



Villiers School

IRELAND
FOUNDED 1821

Co-Educational
National & International
Boarding & Day School





Junk Kouture 2018/2019



Headmistress' Address

It is with great pleasure that I introduce you to Villiers School. I hope you enjoy browsing these pages as an introduction to our School. Why not follow it with an actual visit and enjoy the Villiers experience first hand?

In Villiers we pride ourselves on the care we give our students. We believe education goes beyond classroom academics and we focus on the individual at a deeper level. We strive to ensure our students leave Villiers as young adults entering the world with a sense of integrity, determination, responsibility, kindness and a positive attitude towards life.

Our school was founded almost 200 years ago and seamlessly blends traditional education with a multitude of other experiences, be they on the sports field, in the world of arts and music or in personal development.

We are a diverse School with numerous branches of the 'Villiers Family', including boys and girls, boarders and day students, many nationalities, cultures and creeds. We offer a wide academic curriculum; excellent teaching facilities and we pride ourselves on small class sizes.

At senior level, our students choose between the Irish examination system and the International Baccalaureate. We are proud to have alumni members in universities all over the world. We believe every individual should fulfill their potential. We aim to see our students emerge as strong characters who are ready to take their place in the world with genuine self-worth from personal and collective investment in their achievements.

We are dedicated to developing each student's individual potential and understand that pastoral care goes hand in hand with ensuring personal success.

Please feel welcome to contact us at any time with any questions, queries or suggestions.

Jill Storey
Headmistress





Mission Statement

Villiers provides a broad and balanced education within a caring community. Our aim is to develop life and learning skills in order to face the challenges ahead with awareness and integrity.



Villiers School Tradition & Innovation



Villiers School was founded in 1821 and is located in Limerick, in the southwest of Ireland, 20 minutes from Shannon International Airport, and 2.5 hours from Dublin International Airport.

Having begun life as a Protestant-ethos educational facility with 30 students, Villiers is now approaching our 200th anniversary as a multi-denominational campus of over 600 students. Villiers is a co-educational boarding and day school, catering for students between the age of 12 and 18. We pride ourselves on the family-like atmosphere in the School and the 'Villiers Family' is central to our

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school spirit. Approximately 15% of our student body are international. Villiers is proud to offer students the opportunity to be part of a challenging international educational environment in a modern and distinctively Irish setting. Villiers management and staff promote inclusive, yet independent education, so that each student reaches his/her true potential, in a manner suited to each individual.

Villiers is one of only three schools in Ireland authorised to offer the prestigious and challenging International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme. Soon to be the only English-speaking country in post-Brexit Europe, Villiers is Ireland's only boarding school offering the IBDP.

In December 2018, Villiers School had an independent review carried out by the Irish Department of Education. The outcome was a glowing endorsement of our School and community. Follow this link to read what the educational experts say about us.

https://www.education.ie/en/Publications/Inspection-Reports-Publications/Whole-School-Evaluation-Reports-List/64310B_WSEMLLPP_8444_20190124.pdf



International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

Villiers School is Ireland's only boarding school authorised to offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program. We believe that the common philosophy of IB is important for our students and in fitting with the ethos of the School - a commitment to high quality, challenging and international education. We aspire to develop well-rounded students who are open-minded, confident in their own identities and able to apply their learning in what is becoming an increasingly unpredictable world.

For over 40 years, IB programmes have gained a reputation for their high academic standards, for preparing students for life in a globalised 21st century, and for helping to develop the citizens who will create a better, more peaceful world. Founded in 1968,

“A commitment to high quality, challenging, international education”

currently there are close to one million IB students at 3,440 schools in 141 countries across the world. Villiers is only one of three schools in Ireland, and the only school outside of Dublin, to offer the IBDP.



The IBDP at Villiers School is the senior course of the IB programme, and open to applications from students aged 16-18. In Ireland, the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme is an international alternative to the traditional Leaving Certificate. The benefits of this programme, apart from its academic rigour, are that it is transferable from country to country and school to

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school, so we can facilitate students who want to develop English speaking skills, explore a different culture or indeed for families transferring to Ireland.



Transition Year (TY)

The TY Programme is designed for students aged 15-16, and acts as a bridge between the Junior School and Senior School.

TY is an opportunity to take stock, explore new and different ways of learning, to expand the learning environment beyond the school walls into the wider community and the world of work and to lay a secure foundation for more mature decision making for the future.

The programme consists of core subjects, choice subjects, modules and projects. Outdoor pursuits include hiking, rock climbing, kayaking,

sailing, archery, high ropes, surfing and more. There are also guest lectures, a fashion show, a drama production, work experience, and a week-long trip to Achill Island. Modules include Film Studies, Green Schools, Enterprise, Origami, Food Safety and more. All senior cycle choice subjects are sampled in TY, allowing students the opportunity to identify their strengths and passions, and to make informed choices for senior cycle and beyond. We welcome applications from both Irish and International students into our TY programme. International students

“A bridge between the Junior School and Senior School,”

in TY also avail of small group English tuition, preparation for Cambridge English exams and an Irish cultural studies programme.

Independent Transition Year (ITY)

Villiers ITY Programme is a preparatory year for TY students who are considering the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme at senior cycle. The ITY Programme is a combination of core subjects, Mathematics and Languages, as well as a number of choice subjects. Furthermore, students are required to complete, within the academic year, an Extended Essay, the Gáisce Bronze Award and a Reflective Report. ITY



students will also participate in all the other options and modules available in TY. ITY students are expected to have a minimum of a B1 CEFR in English and be a minimum of 15 years of age when the programme begins.



What to Expect

Villiers School offers both day and boarding options to students. Boarders are offered a weekly or fortnightly option.

International students, with no prior connection to Ireland, are required to have a local guardian. In addition, on closed weekends, our international students go to local Irish host families. The support of Villiers teachers and staff, as well as guardians and host families, helps ensure that our international students are happy and well looked-after, so that they can focus on achieving a well-rounded experience during their time in Ireland.

Currently, approximately 20% of our boarders are international, and include students from Germany, Spain, France, Poland, Russia, China and Thailand, Japan, Hong Kong and Luxembourg to name just a few. This mix of nationalities is an asset to

both academic and cultural learning and experiences. Students are housed in modern, recently refurbished dormitories with approximately six students in each dorm, and are overseen by a combination of teaching and boarding staff. The aim at Villiers is to encourage multi-culturalism while maintaining a family-style structure. In addition to boarding and academic staff, there are two rotational school

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nurses, the Headmistress lives on campus with her family and two other residences on campus are also home to members of staff and their families. Teachers share the responsibility of supervising study facilities. Boarding students at Villiers School find the right balance of a challenging academic environment combined with socialization, exercise and self-exploration.

Our wide variety of sports and clubs include Hockey, Rugby, Basketball, Athletics, Badminton, Cookery, Philosophy, Gardening, Choir, Opera, Public Speaking, Friendship, Quilting and Crafts, Metalwork and more!



Testimonials

Yara, Germany

I joined Villiers in September 2018. I thought I would stay here just for one year and then I would go back to Germany. I'm still here. I'm now an IB student. I started in TY and then switched to ITY. I was more interested in the topics we talked about in class and the way we learned different things about them. For example, instead of the teacher telling us what to write about in our essays, we had the freedom to choose the topics ourselves. Over the year, I improved my English skills and I prepared myself for IB.

Pitsinee, Thailand

From Transition Year I have learned a lot of things. There are a lot of activities that we did, including guest lectures, a fashion show, a drama, and work experience that prepared us for future careers and also developed our communications skills. Alongside this, we had many subjects to choose from that are very interesting, such as Food Safety, Enterprise, Origami and many more. We got to do so many things that explored new and different ways of learning. All the activities were really enjoyable and developed our skills. It's a fantastic year to learn new things and to prepare for Form V.



Valeriia, Russia

Hello, my name is Valeriia and I'm an international student in Villiers School. When I came here for the first time I was really shy. I couldn't understand how I was going to speak English for a whole year. Now, as the time has passed, I feel more confident and I have friends here. TY is a nice opportunity to come from another country to Ireland to study here even just for one year. There were a lot of international students and we all were in the same boat. I recommend taking part in all of the TY activities because it is so much fun and all these activities brought us together. We made new friends. New groups were formed. We had an opportunity to

get to know each other and to become closer. I think all these things are great for your experience and memories. TY is unforgettable and everyone who has done it agrees with me. Now I'm a Form V student, studying the IB programme. I enjoy what I study. Now it's time to prepare ourselves for future life.

“TY is a nice opportunity to come from another country to Ireland to study here even just for one year.”



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