



AQUINAS
DIOCESAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Induction Evening Year 14

3rd September 2026



Personal Spiritual Educational Excellence



AQUINAS
DIOCESAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Schedule

Dr Dowling: Welcome and Introductions

Mr McAufield: UCAS and Careers

Dr Oliver: Head of Sixth Form

Mr McGrath: Head of Year 14



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Mr McAufield Head of Careers

UCAS Application Process



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Dr Oliver

Head of Sixth Form

Curriculum and Pastoral Information



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AQUINAS

Encouraging set of AS results for the year group.

Solid foundation to progress to A2 in Year 14.

Still a long way to go.

Avoid complacency.

~ 68% of all AS grades A-B

~ 88% of all AS grades A-C

**I'M A GREAT BELIEVER IN
LUCK; AND I FIND THE HARDER
I WORK THE MORE I HAVE OF IT.**





Pastoral	Curriculum	SEN	CP & Safeguarding	Examinations/ Administration
Tutor	Tutor/Teacher	Tutor/TLA/ Learning Support	Staff Member	Office Staff
HOY Mr McGrath	HOD/HOY			
Head of sixth form Dr Oliver	CLT link for department	SENCO KS5 Mr McAteer	DDT KS5 Ms Skelton-Lambon Dr Oliver	Examinations Officer Miss Dillon
VP Pastoral Dr O'Hagan	VP Curriculum Ms Skelton-Lambon	VP Pastoral Dr O'Hagan	DT VP Pastoral Dr O'Hagan	
Principal	Principal	Principal	Principal	Head of Centre Principal



Data Tracking – Key Dates and Format

Data Tracking	Format	Dates	Report
CIP1	Class test/ assignment	Beginning of October	Result
DT2	Mock exam	Late November/ Early December	Result and comment
CIP3	Class test/ assignment	Late February/ Early March	Result



Qualification Information

Majority of AL subjects offered through CCEA.

Exceptions are Sociology, PE, Theatre Studies (WJEC), and Psychology (AQA).

CCEA and WJEC qualifications unitised:

- Year 13 AS = 40% and Year 14 A2 = 60%;
- A* requires an A grade overall and an average of at least 90% UMS across the A2 modules only.

AQA qualifications are linear: only examinations taken at end of Year 14 contribute to final grade.



Qualification Information

Some qualifications have coursework/practical components eg Digital Technology, English Lit, MIA, Food and Nutrition, Physical Education, Technology and Design.

Important information for pupils/parents regarding coursework, examinations, malpractice etc.

<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/information-for-candidates-documents/>



Coursework and NEAs

Information for candidates

Coursework assessments

Effective from 1 September 2026

You can demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of a subject by using information from sources, or generated from sources, which may include the internet and AI. Remember, though, information from these sources may be incorrect or biased. You **must** take care how you use this material - you cannot copy it and claim it as your own work.

Referencing

- Printed book or journal
- Internet
- Computer generated content
eg AI

Plagiarism

Plagiarism involves taking someone else's words, thoughts, ideas or outputs and not crediting the source. This includes outputs from AI tools. **Plagiarism is a form of cheating which is taken very seriously.**

Sanctions for breaking the regulations

If it is discovered that you have broken the rules, one of the following sanctions will be applied:

- you will be awarded zero marks for your work;
- you will be disqualified from that unit for that examination series;
- you will be disqualified from the whole subject for that examination series;
- you will be disqualified from all subjects and barred from entering again for a period of time.

The awarding body will decide which sanction is appropriate.

REMEMBER – IT'S YOUR QUALIFICATION SO IT NEEDS TO BE YOUR OWN WORK.



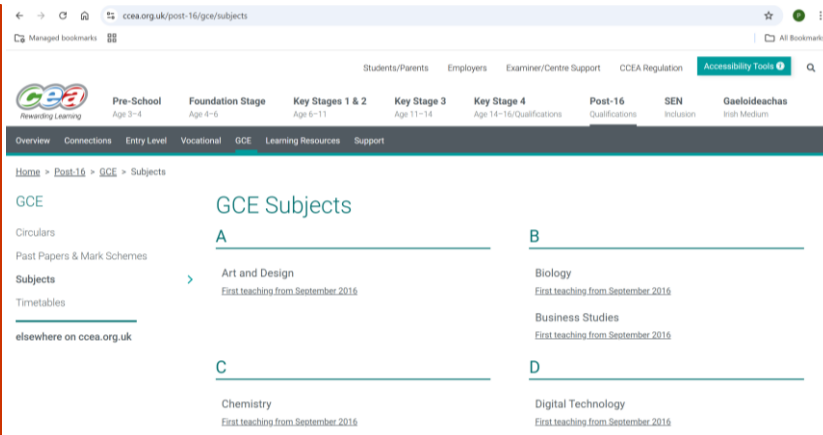
Qualification Information

Most students will drop their fourth AS subject when moving into Year 14.

This should be discussed with their subject and Careers teachers, before final approval from Ms Skelton-Lambon and Dr Dowling.

Further information on all GCE qualifications can be found on the examination board websites.

CCEA: <https://ccea.org.uk/post-16/gce/subjects>





Tips and advice for this year

Look at possibility of AS resits to improve overall AL grade.

- Attend some of the Year 13 AS classes.
- Sit Data Tracking papers for relevant AS resit modules.
- Join Year 13 AS GCs (if applicable).
- Maximum of 2/3 AS resit modules recommended in Year 14.
- Class teachers can offer subject specific advice.
- Resit applications made via office in December/January.

Supervised study in the Learning Centre
(morning and afternoon).

Take DT examinations seriously (especially DT2).

- Best indicator of progress and performance.

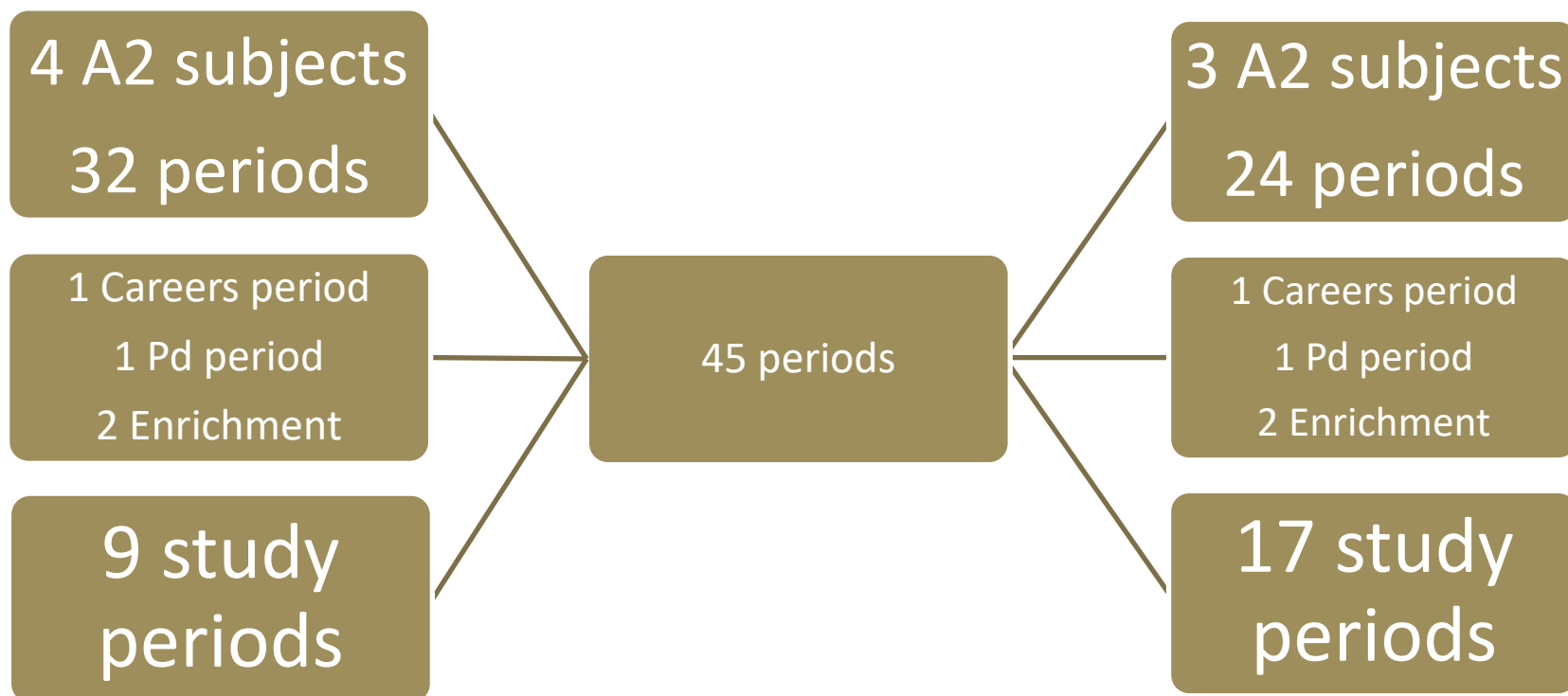




Tips and advice for this year

Prepare/organise a study schedule.

- One hour per subject per day recommended.
- Use STUDY periods wisely (not FREE periods).





Tips and advice for this year

Regular attendance in lessons.

Reduce/minimise impact of other commitments eg part-time work, sport.

Start early and work consistently.

- Earn your rewards throughout the year.

Revise smart: develop effective revision strategies.

- Ask class teachers for subject specific advice.
- Research shows that practising questions (eg from past papers etc.) and marking your work is much more beneficial than passively copying, re-reading or highlighting notes.





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Sixth Form Enrichment Program

Provides an opportunity to develop valuable transferable skills and experience outside the classroom.

BAR MOCK
TRIAL





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Dates for diary: first term

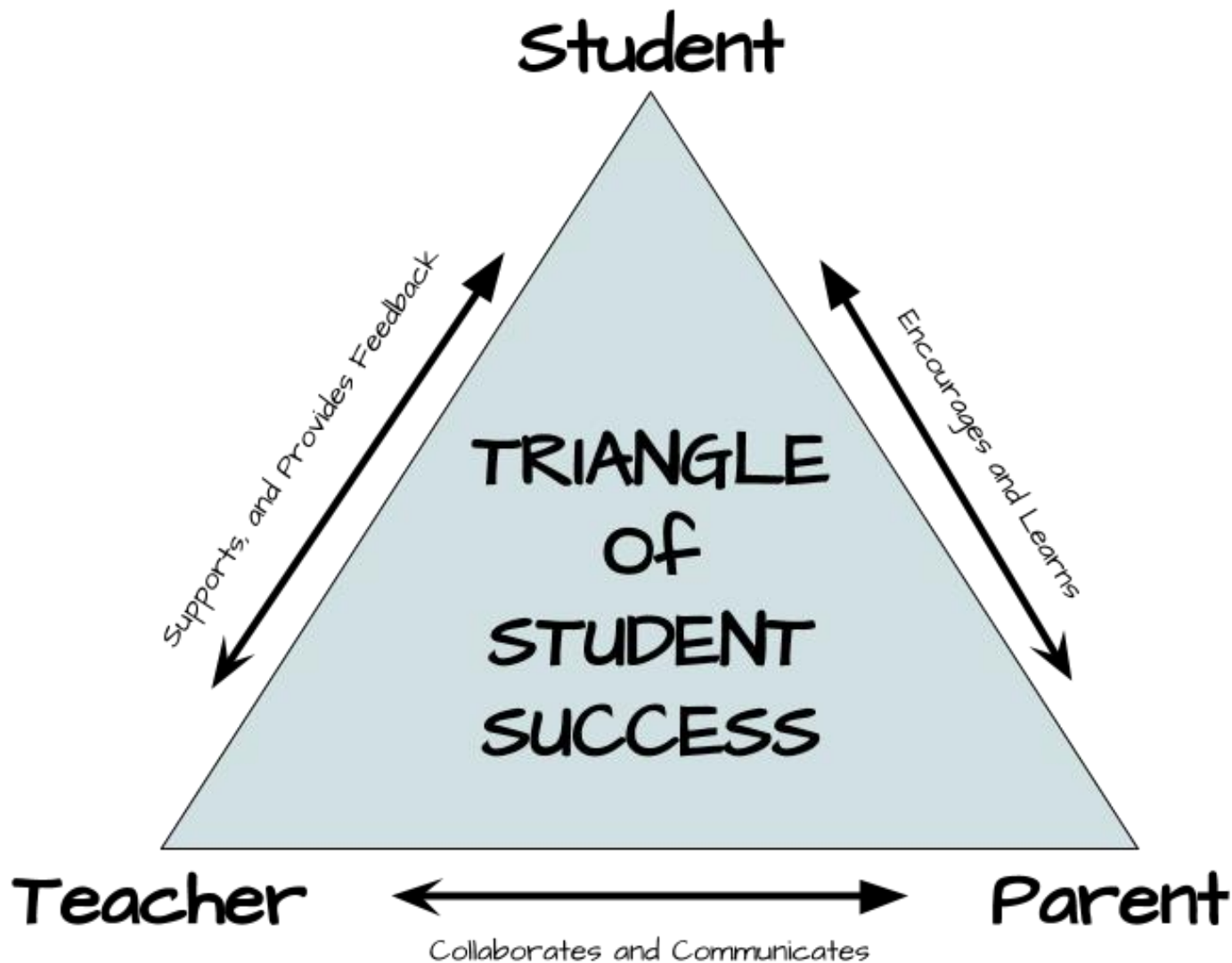
Year 14 Parent Teacher Meeting

Tuesday 20th October 2026

3.45pm – 6pm



Year 14 Retreats @ Clonard
Week commencing
Monday 7th December





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Mr McGrath

Head of Year 14

Curriculum and Pastoral Information



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Year 14 Pastoral Care Team

Mr McGrath
HOY

Dr Oliver
Head of Sixth Form

Miss Arthur
14M

Mr Black
14B

Mr Henning
14F

Dr McHugh
14P

Mr Gallagher
14J

Study Supervisors: Mr Davidson and Ms Mallon



Congratulations and good luck
to the head prefect team



Environment

Mental
health

Chaplaincy

Head Prefects

Maisie Qilton

Luca Rosato

Fundraising

Culture
and
diversity

Anti-bullying

Deputy Head Prefects

Evie Doherty

Blathnait Houston

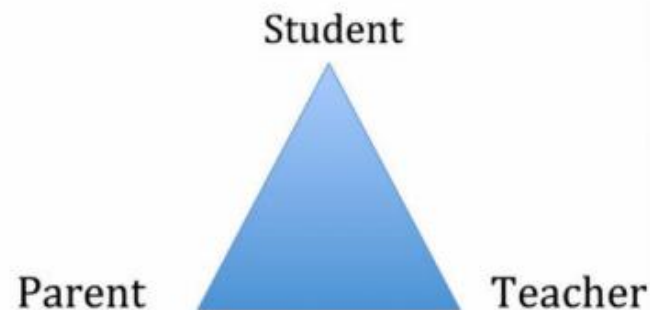
Conan McKeown

Alex Monteith



Pastoral Care in the Senior School

- Year 14 tutors are the primary contact for parents, students and subject teachers.
- The key role of the tutor is to support active learning and personal development in assisting each student to reach their full potential.
- The SIMS data generated, and the pastoral activities build a student profile for the tutor.
 - Data tracking
 - Attendance and punctuality
 - Subject teacher comments
- Personal development lessons





Pastoral Programme in Year 14

INDUCTION

**BUDDY SYSTEM
(WITH YEAR 9)**

**STUDY SKILLS/
COPING WITH
EXAMS**

**FINANCIAL
MANAGEMENT**

HATE CRIME

FUNDRAISING

**SEXTORTION/
CYBERBULLYING**

**WHOLE SCHOOL EG
ORDAN DONATION,
INTERNET SAFETY**

**OUTSIDE
AGENCIES/
EVENTS**



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Parents, welcome to:

Schoolgateway

Keeping you
informed of
what's going
on at school.



Download
the app

Android
and iPhone



or visit the website:
www.schoolgateway.com

School Gateway App

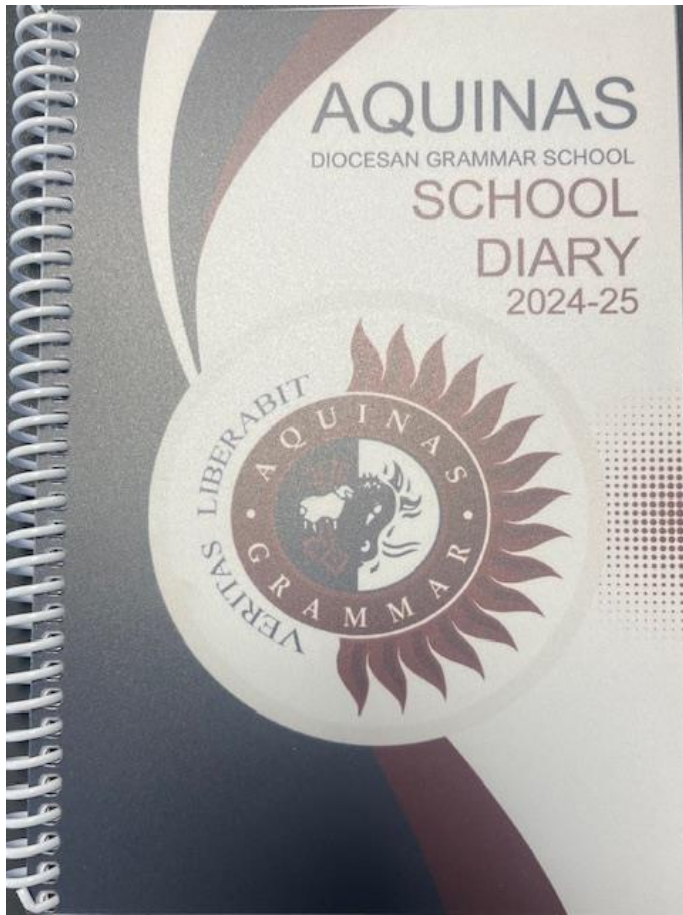
- Paperless
- All Home/School communications go through the App
- Daily Attendance
- Reporting (Check-in Point and Data Tracking)
- Two-way communication – via Text
- Please use this to inform the school of future appointments/illness
- Parent receives message if child marked absence at morning Reg



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Traditional Communications

School diary



School office



02890 643939



Absences/Appointments

Absent from school

- If possible, message on app or phone call from parent/guardian before 9am.
- If phoning, please provide an absence note to Form tutor on day of return.
- All absences are recorded on SIMS.

Leaving school early for an appointment

- Bring in signed note from parent/guardian.
- If leaving before morning Reg (10.30am), have note signed by senior teacher on duty.
- If leaving after 10.30am, have note signed by Form Tutor during Reg.
- Sign out with the front office and hand in signed note before leaving.

Illness during school

- Inform school reception.
- Parent pick-up can be arranged.

Reminder

Driving lessons should not be booked during the school day.





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Role models for the school

Attendance: Pupils should aim for full attendance.

Behaviour: pupils should show respect for themselves and others.

Uniform: pupils should take pride in their school uniform.

Manners: pupils should demonstrate good manners to each other, to all members of staff and to any visitors to the school.

Punctuality: pupils should be punctual to school and class.

Homework: pupils should complete all home works to the best of their abilities.





Attendance Ladder

How close is your child to 100%?

0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned



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Policies and home/school agreement

P7-8 School Uniform

P9 Code for Good Behaviour

P10 Positive behaviour policy

P11 Health & Safety Policy

P12-13 E-safety – Acceptable use

This **MUST** be signed before you
use the school computers

P15 Home School Agreement

To be signed by pupil and parent

P16 Bring Your Own Device

To be signed

Home School Agreement

Pupil's Name:

I have read and understood the policies in this diary in relation to uniform, behaviour, my conduct, all health, and safety and in particular e-Safety. I undertake to do my best to live up to the expectations placed on me as a member of Aquinas Diocesan Grammar School. I will attend regularly.

I will remain in school from 9.15 to 3.30pm every day. I will arrive at all lessons and activities on time, and I will take responsibility for my own learning, always remembering that my teachers and staff of the School are there to help me if I encounter difficulties.

If at any time I become concerned about any aspect of my work or School life in general I will talk to the relevant member of staff.

While I am a pupil at Aquinas Diocesan Grammar School, I will do my best to succeed in all I do, to be a good ambassador and to participate fully in the life of the school.

I will return all relevant course books and any other School property at the end of each academic year. If I am unable to return these items or lose them, I understand that the School's Charging Policy will be applied.

I will adhere to School Policies and Procedures**

Signed: (Pupil) Date:

Signed: (Parent) Date:



Mobile Phone Policy



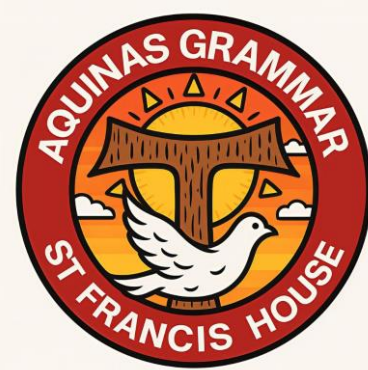
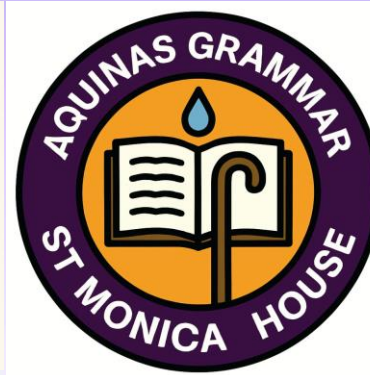
1. No mobile device should be used in school from 8.30am – 3.30pm (except under the direction of a member of staff).

2. If a pupil uses a mobile device contrary to the policy, they will be asked to leave the device at the school office to be picked up at 3.30pm.

3. In line with the Promoting Positive Behaviour policy, further repeated offences will result in the school following its outlined procedures.

Parent/guardian can contact child through school reception.

- We appreciate your support in helping us to implement the new policy last year.
- It proved extremely successful, with better focus, benefits to teaching and learning, and more social interaction.



Aquinas House System

- Encourage pupils to get involved in extra-curricular life of Aquinas
- Promote teamwork and collegiality
- Pupil Voice / School Council – share ideas and opinions
- Prizes and rewards to entice participation
- Termly House Day activities
- Inter-house competitions



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Extracurricular Activities

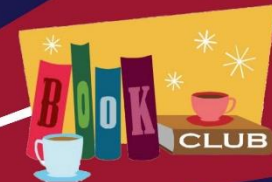
- Open evenings
- Concerts
- School play
- Representing the school in extra-curricular sporting activities
- Attending clubs/societies
- Volunteer Work
- Charity Work
- External achievements
(e.g. sports achievements/poetry competition wins...)



Progress

- Quality answers/responses
- Improvement in AR score
- Excellent quality answers (verbal and/or written)
- Excellent homework
- Positive assessment/test scores
- Improvement in assessment/test scores

JOURNALISM
JCLUB



Aquinas House System

Growth Mindset

- Fully engaged and producing high quality work
- Demonstrating resilience
- Outstanding effort in class
- Improvement in assessment/test scores
- Improved organisation/meeting deadlines
- Completing extension tasks



School Ethos

- Demonstrating leadership
- Helping peers
- Helping staff
- Acts of kindness/Being polite
- Being a positive role model
- Giving back to the wider school community



Attitude to Learning

- Fully engaged and producing high quality work
- Outstanding effort in class
- Excellent quality answers (verbal and/or written)
- Excellent homework
- Thoughtful questioning
- Excellent reading aloud/presenting skills
- Improved organisation/meeting deadlines
- Wider reading
- Completing extension tasks



Aquinas Diocesan Grammar School Child Protection & Safeguarding Team

How a **pupil** can raise a concern



Dr O'Hagan
Designated Teacher



Ms Skelton-Lambon
Deputy Designated Teacher



Mr McClean
Deputy Designated Teacher



Dr Oliver
Deputy Designated Teacher



Mr Sames
Deputy Designated Teacher



I have a concern about my own or another pupil's safety, I can talk to any member of staff

I can talk to Dr O'Hagan [Designated Teacher] or Mrs Lambon, Mr McClean, Dr Oliver & Mr Sames [Deputy Designated Teachers] or any member of staff

If I am still concerned, I can talk to the Principal, Dr Dowling

If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Mr P. Coll

At any time, I can talk to the social worker tel: Gateway 02890 507 000 or the Police Care Unit- (101) or (02890 65 02 22)



Health and Wellbeing



Make A Melody Counselling Service

- Counsellor available in school
- Operates by a referral system
 - by pupils (self-referral)
 - by teachers
 - by parents/guardians
- All referrals go through Dr O'Hagan (VP Pastoral)

Text-a-Nurse is a new confidential text messaging service for young people aged 11-19



South Eastern Trust - 07507 327263

Northern Trust - 07480 635982

Belfast Trust - 07507 328290

Western Trust - 07480 635984

Southern Trust - 07507 328057

Emotional health and wellbeing

Body Image

Smoking

Alcohol and drugs

Bullying

Sexual health

Stress and anxiety

Self-harm








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*Thank
you*

**Thank you for
listening and for your
support.**

