balanced programme of individual and team games.
- A range of selected games is provided that will maximise enjoyment and satisfaction through participation.
- Activities and teaching methods are encouraged which will encourage the inclusion, as opposed to the exclusion, of the majority of pupils in continued participation in physical activities, both in school and later in adult life.
- All sporting and P.E. activities will be developed as an aid to greater fitness in the whole school population
- Encouragement will be given to those games which result in opportunities for cross-community contact to enable pupils to experience the complex pluralistic nature of our society

However, the following sports were available to pupils at the school during timetable physical education classes, enrichment and as extra-curricular activities:

Association football (boys and girls), athletics, badminton, baseball, basketball, camogie, cross country, Gaelic football (boys and girls), golf, spin cycle, TRX training, weight training, boxercise, exercise to music, ladies football, gymnastics, hill walking, hurling, netball, rounders, swimming, handball, Olympic handball, boot camp, table tennis, tennis and volleyball.

## SPECIAL NEEDS PROVISION

The main categories of Special Needs pupils are:

- (i) those with physical problems/disability,
- (ii) those with learning difficulties,
- (iii) those with severe emotional or domestic difficulties.
- (iv) those with sensory conditions - visual/hearing impairments

We recognise that pupils with exceptional academic gifts require special consideration to maximise their potential. We were delighted to receive our Autism NI Impact Award in May 2023. By achieving this Impact Award, St Louis demonstrates that we offer an accredited autism accessible environment.

## PROCESS OF SPECIAL NEEDS PROVISION:

- (i) Initial assessment of pupil needs. When this arises, it takes the form of consultation with Primary Schools, parents and information from EA
- (ii) Special induction for pupils as required. Review of resource provision by S.L.T.
- (iii) Communication of Special Needs information to appropriate staff by Pastoral Co-ordinator e.g. Statement/specific academic challenge.
- (iv) Creation of an individual education plan for pupils which is reviewed twice per year by SENCO of Special Needs cases and identification of emerging Special Needs pupils.
- (v) Referral and consultation with EA specialist services as required within schools/EA resources - psychologist, Autism Advisory Agency and Rathmore Behaviour Support.
- (vi) Establishment of links between school and parents

## DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES 2023-24

Art & Design/ MIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art pupils participated in a Cyberbullying Poster Competition. Liam Kearney (Year 10) won first prize at the Youth Justice League awards at Stormont in September. Emma Waide (Year 11) and Lauren McDonald (Year 9) were runners-up, and Mrs McAuley received the teacher award.</li> <li>• The Art department facilitated the Christmas Craft club in November where KS3 pupils worked together to produce a wonderful array of Christmas Crafts.</li> <li>• Ms Gabrielle Lennon lead the Junk Kouture club during after schools throughout the year.</li> <li>• KS3 pupils participated in the Halloween Art competition.</li> <li>• Graphic Design Enrichment classes were offered for Year 13 pupils.</li> <li>• Year 11 Art pupils Susan O'Neill and her model, Eimear Kelly, captured attention with their outstanding entry, 'Helirium,' in the highly acclaimed 2024 Junk Kouture Regional Final held at the Helix, Dublin on Tuesday, March 5th.</li> <li>• Mr McMenamin facilitated the WarHammer Club.</li> <li>• GCSE and A-Level Art Exhibitions were held in May.</li> </ul>
Business Studies / Economics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A group of KS5 Business and Economics students attended the NI Schools Business Challenge at QUB at the beginning of February. The competition is a partnership between Queen's Management School, BDO Northern Ireland, Henderson Group and supported by CCEA.</li> <li>• In Term 2, Year 11 pupils participated in Mini-Enterprise.</li> <li>• Year 14 Economics pupils received a careers talk from Past Pupil and Current Civil Servant Rían Patterson.</li> <li>• KS3 pupils participate in the Participatory Budget project throughout the year.</li> </ul>
Careers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Louis hosted PWC who presented a sixth-form event on higher apprenticeship opportunities and career insights.</li> <li>• In September Year 14 pupil's attended Ulster University, Queen's University, St Mary's University College and Liverpool Hope University Virtual Open days.</li> <li>• Careers fair for Year 10-14 Pupils was held in November 2023.</li> <li>• Information to Parents Evenings were held for Year 10 – 14 at various stages of the year.</li> <li>• Pupils attended Medical work placements with the Belfast Trust in September.</li> <li>• Year 12 pupils participated in Careers Interviews by the Careers Service throughout the year.</li> <li>• Nursing applicants took part in a virtual work placement with the Northern Trust</li> <li>• Medical applicants sat the BMAT in November.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pathway Opportunity Programme was delivered to Year 13 pupils in November</li> <li>• Potential Medical, Dental and Veterinary applicants were involved on MMI Mock Interview preparation event in November.</li> <li>• Pupils attended Ulster University Talented Athlete Workshop in November.</li> <li>• Pupils attended a CAO Workshop – lunchtime seminar in November.</li> <li>• Pupils attended Allied Health at Ulster Interview Workshop in January.</li> <li>• Pupils attended Interview Preparation Workshops for St Mary's University College Belfast in February.</li> <li>• Year 10 students put their cross-curricular skills into action as they worked in groups to create illustrated acrostic poems to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of LLW, PD and Local &amp; Global Citizenship.</li> </ul>
Drama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A-Level pupils participated in a school trip to London in collaboration with the Geography, Music and Politics departments.</li> <li>• Year 8 Drama Club took place after school on Thursdays.</li> <li>• Year 9 Drama classes took inspiration from Roald Dahl's 'Revolting Rhymes', pupils rewrote nursery rhymes and fairy-tales featuring surprise endings in place of traditional happily ever after conclusions. They also created their own masks to reflect characters in their rhymes.</li> <li>• Drama practical preparation sessions held throughout the year.</li> </ul>
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On Thursday the 19th of September, both English Literature A-Level classes joined for an enlightening and entertaining literacy tour highlighting the rich poetic history and culture hidden in Belfast.</li> <li>• The AS English Literature students enjoyed an educational visit to the Seamus Heaney homeplace. Mrs Carey organised the Year 8/9 Film club which meet weekly in Rm 46. In November they enjoyed a trip to Movie House Cinema, Glengormley, for a free screening of 'The Super Mario Bros Movie'.</li> <li>• Erin McAleese and Orlaith Gould participated in the Soroptimist Public Speaking Competition. Erin McAleese won the local heat and advanced to the Northern Ireland final.</li> <li>• World book day was celebrated at the beginning of March with numerous events such as Design a Bookmark Competition, Book Wrap, Drop Everything and Year 8 Kahoot Book Quiz.</li> <li>• The Annual Year 8 Poetry Slam was enjoyed by Year 8 pupils as part of the celebrations for National Poetry Day</li> <li>• The Department participated in the accelerated reader programme for Year 8 and 9 pupils.</li> <li>• Year 8s participate in Bookbuzz, which is a reading programme that promotes reading for pleasure.</li> <li>• Literacy Fun Days took place in June for KS3 pupils.</li> </ul>

Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A-Level pupils participated in a school trip to London in collaboration with the Drama, Music and Politics departments.</li> <li>• The Eco-Council was established.</li> <li>• Year 12 pupils participated in the ABP Youth Challenge under the guidance of Ms Gildea.</li> </ul>
History/ Politics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A-Level Politics pupils participated in a school trip to London in collaboration with the Drama, Geography and Music departments.</li> <li>• Year 11 History Pupils attended a trip to Stormont.</li> <li>• A-Level students attended a special screening of the BAFTA award-winning series "Once Upon a Time in Northern Ireland" at Queen's Film Theatre, Belfast, on April 16th.</li> </ul>
ICT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As part of their ICT curriculum, Year 8 pupils learnt about the importance of online safety. Pupils created colourful and informative leaflets for their peers highlighting the risks involved in having an online presence – information which was more important this year than ever before.</li> <li>• Pupils created anti-bullying posters</li> <li>• Our Robotics Club took part in the First Lego League Challenge in W5 on Tuesday, 6th February. The boys had a great time, and each were presented with a certificate and medal for their participation in the competition. Thanks to Miss Canavan for facilitating and well done to all involved.</li> <li>• On 6th February, we celebrated Safer Internet Day, 2024. Our Digital Leader Prefects presented an Assembly on 'Inspiring Change' everyday throughout the week and all Key Stage 3 ICT classes participated in activities to highlight the day!</li> </ul>
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From the 14th to the 22nd of October, St Louis Grammar celebrated Maths Week Ireland.</li> <li>• World Maths Day was celebrated in March. Numerous activities were carried out throughout the week.</li> <li>• Year 8 and 9 pupils participated in the 2024 Junior Maths Challenge</li> <li>• The intermediate Maths Challenge was completed by pupils in Year 10-12.</li> <li>• Sixth Form pupils participated in the Senior Maths Challenge.</li> <li>• Three Year 13 pupils participated in Civilisation Belfast and gained an insight into Civil Engineering in November 2023.</li> <li>• Four Year 13/14 pupils participated in the QUB Maths Competition.</li> <li>• Year 9/10 Pupils participated in the UKMT Maths Team Challenge at St Malachy's College, Belfast.</li> <li>• KS3 pupils participated in Numeracy Fun days in June 2024.</li> </ul>
Modern Languages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 10 students participated in the annual Gael Linn quiz, which was held in the Devenish complex in Belfast and were awarded second place, proceeding to the next round.</li> <li>• Our senior language students, Cumann Lughaidh, recorded a podcast in Irish with past pupil Grace McQuaide.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gaeilge 24 was held on the 14th November. The event challenged pupils to take part in a range of activities entirely through Irish here in St Louis-HIIT and Yoga sessions 'as Gaeilge', quizzes, bingo, and a 'guess the word' competition.</li> <li>• In December 2023, Miss O'Brien and Mrs Campbell organised a trip to the Gaeltacht region of Donegal for the Senior Irish Students (Year 11 – Year 14).</li> <li>• Senior Irish Languages Students participated in an Irish Radio Show. The fabulous linguists and traditional musicians took to the airwaves to record a programme on 'Bladhaire'.</li> <li>• Seachtain Na Gaeilge (Irish language week) was celebrated in March in the lead-up to Lá Fhéile Pádraig (St. Patrick's Day) with a range of activities including attending local primary schools in March.</li> <li>• Conn Fyfe, Caitríona Fyfe and Clare O'Kane travelled to St. Dominic's Grammar School, Belfast to attend the Abair Public Speaking competition, organised annually by Gael Linn. Conn and Caitríona were awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place in their categories.</li> <li>• A number of students celebrated international week with St Colmcille's pupils from September 26th to 30<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul>
Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A-Level pupils participated in a school trip to London in collaboration with the Drama, Geography and Politics departments.</li> <li>• Numerous pupils competed in the Ballymena Festival under several categories including solo instrument, ensemble groups and vocal section.</li> <li>• Christmas Carol Service took place in December.</li> <li>• Spring concert took place in April.</li> </ul>
Physical Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sports Days for Year 8-10 pupils were held over two days in June 2024.</li> <li>• Ski Trip: 116 Year 10 pupils and 11 teachers from our school embarked on an unforgettable ski trip to Italy in January.</li> <li>• Year 13 Physical Education class visited the Amy Warwick's Recovery Suite</li> </ul>
Nutrition & Food Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 11 Home Economics students enjoyed a presentation by the Livestock and Meat Commission</li> <li>• Year 8 pupils attended Cookery club throughout the year.</li> <li>• In Term 2, Year 10 pupils took part in a 'Come Dine with Me' challenge during Home Economics lessons.</li> <li>• GCSE and A-level Food and Nutrition pupils visited the Forestside Cookery School in Belfast.</li> <li>• Year 11 pupils visited the Martry Mill in County Meath.</li> </ul>
Religious Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Religious Studies department co-ordinated the annual Catholics Caring Christmas toy appeal.</li> <li>• The Religious Studies department were active in engaging pupils and staff through Lenten morning mass weekly throughout Lent.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils had opportunities to participate in public speaking and essay writing competitions such as 'Knights of Columbanus' and 'Columbans' throughout the year.</li> <li>• Year 14 pupil Michael McPeake represented St Louis at the 4 Corners Festival, speaking at Celebrating Young Voices - Hopes For The Future.</li> </ul>
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 13/14 Biology students participated in the Irish Biology Olympiad. Cobhlaith Gormley and Caoimhe Pettard were award silver certificates and Aodhan Robb and Aoife Walker were awarded Silver certificates.</li> <li>• Year 13/14 Chemistry students participated in the Chemistry Olympiad. Conn Fyfe and Oisin Kelly earning bronze medals and others receiving commendations. Conn Fyfe advanced to represent Ireland in the International Chemistry Olympiad in Riyadh, with training at Trinity College Dublin.</li> <li>• Year 14 Physics Students participated in the Sentinus Young Innovators Project. Jake McKillop and Enzo Murray won 'Most Innovative Project' for their STEM work.</li> <li>• In January, a group of our 10 students had the incredible opportunity to participate in the Science Summer School event held at the Braid Arts Centre with Brian Cox.</li> </ul>
Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ST LOUIS WIN ROTARY CLUB CHALLENGE Northern Regional College hosted this years Rotary Club Technology Challenge where St Louis came first!</li> </ul>

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### August

Tues 30<sup>th</sup>      **STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY**

Wed 31<sup>st</sup>      **STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY**

### September

01/09/2023    Induction for Year 8/13 only  
04/09/2023    Induction for Years 12/14 only  
05/09/2023    Induction for Years 9/10/14 only  
06/09/2023    Whole School attends  
08/09/2023    Year 14 Trip to QUB Open Day  
12/09/2023    Year 14 Presentation on Personal Statements  
13/09/2023    Year 14 Trip to St Marys College Belfast  
14/09/2023    School Photographer  
18/09/2023    Year 13 English Literature visit to Seamus Heaney HomePlace  
19/09/2023    Year 12 Parent Information Evening  
19/09/2023    Menopause Awareness Training for staff at 3.30pm  
19/09/2023    Art & Design Project in conjunction with Hillsborough Castle & Garden  
20/09/2023    Year 11 Parent Information Evening  
20/09/2023    Careers Event: CAFRE Visit  
21/09/2023    Year 14 QUB talk  
22/09/2023    Prize Day  
25/09/2023    Banardos Presentation on Young Carers Years 8-14  
26/09/2023    Banardos Presentation on Young Carers Years 8-14  
26/09/2023    Year 9/10/11 Awards Ceremony at Stormont  
27/09/2023    Women's Aid Year 13  
28/09/2023    Year 10 Mood Matters  
29/09/2023    Upper Sixth Formal Galgorm Resort & Spa

### October

03/10/2023    Senior Maths Challenge  
03/10/2023    Year 13 Parent Information  
05/10/2023    A Level Art Trip -Ulster Museum  
05/10/2023    Year 14 Parent Information Evening  
10/10/2023    Year 11 – 14 Workshop/ Bruiser Theatre Company  
10/10/2023    Mood Walk - supporting AWARE NI  
11/10/2023    Year 13 Soroptimist Public Speaking Competition  
11/10/2023    Women's Aid Year 13  
12/10/2023    Year 10 Gael Linn Quiz  
12/10/2023    Year 13 MIA trip to Christopher Nolan Retrospective Odeon Belfast  
12/10/2023    Year 14 Visit from Cambridge University speaker James Davies  
16/10/2023    Inspire On Your Marks Study Skills Year 12  
16/10/2023    Maths Week Ireland  
17/10/2023    SEAG Familiarisation Afternoon  
18/10/2023    SEAG Familiarisation Afternoon  
20/10/2023    A Night with St Louis' Fundraising Event @Tullyglass Hotel  
23/10/2023    Year 12 English Mock Exam



24/10/2023 Year 12 GCSE HOME ECONOMICS Practicals  
 24/10/2023 Year 8 Mass  
 25/10/2023 Year 12 GCSE HOME ECONOMICS Practicals  
 26/10/2023 Year 12 GCSE HOME ECONOMICS Practicals  
 26/10/2023 Careers Convention Year 11-14 6pm-9pm  
 26/10/2023 MacLarnon Challenge Game in Meath  
 27/10/2023 Year 12 GCSE HOME ECONOMICS Practicals  
 27/10/2023 Year 12 + 8 Yr 10 ABP Youth Challenge in the Eikon Centre Lisburn

### **November**

06/11/2023 Year 12 &13 Parent Teacher Meeting  
 07/11/2023 Year 12 DAS Chemistry & SAS Biology Mock Exam  
 11/11/2023 SEAG ENTRANCE ASSESSMENT  
 13/11/2023 Year 13 Government & Politics Trip to London  
 14/11/2023 Gaeilge 24 All Irish Students  
 14/11/2023 Year 13 Bring IT ON Event  
 14/11/2023 Year 13 Government & Politics Trip to London  
 15/11/2023 Year 13 Government & Politics Trip to London  
 20/11/2023 Year 11 Cookery Demonstration HE Dept  
 22/11/2023 Flu Vaccine Years 8 - 12  
 24/11/2023 Year 12 French/Irish students QUB Information & Careers Event  
 24/11/2023 Film Club Trip Year 8/9  
 25/11/2023 SEAG ENTRANCE ASSESSMENT  
 28/11/2023 Year 11 &12 Drug & Alcohol Awareness talks  
 30/11/2023 Flu Vaccine Years 8 - 12

### **December**

01/12/2023 Years 11-14 Winter Exams start  
 04/12/2023 Years 11-14 Winter Exams  
 05/12/2023 Year 8/9/10 Whole School Exams  
 06/12/2023 whole school exams  
 07/12/2023 whole school exams  
 08/12/2023 whole school exams  
 11/12/2023 Year 11/12/13 Cookery Demo at Forestside Cookery School & Belfast continental markets  
 11/12/2023 Year 10/12 Smoking & Vaping Presentation  
 12/12/2023 Year 11-14 Senior Gaeltacht Trip  
 12/12/2023 Wheelie Bin Challenge workshop / ECO Council members  
 13/12/2023 Year 11-14 Senior Gaeltacht Trip  
 14/12/2023 Year 8 World of Owls Visit  
 15/12/2023 Year 8-12 Pupils to complete PASS survey  
 19/12/2023 Christmas Carol Service  
 21/12/2023 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

### **January**

03/01/2024 BAKER DAY  
04/01/2024 TERM 2 Begins  
06/01/2024 Year 10 Ski Trip to Italy  
09/01/2024 GamCare Workshop for Year 8  
22/01/2024 Brian Cox Science Careers event Braid Arts Centre  
23/01/2024 Brian Cox Science Event for Pupils Braid Arts Centre  
24/01/2024 OPEN NIGHT  
25/01/2024 OPEN NIGHT  
26/01/2024 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY  
31/01/2024 New Driver NI Safe Motoring

### **February**

01/02/2024 RESULTS Issued for GCSE Nov Exam series  
03/02/2024 NI Sorooptimist Public Speaking  
04/02/2024 Year 13 Spring Romania Trip  
05/02/2024 Year 13 NI School Business Challenge QUB  
06/02/2024 LearnSpark - Year 8 all day  
21/02/2024 GCSE March Exam Series  
22/02/2024 GCSE March Exam Series  
23/02/2024 GCSE March Exam Series  
26/02/2024 Year 9 Action Mental Health Workshop  
27/02/2024 SLB 1 Vaccine Year 11  
28/02/2024 Action Mental Health Years 11 & 12  
29/02/2024 KS3 Maths & Science Exams

### **March**

01/03/2024 KS3 Maths & Science  
04/03/2024 KS3 Maths & Science  
05/03/2024 KS3 Maths & Science  
05/03/2024 Years 8-10 Book Fair School Library  
06/03/2024 Years 8-10 Book Fair School Library  
07/03/2024 Years 8-10 Book Fair School Library  
07/03/2024 Love for Life Year 9  
18/03/2024 St Patricks Day School Closed  
28/03/2024 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

### **APRIL**

18/04/2024 Results Issued for GCSE March Exam Series  
22/04/2024 SLB 2 Vaccine Year 11

### **May**

03/05/2024 GCE Summer 2024 Exams begin  
06/05/2024 MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY  
08/05/2024 GCSE Summer 2024 Exams begin  
22/05/2024 HPV Vaccine Year 9  
24/05/2024 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY  
27/05/2024 BANK HOLIDAY

30/05/2024 Years 8/9/10 KS3 Summer Exams  
31/05/2024 Years 8/9/10 KS3 Summer Exams

**June**

03/06/2024 Years 8/9/10 KS3 Summer Exams  
04/06/2024 Years 8/9/10 KS3 Summer Exams  
05/06/2024 Year 8 RSE Presentation 1  
06/06/2024 HPV Vaccine Mop-Up  
06/06/2024 Primary School Ladies Gaelic Competition  
07/06/2024 Community of Lifesaver  
09/06/2024 Year 13 Summer Romania Trip  
10/06/2024 Year 10 RSE Presentation 1  
11/06/2024 Year 8 Sports Day  
12/06/2024 Year 9/10 Sports Day  
13/06/2024 Year 13 Work Experience begins  
14/06/2024 Incoming Year 8 Induction  
17/06/2024 Year 11 Home Economics Trip  
17/06/2024 Community of Lifesavers  
17/06/2024 Year 8 Conor Marron/Conall Gould Football Tournament  
18/06/2024 Year 8 RSE Presentation 2  
18/06/2024 Year 11 History Trip  
18/06/2024 Year 10 Numeracy/Literacy Day  
19/06/2024 Year 10 RSE Presentation 2  
19/06/2024 Year 9 Numeracy/Literacy Day  
20/06/2024 Community of Lifesavers  
20/06/2024 Year 8/9 Interclass Tournaments  
20/06/2024 Year 11 Trip to The Lake Kilrea  
21/06/2024 Year 8-10 Reward Trip  
22/06/2024 5K Centenary run/ walk  
24/06/2024 KS3 Participatory Budget Event  
24/06/2024 Junior Prize Day  
25/06/2024 Year 8 Numeracy Day  
26/06/2024 Year 8 Literacy Day  
26/06/2024 Take 5 Pupils Champion Training Day  
27/06/2024 Staff Development Day

## Extra-Curricular Highlights and School Achievements

- **Senior Prize day:** Declan Lawn was guest speaker at the annual Prize day event on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September celebrating pupils' academic, artistic and sporting achievements.
- **Cyberbullying Poster Competition:** Liam Kearney (Year 10) won first prize at the Youth Justice League awards at Stormont in September. Emma Waide (Year 11) and Lauren McDonald (Year 9) were runners-up, and Mrs McAuley received the teacher award.
- **Year 14 Formal:** A glamorous night for Upper Sixth students and staff at Galgorm Manor.
- **Pastoral Development Nomination:** St Louis nominated for Pastoral Development of the Year at the 2023 UK National Awards for Pastoral Care in Education.
- **Soroptimist Competition:** Erin McAleese won the local heat and advanced to the Northern Ireland final.
- **Irish Podcast Recording:** Senior language students and teachers welcomed alumna Grace McQuade to record a podcast, practising conversational Irish.
- **World Mental Health Day:** Marked with a sponsored 'Mood Walk' to promote awareness and well-being.
- **Mental Health Recognition:** Recognised as an Investor in Mental Health School and Level 3 Take 5 accredited.
- **Gael Linn Quiz Success:** Year 10 students attended the annual Gael Linn quiz in Belfast, earning second place and advancing to the next round.
- **St Louis Network Quiz:** Winners of the first St Louis School Network Quiz – accompanied by Mrs McCollum
- **Healthy Relationships Programme:** Women's Aid completed its second year with Year 13 students.
- **Innovative Project Award:** Jake McKillop and Enzo Murray won 'Most Innovative Project' for their STEM work at Sentinus Young Innovators.
- **Agriculture Achievement:** Oragh Donaghy won the Outstanding Individual Achievement Award at the ABP Youth Challenge.
- **Careers Convention:** Over 30 companies and institutions participated, offering insights into career pathways and apprenticeships.
- **Rotary Challenge Success:** Gráinne McAuley won a five-day trip to Strasbourg through the Rotary Ireland competition.
- **Anti-Bullying Week:** Highlighted through assemblies led by Sixth Form Anti-Bullying Prefects.
- **Mood Matters Workshop:** Delivered by Aware NI for personal development for Year 10 pupils.
- **Trip to London:** Politics, Geography, Drama, and Music students took part.
- **Eco-Council Launched:** A 42-member council was established for environmental initiatives.
- **Maths Week Ireland:** Celebrated with activities including an Olympiad and a visit to Queen's University Belfast and visits to St Colmcille's Primary School.
- **Fitness Suite Upgrade:** New state-of-the-art Strength and Conditioning equipment installed.
- **Public Speaking Success:** Year 14 students participated in BPW Public Speaking Competition; Michael McPeake won Best Expresser of Thanks.
- **European Day of Languages:** Celebrated with activities by the Modern Languages Department.

- **World of Owls Visit:** Year 8 pupils enjoyed an educational visit from World of Owls, exploring owl history, adaptations, species diversity, and the significance of conservation.
- **Christmas Fair:** The art department held their annual Christmas fair on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December.
- **Christmas Carol Service:** The annual Carol service took place in All Saints featuring performances from the Senior, Junior and Staff choirs, the Orchestra and the Tradition group.
- **Christmas Toy appeal:** The school community gave extremely generously and donated over £10,000 worth of toys to the Catholics Caring toy appeal and £700 in vouchers to SVP. Tanks to Miss Pickering and Mrs McCollum for coordinating.
- **Centenary Celebration Mass:** The 100 anniversary celebrations began on 7<sup>th</sup> January with a celebratory mass, afternoon tea and guided tours of the converted convent buildings.
- **Year 10 ski trip:** 116 pupils and 11 teachers embarked on a memorable Italy trip.
- **Parent Study Skills Evening:** A successful event delivered by Paul Gray from Learn Spark.
- **Spirit of Catholic Education Award:** The school was honoured by Down and Connor Diocese with the Spirit of Catholic Education Award for 2024.
- **Brian Cox Science Event:** Year 10 pupils participated in Science Summer School event held at the Braid Arts Centre in January.
- **Open Nights:** January's Open Nights welcomed prospective pupils and parents for guided tours.
- **BPW UK Final:** Michael McPeake, Annie McCrory, and Peter McIlroy represented St Louis in the BPW UK Final. Michael was awarded, Best Expresser of Thanks.
- **Robotics Club Achievement:** Members of the Robotics club facilitated by Miss Canvan participated in the First Lego League Challenge.
- **Year 13 Friends for Romania Trip:** In February, 18 pupils and 5 staff visited Braşov.
- **Gaeltacht Trip:** Senior Irish students (Years 11–14) visited Donegal in December 2023, organised by Miss O'Brien and Mrs Campbell.
- **Junk Kouture Success:** Year 11 pupils Susan O'Neill and Eimear Kelly showcased 'Helirium' at the 2024 Junk Kouture Regional Final in Dublin.
- **Biology Olympiad:** Cobhlaith Gormley and Caoimhe Pettard were award silver certificates and Aodhan Robb and Aoife Walker were awarded Silver certificates.
- **Business Challenge:** Year 13 Business and Economics students attended the NI Schools Business Challenge at Queen's University Belfast in February.
- **Rotary Club Technology Challenge:** St Louis pupils won first place and £200. Team members included Clíodhna, Mya, Sara, and Eiveta.
- **Irish Language Week Activities:** Year 14 students visited local primary schools, and the school hosted vibrant Seachtain na Gaeilge events.
- **World Book Day:** A variety of events marked the week of 4<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> March.
- **Action Mental Health Workshops:** Thought-provoking sessions were held to inspire Year 9 students.
- **Environmental Advocacy:** Knights of Columbanus team members championed eco-issues in a public speaking competition.
- **Safer Internet Day:** Celebrated on 6<sup>th</sup> February with assemblies and ICT activities, focusing on digital safety and positive use of technology.

- **Abair Public Speaking Competition:** Conn Fyfe and Caitríona Fyfe achieved second places in the competition held in Belfast.
- **Spring Concert Celebration:** Held during St Louis' Centenary year, the Spring Concert at the Braid Arts Theatre showcased the incredible talent of over 100 pupils and past pupils. Performances spanned genres including Classical, Jazz, Rock, and Musical Theatre, creating a truly memorable evening.
- **Geography Field Trip:** In April, Year 12 and 13 Geography students explored Cushendun, with a particular focus on the Glendun River, for an enriching field study experience.
- **UKMT Team Maths Challenge:** On 29th April, a team of Year 9 and Year 10 pupils competed in the UKMT Team Maths Challenge at St. Malachy's College, Belfast.
- **Irish Chemistry Olympiad Success:** St Louis students excelled in the Irish Chemistry Olympiad, with Conn Fyfe and Oisín Kelly earning bronze medals and others receiving commendations. Conn Fyfe advanced to represent Ireland in the International Chemistry Olympiad in Riyadh, with training at Trinity College Dublin.
- **BBC Exhibition Trip:** Year 10 Pupils gained hands-on broadcasting experience, explored sports commentary and radio drama, and learned about BBC career opportunities at the Ballymena Library.
- **Reusable Water Bottle Scheme:** In collaboration with NI Water, St Louis launched a scheme to reduce plastic waste by promoting reusable water bottles.
- **'Gaelbhrtach' Award:** St Louis earned the prestigious award for promoting the Irish language, becoming the first English-medium school in County Antrim to do.
- **Community of Lifesavers:** Mr Quinn and Mrs McVey facilitated workshops to equip Year 10 students with vital skills such as CPR and AED use, fostering their ability to manage emergency scenarios.
- **New St Louis Minibus:** Thanks to fundraising efforts, parent contributions, and a generous donation from Tullyglass Hotel, St Louis acquired a 17-seat Peugeot Boxer minibus in May.
- **Eco-Schools Green Flag Award:** St Louis earned its first Eco-Schools Green Flag, recognising excellence in environmental education and sustainability efforts.
- **Centenary 5K Run/Walk:** St Louis celebrated 100 years at the Ecos Hub with a vibrant 5K Run/Walk, bringing together pupils, staff, alumni, and families. Winners included Thomas Doherty, Bernard Brady, Aisling Smith, and Esther McBride.
- **Junior Prize Day:** Pupils were presented with awards to celebrate their academic and extracurricular achievements, with special awards also presented in recognition of hard work, kindness and good manners. Antrim Camogie captain and past pupil Lucia McNaughton was guest speaker

## PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Molly McKenna:** NI's first Double Mini Trampoline Senior World Champion and selected for the 2024 British Gymnastics Senior programme.
- **Clodagh Maguire:** Selected to present Northern Ireland internationally and has participated in the UEFA U17 European Qualifiers and the Girls' Premier Section in the NI U16 Super cup.
- **Conor McCormack:** Designed an Art/MIA Praise Card, showcasing exceptional graphic design skills in enrichment classes.
- **Hugh O'Donnell & Ryan Addison:** Organised a charity event, running two marathons in 48 hours, raising awareness and funds for Myeloma UK.
- **Maths Eyes Photo Competition:** Daire Adrian-Burbridge won the Maths Eyes SLG photo competition during Maths Week.
- **Year 8 Summer Reading Challenge:** Winners include Liam Robb, Regan Loughran, Henry Blake, Connor O'Kane, Ianis Filip, and Orla O'Halloran.
- **Chess Club Winners (Term 1):** 1st Luke Cooper, 2nd Paul McAuley, 3rd Oscar Cardy.
- **ABRSM Awards:** Aisling, Sofia, and Lauren May achieved high grades in music theory and practical exams.
- **Gráinne McAuley:** Winner of the Rotary Youth Leadership Development Competition; participated in debates and discussions at EU and political levels.
- **Dearbhail Dobbin:** Awarded Minor Player of the Year by Ulster Camogie.
- **Chief Scout Gold Awards:** Achieved by Amelia Mosoczy, Isabella Cooper, and Luke Cooper.
- **Michael McPeake:** Represented St Louis at the 4 Corners Festival, speaking at *Celebrating Young Voices - Hopes For The Future*.
- **Jude Dalrymple:** Jude has had tremendous success in pool and snooker and this year he will compete in at the Nations Cup in England and at the World Cup in Malta.
- **Camogie College All-Stars 2024:** Anna McKillop, Aisling O'Donnell, Ciara O'Boyle, Dearbhla Dobbin, and Erin Coulter, giving St Louis the most All Stars in Ulster for the second consecutive year.
- **Gaelfast Antrim Cup Hurling All Stars** Patrick McFadden, Eanna McAuley, Ollie McClements, Jack McQuillan, Eanna McGuckian
- **Gaelfast Antrim Cup Football All Stars:** Conor McKeever, Leo Wright, Jack McQuillan, Eoghan Smith,
- **Gaelfast Antrim Cup Camogie All Stars:** Annie Convery, Amy McGilligan
- **Gaelfast Antrim Cup LGFA All Stars:** Saorla Mallon
- **Chess Club Winners (Term 2):** 1st Luke Cooper, 2nd Oscar Cardy, 3rd. Cavan Thomson
- **Ulster Youth Orchestra:** Kate McClintock and Aisling Ardiff earned places in the prestigious Ulster Youth Orchestra.
- **Irish Dancing Triumphs:** Eimear Smith and Cody Loughran crowned World Champions. Notable placements included Elle Brown (5th, U17), Sarah Hasson (8th, U17), Clíodhna Crawley (8th, U16), and Katie Hasson (6th, U11).
- **Smith Siblings:** Aisling, an Ulster Schools cross country champion, has also earned titles in the 1500m and 3000m, while Emmet focuses on longer distances, qualifying for All-Ireland's in the 3000m.
- **Eco Student of the Year:** Emily Crooks was awarded the prestigious Eco Student of the Year Award by Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council.

## Sporting Highlights

- **Gaelfast Year 8 Shield:** St Louis defeated St Malachy's, Belfast, with a score of 2-2 to 0-1 on 28th February.
- **Antrim Schools Cup:** The Year 10 Hurling Team emerged victorious over Cross & Passion College.
- **Ulster Champions:** The U14 LGFA claimed victory in the Ulster C Championship
- **Lucia Quinney Mee Memorial Cup:** Year 8 camogie team participated in a tournament at Cross and Passion College in May.
- **SLG LGFA Day:** Feeder primary schools joined for a lively Gaelic Football event, fostering community spirit organised by Ms S McCann.
- **Year 8 Interclass Competition:** 8 Lyndon won the girls' title and 8 Laragh claimed the boys' championship in a close match decided by penalties.
- **Foresters Cup Final:** St Louis made it to the final in their Foresters cup campaign before conceding to St Patrick's, Maghera in the final.
- **Sports Days:** KS3 pupils participated in a range of athletics events during the annual sports day on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> June.
- **Conor Maron/ Conall Gould Tournaments:** Year 8 participated in the memorial football tournament in honour of past pupils Conor and Conall.

## Charities

- Tuesday 10th October and St Louis Grammar chose to mark this day by promoting mental health awareness and well-being through a sponsored 'Mood Walk'
- Year 13 pupils fundraised for their trip to Brasov, Romania in February and June with the aim of supporting and relieving poverty in the area.
- Year 8 pupils collected non-perishable foods to donate to the Ballymena foodbank.
- Pupils, staff and alumni contributed to the annual Christmas Toy appeal supporting dozens of families in our local community at Christmas. Thanks to Miss Pickering and Mrs McCollum for organising.
- The fundraising efforts of the Friends of St Louis, support from our parents, those who attended 'A Night with St Louis' and with a generous donation from Tullyglass Hotel and Residences we were able to purchase a much needed 17 seat Peugeot Boxer minibus.
- The century run/walk took place on 22<sup>nd</sup> June in aid of Friends of St Louis.



## STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS 2023/24

Date	Course / Meeting
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> August	SDP Update, Health & Safety, Fire Safety, Departmental Planning and Preparation
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> August	Pastoral/ Child Protection Training, SENCO Update, Targeted Mentoring, Literacy, Numeracy, ELearning, More Able Gifted and Talented, Learning and Teaching TEEP refresher with differentiation Learning and Teaching through E-Learning
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> August	ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences), Departmental Planning and Preparation, Pastoral/Head of Year Meeting, Head of Department Meeting
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> August	Behaviour Management and procedures, Uniform procedures, Dyslexia Training and Processing Delay, HOY with Form Teacher Meetings, Personalised Target Setting Value Added and Utilising data, EPD Induction Training, Departmental Planning and Preparation
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Marking and Reporting, Health and Wellbeing
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Young Carer Presentation and Referral Information, Referral Information and Process for External Support Agencies, Learning and Teaching presentation, Digital Skills/NAACE Meeting, Report Writing, Departmental Planning
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	SDP Evaluations, Departmental Planning, moderation, and standardisation, NICHs Health Checks
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Supporting Pupils with Anxiety, RSE Update, SDP evaluation, Head of Year Self Evaluation, Head of Department Planning

## SCHOOL FINANCES

The School Budget is calculated by the Department of Education using a formula which applies to all Voluntary Grammar Schools. The major element in the formula is the number of the pupils attending the school and their learning key stage. Other factors include the proportion of pupils who are entitled to free school meals, the area of the school buildings and grounds, maintenance and administration costs.

For the year 2023-24, the School Budget Allocation was calculated as £5,893,401. This budget was expanded to cover all staffing, cleaning and maintenance, pupil materials, heating, lighting and insurance costs. Teaching staff costs amounted to 68.07% of the resource available.

The school is funded 100% by the Department of Education and a Capital Fee is not charged to the pupils.

# APPENDICES

## GCSE SUBJECT GRADE ANALYSIS 2024

Cumulative % of pupils achieving each grade level

Subject	Entries	A*-A	A*-B	A*-C
Art & Design	32	57.5	65.6	100
Business Studies	99	49.5	78.8	99.0
Computer Science	28	67.9	75.0	89.5
Construction	39	51.5	71.8	97.4
Digital Technology	34	44.1	58.8	91.2
Drama	15	60	86.7	100
English Language	158	62.7	91.8	100
English Literature	158	58.9	85.5	99.4
French	26	73.1	84.6	100.0
Geography	14	28.6	50	92.9
History	70	68.6	84.5	100
H.E. Food & Nutrition	27	55.6	74.1	96.5
Irish	20	60	90	100
Mathematics [Further]	72	76.4	94.4	100
Mathematics	158	68.4	90.5	99.4
Music	15	73.5	80.0	93.5
Physical Education	60	60	80	98.5
Polish	6	100	100	100
Religious Studies	158	62.7	77.8	95.7
Science (Single Award)	10	50	70	100

Subject	Entries	A*A-AA	A*A-BB	A*A-CC
Science (Double Award)	148	52.7	75.0	100

## GCSE SUBJECT GRADE ANALYSIS 2024

Cumulative % of pupils achieving each grade level

Subject	Entries	A*-A	A*-B	A*-C
Art & Design	8	57.5	100	100
Biology	59	50.8	82.1	97.4
Business Studies	48	54.2	79.2	95.8
Chemistry	59	76.9	94.9	100
Computer Studies	10	25	100	100
Digital Technology	9	11.1	55.5	66.7
Drama	5	60	100	100
Economics	12	58.5	85.5	100
English Literature	26	55.8	100	100
Further Mathematics	4	75	100	100
Geography	6	50	100	100
Government and Politics	10	50	70	100
Health & Social Care	51	25.5	76.5	98
History	15	55.8	100	100
Irish	6	66.7	100	100
Mathematics	48	54.2	85.4	97.9
Moving Image Arts	11	56.4	72.7	100
Music	6	16.7	50	100
Nutrition & Food Science	8	25	62.5	100
Physical Education	18	85.5	100	100
Physics	10	60	70	80
Religious Studies	9	77.8	100	100
Spanish	1	100	100	100

Subject	Entries	A*A* - AA	A*A* - BB	A*A* - CC
Health & Social Care (Double Award)	14	71	78.6	100

Subject	Entries	D*	D*-D	D*-M
BTEC Business	16	43.8	93.8	100
BTEC Construction	12	0	55	100
BTEC Engineering	10	50	100	100
BTEC IT	6	16.7	66.7	100
BTEC Sport (Single Award)	10	50	100	100

Subject	Entries	D*D*	D*D*-DD	D*D*-MM
BTEC Sport DA	22	4.5	86	100
BTEC Construction DA	11	0	82	91