

New Beginnings

A Student's Guide to Navigating
1st Year at GETSS

GALWAY 

EDUCATE TOGETHER SECONDARY SCHOOL

Welcome

This is a very exciting and busy time as you start on the newest chapter of your life. The information in this booklet should help you to manage your transition into post primary school. Starting secondary school might not always be easy, but it will be such a worthwhile and important time of growth and development in your life. Learn as much as you can, work hard, and try your very best to enjoy every moment.

This is a 'Transition booklet' and you can use it both at school and at home. It will hopefully explain a lot about secondary school and answer some of your questions as well as help to prepare you for all the exciting changes ahead.



Welcome

Our school is in Galway City Centre



Our School



School Gym



Yard



Welcome



Classroom



Music Room



Art Room



Science Lab



Tech Room



Home Economics Room



Finding Your Way



There are lots of way to get to your new school:

- Car



- School Bus



- Cycling



- Walking



- Public Bus



The School Day



Our school day at Galway Educate Together Secondary School starts at 8.30am. On Mondays and Wednesdays we finish at 3.40pm. On Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, school finishes at 2.30pm. Each class lasts for 1 hour, except for tutor which is 15 minutes each morning. We take a 15 minute break at 10.45am and a longer lunch break at 1pm for 30 minutes. You will have a slightly longer lunchtime of 40 minutes on a Monday and Wednesday.

Duration	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
15 mins	Tutor	Tutor	Tutor	Tutor	Tutor
1 hour	Class 1	Class 1	Class 1	Class 1	Class 1
1 hour	Class 2	Class 2	Class 2	Class 2	Class 2
15 mins	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
1 hour	Class 3	Class 3	Class 3	Class 3	Class 3
1 hour	Class 4	Class 4	Class 4	Class 4	Class 4
30/40 mins	Lunch (40 mins)	Lunch (30 mins)	Lunch (40 mins)	Lunch (30 mins)	Lunch (30 mins)
1 hour	Class 5	Class 5	Class 5	Class 5	Class 5
1 hour	Class 6	Clubs	Class 6	Clubs	

The School Day



Your Timetable

You will be given a timetable, this will tell you what **ROOM** you are to be in and at what **TIME**, what **SUBJECT** you have and what **TEACHER** you will also have. There will be no need to stress or worry because once you get to know the rooms and teachers the timetable will always let you know where you have to be!

	Tutor	1	2	3	4	5	6
							
Monday	8.30 – 8.45	8.45- 9.45	9.45- 10.45	11.00- 12.00	12.00- 13.00	13.40- 14.40	14.40- 15.40
	TUTOR	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER
Tuesday	8.30 – 8.45	8.45- 9.45	9.45- 10.45	11.00- 12.00	12.00- 13.00	13.30- 14.30	
	TUTOR	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	
Wednesday	8.30 – 8.45	8.45- 9.45	9.45- 10.45	11.00- 12.00	12.00- 13.00	13.40- 14.40	14.40 - 15.40
	TUTOR	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER
Thursday	8.30 – 8.45	8.45- 9.45	9.45- 10.45	11.00- 12.00	12.00- 13.00	13.30- 14.30	
	TUTOR	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	
Friday	8.30 – 8.45	8.45- 9.45	9.45- 10.45	11.00- 12.00	12.00- 13.00	13.30- 14.30	
	TUTOR	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT ROOM NO. TEACHER	SUBJECT TEACHER ROOM	

Your Learning



Core Subjects

In Galway Educate Together Secondary School Students we have six core subjects which they are required to take:

- English
- Gaelige
- Maths
- Science
- French/Spanish
- History

All students will also take:

- CSPE
- Physical Education
- SPHE
- Ethical Education



Short Courses

All students at GETSS will also have the opportunity to experience other short courses. These may include:

- Coding
- Artistic Performance

Your Learning



1st Year Taster Programme (Option Subjects)

Before Halloween you get to try out each option subject for a few classes to see which ones you like. After Halloween you choose which 2 you want to continue learning. They are:

Applied Technology: Learn about the technical world and how to build things using various materials and machines.

Business Studies: Gives you a better understanding of the world of work and encourages you to think about how/why people start up in business.

Geography: helps you to develop the knowledge and skills you need to explore and understand the world around you.

Technical Graphics: Learn how drawing is used to help understand and create the world around you. Develop creativity, spatial ability and understanding of abstract and applied geometric drawing, to draw plans of everything from a bolt to a building.

Home Economics: Learn about being environmentally conscious, sustainable and responsible, while developing practical food and health skills.

Music: help to build upon self-expression, self-esteem and imagination through music. You will develop the music literacy, critical skills and language necessary to engage in music today.

Visual Art: Learning creativity, imagination and self confidence by working practically in the areas of art craft and design.

In School Supports



It can be scary when moving on to a new school, there is a new building to find your way around, new students and staff too.

Just remember to have fun with your new experience!!



Your school has a whole host of people who are trained to help and support you through whatever happens on your journey through post primary.

You can come to any of the staff, at any time, if you need help or would like to talk about something that is worrying you.

In School Supports



Here is a quick introduction to the friendly faces of the staff that we currently have here at GETSS:



Sarah



Sinéad



Ann-Marie



Clodagh



Peadar



Nora



James



Martina



Noreen



Tara



Martin



John

In School Supports



Here is quick introduction to the friendly faces of the staff that we currently have here at GETSS:



Michelle



Jill



Gary



Gabrielle



Esther



Karin



Richard



Sharon



Scan the QR code to find out more about our team.



In School Supports



Here is a quick introduction to the friendly faces of the staff that we currently have here at GETSS:



Getting Organised!

- In post primary school you will use different equipment in different classes.
- Check your timetable every evening and put in the equipment and copies you will need for classes the next day.
- When you feel organised the night before you will feel less stressed the next day trying to remember what you need!!

Your Bag

When coming to school every day, in your bag you should have:

- iPad
- Journal
- Copies for today's classes
- Equipment for today's classes
- Pencil Case
- Lunch box



Getting Organised!



Your Pencil Case

- In post primary school you are responsible for your own pencil case and equipment.
- You should label all your belonging with you name on them in case you leave them behind you.

In your pencil case you should have:

- Pens
- Pencil
- Eraser
- Ruler
- Calculator
- Maths Set
- Earphones
- Glue
- Small scissors



Ready to Learn!




Preparing for class

- Get out my iPad, Copies and Pencil Case
- Take off my hat
- Pull down my Hood
- Put my coat on back of the chair



ARE YOU READY TO LEARN?





Top tips
from students!

Make a home
learning schedule
to stay on track

Put a copy of
your timetable on
your bedroom
wall

Don't be afraid
to ask for help
if you need it.

Be respectful
to everyone and
try your best

Get a good
night's sleep
every night

Make sure you
fully charge your
iPad every night

Don't rush when
picking your
option subjects

Write important
notes and dates in
your journal.

Don't stress and
try to make as
many friends as
possible.

Try to earn as
many house
points as you
can