

**Coláiste Phádraig
Droim Conrach
Baile Átha Cliath 9**

**St Patrick's College
Drumcondra, Dublin 9**



Prospectus 2012-2013



Is coláiste de chuid Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath é Coláiste Phádraig
St Patrick's College is a college of Dublin City University

Getting to St Patrick's College

St Patrick's College is located at Upper Drumcondra Road in the vibrant, bustling heart of Drumcondra, Dublin 9. The campus is a short distance from Dublin City Centre, Dublin Airport, DCU, Croke Park M50 & M1 motorways.

Public Transport

St Patrick's College is serviced by the following buses, stopping outside the College entrance.

3, 11, 11A, 13A, 16, 16A, 33, 41, 41A, 41B to and from the city centre

Cycle

Bicycle lock up areas are available on campus grounds.

By Train

Drumcondra Train Station is located 5 minutes walk from the College and is serviced by trains from Maynooth via Leixlip, Castleknock, Coolmine and Ashtown areas

Bus Éireann

Number 100x - Dundalk, Drogheda, Dublin City Centre via Drumcondra

Number 101 - Drogheda, Balbriggan, Dublin City Centre via Drumcondra

By Car/Coach

Via M50

Drive through the Westlink toll bridge and continue along the M50 until you reach the Airport/ M1 exit (junction3). Follow directions to City Centre, pass entrance to Port Tunnel, continuing down the Swords Road, past Whitehall church, Collins Ave & Griffith Ave junctions. Pass Skylon Hotel and St Patrick's College main entrance is located beyond the pedestrian lights on the right hand side.

Via M1

Proceed along the M1 past the Dublin airport and follow directions to city centre, pass entrance to port tunnel, continuing down the Swords Road, past Whitehall church, Collins Ave & Griffith Ave Junctions. Pass Skylon Hotel and St Patrick's College main entrance is located beyond the pedestrian lights on the right hand side.

From City Centre

Follow signs for Dublin Airport, which takes you through Drumcondra towards the Swords Road, N1 & M1. Continue past Clonliffe Road, Botanic Ave over the Tolka River. St Patrick's College main entrance is located before pedestrian lights on the left hand side.

All information on buses/trains and directions are correct at time of going to print.

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Welcome



Pauric Travers - President

Welcome to the prospectus of St Patrick's College, Drumcondra. The choice of a college and a college course is one of the most important decisions you will make. It will shape not only the next few years but your future life and career, the friends you make and the person you will become. I hope this prospectus assists you in making that momentous choice.

St Patrick's College is a vibrant and dynamic College, linked to an innovative University, Dublin City University (DCU). Our undergraduate programmes in teacher education (BEd) and in Arts/Humanities (BA) are widely renowned for their high standards. We also offer post-graduate diplomas and degrees up to and including PhD. Summary information on all these programmes is included here. If you would like to know more, please consult our website at www.spd.dcu.ie

Here in St Patrick's College, we aspire to create a learning community in which all students feel comfortable and to which they feel they belong. We affirm the centrality of the student as a core value which is enshrined in a student charter.

The student experience in higher education is more than simply academic. It embraces all aspects of social and cultural life. St Pat's, as it is affectionately known by all students, is a friendly, inclusive place where it is easy to make friends and where the social scene is lively and fulfilling. In partnership with the Students' Union, we strive to provide a social as well as an educational experience which allows students to grow emotionally and intellectually. We are proud of the quality of pastoral care provided and seek to maintain the highest standards in teaching and learning, support services and social, recreational and cultural activities.

Why not come and join us. You won't regret it.

Pauric Travers
President

Pauric Travers - Uachtarán

Fáilte go réamheolaire Choláiste Phádraig, Droim Conrach. An coláiste agus an cúrsa a roghnaíonn tú, sin ceann de na cinntí is tábhachtaí a dhéanfaidh tú go brách. Ní hamháin go mbeidh tionchar ag an gcinneadh sin ar an gcéad cúpla bliain eile atá amach romhat, ach múnlóidh sé do shaol agus do shlí bheatha; an cosán a shiúlfaidh tú feasta, na cairde a dhéanfaidh tú agus an cineál duine a bheidh ionat. Tá súil agam go gcabhróidh an réamheolaire seo leat an rogha sin a dhéanamh.

Coláiste beoga dinimiciúil is ea Coláiste Phádraig, a bhfuil nasc aige le hOllscoil nuálach, Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath (DCU). Tá clú agus cáil ar ár gcúrsaí fochéime san Oideachas le haghaidh Múinteoirí (BEd), sna hEalaíona agus sa Léann Daonna (BA), as ucht an chaighdeán ard a bhaineann leo. Tairgimid dioplómaí iarchéime agus céimeanna suas go leibhéal dochtúireachta (PhD) freisin. Tá achoimre ar na cúrsaí sin go léir ar fáil anseo. Dá mba mhian leat tuilleadh eolais a fháil orthu, téigh go dtí an suíomh idirlín againn www.spd.dcu.ie.

Anseo i gColáiste Phádraig, féachaimid le pobal léinn a chothú, áit a mothaíonn mic léinn ar a suaimhneas agus go bhfuil siad mar chuid de phobal ar leith. Is é an mac léinn croílár an domhain againn agus is don mhac léinn a thugaimid tús áite, faoi mar atá leagtha síos i gcairt na mac léinn.

Níl eispéireas an mhic léinn teoranta don toise acadúil amháin. Baineann sé le gach gné den saol sóisialta agus den saol cultúrtha. Áit chairdiúil, chuimsitheach é Coláiste Phádraig, ar furasta cairde a dhéanamh ann. Tá beocht ag baint leis an áit agus sásamh ag roinnt le saol na mac léinn ann. Féachaimid féin agus Aontas na Mac Léinn le heispéireas sóisialta agus eispéireas oideachasúil a chothú do na mic léinn, áit a mbíonn deis acu fás agus forbairt ó thaobh na mothúchán de agus ó thaobh na hintleachta de.

Táimid bródúil as an aire a thugaimid dár gcuid mac léinn, idir anam is chorp, agus tá sé d'uaimhian againn ardchaighdeán a bhaint amach i dtaca le múineadh agus foghlaim, seirbhísí tacaíochta agus gníomhaíochtaí sóisialta, caitheamh aimsire, agus gníomhaíochtaí cultúrtha.

Tar in éineacht linn. Ní bheidh aiféala ort má thagann.

Pauric Travers
Uachtarán

Welcome

The College

St Patrick's College Drumcondra is located approximately four kilometres north of the centre of Dublin on the main airport road. It is well serviced by buses and trains and is easily accessible by car via the city centre, the M50 or M1.

The College campus is attractively designed, well-equipped and secure. Competitively priced student residences accommodate up to 260 students. In addition to the main College buildings, the campus also includes playing pitches, gymnasium, chapel, primary school, education centre, educational research centre, educational disadvantage centre and a crèche.

Since its foundation in 1875, St Patrick's College has enjoyed a leading position in the education of primary teachers in Ireland. More recently, the work of the College has evolved with the introduction of a BA and the development of postgraduate programmes in education and humanities.

The College has maintained and enhanced its reputation as a provider of quality teacher education while utilising its expertise to introduce a range of education and humanities courses at post-graduate level and to develop humanities programmes aimed at school-leavers and mature second chance learners.

Student numbers have grown in recent years to over 2500. We aim to provide for all our students a friendly supportive learning environment which is educationally and culturally rich and stimulating.

Under an agreement signed in 1993 (revised 2008), the College became a College of Dublin City University. All College courses are accredited by the University and students of the College are students of the University.



Mission Statement

St Patrick's College Drumcondra, a College of Dublin City University, is a Catholic College for the education of primary school teachers. The mission of the College is to enhance its role in teacher education both general and special, to provide degrees in the humanities, to promote academic research and further develop postgraduate studies, while fostering excellence in all its activities.

In pursuit of its mission the College is committed to creating a community of learning in which Catholic religious values and equity are promoted and the centrality of the student maintained. Through its activities the College Community shall view the education of children as paramount, foster the Irish language, cultivate local, national and international awareness and protect and enhance the physical and social environment for students and staff.

Open Day 2011

Open Day provides an opportunity to showcase the College to prospective students and their families. Our Open Day will be held in the College on Saturday 19th November, 2011. Details are forwarded to schools in October. Students and parents are welcome to attend to meet current students and academic staff. For full details go to **www.spd.dcu.ie/openday**



The Cregan Library



The Cregan Library provides staff and students with books and materials as well as ensuring a quiet atmosphere of study. The library has a collection of over 160,000 books covering subjects such as education, science, literature, history, philosophy, theology, psychology and geography. The library holds over 550 journal titles as well as microfiche, and other electronically held information. The library also houses an extensive children's literature section, which is used by our student teachers while out on teaching practice and by students studying children's literature on the masters programme.

A major project to provide an integrated catalogue with DCU was officially launched in 1999 and in the summer of 2002, the library catalogue of Mater Dei Institute was added. The catalogues of the three libraries complement each other and provide a single search point for approximately 400,000 book titles. Staff and students of St Patrick's College also have access to the library in DCU and association with the University means that the library can provide access to a larger range of electronic material.

Cregan Library is a bilingual library and offers services in both English and Irish. The library website is bilingual as is the catalogue. The online bilingual catalogue is available on the website and was the first library catalogue to be provided in both Irish and English.

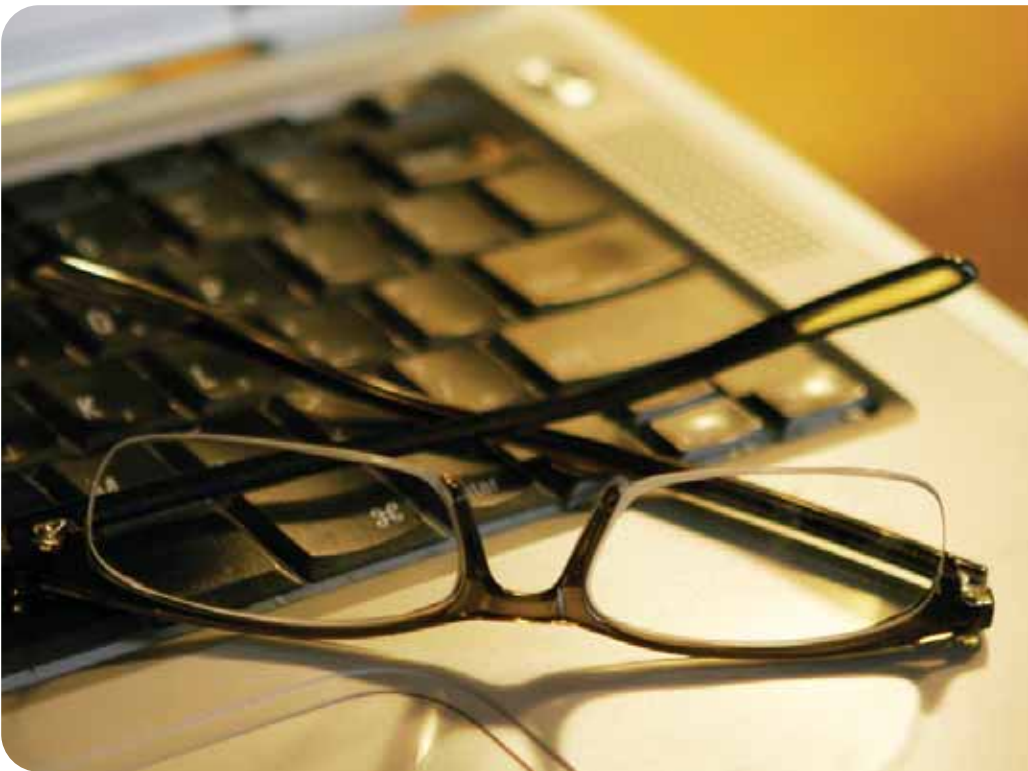
The library has a commitment to customer service and library users can avail of information skills training throughout their College career. This training allows for independent research, which is a skill that will remain with the students throughout their time in St Patrick's College and will serve well beyond in further education and future careers.

The Resource Centre

The Resource Centre is central to college life for a variety of reasons. It was established in 1983 and its original remit was to accumulate a collection of book and non-book materials that relate to all aspects of the primary curriculum.

All students as well as graduates and teachers are welcome to use our facilities. These include several computer terminals with internet access, printers and a scanner. The Centre is a major focus for the production of folders of work throughout the year, when the laminating and binding machines are much appreciated. Some study carrels are equipped for listening or viewing. We have a number of photocopiers including one for colour copying. A range of resources and materials, including discs and stationery, can be purchased in the Centre itself.

Opening hours vary, as they are extended during periods of Teaching Practice and are displayed on the Resource Centre notice board and website.





Students from Non-Traditional Backgrounds / Students with a Disability

The Access Office supports students who may belong to any of the following categories:

Students with disabilities, members of ethnic minorities and traveller groups and all students entering under the HEAR system. For further information on HEAR entry contact us (details below) or see www.accesscollege.ie

If you would like to discuss any aspect of your college career and fall into any of these non-traditional student categories then please contact the office to make an appointment. If you have a

disability that requires any type of support (assistive technologies, lift keys, notetaking) then please contact us, prior to your arrival, and we will liaise with various departments on your behalf. We conduct a needs assessment with every student who registers with the disability service and also administer applications for students with disabilities.

The Access Office, also provides application forms for the Student Assistance Fund. This fund is open to application from all registered students of the College and provides financial assistance to students who may be experiencing particular financial difficulties. We also offer a Grants Information Service that is open to any student experiencing difficulties with their Local Authority Grant.

The Career Service provides guidance and information for students to enable them to understand their career options and interests and to assess career opportunities, to prepare for selection procedures, and to enter employment or further study.

The following services are provided:

- A drop-in advisory service
- Consultations by appointment
Tel 01 884 2280
- Career workshops & psychometric testing
- Information about graduate recruitment and postgraduate study opportunities
- General careers information
- Careers Publications
- Employment and Postgraduate Study Fairs run in conjunction with Graduate Careers Ireland member colleges
- Careers Newsletter (emailed to students and available on the careers website)
- Careers Noticeboards
- Study workshops, organized by the Careers Officer, are run in conjunction with the Student Counselling and Access Services
- Careers website: www.spd.dcu.ie/careers
- The Careers Service is a member of GCI (Graduate Careers Ireland) an all island association of graduate careers services, of AGCAS (UK Graduate Careers Advisory Services) and Fedora (EU Careers Services)



Senior Tutor Service

The role of the Senior Tutor is to ensure that issues affecting students are dealt with in a helpful way, and in the student's best interests. Students at third level often experience difficulties that require a sensitive approach from somebody who is empowered to act on their behalf. These difficulties may be of a personal or academic nature, e.g. bullying, deferrals, or academic appeals.

The Senior Tutor can also provide advice on the best way of getting things done within the College with the least amount of fuss, and can, if needs be, direct students to the proper services. Overall, the Senior Tutor assists students in their relations with the College and provides a point of contact and a source of support and information both on arrival and in times of difficulty. Students are encouraged to visit the Senior Tutor no matter how small the problem may appear to be.

Student Counselling Service



The student counselling service is available to all registered students of the College free of charge. It is a confidential service and its role is to provide students with support in dealing with academic and personal problems that may arise while attending college. Counselling is a helping relationship where you can talk about what is troubling you and explore possible solutions.

The counselling service, in conjunction with the Careers and Access Service also provides group workshops on study skills during each semester. These sessions include the following topics:

- Time Management
- Effective Note-taking
- Effective reading
- Essay Writing
- Examination Preparation
- Stress Management

Chaplaincy

The College Chaplaincy Team welcomes you to St Patrick's College. We offer hospitality to all members of the College community. We see ourselves at the service of students and staff of all faiths and of none: meeting; listening; being around; talking; and nourishing a sense of community that reaches out beyond the college walls.

The Chaplain's office is located near the Chapel where all are welcome to call. The Assistant Chaplain's office is located next to the Quiet Place (C201).

The College Chapel is dedicated to Our Lady - Seat of Wisdom. It was planned to be at the centre of the campus as a reminder of the spiritual life of this Christian community. The Chapel is a place of prayer and quiet reflection, for daily Mass and other acts of worship.

The Quiet Place (C201) is a reflection - prayer room. It provides a setting for silence, reflection and meditation. Many have expressed their appreciation of a space where one can spend some quiet time during the usually hectic day.

The Quiet Place is also available to college groups who would like to hold prayer or scripture services etc.





What is the Students' Union?

The Students' Union is one of the many student services in the College and its primary aim is to support and voice the opinions of the student body in St Pat's. The Union campaigns on behalf of the students within the college, at local level and also at national level. The Students' Union is the chief organiser of student events in the college such as Freshers' week and Rag week and we work closely with all the various clubs and societies in the college.

Who is in the Union?

Every student in St Patrick's College is automatically a member of the Students' Union. The Union itself has three full time people working for the organisation and they include a Student President, a Student Vice President/Welfare Officer and an Administrator. Both the Student President and Student Vice President are elected to their respective positions by the students. There are other Student Union officer positions filled by students in the college that deal with all the various aspects of college life. The Students' Union also have over 70 Class Representatives. The Union is associated with a friendly, down to earth approach and is always there to help with any student matter in the strictest of confidence.

What does the Students' Union provide?

The Students' Union offices are located in the E-block area of the campus. Our three offices provide various services and products. Student matters, be they educational, financial or personal, can be discussed confidentially with the Vice President/Welfare Officer in his/her office. Information about grants can also be obtained from this office. The Students' Union President's office works an open door policy and deals with all student queries.

The Administrator, Bernadette Lawless, sells college merchandise, Bus Eireann Tickets and tickets for the various college social events from her office. Bernadette's office provides information regarding J1 American Visas and off-campus college accommodation.

The Union is a great place to obtain information on a wide range of college subjects and they are there to point you in the right direction should you have a query. For further information on the Students' Union see www.stpatssu.com or visit their facebook page St Pat's Students' Union.

The Social Scene

The Students' Union in St Pat's has a fantastic reputation nationwide for coordinating outstanding social events. The Union organises social events such as Freshers' Week, The Halloween Ball, Christmas Week, Mini Rag Week, Rag Week, Fun Day and The Clubs and Societies Ball. The best advice the SU can give to any incoming student is to get involved in the various social activities, as it is a natural way to meet new friends.

Charity Projects

St Pat's Students' Union plays an active role in various charity projects. Its primary charity is the college Ghana Appeal where funds are raised to help build and resource a new school in the Jasikan region of Ghana. In 2010 over €10,000 was raised and three of our students travelled to Ghana to visit the new school community.

There are other charities within the college that are very active including the St Vincent de Paul Society, which won Society of the Year in 2009 and 2010.



Additional Information:

www.stpatssu.com

Men's and Women's GAA

The GAA club is the largest and most active club in the College and its recent success has contributed to this. There are three men's football teams and three hurling teams, they include a fresher's, an intermediate and a senior team. The hurling teams are joined with Mater Dei College and the senior team participates in the Fitzgibbon Cup. The senior hurling team was unlucky to lose to eventual winners, NUI Galway, in the quarterfinal of the Fitzgibbon Cup in 2010 whilst our senior football team has a proud tradition in the Trench Cup having won 2 All Irelands in past 4 years. There are two ladies' football teams in the College, one intermediate team and one senior. The girls' senior team participates in the highest division of colleges' ladies' football, as also do our one camogie team. Both our senior ladies' football team and our camogie team have achieved successes at the highest level in recent years.

Clubs and Societies Awards

The Clubs and Societies Ball is one of the social highlights in the college calendar. At this event students are rewarded for their outstanding achievements and dedication in participating and leading Clubs and Societies in the College.

Clubs Include:

GAA Soccer, Basketball, Swimming, Rugby, Ultimate Frisbee, Surfing, Aerobics, Circuit Training, Hip Hop and Rounders.

Societies Include:

Drama, SVP, History, English, An Cumann Gaelach, Sign Language, Traditional Music, Choral, Film, Lunch Time Concert, Secret Society, One World Society, Amnesty Society, Political Societies and many more.

The Union places huge emphasis on the importance of being involved in various clubs and societies, as this is where the greatest of friendships will be formed.



IT Support

The use of IT and online resources is an integral part of all programmes, and the College provides a range of IT support for both staff and students. Computers are provided in a number of dedicated computer labs as well as other locations around the campus.

All computer labs provide printing facilities and Internet access. Students can also use their own portable computers in a range of locations, both through wired network connections and wireless networking. The IT Support Desk is located in Room E317, next to the Library.



www.spd.dcu.ie/it

College Creche

Located at 27 Upper Drumcondra Road next to the College, the crèche has a capacity for 25 children of students and staff.

The crèche offers a warm atmosphere within which to place your children. Staff ensure that the needs of the individual child and parents are met. The crèche is open from 7.30 am to 6.15 pm Monday to Friday.

If you are considering placing your child in the crèche, please contact them directly as places are limited and notice must be given to the crèche managers. Contact details phone 01 836 9400 or email thenestcreche@gmail.com.



www.spd.dcu.ie/creche

Mature Students

Who is a mature applicant?

A mature applicant is one who is 23 years of age, or over, on the 1st January of the year of entry in which application is made. There is no upper age limit and our mature students range in age from 23 to 60 plus.

What can you study at St Patrick's College?

Mature applicants can apply to study for a Bachelor of Arts in Humanities or a Bachelor of Education degree. St Patrick's College has become one of the most popular colleges for mature students.

How many places are reserved for mature students?

Approximately 25-30% of places are reserved for mature students on our Humanities degree. The number of places reserved on our BEd programme - usually about 10% - is determined by the Department of Education and Skills.

BA Entry requirements on mature grounds

Mature applicants who make a direct application to the College for entry into the BA do not compete with school leavers in terms of prior academic achievement and points but may have completed a recent course of study, such as one of the university foundation or VTOS courses. Others have no formal qualifications. Work and life experience is taken into consideration.

BEd Entry requirements on mature grounds

Mature BEd applicants applying on mature grounds are required to have a Leaving Certificate (or an approved equivalent) with a minimum of a Grade C3 in three Higher Level subjects and Grade D3 in three other subjects. Essential subjects include a Grade C3 in Higher Level Irish, a C3 in Ordinary Level English or a D3 in Higher Level English and a D3 in Ordinary or Higher level Mathematics. Mature applicants may combine Leaving Certificates to satisfy these requirements. Where mature BEd applicants are due to re-sit Leaving Certificate subjects in order to qualify for mature entry, they may apply for a place in the same year.

How should you apply for admission on mature grounds to our undergraduate degree programmes?

To be considered for entry on mature grounds applicants should apply directly to the College before 2nd April in the year of entry. Application forms are available from mid-February from our Admissions Office or downloaded from www.spd.dcu.ie/matures

Can mature applicants apply through the CAO system?

Mature applicants may also apply through the CAO for entry into our BA and BEd degrees but the normal entry requirements for school leavers (outlined below) will apply. In addition, CAO applicants are offered a place based on their Leaving Certificate points and compete with school entrants for a place. There is no interview for CAO applicants.

BA applicants applying through the CAO require a Leaving Certificate (or an approved equivalent) with a minimum of a Grade C3 in two Higher Level subjects and Grade D3 in four Ordinary or Higher Level subjects (which must include Mathematics and either English or Irish). Mathematics at Foundation Level (or Ordinary Alternative) is accepted as meeting the minimum entry requirements but the College does not award points for this level in Mathematics.

BEd applicants applying through the CAO are required to have a Leaving Certificate (or an approved equivalent) with a minimum of a Grade C3 in three Higher Level subjects and a Grade D3 in three other subjects. Essential subjects are outlined on the previous page in BEd entry on mature grounds.

FETAC Requirements

Students with appropriate FETAC Level 5 qualifications may apply to the BA in Humanities. Please refer to page 31.

How can mature applicants apply?

Mature students may apply directly to the College for both the BA and BEd courses. Mature students must be over 23 years of age or more on 1st January in the year of entry. Application forms are available mid-February and completed application forms should be returned to the College by 2nd April 2012.

How are direct mature applicants selected?

BA in Humanities applicants sit a short written test and interview. Selection of mature students usually takes place mid May. All applicants are contacted within one month of their interview to advise them of the status of their application. Where applicants are sitting exams, the results of these may be sought before coming to a final decision.

Eligible BEd direct mature applicants are interviewed and must also attend for an oral Irish test. Qualified applicants will be placed in order of merit determined by the combined results of their interview and their oral Irish test.



Mature Students

What level of support can you expect as a mature student in St Patrick's College?

In addition to the informal support available to our mature students, formal support is offered through the following schemes:

- **An Induction Programme**
- **Study Workshops**
- **College Crèche**
- **Writing Workshops**
- **A Mature Student Advisory Service**
- **The Mature Student Tutor System**
- **Student Counselling & Careers Services Scheme**



Main Restaurant

Monday to Thursday 8.00 am – 4.30 pm

Friday 8.00 am – 2.30 pm

The main restaurant is the social hub of the college. In the morning, you can enjoy a full Irish breakfast, continental breakfast, fresh fruits, freshly baked confectionery and juices. You can also enjoy coffee and hot chocolate, alongside breakfast tea.

Lunch is available from 12.00 pm and runs until 2.00 pm. Here you have a choice of a varied menu, which includes a traditional dish, an “around the globe” dish, vegetarian and snack options.

Alternatively, we have an extensive salad bar, pre-packed sandwiches (made on the premises), a choice of homemade soups, breads, and dessert. For those who like to create their own menus, there is a baguette bar, which has a wide selection of breads available along with a selection of salads to set you up for the afternoon.

For those studying through lunch break, the afternoon fare continues with hot and cold beverages, freshly baked products, soup of the day and a selection of sandwiches.

The staff in the Dining Room are eager to assist and welcome any feedback or requests.



Java City Coffee Shop

Monday to Thursday 8.00 am – 5.30 pm

Friday 8.00 am – 3.30 pm

Barista freshly made coffee, soups, sandwiches and confectionery in a warm friendly atmosphere.

‘Great place to chill out’

Accommodation



Student Accommodation

The College has residential accommodation for approximately 260 students at a weekly rate of €97 (2011/12).

Incoming first year students seeking on-campus accommodation should see the Admissions Office website for information on how to apply. (www.spd.dcu.ie/admissions)

Each Residence Hall is administered by a Residence Adviser (RA) who lives amongst the students. The RA is responsible to the President for the good conduct, order and harmonious running of the Residence Hall. Residence Advisers, being the duly authorised representatives of the College, may exercise authority in any Residence Hall.

Bedrooms

- Single bed
- Wash-hand basin
- A study desk
- Built-in Wardrobes
- Bookshelves



Each house is equipped with a fully fitted kitchen and Common Room

- Electric Hobs
- Seating Area with Coffee Tables
- Crockery and cutlery
- TV
- Fridge / Freezer
- Microwave oven
- Built-in units



Students' Union Office provides lists of off-campus accommodation in September.

www.spd.dcu.ie/accommodation



Security

The College provides on campus security 24 hours per day, 365 days a year. The security base is located beside the Gymnasium.

A pedestrian gate is operational at the main college entrance and in the interests of the safety and security for all our students, campus access may be restricted within certain hours. Details of campus access are posted on the College notice boards as appropriate.



Student Health Services

A College medical scheme, funded by the College, entitles any student to attend the College medical officers at their surgery.



Banking/Financial Services

AIB Bank provides banking and financial services on campus. An ATM machine is conveniently located within the campus building.



College Location / Bus Guide

The following buses stop outside the College main gates:
Numbers 3, 11, 11A, 13A, 16, 16A, 41, 41A, 41B,
Bus Eireann 100 & 101 & several privately operated bus services.



Train

Drumcondra Train Station is approximately 10 minutes walk from the College.

Route serviced: Dublin - Maynooth - Longford



Bicycle

Bicycle racks are provided in various locations around the campus.



Car

Limited permit parking is available on campus.

Study Abroad

Why study abroad?

Travel broadens the mind and when this is combined with an international education dimension it can widen BEd and BA student career prospects both at home and abroad. At St Patrick's College students can interact with international students from such areas as Europe and the UK, the USA and Japan, and may also spend one semester in partner institutions as part of their degree programmes. An increasing number of students choose to spend a full academic year abroad working towards a named BEd or BA International degree.

What do students say about studying abroad?

"Going to Aberdeen ... was one of the best decisions I've ever made..."
(Ciara Murphy, 2011).

"The platform to travel and experience life outside of Ireland was appealing"
(Seamus O'Brollacháin, Sofia, 2011).

"I was searching for something different, something new and outside of my comfort zone ..." (Marie-Therese Duffy, IUFM, University of Paris, 2011).

"I decided to spend a semester at UNC Colorado. ... I got great experience as I was teaching immigrant children from Mexico whose first language was Spanish. I currently work as a language support teacher in Dublin and find the Colorado experience very beneficial" (Siobhan Donnelly, 2011).

"I have discovered Eastern Europe. I am studying in ... Bulgaria. I really wanted the chance to travel and there is no better opportunity to do so than Erasmus. I wanted to be more independent and rely on myself for a change and without doubt I have achieved that..." (Aishling Kelly, 2011).

The above quotations are taken from the College International Affairs Newsletter available at: www.spd.dcu.ie/international

Questions often asked

Do I need to be fluent in a foreign language in order to study abroad? The answer is no, as partner institutions often facilitate non-native speakers.

How is this funded?

Some funding is available for students studying in the EU. However students must be self funding if studying in USA.

What partner institutions can you go to?

St Patrick's College has links with colleges in:

Europe: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Hungary, Lithuania, Northern Ireland, Norway, Poland, Scotland, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. For students going to a college in Europe that has an Erasmus University Charter, they receive an Erasmus grant to cover a significant amount of expenses.

USA: College linkages include Boston - Merrimack College, Colorado - University of Northern Colorado, California - Chico College, and the University of Mississippi.

Japan: Our main link here is at Baiko Gakuin University.

How can you avail of such opportunities?

Information and application procedures are available from the College International Affairs Office.

Email: Internationalaffairs@spd.dcu.ie Phone: + 353 1 884 2214



Bachelor of Education

Programme Overview

The Bachelor of Education degree is an honours level 8 programme which qualifies students to teach in primary schools. From 2012, it is expected to be a four year programme. This course promotes the personal and intellectual development of students, while providing the foundations necessary for a rewarding career in teaching.

The BEd develops teachers who are reflective, skilled and knowledgeable, who are caring professionals committed to education and aware of wider values of equality and social justice. Our primary aim is to ensure that teachers are equipped to provide children with an enriching school experience.

The most successful students are those who are committed to becoming excellent teachers and who recognise that they will have a substantial impact on their future pupils' development and sense of self-worth.

In addition to primary teaching, the BEd offers access to many areas of employment. Graduates are to be found in all areas and levels of the educational system, the public service, the media, social and cultural organisations and the business community.

Please note that the following description refers to the current three year BEd programme. Further information on the four year programme will be posted on the College website as it becomes available.

Programme Structure (for students commencing in 2011)

The structure of the course is 3, 2, 2 - i.e, students take Education, and two academic subjects in first year and Education and one academic subject in second and third year.

Students who do not take Irish or English as an academic subject in first year are required to attend and qualify in a course in Professional Irish and/or Professional English. Students who do not take Irish and/or English as an academic subject in third year are required to attend and qualify in a course in Professional Irish and/or Professional English. All students may follow a College course in Religious Studies.

Education (for students commencing in 2011)

A range of imaginative and engaging teaching methods is used, including field-work, role-play and laboratory work. In general, the experience and engagement of you, the student, is a key learning mechanism.

The course is assessed through a variety of methods. As well as examinations and essays, students conduct projects with young children, produce art portfolios, compose music and create resource folders for use in their teaching.

Electives: students can choose an area of special interest for in-depth study.

From the beginning of their practical teaching, students are encouraged to implement the child-centred primary curriculum. They are expected to evaluate and reflect on their teaching experience in school. During all teaching practices, students are supervised by College staff. Whilst in schools, they teach under the guidance of the classroom teacher. Students have the choice of undertaking some of their teaching practices in all-Irish schools.

Academic Subjects (for students commencing in 2011)

In first year, students study Education and two academic subjects chosen from the following list:

- Bioscience (1st year only)
- History
- English
- Mathematics
- French
- Music
- Gaeilge
- Religious Studies
- Geography

Some subject combinations may be restricted.

In second and third years, students take Education and one of the academic subjects studied in first year.

Gaeltacht Course

All students attend a three week language course in the Gaeltacht at the end of first year. Attendance at this course is a requirement of the Department of Education and Skills.

De réir riail na Roinne Oideachais agus Scileanna, freastalaíonn na miocléinn ar chúrsa Ghaeilge sa Ghaeltacht ar feadh trí seachtaine ag deireadh na céad bliana.

Please note that students on the BEd Programme are required to undergo Garda Vetting Procedures.

Bachelor of Education

Certificate in Religious Studies

Students may take a course in Religious Studies in conjunction with the BEd degree. It is open to people of all faiths. It is recognised as a qualification to teach Religion in Irish Catholic primary schools.

Please note that the following description refers to the current three year BEd programme. Further information on the four year programme will be posted on the College website as it becomes available.

BEd Programme Outline (for students commencing in 2011)

Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Education including: Foundation Studies Early Childhood Education, Reading and Teagasc na Gaeilge Expressive Arts Teaching Practice and Preparation for Teaching Mathematics Education• Two Academic Subjects • Gaeilge Ghairmiúil (2)• Professional English (1) • Cúrsa Gaeltachta
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Education including Expressive Arts Foundation Studies Language Mathematics and Teagasc na Gaeilge Social, Environmental and Scientific Education (SESE) Teaching Practice and Preparation for Teaching• One Academic Subject • Gaeilge Ghairmiúil (2)• Professional English (1)
Year 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Education including Teaching Practice and Preparation for Teaching Foundation Studies Curriculum and Teaching• One Academic Subject • Gaeilge Ghairmiúil (2)

1. For students not taking Academic English
2. An té nach roghnaíonn an cúrsa acadúil Gaeilge, déanann sé/sí cúrsa sa Ghaeilge Ghairmiúil.

How to Apply

Applicants (other than Mature Applicants) must apply directly to the Central Applications Office (CAO). Application literature is available from CAO, Tower House, Eglinton Street, Galway. Tel. +353 (0)91 509800; Fax +353 (0)91 562344, Web: www.cao.ie

**CAO Course Code:
PD 101/102.
Bachelor of Education
Degree Programme**



Deferred Entry

An applicant who is offered a place may defer entry for one year under certain circumstances. The following procedures apply:

1. You should not accept the offer with the CAO
2. Immediately write or email the Admissions Office outlining why you seek a deferral
3. The letter or email must arrive at the Admissions Office at least two days before the "Reply Date" shown on the CAO offer notice
4. The College will communicate a decision with you directly

Please Note: In order to take up the deferred place you must re-apply through CAO in the succeeding year, pay the appropriate fee and place the deferred course as your only preference on the application form. If not you will automatically forfeit your deferred place.

The College reserves the right to refuse an application of deferral.

Bachelor of Education

Age Limits for Entry

Applicants must be at least 16 years of age on January 15th of the year of entry.

Minimum Entry Requirements - Leaving Certificate

- Grade C3 Higher Level in not less than three subjects,
- Grade D3 in three other subjects,
- Grade C3 in Higher Level Irish,
- Grade C3 in English Ordinary Level or D3 Higher Level,
- Grade D3 in Mathematics (either Ordinary or Higher Level).

Applicants apply on one single Leaving Certificate only but the three qualifying subjects of Grade C3 in Higher Level Irish and the grades in English and Mathematics may be achieved in other Leaving Certificate examination(s) but will not be counted for points.

Applicants are placed in order of merit based on their six best subjects in one sitting of the Leaving Certificate examination, on the basis of the following points system:

Grade	A1	A2	B1	B2	B3	C1	C2	C3	D1	D2	D3
Higher	100	90	85	80	75	70	65	60	55	50	45
Ordinary	60	50	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5

From 2012 on a pilot basis, 25 bonus points will be added to the Leaving Certificate Higher level Mathematics points score for grade D3 or above.

Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme

St Patrick's College awards points as set out below for results in Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme Link Modules, in place of a sixth Leaving Certificate subject:

Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme	
Distinction	70
Merit	50
Pass	30

The Link Modules will not satisfy the minimum entry requirements.

Minimum Entry Requirements - General Certificate in Education (United Kingdom and Overseas)

Minimum requirements at GCSE and GCE AS and A Level Examinations (School Leavers and Mature Students):

- Six subjects must be presented, at least three subjects at GCE A Level and the remaining subjects at GCE AS or GCSE Level. The six subjects must include Irish, English and Mathematics.
- A subject may be counted from only one of the examinations, GCSE, GCE AS Level or GCE A Level.
- Only subjects taken at one sitting of a particular examination, GCSE, GCE AS Level or GCE A Level, will be accepted. Examinations taken in the same academic year are regarded as the same sitting.

Minimum Grades Required

- Irish: Grade C at GCE A Level;
- English: Grade C at GCSE Level in both English and English Literature, or Grade B at GCSE Level in either;
- Mathematics: Grade D at GCSE Level in Additional Mathematics or Grade A at GCSE Level in Mathematics;
- Grade C at GCE A Level in two further subjects;
- Grade C in one other subject at GCSE Level.

Selection Process - General Certificate in Education (2006 - Onwards)

Having satisfied the entry requirements and subject entry requirements candidates are ranked for admission on the basis of a score calculated on the basis of either:

- The best four GCE A Level grades from one academic year
Or
- The best three GCE A Level grades from one year plus one AS Level grade in a different subject from the same or preceding year only

The points that apply to each grade from 2010 are outlined in the following table:

Grade	A ★	A	B	C	D	E
A Level	150	135	120	100	75	40
AS Level	-	65	60	50	35	20

Iarrthóirí Gaeltachta Amháin

Cód CAO an Chúrsa: PD 102

I gcás lucht fágála scoile, féadtar suas le 10% de na háiteanna a chur i leataobh le haghaidh iarratasóirí ón nGaeltacht, i.e. iarratasóirí a bhfuil cónaí orthu sa Ghaeltacht a aithnítear go hoifigiúil agus arb í an Ghaeilge a ngnáth-theanga bhaile (An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna).

Bachelor of Arts in Humanities

Programme Overview

The degree of BA in Humanities provides students with an opportunity to gain a deep and abiding knowledge and understanding of different academic disciplines. In each subject area the main emphasis is on acquisition of the knowledge and skills which are intrinsic to that discipline. Students are expected to read widely, critically and perceptively; to reflect on their reading and to articulate their responses in accordance with the tradition of discourse within a discipline.

The degree aims to provide students with an opportunity to develop intellectually and personally and to gain a flexible view of life which is an important preparation for the world of work. The intellectual, social and aesthetic experience which the degree provides enables students to adapt readily to different contexts. They will be confident and articulate persons who are responsive to the needs of a changing world. Throughout the three-year course in humanities, students are given an opportunity to pursue a variety of courses which provides academic and personal satisfaction. Regular contact between staff and students facilitates learning as a personal venture.

The degree enables students to undertake a variety of tasks and responsibilities in areas such as communication, education and management. It also provides an excellent basis for enterprising and imaginative endeavour in the spheres of cultural, social and civic activity.

Structure of BA Programme

The BA in Humanities is a three year honours Level 8 degree programme. In first year students select three subjects from the following: Bioscience (first year only), English, French, Gaelige, Geography, History, Human Development, Mathematics, Music, Religious Studies. In second and third years, students continue with two of the subjects studied in first year. Some subject combinations may be restricted. Further details of these subjects are given later in this prospectus.

CAO Course Code: PD 103. Bachelor of Arts in Humanities Degree Programme

Additional Information:

www.spd.dcu.ie

Minimum Entry Requirements

Leaving Certificate with Grade C3 in two Higher Level subjects and Grade D3 in four Ordinary, or Higher Level subjects (which must include Mathematics and either English or Irish), or an approved equivalent. The College does not award points for the subject of Mathematics at Leaving Certificate Foundation Level (or Ordinary Alternative). This subject will be accepted for matriculation purposes. A separate leaflet is available which outlines the entry requirements for students who have taken GCSE/GCE School Leaving Qualifications.

From 2012 on a pilot basis, 25 points will be added to the Leaving Certificate Higher Level Mathematics points score for grade D3 or above.

Mature Students please see pages 16/17.

FETAC Requirements

Students with appropriate FETAC level 5 Qualifications, with distinctions in at least five modules, may be admitted on a competitive basis to the first year of the BA in Humanities programme. Up to 5 places will normally be available.

Entry Requirements

1. Full FETAC Level 5 Certificate in one of the following:

ECHSX	Cultural and Heritage Studies
ELESX	Language and European Studies
ELAXX	Liberal Arts

2. Specific module requirements exist for ECHSX and ELESX. Please see the Admissions website (www.spd.dcu/admissions)

Method of Application

Applicants (other than Mature Applicants) must apply directly to the Central Applications Office (CAO). Application literature is available from CAO, Tower House, Eglinton Street, Galway. Tel: (091)-509800; Fax: (091)-562344, Web address: www.cao.ie

Please note that the following description refers to the current three year BEd programme. Further information on the four-year Education course will be provided on the College website as it becomes available.

The Education course is designed to provide you with the theoretical and professional skills needed to teach confidently and proficiently. Working with children and teachers in school is an integral part of the course, with more than seventeen weeks of Teaching Practice scheduled over the three years.

Course Structure (for students commencing in 2011)

First year courses are orientated towards the earlier years of primary schooling, while second year courses focus on older pupils. The final year is a more reflective one in which you review and deepen your knowledge. Each year includes work in the theoretical disciplines of history, psychology, philosophy and sociology; the study of school-life, teaching and the curriculum; and substantial periods of practical teaching.

Features of Course

- Students may choose an area of special interest for in-depth study. Topics are varied and include literacy, early childhood education, drama, intercultural and development education, science, language and educational disadvantage.
- A range of imaginative and engaging teaching methods are used including field-work, role-play and laboratory work. In general the experience and engagement of you, the student, is a key learning mechanism.
- At the end of first year all students take a language course in the Gaeltacht.
- Extended periods of Teaching Practice give students the opportunity to develop a relationship with a class.
- The course is assessed through a variety of methods. As well as examinations and essays, students, among other things, conduct projects with young children, produce art portfolios, compose music and create resource folders for use in their teaching.

Additional Information:

www.spd.dcu.ie/education

The primary aim of the Education course is to ensure that our students are equipped to provide children with an enriching school experience. The most successful students are those who are committed to becoming excellent teachers and who recognise that they will have a substantial impact on their future pupils' development and sense of self-worth.





We live in a science-conscious age where fresh developments in space science, medicine or agricultural science occur with increasing regularity. It is therefore important that people should acquire an understanding of science.

The aim of the Bioscience Department is to provide undergraduate students with a science course that is Biology centred but also to provide an opportunity for students to familiarise themselves with elements from the other sciences, technology, education and culture.

Features of Course

The Bioscience Department offers first year students varied courses that include the genetic basis of life, evolution and diversity, behaviour and ecology, plant and animal structure.

The history and the nature of science are also explored. Major aims of the course include the acquisition of scientific literacy, positive scientific attitudes and knowledge of the process steps of scientific method.

Additional Information:

www.spd.dcu.ie/bioscience

Entry Requirements

As all topics start from first principles, no prior scientific knowledge is required for this course. There are no specific entry requirements for those who wish to study Bioscience.

It is not necessary to have studied Biology at Leaving Certificate Level in order to follow the course. In previous years mature students have found Bioscience an attractive option to study. Courses are taught through lectures, laboratory practical sessions and a limited amount of field work. Research skills, observation and precise expression are promoted and developed.

Graduates

While Bioscience is a First University course only, it is a very relevant subject for today's world. With the introduction of the revised Primary School Science Curriculum, primary school teachers with additional scientific knowledge that a course such as this provides, are in a strong position to act as science co-ordinators or science leaders in schools. It also provides students with a broad education that spans both the humanities and the sciences.



Literature offers us an opportunity of understanding life and each other and gives us access to a wealth of human insight and imaginative terrains. Stories are told through poetry, drama and prose. These stories allow us to express ourselves to each other as individuals and as communities and enable us to come to an understanding of the moment in which we live, the past and diverse cultures, ideas and experience. In looking at the style or way in which a work of literature is written, we can learn to appreciate the connection between what the story says and the way in which it is told. Central to the aims of the English Department is the promotion and development in our students of independent critical and creative thinking and an appreciation of the aesthetic. Through their engagement and study of literature, undergraduate students will acquire the critical tools with which to read text and will develop their fluency and skills in language and expression.

Features of Course

The English Department in St. Patrick's College is a dynamic, friendly and research-active department. Our undergraduate students engage with a wide cross section of English Literature that includes Irish, English, American and many other anglophone literatures. In first year, students are introduced to various literary genres – drama, short story, poetry and the novel – and theoretical approaches to literature. In the subsequent two years students develop this knowledge and become familiar with works that extend from Shakespeare and the poets of the English Renaissance to the contemporary moment with writers such as Terry Pratchett and Frank McGuinness. Children's Literature plays a pivotal role within our curriculum and the department offers two undergraduate courses in this area. Irish Writing is another specialist area within the department and is developed throughout the three year undergraduate programme in courses on poetry, prose and drama from the 18th century to the present time.

Entry Requirements

There are no specific course entry requirements for those who wish to study English except perhaps a love of reading. Mature students find English a particularly attractive area of study, bringing their many life skills to literature. Courses are taught through lectures, seminars and weekly tutorials where students meet in small discussion groups.

A unique part of the BA programme entails a creative writing strand that begins for all BA students in first year and continues as an option in the following years. In third year, students may apply to take part in the creative writing seminar course given by the department's John McGahern Writer in Residence. Third Year students choose a Research Seminar from a diverse range of literary subjects which leads to the writing of their final year thesis. As part of the thesis writing process, students are offered one-to-one supervisions by an expert in their topic area from the academic staff.

Graduates

English offers access to many areas of employment. Our graduates have gone on to pursue careers in Journalism, Public Service, Creative Writing, Public Relations, Media Research, Law, Communications, Publishing, Management Consultancy, Arts Administration, Politics, Heritage and Tourism ... as well as in Teaching.

"Opens up a whole new world" Michael Branagan Mature BA



Additional Information:

www.spd.dcu.ie/english

French

The Department of French offers a course in language and literature to undergraduate students. The staff of the department are committed to maintaining high standards through stimulating courses in written and oral language and culture: different aspects of literature ranging from 17th century studies to the present day, the history of ideas and thought, and approaches to French teaching in the primary school.

Staff research interests include: Intercultural Studies, Modern French Theatre, Fiction and Poetry, French Culture and Society, Computer-Assisted Language Learning.

Aims

- To provide courses which are stimulating and beneficial to all students;
- To provide students with the opportunity to achieve high standards in the study of language and literature;
- To foster among students a deep and lasting interest in the language, life and culture of France and the French-speaking world;
- To provide courses which integrate teaching and research through elective, extended essay courses;
- To encourage the pursuit of postgraduate studies in Irish and Francophone universities;
- To promote exchanges with Francophone universities and IUFM, other Erasmus and Socrates exchanges and French assistantships in France;
- To prepare future primary school teachers for an integrated curriculum which may include modern languages and culture.

Entry Requirements

Students should have attained a minimum of Grade 'B' in honours Leaving Certificate French or equivalent.



Additional Information:

www.spd.dcu.ie/french

Scrúdaítear teanga, litríocht agus cultúr na Gaeilge ina gcomhthéacsanna staire agus comhaimseartha le linn an chúrsa Nua-Ghaeilge seo. Is é aidhm an chúrsa léargas leathan a thabhairt do mhic léinn ar na príomhghnéithe den traidisiún liteartha agus béil, ar fhorbairt na seánraí, ar an nGaeilge sna meáin chumarsáide agus mar ghné den timpeallacht chultúrtha, agus ar staid shochtheangeolaíoch chomhaimseartha na teanga. Féachtar le hinniúlachtaí léitheoireachta, scríbhneoireachta, anailíse agus critice na mac léinn a fhorbairt trí théacsanna agus acmhainní foghlama ilghnéitheacha a chur faoina mbráid sna cúrsaí éagsúla léachta. Déantar na scileanna teanga – éisteacht, labhairt, léamh agus scríobh – a chleachtadh trí chúrsa comhtháite teanga a chur ar fáil sna seimineáir. Trí na príomhfhoinsí eolais agus tagartha i réimsí éagsúla de léann na Gaeilge a chur faoina mbráid agus a phlé, féachtar le cumas machnaimh agus le scileanna taighde na mac léinn a chleachtadh agus a fhorbairt ar bhealach a rachaidh chun tairbhe dóibh agus iad ag feidhmiú go gairmiúil trí mheán na Gaeilge.

Réimsí an chúrsa/ Features of the course

Tá an cúrsa teanga bunaithe ar leibhéal B2 den Fhráma Tagartha Comónta Eorpach agus bítear ag súil go mbainfidh mic léinn inniúlachtaí B2/C1 amach sna ceithre mhórscoil teanga (éisteacht, labhairt, léamh agus scríobh) le linn dóibh a bheith ag gabháil don chúrsa. Tá na cúrsaí litríochta bunaithe ar na príomhghnéithe de litríocht na Gaeilge, le béim ar leith ar scríbhneoirí nua-aoiseacha agus ar an litríocht chomhaimseartha. Pléitear an traidisiún béil, idir scéalaíocht, dhrámaíocht agus amhráin; gnéithe saoihiúlachta mar ainmneacha áite agus daoine; cultúr na Gaeltachta; meáin chumarsáide na Gaeilge agus cúrsaí aistriúcháin. Tugtar deis do mhic léinn a gcuid scileanna acadúla a fhorbairt ó bhliain go bliain, agus féachtar le rogha a chur ar fáil idir cúrsaí áirithe i mbliain a dó agus a trí. Múinteann cuid de na cúrsaí teanga i suíomh teanglainne agus spreagtar mic léinn leis an nGaeilge a chleachtadh mar theanga shóisialta ina measc féin agus le foireann an choláiste.



Riachtanais Iontrála / Entry Requirements

Moltar go mbeadh C3 (Ardleibhéil) san Ardteistiméireacht, nó a chomhionann, ag mic léinn. Déantar an cúrsa a theagasc trí ranganna seimineáir agus léachtaí, agus cuirtear ábhar tacaíochta foghlama ar fáil do mhic léinn ar líne. Déantar an cúrsa Gaeilge a mheas trí scrúduithe scríofa ag deireadh gach seimeastair, scrúduithe cainte ag deireadh gach bliana, chomh maith le Fillteán Foghlama (sa chéad bhliain agus sa dara bliain) agus Aiste Taighde (sa tríú bliain).

Céimithe / Graduates

Tá sé mar aidhm ag an gcúrsa go n-oilfí na mic léinn le feidhmiú go gairmiúil i réimse gairmeacha le Gaeilge. Chomh maith le hearnáil an oideachais, tá deiseanna ann anois in earnálacha éagsúla fostaíochta do chéimithe a bhfuil an Ghaeilge acu mar ábhar céime. Baineann na deiseanna sin le fostaíocht sna meáin chumarsáide, sa pholaitíocht agus sa tseirbhís phoiblí, sna healaíona, san iriseoireacht, sa turasóireacht oidhreachta, i ngairm an aistriúcháin, i dtionscal an fháiltithe, agus i gcomhlachtaí idirnáisiúnta a bhfuil polasaí teanga acu. Is bunús maith an cúrsa do dhaoine ar mhaith leo tabhairt faoi chúrsaí iarchéime. Is féidir le céimithe le Gaeilge dul ar aghaidh chun cúrsaí MA agus PhD a dhéanamh, go háirithe i réimsí éagsúla de léann na Gaeilge, agus i réimsí mar léann an aistriúcháin, an teangeolaíocht, an iriseoireacht, léann na meán, agus cúrsaí oideachais.



Eolas Breise:

www.spd.dcu.ie/gaeilge

Geography is the study of the inter-relationship between people and environments - both natural and those created by people. Geography is all around us. It examines human activity, human-environment relations and physical environments at a variety of scales, from the local through to the global. Geographers are particularly concerned with the historical development, spatial organisation, inter-relationships, management and planning of these environments.

The Greek origins of the word Geography tell us much about the discipline. Ge and grapho mean literally 'I write the Earth'. Early geographers were very descriptive in their approach. Today, Geography is a key analytical discipline that bridges the Sciences and the Humanities. It strives to contribute in a meaningful way to society and to address issues and problems of broad concern to humanity, including preservation of the natural environment.

Features of Course

The Geography Department provides undergraduate students with a solid understanding of people and environments in a rapidly changing world marked by deepening interconnectedness. In their first year students are introduced to a variety of human and physical / environmental perspectives through their coursework. They are also able to apply these perspectives and come to a better understanding of their own environments through fieldtrips in Dublin and the surrounding region. This emphasis on "real world" engagement and understanding, through fieldtrips for example, is continued in subsequent years.

During their second and third years students engage in more depth with a range of settings (Sub-Saharan Africa, Middle East and North Africa, and the European Union) and themes (such as Urban, Rural and Historical Geography). Our department has extensive lived experience in their areas of regional specialism and bring this to their teaching. Other courses which have been taught in the department draw particular attention to and help us understand the connections between different regions of the world, and between human activity and the physical environment. They include "Economic Globalization", "Population and Migration", "Human-Environment Relations" and "The Hazardous Earth".

Additional Information:

www.spd.dcu.ie/geography

In addition to having access to a solid information base, students are provided with analytical and investigative skills through units on Computer Applications in Geography, Cartography (both conventional and computer) and Research Methods. Students are also provided with opportunities to undertake independent research.

Entry Requirements

Students who wish to study Geography as a degree subject do not need to have studied it previously. Both mature and post-Leaving Certificate students are brought on a geographical journey that is informed by what is happening in today's world. The course is taught through lectures, tutorials, fieldwork and practical workshop sessions. These diverse teaching methods expose students to the vibrancy and diversity of a discipline which is increasingly topical and relevant.

Graduates

Geography graduates have many potential areas of employment open to them. Common careers for our graduates are in urban and regional planning, retailing analysis, environmental management, human resource management, social research and teaching. Geographers are much sought after by employers because of their analytical and practical skills, their exposure to diverse perspectives and because of their flexible and solidly based training.



History

Grounded on the study of the actions of humankind in the past, History provides one of the most reliable means of acquiring an understanding of how people behave as individuals, interests and nations. In and of itself an intellectually inspiring and personally illuminating experience, the study of History enables us to establish the real achievements of preceding generations, to analyse their principles and beliefs, and to examine their deeds and actions, and by this means to reveal the origins of many problems and questions of the present. The aim of the History Department is to provide undergraduate students with an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the main events in Irish, European, American, Russian and World History and, in particular, to enable them to locate the particular experience of people on this island over ten thousand years in its wider historical context.

Features of Course

The History Department offers a wide variety of survey and specialist courses in Irish, European, American, Russian and World History. These are expressly designed to explore social, economic, political and intellectual themes and issues. In keeping with the research expertise of the Department, particular attention is devoted to the Irish experience from prehistory to the present, and from a local as well as a national perspective. The approach adopted is to introduce students to the methods of studying History as well as to its range through broadly focussed courses in first year. Subsequently, students are invited to engage more closely with specific periods and themes through which they can acquire a deeper historical knowledge and understanding.

Additional Information:

www.spd.dcu.ie/history

Entry Requirements

There are no specific course entry requirements for those who wish to study History. A large, and growing proportion of students have not taken the subject at Leaving Certificate level. Mature students also find History an attractive area of study.

Courses are taught through lectures, tutorials and seminars. In tutorials, students meet in groups of about 10 to discuss issues arising from lectures, and are given advice on how to complete assignments. Independent reading and thinking are fostered, while research skills, writing technique, organisation and precise expression are promoted and developed.

Graduates

History offers access to many areas of employment. Our graduates have gone on to pursue careers in journalism, public administration, business and politics, as well as in more directly related areas such as teaching, genealogical research, archival management, and library and information retrieval.



Mathematics

Mathematics - one of the oldest and most respected intellectual pursuits - stands Janus-like between the Arts and the Sciences. Is it an Art, or is it a Science? In the Mathematics Department we hold no extreme view, and see no conflict by asserting that it is both.

"Wherever there is number, there is beauty." PROCLUS

Features of Course

The Mathematics course provides students with a firm foundation in the core areas of Algebra and Analysis. Modules in other subjects such as Statistics and Number Theory illustrate some of the applications of mathematics in the world today. Extensive use is made of mathematical software such as: Maple and GeoGebra, but no previous computer experience is necessary. Throughout there is an emphasis on understanding the ideas of mathematics, on the historical evolution of the subject, and, of course, on the mechanics of solving problems.

Our objective is to produce graduates who are mathematically competent and confident, who are computer literate, who enjoy thinking about mathematical questions, and who will be highly regarded by potential employers because of their skills.

Entry Requirements

Potential students should have at least a C3 grade in the Leaving Certificate Higher Course, or at least an A2 grade in the Leaving Certificate Ordinary Course.



The Music course is designed to enable undergraduate students to improve their musicianship and develop their understanding of the music of the great masters from Renaissance times to the present day through study of the works and the compositional techniques of selected composers and through active participation in music-making.

Features of Course

Students attend lectures in Musical Techniques, and in Musicology. Traditional Irish Music and an introduction to Ethnomusicology are included as part of the Musicology course. Students also study Music Education, Composition and Orchestration and submit a project relevant to Music Education in their final year. Weekly attendance at choir or other musical activity is obligatory. Instrumental lessons are offered on the college campus, for which students pay an extra fee. Examination is by assignments, an end-of-year practical examination and by a written examination.



Entry Requirements

While it is preferable to have studied music to Leaving Certificate standard, the music department welcomes applications from those who did not have the opportunity to take music as a subject for Leaving Certificate and who play an instrument to at least Grade V standard from a recognised examination board. Traditional musicians are especially welcome. It is possible to take singing as your instrument and begin your studies in singing at college. Students are assessed during the first week of term and are advised as to their capability to complete the course.

Career Options as a Graduate

Music is a powerful means of expression and communication that transcends all barriers. Through music we develop an understanding of ourselves and of how we relate to others and to the world. In studying music, students learn how to approach problems from different angles, resulting in more creative solutions to varied challenges. This creativity results in music graduates being eminently employable in many fields of life. Typical career opportunities for music graduates are primary school teaching, secondary school teaching, performing, conducting, private instrumental teaching, working in radio and television, and post-graduate studies leading to careers at third level.

Additional Information:

www.spd.dcu.ie/music



Human beings have always been fascinated by ultimate questions: questions of identity and belonging; questions about human being and becoming; questions that open to mystery and possibility; questions, in short, about life, meaning and love. The great religious traditions of the world have their origins in such questions. Religious Studies, as a subject, is likewise concerned with such a search for meaning. It seeks the fullest possible understanding of what it means to be human, and locates this quest within a divine horizon that sustains and enables a full human life.

Religious Studies offers an attractive, extensive and personally enriching range of courses dealing with sacred writings and rituals, religious traditions and practices, and engages in a lively dialogue with contemporary culture, science and the arts. If such a quest for meaning interests you and if you possess a curious mind, a searching heart, and an adventurous spirit, then Religious Studies might just be for you.

Features of Course

While the Religious Studies course at St Patrick's College is, understandably, rooted in the Christian tradition, its exploration of human reality extends far beyond this tradition to investigate how other communities tackle the great religious questions of the past and, indeed, of the present.

This search for truth is seen as something that is ongoing in the life journey of the human person. Answers are sought not only in the narratives and writings of various religious traditions but also from within the wells of personal experience and particular histories. Accordingly, students enrolled in Religious Studies find themselves taking courses with such titles as Religion and Experience, Religion and Gender, Religion and Science, Religion and Philosophy, Religion and Psychology, alongside those dealing specifically with Christianity and the other great religions of the world.

Additional Information:

www.spd.dcu.ie/religious_studies

Entry Requirements

In recent years in the College there has been a gradual growth in the number of undergraduate students taking Religious Studies. Mature students, particularly, find Religious Studies an attractive and welcome option and, along with other students, are appreciative of the support structures set in place to assist them in their studies. In the coming years, this subject will have a particular appeal for anyone taking Religious Education as an examination subject in post-primary school. However, such a background is not essential and the majority of students come to the academic study of this subject for the first time in college.

Graduates

Opportunities for graduates include careers in Education as well as employment in such areas as social services, pastoral care, community work and counselling. A number of Religious Studies graduates have gone on to Master's programmes in Ireland and abroad.



Human Development

Human Development is a study of human beings, of their most significant capacities and needs, and of important factors that promote or militate against their development and well-being. It is an interdisciplinary subject on the BA in Humanities programme that introduces students to Psychology, Sociology and Philosophy. From the complementary perspectives of these disciplines, it aims to help students towards an informed and critical understanding of the human condition.

Features of the Course

At undergraduate level, Human Development is an attempt to understand human well-being in different dimensions and at different stages of the life-span.

First year courses focus on childhood, adolescence is a central theme of second year, while important issues of adult life are addressed in the third year. The overall programme is holistic and addresses wider social, cultural, economic and political factors that enhance or endanger human well-being. There is an emphasis on the historical dimension of reflection by humans on themselves, while at the same time students are introduced to recent and emerging research and familiarised with a range of research methodologies. Students are also sensitised to the contestable nature of research on humans: attention is given to conflicting value orientations often involved in discussion of controversial issues concerning human behaviour and flourishing.

Through a combination of lectures, seminars and assignments, students of Human Development are encouraged to develop their powers of interpretation, analysis and reflection. This development is promoted through focused reading in established disciplines of inquiry. It is expected that students will bring perspectives developed in one course into critical dialogue with perspectives from other courses. And, given the focus of the whole programme on human persons in society, it is intended as an ultimate aim of Human Development that students would develop both in their self-understanding and in their understanding of others.

Entry Requirements

Because of its interdisciplinary character and the way in which it combines perspectives from the Social Sciences and the Humanities, Human Development is a unique subject. While it has had a particular interest for mature students, since its inception it has very successfully attracted students of all categories. Like other Humanities subjects, it is intended to contribute, in and for itself, to students' personal and social development.

Graduates

Human Development provides a very suitable background of knowledge and understanding relevant to many occupations, especially in the teaching or caring professions or indeed in any jobs in which insightful dealing with people is a priority.

Among the latter, graduates of Human Development have pursued careers in, for example, communications, human resources, business and banking. Many of them have also gone on to a wide range of post-graduate studies at masters and doctoral levels in other universities as well as at St Patrick's College. A Taught MA in Human Development is available in the College.



Additional Information:

www.spd.dcu.ie/chd

Graduate Diploma in Education (Primary Teaching)

This course enables third-level graduates to qualify as primary teachers. It is designed to provide students with the theoretical and professional skills needed to teach confidently and proficiently. Working with children and teachers in school is an integral part of the course with substantial periods of Teaching Practice scheduled over the semesters.

This full-time course is currently 18 months in duration. However it is expected to become a 2 year programme in the near future. Please check website at www.spd.dcu.ie/admissions for up to date information.

In-Service Certificate/ Diploma in Education

The In-service Certificate / Diploma in Education provides exciting opportunities for primary teachers to renew their knowledge and skills in a wide range of curricular areas and to explore new areas of learning. It enables teachers to participate in continuing professional development in a structured, intensive and sustained way at convenient times, while allowing for direct support to teachers in their classrooms. The possibility to continue studying to Masters degree level is contained within this structure.

Masters in Education

This programme provides grounding in research methodology and contemporary educational issues. It offers students an opportunity to specialise in an area of particular interest to them. These options include curricular areas such as: Visual Arts, Mathematics, Primary Science and Music as well as other areas of interest such as: Educational Leadership and Digital Learning. Options are provided on a cyclical basis.

The programme is completed on a two-year part-time basis with lectures typically on a Tuesday and Thursday night during term time. In some cases, one of the required modules is taken as a summer course in July. Students study six course modules and complete a thesis. Some options are available online.

Doctorate in Education

The Doctorate in Education (EdD) is a four-year part-time doctorate. The primary focus of the programme is on policy analysis and research, and allows students to undertake in-depth inquiry in one of the following areas – Educational Disadvantage, Special Needs Education, School Leadership and Organisational Change, as well as in Identity, Citizenship, Multiculturalism and Moral Education. It takes two years to complete coursework, and a further two years to complete a dissertation. The intake into this programme is on a biennial basis.

Please note that students on the Graduate Diploma in Education (Primary Teaching) Programme are required to undergo Garda Vetting Procedures, as are students on other postgraduate courses where study or research may involve unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Special Education Department offers a range of courses including pre-service courses for intending teachers, induction courses for newly appointed teachers of pupils with special educational needs (SEN) and a number of postgraduate courses for teachers with previous experience of working within Special Education. We also offer opportunities for study and research at Masters and Doctoral level.

Graduate Certificate/Graduate Diploma in Special Educational Needs

Courses are available to specialise in:

High Incidence Special Educational Needs (SEN) or Moderate, Severe and Profound General Learning Disabilities: one - year part-time course.

Masters in Special Educational Needs

This is a two-year part-time programme for primary and post-primary teachers who have a diploma in special education or an equivalent qualification. It consists of four taught modules and a thesis.

Graduate Certificate in the Education of Pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorders

One-year, part-time distance learning programme with some direct teaching for qualified primary and post-primary teachers who are currently teaching students with ASD in special or mainstream schools.

Specialist Induction Courses for Teachers of Students with Severe and Profound General Learning Disabilities

These courses are provided for Teachers of Students with Severe and Profound General Learning Disabilities as required.

Online Inservice Certificate/Diploma in Education (Special/Inclusive Education)

The online postgraduate Inservice Certificate/Diploma in Education (Special/Inclusive Education), developed in partnership between the Special Education Department, St Patrick's College and the Institute of Child Education and Psychology, Europe (ICEP), is offered to mainstream primary and post primary teachers and other graduates who have experience of working in an education, training or education-related professional context.

*Consult website for up to date information on new programmes / options available

Masters in Humanities

The College offers a two-year MA Programme on a cyclical basis in the following Humanities subjects:

- **English (Children's Literature)**
- **Gaeilge**
- **French**
- **English (Theatre Studies)**
- **Human Development**
- **Music**
- **History**

The programme consists of one year of taught courses and one year of work on a minor thesis of around 15,000 words, or its equivalent, along with attendance at research seminars. The taught courses in the programme take place on two evenings weekly between 4.00 pm and 7.00 pm approximately.

Human Development, History and Theatre Studies also offer a one year full-time MA.

Masters in Religious Education (Primary)

The Department of Religious Studies and Religious Education, in conjunction with the Mater Dei Institute of Education, offers a Masters degree in religious education either on a one-year full-time or a two-year part-time basis. This degree caters for teachers and others wishing to develop expertise in this area such as diocesan religious education advisors, writers of text-books, priests and parish catechists. The programme consists of a well-balanced blend of modules in religious education, theology, scripture and culture.

A number of bursaries are in place to support students of the programme.

Certificate in Religious Studies

This course is available on both a full-time and part-time basis. Teachers in Catholic Primary schools in Ireland are expected to possess such a qualification. The part-time programme is open to anyone with a recognised qualification to teach in a primary school in Ireland.

Research Programmes

St Patrick's College welcomes applications from suitably qualified applicants who wish to pursue research degrees.

These degrees include:

- **MA by research**
- **MEd by research**
- **PhD**

Applicants will be considered for research degrees in the following fields and in certain interdisciplinary areas:

- **Education**
- **French**
- **Geography**
- **Human Development**
- **Special Education**
- **Gaeilge**
- **Music**
- **English**
- **History**
- **Religious Studies**

Research degrees are the highest degrees awarded by the University. Such degrees require a student to undertake an independent programme of study under supervision, leading to a substantial dissertation on a topic approved by the College, which is then examined according to the procedures of the College.

Independent research offers great satisfaction and intellectual excitement. However, such work is challenging and demanding, and is best undertaken after serious consideration and preparation. It demands a high level of investigative and analytical skills combined with an ability to undertake and sustain independent research, to synthesise material and to write fluently and clearly.



Graduate Profiles



Colm Gibbons

St. Patrick's is a college steeped in academic and Irish sporting tradition and it has many past pupils that have reinforced this tradition including one of Ireland's most celebrated writers, John McGahern and Brian Cody, the most successful G.A.A. manager. This college is set on a beautiful natural surrounding and you often have to remind yourself that you are just a few minutes walk from Dublin's city centre. I began my studies in St. Patrick's College in September, 2006 having completed my Leaving Certificate in St. Jarlath's College, Tuam in the summer of that year. I left Galway for Pat's, as the students

affectionately know it by, not knowing what to expect. Once I arrived to the college it was clear that all the first year students were in the same position of having come to the college not knowing anybody, thus, it made it so much easier to meet new friends. The college is relatively small in comparison to other colleges but it still has over 2,500 students studying here. Our students are all of a very high calibre and our BEd course in St. Pat's demands time and energy but is ultimately highly rewarding. Having spent four years in St Patrick's I know that the most important aspect of college life is that you enjoy yourself outside the lecture halls. The Students' Union in St Pat's have a nationwide outstanding reputation for organising quality entertainment events and becoming involved in these events is an easy way to make new friends. By joining different clubs and societies you also have an opportunity to meet people with similar interests to you. Despite the vast numbers of students in the college I would always describe St. Pat's as a tight and caring community and through academic and social activities you meet the most fascinating and inspiring people. Colm Gibbons Students' Union President 2009 – 2010 and B. Ed Graduate in 2009.



Paul Twomey BA

I commenced my BA Degree in St Pat's in October 2007. Little did I realise at the time that I was about to embark on a most enjoyable and fulfilling academic journey. Over the course of the three years I made many close friends, as well as great advancements in my two subject areas: Religion and History. I found the staff friendly, helpful and diligent. As an undergraduate I took part in many clubs and societies and I would advise any incoming students to do the same.

St Pat's proved to be a warm, friendly and close knit college with the result that it was quite easy to settle in and get to know people. The History and Religion courses were both interesting and intellectually stimulating. The combination of continuous assessment as well as exams was most beneficial and allowed all students to reach their full potential. All in all I enjoyed my time in St Pat's and would encourage anybody to consider studying here.



Berni D'Arcy BA, MEd

I completed my Leaving Cert in 1978 when third level was neither an option nor an aspiration. The next twenty years were spent raising our increasing brood and working in various jobs that fitted in with that task. I was always active in the community and in 1995 I embarked on a Diploma in Community Development and Leadership. I thoroughly enjoyed the course and was blown away by the effect it had on, not only my personal development, but also the insight it gave me into inequality and disadvantage. In 1999 I

registered for a BA degree in St Patrick's College. I graduated in 2002 with an honours degree in Human Development and Religion. I really enjoyed my time in the College and was hugely supported by both staff and fellow students, young and mature alike. I progressed to Trinity to do an MEd in Guidance and Counselling. In 2005 I began working as an Adult Guidance Counsellor in the Local Employment Service of the Tolka Area Partnership. I am currently employed as Local Employment Centre Co-ordinator and look after the Guidance and Mediation Team.

St Patrick's College, September 2011/Coláiste Phádraig, Meán Fómhair 2011

Tá an t-eolas sa leabhrán seo ann mar threoir do mhic léinn agus d'iarthóirí ar ionaid i gColáiste Phádraig agus ní féidir glacadh leis mar chonradh idir an Coláiste agus mac léinn nó an trú duine ar bith.

Tharlódh go ndéanfaí athruithe ar chúrsaí ó am to ham agus ba chóir do mhic léinn an t-eolas a cheistiú má bhíonn amhras orthu.

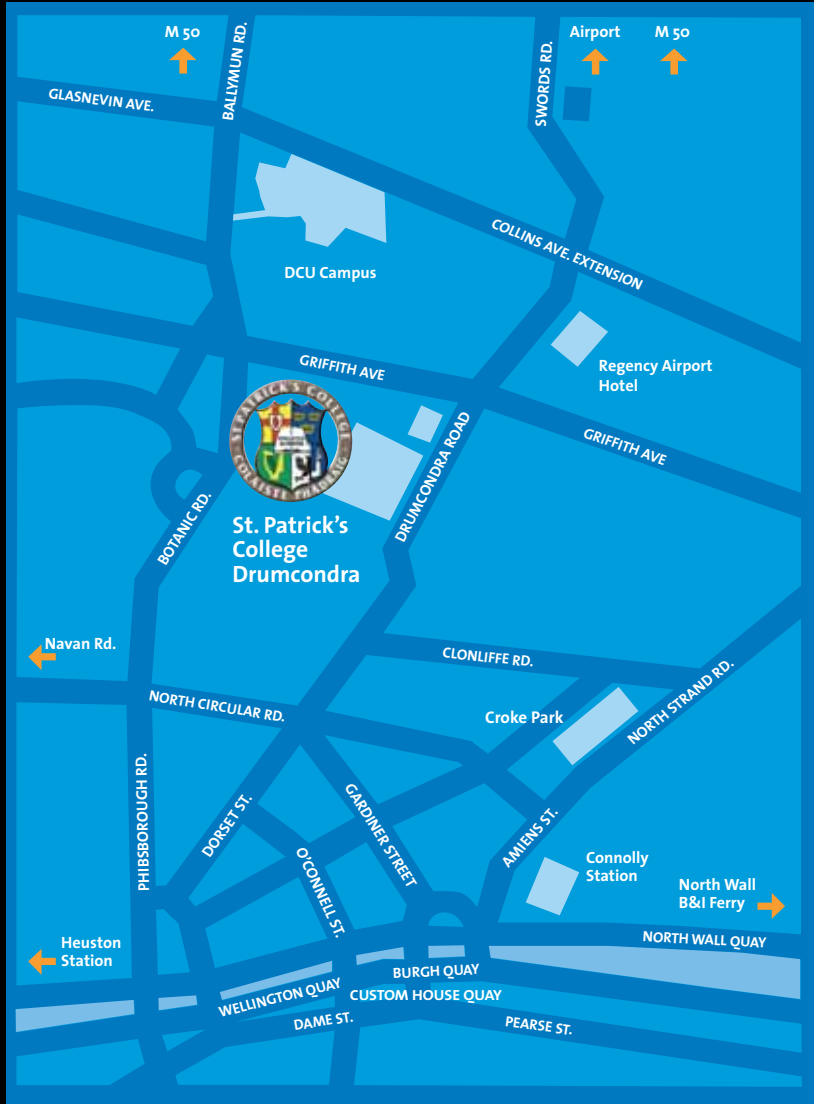
Tuilleadh eolais le fáil ó láithreán gréasáin an Choláiste www.spd.dcu.ie nó ón Oifig Iontrála, Coláiste Phádraig, Droim Conrach, Baile Átha Cliath 9. Fón 01 884 2013/01 884 2025/01 884 2096.

The information in this booklet is intended as a guide to students and persons seeking admission to St Patrick's College and shall not be deemed to form a contract between the College and a student or any third party.

Courses are subject to change from time to time and students should enquire as to the up-to-date situation at any appropriate time.

Further information available from the College website www.spd.dcu.ie or the Admissions Office, St Patrick's College, Drumcondra, Dublin 9. Phone 01 884 2013/01 884 2025/01 884 2096.

St Patrick's College is not bound by any error in, or omission from, this publication. Any changes will be communicated to students in an appropriate manner



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National Development Plan 2007 - 2013