

SHIMNA INTEGRATED COLLEGE 6TH FORM EXTRA

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What Else Do You Get Out of 6th Form?

The chance to organise your own study - you will be timetabled for five teaching hours for each A level subject, and you will timetable all your other stuff yourself. You work out for yourself how to allocate your study time across your subjects, and lodge your final timetable with the Study Supervisor. You need to plan in your allocation of frees and your lunchtimes too. Remember that each A level you study will take five hours teaching time, plus study time, plus homework time.

Shimna is completely wifi enabled. All 6th form students are welcome to bring in their own laptop or tablet and link into the Shimna system. The Study Room is also equipped with c2k computers for your use, and the music and MIA departments with AppleMacs. Please read the 6th form ICT access policy carefully before you start!

We have a strong working partnership with Queen's University, with students as members of QUB Senior Academy and QUB Pathways programme. Our students also attend summer schools in Cambridge, Oxford, London and Liverpool.

As well as all of your academic work for the qualifications you want, you will want to pack in other stuff to keep you fit, to expand your skills, to make you employable, keep you nice to know, expand your mind, build up your work experience, give you opportunities to contribute, give you opportunities to volunteer.

Win - this year our MIA students and our art students both won valuable Carson Bursaries for their creative projects, and our drama students won the Carson Award.

Sport and Fitness

You can follow in the footsteps of our current 6th form who have reached the South Down finals in both football and rugby. Students have set up the 6th form basketball club, organised themselves a coach and attracted a sponsor to provide their kit. 6th form girls play with Shimna Shooters. Students are very welcome to join Shimna meditation group which meets on Wednesday evenings. 6th form students volunteer to coach junior teams in Gaelic and rugby. Our 6th form also volunteer with Shimna Stars Special Olympics Basketball Club, which provides excellent training and coaching experience. Our Duke of Edinburgh's/Gaisce Award group undertakes expedition training throughout the year, leading to their five day qualifying expedition. Gold Award students also volunteer as leaders with the Bronze Award group.

New in the coming year: our nextHabitat for Humanity heads heads to Romania.



Expand Your Skills

Volunteer: Shimna Stars, First Mourne Rainbows, Brownies and Guides; Newcastle Junior Athletics Club;

Listening Ear training is now in its fifth year, and provides an invaluable counselling skills qualification.

Make Yourself Employable

Child protection training makes you more employable for weekend and holiday work, and it is an essential pre-requisite for any job working with young people or vulnerable people;

First aid training will also add to your CV. We offer HeartStart training;

Our interview skills training provides practice and feedback for interviews at university and with employers;

Keep Yourself Well

SafeTALK anti-suicide training gives everyone the confidence to be a good friend in a personal emergency;

Our school counsellor, and our team of Listening Ears are available, and you can refer yourself using the counselling postbox;

Our study skills trainer is inspirational. Every year, he opens our minds and gets us all off to a really creative start to the year.



Expand Your Mind

The flexibility of 6th form allows you to invest in additional courses and activities. 6th form have taken part in: Mock Bar Trials; Mock Council of the European Union; Habitat for Humanity fundraising and trip to Ethiopia and Indai; Living Law Programme; Sign Language qualifications; winning Carson Bursaries;

Enter the UK Senior Maths Challenge, the physics, chemistry or biology Olympiads.

Build Up Your Work Experience

All 6th Form take part in a week's work experience in year 13.

For some careers it is essential to gain regular, small scale work experience: Living Law Programme; sports coaching; working with children or young people etc.; British Medical Association events;

Signing up for prefect duties offers the opportunity to gain work experience within Shimna. Our prefect system is open to everyone;

Get involved with Newcastle Community Cinema. Our students have the opportunity to run the cinema for a Shimna showing;

Join our Habitat for Humanity crew. The trip is truly life changing and the fundraising builds initiative.



Find Opportunities to Contribute

Join the formal committee and gain invaluable organisational skills;

Take a leading role in our Amnesty International group, Scripture Union, GSA, Eco Group or Duke of Edinburgh's/Gaisce Award group etc. and learn to lead others;

Host visitors at our P7 Day and Open Day and gain PR skills;

Run events for the junior school, for example Hallow E'en and Valentine's discos and Shimna's Got Talent.

Travel

European work experience went to Spain or Germany;

The politics trip went to London;

Students of German headed to Germany to visit one of our regular, termly international students;

Students of Irish travelled to the Donegal Gaeltacht, and to L/Derry and to the Castlewellan Gaeltacht;

Succeed! Our students have headed off to study: medicine; veterinary science; law; accountancy; film and TV production; physics; dentistry; German and Spanish; Irish language broadcasting; English literature; sports science; electronic engineering; computer science.....



It all starts with Induction

During the first week in 6th form you set off for university visits, do some group stuff up at Greenhill, Join the Habitat crew, join the Duke of Edinburgh/Gaisce Gold Group, sign up for prefect duties, sort out your ICT access, join the choir, audition for the musical, sign up for extra courses, plan your study, lunches, frees, slots in the technology or art rooms, meet the language assistants, get inspired by Ben, plan trips to Culture Night in Belfast, volunteer with NCC, Shimna Stars or the Brownies, or the Lifeboat