



DUNDONALD HIGH SCHOOL **PROSPECTUS**

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**DUNDONALD
HIGH SCHOOL**



WELCOME TO DUNDONALD HIGH SCHOOL

As Principal and past pupil of Dundonald High School, I am delighted to report that we are a school on the move, a school that is driven to achieving excellence in all areas of the curriculum, and indeed, all aspects of your child's life.

We are a truly caring school at the heart of the community. We produce well rounded, multi-talented young people who are an asset to our society, contributing positively and enriching the skill set that combines to compliment the already talent rich culture that makes our area so special. This school is a centre of high standards, high expectations, high achievers and high values.

Mr K Perry



VALUES

**We value people, learning,
knowledge, wisdom and
enrichment.**

OUR VISION

**To encourage all to be the best
that they can be.**

OUR MISSION

**To encourage all to care and to
succeed.**



MEETING YOUR CHILD'S NEEDS THROUGH OUR SCHOOL ETHOS

The family ethos of our school is very important to all who attend Dundonald High School.

High standards are expected of us all, both pupils and staff.

We embrace difference, value individuality. We are protective of each other and have a culture where it is not acceptable to make others feel out of place or awkward. We respect diversity and good relationships.

We welcome students of all traditions and of all abilities, learning together in an environment where self-worth, experiencing success and mutual respect are highly valued.

We want to support, challenge and inspire your child to be the best they can.



MEETING YOUR CHILD'S NEEDS THROUGH HIGH STANDARDS AND THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

At Dundonald High School we work tirelessly to maintain our excellent exam results and to help every pupil to achieve or exceed their potential.

The time we spend with our pupils is an investment for the future and helps them grow as individuals.

At KS3 pupils are taught in mixed ability classes, according to the most recent educational research, this can increase overall performance for all learners. Pupils are supported and challenged to access interesting and appropriate extension activities.

All classrooms are equipped with interactive whiteboards, allowing teachers to create exciting new resources, link lessons to the internet and develop pupils' ICT skills.

High quality Teaching and Learning is vital in supporting our students make exceptional progress. As a school, all lessons are planned to acknowledge the variety of learning styles our students have to support them in achieving high levels of attainment. Our students are set high expectations and engaged with exciting learning opportunities presented to them.

A wealth of skilled, committed, motivated and experienced staff make this a reality. We review the quality of our teaching and learning annually. Setting aspirational targets for not only our students, but our staff, is core to supporting the academic and pastoral achievements we expect.



MEETING YOUR CHILD'S NEEDS THROUGH A VARIED AND RELEVANT CURRICULUM



The school curriculum allows our pupils to develop knowledge, skills, ideas and values which are essential to enable our young people to become lifelong learners.

All pupils follow a broad and balanced programme. At KS4 a wide variety of academic and vocational subjects are offered meeting your child's individual needs.

KS3

- Art and Design
- Drama
- Employability and Careers
- English
- Geography
- History
- Home Economics
- ICT and Business Studies
- Local and Global Citizenship
- Mathematics
- Music
- Personal Development
- Physical Education
- Religious Education
- Science
- Spanish
- Technology

KS4

- Art
- Business studies
- Child Care
- Child Development
- English
- Geography
- History
- Horticulture
- Hospitality
- ICT
- Carpentry and Joinery
- Mathematics
- Media
- Music
- PAL
- Patisserie
- Performance
- Prince's Trust
- Religious Education
- Science Double Award
- Science OCN
- Spanish
- Sport
- Technology Product design
- Travel and Tourism
- Wellbeing

MEETING YOUR CHILD'S NEEDS THROUGH OUR EXCELLENT PASTORAL CARE SYSTEM

All staff at Dundonald High School have a role to play in the Pastoral Care of our pupils, ensuring the physical and emotional wellbeing and safety of each child. We value the connection and support we have with parents, carers and other agencies who work with our pupils to support them in reaching their potential.

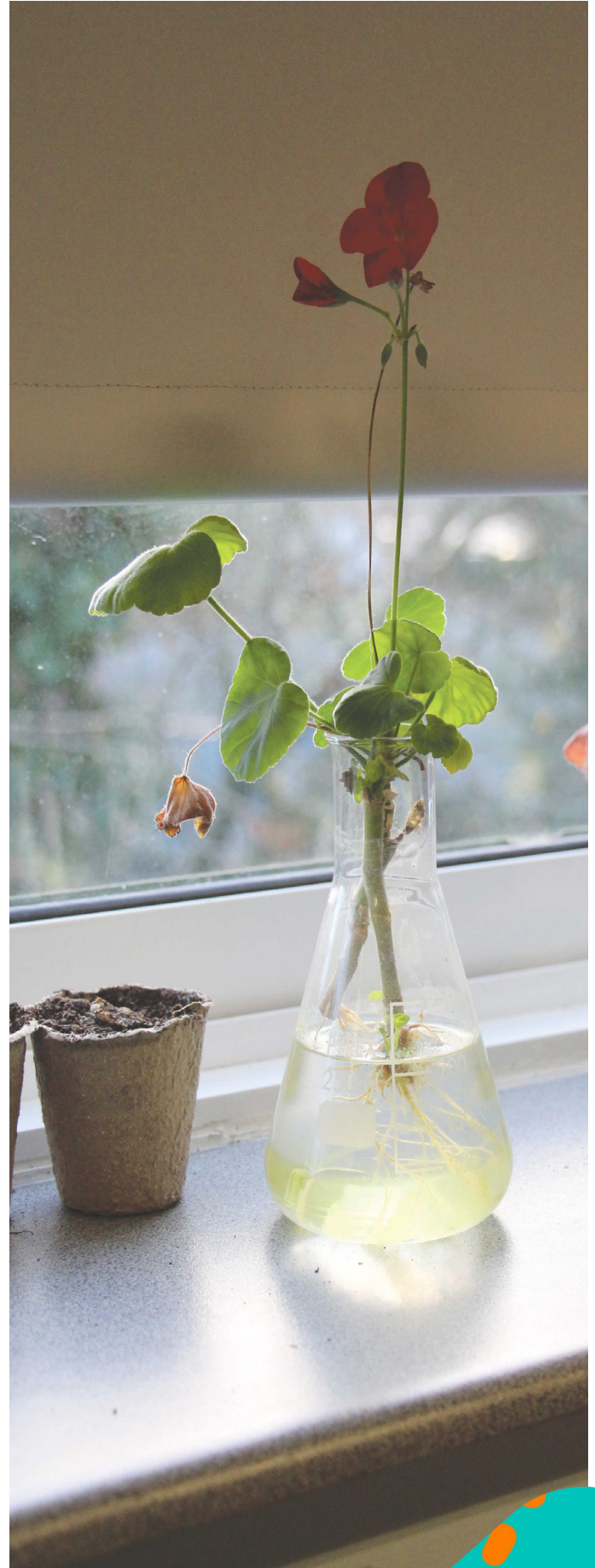
While the form teacher oversees individual progress, welfare and general well-being, they are also supported by the Head of Year who works with pupils when a more intense level of support is required.

Together they work on monitoring attendance, ensuring a high level of academic progress and attainment, implementing the pastoral care programme, promoting wider achievement, modelling positive behaviour for learning within the school community.

This ensures that each child is ready to learn, is achieving, respects all other members of the community, their environment and feel safe in a nurtured and inclusive school community.

We reward achievement and excellence and we recognise every child's hard work and commitment. We celebrate academic success, as well as success outside the classroom. Pupils can achieve positive behaviour points for Attendance, Homework, Behaviour, Uniform, Consistent Effort and for going above and beyond expectations. Pupils are rewarded for their positive achievements throughout the school year.

As part of pastoral care and development of the whole person, a programme of mindfulness is being implemented within school to build resilience and self-care. Mindfulness is the practise of focusing attention on one thing at a time. Every year 8 class is taught Mindfulness which helps them manage concentration, emotional regulation, relationships and anxiety. There are also parent Mindfulness evening classes available.



MEETING YOUR CHILD'S NEEDS THROUGH INDIVIDUAL PROVISION

At Dundonald High School, pupils will benefit from differentiated teaching to support individual needs, where necessary withdrawal groups and additional individual support enables pupils to reach their potential in specific areas of weakness.

ACCELERATED READER PROGRAMME:

Allows pupils to focus on their literacy and reading skills to drastically improve skills in a short time frame.

MATHS SUPPORT:

Focused targeted support for identified pupils in Maths during form time.

DUNDONALD HIGH SCHOOL MLD UNIT:

The unit at Dundonald High School caters for pupils who have a statement of educational needs. Pupils who are awarded a place within the MLD Unit will be part of a class size of a maximum of 14 pupils, the same class teacher remains with pupils for years 8, 9 and 10. Each year group has a classroom assistant who supports pupils in the transition from primary to secondary education.



The assistant also travels with the class group to various practical subject areas and is a familiar face to pupils each day they attend school.

Throughout the week pupils will engage in daily nurture time to allow time to plan for the day, discuss any concerns and prepare for a change in timetable or lessons.

Our weekly assembly also gives pupils the opportunity to meet the rest of the Unit classes and celebrate pupil progress and achievements. Our monthly point system is an incentive for pupils also to encourage positive behaviour and attitudes to others, the reward for the greatest points is breakfast out at a local café.

Each year we hold an achievement morning to celebrate success and showcase pupil talent. This is also an opportunity for parents to meet other parents and chat with teachers and assistants.

To keep the lines of communication open we use the Class Dojo App so parents can receive text messages and information on any changes in the school day and to keep parents informed about school life.

The MLD Unit at Dundonald High School recognises individuality and works hard to help all pupils achieve their goals.



MEETING YOUR CHILD'S NEEDS THROUGH EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES AND THE ARTS

Staff at Dundonald High School commit to delivering a wide range of enrichment sessions and classes that contribute to the life of the school. Enabling our children to experience things outside the normal curriculum.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

- Army cadets
- Astronomy
- Athletics
- Badminton
- Boxing
- Boys football
- Chess / board games
- Choir
- Comic club
- Craft club
- Cross country
- Dance
- Drama
- Drum lessons
- Film club
- Fitness
- Girls' football
- Guitar
- Homework club
- ICT
- News reporters club
- Netball
- Pottery
- Rugby
- Science club
- STEM
- Technology Club
- Trampoline



SPORT:

We have placed a huge emphasis on sport in school and its ability to teach, inspire and drive our young people.

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES:

During the school day we also run many enrichment activities throughout the year to ensure our students have a well-rounded educational experience. These include:

- Young enterprise
- Sentinus STEM
- School trips
- Young leaders
- Inspirational speakers
- Work experience
- Mentoring programmes
- Fundraising for Charities
- School counsellor
- Careers advisors



SCHOOL TRIPS IN RECENT YEARS HAVE INCLUDED:

- Ski trips- Bulgaria
- New York
- Barcelona
- London
- Disneyland Paris
- Poland – Auschwitz



MEETING YOUR CHILD'S NEEDS THROUGH HOME AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

HOME SCHOOL LINKS

The Dundonald High School Facebook page, and website keep our parents, pupils and community informed of life in and out of school.

Visit our website at:
www.dundonaldhigh.co.uk and like our Facebook page.

The PCTA (Parents, Community and Teachers Association) meets regularly and actively makes a positive difference to school life. They run many fundraising and charity events throughout the year.

We have valuable links with:

- Glentoran Football Club
- Ulster Rugby
- NI Bowling Association
- Belfast Giants
- Disability Sport NI
- Dungoyne FC
- Knock Golf Club
- Helping hands for Autism
- Foodbank
- Barn Animal shelter
- Local Churches
- Youth Service NI
- Ballybeen Women's group
- Inspire Business Park
- Local Primary Schools
- Local Businesses
- W5

POLICIES:

The school policies are available from the office on request.









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