

1st Year Information Evening

General Guidelines for 1st Year Parents

Wednesday 4 September 2019



1st Year Information Evening

1. 1st Year is crucial!
2. Raising your child's chances of success
3. Homework & Study
4. The school year – term by term
5. Support Structure
6. Perennial Issues
7. Other Information and Reminders



1. Raising the chances of success

- i. BE AMBITIOUS!
- ii. Make a commitment to their education
- iii. Maximum Attendance in School
- iv. Homework & Study
- v. Fill in the gaps where performance is weak
- vi. Work in partnership with teachers
- vii. 1st years are still kids



The Study Environment...

Does your son/daughter have the best possible conditions in which to work?

- ✓ Regular Time
- ✓ Regular Place

No TV, No disturbances,
No work outside the home

Regular Sleep



Homework & Study



Homework

In EGS it is expected that all students complete academic work at home on a regular basis.

We need parental support with this.



Homework

Work at home will comprise:

Homework (set by teachers)

&

Study (extra background work)



Homework

All homework should be written into Homework Journal.

Parents are encouraged to check journals regularly to ensure this is happening.



Homework

Work could be:

- * written
- * reading
- * learning
- * revising

ALL work is equally important!

Learning and reading is just as important as written work.



Homework

Parents are asked to ensure that all work set is completed, at home, and in the best possible conditions.



Can your son/daughter cope with the homework?



Study

The amount of time spent on Homework and Study?

- At least one and a half hours
- but NOT all night!

If homework is completed in less than the time set, **the rest of the time should be spent on study**



Study is...

- Ensuring notes are up-to-date
- Learning Notes —————> This will be the Key to success
- Researching



What is Study?

1. Ensuring notes are up-to-date
- Writing up notes in a particular subject
 - Re-writing notes which are untidy or incomplete
 - Writing up work missed though absence



What is Study?

2. Learning Notes
- Reading and revising sections of work
 - Self-testing – seeing how much of the material covered can be recalled



Notekeeping

In EGS we expect all students to learn to make notes and keep them in an organised fashion.

This will make revision easier for the student



Notekeeping

Students use a combination of copies, refill pads and ring-binders.

For subjects which use refill pads, only one A4 pad needs to be carried around.
(saves carrying copies and ring-binders)



Challenging the strong students

- Huge gulf in standards between Junior and Leaving Cert
- Students can quickly learn to “coast”
- Teachers can do too much – students should learn to do more
- EGS: Increased emphasis on establishing good work ethic and study habits in 1st Year
- EGS: Increased emphasis on challenging more able students to go further



1st Year ...term by term

Term One:

- September: Tiredness will impact
- 13-15 November: Christmas Concert
- 19 November: Parent-Teacher Meetings



1st Year ...term by term

Term One (continued):

- November: 1st Years make subject choices
- 2-6 December: Christmas Exams
- 17 December: Carol Service



1st Year ...term by term

Term Two:

- Long term
- 13 February – 1st Year Parents' Advice Night
- 10 March: School photographs
- 11-13 March: Transition Year Show



Do we run a First Year Trip
this year (c.€25)?



1st Year ...term by term

Term Three:

- Quite short
- 8 May: Sports Day
- 21-29 May: Summer Exams



Support Structures

- Form Teachers
 - 1E: Mr Martin
 - 1G: Ms Sutton
- Head of 1st Year (Mr Heaney)
- Head of Junior School (Mr McGettigan)
- Chaplain (Ms Evans)
- Guidance Counsellor (Mrs O'Callaghan)



Support Structures

- Learning Support Department
- Special Needs Assistants
- Prefects – “Buddy” System
- Open Door – it’s ok not to feel ok
- Library at Lunchtime



Perennial Issues

1. Tiredness
2. Lockers
3. Locks
4. Weight of schoolbags
5. Property
6. Phones



Student Property

1. Students should avoid bringing valuables to school
2. Mobile phones should be kept locked in a locker.
Misuse will led to their confiscation
3. Please put names on all property
4. Please don’t leave property around the school
5. Lost property is open at 8.45am and 1.45pm. Most “stolen” property is actually just lost!



Information/Reminders

1. Sickness, Lateness, Absence, Leaving Early
2. School Transport
3. Parents’ Parking
4. Discipline



Discipline

- We trust parents to trust us
- We expect the very highest standards of behaviour at all times.
 - We have a reputation for doing things well, and we aim to maintain that
- If we call you, we *need* your support.

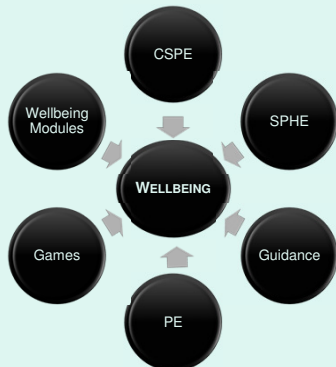


Common 1st Year Discipline Issues

1. Uniform
2. Unkindness to others
3. Misuse of mobile Phones
4. Standards of Homework
5. Distracting others in class



Junior Cycle Update



Junior Cycle Update – *full implementation*

- English
- Business
- Science
- French/Spanish
- Art
- Irish
- History
- Maths
- HE
- Geography
- TG
- Metalwork
- Short Courses:
 - CSPE
 - RE



Junior Cycle Update

- Classroom Based Assessments (CBAs)
 - 2nd Year/3rd Year
 - Example: Oral Presentation (English)
- These will be in lieu of many 2nd Year summer and 3rd Year Christmas exams in these subjects



Parents' Association AGM 19 September



Sports Hall 2020

