**The 2020’s in Coláiste Chluain Meala, Raheen Road.**

The 2020’s offer a very bright future for Coláiste Chluain Meala. Many innovations have taken place over the past number of years and our school is well prepared for the new era. We have invested a great deal of time in reflecting on what will be required by our students to compete in the ever changing world of work, and in a world where constant change is now the new norm. We see it as vital that students will be equipped to respond and adapt to all the changes they will encounter in their adult lives. We have therefore focused thoughtfully on educational planning and on devising courses to meet the needs of students in the 2020’s in our school. Being a co-ed school both girls and boys have equal access and opportunities to study all the subjects we offer. Moreover, the fact that we are a co-ed school means that we are reflecting the real world for our students from the humanities, to the technologies, to art, to Well-Being, to Home Economics.

Coláiste Chluain Meala is renowned for the excellent results it achieves in technological subjects at Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate. Ours is the only school in Clonmel where students can study all three technological subjects i.e. Engineering, Technology and Construction at Leaving Cert. Engineering, highly regarded as part of STEM subjects, opens up career possibilities such as Product Design, Civil, Mechanical and Electrical and Biomedical Engineering. Feedback from our past students clearly indicates that they had a very distinct advantage when pursuing studies in the aforementioned areas at third level. The study of Engineering at Leaving Cert is recognised as a passport into gaining apprenticeships as motor technicians, in metal fabrication and across the whole spectrum of engineering and electronics industries.

We offer coding as one of our short courses within our school. This subject, very popular with our students, is at the cutting edge of STEM, focusing on problem-solving skills and the development of websites, games and apps. We see maths as crucial – hence our emphasis on small, focused class groups. We in Coláiste Chluain Meala wholeheartedly embrace our technical identity since the way forward in tomorrow’s world is based on the constant evolution of technology and indeed on all STEM subject areas in which we specialise.

In Coláiste Chluain Meala, we have a young, energetic, vibrant staff, highly trained in the art of teaching. We promote effective teaching methodologies including differentiation of content, varied classroom activities, team teaching and we have smaller class groups. We do this to ensure all students are engaged purposefully in meaningful learning activities. Our focus is on an inclusive learning environment where all students are welcomed and valued and where every ability range is catered for with specifically tailored programmes where needed. We implement a Code of Positive Behaviour and mutual respect is the cornerstone of our success.

In our SEN Department, we use a range of services to identify, respond to and support the educational, social and emotional needs of students to help us enhance the student’s educational experience and progress. We operate a comprehensive transfer programme from primary school to our school via the School Completion Programme and “taster” classes. We have a mentoring system whereby students have a “go to” teacher to discuss any issues or concerns they may have, our Pastoral Care being a defining characteristic of our school.

We have extensive links with all the parents of our students through Home School Liaison, School Completion Team, Parent Teacher Meetings, an open door policy and our Parents Council. We recognise that parents are the primary educators of their children and thus we work with parents as partners in the education of their daughters and sons.

We are about empowering our students to progress up the educational ladder to achieve their education goals. Thus, we offer study skills seminars to our students and guide our students to avail of programmes such as DARE and HEAR, where appropriate, to enter third level.

We have a wide range of extra-curricular activities. We have football, hurling, soccer, table tennis, basketball. There are guitar lessons, visits to theatre and cinema, poetry competitions, cookery competitions, public speaking, to name but a few. We see our involvement with the local community as very important. Therefore, our students fundraise for a number of local charities. We also take students on lots of educational and recreational trips nationally and oversees.

We in Senior Management are extending a cordial invitation to parents of sixth class primary children to drop in and visit our school and have a chat with us on a one to one basis on **Tuesday 27th or Thursday 29th November** between **4pm and 8pm** to explore how our school may well be the right choice of second level school for your child.

Management Team, Coláiste Chluain Meala, 052 6121450