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## Welcome to the Sixth Form in Enniskillen Royal Grammar School



I hope you will find this prospectus a useful introduction to life in the Sixth Form at Enniskillen Royal Grammar School and that it will help you as you make decisions about your plans after GCSE, whether you are currently a pupil in school or are considering joining us from another school in 2024.

Life in the Sixth Form in Enniskillen Royal Grammar School brings many opportunities and challenges through the rich and varied mix of learning experiences on offer. At the heart of the experience is the opportunity to study your chosen subjects to greater depth. This prospectus gives you details of the wide range of courses we offer. The vast majority of the twenty-seven subjects are delivered in school: Agriculture and Engineering are part of our offer through the Fermanagh Learning Community.

We aim to ensure that all of our Sixth Form pupils achieve, and perhaps, even exceed their potential in their chosen subjects: these subjects are taught by specialists passionate about their subject area and determined to ensure that our students not only achieve the best grades they can but also develop an understanding of the transferable employability skills they gain through the study of these subjects which will be of use in their future studies and in the world of work. In the Sixth Form we will both challenge you and support you: as

part of our Induction programme we will seek to help you develop the necessary study skills for success at AS and A2. We will also track your progress carefully and if you need additional support at any stage we will provide that through our mentoring programme which aims to help you to develop the necessary independence in your own target setting at this level with the support of your teachers.

Careers Education, Information and Guidance is a core feature of our Sixth Form provision as we seek to equip each of you as individuals to make well-informed choices about your next steps beyond the Sixth Form. We are proud of the wide range of third level pathways at universities and colleges right across the United Kingdom and Ireland accessed by our current pupils and their high rate of success in securing a place on their chosen courses in an increasingly competitive environment.

Our wide range of activities on offer outside the classroom are also an important part of the whole learning experience in the Sixth Form where we want to encourage you to stretch and challenge yourself in as many directions as possible.

A key feature of our Sixth Form experience is our Sixth Form Enhancement programme where pupils can take part in our Voluntary Work programme in the local community or in the Personal Development programme which allows our Year 13 and 14 pupils to experience a range of activities which develop important life skills outside the classroom.

You will also find many opportunities to develop your leadership skills in the Sixth Form, whether as a prefect, as a peer mentor, as a member of the School Council or by taking a leadership role in our many clubs and societies.

And there is still time for relaxation in the Sixth Form Centre!

Moving beyond GCSE into the Sixth Form is a big step whether you are returning to Enniskillen Royal Grammar School or joining us for the first time; we recognise this and we give you an opportunity to explore what being in the Sixth Form means as part of our Induction Programme to help you make the move successfully and to settle into life in the Sixth Form.

Overall we believe we can offer you a really good experience in the Sixth Form and we invite you warmly to come and be part of it as we encourage you, in the words of our school motto, Perstare et Praestare, to persevere and excel!

#### **Elizabeth Armstrong**

Principal

Enniskillen Royal Grammar School



# The Wider Sixth Form Experience

Within the extra-curricular programme, you will find a wealth of opportunities where you can develop your talents, exercise your skills, and learn new ones.

The following are some of the activities currently open to Sixth Form pupils:

#### Sport:

Athletics, Badminton, Cricket, Cross Country, Football, Fitness/Gym, Hockey, Netball, Rowing, Rugby, Show Jumping, Swimming, Table Tennis and Tennis.

#### Music:

Brass Band, Choir, Instrumental Ensembles (Brass, Strings and Woodwind), Orchestra and Pipe Band.

#### Other:

Cadets, Clongowes Wood Partnership, Book Club, British Biology Olympiad, Charity Events, Chess Club, Debating Society, Drama Productions, Duke of Edinburgh Award, Fermanagh Youth Leaders' Forum, Foreign Film Club, House Competitions, Mandarin Chinese, Peer Mentoring, Public Speaking, Rotary Youth Leadership, School Council, Senior Mathematical Challenge and School Trips.

Our Enrichment Programme on a Wednesday afternoon provides you with the opportunity to take part in a range of activities in addition to your academic studies as our aim is two-fold, to help you achieve excellent examination results and also to develop as a young adult, ready to take on the challenges of adult life. During our weekly Enrichment slot our teaching staff deliver aspects of our Preventative Curriculum relevant to your age and stage in your life and supported by specialised external organisations including Action Mental Health on managing stress, the Bank of Ireland on managing student finances, the PSNI on Young Driver Safety, Nexus on the area of consent, Generation Innovation on Leadership Skills and accredited speakers on Drug Awareness and Gambling.

In addition, you will have the opportunity to choose from a menu of additional activities or get involved in volunteering in a wide range of settings including local food banks, care homes, pharmacies, charity shops, schools and special schools, animal sanctuaries and with organisations such as the National Trust. The menu of activities currently on offer includes Classical Civilisation, Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Entrepreneurship and Innovation (Ennovate), Extension Physics, Recreational Sport, Rugby, Rowing and a Careers Class where focused support is available. Over the past two years nearly two hundred of our Sixth Form pupils have completed a Level 3 First Aid qualification.



# Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)

University, Apprenticeship, further education, or full-time employment? Whatever route our pupils want to take in the future, the Careers Team are here to help them choose the right pathway in life. Careers provision has a major emphasis at post-16 in our school and this reaps dividends in many ways, not least the pleasing success rate of our students' university applications, including those universities which are regarded as being the most selective. We also support our pupils in investigating the new Higher Level Apprenticeship options as an alternative to the traditional university route.

The preparation for higher education starts at the beginning of Year 13 and is complemented by in-school presentations from visiting universities, our annual trip to the UCAS Higher Education Exhibition and specifically tailored events to prepare students for various aspects of life beyond school, including interviews. In addition, students are facilitated to attend special workshops and conferences in line with their pathway. Every pupil in Year 13 has a one to one interview with our Head of Careers so that they may receive individually tailored guidance and support.

Also, in Year 13 all pupils are given the opportunity to attend one week of work experience. The purpose of this is to gain real life experience of the workplace and its demands, thereby developing essential life skills. We view this additional educational opportunity as a vital part of preparation for entry to university or the workplace.

In Year 14 the initial focus is on the completion of UCAS applications as it is the Careers Department's

policy to have these submitted as early as possible. Every pupil will receive one to one support in the writing of Personal Statements from our Head of Careers and parents are invited to attend a UCAS Information Evening in September. Early completion of UCAS allows the students to then investigate opportunities available within CAO (the Republic of Ireland Higher Education Institutions) and elsewhere. The Careers Department has excellent, longestablished links with a range of providers, including universities, colleges of further and higher education, employers, specialist bodies such as Young Enterprise, Sentinus, the Armed Forces and various professionals who support us in so many ways.

# Key Stage 5-Careers Curriculum

At Post-16 all pupils have a weekly timetabled lesson in Careers. Our Careers curriculum aims to make career development everybody's business. We work together in helping our pupils to explore, develop and shape their futures to find and take their place in local, regional, national, and global communities. Our goal is that they will make informed decisions as well-rounded and forward-looking individuals.

#### Year 13

**Unit 1:** Digital Action planning (Unifrog)

**Unit 2:** Post-18 Options

Unit 3: Work Experience

preparation

**Unit 4:** UCAS and Personal Statements (All Year 13 pupils interviewed by the Head of Careers)

#### Year 14

**Unit 1:** UCAS, Open Days **Unit 2:** Exploring Alternative Pathways

Unit 3: Interviews

Unit 4: Independent Living

**Unit 5:** University Offers, Clearing (All Year 14 pupils receive one to one support with their UCAS Personal Statement writing)

# Careers Education-Extra Curricular

In the Careers Department, we recognise that it is our responsibility to prepare pupils for jobs that do not yet exist, in the ever changing, challenging, and developing future job market. Excellent local and wider business and education links, underpinned by unique opportunities and extracurricular activities that develop wider transferable employability skills are an essential part of our Careers Curriculum.

#### Examples include:

- Post 16/18 Pathways Talks (QUB, University of Ulster, SWC, Harper Adams, Liverpool John Moores, Scottish Universities Group, etc.)
- University of Ulster 'Schools Outreach Programme'
- Apprenticeship talks and visits to local companies, e.g. Encirc
- Armed Forces: recruitment presentations
- Virtual UCAT Conference
- QUB 'Civilisation Belfast' Civil Engineering event
- Electronic Engineering Space-Themed Workshop - University of Ulster
- UCAS Higher Education Exhibitions (FLC and Eikon Centre)



#### Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) - Continued

- ERGS Medical Society (meet weekly)
- QUB Pathway Opportunity Programme
- Oxbridge Online Student Conferences and Summer Schools
- Summer Schools, e.g. Nuffield Stem Placements, PWC Virtual Insight Programme and Deloitte Aspire Programme.

#### **Careers Information, Advice and Guidance**

We make every effort to keep all pupils and their parents/guardians updated on careers-related events and opportunities through a weekly Careers Bulletin which you can access via our Parents App. (Please see snapshot below) A well-resourced Careers Section is available in the School Library which

is open daily from 8.30 am to 4.30 pm during term time.

The Careers Office is open every day from 9am to 3.30pm and operates an open-door policy. Pupils are encouraged to drop in for advice and guidance. They may also request a longer appointment for a one-to-one interview, if necessary.

#### A snapshot of our weekly CEIAG Bulletin – Week Beginning Monday 12th February 2024

<u>University of Ulster - Nutrition Taster Day - Tuesday 13 February 9.30-1pm Coleraine Campus</u>
The event is aimed at Year 12 and 13 students who may be interested in studying a course in **Food**, **Nutrition and Dietetics** at Ulster.

Pupils can register for the event

at https://www.ulster.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/events/2024/nutrition-taster-day

**Discover Directing** with Broadway and West End legend, Josie Rourke, from theatre to film. Learn from her journey to BAFTA & Oscar nominations!

Thursday 15th February | 10:00am - 10:45am| KS3-5 / S1-6 Sign-up

\*\*Spirit AeroSystems (formerly known as Bombardier) – Engineering Apprenticeship Programme is open for applications and closes at 12pm on 23 February 2023

https://careers.spiritaero.com/jobs/12978?lang=en-us

#### <u>Liverpool John Moores University - Northern Ireland Applicant Events | Belfast | Saturday 2 March 2024</u>

• Morning event: 9:30am – 12:30pm • Afternoon event: 2:00pm – 5:00pm To find out more and book a place: applicants visit www.ljmu.ac.uk/applicant.

#### **Interested in Working in Journalism**

Explore the exciting opportunities in journalism with BBC News, Assistant Editor, <u>Josie Verghese</u>. Learn how curiosity drives media success and nurtures new talent to amplify diversity in broadcasting.

Tuesday 5th March | 02:00pm - 02:45pm | KS4-5 / S4-6

Sign-up

#### **A Career in Genetics**

Dive into the mysteries of genetics with Professor <u>Laurence Hurst</u>. Discover a career in science that decodes life's secrets!

Wednesday 6th March | 11:15am - 12:00pm | KS4-5 / S4-6 Sign-up

#### **ATU – Alternative Pathways**

For students who are worried about points and how to get their dream profession - there is never just one way to accomplish career goals. ATU have set up an <u>Alternative Pathways in ATU Sligo Webpage</u> to highlight some of the pathways available to students in ATU Sligo. On this page they have explained routes to careers in: Physiotherapy - Radiography - Occupational Therapy - Speech and Language Therapy - Dietetics - PE Teaching - Primary School Teaching - Psychology - Journalism - Various Teaching Careers



## 1. Essential Criteria

To gain entry to the Sixth Form you are required to meet the following criteria:

- A minimum of seven different subjects at GCSE level grade C and above, normally to include English Language and Mathematics giving a total score of 15 points where A\*=5, A=4, B=3, C\*=2 and C=1
- Applicants must have a positive record of conduct, attendance and punctuality for the previous five years

Where there is proven evidence of special circumstances or other factors which may have affected a pupil's performance at GCSE these general requirements may be subject to review on an individual basis.

Criteria for all extra places made available by the Department of Education for admission into Year 13.

The Department of Education may, in response to a request from a school, increase the number of pupils the school can admit into Year 13. Places which become available in this way shall be allocated only to pupils who meet the essential criteria for entry as set out above and shall be allocated in the order determined by the following criteria:

- Pupils who have most recently completed Year 12 in the Enniskillen Royal Grammar School.
- Pupils from other schools who cannot pursue their post-16 course choices at a suitable school without undertaking an unreasonable journey (i.e. a journey that by public transport would be over an hour from where they young person lives). If DE finds that no other suitable school may provide all of the post-16 courses those pupils wishes to pursue, then DE will agree a school's request for an extra place.

# 2. Subject Requirements

Individual subjects will have specific requirements for selecting that subject at AS level.

Please consult the additional information to assist you in your selection of subjects.







# Subject Requirements for Admission to AS Classes in 2024

The subjects marked with an asterisk may be taken as new subjects without previous GCSE study in the area concerned.

The subjects marked (FLC) are available through the Fermanagh Learning Community and entrance requirements have been set by the college.

SUBJECTS	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE	COMMENT(S)
*Agriculture (FLC)	Minimum 4 GCSEs (Grade C or above) A waiting list may be applied, subject to demand		A recognised qualification can only be achieved after successful completion of both years of the programme
Art	GCSE Art and Design not lower than Grade B	GCSE Art and Design A*/A	
*Business Studies	GCSE Business Studies at Grade C and above: If GCSE Business Studies is not offered GCSE English Language or Literature at Grade B and above	GCSE Mathematics at Grade C*	GCSE Business Studies is not required in order to take AS Level in this subject
Biology	GCSE Double Award Science not lower than BB Minimum 112 UMS in Unit 1 and Unit 2 Biology Modules at Higher Tier of the Biology Modules GCSE Mathematics not lower than Grade B		
Chemistry	GCSE Double Award Science not lower than BB Minimum 112 UMS in Unit 1 and Unit 2 Chemistrty Modules at Higher Tier of the Chemistry modules GCSE Mathematics not lower than Grade B		
Digital Technology	GCSE Digital Technology not lower than B	GCSE Grade C* in Mathematics	
*Economics	GCSE Mathematics and GCSE English Language or English Literature not lower than Grade B		
*English Literature	GCSE English Language or English Literature not lower than Grade B. If GCSE English Literature is offered it must be at Grade C or above	Grade C* in English Literature if studied.	GCSE English Literature is not required in order to study this subject at AS Level
*Engineering (FLC)	Minimum 4 GCSEs at Grade C or above which must include Mathematics and Double Award Science (both higher tier)		If the course is oversubscribed additional entry criteria may be applied A recognised qualification can only be achieved after successful completion of both years of the programme



SUBJECTS	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE	COMMENT(S)
Further Mathematics	GCSE Mathematics not lower than Grade A including completion of the M4 and M8 modules OR Grade A in GCSE Further Mathematics	Grade A* in GCSE Mathematics including completion of the M4 and M8 modules	
French	GCSE French not lower than Grade B	GCSE French at Grade A* or Grade A	
*Geography	GCSE Geography at B or above. If GCSE Geography is not offered GCSE English Language or Literature and GCSE Mathematics at Grade B or above	Grade A or above in GCSE English Language or Literature and GCSE Mathematics	GCSE Geography is not required in order to study this subject at AS Level
German	GCSE German not lower than Grade B	GCSE German at A* or A	
*Government and Politics	GCSE English Language or Literature at Grade B or above		
*Health and Social Care	GCSE English Language or Literature not lower than Grade C*	GCSE Food and Nutrition at Grade B or above Grade B or above in Biology or Biology component of Double Award Science	
*History	GCSE History at Grade B and above. If GCSE History is not offered GCSE English Language or Literature at Grade B and above	GCSE History at Grade A or above	GCSE History is not required in order to study this subject at AS Level
Life and Health Sciences	A minimum of two C grades in DA Science		The course is suitable for those pupils who wish to follow an applied science course and may find the traditional core scientific pathways of Biology, Chemistry and Physics more challenging
Mathematics	GCSE Mathematics not lower than Grade B, including completion of the M4 and M8 modules	Grade A or higher in GCSE Mathematics including completion of the M4 and M8 modules	





SUBJECTS	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE	COMMENT(S)
*Moving Image Arts	GCSE English Language or GCSE English Literature at Grade C* and above. If GCSE Moving Image Arts is offered at Grade C or above	Completion of a relevant creative subject at GCSE level other than Moving Image Arts, including: Art & Design, Drama/ Performing Arts, ICT, Music An interest in Photography / Lens-based media and competent skills in ICT and digital platforms	GCSE Moving Image Arts is not required in order to take AS Level in this subject
*Music	GCSE Music not lower than Grade C*	Grade A* - B in GCSE Music Grade 4 Theory Grade C* or above in English Language	Any student who did not take GCSE Music can consider AS Music in discussion with their Music teacher if:  (i) He/she is an enthusiastic musician and plays an instrument in or out of school to at least Grade 5 standard.  (ii) He/she has keyboard/piano skills to at least Grade 4 standard.  (iii) He/she has studied theory of Music to Grade 4 standard.
Nutrition and Food Science	GCSE Food and Nutrition not lower than Grade C* GCSE English Language or English Literature not lower than Grade C*	C* or above in Biology or Biology component of Double Award Science	
*Performing Arts	GCSE English Language or English Literature at C* and above. If GCSE Drama is offered it must be at Grade C and above Grade 5 or above in chosen instrument if following Music as Discipline in Performing Arts	Grade B or above in GSCE Drama, Music or Performing Arts for performing disciplines Grade B or above in GSCE Art and Design/Moving Image Arts/ Technology for production disciplines Grade C* or above in English Literature Extra-curricular participation in the Arts	GCSE Drama is not required in order to take AS level in this subject
Physics	GCSE Double Award Science not lower than BB in Double-Award Science Minimum 112 UMS in Unit 1 and Unit 2 Physics Modules at Higher Tier in the Physics components GCSE Mathematics not lower than Grade B	To have studied GCSE Further Mathematics	
Spanish	GCSE Spanish not lower than Grade B	GCSE Spanish at Grade A* or A	
*Religious Studies	If GCSE Religious Studies is offered it must be at Grade C and above	GCSE English Language or English Literature at Grade C and above	GCSE RE is not required in order to take AS in this subject
*Sports Science and the Active Leisure Industry	Grade C and above in GCSE PE If GCSE PE not offered, Grade C and above in the Biology component of Double Award Science Evidence of the ability to play at least ONE sport at a competitive level either in or out of school	GCSE PE at Grade B and above A Duke of Edinburgh Award qualification Evidence of the ability to play a SECOND sport at a competitive level either in or out of school	AS coursework involves a Fitness programme and A2 coursework involves Event Management
Technology and Design	GCSE Technology and Design at Grade B and above	Grade A or above in GCSE Design and Technology	





# Useful Questions to Ask

As you consider taking AS levels in Year 13, here are some useful questions to ask yourself.

1 Have I sufficient ability in the subjects to tackle them successfully at AS level and possibly A-level?

Take the invaluable advice of your subject teacher who knows your level of achievement during your GCSE years.

2. Are the AS Levels which I propose to choose suitable for the career I hope to follow?

This is particularly important if you are considering a scientific or medical career.

Which of these subjects would I need to follow through to A2 level?

- 3. Are there any specific GCSE subjects required for that career as well as A-Levels?
- 4. Are all my subjects acceptable to Universities, Colleges, professions, etc..?

If you have any doubts about the acceptability of your subjects check with the Careers teacher before you make your final choice.

- 5. In the light of the difficult economic conditions prevailing at present, and the greatly increased competition for available jobs, what qualifications do I need to obtain the sort of job I want?
- 6. Do I really like the subjects I am going to choose? Have I checked carefully what the AS/A level course would include?
- 7. Do I have the self-discipline and the commitment to study consistently throughout the two vears?

You will need to be motivated and organised to devote in the region of 12-15 hours a week to study outside school.

#### For question 1

consult your subject teacher

#### For questions 2-5

consult the Careers Staff

Questions 6 & 7

only YOU can answer









### Name: Amy Meeke

#### **Subjects Studied:**

Business, Economics, Technology and Design

#### **Extracurricular Involvement:**

Since joining ERGS, I have been involved with the Senior Girls' Rugby team. I have played throughout the year in blitzes against other schools and we have made it to the Schools' Cup Final at Kingspan. This is a huge achievement for the team, and it makes all the hard work and training throughout the year worth it. Rugby has taught me many things including the values of being part of a team, and working towards a common goal which has also developed my communication skills. A lot of the skills I have gained are transferable in in everyday life such as commitment, time management and responsibility. Outside of school I have also trained and played for Ulster U16s/ 18s teams for both 7/15 aside.

#### **Sixth Form Enrichment:**

The enrichment programme in school enhances our skills and qualities whilst also allowing us to build our CV. I chose to do work experience during my periods of enrichment which has helped me to pursue and get an insight into what I would like to do as a career in the future. There is something for everyone when it comes to enrichment, including a range of sports, the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme and volunteering.

#### **Future Aspirations:**

In the future I would like to study Business Finance or Economics at university.

#### **Sixth Form Life at ERGS:**

Going from GCSE to A level is a big step as it is, but transitioning schools at the same time was quite intimidating. My change of school couldn't have been smoother. Having known people in my year beforehand helped to settle the nerves but since moving I have met so many new people. Everyone was very kind and welcoming which made me feel right at home in my year.



Name: Ben Foster

#### **Subjects Studied:**

Technology and Design, Business Studies & Religious Studies

#### **Extracurricular Involvement:**

Throughout school I have been heavily involved in the School Council where I am currently the Chairperson. This year in the school council we have conducted an Anti- Bullying pupil consultation along with fundraising for organisations such as Action Cancer and End Polio Now. We also had an audience with the NI Commissioner for children and young people in which we listened to each other and shared opinions. During my time at school, I have also taken part in many sporting activities and in particular rugby, which I have played from first year. This year I participated in the 1st XV rugby team that got to the quarterfinals of the Schools' Cup.

#### **Sixth Form Enrichment:**

For Enrichment this year I was given

a range of different choices including the Army team building activities and a Study Skills workshop hosted by Learnspark. For most of the year, I was able to play rugby, and this gave me and the other members of my team the chance to improve our skills and prepare for matches.

#### **Future Aspirations:**

After school I hope to study Mechatronics at University or through an Apprenticeship.

#### **Sixth Form Life at ERGS:**

In Sixth Form more is expected of you in relation to your workload and the ability to work independently. This step up should not be seen as a burden but as a positive challenge: the addition of study periods allows you to manage your workload and time more easily. Through choosing subjects that I was interested in I have thoroughly enjoyed the transition from GCSE. This is because I have appreciated learning more detail on the topics I was previously taught in junior school in my chosen subjects.







### Name: Darcey Crawford

#### **Subjects Studied:**

French, Spanish, English Literature and Business Studies

#### **Extracurricular Involvement:**

This year I have been involved in our school debating team and took part in the Northern Irish Schools' Debating Competition, as well as helping to host the first Royal Schools' Debate after COVID. Additionally, my passion for languages led me to enter the Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators, in which I finished first in Northern Ireland and was the UK Runner Up in Level 4 Spanish. Alongside this I am a member of the School Choir and take part in Fermanagh and Omagh Youth Voice and the NICCY Youth Panel outside of school.

#### **Sixth Form Enrichment:**

The designated Enrichment Periods are a great opportunity for students to take part in a variety of activities, suited to their career aspirations. In Year 13 I completed the Cambridge Level 1 Latin

Course, which helped to improve my understanding of French and Spanish as Romance Languages. Additionally, students at ERGS have the chance to give back to our local community by taking part in voluntary work across Fermanagh.

#### **Future Aspirations:**

I hope to do a degree in European Studies at Trinity College Dublin when I leave school.

#### **Sixth Form Life at ERGS:**

Whilst the transition from GCSE to A Level was a challenge, the step up in workload and responsibility is a positive one, which is fully supported by the teaching staff at ERGS. Studying A Levels at Sixth Form allows each student to broaden their knowledge and understanding of their chosen subjects and to develop skills to help prepare them for further education. I would also strongly urge that students take advantage of the wide range of extracurricular activities on offer, to help maintain a balance between schoolwork and making the most of your last two years at school.



Name: Eamon Greene

#### Subjects:

Biology, Chemistry and Sports Science & the Active Leisure Industry

#### **Extracurricular Involvement:**

Playing rugby takes up the bulk of my time outside of class. Those of you who play know that most of our games take place on Saturdays, but occasionally we will get out of school for competitions... I'm writing this on the bus on the way to a Sevens' tournament. Earlier in the year I was involved in our senior drama production of Amadeus. This was our first senior production and if you get the chance to do one next year, please do take up the opportunity. It will add something different to your CV.

#### **Sixth Form Enrichment:**

We have our Enrichment last three periods on a Wednesday afternoon, and it is an opportunity for everyone to gain more work experience or get involved in recreational sport.

#### **Future aspirations:**

Next year I hope to study Medicine, and through school I was able to get work experience in the SWAH over the summer holidays. I also spent time volunteering and working at a residential home for adults with learning disabilities.

#### **Differences in approaches to study:**

I am probably the last person to talk about study techniques - my favourite and only technique is cramming the night before. However, one big change in Sixth Form is having study periods during the week and if you use these productively to do homework and revision, you will be fine.







## Name: Robbie McIlwrath

#### **Subjects Studied**

Biology, French, Technology & Design and Government & Politics

#### **Extracurricular Involvement:**

Rugby has been an integral part of my ERGS life, and I have been heavily involved with the senior squads, making appearances with both the 1sts and 2nds in both the prestigious Schools' Cup and the 2nds Cup; in both of which we reached the quarterfinals. Rugby has helped me to develop friendships and transferable skills, for example, time management, resilience, and commitment. I have had the opportunity to be involved with Junior and Senior SU throughout my time at school and am now part of the S.U. committee which involves, on a weekly basis, helping to organise food, speakers, games and more recently helping to organise a fundraising social, which had over one hundred young people in attendance. Additionally, I have undertaken the role of Form Captain, and the role of secretary within the School Council. One of our most recent achievements was fundraising for Mr David Donaldson for his journey up to Base Camp Everest in aid of Action Cancer and End Polio Now.

#### **Sixth Form Enrichment:**

During my Sixth Form Enrichment time, the rugby squad has taken the opportunity to train together and used the time to watch and analyse previous performances and teams to see how we can progress our skills and break down the performance of various teams we face on a weekly basis. I have also used this time to complete a certificate in First Aid.

#### **Future Aspirations:**

After school I hope to study Physiotherapy at Ulster University and specialise in Sports' Physiotherapy, an interest which has developed through my involvement in rugby.

#### **Sixth Form Life at ERGS:**

I have enjoyed the increase in personal responsibility and independence, A levels are a step up from GCSE and they are a lot more content heavy, however, they are very manageable if you stay on top of your revision and notes by using your study periods to your advantage. Furthermore, I would urge you to pick the subjects that you enjoy and find easy to do as you will have more motivation to get the good grades you deserve. You will get two periods to yourself during the week, two' free' periods, where you can go to the Sixth Form Centre to relax.



Name: Jessica Noble

#### **Subjects Studied:**

Biology, English Literature, Geography, Art

#### **Extracurricular Involvement:**

During school I have participated in several public speaking competitions including the Soroptimist International Public Speaking competition where I came in first place in my local heat and went on to represent Fermanagh in finals in Hillsborough. I also took part in the Fermanagh Feis where I came joint third. I was also a participant in the first round of the Rotary Youth Leadership competition.

#### **Sixth Form Enrichment:**

In Sixth Form we can take part in the enrichment programme which gives us

the opportunity, for example, to engage in team building tasks provided by the Army. Through enrichment I also has the chance to do an additional GCSE in Classical Civilisation.

#### **Future aspirations:**

I hope to study Marine Biology or Environmental conservation at university.

#### Sixth Form life at ERGS:

Sixth Form study is a big change from GCSE in many respects. For one, the relationship with your teachers changes a lot and we feel like we have a lot more freedom in school with the Sixth Form Centre. The addition of study periods has helped me develop my independent learning. Sixth Form also offers a lot of in-school opportunities which makes you feel more involved in the school life.







Name:
Olivia Black

#### **Subjects Studied:**

Maths, Geography and Health and Social Care

#### **Extracurricular Involvement:**

Throughout my time at school, I have been heavily involved in Girls' Rugby. I am co-captain of the Senior Girls' Team, and we are currently preparing for the Schools' Cup Final, having already taken the title last year. Playing sport in school has enabled me to develop many transferable skills, such as time management, commitment, and responsibility. I also assist in coaching the junior pupils. Since Year 8 I have served as a member of the School Choir, participating in many public events such as carol services. During my school career I have also been involved in the School Council and have been Form Captain, enhancing my leadership skills.

#### **Sixth Form Enrichment:**

Enrichment periods at ERGS provide a flood of opportunities, catering for a variety of interests. I took the opportunity to complete work experience in various local primary schools to help me prepare for my future career. Additionally, a range of businesses and organisations were welcomed to the school throughout the year to deliver talks on subjects such as healthy relationships, exam stress, and managing money.

#### **Future Aspirations:**

In September, I hope to go to Stranmillis University to study Primary Education. The Careers Department in ERGS have gone above and beyond to provide support to us all in making university applications, writing personal statements and during our Careers lessons.

#### **Sixth Form Life at ERGS:**

Transferring to Sixth Form from KS4 can be very challenging and a step that I admittedly underestimated. I would advise choosing A level subjects that you are really interested in and passionate about, as this will make study time more enjoyable. You should enter the Sixth Form experience ready to be organised and I would urge you to find a study/life balance as soon as possible, to ensure you can also make the most of the sporting, social and cultural aspects of being a student. Finally, I would recommend you take time to enjoy Sixth Form by taking as many opportunities as possible; ERGS has something to offer for everyone.



Name: Mark Wallace

#### **Subjects Studied:**

Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Further Mathematics

#### **Extracurricular Involvement:**

I am a member of the Medicine/ Early Applicants Society which has greatly increased my awareness of the supercurricular opportunities offered to AS level students. This has motivated me to better prepare for my university application. I found that despite the greater workload in the Sixth Form, it was still possible to indulge my hobbies of music, languages & hiking, while also taking on new clubs. For career-oriented

students, ERGS offers invaluable support that I highly recommend.

#### **Sixth Form Enrichment:**

This year I participated in the Extension Physics classes, which have allowed me to explore the subject in greater depth I believe that this class has increased my passion for and understanding of Physics.

#### **Future Aspirations:**

I wish to study Physics in the UK, possibly pursuing a specialised degree in Theoretical Physics.
This summer I will be attending an "Experience Physics" day with Queens' University and completing a four-week astrophysics course with Sentinus.



















Name:
James Morrison

#### **Subjects studied:**

Business Studies, Technology & Design and Nutrition & Food Science

#### **Extracurricular Involvement:**

I have been heavily involved in school life right since Year 8. I have been a member of the Brass Band, Woodwind Band, Scripture Union, School Choir and Student Council, alongside a wide variety of sporting activities. I have been fortunate enough to sing solos at our annual carol service as well as playing at concerts and charity events with the Brass Band. I have captained our 1st XV on several occasions over the last two years, and this year was privileged to be appointed as Vice-captain of the senior squad. The coaches encouraged me to complete my IRFU Coaching Course, which has allowed me to coach the Year 8s for the past few years. The staff at ERGS have been extremely

supportive of my extracurricular activities and competitions outside of school, allowing me the chance to represent NI at regional and national level. This year I am also Vice Chairman of Co. Fermanagh YFC.

#### **Future Aspirations:**

Following A' levels I hope to study Sustainable Agriculture with Business, and I have a job opportunity secured with Harrison and Hetherington Livestock Auctioneers.

#### **Sixth Form Life:**

Sixth Form has been a positive challenge, but I would be lying if I said A levels have been easy; they require a high level of hard work and dedication. However, the Sixth Form staff at ERGS are well equipped to help provide supportive help, for example helping when planning your study time periods. The key to excelling in Sixth Form is selecting subjects you have a passion for.



Name: Dylan Seaney

#### **Subjects Studied:**

Maths, Digital Technology, Technology & Design, Business Studies

#### **Extracurricular Involvement:**

In my first few months of being in ERGS I was involved in the school U18 football team which competed in the NI Schools' Cup. I think being part of the football team really helped me to fit in with my new classmates and made me more confident in general about my Sixth Form experience. I have also participated in the Clongowes Wood partnership which allowed me to connect with people I normally wouldn't have met and allowed me to work with other pupils from my year which helped me to get to know them better.

#### **Sixth Form Enrichment:**

During my enrichment period I participated in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme in which I have learned

a series of life skills, developing my ability to navigate in the wild whilst also making further friendships and enjoying camaraderie.

#### **Future Aspirations:**

I hope to study Quantity Surveying at University.

#### Sixth Form Life at ERGS:

Sixth Form allows more focused study on the specific subjects that you are passionate about and enjoy. The step up from GCSEs is very noticeable and moving from one school to another makes the transition harder but if you put in the work then it will become second nature to you. Study periods have been a big help to me this year, as it allows me to recap over work done in class and prepare for future classes. Enrichment gives students a chance to bond in new activities. There are also a lot of talks offered about future opportunities which gives us motivation to work harder within Sixth Form to be successful in the future.







Name: Ella Prior-Jones

#### **Subjects Studied:**

English Literature, Performing Arts, Biology, Government and Politics

#### **Extracurricular Involvement:**

During my time at ERGS, I have been involved with the school's senior choir, which enabled me to experience the carol service. Additionally, I also participated in the Soroptimist Public Speaking competition which allowed me the opportunity to push my boundaries as I had not much previous experience with public speaking. I am also a member of our Sixth Form committee, which is in charge of maintaining our Sixth Form Centre.

#### **Sixth Form Enrichment:**

ERGS provides us with a variety of different talks ranging from study help workshops to PSNI talks: these enrich our Sixth Form experience by not only giving us insight into different topics but they can also inspire us for future careers.

#### **Future Aspirations:**

Before coming to Sixth Form, I didn't really have much of an idea of what I wanted to do in the future, I was more just going with the flow and as a result chose subjects that I enjoyed at GCSE and seemed interesting to me. However, after participating in our Careers class I now have more of an idea and I hope to go on to study Law.

#### **Sixth Form Life at ERGS:**

As a new student to ERGS, I can't say I wasn't nervous when I decided to come here for AS, since I knew that Year 13 was going to be a big step up from GCSE as well as adjusting to a new school. Despite this I can safely say that my fears were not reflective of what the new school year would entail. I fitted in immediately and was made to feel incredibly welcome by my fellow classmates: before the end of the first week it was like I had been here forever. Nevertheless, the workload for AS is not to be underestimated and I find it is very important to keep on top of your work as it is extremely easy to fall behind.



Name:
Patrick Williams

#### **Subjects Studied:**

Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Sports Science at AS level

#### **Sixth Form Life at ERGS:**

Sixth Form in ERGS has provided me with wonderful opportunities to excel academically. Once I identified a career that I was keen to pursue (Medicine), the Careers Department at ERGS provided me with brilliant help and

support when applying to universities, completing my UCAS form, preparing for interviews/entrance tests, and helping to organise work experience. The vast range of clubs and activities that you can take part in at ERGS is something that I have taken full advantage of. I have been involved in rugby, athletics, cross-country running, showjumping, and Scripture Union, to name a few. I believe that the unique range of opportunities in Sixth Form at ERGS allows you to unlock the best version of yourself.









### Name: Faith Gould

#### **Subjects Studied:**

Business Studies, Biology, Technology and Design and Agriculture

#### **Extracurricular Involvement:**

During my time at school, I have been heavily involved in hockey, competing in the McDowell cup on several occasions for the 1st X1. I have participated in the Ulster Schools' Athletics competition taking part in the 100m sprint, relay, and long jump. Additionally, I have enjoyed involvement in Scripture Union and the school choir which has enabled me to experience events such as the annual school carol service. The school has provided me with opportunities that have pushed me out of my comfort zone, such as the Fermanagh Feis Public Speaking Competition. I would strongly recommend availing of any opportunities presented during your last two years of school as they will help to develop your skills and qualities for life after school.

#### **Sixth Form Enrichment:**

I have found the Sixth Form Enrichment programme very beneficial, as it provides you with the opportunity to enhance experience and skills, for example this year I coached junior hockey.

#### **Future Aspirations:**

Following A-Levels I hope to study Sustainable Agriculture at the University of Ulster

#### **Sixth Form Life at ERGS:**

The transition from GSCE to A-Levels is a big step up, with an increase in workload and independence. Whilst this can be an enjoyable change it can also be a challenge. I strongly advise that you take full advantage of Private Study periods during school to allow for a more manageable workload and to alleviate some of the pressure at the end of the year. It is important to remain organised and up to date with work to allow you to have a balanced workload and have some free time for things such as extracurricular activities.



Name: Jessica Stronge

#### **Subjects Studied:**

Maths, Biology, Chemistry and Geography

#### **Extracurricular Involvement:**

Throughout my time at school, I have participated in music, being involved in Woodwind Ensemble and Senior Wind Band. I am now working towards completing my Grade 8 Flute in Year 14. ERGS has an active Scripture Union, which I attend regularly. Through this I have become a member of the Inter-schools SU Committee, I am also a member of the Senior Netball squad. Opportunities to participate in public speaking have been encouraged and I have taken part in the Soroptimists' Fermanagh heat and recently won the public speaking section of the Fermanagh Feis. Through the Fermanagh Rotary Youth Leadership programme, I have been able to

develop key interview skills which I hope will benefit me as I undergo the university application and interview process next year.

#### **Sixth Form Enrichment:**

Sixth Form Enrichment at ERGS provides a wide range of options, from volunteering and work experience to Extension Physics and Latin classes. I chose to partake in the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award as I really enjoyed the Bronze Award in junior school. The opportunity to gain a First Aid qualification in school this year has taught me key skills which will be necessary for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and indeed in later life. Enrichment provides a break from studying whilst being able to develop other key skills, such as teamwork, problem solving and time management.

#### **Future Aspirations:**

I hope to study Dentistry at university when I leave school.





#### Name: Emily-Jane Bloomfield

#### Subjects studied:

Biology, History, and Religious Studies (AS Chemistry)

#### **Extracurricular involvement:**

Throughout school I have been very involved in music, being a member of the Senior Choir and Wind Band as well as the EAWR Senior Youth Orchestra. I have also achieved Grade 8 Clarinet and Piano through school. I am a current member of the 1st XI Hockey and played for the school rugby and netball teams up to Year 12 and 13 respectively. As a member of the School Debating Club, I also represented ERGS at the Northern Ireland Schools Debating Competition.

#### **Sixth Form Enrichment:**

The Sixth Form Enrichment programme is a great way to enhance your personal qualities. This programme offers a range of presentations on important topics and provides workshops to develop teambuilding and other important skills. Enrichment also enables students to

participate in a range of activities such as volunteering or sports. For instance, this year I volunteered at Fermanagh Community Advice which was both rewarding and a valuable insight into an area of the career field which I hope to pursue.

#### **Future Aspirations:**

I hope to study Law at Queen's University Belfast next year.

#### **Sixth Form Life at ERGS:**

Although the transition from GCSE to A-Levels is challenging, being able to focus on subjects I enjoy made it somewhat easier. Gaining a deeper knowledge of specific fields you are interested in for your future career also makes the learning process feel a lot more worthwhile. I have really enjoyed the independence of Sixth Form. Having free periods for study has allowed me to balance my schoolwork and extracurricular activities, which are another important part of the ERGS Sixth Form experience. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at school, and my memories of ERGS will be some of my most cherished!

