



Thursday 18 June 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Summer reports are now available on VShare. If you experience any difficulty accessing your account, please contact the school office at info@stanhopesecondary.ie.

As another successful school year draws to a close, we would like to celebrate the many achievements of our students and reflect on what has been a remarkable year for Stanhope Secondary School. Throughout the year, our students excelled academically and represented the school with distinction in sporting, cultural, and extracurricular activities. From school productions and competitions to awards ceremonies, wellbeing initiatives, and student-led projects, they consistently demonstrated commitment, resilience, creativity, and ambition.

We are particularly proud of the strong sense of school spirit, kindness, and inclusivity shown across all year groups. These achievements would not have been possible without the dedication of our staff and the continued support of parents and guardians.

Welcoming Male Students – A New Chapter for Our School

This year marked a historic milestone as we welcomed male students to our school for the first time. Our First Year intake increased by over 50%, and the introduction of our first co-educational group has been an outstanding success.

From their first day, these students embraced school life with enthusiasm, respect, and a genuine commitment to learning. They have made a significant contribution to our school community through their participation in academic, sporting, cultural, and extracurricular activities. Their positive attitude, kindness, and school spirit have enriched school life and helped shape this exciting new chapter in the history of Stanhope Secondary School.

School Improvements and Curriculum Development

Over the past year, we have continued to invest significantly in our facilities and learning environment. A new classroom was added to accommodate increased enrolment, while more than 400 new tables and chairs were purchased to enhance classrooms and student wellbeing. Interactive whiteboards were installed throughout the school, supporting more engaging and dynamic teaching and learning. Our canteen was expanded, increasing seating capacity by 48 places, and the tendering process for our roof replacement is nearing completion, with works expected to begin during the coming school year.

We are also delighted that plans for two new state-of-the-art Science laboratories have been approved by both the Department of Education and the Board of Management. We hope construction can be completed during the coming year, significantly enhancing STEM learning opportunities for our students.



Preparing students for success in a digital world remains a key priority. Following the successful introduction of Digital Media Literacy, we will pilot the use of laptops in classrooms during the coming year. To support this initiative, the school's Wi-Fi network has been significantly upgraded. From August, students will have access to two computer rooms and two mobile computer suites, providing over 100 devices, with scope for further expansion in the future.

We continue to broaden our curriculum and are proud to have introduced Spanish, Music, and Digital Media Literacy in recent years. We hope to introduce Wood Technology in the near future and are exploring the addition of Drama and Theatre Studies following the success of our productions, including *Mamma Mia!* and performances in the Abbey Theatre.

Student Support, Communication and Teaching & Learning

VShare remains our primary platform for monitoring attendance, behaviour, and examination results. Parents and guardians can also access the live school calendar on our website for updates on school events, holidays, and closures.

Positive student behaviour continues to be a major focus, with more than 500 awards presented throughout this year to recognise outstanding contributions to school life. We are also embedding Restorative Practice throughout the school, helping to create a more caring, respectful, and inclusive environment for all students.

Improving teaching and learning remains our highest priority. During the past year, staff participated in professional development focused on Leaving Certificate reform, subject collaboration, Child Protection, and Restorative Practice. These initiatives continue to have a positive impact on classroom practice and student outcomes.

Following feedback from families, we have also introduced an online payment system. Parents and guardians can now make school payments through VShare or directly through the school office.

Stay Connected

Keep up to date with school news, achievements, and events through our communication channels:

Facebook: Stanhope Secondary School

| Instagram: @StanhopeSecondary |

X: @stanhopes

| Website: www.stanhopessecondary.ie

Finally, thank you for the trust you continue to place in us as educators and mentors to your children. It is a privilege to work in partnership with you in supporting their growth and development.

We wish you and your family a safe, restful, and enjoyable summer break and look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting and successful school year.

Kind regards,

Mr J. O'Brien

Mr P. Flynn

Principal

Deputy Principal