



SHIMNA INTEGRATED COLLEGE SPECIALIST SCHOOL FOR LANGUAGES

AUGUST 2010 NEWSLETTER

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Fantastic Results

We were delighted to welcome Gerry Garvey of CEA to Shimna on results day. Representatives of the examination board like to visit a school to meet the students who achieve the results, and what a year he picked to come to Shimna!

Our year 14s have covered themselves with glory and record breaking A level results. This was the first year of the A* grade, and we have a whole constellation of them. Laura Scott twinkled the very brightest with a fabulous 4 A*s. Orla has two among all her other grade As, and V'Cenza, Niomi, Johanna, Steven etc. all have sparklers among their As. Its really important to remember though, that straight As like Michael's are still straight As, and that all our students who achieved the grades they have earned have fulfilled their potential and are really happy now

and deserve our congratulations. Our students are heading off to study: medicine; pharmacy; biomedical sciences; law; music; English literature; mathematics; psychology; Spanish; Irish; anthropology; sports studies etc. Icing on the cake this year have been V'Cenza's scholarship to Aberdeen University and Jeannine's place on the CREST scholarship selection process, alongside the bursary she has won for excellent grades.

Very, very special mention has to be made of two brilliant linguists,

Aritz Sterne and Meadhb Ni Hir who are still in year 12, but who have achieved an A level A* in Spanish for Aritz and A in Irish for Meadhb. They still have to wait for the GCSE results they have achieved alongside their early A level. Meadhb has also received a Young Musician Award of £500.00 towards a new instrument. She was selected for the Award among 300 applicants.

We are very, very proud of our students, our staff and very grateful for the support of parents and of our Board of Governors.

**Sign up to
Parentmail via
our website!
Check out our
blogs!**

Term Starts

You will be very welcome back on 1st September (year 8 and year 13) or 2nd September (years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 14). This newsletter should include everything you need to know, but please do not hesitate to ring in if there is anything else you need to know.

Welcome Back

Whether you are a new parent/guardian or an old hand, please, please, please make yourself an appointment with yourself for a cup of (fairly traded!) tea and use the time to read these pages. We are very aware that the pages are too full of stuff, but if you can give the letter some attention now at the beginning of the year, everything will go more smoothly from now on.



Grinning girls with their great results.



Why did Danny have to change his T shirt to meet Gerry Garvey of CEA?

Our Danella and her Aurora Dawn star.

Gordon's grade A proves he did the right thing.



Useful Information

Our Website

www.shimnacollege.org.uk

We have worked very hard to make our website the first stop for information. Spend some time browsing:

Parent Update for information about uniform, extra-curricular activities, the calendar, a dyslexia course for parents, lots of other things. You will also find the sign up section to receive our monthly newsletter by email and help save the planet;

College Office for exam timetables and copies of all our policies;

Blogs for all the latest news across all aspects of Shimna;

Support Shimna for the GiveNow link where you can make your parental contribution or any other donation to the college;

Study Centre for links to websites for learning.

Newsletter for the latest edition;

Look along the **menu bar** as well for all the other sections you will ever need.

We do our best to make sure that information on the website is up to date and accurate. Please do not hesitate to email in if you spot anything that has gone wrong, or doesn't explain clearly what you need to know.

Please rest assured that if you do not have easy access to the website that you can ring for a copy of anything you need. There are paper copies of everything.

What to Bring on the First Day

You don't need to worry about your **bus pass**. If you have applied for your bus pass, it will arrive in school for you during the first week. The bus driver won't expect you to have it with you on the first morning.

We are very pleased to be able to provide a **locker** for every student. New students should bring £5.00 deposit for their locker key. Everyone else should make sure to bring their key. Valerie Doran, our housekeeper, is in charge of lockers. If you have lost your key, you should bring £3.00 so that a new one can be ordered for you.

Our **canteen** is a cash cafeteria. You should bring either your packed lunch or money to buy your lunch. Our menus for the year will be up on the website soon. If you are entitled to a free school meal, our canteen will already have your name.

At the beginning of term lots of books are given out, so bring a good sturdy bag.

You will need a **pen and pencil** on the very first day, and colours are handy.

At the end of the school day, there will always be staff on duty at the **bus** stops so there will always be someone to ask if you aren't sure which bus to get.

If you need to check the exact time and bus stop for your **morning journey**, you are best to check with Translink at the Newcastle bus station, 02843722296



Shimna was founded by parents, and we really appreciate all the support parents and guardians give on a daily basis. If a student is well turned out and geared up for school, s/he will enjoy a nag free life and have the very best chance of enjoying learning.

1. Uniform - always check the website or ring in to ask for a copy of the policy and list - don't listen to rumours.
2. Consultation meetings - there is one for every year group, and two for year 8. The dates are on the calendar.
3. Newsletter - as well as the news, there is always a page with the important dates for the month ahead.
4. Exam Support - we will always provide a copy of the exam timetable in good time for you to support your daughter/son with revision.
5. Attendance - full attendance is the way to achieve the best. Always ring the school on the 1st morning of absence and send a note on the student's return to explain any absence. Look up the medical policy if you need to let us know about any ongoing issues.
6. Student details – if you move house, change phone number or email address, please don't forget to let us know.
7. Open Door - don't hesitate to ring or come and talk to us if there is anything you think we should know, or if there is anything worrying you.

More Great Students



UNIFORM POLICY

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We are proud of our uniform and expect our students to wear the official college uniform at all times during college hours, on journeys to and from college and for official college functions. We aim to provide an element of choice within our uniform so that every student will be comfortable and well turned out. We rely on the support of parents/guardians in ensuring that students wear full uniform and wear their uniform well.

Years 8-12

Top Layer

White shirt with Shimna tie
Shimna outdoor coat
(this is the ONLY coat for wear with our uniform);
Shimna blazer;
Shimna grey jumper;
Shimna grey cardigan;
Shimna hoodie;
Shimna track top.

Bottom Half

Mid grey trousers/ pleated skirt/straight skirt
Grey/black/white socks
Black/navy tights
Black school shoes

6th Form

Top Layer

White shirt with Shimna tie
Shimna outdoor coat (this is the ONLY coat for wear with our uniform);
Shimna blazer;
Shimna navy jumper;
Shimna navy cardigan;
Shimna hoodie;
Shimna track top.

Bottom Half

Mid grey or black trousers/ pleated skirt/straight skirt
Grey/black/white socks
Black/navy tights
Black school shoes

Sports Uniform

White polo shirt with Shimna logo;
Long sleeved rugby style shirt in Shimna colours;
Navy shorts/skirt with Shimna crest
(shorts combined with skirt);
Shimna hoodie;
Shimna tracksuit;
Navy and yellow sports socks;
Gum shield;
Football boots;
Shin guards.

Jewellery

Our jewellery policy is determined by the health and safety regulations which apply in practical subjects.

One ring per hand and one stud earring per ear.

Students should keep their jewellery for weekends and holidays and their social life, and then they won't feel nagged and none of the jewellery will ever get lost.

Every student should have their name clearly stitched onto all items of uniform and sports uniform.





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Shimna Uniform from September 2010

Even if you are an old hand, we would be very grateful if you would read the following carefully. If you are unclear about any detail of our uniform, please do not hesitate to ring.

We are very proud of our uniform, which was designed by the founding parents, and has been reviewed down the years by succeeding generations of students, parents and governors. We rely on the support of parents/guardians to ensure that all our students wear the full, correct uniform and wear it well.

The current range of uniform items offers a degree of choice within the uniform, and you should check carefully that items are within the uniform range before you buy. Our suppliers have also worked hard to ensure that the items on offer are both hard wearing and a keen price. Please support them.

Our suppliers are:

Annetts of Newcastle
Binghams of Newcastle
JJ Donnelly of Downpatrick
Rhoda Stewart of Ballynahinch

You may also be interested in our WebShop which is operated by JJ Donnelly through our college website. We know that this will be a real boon to families who live at a distance, and to parents who work during shopping hours. Should any of our other suppliers offer a WebShop, we will of course include a link on our website.

Our Parents' Council also runs our uniform SwapShop.

Our uniform list is printed here and is on the college website, and the following are points which sometimes cause confusion:

Skirts and trousers for years 8-12 are **mid-grey**. The sixth form uniform includes black trousers;

The college coat is the **ONLY** coat to be worn with our uniform;

You should buy comfortable, hardwearing black school shoes which will last the year. Trainers are not worn except with college sports gear;

We have added a grey Shimna cardigan to the uniform for years 8-12 and a navy Shimna cardigan for 6th form. Please be clear that the Shimna cardigan is the **ONLY** cardigan to be worn with our uniform;

We now have a range of top layer Shimna items from which you can choose: Shimna jumper; Shimna cardigan; Shimna hooded top; Shimna track suit top; Shimna coat; Shimna blazer.

Check out our website regularly for news, examination timetables, calendar dates, all our blogs.