

CASTLEREA CS

Some points to note.....

Lockers

All students must have a locker. The lockers will be made available to students at a charge of €10 and students must provide their own locks, preferable a combination lock. Students can use lockers before school, during break & lunch times and after school.

School Journal



All students must have the standard school journal. The journal is critical to your son's/daughter's organisation & study and is an important channel of communication between the school, the student and the parent(s)/guardian(s). The journal will be provided to students by their Year Head free of charge under the Junior Cycle Schoolbooks Scheme.

Insurance

An insurance scheme is in place for all students attending CCS. For a fee of €12 students will receive 24-hour cover for injuries incurred either in and out of school. Please refer to the insurance form and information included with this pack.

Way2Pay Facility to pay the costs mentioned above will be open on the school's online Way2Pay facility. These payments must be made before the beginning of the new school year. You will receive a text with a link alerting you when the facility is open for payments.

We wish to offer a heartfelt welcome to our new students joining us in First Year and to all our other students we wish you safe & enjoyable summer break and we look forward to seeing you when you return in August. We would like to draw your attention to the following points of information pertaining to the 2024/25 academic year.

Uniform

Please note that all students must attend school in full uniform, including black shoes or black/navy 'Dubes' & the standard crested school jacket. Jackets / hoodies other than the school jacket are not allowed to be worn by students. The school uniform is available locally at Higgins' drapery store & Mulligan's. The school jacket & optional school PE attire is available from the online store Footwear other than black shoes/runners or black/navy Dubes is not permitted. Nose or facial piercings and are not permitted.



Mobile Phones

Students are advised against bringing mobile phones and/or devices to school. Where a student needs to carry a phone to school it must be kept in the student's *PhoneLocker* pouch at all times while on school grounds. Non-compliance with this rule will be dealt with through the school's code of behaviour.

Down town

All students must remain on the school grounds during the morning break and all Junior students (First, Second & Third Year) must remain on the school grounds throughout lunchtime. A fully equipped canteen provides hot & cold food/drinks at morning break and at lunchtime.

Supervised Study / Homework Club

An after-school homework club will be available free of charge to First Year students throughout the year. Exam students and other students can avail of two hours after-school supervised study sessions at a charge per term.

School Canteen & Free Lunch Scheme:

The school canteen is operational throughout the school year, providing hot and cold food and beverages at break times and lunchtimes and the school operates a free lunch scheme, whereby all students can avail of a sandwich/wrap, fruit, snacks and a drink free of charge on every school day. In addition, the canteen has an extensive menu of additional options, with an online system for pre-ordering in place.

Assessment

Formal assessment in all subjects in the shape of house exams takes place on three occasions during the year and students/parents receive a formal report following each round of assessment. In-class assessment takes place throughout the year in the shape of in-class tests, homework, assignments, tasks and projects.

VsWare

A unique username & password will be provided to all parents/guardians giving them access to your child's VsWare administration profile. This enables parents/guardians to view their child's profile, attendance, results and reports at any time.



Home School Community Liaison Coordinator (HSCL)

The HSCL Coordinator, Ms Deirdre Collins, works in partnership with parents, teachers and local community organisations to support positive educational outcomes for students. Ms Collins will be in contact with you in the new school year and will be available as a support throughout the year.

Signing in / Signing out



Clear guidelines are in place regarding students arriving at school or leaving school at unscheduled times. Where a student arrives at school outside of scheduled times he/she must be signed in at reception by a parent/guardian and the late arrival

must be entered on VsWare and where a student needs to leave school early for an appointment or otherwise, the absence should be entered on VsWare and the student must have prior permission from the Year Head. A sign-out card will be given to the student by the Year Head and the student must be signed out by a parent/guardian.

Attendance

Regular attendance has been consistently shown to be one of the primary factors in ensuring ongoing academic success both at primary and secondary level. It is also hugely influential on a child's ability to develop skills and talents, make and keep friends, achieve more confidence and to avoid anti-social behaviour and substance abuse. Where a student is absent from school the absence must be entered by a parent/guardian on VsWare, using the VsWare parent app. Under the Education (Welfare) Act, 2000 schools are obliged to submit a number of reports and notifications that relate to school attendance and is obliged to make a referral to TUSLA TESS (Tusla Education Support Service) if a student under 16 is absent for 20 days or more.

