Induction Morning - Year 8

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Year 8 Form Classes

Class	Form tutor	Classroom assistant
8B	Mr F McConville	Tracey Hope
8F	Ms M Henry	Nuala McVeigh
8J	Mr N O'Mianain	Bernie McMorrow
8M	Mrs S Tallon Jackson	Pauline Jones
8P	Mr R Mercer	Adam McCamley

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AQUINAS
DIOCESAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

[Vice Principal & CLT Teacher in Charge of KS3]

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Agenda

Home/School Communications
Expectations
Assessment and Reporting
Pastoral Care
Extra Curricular Provision
The House System

Home/School Communications

Who should I speak to??

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Pastoral Concern

The Pastoral care provision within Aquinas promotes a positive physical and emotional well-being of our pupils

Form Tutor	Head of Year	Senior Link Teacher	Vice Principal Pastoral	Principal
Form Tutor	Mrs O'Brien	Head of KS3	Dr. O'Hagan	Dr Dowling

Curriculum Concern

A concern regarding classwork/homework and attainment within the classroom

Class Teacher → Head of Department → Senior Link Teacher → Vice Principal (Curriculum) → Principal

Class Teacher → Head of Department → Senior Leadership Team → Ms Skelton - Lambon → Dr Dowling

Learning Support

Supporting pupils with an additional learning need

Class Teacher	Assistant SENCO	SENCO	Vice Principal (Pastoral)	Principal
Class Teacher/ Form tutor	Ms Scullion	Mr McAteer	Dr O'Hagan	Dr Dowling

Child Protection & Safeguarding

Protecting all pupils from harm and abuse

Staff Member → Deputy Designated Teacher → Designated Teacher → Principal → External Services

Staff Member → Senior Teachers → Dr O'Hagan → Dr Dowling → Education authority/ Social services

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School Gateway App / Ipay

- Available for all Year groups
- Paperless
- All Home/School Communication go through the App
- Daily Attendance
- Reporting (Check in and Data Tracking)
- Two way communication – via Text

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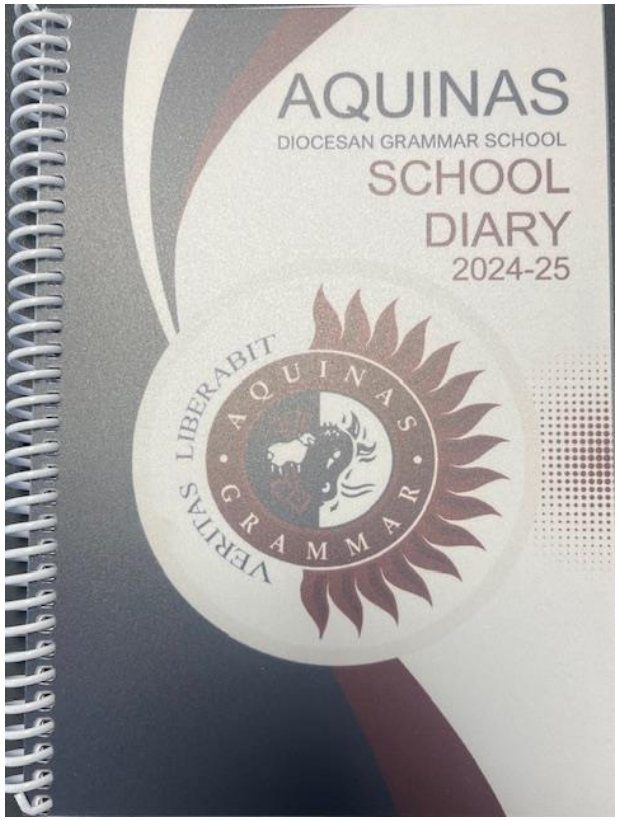
Data Capture

Has your address / phone number changed?

Please update details with reception as needed

Traditional Communications



02890 643939

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School Counselling Service

HOPE Independent School Counselling and Therapy Service

Holistic Options for Promoting REsilience

Independent School Counselling and Therapy Service

Operates by a referral system

- By pupils
- By teachers
- By parents

All referrals must go through Dr. O'Hagan

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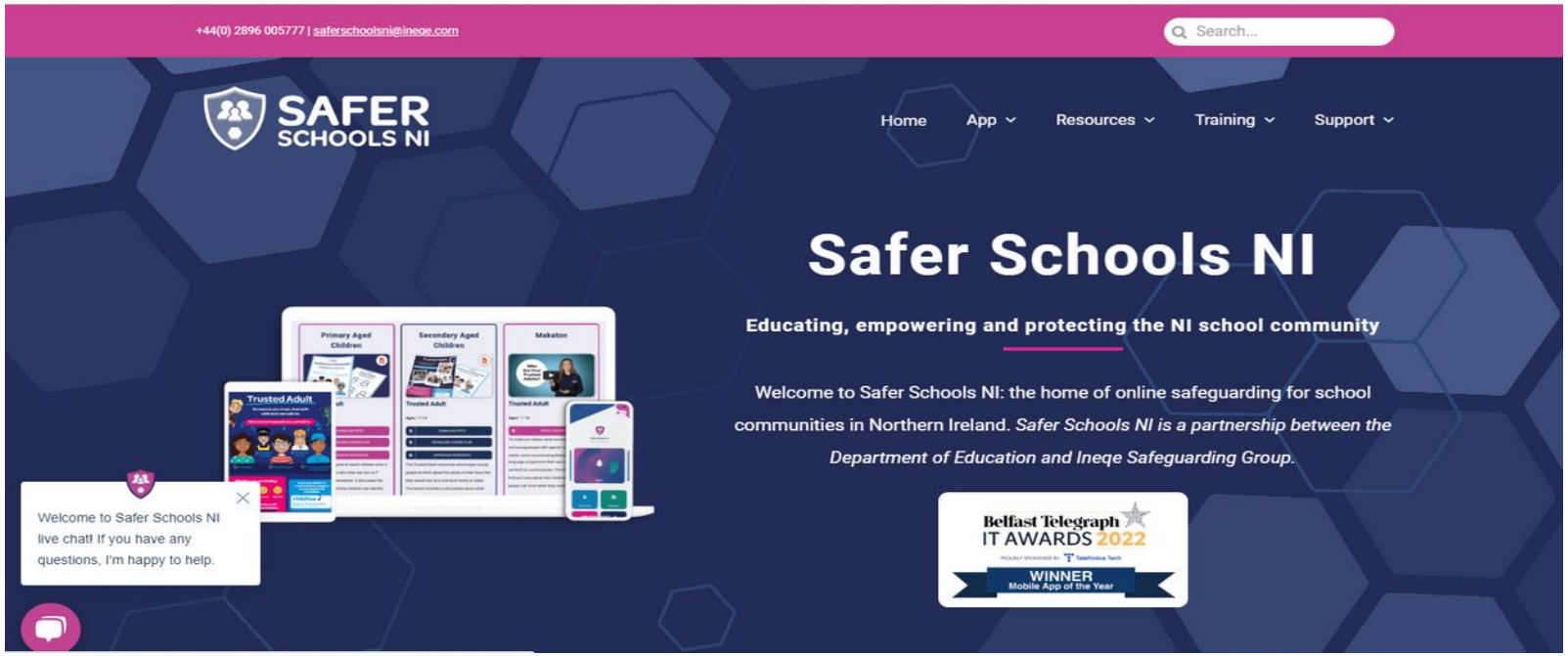
SAFER SCHOOLS NI



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What is Safer Schools NI?

The **Safer Schools NI** App contains safeguarding information, advice and guidance. It is interactive, with engaging content which is easy-to-access, simple to understand and intuitive to use.

This App is designed to be a one-stop-shop for accessing essential safeguarding information, advice, and guidance.

Head of Year 8

Mrs M O’Brien

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Themes for the Year

Courtesy

Kindness

Respect

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Expectations

- Please sign Homework Diary every week
- 1 hour of study/homework per night
- Encourage Reading for pleasure/Library
- Revision
- Meet deadlines
- Prepare/Be Organised for the next day
- No Mobile Phones to be used in school
- Lockers

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Assessment and reporting

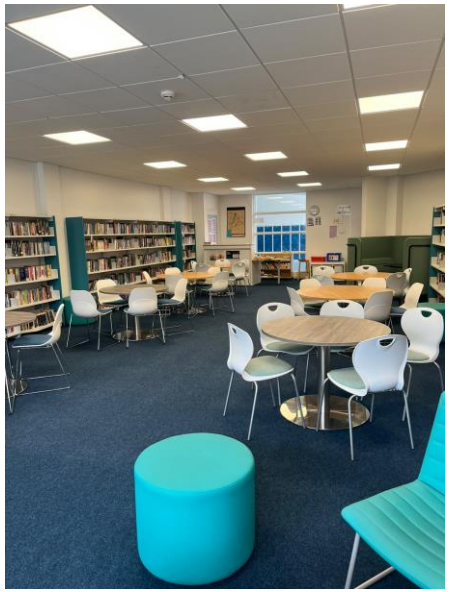
Three Tracking Assessments (DT)

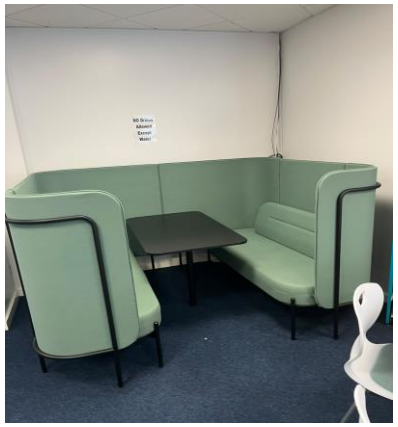
- ❑ December (formal examination)
- ❑ March
- ❑ June (formal examination)

- March will be an alternative assessment deemed appropriate to the subject area (e.g. presentation/creative writing task/reading analysis…)
- Reports will be sent home after each tracking assessment
- The longest report will be in June

Library

- Reading is an essential pastime for all students, please continue to encourage this habit at home.
- We have an extensive range of books for all students





YEAR 8 Induction Programme

- Digital Skills
- Organisation
- Wellbeing
- First Aid Training
- Friendships
- Ready to Learn

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Digital Skills

- Students will be issued User Names and Passwords to log on inside and outside of school
- Students will be issued Printer Codes for Printing inside school
- All students will use Google Classroom as a back up for their homework diary to communicate assignments per subject.
- They will also have a Year Group and Form Class group for admin messages
- Some extra curricular activites will also use this method to communicate

MY-SCHOOL

sername:

oogle Classroom

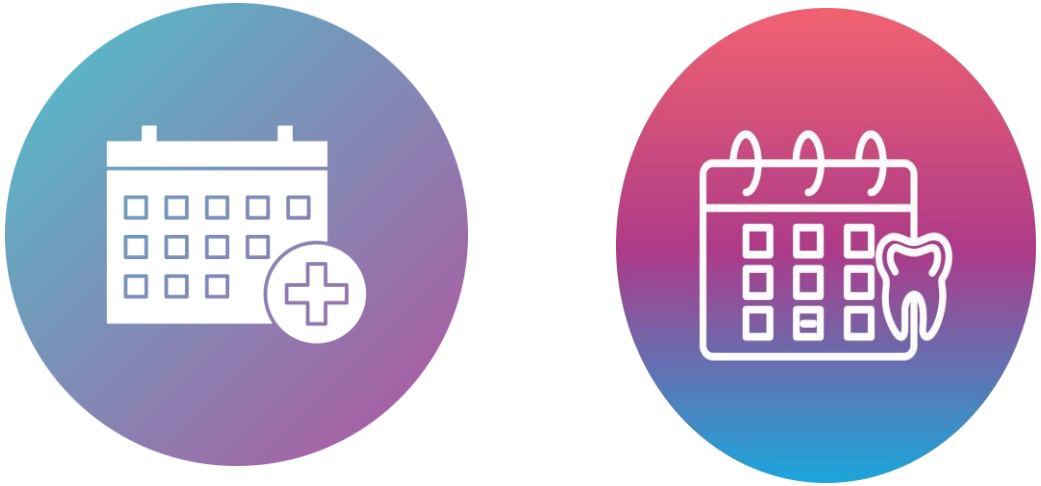
Back to Basics

- Attendance
- Behaviour
- Uniform
- Manners
- Punctuality
- Homework

Punctuality

What should I do?

Appointments



I have a medical/dental appointments

What should I do?

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Extra Curricular Activities

- Extra Curricular opportunities at KS3 – - *check out the notice boards!*
- Please see details on day/times on our school website

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School Social Media

Follow us @aquinasgrammar on instagram

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Before School – Breakfast Club

- Breakfast club starts at 8:30am in the Mall
- FREE to all pupils

- In addition…
- Learning Centre is open from 8:30am
- Fully staffed

School Day

MONDAY to FRIDAY	TIME
Period 1	9:15 – 9:50
Period 2	9:50 – 10:25
BREAK/ REGISTRATION	Years 8/9/10 B1 – 10:25 – 10:40 Years 11/12/13/14 B2 – 10:40 – 10:55
Period 3	10:55– 11:30
Period 4	11:30 – 12:05
Period 5 (1st Lunch) Y10/11	12:05 – 12:40
Period 6 (2nd Lunch) Y8/9	12:40 – 13:15
Period 7 (3rd Lunch) Y12/13/14	13:15 – 13:50
Period 8	13:50 – 14:20
Period 9	14:20 – 14:50
Period 10	14:50 – 15:30

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Aquinas House System

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*

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*

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*

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*

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Walk/Bike to School

Encourage students to walk/bike to school

Coat storage at front door

Excellent Bike Storage available

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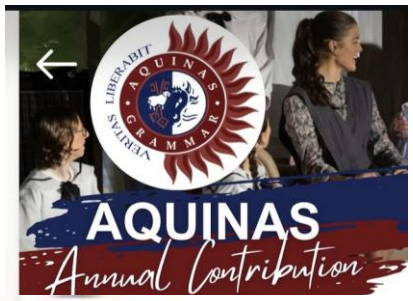

Annual Contribution

Committed

Aquinas is committed to providing an excellent educational experience for every pupil through a wide and varied curriculum, giving each child the support they need to develop and thrive beyond the classroom.

Provision

Aquinas continues to rely on the support and generosity of our parents in making an annual voluntary contribution to school funds. We fully appreciate that this may not always be possible, particularly in the current climate. We would ask that parents consider making an annual contribution of £130 per eldest child and £100 per child thereafter to help us continue to provide additional resources for our pupils.

Extra-Curricular

A key part of life at Aquinas is the wealth of extra-curricular activities we provide for each pupil. While government funding provides the school with the resources for day to day teaching, it unfortunately does not contribute towards the cost of these activities.

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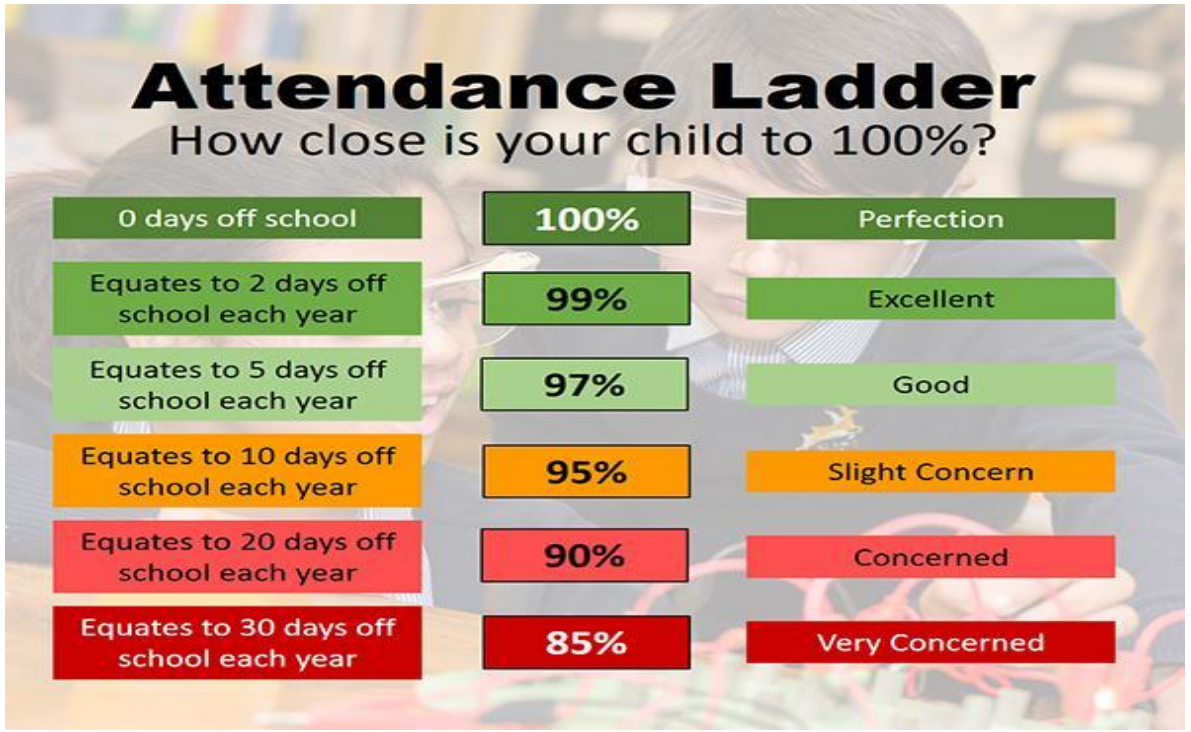
House System

- Encourage pupils to get involved in extra-curricular life of Aquinas
- Pupil Voice – Share ideas & Opinions
- Prizes to entice participation
- Termly House day activities
- In House competitions
- Positive rewards

Mentoring

- Homework club available Monday – Thursday 3.30 -4.30pm.
- ICT facilities available
- Mentoring available from TLA's & Senior School Pupils.
- Location – Learning Centre
- Open to all pupils.

Attendance


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

Mobile Phones

Should a pupil decide to bring a mobile phone into school, it must be switched off and stored in the pupil's locker, placed in their school bag, or placed inside their blazer pocket between 8:00am and 3:30pm.

Smartwatches are permitted but pupils should ensure that the Bluetooth connection is disabled during the hours of 8:00am and 3:30pm. Pupils should not receive or send messages via their smartwatch during the day otherwise this will be dealt with as misuse of technology.

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Social Media

Please have a conversation with your child over acceptable use of social media

Please be vigilant when allowing screen time/access to apps.

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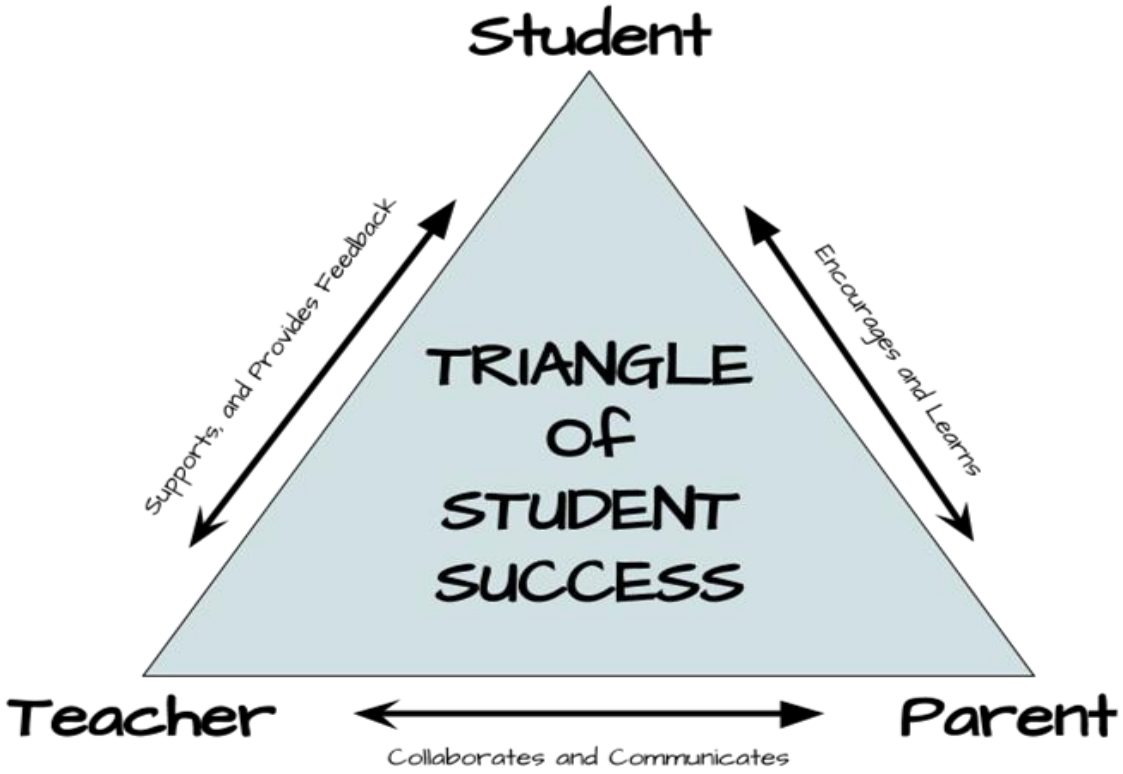
Student/Teacher/Parent



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Thank you for listening and for your support.

If you have any questions, myself and members of SLT will be happy to help.

- You are now welcome to join us for some refreshments in the mall and rejoin our New Year 8 Students.

Refreshments

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