

Developments at Bandon Grammar School

The Bandon Grammar School Board of Directors and Board of Management are pleased to update the school community on a number of significant developments for the school.

The BGS school mission is to promote excellence in all, enabling students to deliver their best in academic results, sports, the arts or science. As part of that mission the school strives to provide the facilities and resources to enable those outcomes.

Following a major classroom expansion and the addition of the dining room facilities in 2010/2011, a development strategy and plan focusing on the priorities for next 5 years was created in 2017. As part of that strategy, we are delighted that the following significant developments are being implemented during the 2017/2018 school year.

1. **Car free pedestrian only centre:** In support of a safer environment for all, the centre of the school will become a car free, pedestrian only centre from September 2018. Security for pupils and staff will be further enhanced by this development. To enable this priority, a new car park is being developed to the west of the school and will be accessed from the main school entrance on the Clonakilty road. Full details on the car parking facilities and traffic flow will be communicated in August 2018. We welcome your co-operation in September 2018 as the school community adjusts to the new arrangements.
2. **Second Hockey Pitch:** We are delighted to confirm that a contractor has been appointed to lay a new hockey pitch surface on the current car park (original hockey pitch). A second pitch will enable our pupils to have adequate all weather facilities for hockey, P.E. and other sports.
3. **New Staff Room:** A much needed new staff room will be completed by August 2018, providing a more centrally based facility which will accommodate all staff. The new staff room layout will provide both social seating and work space facilities. The old staff room in the Williams building will be re-purposed to meet academic facility needs.
4. **Enhanced catering facilities:** Since September 2017, there has been ongoing & considerable investment in the catering operations of the school. The catering department has transformed the dining experience for students and staff. The meals provided are developed to be appealing and appetizing and this is all done with a focus on sustainability, seasonality and provenance in the selection of ingredients and produce. Food is an important aspect of school life and good nutrition is vital in helping our pupils achieve their best in and outside of school. During the summer holidays the dining room layout will be re-configured and from September 2018, the catering team will provide all food options for day pupils as well as boarders. We look forward to this new development.
5. **School App:** A school app will be launched for the new school year centralising school communications at one easily accessible point. Detailed information will be provided to all in August 2018.

For further information on the development plan focus areas for 2017/2018, please see the 2017/2018 development plan overview. Further information on the above and other planned developments will be communicated in due course.