

Irish

Coláiste na Mí has a major emphasis placed on the Irish Language. We strive to foster the language in each student and allow them to develop a pride in their language and culture. The students address all teachers as Iníon and Máistir and greet each other trí mheán na Gaeilge. Cross curricular links are evident in many subjects including history, geography, music, modern foreign languages and extra curricular activities. Students are encouraged to improve their level of Irish through watching Irish programmes on TG4, downloading apps such as teanglann and duolingo, attending an Irish summer college and by getting to know Irish words and phrases on signs, CDs and books. Gaelgeoir na míosa is awarded as part of each Irish class for the student who makes the best effort in the subject throughout the month in order to encourage students to improve their level of Irish.

Junior Cycle: there are three strands:

- Communicative competence
- Learner's self- awareness and language
- Cultural awareness



Through first to third year, students study a variety of short films, short stories, poetry, songs, dramas and a novel at higher level. The course is made up of two classroom based assessments (CBAs), an assessment task worth 10% and the final exam worth 90%. CBA 1 is a language portfolio. CBA 2 is a communicative task.

Transition Year: Irish is studied at a common level. Students are encouraged to use this year to work hard on their oral Irish skills as this is worth 40% of their Leaving Certificate mark however written, aural and oral strands of the Leaving Certificate Course are covered throughout the year.

Senior Cycle: all four skills are examined: listening, reading, writing and speaking with significant emphasis put on spoken Irish. Students study five poems and five prose with a focus on understanding and analysing. At higher level, students also study a drama and write essays on current affairs whereas at ordinary level, students study writing blogs, short stories, emails and letters.



Seachtain na Gaeilge: takes place in March each year and is a major event on the calendar. We have a fun filled amchlár for the students to improve and cherish their language through games, ceol, tráth na gceist, art, céilithe, and ceoldráma.

Gaeltacht: The Irish Department has strong connections to Gaeltachts in Connemara, The Aran Islands and Donegal. In recent years, we have been fortunate enough to be awarded funding from LMETB in order to facilitate students travelling to the Gaeltacht during their summer break.

Gaelbharrtach: is a scheme which supports and encourages schools in their efforts to promote the Irish language.