

Loreto Secondary School

Granges Road, Kilkenny



Phone: +353 056 776513

Website: www.loretokk.ie

Type of School: Girls, day pupils

Students: 948 Students

UNIFORM

- Skirt:** Royal blue
- Shoes:** Black or navy
- Jumper:** Grey with school crest
- Shirt:** White with school crest



BRIEF STATEMENT



As a catholic school in the Loreto tradition, we aim to create a warm and caring community. In an atmosphere of respect and fairness, through support and friendship, we affirm each person`s self-worth and dignity. We aim to provide a student-centred education that nurtures the talents and potential of all. In co-operation with parents and guardians, we work towards the spiritual, moral, social and academic development of each student. Our wish is that our students will grow into happy, confident and responsible adults.

SCHOOL DAY

Class Times: The school building is open from 8am each morning. The school day is as follows:

Monday to Thursday: 8.50am to 3.50pm

Friday: 8.50am to 2.40pm

First bell rings at 8.40am and students should be in the school at this time to given themselves adequate time to prepare for the first lesson. Students should not remain on the premises after school unless they are involved in organised school activities or supervised study. Supervision is provided in the school for students who are waiting for buses on Friday.

Lunch is from 12.20 to 1.20 on Monday to Thursday and from 12.25 to 12.55 on Friday.

First/Second/Third and Fourth Years are not permitted to go into town or to any shop at lunch time. If they are not going to their own homes they must stay on the premises for the duration.

CURRICULUM

Junior cycle

In First Year, all students study the full range of subjects on offer for the duration of the year. Therefore, no choices have to be made prior to enrolment. This allows students to make a more informed decision with regard to their options for Junior Certificate. Furthermore, we operate mixed ability classes throughout the school with the exception of Irish and Mathematics from Second Year onwards and English from Fifth Year. Higher and Ordinary classes are formed in these subjects.

- Art
- Business Studies
- Civic Social Political Education (C.S.P.E.)
- English
- French
- Geography
- German
- History
- Home Economics
- Irish
- Maths
- Music
- Religious Education
- Science.

In addition, students take the following non-examination subjects which are a vital part of our programme. These subjects are taken up to Third Year:

Choir (optional after First Year), Physical Education (PE), Social Personal Health Education (SPHE)

In the Spring of First Year, students choose **three** optional subjects, with which they will continue in Second Year, from the following:

Art, Business Studies, French, German, Home Economics, Music.

Students must select at least one continental language (except where advised not to in an educational assessment), and may choose both. We have great success in ensuring that the maximum number of students gets to study their preferred subjects. Last year, all of our first years got their preferred options!

Transition Year

Our Transition Year Programme (T.Y.) is an optional year that bridges the gap between the more dependent learning style of Junior Certificate and the Leaving Certificate. It is hugely popular in Loreto, with the majority of students opting for the programme. T.Y. encourages personal and social development and recognises the need for students to grow in independence.

Transition Year fosters academic achievement as students prepare for the Leaving Certificate programme, further study and adult and working life. It encourages the development of a wide range of transferrable critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills. As well as a full programme of academic subjects, students can avail:

Modules

- Crafts
- Music
- Technology
- Mini-Business
- Ceili
- Social Education
- Debating
- Drama
- Health & Safety
- Computers
- Chinese (Language & Culture)
- Development Education
- Active Schools
- Sports Leadership
- Spanish
- Communication Skills
- Agricultura Science
- Typing Skills

Workshops

- Graphic Design
- First Aid
- Creative Thinking
- Project Maths Trail
- Storytelling and Performance as Gaeilge
- Rhythm
- Song Dance and Cultural Awareness
- HACCP (food safety)
- Forensics Workshop
- Poetry Writing
- Self-defence
- SOAR Mental health Interactive Drug and Alcohol Awareness Programme

Senior cycle

We offer a broad range of subjects in the Leaving Certificate. All students take the core examination subjects as follows:

- Irish
- English
- Mathematics
- Religious Education
- Guidance
- Computers (there is also the option of Computer Programming)
- Physical Education
- Social Personal & Health Education

Students also choose **four** of the following option subjects:

- Art
- Music
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Agricultural Science,
- Home Economic
- Accounting
- Business
- Economics
- Geography
- History
- French
- German.

On average, 98% of our students will receive their top four preferences.

Leaving Certificate Applied: a distinct, self-contained two-year programme aimed at preparing students for adult and working life. The programme puts an emphasis on forms of achievement and excellence, which the established Leaving Certificate has not recognised in the past. The programme is offered subject to sufficient demand.

Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme: available each year to students, offers an enhanced Leaving Certificate in the form of the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme. The L.C.V.P. student undertakes the study of two Link Modules: “Enterprise Education” and “Preparation for the World of Work”. The programme increases the number of C.A.O. points secured by many of those that take the course.

SPORTS FACILITIES

At Loreto, we are proud of our sporting tradition and our excellent sports facilities. These facilities are available to hire to the general public and to sports clubs, subject to certain terms and conditions.

- Olympic standard Basketball Court
- Indoor Soccer
- Astro Turf Hockey/Soccer pitch (Floodlit)
- Full size soccer pitch or 4 seven-a-side pitches
- Fully equipped with shower/dressing facilities



Olympic Standard Basketball Arena

EXTRACURRICULAR

Music

Music is an integral part of the life of our school. All 1st Year students take part in choir and it is an option in all other years. More than 500 girls sing in school choirs and the annual highlight of the year is our participation in the Kilkenny Music Festival. The girls regularly perform in school concerts, liturgies and other school events. In recent years, our 6th Year choir competed in the Bratislava Advent Festival, winning a Gold award. Our school orchestra, with over 100 members, rehearses every Thursday after school, giving students the opportunity to develop as ensemble players. The orchestra competes annually in the All Ireland Feis Ceoil and we have claimed the Dorothy Meyer Cup on numerous occasions (most recently 2015). This is the premier orchestra competition for second-level school orchestras in Ireland.

Sports

We offer a wide range of sports and are proud of the level of participation and success. We have an Olympic standard gymnasium/ basketball arena, an all-weather, astroturf floodlit Hockey pitch as well as a Camogie/Gaelic football pitch. We also have a suite of Gym equipment (spinning machines, weights, cross trainers etc.) which our senior students can avail of outside of class time. Training for games takes place during lunch hour and after school.

- Athletics
- Running Club/Cross Country
- Hockey
- Basketball
- Swimming
- Soccer
- Camogie
- Gaelic Football
- Badminton

Debating



Please feel free to refer to the school website for further information on the school.