



CGS NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWS SHEET OF CARRICKFERGUS GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Open Evening 2024



A huge thank you to all the many P7/P6 pupils and parents who joined us, despite the weather, for our Open Evening this week. We hope you enjoyed the CGS experience! #preparetosucceed



Prospectus 2024

The new Carrickfergus Grammar School Prospectus for 2024 is now LIVE.

Anyone interested in the school is welcome to view it at <https://www.carrickfergusgrammar.com/prospectus>

Values and Ethos:
A world-class education

We aim to offer our students world-class education. We seek continually and systematically to identify and understand what the highest quality learning and teaching looks like. We have our own research and world-renowned research. We use our own research to see for ourselves what works in practice in our school and to explain how it can be transferred into the classrooms in Carrickfergus Grammar School.

Effective learning and teaching, which is central to the life of the school, depends on a number of things. Our research focuses on what we know, what we do, and what we expect. High quality research, both inside and outside the classroom, and quality communication between students, staff, parents and others in the development of a culture and learning environment in which all can prosper.

From 2019 to 2021, a range of world-class educationalists undertook training with our school including Prof. Elizabeth Peppercorn, Prof. C. Mark Cutler and Prof. David Bridges.

In September 2021, both Mr Maxwell and Mr Roberts presented at the annual Great Research Conference on Learning and Teaching in the School of Education at the University of Exeter. The event was shown on the TV in our own premises.

In September 2022, Carrickfergus Grammar School presented a Learning and Teaching for Young Habits, incorporating more depth into learning and helping to ensure that our students accumulate personal knowledge which will give them the edge in life.

In January 2023, it was announced that Carrickfergus Grammar School is the first Northern Ireland school to be named as a 'Research School'.

In the purpose of Carrickfergus Grammar School is to provide an educational environment where all of the students concerned are in care, with the highest of aspirations and expectations for all. The school will work to ensure a disciplined, well-ordered, accurate and supportive environment where staff and students can work and learn in an atmosphere of mutual respect and without fear of judgement or learning being hindered, so that each and every child is encouraged to achieve the highest level of academic, intellectual, personal, physical and social development of which it is capable.



It was announced today that Carrickfergus Grammar School, in partnership with the Queen's University of Belfast, will host a prestigious conference dedicated to sharing educational research on high-quality learning and teaching approaches. "ResearchED Belfast", as it will be known, will be the first of its kind in Northern Ireland. The conference will see world-renowned educationalists coming to the school, and local teachers will also be involved - helping teachers bridge the gap between research and practice.

researchED Belfast

Reacting to the news, Mr Maxwell, Principal of the school, said: 'We are delighted to be hosting ResearchED Belfast on Saturday 28th September 2024. It is tremendous that ResearchED is now coming to Northern Ireland for the first time. Carrickfergus Grammar School has built up strong links with educationalists from across these islands and further afield.'

Mr Roberts, Director of Research at Carrickfergus Grammar, said: 'Being selected as the host of ResearchEd Belfast is a massive privilege. The conference will play a significant role in helping Carrickfergus Grammar support schools in Northern Ireland to develop their understanding of evidence-informed teaching and learning.'



ResearchEd coming to CGS

Find out more at: <https://www.carrickfergusgrammar.com/researched-belfast>

Football Success

Congratulations to our very own Callum R, (Year 8), Kaiden B. and Jadon S. (Year 9) who were part of the Carrick Rangers Colts team which won the South Belfast Youth League Cup recently, after a thrilling game ending with penalties.

Our Principal Mr Maxwell was delighted to get down to the Blanchflower Stadium to watch the team and commented: "We are really proud of Callum, Kaiden and Jadon, and it was brilliant to see them playing so well under pressure. *The team was a credit to their coaches and to the community. Well done, boys!*"

Latest Exam information

Our upcoming Year 11 exam timetables for February 2024 are now online. Keep up-to-date here at: <https://www.carrickfergusgrammar.com/subject-choice>.

YEAR 11 EXAM TIMETABLE - Wednesday 21st February until Wednesday 28th February 2024

- You must arrange to be in school 15 minutes before the start of your first exam each day and where you finish your final exam that day you may go home.
- If you are to attend any day that has an exam you must go to the Assembly Hall for important exam study.
- All exams will be conducted in the Assembly Hall unless otherwise stated. The only exceptions are language orals. Music and Art.
- Normal closure contact on Thursday 28th February (Week 2 timetable).

Year	Language	Maths 1*	Maths 2*	Sci 1**	Sci 2**	PE 1**	PE 2**	History	Geography	English Literature	French
8.45am - 10.45am	ENGLISH (75% for national paper)	MATHEMATICS (1hr 45min)	MATHEMATICS (1hr 45min)	SCIENCE (1hr 45min)	SCIENCE (1hr 45min)	PE (1hr 45min)	PE (1hr 45min)	ENGLISH LITERATURE (1hr 45min)	ENGLISH LITERATURE (1hr 45min)	ENGLISH LITERATURE (1hr 45min)	FRENCH (1hr 45min)
11.00am - 11.30am	ENGLISH (1hr 45min)	CHEMISTRY (1hr 45min)	PHYSICS (1hr 45min)	BIOLOGY (1hr 45min)	TECHNOLOGY (1hr 45min)	ENGLISH LITERATURE (1hr 45min)					
11.30am - 12.30pm	ENGLISH (1hr 45min)	CHEMISTRY (1hr 45min)	PHYSICS (1hr 45min)	BIOLOGY (1hr 45min)	TECHNOLOGY (1hr 45min)	ENGLISH LITERATURE (1hr 45min)					

#be prepared



International Champion

Congratulations to our very own international champ Mark Todd, Year 9. Mark won all four of his wrestling matches in Stockholm, Sweden, this weekend to take Gold. *Well done, Mark, from us all at CGS.*

STEM Club work



STEM Club kicked off in 2024 with some excellent construction skills on show in this week. Pupils had the opportunity to explore some excellent Science Museum STEM vehicle builds. *Good work, team!*

QUB invite you to an upcoming event Science at Queen's: An event for prospective students and their parents on Thursday 22nd February from 5:30pm.

This event is targeted students in Year 11-14 who are currently studying/likely to study science subjects their parents/guardians are also welcome to attend.

The event will showcase subject areas such as Archaeology and Palaeoecology; Biological Sciences; Biomedical Science; Chemistry; Geography, Mathematics, Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical Sciences / Biotechnology, Planning; Psychology and Physics through conversations with current students, staff, and industry employers.



Dates for your diary

- 19th January** Normal school day (Friday 1 timetable)
- 24th January** Year 10 Parental Consultations 12.50-3.25. 5 shortened periods, pupils leave school at 12.15. No canteen facilities available
- 26th January** Year 10 return GCSE subject choice forms



SCIENCE AT QUEEN'S

YEAR 11-14 STUDENTS AND THEIR PARENTS
5:30pm, 22 FEBRUARY

