

WELCOME



TO



CREAGH COLLEGE

Name: _____

Tutor Class: _____

Tutor Name: _____

Year Head: _____



*Preparing for Student Life
in Secondary School*



All About Me

I am _____ years old.

I live in

One thing I know about my new school is:

I will travel to school every day by:

I am going to get involved in _____
when I start in Creagh College.

My hobbies or interests are:

I would like to be a _____
when I finish school.

The subjects I am good at are:

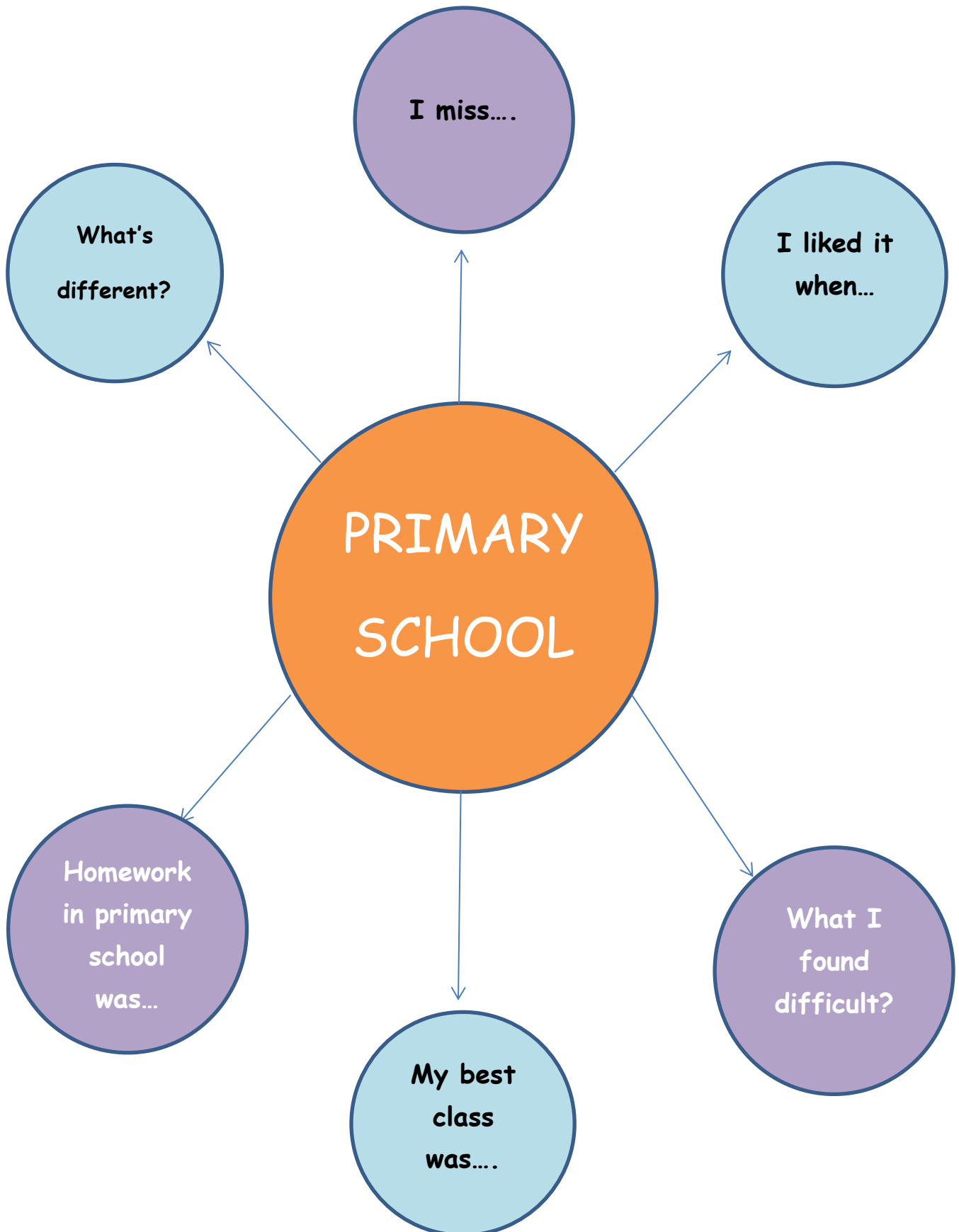
The subjects I find hard are:

I am good at:

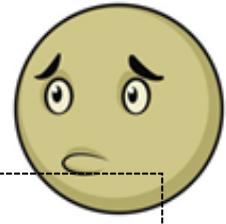
I would like to be better at:



Talk about Primary School



**I am worried about these things at
Creagh College**



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**I am excited about these things at Creagh
College**

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Time to Reflect and Think.....

Place a tick beside the answer that you choose. For some questions you might have more than one answer

Q1. Are you happy about going to Secondary School?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure _____

Q2. What are you looking forward to the most?

- Meeting making new friends _____
- New Subjects _____
- Extra-curricular activities _____
- New Teachers _____
- Having a locker _____

Q3. What do you fear most about secondary school?

- Not knowing where to go - size of the building _____
- New Subjects and more homework _____
- Making new friends _____
- Being organised _____
- Test/Exams _____
- New Rules _____
- Bullying _____
- Nothing _____

Q4. Will you miss your friends in Primary School?

Yes _____ No _____ Some _____

Q5. How do you feel about having more than one teacher a day?

- It will be fun/great _____
- Nervous and confusing _____
- Fine, will get to know more teachers _____
- Nothing _____

Q6. How do you feel about the longer school day?

- Don't mind because I will have longer Summer Holidays _____
- Not happy because we will have more homework _____

Differences between my Primary School and Creagh College:

Moving from Primary to Secondary school can be both exciting and unsettling for students. Secondary school life is very different from Primary school and it is only natural to feel nervous about it. There is no need to be worried as there are many supports in Creagh to help you settle in. Teachers, staff and fellow students are all here to help you so do not be afraid to ask for help.

What do you think are the main **differences** between Primary School and Secondary School?



Primary School	Secondary School

What are the main differences you will experience in Secondary school?

- ▶ In Primary school, you were one of the senior students in the school. In Secondary school, you will become one of the youngest students in the school.
- ▶ In Primary school, you had the same teacher every day. In Creagh College, you will have many different teachers throughout each school day.
- ▶ In Primary school, you probably stayed in the same room every day. In Secondary school, you will change rooms up to 9 times a day. This may cause you to experience a little difficulty getting around at first - but that's ok. Remember to ask for help!!
- ▶ The school day will be longer.
- ▶ You will have a lot more subjects to study and more homework to do.
- ▶ You will be expected to follow a timetable to find your way to the correct room for each class.
- ▶ You will have to be organised so that you have the correct materials for class.
- ▶ You can get involved in a lot more activities/clubs in Secondary school. This will help you to make friends with people and settle into secondary school life.

Helping with Transition to Secondary School

Caring for people		<p>On the list to the left identify and colour green the things that you have already done whilst you have been in 6th class.</p>
Working in a team		
Giving a presentation to my class		
Solving problems		
Singing in a choir or competition		
Entering a competition at school		
Joining a team		
Playing a sport		
Drawing/Painting		
Working on a project on my own		
Being good with your hands (practical work)		<p>The things that you have not done and would like to do please shade in red. When you come to Creagh College, we will help you achieve the things you have coloured in red.</p>
Joined a club at school		
Learn from mistakes made		
Using an iPad/Computer		
Speaking another language		
Volunteering		
Used a locker		
Used a homework journal		
Spending a night away from home on school trip		
Tasted a food from another country		
Made a new friend from another school		
Joined an after school activity		
Homework Club		

TIMETABLE

Sample Timetable				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
08.52 Tutor	08.52 Tutor	08.52 Tutor	08.52 Tutor	08.52 Tutor
09.00 ENG - SF156 - Ms Manley	09.00 HIS	09.00 HEC Ms Wallace	09.00 P.E	09.00 FRE
9.40 MATHS - FF101	9.40 ART	9.40 SPHE	9.40 P.E Mr O'Loughlin	9.40 RES
10.20 RES - SF129	10.20 ART	10.20 ENG	10.20 HEC	10.20 SCI
BREAKTIME 11.00 until 11.15				
11.20 ART - FF115	11.20 TUTOR CLASS	11.20 GEOG Ms Doyle	11.20 SCI	11.20 MATHS
12.00 SCI - SF167	12.00 ENG	12.00 MATHS	12.00 RES	12.00 ENG
12.40 SCI - SF167	12.40 GEOG	12.40 CSPE	12.40 GEOG	12.40 HIS
LUNCHTIME 13.20 until 13.55				
14.00 COMP - FF107	14.00 MATHS	14.00 RES	14.00 MATHS	14.00 HEC
14.40 COMP - FF107	14.40 FRE	14.40 HIS	14.40 ENG	14.40 HEC
15.20 FRE - FF86				

MON:

- The school day ends at 4.00pm.
- You have 9 classes on Mondays. Each class is 40 minutes long.
- 3 classes before break, 3 classes before lunch and 3 classes after lunch.

TUES, WEDS, THURS, FRI:

- On these four days, the school day ends at 3.20pm.
- You have 8 classes on these days. Each class is 40 minutes long.
- 3 classes before break, 3 classes before lunch and 2 classes after lunch.

Using a Timetable

Use the timetable on the previous page to answer the following questions:

1) How many English classes are there in a week?

2) What room is Art in on a Monday?

3) What day will the student need to bring his or her PE gear in?

4) How many subjects have a double class?

5) What are the names of the subjects that have double classes?

6) What subject does Ms Manley teach?

7) How long is break-time every day?

8) What is the greatest number of lessons you could have in a week?

What SUBJECTS will I be doing?

<u>Subjects that I MUST Do:</u>		
Subject	What is it?	No of classes
ENG		5
MAT		4
IRI*		4
SCI		3
FRE/SPA		3
Wellbeing		2
PE		2 (Double)
HIST		2
GEOG		2
COMP		1
Short Course		2 (Double)

<u>Subjects that I CAN CHOOSE TO Do:</u>		
Subject	What is it?	No of classes
ART		3
WW		3
MW		3
TG		3
BUS ST		3
CLS ST		3
MUS		3
H. Ec		3
TECH		3

My School Journal

- I **must** have my journal with me in every class.
- I **must** place it on my desk at the beginning of each class.
- I **write** my homework in my journal for each subject every day.
- I **have** to get my journal **signed** every week

Week commencing: Tuesday 17 th May			
Subject	Homework	Due Thursday 19 th May	

↓

Write the name of the subject here

↓

What you have to do goes here.

↓

Write the day its due here

↓

Tick the box when it's done

My Locker

What should I have in my locker?

-
-
-

What can I do to help organise my locker?

-
-
-

When can I go to my locker?

- **Before School**
- At break-time and lunchtime.
- After School.

How do I feel about having a locker?

-
-
-

What happens if I forget something?

- I get a note in my journal.

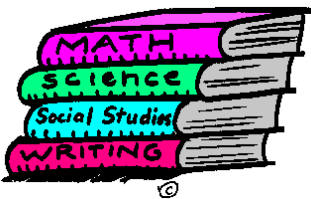


Homework

- ▶ You must write your homework in your journal.
- ▶ Homework may be written, reading, oral, aural, project based or revision.
- ▶ Your new teachers will regularly give you homework to complete. It is very important to keep up with homework so you don't fall behind. Teachers expect students to make an honest effort at their homework.



- ▶ First years normally spend 1 hour per night at their homework.



- ▶ Students should start their homework early in the evening before they get too tired.

- ▶ Students should do their homework at a desk in an area where there is good light and very little distractions.

- ▶ You should tell your teacher if you have problems finishing homework.

- ▶ Evening study is available for all years. This is held after school every day for students to do their homework and study.



The Meitheal Leaders

The 'Meitheal Leaders' are a group of 6th year students. It is their job to look out for 1st year students and make sure they have a safe and enjoyable experience settling into our school. Each 1st year class will have 2-3 Meitheal Leaders supporting them.

These students will be there to help you at break and lunchtimes. They will help you with your locker, finding your way around and they will also help you to make friends.

If you ever feel lost, isolated, or worried about anything the 'Meitheal Leaders' are there to help you. Remember although they are now senior students in the school, a few years ago they were in the exact same position as you.

My Meitheal Leaders	Fun fact about them

Important Roles and Adults who help:

Your **Class Tutor** can help if:

- ▶ You have questions about your new school
- ▶ You don't understand your timetable
- ▶ You are unsure of the school rules
- ▶ You are finding it hard to settle into your new school
- ▶ You are being bullied or feel unsafe
- ▶ You're sick and need to go home.
- ▶ Your locker will not open.

Role of your **Year Head**:

- ▶ Will be the link person between home and school for your year group.
- ▶ Provides support to you if you are struggling to settle into school.
- ▶ Makes sure that 1st Years are following the Code of Positive Behaviour.

Role of your **Guidance Counsellor**:

- ▶ Will be a support to you if you need someone to listen to any worries or concerns you have about school or at home.
- ▶ Will help with any problems about subject choices that you may have.
- ▶ Will help you to make decisions.



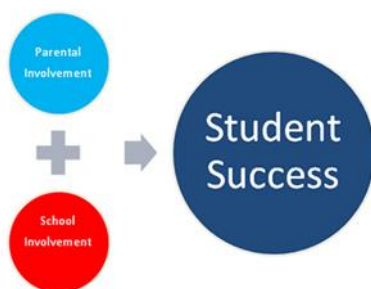
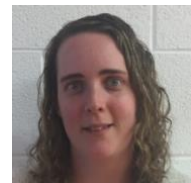
Your **Subject Teachers** can help if:

- ▶ You are worried about class work
- ▶ You can't do all of your homework
- ▶ You have questions about something that you don't understand in class.
- ▶ You have trouble with your books/iPad.



IT Coordinator can help you:

- ▶ When your books on your iPad are not working. Listen out for announcements about iPad clinic times
- ▶ Download schoolbooks onto your iPad.



Keeping Healthy

Creagh College promotes healthy eating and a healthy lifestyle

It is important that.....

- You get enough sleep. You should try to go to bed early so that you are full of energy for the next day.



- You eat properly. Bring a good lunch to school - sandwich, drink (water), piece of fruit, a snack and a yogurt.



- You do some exercise. Exercise is very important to keep us healthy and get us thinking.

- Moira, Eilish and Catherine run the canteen in school. It is open every day at break and lunchtimes. They sell a wide range of healthy lunches such as wraps, paninis, soup, salads, pasta etc. You can order your food earlier in the day so it is ready for you at lunchtime.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

Here in Creagh College we offer many extracurricular activities for students to get involved in both during the school day and after school. Teachers have also set up many different clubs for students to join. Joining different clubs and engaging in different extracurricular activities can help students settle into school as well as a way of making new friends. Finally, exercise is so important to ensure students have a healthy body but more importantly a healthy mind.



Extracurricular Activities:

- Rugby
- GAA
- Tennis
- Basketball
- Athletics
- Drama
- Choir
- Chess
- Debating

Afterschool Clubs

- Science Club
- Art Club
- Woodwork Club
- Home Ec Club



Being Prepared for School

T	S	K	Q	G	W	P	H	E
S	W	N	A	Z	A	U	L	J
I	V	B	E	P	N	B	M	O
L	D	Q	E	P	A	U	R	U
T	N	R	N	T	V	K	H	R
H	O	M	E	W	O	R	K	N
C	R	M	K	C	E	H	C	A
P	I	Y	S	I	J	P	A	L
T	S	O	A	W	A	I	D	N

BAG

CHECK

HOMEWORK

LIST

JOURNAL








PAPER

TIMETABLE

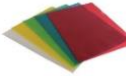

PENS

What Is Expected Of Me In Creagh College?

I must try my best to be:

- **Organised:** Having all I need for class 
- **Punctual:** Be on time for all classes 
- **Co-operative:** Help others in a positive way 
- **Attentive:** Concentrate on my learning 
- **Hardworking:** Do my best work 
- **Persistent:** Work hard even when the going gets tough 
- **Thoughtful:** Think of others and their feelings
- **Optimistic:** Find the best in every situation 

Tips to help you be organised for school:

- **Establish a good routine;** Organise your uniform, school bag, lunch and any other equipment you need for the next day, the night before. Charge your iPad etc.
- **Write down all your homework in your journal:** Use each column including the Due and Done Column.
- **Have a quiet space/station where you can do your homework;** This should be clutter free. Try to do your homework at the same time every evening.
- **Keep a checklist of the equipment/materials that you need for every class;** Keep a copy in your locker and at home. Refer to this checklist every day to make sure you are prepared.
- **Use colour coded folders;** Have a folder for each subject where you can keep your copy, workbook, spare pencil and handouts given in class. Where possible, colour code these to your subjects on your timetable. For example; **Maths is Red** so have red zip lock folder for Maths.
 
- **Keep your locker clean and clutter free;** Some students place a shelf in their locker to create two layers for their books. Face your books with the binder facing out the way so they are easily recognisable. Keep a spare pencil case in your locker. Go to your locker in the morning, at little break, lunch and before you go home.
- **Declutter your bag at least once per week.**

- **Keep your iPad charged.**
- **Create Folders on your iPads for different apps**

What I liked and learned?

In order for us to develop and grow, it is important that we tell and share what we like about school and what it is like to be a student in secondary school. Write down some things that you have learned from completing this booklet. Write your name in the centre.

