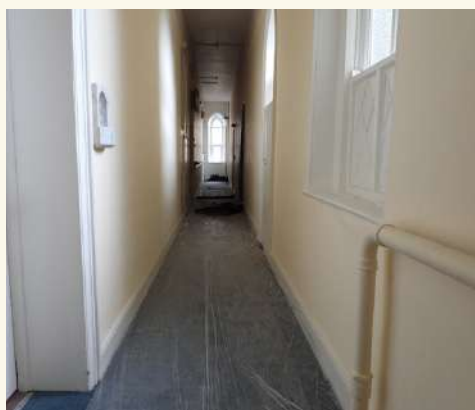




A Letter from Our Principal

Dear parents and guardians,

As we conclude our first week of school, both staff and students are settling back into their routines with such positive energy after the summer break. It has been a more disrupted start to the year than usual as our builders finally moved on from the main school building and are now working in the convent, converting a residential unit into three classrooms. We would hope to have the work completed in a month and we look forward to the benefit from the additional classroom space in our newly acquired building. The Board of Management will then begin to plan for the next phase of this development and will be focussing on planning for the refurbishment of the second and third storeys of the building.



It is important to note, however, that it takes longer for some to settle than for others. Parents of First Year students and our many new students can be reassured that bonds with class groups develop with time and all will be well once a student becomes familiar with her peers, the school routines and the staff.

Involvement in the extra-curricular life of the school will help develop friendships and confidence. There are endless opportunities for students to try something new this term and those involved in organising such activities will be inviting students to join them in the coming week. We will publish a timetable of activities in our Dalkey Diary on Friday next for the information of parents.

We are delighted with the recent Leaving Certificate results, a breakdown of which is listed below. As a school, we have a non-selective entry policy and have a wide range of academic abilities represented in a year group. We are continually encouraging students to do their best and to have realistic aspirations and this approach works. We are proud of the achievements of all our students and wish them every happiness as they progress to third level education.

Breakdown of Leaving Certificate Results 2026	
Points	%
625	2.5
600-624	7
> 600	9.5
550-599	19.5
500-549	21
> 500	50
450-499	21
400-449	18
> 400	89
< 400	11

Members of the Parents' Association will be in contact with parents regarding the updating of WhatsApp contact numbers in the coming week. The A.G.M. will take place on Monday September 21st with a guest speaker on A.I. and the Future of Education. More details to follow.

We look forward to a wonderful, productive, and exciting school year ahead filled with growth, learning and shared successes for everyone in our school community.

Mr Robert Dunne
Principal

*Mark
your
Calendar*

Sept 3rd to 7th	Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes
Sept 10th	6th Year Trip to Othello at The Mill Theatre
Sept 14th	Meeting for 5th Year Parents, 7pm in Lecture Theatre
Sept 17th	Higher Options for 5th and 6th Years
Sept 17th	World Skills for Transition Years
Sept 17th	Meeting for 6th Year Parents, 7pm in Lecture Theatre
Sept 21st	Parents' Association AGM
Sept 23rd	Meeting for 1st Year Parents, 7pm in Lecture Theatre
Sept 25th	School closed
Oct 1st	Open Evening for 2027/28 admissions, 4-7pm

The full school calendar can be found on both the website and via our school app



Congratulations to the Class of 2026

We were delighted to welcome a number of students from the Class of 2026 for a celebratory reception on the day they received their results. We look forward to seeing their next adventures!

Follow Us on Instagram



In addition to our weekly newsletter, you can keep up to date with what's happening around the school via our Instagram accounts: [@loretoabbeydalkey_](#) and [@loretoabbeydalkeysports](#)





REGISTRATION CODE:

LORAD

NEW LUNCH SERVICE

Order & pay via the Food Village mobile APP. Over 200 items to choose from everyday!



Food Village

Hot and cold food options, including vegan and vegetarian choices, are available to order 24 hours in advance via the Food Village app. Every student received their Food Village key tag this week and the school registration code is 'LORAD'.

Please note that payment should only be made via the app or fob, **NOT by phone**.

Supervised Evening Study

Supervised study is available for 2nd and 3rd Year students (Junior Study) and 5th and 6th Year students (Senior Study) as follows:

Junior Cycle (2nd or 3rd Years)

16:10 – 18:00 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
13:30 – 16:30 Wednesday

Senior Cycle (5th or 6th Years)

16:10 – 21:00 Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
13:30 – 18:00 Wednesday
16:10 – 19:00 Friday

The booking form for Supervised Study for Term 1 is now available on the school app. To book, you will be asked to select the specific days your daughter will attend. Changes to these days can only be made by emailing maria.roberts@loretoabbeydalkey.ie and not via the app.

Please note that there are a limited number of places available and that registration is not completed until payment has been made.



Recycle for Rumbek



An important part of our charitable programme within the school is raising funds for our sister school, Loreto Rumbek in South Sudan.

One of the ways we do this is through our Recycle for Rumbek initiative. All you have to do to help is drop your empty recyclable cans and bottles in the designated purple recycling bins with this logo around the school and the Sports Hall.

All funds raised from recycling these items are donated to Loreto Rumbek.

Studyclix.ie

All 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th Year students will now have premium access to Studyclix. This is an online platform that provides access to educational resources and students will be guided through how to access and use this platform over the coming weeks.

This Studyclix access will save parents significant expense and comes as part of the school fee. There is no need to purchase a private subscription.



Welcome to our First Years

Making the transition to secondary school is a significant milestone in any young person's development. This week, our new 1st Years had a jam-packed day of activities run by the Transition Year students, incorporating everything from team-building games to dancing and quizzes.

After a full day of events last Friday, the 1st Years then spent some time easing into school life on Monday when they met their 6th Year Caras who took them on walks around the campus and gave them some insight into what life in Loreto Abbey Dalkey will entail over the coming years. This week, in addition to getting used to their new classes and finding their way around the school, they had an assembly, a workshop on using their iPads in school, and a prayer service in the convent chapel with Sr Mary.

We wish all of our 1st Years well in their first term and encourage them to ask for help from their Class Tutors or their Year Head, Ms Lonergan, if they require it.

We were also delighted to welcome parents of 1st Year students to a coffee morning last Monday. We look forward to meeting all parents at upcoming school events.

School Uniform Reminders

Our school uniform helps promote a sense of belonging to the school community and is a visual symbol of Loreto Abbey. Students wearing our uniform should be conscious that they represent the entire school and as such, their behaviour should reflect our ethos and code.

In the minds of our young people, fashion trends can often result in unapproved amendments to the school uniform and, in time, this can lead to confusion over what is acceptable or permitted.

We have noticed over the last year that three areas in particular sometimes need attention.

1. The school jumper is still a required part of our uniform. The fleece may be worn over the jumper in very cold weather. The hoodie, long since discontinued, is no longer an accepted part of the school uniform.
2. The school skirt is designed to be worn in a particular way. It should never be rolled up should not be altered to make it shorter.
3. The following are examples of shoes which **ARE** acceptable as part of our uniform:



The following are examples of shoes which **ARE NOT acceptable** as part of our uniform (canvas runners, trainers or sports shoes with visible logos):



Welcome to Our New Staff Members



Dr Karen Young
Science, Chemistry
& Maths



Ms Siobhan de Bruin
French & Irish



Mr Conor Mahon
English & Geography



Ms Clare Bracken
Religion & History



Ms Lucy Hogan
Home Economics



Ms Sara Byrne
Science



Ms Hannah Delves
English



Mr Oran Winston
Business & LCW



Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

The Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place from September 3rd to 7th, and will include five 6th Year students from Loreto Abbey Dalkey (Annabel O'Brien, Kate Barry, Lily McDonald, Isabelle Higgins and Susannah Moir), along with their teacher Ms Hayes.

The girls attended the pre-departure Mass in Belvedere College on Monday evening, where they received a blessing for their journey. Students from our school also submitted petitions and the girls will bring them to the grotto on their behalf.

The September pilgrimage is one of the biggest events in the Diocesan calendar and led by the Archbishop. Approximately 1,300 pilgrims travel to Lourdes from the Diocese. Of these, 100 are sick pilgrims staying at the Accueil Notre Dame, which is 'a place of welcome' close to the Grotto with many facilities of a modern hospital. Another 500 pilgrims are voluntary helpers, made up of nurses and doctors, a team of chaplains and the Dublin Lourdes Choir. A further 200 young people also assist in the care of the sick pilgrims, many of whom are from secondary schools and colleges around the Diocese.

We would like to wish our students and Ms Hayes a safe and fulfilling trip, and look forward to hearing more on their return.



Foundit.ie and Lost Property

We use the FoundIt system in school to reunite students with their lost items. It is most important that your daughter has everything labelled with her FoundIt stickers, as this will ensure a prompt return of her missing property.



When an item is found in the school, it is scanned and an automatic email is generated and sent to the student informing her that her item has been found and can be collected from the Lost Property office.

The opening times for Lost Property are: Monday at 15.40, Wednesday at 13.00, and Friday at 15.40



Getting to Know Your Cara

Chatter, questions, smiles and laughs echoed through the corridors on Monday morning as 1st Year students met their Caras for the first time. The Cara Programme is a very important part of 1st Year induction. Each 6th Year is buddied up with a 1st Year, and the older girls provide help and support to the juniors as they make the transition from primary school to life at Loreto Abbey Dalkey.

While giving a tour of the school and answering the many questions is important, the real value of the programme comes with the reassuring smile on a busy corridor in the weeks ahead. We wish our 1st Year students every success as they embark on their time with us at Loreto Abbey.



Download our School App

All school communication and attendance systems are centralised through the Loreto Abbey Secondary School app (available on the App Store and Google Play). The app is completely private and secure, with access only available for current parents/guardians, students and teachers.

School notifications and updates will be sent out via the app, and parents can also submit absence notes, sign in/out digitally, give permissions, and make contact with the school.

We would ask all parents to please download the app today, so that you receive all relevant information.

Pupil Accident Insurance

Each student is covered 24 hours per day, 7 days per week under the Pupil Protector Personal Accident Plan. The cost of the plan is included in the school fees. There is an excess of €100 on any claim.

For more information or to request a claim form, please contact Maria Roberts on (01) 271 8926 or maria.roberts@loretoabbeydalkey.ie

School Traffic and Drop Off Reminder

Over 1,000 students and staff members attend both the primary and secondary schools on the campus every morning. Therefore, there are significant risks for both drivers and pedestrians, with a number of potentially serious accidents occurring last year.

For the safety of everyone we would ask parents and guardians to **please drop off and pick up students at Harbour Road only**, and not to drive down the approach road to the school and Sports Hall. This helps to keep the area around the school safe and accessible for everyone, particularly during the busy morning arrival period.

Additionally, the school grounds are a designated parking area for staff of both the primary and secondary schools. Consequently, it is not possible to drop or collect students in the grounds during school hours.

We appreciate your cooperation with this arrangement.

Emailing Students



Students are no longer able to send or receive external emails on their iPads. This change was introduced in March 2026 to help reduce distractions during the school day and support students in staying focused on their learning.

If you need to contact your daughter during the school day, please get in touch with the school office on (01) 271 8900 and a message will be passed on promptly.



Student Leadership Team 2026/'27

We are delighted to introduce our Senior Student Leadership Team for the 2026/'27 school year, and would like to wish them every success on their leadership journey.

Led by Head Girl, Laoise Ó Moráin, the team comprises Molly McAree, Deputy Head Girl for Ethos; Kate Holland, Deputy Head Girl for Junior Leaders; Sophie McAlarey, Deputy Head Girl for Co & Extra Curriculars; Aoife Redden, Deputy Head Girl for Sports; Molly Hyland, Deputy Head Girl for Sustainability; and Aisling O'Connor, 6th Year Prefect.

Bí Cineálta!

If you think that you are being bullied or someone else is being bullied, you need to **tell a teacher or another adult that you trust**. They will know what to do to help.

Tell
someone!

Get
help!



Bullying behaviour is when someone keeps being mean or hurtful to others on purpose over and over again.

When it happens a lot.

Not just once.

IN A WORLD
WHERE YOU
CAN BE ANYTHING
BE KIND

Our school has a Bi Cineálta policy to try to stop bullying behaviour. We look at this policy every year to see what is working well or what could work better. We will ask you what you think.

Please, tell someone if you think that you are being bullied or someone else is being bullied.



Make the choice to be kind when you enter our school gates

If a student tells a staff member that they think they are being bullied, we will:

- talk with the student
- ask the student what they want to happen
- work out a plan together talk to their parents
- talk to the other student(s) involved
- talk with the other student's parents



Summer Works

We carried out a number of summer works in order to enhance the facilities available to students and the school community.

These included:

- Phase 3 of the repointing of the stone exterior of the convent building.
- The stairs and landing areas of the second and third floors were reconfigured to improve disability access.
- The staff toilets were refurbished.
- The lecture theatre was remodelled with an improved A.V. system installed.
- Two additional classrooms were developed in the convent area.
- The roofing in the Concert Hall and on the C Corridor was upgraded, which included the replacement of slates and sky lights.
- Surveys were conducted on the convent building in preparation for future development.
- The Sports Hall was sound-proofed and the gym was further developed with new machines and flooring.
- Upgraded emergency lighting was installed throughout the building.

School Contact Details

Main Office	office@loretoabbeydalkey.ie (01) 271 8900
Principal Mr Robert Dunne	May be contacted via his Personal Assistant Ms Holly Simmons on principal@loretoabbeydalkey.ie (01) 271 8906
Deputy Principal	Ms Marie Breen marie.breen@loretoabbeydalkey.ie (01) 271 8902
Deputy Principal	Mr Will Flanagan will.flanagan@loretoabbeydalkey.ie (01) 271 8904
1st Year Head	Ms Marie Lonergan marie.lonergan@loretoabbeydalkey.ie (01) 271 8919
2nd Year Head	Ms Aisling Green aisling.green@loretoabbeydalkey.ie (01) 271 8916
3rd Year Head	Ms Therese Ryan therese.ryan@loretoabbeydalkey.ie (01) 271 8905
TY Year Head	Ms Colette Ni Ghallchoir colette.gallagher@loretoabbeydalkey.ie (01) 271 8909
TY Co-Ordinator	Ms Aoife McHenry aoife.mchenry@loretoabbeydalkey.ie
5th Year Head	Ms Roisin Conlon roisin.conlon@loretoabbeydalkey.ie (01) 271 8918
6th Year Head	Ms Aisling Mooney aisling.mooney@loretoabbeydalkey.ie (01) 271 8925
AEN Co-Ordinator	Mr Carl Thompson carl.thompson@loretoabbeydalkey.ie
Chaplain	Sr Mary Delahunty IBVM mary.delahunty@loretoabbeydalkey.ie
Guidance Counsellors	Ms Dara Shortt and Ms Orla Brophy guidance@loretoabbeydalkey.ie (01) 271 8913