



Ballyclare Secondary School

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Principal: Mrs K O Bell BA Adv Cert Ed PQH

25th June 2024

Dear Ballyclare Secondary School families

As we approach the summer holidays, I would like to thank you for all your continued support as we work together as a school community, raising standards and transforming young peoples' lives.

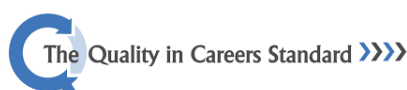
Reflecting on the past school year, we have had another extremely busy one filled with many good times and successes to celebrate, but we've also had times of sadness due to the loss of members of our school community. Despite, all the challenges we have faced, we have continued to work with respect, kindness, compassion and joy.

Our year is ending with wonderful activities and sports day, to be followed by award assemblies filled with pride and celebration of our pupils' accomplishments. We are very proud of all of our pupils and their achievements.

Looking ahead, 2024-2025 is going to be an exciting school year with many activities, opportunities and events to look forward to. Please see below, plans outlining the return arrangements for pupils in August/September 2024. Please note there are no canteen facilities for the August dates, and no bus facilities. Pupils should bring packed lunches as required and transport should be arranged for drop off and collection times.

Arrangements for pupils returning to school in August and September

Year 8	Day 1: Tuesday 27 th August (8:40 – 12:00) Day 2: Wednesday 28 th August (8:40 – 12:00)* Day 3: Thursday 29 th August (8:40 – 14:55) Day 4: Friday 30 th August (8:40 – 12:00)* Day 5: Monday 2 nd September (8:40 – 14:55)* <i>*Selected classes attend Breckenhill – please see Induction Pack for further details</i>
Year 9	Day 1: Monday 2 nd September (8:40 – 14:55)
Year 10	Day 1: Monday 2 nd September (8:40 – 14:55)
Year 11	Day 1: Thursday 29 th August (9:00 – 11:00)* Day 2: Monday 2 nd September (8:40 – 14:55) <i>*Pupils should be accompanied by one parent/carer for Key Stage 4 Information session</i>
Year 12	Day 1: Monday 2 nd September (8:40 – 14:55)
Year 13	Day 1: Wednesday 28 th August (10:00 – 12:00)* Day 2: Thursday 29 th August (8:40 – 14:55) Day 3: Monday 2 nd September (8:40 – 14:55) <i>*Pupils should be accompanied by parent/carer for Key Stage 5 Information session</i>
Year 14	Day 1: Friday 30 th August (8:40 – 14:55) Day 2: Monday 2 nd September (8:40 – 14:55)



GCSE and A-Level Results

A Level (GCE) Results on Thursday 15th August from 9am.

GCSE Results on Thursday 22nd August. Year 12 results from 9am and Year 11 results from 10am.

Summer Information & Reminders

If you need to contact the school regarding anything over the summer holiday, please send an email to info@ballyclaresec.ballyclare.ni.sch.uk outlining a brief summary and your contact details.

Information will be sent at the beginning of August regarding the parental voluntary contribution.

Ballyclare Secondary School pupils wear their uniform with pride. Maintaining a very high standard of uniform is only possible with your ongoing support, for which we are grateful. Please check our uniform policy on our school website very carefully before purchasing any new uniform for your young person over the summer break. I respectfully remind you that facial piercings are not permitted and our school skirts are to be worn at knee-length.

A special thanks to you, the parents and carers who have contributed to this school year in so many ways. Thank you for the partnership between home and school, which is so important.

Before I say the final farewell, there are some special farewells that we would like to acknowledge. The following teaching members of staff are leaving to join another school or take on a new challenge: Mr McAllister (Science teacher); Mrs Egan (ICT teacher); Miss Drysdale (Art teacher); Mr Martin (History teacher) and Mr Ney (History teacher). They have given of so much to our school community, of which we are so thankful for. We wish them all the best in their next position.

I must also inform you of Miss Miniss' appointment to the post of Vice Principal at Craigavon Senior High. Miss Miniss will be with us for the start of the new academic year, but will finish with us on 10th October 2024. Congratulations to Miss Miniss on her new job role, our loss is certainly Craigavon Senior High School's gain.

Have a safe and fun-filled summer.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back in August/September.

Best wishes,



Wendy Shingleton (Mrs)
Acting Principal

