

Pastoral...Sports... Leadership...  
**Specialist...**

Partnerships  
Catholic Vincentian  
**Excellence through Caring**  
Comprehensive



*"Through the work of this school, we have all been educated in the triumph of faith in the giftedness of the individual, particularly when you are able to grow in a supportive and affirming environment and have the gift of inspirational teachers".*

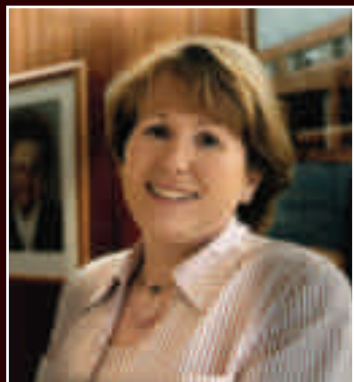
**President Mary McAleese**



**ST LOUISE'S**  
COMPREHENSIVE COLLEGE



A SPECIALIST COLLEGE



### Dear Parents

It is with a great sense of pride that we, the Board of Governors, the Principal, the staff and pupils, have tried to capture the spirit of Saint Louise's in words and photographs in our new prospectus. For nearly fifty years Saint Louise's Comprehensive

College has been a beacon of excellence in which every young person is liberated to achieve her full potential in a Catholic, Vincentian, Comprehensive value system. Indeed we have been the recipient of many awards in education including the Jerwood Award for Excellence in Education and the Schools Curriculum Award on three occasions. As recently as March 2006 we were in the privileged position of becoming one of the first Specialist Colleges in Northern Ireland. This status is awarded to schools which are centres of excellence and expertise in particular areas of the curriculum. We are very excited about the opportunities Specialism in Performing Arts offers our pupils in terms of high quality learning and teaching, improved accommodation, engaging enrichment opportunities and valuable links with business partners and the local community. In Saint Louise's we are passionate about equal opportunities for all our young people in a community where justice and caring walk hand in hand. The outstanding successes of our pupils in all walks of life are a tribute to our just value system in which every young person is encouraged to achieve her personal best.

We face the future with tremendous hope because we are one of the few schools that can already offer the full range of general and applied courses required by Government. In Saint Louise's you can be confident that your daughter will have access to high-quality pathways which will lead to future success in third level education or the world of work. Saint Louise's, however, is about much more than qualifications. As a Catholic, Vincentian

school whose motto is 'excellence through caring' we strive to ensure that each student is valued and appreciates her own dignity and worth as a person and respects others. Thus we work very hard to develop the interpersonal and intrapersonal skills as well as the spiritual and moral values essential to growth as a young Catholic woman and future leader in society.

We are very proud of our girls who grow in wisdom and knowledge under the direction and inspiration of a talented and dedicated staff. It is in this spirit of mutual collaboration that we invite you, the parents, to become equal partners with us over the next seven years. It would, indeed, be a privilege to welcome your daughter in September and to provide her with an outstanding education in which she can achieve her full potential.

I reiterate that Saint Louise's has always been at the forefront of education in Northern Ireland. We are confident that specialist status will allow us to continue to ensure that your daughters will develop the knowledge, skills and personal qualities needed to succeed in the twenty first century.

I trust that you will find our new prospectus informative and if you require further information please feel free to contact us by telephone, email or visit our website.

I extend my best wishes for your daughter's future success and happiness.

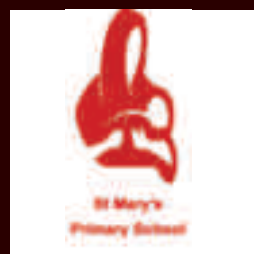
Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. McCartan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Carmel McCartan**  
**Principal**

St Louise's pupils come from these primary schools





St Louise's welcomes pupils from all primary schools

## MISSION STATEMENT

“In partnership with parents, guardians, staff, governors and pupils, Saint Louise’s promotes excellence in teaching and learning in a Catholic, Vincentian, Comprehensive ethos”.

### WE BELIEVE:

- That every person is made in the image of God
- That every pupil deserves the best quality education and pastoral care that we can provide
- In all-ability schools based on justice and equality for all young people
- That every child has gifts which we must nurture and develop in partnership with the home
- In service to the less advantaged
- In supporting all our pupils, in an inclusive, Catholic community so that they have a sense of belonging and being valued
- In lifelong learning

*“The model of inclusive, Catholic, Comprehensive education that you practise clearly runs through every aspect of school life to secure the best interests of your pupils.”*

**Adviser to the Prime Minister, Patrick Diamond**





**WE:**

- Respect the dignity and potential of every human being
- Promote an ethos of caring and service
- Promote the need for a more just and caring society
- Cater for the individual needs of every girl
- Encourage our girls to follow in the steps of great women of faith
- Promote in our girls a desire to play a full role in the society of the twenty first century
- Promote links with other traditions
- Reject the present selective system and look forward to a more just education system for all our young people
- Meet twice a week for a communal act of worship



**WE PROVIDE:**

- Engaging lessons which follow an Accelerated Learning Cycle
- High-quality assessment in line with our Assessment for Learning policy
- The Entitlement Curriculum
- High-quality learning environments in every room
- Compassionate pastoral care
- Warm, caring relationships throughout the school
- A climate of good order in which every pupil can be safe and succeed
- An extremely rich extra-curricular programme

## EXCELLENCE ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

St Louise's is now a Specialist College in Performing Arts. This status is awarded to schools that have been recognised as centres of excellence and expertise in particular areas. Specialism enables us to use the expertise of our staff, our local schools, and community and business partners in providing creative and enjoyable learning opportunities for all our pupils as we prepare them to be active citizens in the 21st century.

*"Specialist Status will make a real difference not only to the Performing Arts departments but to all academic and vocational subjects across the curriculum. It will focus on areas of expertise within Performing Arts and benefit partner schools in sharing the knowledge and skills of these subjects."*

**Education Minister, Angela Smith**



Specialist status is awarded to schools which are centres of excellence in teaching and learning.

We will continue to promote excellence in all subjects using the strengths in Performing Arts to support and nurture whole school development.

There are many benefits for our pupils including:

- High quality teaching and learning in all subjects
- New and interesting courses resourced through Specialism
- Extended opportunities through extra- curricular provision
- Additional resources for learning





## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

One of the most exciting developments that Specialism has facilitated is the relationship that has flourished between our pupils and our Specialist partners.

We have established innovative partnerships with over ten other schools from both the primary and post primary sector. In addition we have an outstanding partnership with a North and West Belfast Trust Drama group catering for young adults with learning difficulties. Furthermore we have strong links with local businesses including Bombardier, Lagan Group and Calvert Technology.

Our pupils are enriched by the life skills which these partnerships bring.



*“Our partnership is a wonderful opportunity to promote integration through Drama. Our adults feel very much a part of St Louise’s and working here has helped to develop their skills and to feel valued as individuals”.*

**North and West Trust Drama Leader,  
Briege Hawkins**



## CHILD CENTRED PASTORAL SUPPORT

Pastoral care in Saint Louise's permeates all aspects of school life and contributes to the creation of a supportive atmosphere for staff and students. We are a happy, safe, caring community in which:

- Each pupil is valued equally
- Each person is respected
- Everyone can achieve her full potential
- The climate is challenging and supportive
- Effort and success are celebrated
- Excellence is promoted
- Each individual is nurtured and developed as a future citizen

*"I would like to congratulate you on the work that is being done and the tremendous atmosphere which is obvious as one moves around the school".*

**Police Ombudsman NI, Nuala O' Loan**





**WE PROVIDE:**

**High Levels of Individual Support**

- A form tutor/mentor who knows and supports each individual student in order to meet her needs and aspirations
- A Senior Leader in each year group who looks after the academic and emotional well-being of each student in the year group
- A Counsellor supporting students who may encounter problems with attendance, punctuality, behaviour, relationships or issues in their personal lives
- Learning mentors (Buddies/Guardian Angels) who support each individual and provide a listening ear

**Quality Programmes**

- A well-structured Induction programme
- Effective Anti-Bullying, Drugs, Health Education and Child Protection Policies
- A well structured Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE) Programme
- A new Learning for Life and Work Programme

**In addition we:**

- Have a reward system which promotes positive behaviour, punctuality, attendance and effort
- Provide regular information about school activities, academic progress and pathways
- Have a strong and successful partnership between home and school with regular Parents' Meetings



## MENTORING

Sixth Form Mentors help younger pupils:

- To achieve more at school
- To build confidence, motivation and aspirations

The mentor:

- Provides a role model
- Provides opportunities to talk about home learning, revision and subject progress
- Encourages good attendance and punctuality
- Helps pupils to form happy and caring relationships
- Helps pupils to understand the world of work
- Introduces pupils to higher education



## THE SCHOOL COUNCIL

- Is a platform for pupils from all year groups to bring issues of concern to the attention of the Senior Management Team
- Pupil representatives meet with the President of the School Council twice a month
- Issues are referred to the Senior Management Team and mutually beneficial decisions reached
- Feedback is given by representatives at Year Assemblies
- The Senior Management Team may, from time to time, request the School Council to undertake research among the pupil body on particular issues
- Pupils work together, with help from a staff member, to improve school life using pupils' ideas





## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

St Louise's offers many opportunities for student leadership. They include:

- Head Girls
- Student Counsellors
- House Captains
- Monitors
- Debating
- Sport/Music/Drama
- Clubs and Societies
- Mentors
- Prefects and Leaders

Student leadership is a great way for students to learn to lead, contribute their ideas and skills, to feel involved and to have fun!



*"The Minister very much enjoyed answering the questions of the Sixth Formers and was very impressed by their knowledge and understanding of international issues".*

**MP Sally Keeble**



## LEADING LEARNING KS3

In St Louise's we provide a wide variety of learning experiences for our pupils which foster enquiry and independent learning. With a long tradition of academic excellence courses are designed with the needs of the pupils in mind.

Recognised as one of Northern Ireland's leading schools, St Louise's is in the privileged position of being invited into a number of pilot studies and initiatives at KS3, GCSE and Advanced Levels.

Expectations and aspirations are high in St Louise's. Baseline testing at both KS3 (Midysis) and KS4 (Yellis) provides information to monitor pupil progress. On-going student review helps pupils to set targets for improvement. This data creates the opportunity to engage in high quality learning conversations with the pupils, their parents and staff.

**In a recent Baseline Inspection the Inspectors stated:**

*"Relationships between teachers and pupils are very positive. There is positive classroom management where pupils self esteem is developed in a supportive yet challenging environment"*.

*"Pupils have opportunities to experience many different learning activities"*.



### Subjects offered at Key Stage 3 (Year 8,9 & 10)\*

|               |                        |                     |
|---------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Art & Design  | History                | Physical Education  |
| Citizenship   | Home Economics         | Religious Education |
| Drama         | Information Technology | Science             |
| Employability | Irish                  | Spanish             |
| English       | Italian                | Technology & Design |
| French        | Mathematics            |                     |
| Geography     | Music                  |                     |

*\*Subject choices constantly under review*



## LEADING LEARNING KS4

In striving to ensure that our pupils have every available opportunity we have collaborative working arrangements with other schools and institutions which provide our pupils with added experiences and qualifications.

Subject choice is continually expanding as we offer new and exciting opportunities for all our students. A recent development includes Hair and Beauty offering qualifications which are now available in our own purpose built Hair and Beauty centre.



*“ New whole school initiatives on assessment for learning and accelerated learning techniques will promote on going improvement in the quality of teaching and learning across the school”.*

**Baseline Inspection for Specialism**

## Subjects offered at KS4 (Year 11 & 12) \*

St Louise's offers a wide range of subjects at KS4 and is in a strong position to offer the entitlement framework. We offer a broad range of applied (vocational) and general (academic) subjects.

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Additional Maths                   | Information Technology   |
| Art & Design                       | Italian  |
| Business and Communication Systems | Learning for Life and Work   |
| Business Studies                   | Mathematics  |
| Dance                              | Media Studies  |
| Drama                              | Music  |
| English Language                   | Occupational Studies:<br><i>Care, Hair, Beauty &amp; Office Administration</i> |
| English Literature                 | Physical Education   |
| Financial Services                 | Religious Education  |
| French                             | Science  |
| Geography                          | Sociology  |
| Hair and Beauty                    | Spanish  |
| History                            | Sport, Leisure & Tourism   |
| Home Economics                     | Sports Studies   |
| Hospitality                        | Technology & Design  |
| Irish                              |  |

*\*Subject choices constantly under review*

## LEADING LEARNING POST 16

Flexibility is the cornerstone of our Post 16 curriculum provision. This flexibility is achieved by offering a broad range of over 30 subjects, of which at least one third are vocational (applied) subjects.

St Louise's is unique in the range of subjects it offers to pupils of all abilities at Post 16. St Louise's already offers the full entitlement framework at Post 16 level.

The majority of our students return to St Louise's to continue their studies Post 16.

In Performing Arts we offer BTEC qualifications alongside traditional GCSE and A Level courses.

*"Pupils are fully engaged, with learning methodologies translated into practise in the curriculum and also within the Pastoral system".*

**Baseline Inspection for Specialism**

### Vocational Subjects

Other more vocational subjects at Post 16 level are structured into four broad vocational pathways:

|               |                          |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| Care          | Performing Arts          |
| Hair & Beauty | Sport, Leisure & Tourism |

### Other Additional Subjects on offer

Repeat English GCSE  
Repeat Mathematics GCSE  
Audio Typewriting  
BTEC Media Studies  
Computerised Accounts

European Studies  
Expedition Leadership  
(The Award Scheme)  
Japanese Studies

Legal Text Processing  
Sage Accounts  
Word Processing

Occupational Studies:  
- Care  
- Hair & Beauty  
- Office Administration  
- Sport, Leisure & Tourism

### A Level Courses on offer\*

|                       |                         |                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Accounting            | French                  | Moving Image Arts   |
| Art & Design          | Geography               | Music               |
| Biology               | Government and Politics | Physics             |
| Business Studies      | History                 | Politics            |
| Chemistry             | Home Economics          | Religious Education |
| Dance                 | Irish                   | Sociology           |
| Drama/Theatre Studies | Italian                 | Spanish             |
| Economics             | Mathematics             | Sports Studies      |
| English               | Media Studies           | Technology & Design |

*\*Subject choices constantly under review*

### Applied Subjects

|          |     |                        |
|----------|-----|------------------------|
| Business | ICT | Health and Social Care |
|----------|-----|------------------------|

## CAREERS EDUCATION

Careers Education is timetabled for Years 10, 12, 13 and 14.

### WE DO THE FOLLOWING:

- Promote personal career planning
- Encourage non-traditional as well as traditional careers
- Offer individual guidance
- Offer an extensive Work Experience programme
- Prepare students for Higher Education and Employment
- Have strong links with business and industry
- Offer the new Employability Programme in Key Stage 3

In a recent Inspection, the Inspectors commented on:

*"The valuable insights into the world of work provided by the Work Experience Programme".*

*"The good use made of events and visitors to support the Careers Programme".*

*"The good knowledge of possible career pathways shown by the pupils".*



**In St Louise's we believe that extra-curricular activities are essential in creating a well educated student.**

**In total we offer over 30 Clubs and Societies to suit every taste.**



*“Everyone who attended spoke in glowing terms about the excellent performance of the concert, the choirs and the girls from St Louise’s”.*

**Events Co-ordinator, Department of the Environment, Neil Porter**



In the field of the Arts there is the opportunity to join the Art club, the Dance Society or the Drama Club. In Music there are several choirs, instrumental groups and the orchestra to join.

For those interested in sporting activities there are numerous netball, basketball, camogie and football teams. There is an increasingly popular Gymnastic Club and the opportunity to keep fit at the daily fitness sessions in the school's Fitness Suite. Trampolining is also becoming increasingly popular.

If you are interested in caring for the environment there is the chance to join the Science club, the Geography Club or the Greenpeace Society.

For those who like to travel the Modern Languages Department has clubs in French, Spanish, Italian and Irish.

Other clubs include a Junior Reading Club, a Shakespeare Club, a Maths Club and a Technology Club.

There is a Breakfast Club for all Year Groups, every morning.

There is a Marillac Society devoted to visiting the elderly.

Finally for those who love homework (and who doesn't?), there is an After-Hours Learning Club.

In our extra curricular clubs and societies there is something for every one!



## St Louise's offers a 21st Century education for 21st Century students with 21st Century facilities.

### ARTS

As a specialist Arts College we have recently opened our new Dance Studio, refurbished our Drama Suites and added to our extensive Media Suites with the most up to date film production facilities.

### ICT

Each of our classrooms has high speed broadband internet access as well as ICT suites in each department. Interactive whiteboards are also used.

### PE

Our Sports Hall, Gym and Fitness Suite offer modern facilities for the provision of Physical Education and Team Sports.

### TECHNOLOGY

A modern fully equipped Technology block helps students to learn about and to manage ever changing technological developments.

### LIBRARIES AND CAREERS SUITE

The school has 2 libraries and a Careers Suite, all with internet access.



### HAIR AND BEAUTY CENTRE

Those interested in following a career in Hair and Beauty will be delighted to know that St Louise's has now opened its own ultra modern Hair and Beauty Centre.



In addition we have excellent:

- Art Rooms
- ICT Rooms
- Home Economics Rooms
- Science Rooms
- Attractive general subject classrooms



### ORATORY

In the midst of the hurly burly of everyday life in St Louise's the Oratory provides a place for prayer, calmness and quiet. The Oratory is used for the celebration of Mass and for year group, class and individual prayer.



### CANTEEN

Our Senior Canteen has been recently refurbished to the highest standards.

You can learn even more about St Louise's by visiting our website at:

[www.stlouises.org.uk](http://www.stlouises.org.uk)

**ST LOUISE'S COMPREHENSIVE COLLEGE**  
BELFAST

Search St Louise's for:  Go

Home About Us Curriculum Pastoral Care Pupil Work News Past Pupils Contact Us Intranet

**Welcome to St Louise's**

**N. Ireland Schools' Under 15 Trampoline Competition**  
Congratulations to Natasha McDonald (10C) who won 2nd place in the Northern Ireland Schools' Under 15 Trampoline ... [Click Here](#)

**St Louise's Specialist School displays best practice in education**  
St Louise's Specialist College played host to a special delegation from Bosnia and Herzegovina recently ... [Click Here](#)

**Rock Climbing Course - Delamont Outdoor Centre**  
A group of year 12 GCSE Pupils attended Delamont Outdoor Centre in September to complete a Rock Climbing Course at ... [Click Here](#)

**Sound House Studio - Anti-Litter Campaign**  
On Wednesday 12th September, Eanna Green and Treasa O'Garra from 10J went to the Sound House Studio, Hollywood Rd, Tr ... [Click Here](#)

**"Kindertransport" Play - Crescent Arts Centre**  
When "A" Level Drama students performed their play "Kindertransport" in the Crescent Arts Centre on February 2nd 20 ... [Click Here](#)

**St Louise's Rocks to Victory!**  
St Louise's has won the prestigious Northern Open Final of Rock Challenge UK 2006 ... [Click Here](#)

DEO JUPITER INTENTUR

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**A Specialist Arts College**  
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