

# Drumshanbo Vocational School

**Telephone:** Office 071 – 9641085 **Website:** [www.dvs.ie](http://www.dvs.ie) **email:** [info@dvs.ie](mailto:info@dvs.ie)

*Principal:*

**Mr. Martin Fallon** B.Sc., M.Ed.

**email:** [martinfallon@msletb.ie](mailto:martinfallon@msletb.ie)



*Deputy Principal:*

**Mr. Sean Wynne** M.I., M.A.

[Seanwynne@msletb.ie](mailto:Seanwynne@msletb.ie)

October 8<sup>th</sup> 2021

Dear Parents & Guardians,

As we approach the first mid-term break (25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> Oct) of the new school year, I want to bring some important information to your attention.

## **New Deputy Principal**

After a long and distinguished career at DVS, both as teacher and Deputy Principal, Mr Sean Wynne will be retiring at the mid-term break. We are pleased to welcome our new Deputy Principal - Ms Siobhán Evans, a former Assistant Principal in Sligo.

## **School contacts**

The first point of contact for a parent is often the student's Year Head. The list of Year Heads and their contact details for 2021/22 is as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Year Head</b>	<b>e-mail address</b>
1st Year	Ms Lorraine Devaney	<a href="mailto:LorraineMDevaney@msletb.ie">LorraineMDevaney@msletb.ie</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	Ms Ailish Kearns	<a href="mailto:ailishkearns@msletb.ie">ailishkearns@msletb.ie</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	Ms Carmel O Neill	<a href="mailto:carmeloneill@msletb.ie">carmeloneill@msletb.ie</a>
Transition Year	Ms Yvonne Traynor	<a href="mailto:yvonnetraynor@msletb.ie">yvonnetraynor@msletb.ie</a>
5 <sup>th</sup> Year	Ms Margaret Beirne	<a href="mailto:margaretbeirne@msletb.ie">margaretbeirne@msletb.ie</a>
6 <sup>th</sup> Year	Ms Denise Coen	<a href="mailto:denisecoen@msletb.ie">denisecoen@msletb.ie</a>

## **Other frequent contacts :**

Guidance Counsellor: Mr Daithi Hughes; [daithihughes@msletb.ie](mailto:daithihughes@msletb.ie); 071 9640446

Learning Support: Ms Lorraine McLoughlin; [lorrynemcloughlin@msletb.ie](mailto:lorrynemcloughlin@msletb.ie) 071 9640444

Programme Co-ordinator (LCA & LCVP): Yvonne Traynor; [yvonnetraynor@msletb.ie](mailto:yvonnetraynor@msletb.ie)

## **Book Rental Scheme/ Personal Accident Insurance**

A letter regarding these fees & methods of payment for 2021/22 will be given to students to bring home and will also be published on our web-site.

## **VShare (drumshanbovs.vshare.ie)**

This is the system we use to record student data. All parents should be able to access vshare to view their children's timetables, attendance, behaviour record and reports. Parents have

received usernames by text and they set their own passwords using the mobile number the text was sent to. Instructions on re-setting your password and on how to download the app are available on the home page of our web-site – [www.dvs.ie](http://www.dvs.ie)

### **Student Attendance & Punctuality**

Records of students' attendance and punctuality are kept on VShare. Parents should check these regularly. If there are any errors or if you have any queries, please contact the relevant Year Head.

Absences should be notified to the school in any of the following ways, either in advance of the absence or after the absence:

- Using the vshare app. Instructions on notifying an absence using the app is available on the home page of our web-site, [www.dvs.ie](http://www.dvs.ie).
- Send an e-mail to the Year Head
- Contact the school by telephone
- Leave a note in the Student Journal. However, due to Covid restrictions, for now, teachers only check Journals occasionally.

School management is obliged, under the Education Welfare Act to inform the Education Welfare Officer /TUSLA if a student is absent for more than 20 days or for regular unexplained absences.

### **Mobile phones issue**

We are asking that students leave their phones at home unless the parents deem that it is absolutely necessary that they bring them to school. Those that do bring a phone to school are required to leave it in the locker. Failure to do this can result in the phone being confiscated. In accordance with our policy, it will be returned to the student at the end of the day. If that student has a phone confiscated for a second or subsequent time the parent/guardian can collect it any time during school hours.

*Phones are a major distraction to some of our students and according to a recent survey do result in times missed from class to check on messages etc.*

### **Student e-mail addresses**

All students have been provided with their own dvs.ie e-mail addresses. This gives them access to the Microsoft Office suite, including TEAMS on any of their devices.

### **Parents Association & Parent Teacher Meetings**

I expect that with the removal of some restrictions we will be in a position to plan & notify you of parent teacher meetings and the Parents Association AGM shortly after mid-term.

### **Lunch time and after school activities**

We have already resumed a wide range of lunch time activities, including yoga, chess, basketball and soccer. Weather permitting, a GAA blitz is planned for First and Second Years for next week.

**School Library**

We have an extensive selection of Irish and International books available for students to borrow. Each class will be notified of arrangements for borrowing and opening times.

**StudyClix**

All exam years have been issued with accounts for *StudyClix* – an on-line learning platform with useful exam guidance. A link to *Studyclix* is available on our website.

**Evening Study**

The lifting of some of the Covid restrictions should allow us to re-commence evening study for exam years after the mid-term break. Students will be notified in the coming weeks.

**Further Information**

You can find up to date information, approved school policies, and school calendar on our website [www.dvs.ie](http://www.dvs.ie). Input and comments from Parents /Guardians regarding school policies are always welcome at [martinfallon@msletb.ie](mailto:martinfallon@msletb.ie)

Yours sincerely,



Martin Fallon