

**TEMPLE CARRIG GREYSTONES  
PARENTS  
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**



**TEMPLE  
CARRIG**  

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**SCHOOL**

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## SCHOOL - GENERAL

### **What is the layout of the school?**

The school is laid out over 3 floors and hosts over 900 students and 100 staff. The school campus includes a library, sports changing rooms, 5 labs, 2 Home Ec room, 39 classrooms and The Harbour, our special needs classrooms

### **Can I use the carpark?**

The car park is for staff and visitor use only. A one-way system is in operation should you be dropping or collecting at the school. You enter the carpark at the entrance near the main school doors and exit by following the road round to the back of the school. No parking is permitted outside of the marked spaces.

### **Is there a Lost & Found**

Yes there is a lost and found at the school. It is open Tuesday & Thursday at small break. There is charge of 50c to retrieve an article which is donated to charity. All unclaimed items are sold at a uniform fundraiser at the end of the school year.

### **Do all students get lockers and what is the cost?**

Yes all students have access to a locker. There is a one off charge at the start of 1<sup>st</sup> Year. Students receive their locker key during the first week of first term, usually the first day. Lockers must be emptied and keys returned before the end of each academic year. Any items left in the locker will be recycled.

### **School calendar - Where can I find a copy of this?**

The school calendar is available on the website and on Schoology. It is posted in advance of the return to school each year but may be subject to change. The Schoology calendar is updated regularly with trips/days away and is the most up to date.

### **When do we receive school reports?**

TCG posts school reports in early January and in June, to the students home address.

### **When will I receive my childs booklist? When will I receive my booklist for the next academic year?**

The first year booklist for core subjects is emailed to the parents in May/June before they start in TCG. The booklist for optional courses is emailed once course choices are made in October. For other year groups, book lists are available when school reports are issued in June each year.

**What are the official school hours?**

School hours are 8.15 to 3.20 every day except Wednesday when school closes at 12.40. Students may have extra curricular activities e.g., sports/drama outside of these hours.

**Who do I email if my child is absent from school?**

If your child is absent from school please email their form teacher (the email address will be available in schoology under people) and also Cheryl in the office at [office@templecarrigschool.ie](mailto:office@templecarrigschool.ie).

**If my child is going to be late or needs to be collected early who can I contact?**

Follow the same process as for an absence. The child needs to check in/out at the school office.

**How does TCG look after students wellbeing?**

There is an established wellbeing programme with an expert committee in place to support students wellbeing. There are many different issues and worries that a student may be faced with both inside and outside of school and we provide both people to talk to and support. Full details are available on the TCG website [here](#).

## FEES & CHARGES

### **What is the School Reimbursement Charge and what does it cover?**

TCG charges one up-front fee for administration costs and extra-curricular activities. This fee covers the cost of materials and equipment for several classes, some additional stationery, photocopying handouts, house exam stationery, 24 hour Personal Accident Insurance, annual Schoology fee as well as extra-curricular activities including sports, study and so forth.

### **What stationery (copies) is included in the School Reimbursement Charge?**

This varies depending on the year your child is in, however it normally covers the cost of maths and science hardbacks, among others. Please refer to your child's booklist for the complete list.

### **Is there a Voluntary Contribution in TCG?**

Yes, TCG ask every family to pay a voluntary contribution. This money helps fund extra teachers, and therefore more subject choices are offered to the students of TCG and class sizes are kept small.

## IPADS & BOOKS

### **What is the name of the company that looks after the iPads?**

Wriggle ([www.wriggle.ie](http://www.wriggle.ie)). Information about iPad ordering will be sent by school in April/May before school starts.

### **Can I provide my own iPad?**

You can Bring Your Own Device (BYOD), but you MUST log on to the Wriggle Store ([www.wrigglelearning.ie](http://www.wrigglelearning.ie)) and click on the "order" tab to register your device. The device must meet minimum requirements and be sent to Wriggle to deploy school software. Wriggle requires to retain a BYOD iPad for 30 days to ensure that the management "sticks" on the iPad; if a student deletes the management profile from a BYOD within 30 days, no-one is informed and the device remains unmanaged. There is a deployment charge. The access code for TCG with Wriggle is 16762817.

### **Do I set up the iPad at home?**

iPad set up is done by Wriggle before it is delivered but students will need to download certain required apps which will be advised once term has started.

### **Do I download the books onto my child's iPad at home or will it be done in school?**

Downloads of ebooks can be done at home though support is available at school through the form teacher and the subject teachers. There is also a tech support team available to help with iPad issues.

### **Does my child need to bring hard copies of books into school?**

Your child will have all their ebooks on their iPad. Hard copies of workbooks are sometimes needed in school. Teachers will inform the students if these workbooks are needed in class. The School recommends that the hard copy of the text book remains at home for homework/study and students work from the eBook in school (Maths is the exception for this)

### **Can we purchase second hand books and replacement ecodes?**

Some year groups that are close together may be able to use reuse text books, not workbooks, and an ecode can be purchased to renew ebook. You will need to contact the publishers directly to arrange this.

### **When will my child receive their timetable?**

All students will receive their timetables on the first day of first term. For first years this timetable will be provisional and will change every two weeks until junior cert subjects are chosen before the October half term. Timetables are available to view on VSWare.

### **Are students streamed in any subjects and when is this done?**

Students are streamed in Maths and Irish. Classes are usually allocated by November of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> year but there may be movements at other stages of the year depending on how a student is performing.

# SCHOOL UNIFORM

## **What is the school uniform?**

Boys - mid-grey trousers, white shirt, black socks, TCG tie and TCG jumper

Girls - mid-grey knee length skirt or mid-grey trousers, white reverse collar blouse, black knee socks, TCG jumper

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years wear a blue jumper. 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> years wear a navy jumper.

Tracksuit - TCG tracksuit bottom, TCG hoodie and TCG PE t-shirt.

A full description (with photos) of the uniform can be found in the policies section of the school website, [templecarrigschool.ie](http://templecarrigschool.ie).

## **Where can I buy the school uniform?**

The uniform can be purchased from [schooluniformsdirect.ie](http://schooluniformsdirect.ie). Only branded uniform items bearing the TCG logo, namely the jumper, tie, tracksuit, PE t-shirt and hoodie, have to be purchased from School Uniforms Direct. Other items, namely trousers, skirts, blouses, socks and shirts can be purchased from School Uniforms Direct or from high street shops.

## **Where can I buy the school sports kit (hockey and rugby kit etc)?**

All sports gear, socks, hockey and rugby jerseys and TCG shorts can be purchased in the School and is on sale on Tuesday & Thursday lunchtimes.

## **Where is School Uniforms Direct based?**

School Uniforms Direct is based in Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow. Uniforms can be ordered directly online. The company also visits the school in the months prior to school reopening when uniforms can be ordered and collected. Advice is given on sizing and sample uniforms can be viewed and fitted.

## **What colour shoes can my daughter wear with her school skirt?**

Black or navy.

## **What colour shoes can my son wear with his formal uniform?**

Black.

## **When does my child wear their tracksuit to school?**

TCG students wear their tracksuit on the day that they have games timetabled. They must change into their PE gear in school on any other day for PE lessons.



# COMMUNICATION

## **What is the email format for teachers?**

The school email format is [forenamesurname@templecarrigschool.ie](mailto:forenamesurname@templecarrigschool.ie). All teachers email are available to check under People on the school website. Students are issued their email address when their iPad is set up.

## **What is the main school email for the office?**

All queries for the office and school in general should be directed to [info@templecarrigschool.ie](mailto:info@templecarrigschool.ie) (Catherine) or [office@templecarrigschool.ie](mailto:office@templecarrigschool.ie) (Cheryl).

## **What is the main way the school communicates with parents?**

The school primarily uses email to communicate information and updates to parents. There are however a number of other ways for parents to keep up to date with what is happening. These include Schoology and VSWare.

## **What is schoology?**

Schoology is the online portal used by the school to communicate with students. In your child's classes and extra-curricular activities, Schoology is used to keep track of homework, submit assignments, conduct online discussions, and to communicate with one another. Schoology is also used as a message board for subject, form, year, extra curricular activities, sports teams and general school announcements. Students can also comment and post messages via schoology.

## **When will I receive a parent code to access schoology?**

Parent access codes will be sent out in the first week of term in September. Parents will be able to set up a parent account on schoology allowing you to view your child's homework including overdue assignments, see the homework they submit, and track your child's progress towards mastering learning standards. It also allows stay up to date with your child's extra curricular calendar which includes sporting events, school clubs and activities. Parents can also message their child's teacher through Schoology, if necessary.

## **What is VSware?**

VSware is the management system that TCG uses to record attendance and other information on your son/daughter. The school will enable the parental access function for this system so that parents can view their child's timetable, behaviour record and attendance.

## **When will I receive a code to access VSware?**

The VSware access code will be sent out the week students start school for the first time.

## **When is Teams used in the school?**

Teams is used in TY as the main form of communication with students. Given the nature of the year it is suited for students to use to also submit assignments.

**What way can parents communicate with each other?**

Most years have a What's app group. These tend to be set up and monitored by parents in the year group. They are not a formal school communication tool and as such are not monitored or moderated by the school.

**Does the school have a website?**

The school website is [www.templecarrigschool.ie](http://www.templecarrigschool.ie) and there is a range of useful information and updates on it.

**Is the school on any social media channels?**

Yes the school is active on Instagram and Twitter and TikTok and we would encourage parents to follow us on these channels for ongoing updates on what's happening in the school.

## **STUDY, SPORTS AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR**

### **What sport and extra-curricular activities are available to students?**

There is a wide variety of activities on offer to students both at lunchtimes and after school. These range from adventure hiking and lego club to rugby, hockey and basketball. All students are encouraged to get involved in at least one extra-curricular activity.

### **Do boys have to do rugby and do girls have to do hockey?**

No while we encourage all students to try particular sports, there are different options available at both PE and Games times.

### **After school and evening study – when does it start, who can go, is there a cost?**

Supervised afterschool study is available free of charge to all students in all years (assuming the School Reimbursement Charge has been paid) except TY.

Supervised evening study is available at a small cost to 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year students only. There are 3 x 40 sessions which run each evening Monday to Thursday. Spaces must be confirmed and paid for in advance.

## THE CANTEEN

### **What are the opening times of the school canteen?**

The canteen is open every day – Monday to Friday – from 11 to 11.20 and from 1.20 to 2.

### **What type of food is available in the school canteen?**

The canteen offers a range freshly made sandwiches and wraps, yogurts, fruit and a choice of hot dinners.

### **Who runs the school canteen?**

The canteen is run by a company called The School Food Company. You can find out more about them on their website.

### **Is the canteen open from the first day of school?**

An announcement will be made by school, however the canteen usually opens within a week of school starting.

### **Is the school canteen open on half days?**

Yes

### **Can my child use cash to pay in the school canteen?**

All payments in the school canteen should be made on the School Food Company fob. However at times, cash is also accepted.

### **When will my son/daughter receive their canteen fob?**

TCG students receive their canteen fob during the first week of first year. Replacement fobs are available from the School Food Company in TCG.

### **How do I top-up the canteen fob?**

Top-ups can easily be made on the School Food Company website. Link on the school website

## FIRST YEAR

**What does my child bring to school on their first day in 1st year?** Typically the first day of school is an Induction day for 1st years lasting a couple of hours. Students should attend in their formal school uniform but should not bring books, iPads or food.

## EXAM YEARS

### **Can students stay in the school to study between their exams?**

Yes if students have 2 exams on a day they can stay in school to study quietly in their exam room between them.

### **Is the canteen open in June during the State exams?**

No unfortunately the canteen is not open during the exams. It only operates during term time.

### **Where can I get state exam timetables?**

The state exam timetables are published on [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie)

### **When will my child choose their Leaving Certificate subjects?**

All senior cycle students in TCG will study English, Irish (unless exempted) and Maths. They will choose four further subjects in March of TY. There will be a meeting for TY parents and students, outlining all the subject options available, before choices are made. Students select their subjects on VShare under the "Student Option" tab. Detailed information will be given on this at the meeting and by email. A series of fact sheets about the various subjects available can be found on [ncca.ie](http://ncca.ie).

### **What subjects will my child study for their Junior Cycle?**

TCG offers six core exam subjects: English, Irish (unless exempted), Maths, History, Geography and Science. In addition to these, students can choose three additional subjects, or two full subjects and two short courses. Optional subjects are chosen prior to the October half term in first year following a series of two week taster modules where students experience all the optional subjects available. Once subject choices are made a short transition period of a couple of weeks occurs in the second half of term allowing students to transfer to different subjects, if space is available. A series of fact sheets about the various subjects available can be found on [ncca.ie](http://ncca.ie). Detailed information will be emailed to parents at the start of the choice process.

## TY SPECIFIC

### **Do house groups and forms change for TY?**

Yes form groups are split into 6/7 different T groups for the year. They move back into their original houses at the start of 5<sup>th</sup> year.

### **What is the transition year email address?**

[transitionyear@templecarrigschool.ie](mailto:transitionyear@templecarrigschool.ie)

### **Do TCG students complete an aptitude test?**

Yes. All students complete aptitude tests in TY. The results of this test along with Junior Cycle results assists them when choosing their senior cycle subjects.

### **Does TCG facilitate the Gaisce award?**

Yes, all TY students are introduced to the Gaisce award and invited to partake in it. Further information on the Gaisce awards is available on [www.gaisce.ie](http://www.gaisce.ie)

## ALUMNI

### **Is there an alumni association and where can I get more information?**

Yes the TCG Association is the official past pupils association. Since 2022, the school has only really reached an age where we can set up a past pupils committee organising reunion events throughout the year. If you'd like to be involved with the committee and its work, please email Liz Dillon or Carmel Kearney at [lizdillon@hotmail.com](mailto:lizdillon@hotmail.com) or [carkearneybrig@gmail.com](mailto:carkearneybrig@gmail.com).

Most past pupils have signed up for the TCG Association but if you haven't and would like to do so, simply email [TCGA@templecarrigschool.ie](mailto:TCGA@templecarrigschool.ie).