

St. Anne's Secondary School – School Profile

St. Anne's Secondary School in Tipperary Town offers a well-rounded, holistic education rooted in the CEIST (Catholic Education, An Irish Schools Trust) ethos. Founded by the Sisters of Mercy over 130 years ago, the school continues to uphold the values of its Mercy heritage, blending academic excellence with a focus on the spiritual, cultural, social, and physical development of its students. This commitment reflects a genuine effort to nurture each student's full potential, preparing them not just for exams, but for life beyond school.

With a high standard of teaching and learning, St. Anne's boasts an impressive academic record. Its curriculum, designed to stay in turn with changing curriculums, allows students to explore various subjects before specialising. The school offers a wide range of subjects at both Junior and Leaving Certificate levels, ensuring that every student can find and pursue her strengths.

The staff, known for their dedication, set high expectations for both behaviour and intellectual development, fostering a positive and motivating learning environment.

In addition to academics, St. Anne's places a strong emphasis on extracurricular activities, offering programs in sports, music, art, and debating, as well as opportunities for leadership and community involvement through initiatives like the Green Schools and Gaisce President's Award. The school is particularly proud of its sporting tradition, with students participating in football, basketball, hockey, and camogie, among other activities. The school collaborates with the local boys secondary school each year performing a musical in the local theatre. These extracurricular activities contribute to the school's holistic approach, promoting teamwork, creativity, and personal growth alongside academic achievement.

St. Anne's is an integral part of the local community, with its students and staff regularly involved in various charitable events and local initiatives. As a Catholic school under the CEIST umbrella, it emphasises compassion, community, and a sense of belonging, fostering a nurturing atmosphere where students can develop both their academic and personal identities. The school's long-standing relationship with the Mercy Sisters and its active role in the community make it a cornerstone of education in Tipperary Town.

St. Anne's offers a well-rounded **Junior Cycle** curriculum, ensuring students receive a broad education while fostering individual talents. Core subjects include **Science**, **Geography**, and languages such as **French** and **German**, providing students with a strong foundation in essential academic disciplines. In addition to these, students can select from a range of optional subjects including **Home Economics**, **Music**, **Business**, and **Art**, allowing them to explore their interests early on. An integral part of the Junior Cycle at St. Anne's is **Wellbeing**, which emphasises both mental and physical health, ensuring students are supported in their overall development. The school also incorporates **Coding** into its curriculum, reflecting the importance of digital literacy in the 21st century.

The **Transition Year (TY)** is an optional but highly popular programme at St. Anne's, with the vast majority of students choosing to participate. TY offers a year rich in experiences, helping students develop life skills and explore career options in a less exam-focused environment. Through various activities, workshops, and trips, students are encouraged to step outside their academic comfort zones and gain valuable life experience.

For senior cycle students, St. Anne's provides flexibility by offering the **Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP)**, the **Leaving Certificate Applied (LCA)**, and the traditional **Leaving Certificate**. The school works closely with the local boys' school to expand subject offerings, giving students access to a broad range of subjects. Senior students can choose from subjects such as **French, German, Art, Business, Accounting, History, Geography, Agricultural Science, Chemistry, Physics, Physical Education, Biology, Music, and Home Economics (Social & Scientific)**

This collaboration ensures that each student has the opportunity to tailor their senior cycle education to their strengths and aspirations, preparing them thoroughly for life beyond secondary school. The focus on providing a comprehensive, well-rounded education makes St. Anne's a leading choice for students in Tipperary.