



CISTERCIAN COLLEGE ROSCREA

COLLEGE ETHOS AND EDUCATIONAL POLICY

Cistercian College Roscrea is a Catholic boarding school, managed by a Board of Governors, on behalf of the Abbot, Community and Trustees of Mount Saint Joseph Abbey, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary.

As a Catholic school, the College seeks to reflect a distinctive vision of life and a corresponding philosophy of education. All staff members support and imbibe this spirit through their everyday practice. This educational philosophy is marked by tolerance and inclusiveness, and acknowledges and values other traditions. It respects the beliefs of people of other faiths and of those without faith, while remaining true to its own distinctive ethos.

A central part of life at the College involves prayer, spiritual guidance and religious observance. This follows on from the Benedictine/Cistercian tradition that each day is to be marked by work, study and prayer. In all its activities, the College aims to give students a vibrant world view that informs all other areas of life and benefits the whole of society.

The College aims to provide a full and rounded education for its students, within a framework of spiritual, moral and personal development that is based on Christian and Catholic values. In this, it sees itself in partnership with the parents or guardians of its students.

In addition to the academic curriculum, the College emphasises the values of other activities for the full development of the student's spirituality, personality, social interaction and overall potential. These include a range of sporting activities, debating, music, art, etc.

Enrolment of students by the College is not based solely on tests of academic ability. Students of varying abilities are accepted. The academically gifted are stretched to the best of their capacities, while particular consideration and attention are afforded to those who may be of lesser ability. The academic curriculum offered by the College is as broad as is reasonably possible, and may be adapted, as necessary, to the changing conditions within the society in which students will live and work. While it aims to bring each student to the full academic potential, it does not emphasise the attainment of high examination marks at the expense of the more general development of the student's personal qualities and talents.

The ethos of the College is well expressed in the words of its motto, taken from the 12th century Cistercian poet Alan of Lille:

'Insidet coelis animo sed corpore terris'
'let the mind be in heaven while the body dwells upon the earth.'