



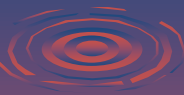
Mercy Secondary School
Kilbeggan

Welcome 1st Year
Parents / Guardians
2024/2025



Second Level School

- A Whole New Experience
- It Takes Time
- Trust Us
- Things Will Go Wrong
- Please Remain Calm



Classes

- 120 Students in 1st Year
- All Mixed Ability Classes
- 1 Red, 1 Blue, 1 Green, 1 Yellow & 1 Purple
- Classes NOT Formed until students start
- Students Dispersed Randomly Unless Family Requests Communicated
- 720 Students in 2024/2025

Classes

- NB : CLASSES WILL NOT BE FORMED UNTIL MONDAY 26th August 2024– THE DAY FIRST YEARS START
- PLEASE IGNORE ANY SPECULATION IN THIS REGARD PRIOR TO THIS

Core Subjects for 1st Years

- Irish
- English
- Maths
-
- Science
- History
- Geography
- French or German
- Religion
- Well Being
 - PE
 - SPHE
 - CSPE
 - Computers

1st Year Subject Choices

- Taster Programmes
- Exposure to Subjects Before Choosing
- Three Lines
- **NO NEED TO CHOOSE NOW**

1st Year Subject Lines

Line A

Visual Art

Wood Technology

Engineering

Business

Home Economics

Music

1st Year Subject Lines

Line B

Visual Art

Graphics

Business

Home Economics

Wood Technology

Engineering

1st Year Subject Lines

(C) French
German

- 2 Week Taster Rotation
- Decide By 30th September 2024

Mechanics of School Life

- School starts at 9.00am (Mon– Fri)
- School finishes at 3.55pm (Mon– Thurs) – 1st Years = 3:50pm
- School finishes at 1.15pm (Fri)– 1st Years = 1:10pm

Mechanics of School Life

- Supervision on site from 8.30am
- Be On-Site by 8.45am
- Give Them Plenty of Time
- No Lates Please

Mechanics of School Life

- One Hour Classes
- Six Classes Per Day – Four on Fri.

Lockers

- All First Years Will Get a Locker
- School Will Provide Secure Lock
- Lockerfix – Very Safe System
- Large Locker With Coat Hooks

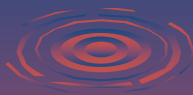
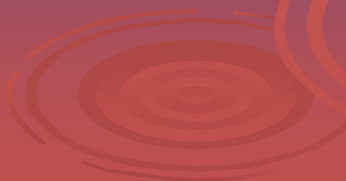
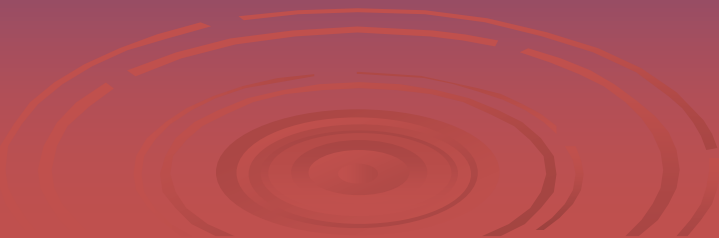
School GMail Account

- Each Student Gets a School Gmail Account on Arrival
- @mercykilbeggan.ie
- Important for Communication
- Google Apps
- School Calendar

Lunchtime Arrangements

- No Permission to Leave School
- Only for those going to their own home plus TYs, 5th Years and 6th Years.
- Subsidised Lunches Available in School
- Centra Kilbeggan
- Order Before School or Online
- 1st Years Out at 1:05pm

Uniform

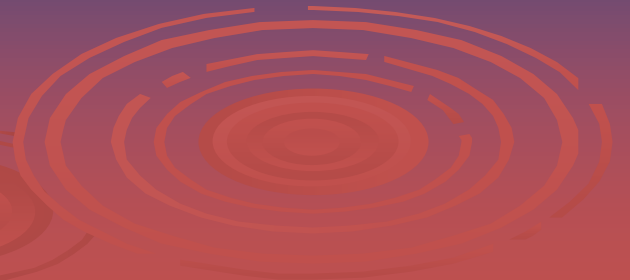
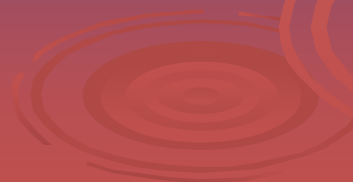
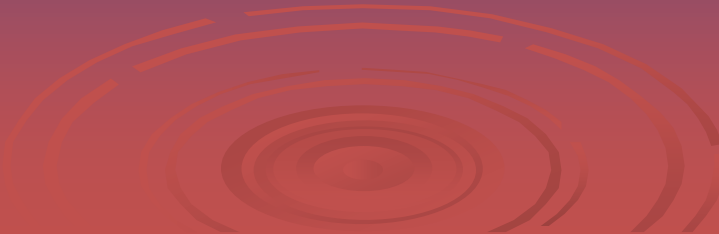
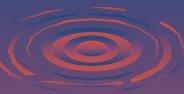
- Available as per notice on mercykilbeggan.ie
 - Black Shoes/Runners With Black Laces & Black Soles
 - Any Full Navy Crested School Jacket
 - Only Natural Hair Colours Allowed
 - No Set PE Uniform
 - Label your Belongings!
- 
- 
- 

Free Book Rental Scheme

- School Purchases Books and Loans to Students
- 1st Year Book Rental is €0
- Students Must Pay for Lost / Damaged Books
- See Information Note Previously Shared with Families

Sport & Extra Curricular Activities

- Lots of Different Sports/Activities
- Very Good for Social Interaction
- Great Experiences/Memories
- Full Spectrum for Girls & Boys



Pastoral Care Team

- Deputy Principal Ms Gallen
- Deputy Principal Mr Donnelly
- Year Head Ms O'Rourke
- Each Class Has Class Tutor
- Chaplain Ms Kelly
- Learning Support Ms Mulligan
- Guidance Counsellor Ms McArdle

School Journal

- Provided by School
- Important That Parent Signs it Weekly to Monitor Homework
- Watch Out for Notes Written by Teacher

Homework

- Vital Component in Learning Process
- No Such Thing As No Homework – Always Learning to be Done
- 1 to 1.5 Hours per Night

Absences / Late

- Absences Must be Followed by Note From Home on Return to School
- Templates in Back of Journal
- Email Preferable to Phonecall to Supplement Note
- Any Student Late Must Sign In at Office & Must Have a Note

Leaving School

- Students Must be Signed Out by Parent/Guardian at all times.
- Please Pre-Arrange Time With Student
- Avoid Calling Students Out
- Problem of Using Intercom


Mobile Phones

- Mobile Phones / Online Activity / Social Media are a Major Health Risk to Young People
- Parents / Guardians Must Take Control
- Children Should Not Dictate Terms
- They Will Blame You Later in Life for Not Protecting Them

Mobile Phones

- Turned Off at All Times During the School Day and on School Activities
- Teacher Will Confiscate if Used
- Must Then Be Collected By Parent in Office

Mobile Phones

- No Problem Using Phone in Office if Necessary
 - Parents Contact Students Through Office – Phone/email
 - Families Should Not Text or Call Students' Mobile Phones During School
 - Let Students Learn from Mistakes
- 

School Parent Contact

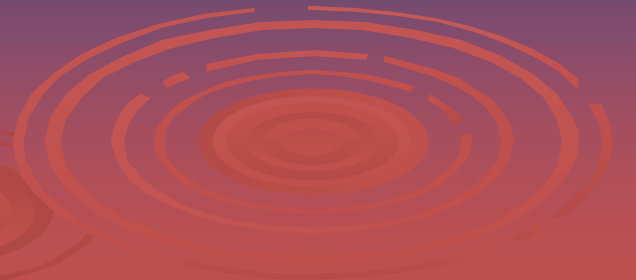
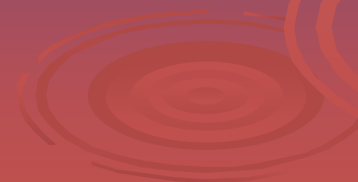
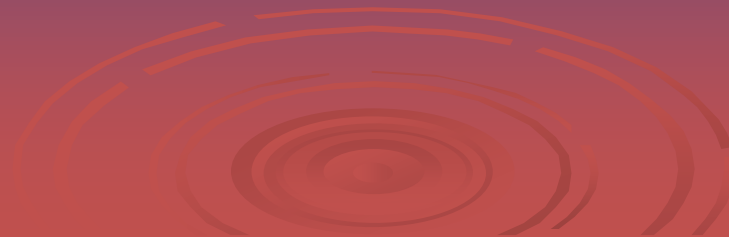
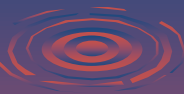
- Feel Free to Contact School at Any Time..... Email or Phonecall
- Don't Assume We Know Everything That is Going On
- Parent Teacher Meeting Once a Year
- Be Positive About Teachers / School

Asgard

- Very Significant Part of the School
- Twenty Nine Students at Present
- Mr Donnelly

Evening Study

- Only Engage in Evening Study if Essential
- Not Recommended for 1st Years



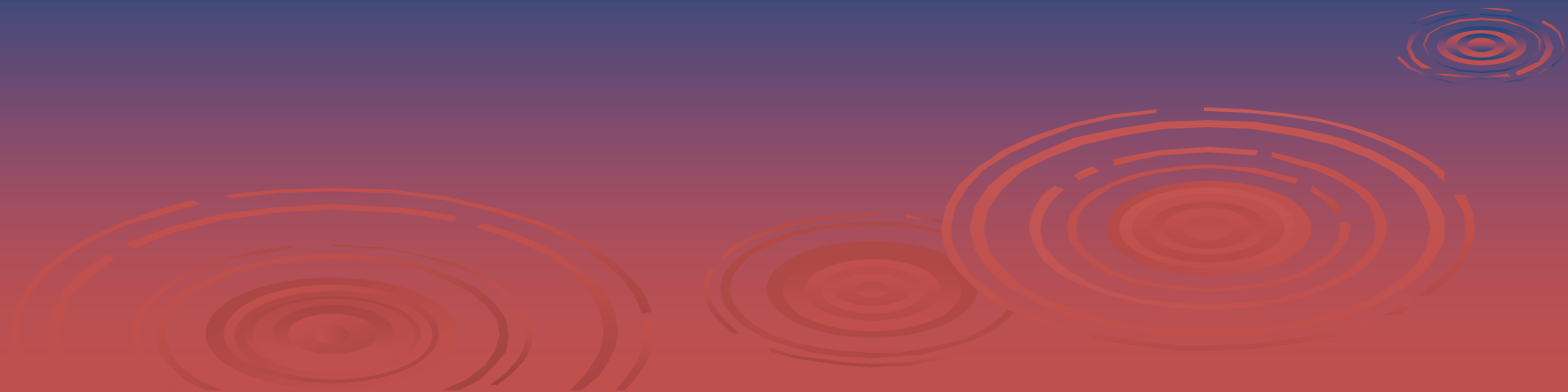
Total Costs for 1st Year Students

	€
Book Rental	0
Administration	40 (€50 per family)
Insurance	10
Locker	10
<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	60

Total Costs for 1st Year Students

- Pay Before 25th October 2024
- Pay Online Please if Possible
- Cash / Cheques Accepted at Office
- Reminder Sent Out After Christmas

mercykilbeggan.ie

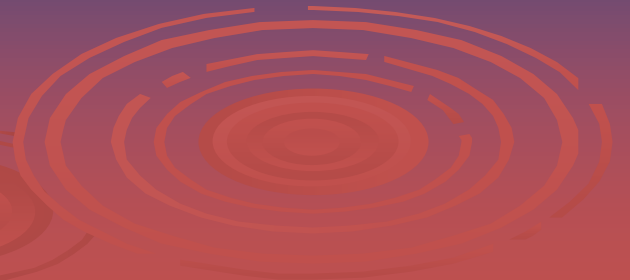
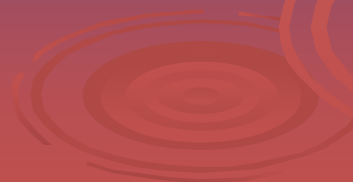
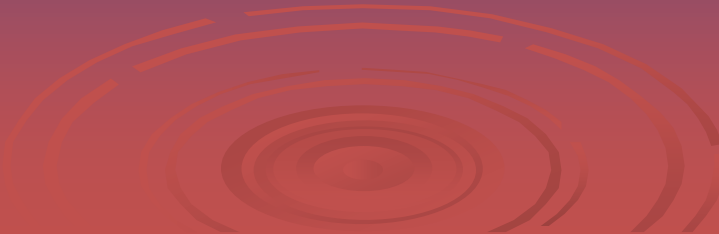
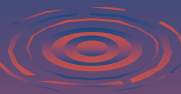


Online VSWare System

- mercykilbeggan.vsware.ie
- Username sent by text from school
- Reset Password using phone
- Log In
- Pay School Costs
- Term Reports
- View Timetables When Students Start

6th Year Mentors

- 6th Year Students Act as Mentors for 1st Year Students
- Work with 1st Years Throughout the Year
- "Big Brother" "Big Sister" System
- Very Successful to Date



Ready To Launch !

- Monday 26th August 2024
- School Day 9.00am – 1.15pm
- Buses Operating
- Small Break – Bring a Snack
- Lunch Provided / Chicken Roll
- Greeted by 6th Year Mentors at School Entrance
- Only Schoolbag & Pencil-case Needed

Keys to Success

- Attendance – No Holidays during Termtime
- Work With Teachers
- Strong Work Ethic – Take Responsibility
- Build Resilience
- Family Support

