# **CBS Ennistymon**























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## **Our School**

### **Contact Details**

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### ERST

CBS Ennistymon is proud to be part of the Edmund Rice Schools Trust. ERST Schools actively promote partnership in 96 Irish school communities. We pride ourselves on the multicultural pluralism that is evident in our schools. Edmund Rice schools are both inclusive in their approach and respectful of diversity. Our schools promote equality of access and participation - in other words, children of any faith, or none, at every level of ability, of any nationality or ethnic grouping are all welcome in our schools. All of our schools are encouraged to recognise the uniqueness of each individual in caring communities where holistic development is nurtured.

The educational approach in ERST schools is neither functional nor utilitarian, but subscribes to the holistic vision expressed in the following five key elements:

- Nurturing faith, Christian spirituality and Gospel-based values;
- Promoting partnership;
- Excelling in teaching and learning;
- Creating a caring school community;
- Inspiring transformational leadership.

### **CBS Ennistymon Mission Statement**

We are a voluntary Catholic Secondary School for boys under the trusteeship of the Edmund Rice Schools Trust, focusing on the importance of a value-based Christian education in the Catholic tradition.

We endeavour to educate our students so that as emerging adults they will have the confidence and skills necessary to participate fully in community and family life and in their work and leisure.

### **Our School**

### A Proud Tradition of Achievement and Care

The Christian Brothers have a long and proud tradition in education in Ennistymon. In 1824, at the request of Rev. Peter O'Loughlin, Blessed Edmund Ignatius Rice sent three Brothers to the town. Their mission was to establish a school for the Catholic boys of the area who had no opportunity of receiving any education. Secondary pupils continued to attend classes in the old building until 1970 when a new school was built on the "top of the hill".

The present school has 12 general purpose classrooms, a Science Laboratory, 2 fully equipped Computer Rooms and a trolley containing a class set of 24 Surface Go devices, a Media suite and a lunch and study room. In 2007 we acquired the former primary school which has since been converted into a Woodwork Room, a Graphics Room and a recently upgraded DCG suite. In 2016 a fully equipped Kitchen was installed to teach Life Skills and in 2018 a Music Room and Recording Studio was fitted out with the support of Tomar Trust. The facilities in the Parish Community Centre are used for Games and PE and also for whole school gatherings. Outdoor games are played on the school's playing field and the recently renovated Old Primary School Multipurpose area.

The school has a wide range of subjects on offer to its students at both Junior Cycle and Senior Cycle level. The schools offers a well-structured and high quality Transition Year which combines student activities with a range of qualifications including ECDL, first aid, driver theory test etc. Students study the standard seven subjects to Leaving Certificate but are offered the choice of additional subjects should they wish. Students are encouraged to take an eight subject to Leaving Certificate level.

We follow an extensive programme of extra-curricular events. Gaelic Games and are synonymous with CBS Ennistymon. The school has produced many Inter County footballers over the years including the Rouines, the Considines, the O'Keeffes, the McCarthys and many more. Hurling was only introduced to the school in 2001. Since then the "small ball" has enjoyed great success such as Clare Colleges titles in 2008, 2009 and 2017 as well as Munster Titles in 2014 and 2017. Past pupils Cathal Malone, Jason & Aidan McCarthy are presently on the County Senior Hurling Panel and Keelan Sexton, Cormac Murray and Seán Rouine are on the Senior Football Squad. Today several of our present students are on County Minor Football and Hurling Squads and we are very proud of them all. Since the introduction of Basketball, we have taken part in three All Ireland Basketball Finals, U16 and U19 and won the All Ireland Basketball Final in 2010 with an U19 Team. Basketball has been going from strength to strength, with players involved in Irish Teams and squads and in the North-West Regional Teams. Ciarán Devitt has played on the Irish International team. A number of our past students have gone on to play basketball at university level. The school also competes in athletics, soccer, golf and swimming.

Our students get involved in a number of community and charity projects. We are also active in the arts with an annual Christmas Concert and an Arts Week introduced in 2018 to showcase the students creative talents in traditional music, rock music, set dancing, drama and art. In 1995 the school set up a rock band which has gone from strength to strength with help from Jon O Connell.

At CBS Ennistymon, the ERST charter is lived each day through the interactions between students, teachers, ancillary staff and parents. It is a warm, vibrant, caring community where achievement is expected and supported.

### **School Programme**

### **Junior Cycle Subjects**

Under the current Junior Cycle system students pick a selection from the following:

- Irish
- English
- Mathematics
- German
- History
- Geography

Short Courses:

• Physical Education • Coding

Non Examination subjects:

- Civil, Social and Political Education Digital Media Literacy
  - Social Personal and Health Education

### **Senior Cycle**

Students in Senior Cycle have the option to pursue a one year Transition Programme followed by a two year Leaving Certificate

#### **Transition Year Programme**

The Transition Year Programme is designed to provide a broad educational experience aiming to foster maturity and aid future studies.

Areas covered include:

- Media Studies
- Information Technology (with a view to sitting ECDL exams)
- History
- Business
- Irish
- English
- Mathematics

- German
- Horticulture and Local History
- Art
- Music
- Religion
- Environmental Studies
- First Aid and Road Safety

\*Modules offered may vary slightly from year to year

- Science
- Graphics
- Business
- Religion
- Wood Technology

### **School Programme**

### **Leaving Certificate Programme**

Every student must take the following subjects :

 Mathematics
German Irish English

Three subjects can be chosen from the following range:

- Business • Chemistry
- Agricultural Science
- Physics
- Biology
- Design and Communication Graphics
- History Geography
- Construction Studies

A number of subjects are also offered to our students through a school co-operation system & after-school classes such as:

 Home Economics
Accounting
Art Music Applied Maths Religion

Students are also required take a number of Non Examination subjects:

 Physical Education • Religious Education Guidance

While every possible effort will be made to facilitate students' choice this cannot be guaranteed. Students and Parents will be assisted in relation to subject choice by the Principal, the Guidance Counsellor and the School Counsellor, through a series of information evenings.

### **LCVP Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme**

Students with specific subject combinations are eligible to participate in LCVP

### **Extra-Curricular Activities**

Ennistymon CBS participates in a wide range of sporting activities including Gaelic Football, Hurling, Basketball, Athletics, Soccer and Golf. The school also supports an extensive range of artistic and cultural activities as well a strong Technology Programme.

Our extra-curricular activities include:

- Gaelic Football
- Hurling
- Soccer
- Basketball
- Golf
- Athletics
- Sky Sports for living initiative
- Writers and musicians in Residence
- Computer Club
- Trips to the theatre

- Students' Council
- Gaisce Awards
- Young Scientist Competition/ Scifest Competition
- Students Council
- Table Quizzes
- Writing Competitions
- Class trips
- Green Schools initiative
- After School Clubs Rock Band, Technology and Applied Maths

### After School Clubs

Music (guitar, drums school band)

### **First Year Lunchtime Clubs**

Art
Cookery
Technology
Soccer League

### **Educational Support**

### **Awards and Supports**

The school operates a merit system whereby students are rewarded with merits for homework, classwork, curricular and extra-curricular achievements.

To further encourage positive behaviour, effort and achievement, Ennistymon CBS has an award scheme. In May the school gathers in the local Community Centre and the various achievements, academic and non-academic are acknowledged.

Medals are also presented to the pupils who are successful on the Annual Sports Day. The Sports Day brings teachers and pupils together in a different and fun way.

### **Learning Support/SEN**

The Learning Support/SEN Department works closely with all departments within the school. Its core role is to identify and support any student who is experiencing learning difficulties. This includes students who are finding the transition from primary school to secondary school more difficult than others and those who have been diagnosed as having a specific learning difficulty.

All students are screened using standardised assessments as they enter the school and again in 5th yr. When requested by students, parents or teachers, further screening or assessment takes place at other times. The CBS does not stream students in Junior Cycle but screening and assessment are essential in providing indicators of student progress and learning preferences.

The department is well resourced with a range of software, computers and an extensive supply of appropriate reading material.

As a result of the good working relationship between the members of the LS/SEN Department and the Department of Education and Science, CBS Ennistymon has been very successful in obtaining special consideration at both Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate levels for many of its students.

The members of the LS/SEN Department have experience in all areas of student support and are happy to meet parents who are concerned about any learning difficulties their children may be experiencing.

### After School Classes/Projects

As a means of providing the greatest range of opportunities for the young men of CBS Ennistymon, the school offers a range of afterschool activities. Classes are offered in Applied Mathematics (Senior), and Music (Guitar, bass and drums).

These activities are subsidised and a small charge per term is requested.

### **Guidance Counselling Service**

According to the Education Act 1998, all schools must "ensure that students have access to appropriate Guidance to assist them in their educational and career choices"

The guidance service includes a full range of activities undertaken or supported by the school which assist pupils to make choices and transitions in personal/social, educational and career areas.

The school meets these needs through the provision of SPHE, RSE, Class Tutoring Counsellor and Guidance Counsellor. There is a dedicated Guidance Suite offering internet access and a library of vocational and educational resources.

The provision of a Guidance Counselling service aims to assist students in discovering their own capabilities and abilities, to grow in self-belief and self-awareness, so that they can make informed choices. Our School Counsellor allows students to work through any issues that might arise for them in a supportive and safe environment.

### **Educational Support**

#### **Mentoring system**

Each first year pupil is assigned a senior student to work with them as a mentor. Their assigned mentor will assist first year students in the process of integration into the school.

### **Class Teacher/Tutor System**

Each class has an assigned teacher who acts as their class teacher/tutor. The class teacher/tutor meets with students regularly and monitors their progress. The class teacher/tutor offers support and advice to students or, when required, ensures they are directed to the correct support service within the school.

### **Uniform Details**

The school uniform of a maroon jumper, grey trousers and grey shirt must be worn at all times, unless a valid note from a parent/guardian is presented. Students who come to school without a uniform will have a uniform loaned to them on the first day but will be required to wear the correct after that. No student may attend class unless in uniform.

It is recommended that students also purchase the CBS school jacket.

The school uniform and jacket can be bought at An Siopa Beag, Main Street, Miltown Malbay.

Tracksuit and runners must be worn during PE classes.

### **School Hours**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.00 - 3.55, Friday 9.00 - 13.20 Lunch (except Friday) 13.05 - 13.55

### Homework

It is expected that all students complete homework to the best of their ability. Please refer to the Schools' homework policy for recommended study times.

### **Supervised Study**

Supervised study is organised from Monday to Friday during term time & on weekends if demand is sufficient.

### **Code of Behaviour**

A Code of Behaviour is outlined to students at the beginning of every school year. It aims to guide and protect students. The key elements of our Code of Behaviour are rewarding positive behaviour, mutual respect, courtesy and fairness. Students are expected to uphold the school code of behaviour at all times when in school and on school related activities and outings.

### **Involvement of Parents**

#### The Parents' Council

The aim of the Parents' Council in the CBS is to enable parents to be partners in their son's education. The Parents' Council discuss new policies as they are drafted, they organise talks by speakers who would be of interest to both parents and pupils and they are involved in fundraising for a number of essential school initiatives.

#### **Parent Teacher Meetings**

Regular parent/teacher meetings are held throughout the school year and parents are strongly encouraged to attend. Parents can meet with the Principal/Deputy Principal by appointment during school hours. Parents are welcome to phone or email the school with queries at any time.

### **Student Council**

The Student Council is a communication channel between students, teachers and school management. The Student Council is comprised of student representatives from each year as well as teacher representatives.

It allows students the opportunity to express their views on issues of importance to them and to extend peer support across a number of issues. It also allows student to develop key leadership skills.

### **Dialogue Café**

This is an initiative to facilitate discussion and critical thinking among students on topics relevant to their education in today's world.

**Admissions Policy Summary** 

See website for the complete up to date version of CBS Ennistymon Admissions Policy www.cbsennistymon.com

We are a Voluntary Catholic Secondary School under the trusteeship of the Edmund Rice Schools Trust, focusing on the importance of a value-based Christian education in the Catholic tradition.

Enrolment to CBS Ennistymon is always on the basis that Students and their parents have read and agreed to uphold the school's Code of Behaviour.

### **Admissions Ethos**

Our school will endeavour to educate our students so that as emerging adults they can participate fully in community and family life, work and leisure.

The Board of Management of C.B.S. Ennistymon while formulating this policy has shown due regard to the provisions of the Education Act 1998, The Education Welfare Act 2000, the important role played by the patrons of our school in its daily life and the religious and educational philosophy of the Christian Brothers.

Having due regard to the above the Board through its Admissions Policy supports the principles of:

- Inclusiveness, particularly in relation to the enrolment of pupils with special needs and disadvantage, subject to adequate resources being available to the school.
- Equality of access and participation in the school.
- Parental choice, in relation to enrolments while at the same time having due regard to the characteristic spirit of the school
- Respect for diversity of traditions, values, languages and ways of life in society.

#### **School Resources**

Implementation of the school plan and policy must have due regard to the resources and funding available in the school. This funding is dependent upon Department of Education and Skills grants, Teacher allocation, local fundraising and voluntary contributions by parents. Places can only be offered to students where sufficient resources are available.

### **School Curriculum**

The curriculum offered by CBS Ennistymon is governed by regulations as stipulated by the DES, which may be amended in accordance with sections 9 and 30 of the Education Act 1998.

School Policy must have due regard to the resources and funding available. The B.O.M. reserves the right in consultation with the patrons to alter services offered by the school in line with available resources.

## **Admissions Policy Summary**

### **School Details**

CBS Ennistymon is a voluntary Roman Catholic school, under the trusteeship of the Edmund Rice School Trust.

Our school is grant aided by the Department of Education and is a single sex (boys) school.

### **Application Process & Procedures**

Due to changing circumstances the B.O.M. reserves the right to change any of the dates and procedures as outlined below.

- In Sept/October before entry, the Principal or other representatives of CBS will visit feeder schools to inform prospective students about our school and invite students to our Open night.
- In October/November before entry, CBS Ennistymon will host an Open Night for prospective students. Parents and Students are encouraged to avail of this opportunity to see first-hand the facilities available and speak to teachers and management.
- Enrolment Forms are available from the school during primary school visits, the School Open Night, our website or upon request.
- Information regarding enrolling a boy in Ennistymon C.B.S. may be obtained at any stage by contacting the Secretary at the School Phone Number: 065 707 1349
- Entrance exams will be held in March/April for students who are enrolled for the following school year. These screening tests are not used for streaming but to facilitate planning to meet students learning needs.
- Parents may contact the school office and arrange a meeting with the Principal if required.

### **Decision Making Process**

Final responsibility for decisions in relation to the enrolment of pupils in C.B.S. Ennistymon rests with the Board of Management of the school in accordance with school policy, the Education Act 1998, the Education Welfare Act 2000 and the Equal Status Act.

Parents will be notified of the final decision in relation to enrolment upon receipt of all requested relevant information as prescribed by the Board of Management and the Minister for Education and Science, under the Education Welfare Act 2000.

The Board reserves the right to exercise its discretion and will, at all times, adhere to the guiding ethos of Blessed Edmund in caring for the disadvantaged of society.