



25th May 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We wish to share our sincere congratulations and best wishes to the Graduating Class of 2021, whose courage, optimism and kindness have carried them through the unprecedented challenges of the past 15 months. We are delighted to celebrate with them as they look back over their school life and consider their growth as individuals, their learning as students, their journey as friends, their progress as confident and independent young adults. We support them as they look forward with hope to the positive opportunities and life experiences that await them and we encourage them to continue to learn, grow and progress with courage and optimism.

*When the tide of change rolls
in we can resist or be at peace,
struggle or release. The stuff
of life may not be ours to
understand. It's enough to
offer love, to receive the best
and worst, to embrace and
say farewell. What matters
most is to celebrate each
moment of the journey.*

Danna Faulds

We take this opportunity also to wish our 6th Year students every success in the Leaving Certificate examinations which commence on Wednesday 9th June. Please refer to the LC Examinations timetable posted on the school website.

Transition Year and Third Year Students:

As a school community we want to share our graduation congratulations also with our Transition Year and Third Year students. Our TY group had limited experience of the range of activities and events we normally associate with this year, yet we have a confidence that their on-going engagement with each other, their teachers and their learning during very challenging times has given them a solid foundation for progression into their senior cycle years.

Our 3rd years have completed their Junior Cycle and the schedule of in-house assessments, Class Based Assessments (CBAs) and short-courses associated with that programme. They now look forward to a deserved summer break and beyond that to the prospect of their chosen pathway through senior cycle.

Confirmation of Student Place Form (CSPF)

The link to Confirmation of Student Place Forms for the relevant year(s) can be accessed below. We appreciate the timely completion and submission of these forms as they assist the organisation of class groups and the completion of curricular planning and timetabling for the coming academic year. All payments relating to student services can be made through the Easy Payment Plus platform, accessed via the Scoil Dara website. Please take note of the revised schedule of for payment of the student services charge. The student services charge can be paid in 2 instalments with the initial payment due on or before the 16th July and the second instalment due on the 16th August 2021. The service charge is due for payment in full by August 20th 2021. Book lists for all year groups will be made available in the coming days on the Scoil Dara website www.scoildara.ie.

Academic Year 2021-2022:

- 2nd Year 2021- 2022: Confirmation of Student Place Form (click here) <https://forms.office.com/r/F74KBzpdbt>
- 3rd Year 2021-2022: Confirmation of Student Place Form (click here) <https://forms.office.com/r/gZyPcfzAyr>
- 5th Year 2021-2022: Confirmation of Student Place Form (click here) <https://forms.office.com/r/GSXJnJXUD4>
- 6th Year 2021-2022: Confirmation of Student Place From (click here) <https://forms.office.com/r/B6Ljq0Byk5>

Book Lists 2021-2022:

Book Lists for each year group will be available here on the Scoil Dara website in the coming days.

Parents/Guardians of Junior Cycle students (2nd and 3rd year) who are enrolled in the Book Support Scheme are due to pay the current cycle of the instalment payments due by 20th August 2021. Please refer to the Easy-Payments Plus on-line platform for details.

Parents/Guardians of in-coming first year students may access the Book Support Scheme (3-year scheme) through the Easy Payments Plus platform (via school website). To ensure the timely processing of our book support scheme order, the first instalment is due on or before the 18th June 2021.

With regard text books for option subjects parents/guardians (of in-coming first year students) are advised **not to purchase** option subject text books until final subject option choices are made in October 2021.

Teaching, Learning & Assessment:

5th Years: From the 26th May 5th years will engage with their scheduled assessments. A timetable has been shared with all students. Students finish at 11am on the Friday 28th May for Summer holidays.

Transition Years: The award of Transition Year credits, as part of the on-going formative assessment strategy, reaches its conclusion in the coming weeks. Our TY cohort will finish for their annual summer holidays on Thursday 27th May.

2nd Years: From the 24th May 2nd years will engage with their scheduled assessments. A timetable has been shared with all students. 2nd years have been busy completing their schedule of CBA-1s during this term also. 2nd year students will finish at 1.20pm on the 28th May for summer holidays.

1st Years: From the 24thth May 1st years will engage with their scheduled assessments. A timetable has been shared with all students. Students will finish at 12.20pm on the 28th May for summer holidays.

Student Awards

The annual Student Awards represent a highlight of our school calendar as it is an opportunity for us to review and reflect on the endeavour, commitment, cooperation and resilience of the students we work with on a daily basis. We also consider and honour the generative human values we witness and experience in those moments of kindness, support, respect and care, so much a feature of our school culture.

Parents Council

The Parents Council is a central part and partner in all school development, school events and celebrations and members are valued collaborators in the development of school policy, curriculum, protocols and student care and fundraising. We would like to invite parents interested in becoming involved in the Scoil Dara Parents Council for the academic year 2021-2022 to email an expression of interest to clodagward@scoildara.ie on or before Friday 4th June 2021.

School Staff

We would like to pay tribute to the continued dedication, professional commitment and student-centred focus of our teaching staff, SNAs and support staff at Scoil Dara. This was a remarkable year where in the face of significant and often relentless challenge the team at Scoil Dara responded proactively and concertedly in response to student need and in support of student learning.

We appreciate and are grateful for the continuing support of our community of parents/guardians. The work of the school, our ambition for the young people in our care, realises its full promise when we work together.

Sincerely and with best wishes for the Summer ahead,

David Mc Cormack

Principal