

**GALWAY**



**EDUCATE TOGETHER  
SECONDARY SCHOOL**



**WELCOME  
CLASS OF 2031!**



# OUR SCHOOL

- Opened in 2019 with 48 students
- 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, Transition Year and 5<sup>th</sup> Year.
- 282 students currently enrolled.
- 28 teaching staff, 9 Student Support Assistants (SNAs), 1 school administrator.



# SUPPORT TEAM

- Sarah Molloy [principal@galwayetss.ie](mailto:principal@galwayetss.ie)
- Sinead [dp@galwayetss.ie](mailto:dp@galwayetss.ie)
- Noreen [admin@galwayetss.ie](mailto:admin@galwayetss.ie)
  
- Guidance Counsellor: Ann Marie Greene [amgreene@galwayetss.ie](mailto:amgreene@galwayetss.ie)
- AEN Coordinator: Katriona Woods [kwoods@galwayetss.ie](mailto:kwoods@galwayetss.ie)





# OUR COMMUNITY DOG



COMMUNITY DOG  
PROGRAMME FOR  
SCHOOLS



**Peanut**



# OUR VISION

- Cultivate a love of learning
- Build an inclusive community
- Cultivate and maintain positive relationships
- Create a sustainable environment



# GETSS: AN EDUCATE TOGETHER SCHOOL



Educate  
Together

In Educate Together schools, everyone will learn in a **student-centred, inclusive, democratic, co-educational setting** that is committed to **enabling and supporting each student to achieve their full potential** while at the same time **preparing them to become caring and active members of a culturally diverse society.**





# WHAT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE?

- First names for all
- No uniform
- Respect and kindness
- Student voice
- Parent voice
- Innovative teaching and learning
- Creativity
- Sustainability



# WHERE WILL WE BE SITUATED?

## **Current Accommodation: Newtownsmith (2-3 Years)**

Department of Education have set upper limit of 72 students for 2024/2025

## **Permanent Accommodation:**

- Permanent site has been confirmed at Garraun, Oranmore (Very close to train station which is currently being developed)
- New build to facilitate 1000 students

**Permanent Location will be accessible to all sides of school planning area via school and public transport. This is a priority of Department of Education.**





# TECHNOLOGY ENHANCED LEARNING

- Office 365
- Individual devices – iPads (to be purchased through Wriggle)
- Microsoft Teams/Office 365
- Cost €600 approx.
- Payment Plan available

**The technology is not the focus of the learning rather the medium through which students learn.**



# DEVELOPING KEY SKILLS



Distinguished  
School

The technology is not what is important - we use technology to enhance the learning and develop students' skills.

<http://galwayetss.ie/page/Apple-Distinguished-School/60789/Index.html>



Collaboration  
Creativity  
Accessibility  
Creation of content  
Organisation



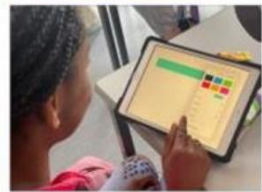


# Galway Educate Together Secondary School



## Our School

**G**alway Educate Together Secondary School is a developing school which opened its doors in 2019. Following the Educate Together ethos, our [vision](#) is to foster a love of learning and to build an inclusive community through sustainable practices that revolve around the building of respectful relationships and democratic participation. The activation and engagement of authentic [student voice](#) is central to our planning and practice.



## Demographics

- **Developing School Year 3**
- **Number of Students:** 207
- Co-Educational
- **Year Groups 2022/23:** 1st, 2nd, 3rd year and Transition Year
- **Number of Teachers:** 16
- **Number of SSA's:** 5
- Currently situated in temporary accommodation

## Apple Technology

- 1:1 Apple iPad devices
- Apple TV in every classroom
- Teachers equipped with Apple Pencils

## Vision

The culture of learning in our school centres around the pillars of Collaboration, Creativity, Flexibility and Critical Thinking.

Having 1:1 iPads allows us to engage the students in teaching and learning activities which support this [progressive vision](#). In addition to this, using digital technology gives students the confidence to communicate, to [collaborate](#), to [reflect](#) and to emerge as learners who will be able to respond and adapt to the ever changing world around them. [Our staff actively facilitate](#) students to express their views but they also give audience to that voice and allow it to influence future learning experiences. We encourage our students and staff not to be afraid of making mistakes, to be open to trying new things and to actively seek out new opportunities in order to reach their full potential.



At GETSS we activate authentic student voice by adopting Laura Lundy's Model of Participation as illustrated above.

## Learning



**Collaboration** – iPads enable our school community to work together purposefully and effectively in an efficient manner which allows us to feel supported and nurtured in our learning journey. Through our [Project Based Learning \(PBL\)](#) approach [student voice](#) is activated.



**Creativity** – iPads open up the learning so that students can express themselves in a variety of different ways that are unique to their own creative flair whilst supporting [innovation and exploration](#).



**Flexibility and Inclusion** – iPads support our Universal Design for Learning approach. The UDL framework recognises that all students are unique individuals that learn in different ways and it guides us to provide a more flexible, inclusive approach to learning and assessment to cater for this diversity. Having one to [one devices gives endless possibilities](#) in the three areas of the [UDL approach](#) – Representation, Expression and Engagement.



**Supporting Critical Thinking through Feedback** – iPads allow us to experience [structured interactions](#) through a variety of mediums that empower students to understand and take responsibility for their own learning by identifying their strengths and their areas for improvement.



## Success

Through our School Self Evaluation (SSE) process, feedback suggests that student engagement is heightened and enhanced by the use of iPads. Our [students, teachers](#) and [parents](#) have verified their satisfaction through the channels of focus groups and surveys and they can explicitly identify how the iPads help students directly manage themselves and their learning. The [feedback](#) also speaks clearly in terms of the ease of use, the ability to easily cater for the needs of all students, the robustness of the iPads as well as the endless opportunities for creative engagement.



## What Next?

As a developing school which will rapidly grow over the next ten years we need more sustainable practices. For example much of our data gathered from our SSE process is opinion based, we plan to review and refine our collection of data so that we have a balance of quantitative and qualitative. This will allow us to easily identify areas for improvement.

In addition to this, we are committed to develop learning autonomy. To support this, we have developed a [template](#) that equips students in their research process to be more robust in their critical thinking skills.

We continue to strive to increase engagement with student voice by empowering them to make decisions about and take responsibility for their learning in order to improve learner outcomes .

## Curious about the iPads?

Ask teachers and students in our classrooms to show you how they are used for learning.





# FLEXIBILITY & INCLUSION

Representation

Student Expression

Student Engagement

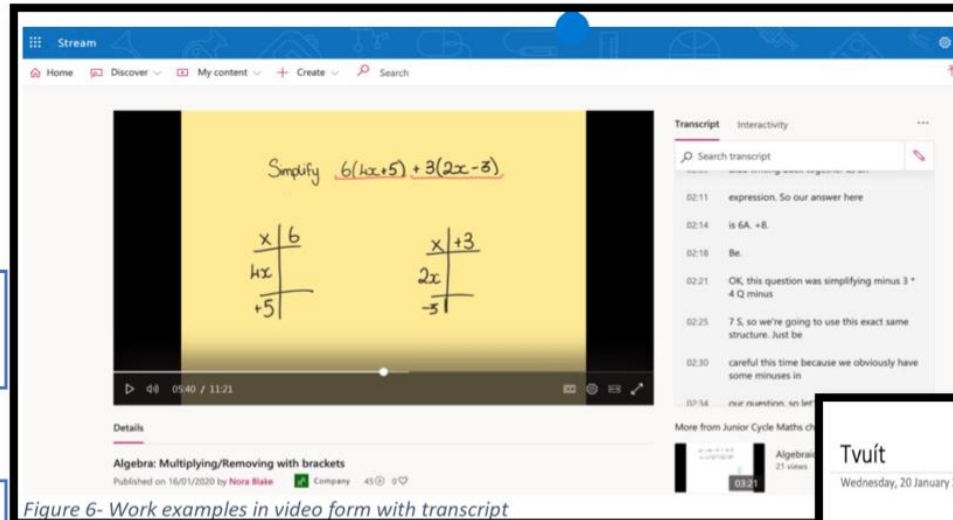


Figure 6- Work examples in video form with transcript

Universal  
Design  
For Learning



The screenshot shows the OneNote interface. At the top, there are two voice notes with text in Irish: "Seo biachlár." and "Ar mhaith leat deoch?". To the right, there is a tweet from a user named "Rainn iad ar Menti.com" with a QR code. Text on the right side of the image reads: "Live lessons and embedded voice notes on OneNote aid oral language development during online learning." Below this, it says: "The use of apps such as Menti and Padlet allow students to share ideas and answers collectively." At the bottom, it states: "Work is submitted to Assignments and feedback is given. Students make these changes to their work and submit to Assignments again."

The screenshot shows a student's handwritten work in Irish on lined paper. At the top, there are equations:  $g_0 = a_1$  and  $g_1 = a_2$ . The main text is handwritten and includes phrases like "Ní chomparáid...", "Ar ndáiríre...", "Cathain...", "Ní...", "D'fhéadfá ceist a chur anseo: Ach nach é sin airdhm na bhfathach teic?". A red arrow points from the text to a specific part of the work. At the bottom, there is a question: "D'fhéadfá ceist a chur anseo: Ach nach é sin airdhm na bhfathach teic?".

Students have the choice to present their work digitally, in video format or they can take a photo of their copybook and upload to OneNote or Assignments.



# BACK TO THE 80S @ GETSS



**A date for your diaries!**  
**November 29th & 30th**



# EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

## Tuesday After School Clubs 2.30 – 3.30pm



Home Learning Club LS1	Musical Rehearsals and Set work- Back to the 80's	Debating Club with Rowie and Elana LS5	Boys Basketball Training – Meet at Sports Hall - Martin	Coding/Robotics/Minecraft Club With Peadar in Tech room	Soccer Training – meet at Sports Hall – Gary, Laura
------------------------	---	--	---	---	---

## Thursday After School Clubs 2.30 – 3.30pm



Home Learning Club LS1	Musical Rehearsals and Set work- Back to the 80's	Arts and Crafts Club with Donna and Paula – Home Ec Room	Dungeons & Dragons Club with Matthew in LS6	Girls Basketball – Rowie and Leanne Volleyball – James and Hazel Tabletennis - Evan	Science Club – James – Blue Lab  Yoga - Gabrielle
------------------------	---	--	---	---	---

## Lunchtime Clubs



1. Each lunchtime – Games Club & Chess Club LS8 with Matthew/ Library LS9
2. Monday – Lego League with Evan and James in the Tech Room, School Magazine Club – With Esther and Orlaith in LS2, Green Team with Clodagh in LS4
3. Wednesday – Languages Club with Karin LS1
4. 1st Year Buddy Lunchtime with Ann Marie & Katriona – details to be confirmed
5. Pride Club with Richard – day to be confirmed
6. Lunchtime Walking Club with Katriona/Ann Marie – Tues/Wed/Thurs 1.10

Registers will be taken by teachers at each session. School bus will leave school at 2.30pm so you will need to arrange another way home if staying for a club.


Meeting point for all Sports clubs is in Sports Hall.

No clubs on days when there is a Staff meeting or Parent/Teacher/Student Meeting or School event

Students  
choose the  
activities!





	<b>Tutor</b> 8.30 – 8.45	<b>1</b> 8.45 – 9.45	<b>2</b> 9.45 – 10.45	<b>Break</b> 10.45 – 11.00	<b>3</b> 11.00 – 12.00	<b>4</b> 12.00 – 1.00	<b>Lunch &amp; Clubs</b>	<b>5</b> 1.40 – 2.40	<b>6</b> 2.40 – 3.40 Mon & Wed
<b>Monday</b>							<b>1.00 – 1.40</b>		
<b>Tuesday</b>							<b>1.00 – 1.30</b>	<b>1.30 – 2.30</b>	<b>Clubs &amp; Active Study</b> 2.30 – 3.30
<b>Wednesday</b>							<b>1.00 – 1.40</b>		
<b>Thursday</b>							<b>1.00 – 1.30</b>	<b>1.30 – 2.30</b>	<b>Clubs &amp; Active Study</b> 2.30 – 3.30
<b>Friday</b>							<b>1.00 – 1.30</b>	<b>1.30 – 2.30</b>	<b>School finishes at 2.30 Friday</b>

What will the day look like?

**School opens at 8am and lessons begin at 8.30**

**Our classrooms are called Learning Spaces**

**Hour-long classes**

**No bells except at breaks**

**Morning break: 15 mins**

**Lunch-time: 30 or 40 mins**

**Senior Students can leave the premises at lunch-time. Juniors stay on site.**



# ROLE OF THE TUTOR

*Different focus each morning:*

**Monday:** Organisation/Journals

**Tuesday:** Literacy/Numeracy

**Wednesday:** Mindfulness

**Thursday:** Reflection

**Friday:** Global Citizenship Education

8.30 - 8.45 every day

Guidance, advice and support

Daily contact with students

Wellbeing check-ins

Key point of contact with home

Monitors behaviour and attendance

Problems or questions

**TUTOR**  
**Time**



# GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING



Guidance Counsellor: Ann Marie  
Greene [amgreene@galwayetss.ie](mailto:amgreene@galwayetss.ie)

**Educational Guidance & Counselling:** Providing support at key moments during students' time at school

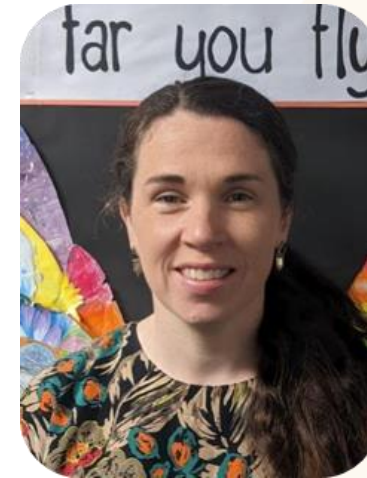
**Vocational Guidance & Counselling:** Career and college choices

**Social and Personal Guidance & Counselling:** One to one/group meetings to talk about any issues which may arise, relationships, building resilience, feelings, etc.

# ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

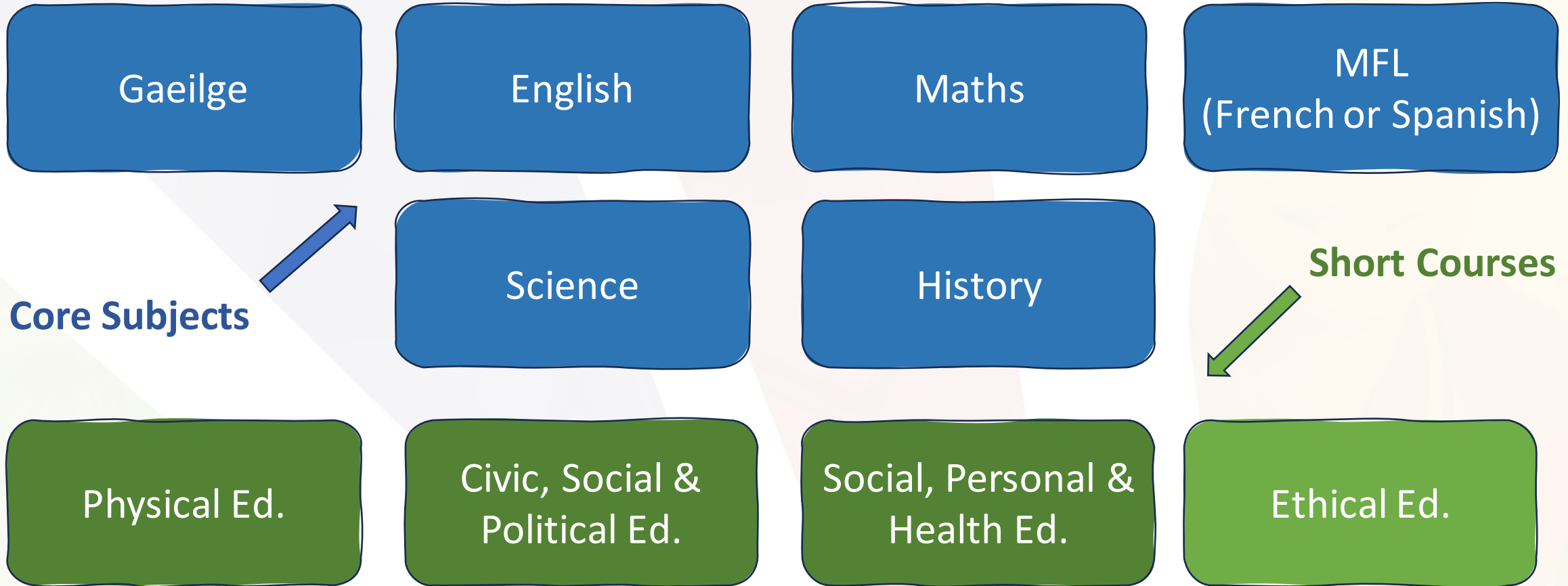


- If you wish to speak to our AEN coordinator, **Katriona Woods**, please visit the area outside **LS11** or email us with your particular concerns
- If you are offered a place, we will explore support options fully.



AEN Coordinator: **Katriona Woods**  
[kwoods@galwayetss.ie](mailto:kwoods@galwayetss.ie)

# WHAT SUBJECTS WILL I STUDY?





# AVAILABLE JUNIOR CYCLE OPTIONS

Options Taster Programme until October of 1st Year - Choose Two

Visual Art

Applied  
Technology

Graphics

Home Economics

Business

Music

Geography

See [GETSS.ie](http://GETSS.ie) or [curriculumonline.ie](http://curriculumonline.ie) for further information

# AVAILABLE SHORT COURSES

Taster during induction – choose one

Coding



Artistic  
Performance



1 hour p/w, 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Year

Climate Action



# ETHICAL EDUCATION



Educate  
Together

- Specific to Educate Together schools
- 1 lesson per week.
- Involves exploring **different worldviews and beliefs**, considering ethical dilemmas and the process of **ethical decision making (deciding between right and wrong)**.
- Invites students and teachers to engage with **issues and problems facing society** and aims to develop the skills of critical thinking, discussion and debate.
- **9 Strands:** Values; Making Moral and Ethical Decisions; Beliefs and Worldviews; Different Teachings and Perspectives; Diversity in Ireland, Migration; Power and Participation; Gender Equality; Global Citizenship Education



# RESTORATIVE PRACTICE

Building Positive Relationships and Supporting Positive behaviour



## Restorative Practices Incident Report

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_



What happened?

---

---

---



What were you thinking at the time?

---

---

---



What have you thought about since?

---

---

---



Who was affected and how?

---

---

---



How can you make things right?

---

---

---

# GOOD HABITS FROM THE START

- **Healthy Eating** Policy - bring healthy lunches and snacks
- **Single use plastic** policy - all students must have a reusable bottle/cup and lunch box and we encourage all to avoid excess packaging e.g. cling film, tin foil
- **Green School** – working together for a sustainable future
- **Active School** – physically educated and active community
- **Amber School** – mental health & wellbeing
- **Community and Social Involvement**
- **Kindness and Respect** for each other, our school and our environment
- **RP (Restorative Practice)** approach

# HOW TO APPLY

- Online application form on website
- Closing date October 23rd
- If oversubscribed, we go to a lottery
- Order of Categories:
  1. Siblings
  2. School Planning Area (MAP)
  3. Outside Planning Area
  4. Late Applications
- All details in the Admissions Policy on website



The screenshot shows the website header with the school logo and navigation menu. The main content area is titled 'Enrolment' and features social media sharing buttons for Facebook and Twitter. The text on the page provides information about the first year enrolment for the 2024/25 school year, including the opening date (October 2nd 2023), the closing date (October 23rd 2023), and details about the application process, such as the availability of an online application form and the presence of an Open Night on September 28th.

**GALWAY**  
EDUCATE TOGETHER SECONDARY SCHOOL

About Us | Admissions | Learning & Teaching | Extra-Curricular | Parents & Guardians

## Enrolment

[f Like](#) [t Tweet](#)

### First Year Enrolment 2024/25

First Year Enrolment for the 2024/2025 school year will open on October 2nd 2023

Link to the online application form will be posted on this page.

The closing date will be October 23rd 2023 as per Annual Admissions Notice.

Admissions Policy and Annual Admissions Notice are below.

Any applications received after October 23rd 2023 are considered as Late Applications and will be added to waiting list.

**Open Night** is on September 28th. No need to book. Details below.



# OUR OPEN EVENING

- Visit our learning spaces and our practical rooms and learn about our school
- Activities for the students in each room
- Take part in the Scavenger Hunt (answers found in our Learning Spaces)
- Chat to the teachers and SSAs
- Meet our wonderful students
- Have tea, coffee or hot chocolate (don't forget to dispose of your cup in the compost bin!)
- You don't have to go in any order
- If you find that a room is full just move on and come back
- Ask if you can't find something!

Keep up to date and see what life is like in GETSS – Follow us!

## *Social Media*

 [www.galwayetss.ie](http://www.galwayetss.ie)

 @galwayetss

 Galway Educate Together  
Secondary School

 @galwayetss

