



# Grange Community College First Year Information 2024



## Junior Cycle

### 1<sup>st</sup> Year Subjects 2024

#### Core Subjects:

Gaeilge  
English  
Mathematics  
Science  
History  
Geography  
Coding  
Religious Education (RE)/IMBV  
Physical Education (PE)  
Civic, Social and Political Education (CSPE)  
Social, Personal and Health Education (SPHE)

Students are to choose two **optional subjects** to study along with the core subjects. The optional subjects are:

Visual Art  
Business Studies  
Home Economics  
Graphics  
Engineering  
Music  
Technology  
Wood Technology  
Students choose one Modern Foreign Language:  
Spanish, French or German  
Note: We will offer as many subjects as is possible. However, not all of these subjects will be offered. The school will notify parents and incoming students of their subjects in May.

## Uniform, Books and Other Costs

### Uniform

- Grey Jumper with Crest (O'Farrell School Wear, Portmarnock)  
Cost €37.95 – 43.95 approx  
Grey skirt & long grey socks / grey trousers, white shirt, all black shoes/runners (all available from your local chain clothes shop (e.g. Dunnes, Tesco, Penneys, etc.)
- PE – GCC Crested - Half Zip, training top and tracksuit bottoms/leggings (O'Farrell School Wear, Portmarnock).
- Students may wear their own jacket.

**Book Rental:** A book rental scheme operates in the school. All junior cycle students should avail of this. A booklist will be posted to you which details items covered and not covered by the scheme.

Cost of Book Rental Scheme (over 3 years):

- 1<sup>st</sup> Year - €140
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Year - approx. €100
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Year - approx. €80 (This now includes exam papers too)

Administration and Materials Cost: €30

**Insurance:** We offer optional insurance for students (covers 24-hours & 365 days a year)

Cost: €13 approx (Optional)

**Breakfast:** We offer students a free Breakfast Club, where they can sit in the canteen and enjoy tea, toast and cereal served from 8:15 am – 8:45 am daily.

**Lunch:** Our canteen offers a variety of meals. Orders must be placed online. Cost is subsidised by the school. Lunches cost approx. €1.60

### Uniform, Books and Other Costs Continued (Timetable)

**Journal:** A journal must be purchased at the start of each year, by all students. Their homework, any reminders and timetable are recorded in it. We ask parents to check the journal regularly for homework and teacher comments and discuss these with your son or daughter. If you see something in the journal that you would like more information on, email the school office and it will be forwarded to the teacher or class tutor. They will phone you when they are available.

Cost: €15

**Lockers:** 1<sup>st</sup> Year lockers are in their base classrooms. €20

Other costs: School bag, stationery and copies.

All payments are made through our online payments system (link found at [www.grangecc.com](http://www.grangecc.com)). You will be notified when payments can be made in March.

**Timetable:** Mon-Wed 8.48am-3.40pm, Thurs 8.48am-2.45pm, Friday 8.48am-1.10pm

All classes are 1 hour long. Break 11-11.10am. Lunch 1.10-1.45pm

### VShare

**VShare** is our administration platform which handles all core school data including attendance and assessment reports(eg November and Summer Reports). This is also the main way for the school to communicate with parents and for parents to communicate with school. If you wish to tell the class tutor about appointments or explain absences from school, you should do this through VShare.

### Social media and Website

You will find the most up to date school information and news on our website [www.grangecc.com](http://www.grangecc.com) and social media platforms on Instagram and Facebook.

### Helping with the Transfer to Secondary School

Starting secondary education is an exciting time for families. There are many changes to the routine that was used for primary school. Being aware of these changes and the way the school works will help you to help your son or daughter transfer to Grange Community College. Plan to spend some extra time with him/her during the first weeks and help them to talk about any worries they might have. These can usually be solved with ease. For your child to get the best from secondary school it is vital that we have a successful two-way communication system. The school communicates with parents in traditional ways such as journal, texts, letters home via student, phone, parent-teacher meetings, reports, etc. Please ensure that we always have the most up-to-date contact information for you and please get in touch if there are issues.

### Organisation

For many students, a challenging part of first year is becoming more organised and independent.

Parents can help with this by reminding and encouraging them to:

- ✓ Look at the daily timetable and check what is needed for the next school day.
- ✓ Pack school bag the night before.
- ✓ Organise extras such as PE gear or ingredients for Home Economics.
- ✓ Get up in plenty of time and eat a good breakfast before leaving for school
- ✓ Arrive at school before their registration period (8:48 am) so they have time to use their locker.
- ✓ Ask for extra help and accept this help if they need it.
- ✓ Talk to their class tutor, teachers or other support staff if they have any worries.
- ✓ Join clubs and participate in extra-curricular activities.
- ✓ Get an appropriate amount of sleep (recommended 8 hours)

### Parents Association

The **Parents Association** represents parents within the school. Parents are warmly encouraged to join this association. New parents will be invited, by text, to the first AGM of the school year.