



**PARKHALL**  
INTEGRATED COLLEGE



# Welcome...

**Thank you for your interest in Parkhall Integrated College. I trust you will find our prospectus helpful as an introduction to our school.**

As a caring learning institution we aim to serve our local community through providing an inclusive, child-centred environment in which all students achieve their full potential. Our college is rightly proud of its long-standing reputation of academic achievement and extra-curricular opportunities, and we regard the education of our pupils as a partnership between the young people, their parents, the school and the local community.

We are absolutely delighted to be located in our state-of-the-art school building, where we have been since January 2018. This £20-million-pound investment has brought all of our pupils and staff together on one site, and our current enrolment figure has risen to 1006 pupils. Each classroom is equipped with new technology, including interactive panels, which enhances the teaching and learning opportunities for our pupils, and our sporting provision has been enhanced by our AstroTurf facility, five tennis courts, two indoor sports halls and a fitness suite. Our new grass sporting facilities have been in use from January 2020.

Each year the school attracts pupils from a diverse range of feeder primary schools and from all religious and ethnic backgrounds and traditions. Building upon the college's integrated ethos, we are striving forward with continued efforts aimed at addressing the religious balance within the school and welcome children from all faiths and none. In the past three years the college has been over-subscribed, requiring a temporary variation from the Department of Education to admit 199 years 8 pupils in 2019, 194 in 2020 and 178 in 2021.



## PARKHALL INTEGRATED COLLEGE

The curriculum is designed to provide an opportunity for all pupils to succeed, whether their strengths are vocational, academic or a combination of both. Pupils with additional needs are well catered for and supported and partake fully in every aspect of school life. The addition of post-16 education allows our pupils to complete their education from year 8 through to year 14, following a range of vocational and academic courses designed to allow the pupils to move into further education, higher education or employment. In 2021, 70% of our post-16 students gained three A\*-C grades and 94% gained three A\*-E grades. In the past two years, our pupils have gained places at a range of universities including Ulster, Edgehill, Cumbria, Liverpool John Moore, Central Lancashire, Anglia Ruskin, Liverpool Hope, Bolton, Edinburgh Napier and a number of further education colleges.

The GCSE examination results have continued to rise over the past five years, with a five-year average for five A\*-C grades currently 83%, whilst the 2021 figure was 90%. The five-year average for five A\*-E grades is 93% and the seven A\*-C five-year average is 60%, all of which are on or above the Northern Ireland average for similar schools. In 2021, 58% of our pupils were awarded five A\*-C grades, including English and Maths. Annually, a significant number of pupils obtain eight, nine, ten or eleven A\*-C GCSE grades.

Our school website at: [www.parkhallintegratedcollege.org](http://www.parkhallintegratedcollege.org) contains lots more details regarding our school activities, including a 3D tour of our school facilities, our virtual open day and an induction video to introduce key staff to new year 8 pupils. Please feel free to contact us by telephone on 02894468556 or by e-mail at: [info@parkhallintegratedcollege.antrim.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@parkhallintegratedcollege.antrim.ni.sch.uk)

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'G. Beattie'.

G. Beattie  
Principal



# Our College

## Mission Statement:

"To provide a caring learning environment where each person feels valued and respected"

**Parkhall Integrated College is a well-established and successful school for 11 to 18-year-olds with a current enrolment of 1006 pupils.**

Our school ethos is based on Christian values and standards. We value each person in our school community regardless of colour, religion, creed or cultural background and believe that all can benefit from, and make a positive contribution to the life of our school.

There are currently pupils from eleven different religious denominations attending the school, including the two main traditions here in Northern Ireland, and pupils with twelve different home languages other than English. These include Polish, Portuguese, Panjabi, Cantonese, Slovak, Lithuanian and Syrian, amongst others.

Every year the school welcomes new pupils from a large number of feeder primary schools. The current year-8 intake draws from fifteen different primary schools in the greater Antrim area.

Annually the college attracts pupils from a wide range of schools including:

Antrim Primary
Ashgrove PS
Ballinderry PS
Ballyclare PS
Ballycraig PS
Ballykeel PS
Carnaghts PS
Carnmoney PS
Creavery PS
Crumlin IPS
Duneane PS
Fairview PS
Greystone PS
Groggan PS
Kells & Connor PS
Kings Park PS
Loanends PS
Maine IPS
Mallusk IPS
McKinney PS
Moorfield PS
Mossgrove PS
Mossley PS
Mount St Michaels PS
Parkgate PS
Parkhall PS
Randalstown Central PS
Round Tower IPS
Six Mile IPS
St MacNissi's PS
St. Joseph's Antrim
St. Joseph's Crumlin
St.Comgall's Antrim
Straidhavern PS
Templepatrick PS
The Thompson PS



# In Parkhall...

- Teacher expectations are high, and all pupils are challenged to achieve their personal best. The growth of moral, spiritual, cultural and aesthetic awareness is encouraged so that all our students may become responsible and tolerant citizens.
- Pupils feel valued and respected
- Pupils are taught to have respect for the environment. Pupils feel valued and respected and show respect for others. Pupils experience a broad, balanced and innovative curriculum, suited to their individual needs.
- Pupils are taught to have respect for the environment
- The personal, social and physical skills necessary to cope with everyday life, both now and in the future, are developed.
- Pupils experience a broad, balanced and innovative curriculum, suited to their needs
- The school and its members are an integral part of the local community.
- Diversity and difference are celebrated



# Positive Behaviour

**Effective learning and teaching can only take place when attitudes and behaviour are positive.**

Our behaviour policy is based on the simple requirements of courtesy and mutual respect, which contribute to the development and maintenance of good behaviour and a positive ethos. The code of conduct is on display in all classrooms and is reinforced by teachers in class and through assemblies.

Pupils are encouraged to develop a sense of responsibility through opportunities to become a class monitor, mentor, member of the school council, junior prefect or senior prefect.



# Rewards



**Rewards are very important and carry considerable weight in Parkhall Integrated College. In this way pupils will achieve recognition for a positive contribution to school life.**

In Parkhall Integrated College, we strive to raise self-esteem and self-confidence through recognising and rewarding our young people's achievements. This initiative was highlighted as an example of good practice within the recent ETI Inspection Report, citing the "tangible support from local businesses".

The College's Reward System is in place to motivate and reward pupils who demonstrate their commitment to following the College's Code of Conduct. The Rewards System has a variety of ways for acknowledging pupils progress and achievements and are displayed on noticeboards and in the school's social media platforms and publications.

The recently updated rewards structure encompasses a more formal, recordable use of SIMS achievement points in an easy-to-use format, where all teachers have the ability to add points. These are then redeemed through a rewards shop, where pupils can choose the reward they want.

This whole school programme of rewards is supported financially by local businesses through our business community partnership scheme. Each can be viewed from the school website: [www.parkhallintegratedcollege.org](http://www.parkhallintegratedcollege.org)



# Induction

**In Parkhall Integrated College, we have always been sensitive to this stage in our pupils' lives and put a great deal of thought into the planning and carrying out of the induction period.**

In June, we have an induction evening for the year 7 pupils and parents. During this evening, the pupils receive an induction pack which gives information about the school uniform and the structure of the school. Pupils and parents are introduced to the principal, senior staff and heads of year 8.

At the start of the school year, we have an induction programme for year 8. The pupils meet their class teacher and the other members of their class, take part in activities which focus on the integrated ethos of the college, and get to know their way around the school building.

During their first term at the college, year 8 pupils are involved in presentations and workshops on child protection, attendance, study skills and a session entitled "Stand up to Bullying".

## Individual Pupil Support

**Some pupils may require a greater focus on the core skills, and the timetable organisation allows for this.**

Those pupils who need support in their learning are identified and provided with opportunities for individual and group tuition from staff with specialist skills and commitment. Close contact with parents is maintained, and learning support assistants give help and guidance in class. In addition, many pupils benefit from numeracy and literacy withdrawal support.

The Education Authority Literacy Service, along with Educational Psychology are utilised where their support is considered beneficial. Other individual support is obtained from the Education Authority Behaviour Support Service based at Rathmore Education and Guidance Centre and the Autism Advisory and Intervention Service (AAIS).



# Pastoral Care

**The most recent ETI Inspection graded the pastoral care provision in the college as “very good”.**

In Parkhall Integrated College, we believe that children learn best in an environment where they feel happy, secure and valued. We therefore place great emphasis on our pastoral care programme, which fosters positive relationships and community spirit. We strive to ensure every child has opportunities to achieve success, not only in academic or vocational study, but also in the wider life of our school.

We promote healthy lifestyles and positive attitudes in all of our pupils as well as fostering an environment where diversity is valued and where the worth and self-esteem of all individuals within the school are paramount.

# Counselling

**Parkhall Integrated College has a pastoral team to help support our pupils.**

Members of the pastoral team are available, along with year heads, to talk to individual pupils who may need help and support in overcoming whatever difficulties they are facing.

Pastoral staff work closely with parents to help pupils with any academic, emotional or behavioural concerns, and a wide range of outside agencies are also accessed when deemed necessary.

The EA has provided a counsellor for all schools in the board area. Pupils can self-refer to the college's counsellor or referrals can be made by pastoral staff.



# Key Stage 3

**All pupils follow the Northern Ireland Curriculum and have opportunities to study the following subjects:**

Art and Design  
English  
French  
Geography  
History  
Home Economics

ICT  
Mathematics  
Physical Education  
Religious Education  
Science  
Spanish

Technology  
Numeracy & Literacy Support  
Business Studies  
Music  
Drama  
Learning for Life and Work  
Careers

In year 8, pupils are differentiated into bands based on standardised test results in consultation with the heads of year. The allocation of pupils to particular classes takes place at the end of each school year, and there are opportunities for individual pupils to transfer between classes at key points during key stage 3.

## Curriculum

**The key stage 3 and key stage 4 curricula are organised into subject areas to comply with the areas of study identified in the Northern Ireland Education Reform Order. All pupils study Religious Studies, Learning for Life and Work and Careers Education.**

All curriculum development is guided by the school's aims and mission statement. Decision-making for curriculum development is led by the principal and vice-principals, channelled through curriculum-related staff and heads of departments.



# Examinations

**All pupils are encouraged to sit external examinations which cater for the full ability range in a wide range of courses suited to the individual pupil.**

Most departments consistently achieve above the NI average for non-selective schools. In terms of GCSE performance, the percentage of pupils gaining at least five A\*-C grades has increased steadily over the past few years, with a three-year average of 87%. Of particular note are those pupils who have gained up to and including eleven A\*-C grades at GCSE level. There has also been a significant increase in the number of pupils achieving five A\*-C grades including English and Mathematics over the past three years.

At post-16 pupils can complete BTEC, Cambridge Nationals, CEA and City and Guilds courses. Last year 70% of Parkhall Integrated College pupils achieved three A\*-C grades at key stage 5 level, while 94% achieved three A\*-E grades.



# Careers

**Careers Education is an essential element in our curriculum.**

All pupils from year 8 through to year 14 have Careers classes. Trips out of school and visiting speakers are regularly organised to enhance the work of the Careers department and work closely with Young Enterprise and delivery workshops such as C.V. and Interview Skills.

Pupils have opportunities to develop their self-awareness and recognise the skills and personal qualities required by employers. Year 14 pupils are guided through the daunting UCAS process to gain a place at the university of their choice. Year 11 and year 13 pupils participate in a period of work experience designed to help them experience at first hand the challenges, demands and rewards of employment. Pupils taking Occupational Studies at the NRC in year 12 spend one day a week in a work placement, putting their new-found skills into practice.

Staff from the Careers Service of the Department of the Economy are in regular contact with senior pupils to offer impartial careers advice on future progression routes.



# Key Stage 4

## All pupils follow the Northern Ireland Curriculum.

Parkhall Integrated College complies with the Entitlement Framework and offers approximately 32 courses. The college is a member of Antrim Learning Community, which enables our pupils to access a wider range of courses. Collaborative courses at key stage 4 are offered in conjunction with the Northern Regional College (NRC).

All key stage 4 pupils are entered for public examinations in English, Mathematics and Science. All pupils study at least 7 subjects to GCSE or equivalent, and a number of pupils have the opportunity to study further courses.

At key stage 4, pupils are organised into broad ability bands on the basis of year 10 examination performance, key stage 3 assessments and progress during year 10. Particular attention is paid to pupil performance in the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science.



### *The following subjects are offered at key stage 4:*

#### **GCSE:**

- Art
- Business and Communication Systems
- Construction
- Childcare/Child Development

- Drama
- English
- English Literature
- French
- Further Maths
- Geography

- History
- Home Economics
- Mathematics
- Media Studies
- Motor Vehicle and Road User Studies

- Music
- Religious Education
- Double Award Science
- Single Award Science
- Spanish

# Key Stage 4

At key stage 4, pupils are organised into broad ability bands on the basis of year 10 examination performance and progress during year 10. Particular attention is paid to pupil performance in the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science.

## BTEC Qualifications:

- BTEC Level 2 Extended Certificate in Horsecare
- BTEC Level 2 Extended Certificate in Horticulture
- BTEC Level 2 First Award in ICT
- BTEC Level 2 First Award in Sport
- BTEC First Level 1/2 in Travel and Tourism

## QCF Level 2 Qualifications

- Preparation for Adult Life (PAL)
- Performance Skills
- OCN Art, Business, Media, Vocational Skills



## Occupational Studies Level 2 In-house:

- Environment & Society:  
Animal Care & Working in the Care Environment
- Construction:  
Carpentry & Joinery and Bench Joinery
- Technology and Innovation:  
Digital Imaging & Computer-Aided Design
- Design & Creativity/Business & Business Services:  
Contemporary Cuisine & Patisserie & Baking
- Business & Business Services:  
Using Office Technology & Customer Service
- Environment and Society:  
Running a Leisure Event & Sports Leadership
- Design & Creativity:  
Website Development & Graphic Design
- Technology and Innovation:  
Manufacturing Techniques – Hand Fitting &  
Manufacturing Techniques – Sheet Metal

## NRC:

- Business & Business Services:  
Contemporary Cuisine/Creative Styling/Using  
Blow-Drying Techniques/ Customer Service/Facial  
Skincare/Logistics and Transport/Patisserie and  
Baking/Vehicle Servicing and Valeting Operations
- Design & Creativity:  
Contemporary Cuisine/Creative Hairstyling on Long  
Hair/ Creative Styling Using  
Blow-Drying Techniques/ Patisserie and  
Baking/Specialised Crafts
- Construction:  
Carpentry & Joinery/Bench Joinery/ Brick and Block  
Work/Hard Landscaping
- Engineering and Engineering Services:  
Basic Fast-Fit Operations/ Basic Vehicle Body  
Components and Fitting/ Vehicle Servicing and  
Valeting Operations/Vehicle Technician Operations

# Key Stage 5

**Our pupils have the opportunity to remain at Parkhall Integrated College to undertake post-16 education in a range of subject areas that lead on from GCSE qualifications.**

## **Post-16 level 3 qualifications:**

- Art - Cambridge Technicals Level 3 Introductory Diploma
- Business BTEC Level 3 National Certificate
- English Literature A Level
- Geography
- Health and Social Care - BTEC Level 3 National Certificate
- Health and Social Care - BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate
- History A Level
- ICT - Cambridge Technicals Level 3 Introductory Diploma
- Life and Health Sciences – double and single award A Level
- Maths A Level
- Media Studies
- Sport - BTEC Level 3 National Certificate
- Travel and Tourism - BTEC Level 3 Extended certificate
- Parkhall Integrated College Soccer Academy

We have always believed that our pupils should have the opportunity to continue in a learning environment in which they feel supported, secure and happy.

Our sixth form continues to grow in size and in the number of courses on offer, matched only by the success of our pupils. Following completion of their sixth-form studies at Parkhall Integrated College, many of our students have advanced to many local and national universities as well as the following colleges of further education. Other pupils have successfully entered full-time employment or higher level apprenticeships.

- Queen's University
- Ulster University
- Stranmillis University College
- Belfast Met
- Cumbria University
- Edge Hill University
- Keel University

A more comprehensive list of post-18 pathways and colleges can be found on our school website in the post-16 area.



- Liverpool Hope University
- Liverpool John Moores University
- Northumbria University
- St. Margaret's University, Edinburgh
- University Campus of Football Business
- University of Chester
- University of Dundee

- University of East London
- University of South Wales
- University of Wales
- University of Central Lancashire
- York University

# Pupil Leadership Opportunities

**An important element of school life is the need to provide opportunities for our young people to display their leadership skills through a variety of roles.**

The senior prefects are led ably by a senior team consisting of the head boy and head girl and a number of deputies. Committees are formed to contribute to charity work, school events and the organisation of the school formal.

In junior school, we annually have an excellent team of junior prefects who assist with the day-to-day running of the school and a team of mentors who help our year-eight children to settle, by visiting form classes and assisting with any issues.

The school council is elected each year and represents the whole school community, with a member from each registration class in years 8 to 14. It plays an active role in school life, contributing to school evaluation and improvement. These leadership positions give our young people the opportunity to display their many talents and abilities.

The Parkhall Student Council is expanding each year. This group of pupils work collaboratively to speak on behalf of the student body. It is an enjoyable, yet hard working area of school life giving their peers a voice in the whole school community.



# Primary School Links

**The college enjoys close links with a large number of primary schools throughout the Antrim area.**

Pupils from many of our feeder primary schools have frequently participated in projects and workshops in a wide variety of subjects within the college

Pupils from a wide range of local primary schools regularly participate in an activity day to sample life in the 'Big School' environment, during which all of the pupils and staff have a thoroughly enjoyable experience.



Photo taken 2019

# Youth Club

**The Youth Club runs five nights each week and boasts a high membership of both pupils and non-pupils of Parkhall.**

A large number of activities are available to the members, including all sporting activities: football (girls' and boys'), basketball, uni hoc etc. We also have use of the floodlit outdoor pitches. Art and crafts play a large role on junior nights, when young people are encouraged to use their imagination to its fullest. We have three pool tables, a table football table, a table tennis table and a number of computer consoles. We also have a large fully fitted kitchen for cooking projects.

Other activities available to members include outdoor pursuits, senior member training, residential visits to other clubs and an opportunity for our members to become involved in a range of projects which highlight the issues most important to them today.

A very successful summer scheme currently runs for two weeks in July for children in the surrounding communities.



# Charities

**The caring ethos of our school is clearly demonstrated by the positive response made by our pupils during our charity appeals.**

Even though there are many demands on their resources, pupils regularly contribute to a variety of charities.

In the past, contributions have been made to Concern, Macmillan Cancer, Breast Cancer Awareness, Children in Need, Poppy Appeal, Selection box Saturday and the Christmas Shoebox Appeal, among others.



# Parent Voice

**For many years, the college has had a very supportive Parent Voice group who contribute greatly to school functions and events in the college.**

All parents are welcome to become part of this group, which has had the opportunity to ensure that the voice of parents is heard regarding major issues within the college.

In the past year, issues discussed have included school policies for example anti-bullying policy and the use of a parent app. This group provides representation for parents and can be a forum for parent issues or concerns to be raised. This increased participation should hopefully deepen parental awareness and understanding of the ethos of the college.





# Home-School Partnership

**As partners in the education process, we expect parents to support the school actively in maintaining the caring discipline and high standards of learning we all wish to achieve.**

One of the most important elements of a successful education is regular attendance at school. We work closely with the Educational Welfare Service and parents to ensure high standards of attendance and punctuality. Year heads make regular contact with parents where attendance is an issue.

Individual pupils with 100% attendance are recognised on a monthly basis through certificates and awards. Registration class attendance in each year group is recognised monthly through class attendance shields and annually through rewards events.

**We value highly the close links that develop between parents and teachers and encourage and welcome on-going contact.**

We believe that when pupils, parents and school support each other, positive relationships develop and reach their full potential.

Bi-annual reports highlighting effort, attainment levels and behaviour are sent to parents. Parent consultation sessions are held throughout the year to provide opportunities for parents to talk to individual teachers and discuss their child's progress.

A special information event for year-8 parents before the children join us has proved to be helpful in making the induction process as easy as possible.

We expect parents to support the school in implementing our behaviour policy, which is issued to each parent annually.

# Shared Education

**At Parkhall Integrated College, we firmly believe that developing respect for others is a key attribute of all our pupils. To encourage this, pupils are regularly given the opportunity to engage in a range of workshops, events and programmes in conjunction with our partner schools, Antrim Grammar School and St. Benedict's College.**

Over the past few years, pupils have participated in IEF PACT programmes, the Dissolving Boundaries programme, the Games of Three Halves initiative with the IFA, GAA and IRFU, the Flags of Hope programme and the Amazing the Space project.

## Community Involvement

**The college enjoys excellent links with the local community on many levels:**

For many years, the college has hosted a wide range of community groups including the Camera Club, Parkhall Bowling Club, Art Club, Antrim Choral Society, Angling Club, Antrim Macmillan Fundraising Committee and the Northern Ireland Flower Arranging Society amongst others. These groups have been housed in both the junior and senior schools in the past and are now enjoying the new school facilities. During this school year we have been delighted to host an EA leadership course for Syrian students within the borough.

Following the closure of the local NRC campus, the adult education community provision has been hosted in the college, offering courses in GCSE English and Maths, ICT courses, word-processing, ESOL courses and Essential Skills in English and Maths and counselling courses. In addition to these courses, the Extended Schools Programme has also allowed courses in cooking, fitness-training, salsa dancing and ICT to take place.





# Extra-curricular Activities

**Many aspects of school life such as residential, clubs, societies and youth club membership contribute further to our pupils' personal growth. Participation in the above assists in the overall development of our young people.**

Pupils can choose from a vast array of activities to suit their individual interests and skills, including STEM Club, Drama Club, Scripture Union, ICT Club, Cookery Club, choir, orchestra, Lego Challenge and a wide range of sports including cricket, rugby, boys' and girls' football, Gaelic football, netball, hockey, tennis and athletics.

There are educational visits to the UK and Europe as well as to many places of interest locally and in our own province.

Parkhall Integrated College pupils have many opportunities to participate in musical and dramatic activities including Transfer Evening, Prize Distribution and the Carol Service. Individual instrumental tuition is available through the peripatetic staff and a large number of pupils achieve recognition from external awarding bodies.

The college has a fine tradition of sporting success in an array of different sports for both boys and girls at local, regional and national level.



# State-of-the-art Facilities





# Parkhall Integrated College





ANNIVERSARY BOOKLET  
1971 - 1981



**PARKHALL**  
INTEGRATED COLLEGE