

Victoria College Belfast

(incorporating Richmond Lodge School)

Cranmore Park Belfast BT9 6JA

Tel No:(028) 90661506 Fax No:(028) 90666898



ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS

For the Year
2015 / 2016

(Incorporating Richmond Lodge School)

GOVERNORS' ANNUAL REPORT

SECTION 1 – BOARD OF GOVERNORS

There are 28 Governors of Victoria College. Twelve are Foundation Governors, nine are nominated by the Department of Education, three are Parent Governors elected by parents and three are Teacher Governors elected by their colleagues. The Principal is an *ex officio* member of the Board. The Board's Secretary is Miss Nicola Mawhinney BA.

Mr M Hunter, Foundation Governor, resigned from the Board in June 2016, leaving one Foundation Governor vacancy to be filled.

The Department of Education appointed nine Departmental nominee governors to the Board in February/March 2016 for a term of office until 2 August 2019 - Mrs O Dagunduro, Ms S Hetherington, Ms F Kane, Mrs C Lewis, Dr D Magill, Mr S McConkey, Mr B McDonald, Mr A Wylie and Mr P Sood.

Two Parent Governors had been elected as part of the 2013 election, with one Parent Governor retiring in December 2014, leaving two Parent Governor vacancies. These vacancies were filled in April/May 2016 by Mrs W Blundell OBE and Mr C McCrory, with a term of office until November 2017. Two co-opted members are currently appointed to the Board. Mrs G Wells and Dr B Callender are the Designated Governor and Deputy Designated Governor respectively for Child Protection.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Date of which term of office ends</u>
Dr B J Gregory BSc PhD CEng MICE MIEI FCIWM FGS (Chairman)	Foundation Governor	N/A
Mrs G Wells MB BCh BAO MRCGP MFCH (Vice Chairman)	Foundation Governor	N/A
Ms P Slevin BA MEd PGCE PQH (Headmistress)	Ex officio	N/A
Mr M Beattie IBFS Dip	Parent Governor	Nov 2017
Mrs W Blundell OBE MEng CEng FICE MIStructE	Parent Governor	Nov 2017
Dr B Callender MB MRCGP	Foundation Governor	N/A
Dr R Clarke MB BCh BAO FRCPath	Foundation Governor	N/A
Mrs O Dagunduro	Dept of Educational Nominee	Aug 2019
Lady Froggatt	Foundation Governor	N/A
Dame Joan Harbison BA MSc	Foundation Governor	N/A
Mr M Haylett BEng CEng PMP MICE MAPM RMaPS	Co-opted Member	N/A
Mrs S Herriot BA (Ed)	Teacher Governor	Nov 2017
Ms S Hetherington CPFA BA (Hons)	Dept of Education Nominee	Aug 2019
Mrs M-L Horwood LLB LLM	Co-opted member	N/A
Dr M S Johnston MB BCh BAO	Foundation Governor	N/A
Ms F Kane BA (Hons)	Dept of Educational Nominee	Aug 2019
Mr N J Kavanagh BA PGCE	Teacher Governor	Nov 2017
Mrs C Lewis Dip Sp Ed	Dept of Educational Nominee	Aug 2019
Mr C G Maccabe CB LLB LLM FRSA	Foundation Governor	N/A
Dr D N Magill LLB PhD	Dept of Educational Nominee	Aug 2019
Mr S McConkey BA BSSc PGDip PGCE	Dept of Educational Nominee	Aug 2019
Mr C McCrory BSc	Parent Governor	Nov 2017
Mr B S McDonald	Dept of Educational Nominee	Aug 2019
Mr S McKillop BEng CEng MIEI	Foundation Governor	N/A
Mrs M Nugent BA PGCE	Teacher Governor	Nov 2017
Mrs E A Robinson	Foundation Governor	N/A
Mr P Sood MBA	Dept of Educational Nominee	Aug 2019
Mr R Telford BSc DIS MRICS MAPM	Foundation Governor	N/A
Mr A Wylie FCA CertPFS BA	Dept of Educational Nominee	Aug 2019

Victoria College is attended by 1084 pupils with 880 pupils in the Secondary Department and 204 pupils in the Preparatory School. The Preparatory School includes a Pre-School and a Junior Pre-School department with Day Care available for children from the age of 2 years from 8:00am to 6:00pm. The College currently has 40 boarders within its Boarding Department.

The College is a leading non-denominational grammar school for girls with an outstanding reputation for academic achievement together with an impressive record in many other activities such as music, drama and sport. The Board of Governors is committed to ensuring that every girl reaches her full potential developing the skills and qualities which will prepare her for adult life.

The supportive and inclusive ethos of the College has been recognised by the achievement of the Inclusion Quality Mark and the pastoral care within the College has been recognised by ETI as being outstanding. The College maintains strong links with the local and international community and the College was awarded the International School Award for the fourth time in recognition of the attention to the global dimension within and beyond the curriculum. Pupils are encouraged to become actively involved with voluntary work and charitable projects at home and abroad. The College is currently involved in an Erasmus+ Skills for Success project with schools in Spain, German and Italy. In October 2015 the College welcomed Chinese pupils and staff from Jingzhou Primary School to the College and in October 2016 facilitated a similar visit, hosted by Antrim Grammar School. The College looks forward to maintaining its links with Jingzhou School in 2017.

The Board of Governors reviews policies and procedures annually to ensure that the learning environment remains safe and secure, allowing pupils to develop and grow in confidence as they pursue their studies and avail of the many opportunities presented to them.

Each pupil benefits from a curriculum which offers breadth and balance and every effort is made to ensure that individual needs of pupils are met. As a member of the South Belfast Area Learning Community the College works in collaboration with other local schools to ensure that a wide range of courses, both academic and vocational, are available to its pupils. Arrangements for pupils with special educational needs are outlined in the SEN policy, which, along with the Child Protection Policy and the Anti-Bullying Policy are available for parents on the College website or from the school office.

The Board of Governors is grateful to all the dedicated teaching and support staff who are essential in delivering the aims of the College.

The amount of grant funding Victoria College receives from the Department of Education has, in real terms, decreased over the past number of years. This is likely to be an ongoing trend and the Board of Governors of Victoria College Belfast continues to negotiate our position with the Department of Education.

We encourage all parents to make an annual voluntary contribution of £340.00 (equivalent to 93p a day) and we are very proud of and grateful for the continued commitment we receive from our parents. If this contribution is made through the Gift Aid Scheme the College will receive an additional £85.00 by claiming back the basic rate tax paid on each contribution received. This investment by parents provides resources and educational materials beyond the statutory requirements. It ensures we maintain appropriate class sizes, provide opportunities to stretch and develop pupils beyond the classroom, access specialist tutors, participate in local, national and international events and purchase technical equipment and resources.

We appreciate the support of our parents to help us to provide a rich and diverse educational experience for our pupils, preparing them for the future, enabling them to seek out information, share ideas and experiences and make informed decisions, providing them with the basic building blocks needed to succeed in life in the 21st century and developing their intellectual and social values.

I have outlined below a summary of the key work of the Board of Governors during the academic year 2015/2016.

Board Business

The Board met on seven occasions and was supported by the work of its committees.

School Enhancement Programme

The Board, through its Estates and Finance Committees, were kept abreast of progress with the School Enhancement Programme and received a presentation by the SEP Project Architect. The Board approved designs for the Sports Complex, Art Suite and General Science suites, consulted with Marlborough Park and Cranmore Park residents and gave consent for work to proceed. Work commenced on 7 March 2016 and the Sports Hall is now well underway with expected completion prior to the Easter break 2017. Work on the new Art and Design Suite and additional laboratory teaching spaces is due to commence during the summer 2017. The Minister of Education visited the College on 7 September 2016 and was impressed by the work completed to date. The Board, through its Resource Committee, will continue to oversee this work and parents will be kept informed of progress.

Transfer Arrangements

Throughout the year the Board of Governors and Senior Staff continued to be fully engaged in discussions surrounding the procedures for Transfer 2015 and planning for the 2016 arrangements. In relation to September 2016 entrants to Year 8, the College did not face any challenges to the criteria it used for admissions. The Board of Governors also considered Special Circumstances applications as part of the Transfer procedure.

The College has consistently taken the view that there should be an agreed form of entrance assessment for admission into any Grammar school and the Headmistress and the Chairman will continue to be actively involved with relevant bodies to reach such an agreement. Having given due regard to guidance from the Department of Education, the Board took a decision to maintain academic criteria in order to select pupils for admission to the College in Year 8 in 2017. Governors are also fully committed to embracing the College's ethos of inclusivity to ensure that admission to the College is open to pupils from all social backgrounds and religious and ethnic communities. In line with this, the Board remains fully committed to admitting pupils who sit either the G.L. or the AQE tests. The College's admissions criteria for 2016/17 remained largely unchanged from 2015/2016.

Construction Work – Richmond and Cranmore Campuses

The Board of Governors, through its Estates Committee, oversaw general maintenance throughout the year and carried out a range of construction work on both campuses. The Committee liaised with the Department to register for funding for Minor Works as appropriate, with these including the construction of a new lift within the Cranmore Campus, an upgrade of security across Cranmore and Richmond campus, the upgrade of the heating system on Richmond Campus and emergency electrical and fixed wiring repairs on Richmond Campus. The College's new biometric access control system is expected to go live in November 2016 and a heating system upgrade on the Richmond Campus was commissioned. A revised fencing solution for the Richmond Campus was approved, with work commencing in February and completed in May 2016. A new grab and go outlet in the Main Cranmore Canteen was established following work carried out as part of the summer maintenance programme and four dormitories in Boarding were repainted. The project to refurbish and modernise the Home Economics Rooms on the Cranmore Campus and the Richmond Campus is moving forward and the project is currently at the detail design stage of development. It is hoped that the newly refurbished rooms will be available for the 2017/18 academic year. Other School Funded Minor Works were carried out during the summer, including the replacement of windows within the Pre-School classroom and roof repairs to Drumglass House and Maxwell Centre.

Examination Results Analysis

Through its College Committee, the Board continued to conduct an annual review of examination results. Two Governor representatives of the Board attended Heads of Subject examinations analysis meetings with the Headmistress in October and feedback from these meetings was relayed to the Board. In the summer 2016 examinations, 85.2% of pupils achieved 3+A-C grades at A-level and 91.8% of pupils achieved 7+A*-C grades (including English and Mathematics) at GCSE level. Janie Kennedy was the top candidate in Northern Ireland in GCSE Biology.

ETI Inspection

A whole Senior School school inspection by ETI was held during week commencing 16 November 2015. This inspection involved 76 classroom visits and input from governors, during which the willingness of staff and the confidence of pupils throughout the process was evident to Inspectors. Responses from parents and staff to ETI questionnaires had been overwhelmingly positive in both quantity and quality.

In terms of the school's overall effectiveness, the Inspection report indicated that "the school demonstrates the capacity to identify and bring about improvement in the interest of all the learners". The report stated that a "particular strength of the school is the emphasis placed on listening to the pupils and developing their values, attitudes and dispositions; as a consequence, the pupils display high levels of confidence, independence and resilience". The ETI recognised the high quality of teaching and learning, the culture of self-evaluation and sharing best practice, the clear vision for the school and the strength of care and support, leadership and governance. Ninety per cent of teaching was categorised as good, very good or outstanding. The Inspection outcomes were considered and potential actions planned to address recommendations, which had reflected priorities already identified within the College's School Development Plan.

The Board considered the inspection report and any implications to ensure effective governance moving forward. A decision was made to build a fixed agenda item on Numeracy and Literacy into the Board's schedule of business and this was then extended to include presentations by other subject heads. Numeracy and Literacy presentations were given to the Board at its February 2016 meeting and a schedule of presentations by Heads of Subject has been agreed for 2016-2017. The Board continues to monitor progress in respect of the targets set.

The Board was very comfortable with its stance of putting pupils' needs and aspirations ahead of performance in published tables, whilst also encouraging excellence, and this was of paramount importance for the Board going forward. The excellent work undertaken within the College was acknowledged by the Board, as was the lack of flexibility within the current reporting mechanism in Northern Ireland to take account of the value that is added to each pupil.

Other Inspections

Governor representatives attended meetings with inspectors in relation to the Boarding Inspection held in February 2016 and the Preparatory School's Day Care Inspection held in March 2016.

The RQIA Boarding Inspector commended the delivery of safe, effective and compassionate care within the department, as well as the high quality of relationships between staff and boarders. The Day Care Inspection focused on safeguarding and classroom management and the Inspector reported that children were well looked after, with very high quality play evident and excellent equipment in place.

Governors also provided input into the Preparatory School's inspections for the retaining of the Inclusion Quality Mark and for the Investors in Pupils Award. In both cases inspectors were fulsome in their praise of the pupils who were confident and could communicate at a high level, with excellent reports received in both cases. The Preparatory School retained its IQM award and also received a Centre of Excellence status. The Preparatory also attained the Investors in People Award and is the first Preparatory school in Northern Ireland to receive this.

Swimming Pool

Through its Finance and Estates Committees, the Board continued to monitor the financial performance of the swimming pool as well as the maintenance required to ensure both its sustainability and that it met health and safety legislation. Regular ongoing maintenance over a period of time had kept the pool operating for many years past its expected life and had ensured that this valuable resource could continue to be enjoyed by the school community and beyond. The Board had actively supported third party hire, which had increased the amount of revenue generated over recent years. However, despite this the pool continued to operate consistently at a loss on an operating cost basis. The Board considered maintenance costs incurred in the last five years, as well as both the immediate and future maintenance forecast. Whilst the Board considered the potential of investing in a new swimming pool it was accepted that, in view of the current budgetary constraints, the College was unlikely to have the capital funding needed to make such an investment, while also acknowledging that such action would not represent optimum use of the College's limited resources. The swimming pool was a life expired asset that was no longer viable to operate, primarily due to its risk profile, which included financial, operational and health and safety risks and cost. After much deliberation and discussion, which had been ongoing for many years, the Board agreed to a planned closure of the swimming pool, with reasonable notice, with effect from April 2017. Parents and all parties directly affected were notified of this decision.

Subsequent to this notification, the Board received correspondence from a group of Preparatory parents asking that the Board rescind its decision to close the swimming pool. Meetings with representatives of this Working Group were arranged during which their concerns were aired. The Board agreed that discussions about the swimming pool would continue with the Working Group on the basis of transfer of risk and accountability, with any additional information provided by the group to be given the full consideration of the Board.

In September 2016 the College was made aware of a health and safety matter relating to the electrical systems on the Richmond campus which had necessitated the temporary closure of a classroom. This incident prompted the Board to conduct a review of electrical installations across the school including the swimming pool. Following these investigations concerns were raised regarding the electrical systems within the swimming pool and on the basis of independent professional advice, a decision was taken to close the swimming pool until the extent of any electrical and associated problems are identified and remedial actions implemented. Whilst this decision was unplanned and regrettable, the primary concern of the Board was the health and safety of the pupils and other users of the pool. The Board continues to liaise with the Working Group, third party users and parents in order that they be kept advised of the position regarding this unplanned closure.

The Board remains open to and is actively investigating any risk-free options which would allow the swimming pool to reopen in the short-term and continue to operate for at least five years.

Presentations to the Board

The Board is kept fully abreast of various educational issues through guest speakers invited to give presentations on specific areas as required. The Board received a presentation by Professor Neil Gibson, Ulster University, on the N.I. Skills Barometer and presentations on Literacy and Numeracy were given as well as an in-house Child Protection presentation and training session.

Review of Committee Structure

One of the recommendations arising from the College's Internal Audit Report was that the Board should review its Committee structure. It was recommended that committees which met on a limited basis should become working groups and be slightly less formalised. The remit of the College Committee covered a wide range of business and it was recommended that this be split into two committees, one staff focused and the other pupil focused. It was also recommended that the Finance and Estates committees be combined to form a single committee.

The Board considered these recommendations and agreed that the Education Committee (pupil focused), the H.R. Committee (staff focused) and Resource Committee (combined Finance and Estates Committee) should be established. The Remuneration Committee would become a Remuneration Working Group and all other time limited committees would form working groups. The

exception to this was the Policies Sub-Committee which would be re-established as the Policies Co-ordination Group and would be responsible to the Board through the respective committees. The Board considered membership of the committees at a meeting of Committee convenors and the newly established Committees commenced their work from October 2016. The terms of reference for these committees will be reviewed at a Governance Workshop to be held in November.

General Business

Through the Headmistress, the Board continued to be kept fully informed and debated at length articles and circulars from the Department, the Education Authority and the Governing Bodies Association. The Board was kept advised of curriculum proposals and changes, pupil and staffing matters and worked to ensure that all aspects of school life were subject to review and had access to support when required.

Committee Business

Audit and Risk Committee

Ms Jackie Henry, Senior Partner of Deloitte Northern Ireland, is external convenor for this committee, in line with audit recommendations. An internal audit by an independent company was conducted and the College achieved a 'substantial' assurance rating, meaning that there is a robust system of risk management, control and governance in place that should ensure that the objectives of the College are fully achieved. The College has achieved a substantial rating for five consecutive years.

A Risk Workshop was organised and facilitated by Deloitte. The College's Risk Register was reviewed and updated, with input from committee convenors, the Principal and the Chairman, as well as a review of work carried out by the College's Health and Safety Sub-Committee.

College Committee

The Committee and its sub-committees supervised various staff appointments, both for external and internal positions, as well as applications from staff for changes to their contracts, for redundancies and for support towards staff professional development. The Committee also reviewed the curriculum, leavers' destinations, admissions criteria, examination targets, Child Protection issues and oversaw the implementation of the College's School Development Plan and Performance Review and Staff Development. The Committee also submitted an Annual Report on Child Protection issues to the Board. Dr Callender, Convenor, reviewed teachers who were undergoing Early Professional Development. The Committee's Policies Sub-Committee reviewed a wide range of school policies and reported its deliberations to the College Committee and thereafter to the Board.

Estates Committee

The Committee oversaw the upkeep of the College and maintenance work throughout the year. The Committee initiated feasibility studies and liaised with the College's Finance Committee, the Department of Education and the Education Authority regarding the submission of a number of schemes, the outcome of which determined the construction work carried out on both campuses (see above) and during the summer maintenance period.

Finance Committee

The Committee oversaw the College's financial affairs, planned expenditure, undertook a three year financial review and budget forecast and advised the Board accordingly. In the current financial climate the challenges for the Board and the College in the context of a tightened budget continued to be recognised. In light of the challenges that a substantial reduction in grant produced, the Committee discussed and implemented steps to achieve efficiencies and recognised the importance which parental financial support played in maintaining the high level of teaching, resources and extra-curricular programme currently available to pupils. Areas of the school were reviewed in relation to performance and cost effective delivery of required services. The Board's Remuneration Committee reported to the Finance Committee in relation to staff salaries. An external audit received an unqualified audit opinion with auditors confirming that controls were robust, that all disclosures required by the Department had been properly made and that the College fully complied with the Department and the Companies Act in each required area.

SECTION 2 – CURRICULUM OFFERED

At GCSE pupils had the opportunity to study the following subjects which were externally examined:

Art and Design; Biology; Business Studies; Chemistry; Double Award Science; Drama; Electronics; Engineering; English; English Literature; French; Further Mathematics; Geography; German; Health and Social Care (Double Award); Health and Social Care (Single Award); History; Home Economics (Food); Information and Communication Technology; Italian; Latin; Manufacturing; Mathematics; Moving Images Arts; Music; Physical Education; Physics; Prince's Trust XL Programme; short course and long course Religious Studies; Single Award Science; Spanish and Technology and Design.

At A level the following subjects were offered in the College and in collaboration with SBALC:

Applied Business; Applied Health and Social Care Double Award; Applied Health and Social Care Single Award; Art and Design; Biology; Business Studies; Chemistry; Classical Civilisation; Design and Technology; Drama and Theatre Studies; Economics; English Literature; French; Geography; German; Government and Politics; History; Home Economics; Information and Communication Technology; Italian*; Latin; Leisure and Tourism; Mathematics; Further Mathematics; Music; Physics; Religious Education, Spanish, Sports Studies and Systems Software Development.
(* Only offered at A2 in 2015-2016)

Pupils were entered for examinations through the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music and a number of pupils were awarded certificates for Young Enterprise, European Studies and Learning for Life and Work.

SPORT

Each pupil in Years 8-10 avails of two hours and Year 11 and 12 pupils (except for those Year 12 pupils studying Further Mathematics) avail of one hour of physical education and games per week within the taught curriculum. All pupils are encouraged to participate in regular physical activity. Through a balanced and varied programme the P.E. department aims to contribute to pupils' growth, development and general fitness developing an awareness of the importance of exercise and a healthy lifestyle.

The following sporting activities are on offer to all pupils in Key Stage 3 and 4 through the curriculum and through the extra-curricular programme which runs over lunch time and after school.

Aerobics	Health Related PE
Athletics	Hockey
Badminton	Life Saving
Basketball	National Dance
Boxercise/Self Defence	Netball
Camogie	Rounders
Circuit Training	Rugby
Creative Dance	Sports Leadership Course
Cricket	Swimming
Cross Country	Squash
Dance	Swiss Ball
Equestrian	Table Tennis
Fitness Suite	Tennis
Football	Trampolining
Gaelic Football	Volleyball
Golf	Yoga
Gymnastics	

In 2015-2016 pupils from Victoria College competed in Ulster, Irish, British, European and World Championships.

Athletics

The Year 8 relay team – Emilia Azuara-Lois, Maddie Brittain, Bethany Simpson and Emily Knowles - was placed second at the District Athletics Championships. At the Ulster Athletics Finals Anna Hill was placed second and Amelia Tyler was placed third in the Minor Girls' 800m. Amy Edwards, Year 13, was placed 2nd in the Senior Girls' Javelin and Rebecca Warnock, Year 11, was placed 4th in the Intermediate Girls' 3000m. Both girls qualified for the Irish Athletics Championships, during which both Amy and Rebecca were placed 7th and Anna Hill was placed 4th in their respective disciplines. Rebecca Warnock was selected onto the Ulster Schools' team for the Interprovincial Championships which were held in Dublin in June.

Cross Country

All Cross Country teams performed well in 2015-2016. The Year 8 and 9 pupils won the inter-schools' cross country competition at St Genevieve's High School. The Minor (Year 9) and Junior (Year 10) Teams were both placed first in the South Antrim District Championships and the Mini Team (Year 8) was placed third. Individual results were also excellent with Anna Hill, Year 9, being placed first and Amelia Tyler, Year 8, being placed second. Rebecca Warnock, Year 11 won the District Intermediate Girls' Cross Country Championships and Sarah Webb was placed second in the Senior Girls' Cross Country District Cross Country Championships. At the Ulster Championships the Minor and Senior teams were placed first, the Mini team fourth, the Junior team was placed eighth and the Intermediate team was placed second. Individual results saw Anna Hill being placed first and Amelia Tyler third. The College was awarded the *Top Girls' School in Ulster* trophy. Three of the teams (Minor, Intermediate and Senior) qualified for the Irish Championships in Sligo. The Senior and Intermediate teams were placed 4th and 7th respectively in the Irish Championships. The Minor team – Anna Hill, Rachel Scott, Emma Montgomery and Naoise Gormley - was placed second in the Irish Cross Country Championships, with Anna Hill placed fourth and Amelia Tyler placed eighth as individual competitors. Amelia also won the *Run in the Dark* race and was placed first in the Malcolm Cup. Lauren Patterson, Year 8, was placed third in the *Run in the Dark* race. Rachel Scott, Year 9, was selected to run for Northern Ireland in the London Mini Marathon.

Dance

Our pupils enjoyed success in dance during 2015-2016. The Dance Teams competed in the Ulster Dance Championships and the Minor team – Anna McCoy, Katie Tully, Juliet Shaw, Rebecca McCroskery, Claudia Murphy, Anna Moylan, Caitriona McCrory, Diana Benea, Sasha O'Hare, Lea Bengoechea, Abbie Gorman and Connie Dean - was placed first in the creative movement section with their dance *Latch*. The Junior team – Ella Glover, Beatrice Tinsley, Sofia Crawford Walker, Tara Campbell, Catherine Smyth, Cara Morwood, Phoebe Boyd, Laura Stephenson, Natasha Barclay, Rachel Mercer and Ciara McParland - was placed third in the fitness section with the dance aerobics routine *Overdrive*. Tegan McGurk, Year 8, was placed first in the Belfast Irish Dancing Championships and Aimee Jamison, Year 8, was placed fourth in her category at the World Irish Dancing Championships. Bethany Simpson, Year 8, was placed 33rd in the World Irish Dancing Championships and 7th in the Ulster Championships and Brianna Murphy was placed 8th in the European Championships. Anna Martin, Year 8, was awarded Best Overall Dancer in her year group in Highland Dancing. Aimee Bankhead, Casey Findlay and Abbie Coates, Year 9, were placed first in the UKCA Pom Dancing Championships, held in Manchester and Ruby McCann, Year 8, was placed third in the NICMAC dance competition. Anna McCoy, Year 8, won a scholarship for the English Youth Ballet and was the winner of the Ballet category in the *Moving North* dance competition in England. Rebecca Clarke, Year 12, competed in the All Ireland Hip Hop Dance Championships in Cork in October and was placed fifth in the individual event, fourth in the team event and third in the sister/duo event.

Gaelic Games

The U12 and U14 Camogie teams competed successfully in the County Down and Ulster Championships. The Year 8 Camogie team defeated Aquinas Grammar School 3-0 in the final of the Aileen Lawlor Camogie tournament, during which the shield was presented by Aileen Lawlor, President of the Camogie Association of Ireland. The U12 team participated in the Ulster Schools' blitz at Queen's University. Katherine Ward, Year 8, represented her school and county in Camogie

at half-time at Croke Park in the All-Ireland Senior Hurling Finals in front of 60,000 spectators. The U16 Camogie team played three matches in the Ulster championships, with opening victories against Aquinas Grammar and St Dominic's High School, followed by a defeat against St Genevieve's High School.

The U14 Gaelic Football team competed in the Ulster Championships and the U13 team competed in the St Genevieve's tournament. Fifty footballers and camógs will travel to Croke Park on 28 June to tour the stadium and museum.

Hockey

The 1st XI hockey team was extremely unlucky to lose in the final of the Ulster Shield on penalty strokes against Wallace High School. The 2nd XI team reached the final of the McDowell Cup but were beaten by Ballyclare High School and the U14A hockey team reached the third round of the Junior Cup. The U14A and the 2XIA hockey teams played Fettes College, Edinburgh, during Fettes College's hockey tour, with a match score of 2-1 for Victoria College. Year 8 pupils Molly Maguire, Kate McLaughlin, Lucy McQuoid and Maddie Brittain attended Ulster hockey trials. Amy Edwards, Year 13 and Beth Walker, Year 12, were selected as part of the Ulster Hockey's U18 and U16 squads respectively for the 2015 Interprovincial Tournament held in October. Amy Edwards was also selected for Ulster hockey at the U.K. School Games which was held from 1-4 September at Loughborough, during which the team won a bronze medal and was selected to play for the U21 Interpro Hockey Tournament which was held in Dublin from 9-11 September. At the end of April Caitlin Murphy, Year 12, was selected in an Ulster Under-17 Hockey Panel which travelled to England to take part in four day training camp in Lilleshall. The camp included two games against England's U16 girls and two games against Scotland's U16 girls. Caitlin also played for the U17 Belfast Area Board, alongside her team mates, Emma Conlin, Caitlyn Harvey, Georgia Heatherley and Beth Walker. Caitlin Murphy and Caitlyn Harvey were selected for the Ulster U18 to play three representational matches against Wales' U18 team in June. Harriet Bedi, Charlotte Little, Susie Loane and Georgia Ross were selected for the Ulster U16 Development Squad for 2016-2017. The Ulster U15 Development Squad included Emily Young and Ellie Robinson.

An enjoyable Annual Girls' Hockey Awards evening was held at Shaw's Bridge Sports Association, during which the Player of the Year and Most Improved Players were awarded from each team. The final award of the evening went to Year 14 pupil, Bronagh McCann, who had been involved in school hockey since starting in Victoria College in 2009 and had been one of the captains of the 1st XI during 2015-2016. This award was in recognition of Bronagh's immense contribution to school hockey throughout the last seven years.

A successful Senior hockey tour to Amsterdam was held in March, during which the girls travelled around Amsterdam by peddle power, watched professional hockey matches, received training sessions with local coaches and played matches against local teams. The U14A hockey team also went on tour to Glasgow during which they played two competitive matches.

Netball

The Minor Netball team won all its matches bar one and finished runner-up in the Belfast League. The Year 8 Netball team defeated Dominican College, lost to Belfast Royal Academy and defeated Wellington College. Bronagh McCann, Year 14, was selected for the Northern Ireland U19 Schools' Netball Squad. Maddie Chambers, current Year 12, has also been selected onto the U19 Belfast Netball Squad for the N.I. Area Tournament to be held in November 2016.

Swimming

The Senior Swimming team – Esmée Hall, Emma Henderson, Emma Montgomery and Florence Tinsley – won the overall Ulster Senior Grammar Schools' Cup. At the Ulster Grammar Schools' Swimming Championships Emma Montgomery, Year 9, was part of the victorious Senior medley and freestyle relay teams which resulted in the College winning the overall Senior Schools' Cup. Several girls from Year 8 and 9 represented the College, with many producing great swims and personal bests. The relay team won medals in both the Medley and Freestyle and Emma Montgomery won gold in both the Freestyle and Individual Medley, while Anna Hill claimed gold in the Breaststroke and bronze in the Butterfly.

Emma Henderson, Year 14, was selected as Captain of the Great Britain Youth Team for the Junior European Pool and Ocean Championships which were held in Spain in September 2015. Emma won

a gold and silver medal at this event and the Great British team was placed third overall, the first medal the team has won since 1987. Emma was the only representative on her team from Northern Ireland. In September 2016 Emma once again captained the Great Britain National Youth Team, this time at the World Championships which were held in Eindhoven in Holland. Emma won a bronze, two silver and one gold medal to become Great Britain's first ever youth world champion. The Great British team finished 7th out of 25 countries, Caitlin McCormack, Year 13, was selected and competed in the interclubs competition at the World Life Saving Championships.

Tennis

The Year 8 Tennis team – Elise Houssemayne Du Boulay, Kate McLaughlin, Lauren Patterson and Amelia Tyler (Res. Holly McLarnon) - won the Ulster Schools' Minor Tennis Plate after beating Friends' School in the Final. The Junior team – Anna Glover, Lucy Greaves, Darcy Mitchell and Emily Young (Res. Phoebe Boyd) - reached the final in the Ulster Schools' Junior Tennis Plate, but were beaten by Strathearn School. The Intermediate Tennis team reached the semi-finals of the Ulster Schools' Tennis Cup – Lucy Hamilton, Rachael McClements, Georgia Ross, Cate Blayney; Reserve: Rebecca Bunn) - but were beaten by a very strong Methodist College team containing high ranking players.

Other Sporting Activities

We were fortunate this year to have the assistance of professional cricket coach, Shane Getkate from South Africa. Employed by Belfast Active Communities, Shane came to the College to assist with Year 9 Games. The girls undertook training in this new activity and enjoyed it. They played their first competitive match against Bloomfield Collegiate and were invited to play in an inter-schools tournament at Friends' School, Lisburn in June. Twelve schools participated and Victoria College was placed third, gaining bronze medals. Junior school pupils also competed in the Northern Ireland Novice Squash Cup and were placed first in their age group in this event, with the U15 team being placed second and the U17 team placed third. In March a group of students and staff took part in Run-a-muck, a 5k cross country 'fun-and-run' race held in Co Kildare. The U19 Rugby Team reached the semi-finals of the Schools' Cup.

A number of individual Sporting achievements were also enjoyed. Sofia Lazarescu, Year 9, was selected to represent Ireland at the World Waveski Competition to be held in Portugal in July. Sofia was the youngest competitor in this competition. Bree Moffett, Year 10, was selected for the development squad of Team USA Deaflympics and attended a training camp at Gallaudet University in Washington DC from 20-26 June. Rosie Fogarty, Year 8, was placed first in the Junior Squash competition.

Sarah Brittain, Year 12, represented the College at a number of equestrian events and achieved successes including the Supreme Working Hunter Champion in both the Pre-Balmoral and Armagh County Championships and the Blugrass Working Hunter Champion of Ireland at the Equifestival of Ireland. Charlotte Houston, Year 9, was selected to compete for Ireland in the 12-14 category of the European Show Jumping Competition in the Netherlands and Belgium. Charlotte is the number one athlete to represent Ireland in these events in her age group and one of only six children to be selected to represent Ireland. She came first in the Grand Prix on her pony and fourth on her other horse and is currently training for the European team. Kate McLaughlin, Year 8, was placed second in the Working Hunter class at the May Day Show. Trudie McCoosh, Year 10, represented the College and won the Premier Individual 1.10 class at the TRI Inter-Schools' Showjumping League held at the Meadows Equestrian Centre in Craigavon in December.

Ella Glover, Year 9, was placed first in the 13-16 age group at the Junior Irish Open Golf Championships at Ardglass. Ella won an overnight stay in a hotel in Dublin and tickets for a pro am at the K-Club with special access to the players on the day. Eva Clarke, Year 9, competed in the N.I. Trampolining Competition for Schools and was placed 6th. Carly Davidson, Year 8, represented Northern Ireland in Taekwondo and was also British Female Cadet Individual K3 Champion. Ellen Barbour and Eva Briggs, Year 8, were placed first and third respectively in the Royal Yachting Association's Schools' Youth Championships and Claudia Murphy was placed fourth in the N.I. Fencing Championships. Morgan Curry, Year 8 obtained first and third places at the Irish Cheerleading Championships in Dublin and Kara Best, Year 8, represented Northern Ireland at the U.K. Cheerleading Association National Championships held in Manchester in March. Lauren Lamont represented Ireland and Northern Ireland in Gymnastics. Marianne Doherty and Emma Murtagh, Year 8, represented Northern Ireland against Wales in Basketball. Amelia Tyler, Year 8, won the Rás

na n-Óg triathlon race and was selected for the national triathlon team. Tegan McGurk, Year 8, was placed first with her club in Water Polo in several All-Ireland tournaments. Katie-Louise McCracken, Year 13, was selected for the race team for the Ski Club of Ireland and represented Ireland at a racing competition in Manchester in May.

MUSIC

The Music department has had another busy but successful and exciting year. During 2015-2016 around 200 girls attend the wide range of extra-curricular activities on a weekly basis including the Junior and Chamber choirs, College Orchestra and Flute group. Pupils of all abilities were welcome to join and have fun preparing for many concerts throughout the school year.

The College Orchestra and Junior Choir provided light entertainment at the APT Craft fair in December. It was the first event in the school calendar for these groups who enjoyed performing to an appreciative audience, setting the mood for the Christmas celebrations. Following this the annual Carol Service was held in Malone Presbyterian Church. The Junior choir gave sensitive performances of "A Christmas Gloria" and the "Star Carol". "This Joy" and "Sing to Him a Song of Love" were performed beautifully by the Junior Chamber Choir. The orchestra began the service with an uplifting performance of "The Holy City" and continued to accompany the traditional carols throughout. We are delighted that so many of the junior pupils are playing in the orchestra and demonstrating commitment on a Friday afternoon!

The joint musical production with RBAI, *Grease*, took place in early December, to great acclaim, with excellent performances from pupils from both schools. After Christmas the girls were very busy preparing for Open Day and another chance to showcase their talents to prospective pupils and parents who enjoyed listening to a varied musical repertoire. On Open Day many junior pupils, prospective Year 8 pupils and their parents participated in Drumming Workshops in Maxwell.

The Spring Concert, *Melodic Masterpieces*, held on 16 March was the highlight of the music department's year and this event showcased the Choirs, College Orchestra, flute group and ensembles. The Junior Choir and Junior Chamber Choir performed a wide repertoire to a captive audience. The first half of the programme concluded with the combined Junior and Senior choirs and the College orchestra performing Philip Stopford's "For Thou Only Art Holy" from his Gloria. Year 9 pupils also gave an exciting performance on West African Drums. The second half of the concert was spectacular with the orchestra opening with a medley of James Bond Themes. Anna McCoy, Year 8 gave a stunning performance of the clockwork doll's dance from Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, which Anna had choreographed herself. The Junior Choir and dancers performed a medley from the musical *Matilda*, ably choreographed by two Year 13 pupils Alexandra Dick and Katie Lynn. The grand finale was the combined choirs and orchestra performing 'Pack Up' which was arranged by one of our peripatetic staff, Judith Watson. The audience were certainly treated to a spectacular array of talent from all of the pupils involved on what was a truly memorable evening.

On the 28 May the Junior Choir performed to a capacity audience at St Anne's Cathedral in an event which celebrated the Queen's 90th birthday. Amongst the audience was Mrs Fionnuala Jay-O'Boyle, the Lord Lieutenant of Belfast who is the Queen's official representative in Northern Ireland. She was most impressed by the performances and excellent behaviour of the girls. The girls gave rousing performances of "Amazing Grace" and Chilcott's 'Irish Blessing', much to the appreciation of the audience. The highlight of the afternoon was the final combined item when the choir sang the 'Vivats' in Parry's anthem 'I Was Glad'.

Instrumental and Vocal tuition is provided by peripatetic staff to more than 100 pupils and the success rate at external examination level continues to be very high. Girls are also encouraged to participate in local music festivals and many of our girls have achieved recent success. Prize winners at Mossgrove Youth and Carrickfergus Music Festivals were Sarah McBride, Emily Darling, Megan Cooney and Lauren Toner. The Victoria Flute Ensemble, made up of pupils from Years 8 – 11, won second prize in the under 19 Ensemble class at Carrickfergus Festival. Fiddle players Sorcha O'Brien, Niamh McArdle and Emma Murtagh, Year 8, qualified for the forthcoming Ulster Fleadh Cheoil in July, representing Loch Lao Comhaltas. Caitlin Diver, Year 14, and Sarah

Montgomery, Year 12, were invited by the City of Belfast Youth Orchestra to represent the College and to perform at the ASCL Conference in November and at the Schools' Proms in the Royal Albert Hall in London in November.

ART

In June Year 11 Art students participated in a two day workshop, given by local artist, Timmy White. The girls produced their own appliqué cushions and learnt about careers within this industry. Tim Loane, actor and director from Channel 4's *Teachers* and BBC's *The Fall*, inspired the Moving Image Art students during his visit to the College. Art work by pupils and members of staff took centre focus in the 'Debut' Art Exhibition at Maryville House Tearooms, Lisburn Road at the end of May during which visitors were able to savour the infusion of art within the tranquil surrounds of the Tearooms.

DRAMA

It was a busy year for the Drama department with a hectic programme of visits and performances. Theatre visits included a Sixth Form visit to The Mac to see Bruiser's Theatre production of *Playhouse Creatures*, starring Amy Molloy, former pupil who also came in to talk to pupils about her career and to provide valuable career advice. Year 13 and 14 classes went to the Abbey Theatre in Dublin to see *Oedipus* and Year 11 attended the performance of their examination text, *Blood Brothers*, at Methodist College. Year 12 attended the Lyric Theatre to see *Educating Rita*.

Year 13 went to the cinema to watch the new production of *Macbeth* and the period drama, *Suffragette*, both of which related to their AS course. Pupils also had the privilege of watching the Royal Shakespeare Company's live streaming of *Henry V*, *Othello* and *The Merchant of Venice*. In October all examination classes attended Belfast Synagogue to watch Jane Coyle's original drama, *The Suitcase*, starring another former pupil, Hannah Coyle, who talked to pupils afterwards about her acting career. Rebecca Mercer, former pupil, came in to film part of her documentary on C S Lewis in Maxwell Centre. Anna Leckey, former pupil, who recently graduated with a first class honours in Theatre Studies, came in to support Year 13 pupils from January until April with her inspirational ideas proving invaluable.

Pupils attended a number of workshops. Year 12 attended a workshop at The Mac, working with a professional director from the National Theatre in preparation for their November performance of *Much Ado About Nothing*, which was part of the Shakespeare for Schools' Festival. Year 11 pupils also attended the Year 12 performance. A career opportunity also arose for Sixth Form pupils to visit The Mac and attend *A Day with Bruiser*, spending an entire day working with industry professionals on acting, improvisation and how to start a career in the performing arts.

A-level pupils gave performances of their devised pieces in January, with performances of *Ladies First*, an exploration of the role of America's First Ladies, *Fairytale Ending*, an exploration of the fantasy and reality of fairytales and their influence on real life, and *End Game*, which explored the role of fate in the issues which affect young women today. February saw Year 12 and 13 pupils in rehearsals for practicals. In April Year 12 performed three plays, *A Fishy Business*, *Our Day Out* and *Horror at Hellfire Hall*. Professional actress, Antoinette Morelli, came in for two sessions to facilitate scripted rehearsal work and this proved very inspiring. Year 13 performed eight monologues and two group pieces, *Teachers* and *The Penelopiad*.

COMPETITIONS AND OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

Fourteen Year 10 pupils participated in the Sentinus Futures programme and received Bronze Crest Awards. Three pupils - Sadia Biswas, Anakha Jacob and Veena Sivakumar - won a 'Creativity Award' for their design at the Celebration Day held at Lagan College on 22 April. A team of six Year 13 pupils - Amy Edwards, Katie Brennan, Charlotte Cummings, Anna Darling, Kristina Geddis and Sara Gray - took part in the Sentinus R & D programme, during which the team worked with a link engineer over a period of five months. The team presented its working prototype to a panel of engineers and received a Gold CREST Award.

Forty-nine Year 9 pupils took part in the Junior Mathematics Challenge in April 2016, during which five silver and seven bronze certificates were awarded. Anna Lavery, Beth McGing, Chloe Kwok, Amy Montgomery and Rebecca Burrows obtained the silver certificates, with Anna Lavery also being awarded the 'Best in School' Certificate. Four pupils – Darcey Johnston, Cara Morwood, Vaidhai Gupta and Chloe Kwok – took part in the regional final of the Junior Team Mathematics Challenge held at St Malachy's College in February 2016 and the girls spent an enjoyable day working on and completing the variety of puzzles and problems which they were set.

Sixty-four pupils from Year 11 and six pupils from Year 10 took part in the Intermediate Mathematics Challenge in February, during which one gold certificate, six silver certificates and eleven bronze certificates were awarded. Yo Yo Sui, Year 11, obtained the gold certificate as well as being awarded 'Best in Year' certificate (for Year 11) and the 'Best in School' certificate. Darcey Johnston from Year 10 obtained one of the silver certificates.

In November sixty-three Year 13 and Year 14 mathematics pupils took part in the Senior Mathematics Challenge. There were six silver certificates and 21 bronze certificates awarded. Aishlyn Wong, Judy Cheong, Eve Bannon, Ying Ong, Jessica Carter and Rebecca Lobo, all from Year 14, obtained the silver certificates and Aishlyn was also awarded the 'Best in School' certificate.

The Year 9 Chemistry team was awarded third place in the Salters University Chemistry Challenge, hosted at Queen's University in May. The team comprised of four Year 9 pupils – Georgina Lobo, Rachel Lyster, Victoria Jones and Kerri Fry. The girls have a keen interest in Science and were selected through their involvement in Junior Science Club. The girls had to complete two practical tasks in QUB's School of Chemistry laboratories. The girls were competing against fourteen other schools from Northern Ireland.

Four Year 11 pupils – Erin Anderson, Maita Kanengoni, Daria Krasnodembskaya and Hollie O'Kane - represented the College at the Future Hackathon 2016 conference to inspire teenagers to learn more about software engineering and design.

Pupils participated in workshops and education programmes. All Year 10 pupils participated in the Schools Education and Empowerment Programme (SEEP), which was delivered over three days throughout the year in partnership with SOS Bus Northern Ireland and was an alcohol awareness programme. The concluding phase involved the girls delivering presentations in a Dragons Den style programme. Year 8 and Year 9 pupils attended Young Enterprise Workshops and completed the Barnardo's All-Stars programme, aimed at teaching self-reliance, resilience and how to avoid risky behaviour. Year 8 pupils also joined Preparatory pupils at the Outdoor Science Education Project in June.

Approximately fifty pupils participated in Junior Debating throughout the Autumn and Spring terms with significant contributions from Year 8 pupils, Terezia Hargasova, Diana Benea and Sarah Lynch. Twelve Year 9 pupils took part in a Spelling Bee competition and Maya Kelly and Anna Kernahan were winners at this event. Twenty-five pupils performed extremely well with Accelerated Reader, with ten pupils – Maeve Allen, Leah Barr, Kerri Fry, Vaidhai Gupta, Alvie Ingman, Aina Jasrul Azily, Anna Kernahan, Emily Knowles, Jodie Matchett and Meera O'Hare reading in excess of 2 million words. In April three pupils – Maeve Allen, Year 8 and Vaidhai Gupta and Meera O'Hare, Year 9 - and College Librarian, Mr McDonald, were invited to Parliament Buildings, Stormont, to meet the current Children's Poet Laureate, Chris Riddell. Billi Henry, Year 8, represented Northern Ireland in a poetry competition in England.

In November the esteemed author, Brian Barton, came to Junior assembly to present the College Library with a copy of his latest book *The Belfast Blitz: The City in the War Years*. Mr Barton addressed pupils in Years 8 and 9, giving a fascinating talk on what life was like in Belfast during the Blitz in 1941. Mr Barton has a connection with the College as his granddaughters all currently attend – Rachel in Year 10, Kate in Prep 7 and Maggie in Prep 2.

SECTION 3 – LINKS WITH THE COMMUNITY

SOUTH BELFAST AREA LEARNING COMMUNITY

Post-primary schools have been encouraged to deliver the Entitlement Framework by working collaboratively in Area Learning Communities. Members of the ALC will be able to offer an increased range of courses to all young people in the 14-19 age group within schools and Further Education Colleges. The ongoing requirements of the Entitlement Framework which is concerned with providing additional choice and flexibility ie twenty four subjects at GCSE and twenty seven subjects at 'A' level both of a General and Applied nature can best be met within a framework of shared provision. The College is an active member of the South Belfast Area Learning Community along with 12 other post-primary schools and pupils and staff now have increased opportunities to learn and work together. In addition, GCSE pupils have opportunities to attend joint workshops to develop skills in enterprise and entrepreneurship. Collaborative models allow schools to retain their ethos, while providing opportunities for their pupils to experience diverse teaching and learning contexts. The young people within the South Belfast area will be given opportunities to gain academic or vocational qualifications as well as invaluable experiences that they can use in their journey towards adulthood. Teaching staff have benefited from a range of joint staff development training sessions including seminars for newly appointed or aspiring middle managers and seminars for pastoral leaders. Cluster meetings for Principals, Heads of Subject, timetablers, careers staff and pastoral leaders to share best practice within curriculum areas are held on a termly basis and are proving to be a helpful means of getting to know colleagues in partner schools whilst planning for improvement.

THE INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION

2016 saw the College receiving the International School Award for the fourth time in recognition of the international dimension which permeates the curricular and extra curricular provision at the College. Students and staff are committed to developing and maintaining links with educational and professional institutions on a local, national and global level.

During this academic year, work in relation to the international dimension has contributed to the achievement of other individual and whole school accolades, including maintaining our Inclusion Quality Mark, ELOS and CRED status whilst also securing the Bronze Democracy Award. The College also participated in the Eco Schools Initiative winning the Best Kept Post Primary School Award and retaining the coveted Green Flag.

Collaborative curriculum-based work is ongoing at the College, and in September 2015, we were delighted to embark upon an Erasmus+ project with partner schools across Europe. Such European funded projects continue to be a strong vehicle for the promotion of the international dimension in the education and experience offered at Victoria. Pupils continue to access a range of technologies to collaborate with our partner schools, sharing, reflecting, comparing and learning from education systems across Europe.

Staff and pupils also continue to highlight and celebrate global cultural events such as the European Day of Languages and the Chinese New Year via our Assembly and Learning for Life and Work programmes.

Post 16 pupils were once again delighted to be invited to participate in the mock Council of the European Union, an event organised by the British Council in partnership with the European Commission Office in Northern Ireland. In October, a select group of Senior pupils joined students from 27 other schools from Northern Ireland and Ireland to gain first hand experience of the cut and thrust of international politics, debating on a variety of topical European agendas and policies.

The Modern Languages Department continues to make a valued contribution to the promotion of the international dimension at the College. A number of Year 12 French students corresponded with pupils at the *Lycée Notre-Dame de Boulogne* in Paris creating and producing an i-Movie for their penpals. In November, five pupils from Years 13 and 14 took part in the *Juvenes Translatores* competition which took place simultaneously across all countries in the European Union and was organised by the European Commission. This competition provided a unique opportunity for some of

our linguists and bilingual students to demonstrate their talent. Victoria was selected as one of the schools representing the UK and our students translated from English into Italian and Spanish and from Dutch and French into English. The theme of the translations this year was *Europe - Year of Development*.

A group of 11 year old pupils from *Jingzhou* Primary School in Hangzhou Province in China visited the College during the first term. During their four day visit, the group were welcomed to Belfast by the Lord Mayor. They participated in a range of lessons across the curriculum in both Junior School and the Preparatory School and enjoyed a range of sporting and musical activities. They also had the opportunity to visit the Titanic Exhibition and the Ulster Museum in Belfast. Victoria College families hosted the children and staff on Tuesday evening and Mr Paul McAllister, Deputy Chief Inspector ETI, joined pupils and staff at a special Assembly and presentation on Thursday morning in the College. Ms Slevin had visited the *Jingzhou* School in 2013 during a study visit to China facilitated by the British Council and the Confucius Institute and the College was delighted that students from *Jingzhou* finally had the opportunity to travel to Northern Ireland. We look forward to developing our links with the *Jingzhou* school and to exploring the potential of further exchange visits. A second group of Chinese pupils were based in St Joseph's Primary School in Crumlin during the week and both groups celebrated their visit together at a ceili held in St Joseph's School.

Fostering an international dimension in the curriculum is at the heart of the College, so that young people gain the cultural understanding and skills they need to live and work as global citizens. The College continues to promote active citizenship and an awareness of human rights and in September we welcomed Koulla Yiasouma, the Commissioner for Children and Young People for Northern Ireland. The Citizenship Foundation, in partnership with the Bar Council of Northern Ireland, held its 24th National Mock Trial Competition on Saturday 28 November 2015 at the Royal Courts of Justice, Belfast and fifteen pupils from Victoria College Belfast took part. The entire school population was encouraged once again to vote in the annual UK Youth Parliament. Eighteen Members of Youth Parliament, including Victoria College's Francesca Drumm, championed the voices of young people, engaging within their constituency, shaping UK Youth Parliament policy and campaigns and encouraging young people to take part in UK Youth Parliament's UK-wide consultation 'Make Your Mark', which saw 41,488 young people from across Northern Ireland take part last year. Francesca was also selected from over 3,000 applicants to participate in the prestigious Sutton Trust Programme, during which she attended Yale University to get a taste of U.S. higher education and culture. Sarah Hanley, Year 13, was also selected by the Rotary Club of Belfast as one of only six students to participate in a study visit/exchange programme to Chicago.

The promotion of the international dimension across the College continues to develop from strength to strength and is a really important feature of school life allowing the girls to experience and develop a global perspective and understanding.

VOLUNTARY WORK

Year 11 and Year 13 Health and Social Care pupils participated in an Intergenerational project with Ballyowen Residential Care Home and Bruce Street Care Home in two Art projects. These projects involved the Activities Co-ordinator from Belfast Trust, Fiona McGettigan and the Arts Co-ordinator for the Spectrum Centre, Sally Young, working together with an Artist and organising get-togethers for the residents. Victoria College pupils worked along with the co-ordinators and residents on eight week projects to produce art pieces. The pupils also invited the residents to the Drawing Room, Drumglass House for afternoon tea and entertainment from Caitlin Diver and Olivia Moffitt, with this proving to be a big success and enjoyed by all.

In October Oxfam appealed for volunteers to help sort donated items to raise money for the Syria crisis. Fifteen Health and Social care pupils spent the morning sorting accessories donated by companies and helping the items to be distributed efficiently to Oxfam shops around Northern Ireland. As part of the Big Build 2016 programme to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Habitat for Humanity International, sixteen pupils and four staff members, (Miss Cassidy, Dr Brown, Ms McEvoy and Mr Tsang) travelled to *Bacau*, in Western Romania to help build forty homes for forty families in need. Assemblies were delivered upon their return to raise global awareness and also to share their experience with our wider school body.

CHARITIES

The College's chosen charities for 2015-2016 were Action Cancer and War Child and a total of £2068.82 was raised within Senior School. Junior pupils also participated in a Shoebox Appeal.

Megan McGillin, Year 10, was diagnosed with Liver Disease at just 10 years old. Despite her illness, Megan has worked tirelessly to promote and raise funds for the Little Princess Trust and The Children's Liver Disease Foundation and donated her hair to make a child's wig.

CAREERS EDUCATION

This has been another busy year for the Careers Department. Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) and Learning for Life and Work (LLW) are delivered through various platforms at Victoria College. All academic departments audit their own contributions, and assemblies and Festival are also utilised. At Key Stage 3 there are discrete lessons in Learning for Life and Work and pupils complete the Barnardo's All Stars programme which encourages them to eschew all types of risky behaviour. In Year 8 the focus is on self-evaluation, self-improvement, target-setting and action-planning. Essential transferable skills are developed and we investigate the entrepreneurial skills of Ireland's top ten female entrepreneurs as well as researching some highly successful ex-pupils of Victoria College. In Year 9 we focus more on the world of work in the Local and Global Economy whilst in Year 10 the emphasis is on preparing pupils for GCSE subject and career choices.

At KS3 we also audit every child's skills development through their involvement in extra-curricular activities and their activities outside of school. The emphasis is making sure that every child reaches their potential – every child matters. Key skills such as communication, problem-solving, decision-making, teamwork and leadership are nurtured through a variety of tasks and activities. Pupils record their progress in an e-portfolio.

We also avail of opportunities to take the pupils off site. The 'Back to the Future' anniversary celebration on Wednesday, October 21 marked the long-awaited day that Marty McFly and Doc Brown travelled in Back to the Future Part II. Thirty-five girls from 8LOA and 8LDE travelled to the Ulster Museum for the celebration; they took pictures with the DeLorean car, listened to speeches from Electrical Engineering graduates and watched the film. Anna Hutchinson and Emma Massey were interviewed and appeared on BBC Newsline. Year 8 pupils also enjoyed a Young Enterprise Day aimed at developing their Employability skills. Year 8 and 9 pupils participated in Careers in Technology events and Year 10 girls attended a STEMNET conference at W5 where they got to discuss options with representatives of many of our leading employers including Liberty Insurance, NI Water, Airtricity and Bombardier. Year 10 pupils visited workplaces including the BBC and Laganside Courts whilst others attended a workshop aimed at increasing interest in STEM careers. Pupils in Years 10 and 12 and their parents attended Subject Information Evenings intended to assist them in making subject choices for the next stage of their education. Pupils were individually interviewed to assist them in making their choices. A STEAM workshop was organised for pupils and parents to highlight labour market trends and opportunities in the STEAM sector, notably in Information Technology.

At Key Stage 4 and Sixth Form, pupils have timetabled Careers lessons. Many Year 12 pupils were prepared and entered for the Preparation for Working Life Level 2 Certificate. Following their mock examinations, pupils had the opportunity to discuss Further Education pathways where appropriate with SERC and BMC.

The Sixth Form Careers programme aims to prepare our pupils for life after A-levels. In the vast majority of cases this involves attending university. The College hosted talks by representatives of the University of Ulster, Queen's University Belfast, University College Dublin, Trinity College Dublin, St Mary's University College and Stranmillis University College. We also welcomed representatives from all the Scottish universities, Oxford University and Newcastle and Northumbria University. All schools in the South Belfast Area Learning Committee were invited to our own Oxbridge talk delivered by representatives from St Catherine's College, Oxford. We were delighted to welcome Allstate and Kingsbridge Hospital who ran interview skills workshops. Mr Thompson organised work experience placements for the Year 13 pupils in the spring term and the Year 14 girls completed their

mock interviews in the autumn. We arranged for girls to attend the Queen's University, Stranmillis and St Mary's University College open days. Interested pupils attended the QUB Dentistry open days and the Methodist College Law, Medicine and Engineering conferences.

In October Lower Sixth pupils involved in the Sentinus R&D programme spent a day with their link company NIE Networks in Ballymena to commence work on a specially commissioned project developing a solution to help detect moisture in paper-insulated cables. Moving Image Arts pupils attended a Digital Skills event at the Titanic Exhibition Centre in the Titanic Quarter. *Icons* is a global event where the icons of today come together to inspire the icons of tomorrow. It combined all elements of the creative industries (technology, music and screen). The event consisted of a conference, careers carnival, experiential music festival and 3D engagement, bringing people together to share skills, network and inspire.

Several of our pupils attended residential summer schools in Dublin and Cambridge aimed at preparing them for their university applications. All pupils in Year 13 and their parents attended the annual Higher Education UCAS/CAO Preparation Evening where the application processes and student finance issues were explained to them.

The Careers Department were again very pleased with the success our pupils achieved in gaining access to the Higher Education and Further Education courses of their choices and we wish them every success in the future.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

Over 50 pupils in Year 10 completed Bronze training and Expeditions in the Mournes during June. While the weather was mixed, the girls had lots of fun learning to read maps, pitch tents and cook on tranguias.

Twenty girls from Year 13 completed their Gold Expeditions in the stunning area around Mont Blanc in the Alps in July. The girls started walking in France close to Chamonix, walked into Switzerland and finished in Italy. The very mountainous terrain and the hot weather provided plenty of challenge, but the girls were ready for this and completed the routes in very impressive times. Hannah Beattie completed the DoE Diamond Challenge, part of the 60th Anniversary celebrations of the scheme, and trekked to the top of the *Bunderspitz* in the Swiss Alps during the summer.

Mrs Caroline Hart, Duke of Edinburgh's Award Co-ordinator, was a guest at a recent Duke of Edinburgh's Diamond Anniversary breakfast event in Belfast. The guest of honour at the event was HRH the Earl of Wessex, Prince Edward. Mrs Hart's invitation was a well deserved recognition of the years of support she has given to the DoE Awards Scheme both at Victoria College and at her previous school. Mrs Hart has enabled hundreds of pupils the opportunity to start their DoE journey. At the same event Hannah Beattie, current Year 13, was presented with her Diamond Challenge certificate by Prince Edward.

TRIPS AND VISITS

The College supported a wide range of educational visits and recognises the benefits such opportunities offer to the pupils on a personal, academic and professional level. Over the course of the academic year pupils participated in a number of trips including Geography fieldtrips and a Scripture Union weekend at Cultra.

In October, forty Year 13 and 14 pupils went on a politics trip to New York, Philadelphia and Washington DC, during which they toured Constitutional Hall, Congress and saw the White House as well as the various sights in each city. A Year 9 and 10 History trip to Belgium and France was enjoyed by 57 pupils and seven members of staff from 20-23 June. The itinerary included visits to war cemeteries, a visit to Sanctuary Wood, Ypres, Flanders Field Museum, the Ulster Tower and Thiepval Memorial. Two groups, totaling 75 Year 8 pupils and nine members of staff, have just returned from trips to London during which their itinerary included the London Eye, a Thames River Cruise, a visit and presentation at the Bank of England, a visit to the Natural History Museum and the West End show, *Matilda*.

The Annual Ski trip was held in February with 52 Senior pupils and five members of staff travelling to Sierra Nevada, Spain. This was the first year the ski trip had travelled to Spain and Sierra Nevada proved to be a beautiful resort. The first two nights of the trip were spent in Granada, with the highlight being an evening tour in lights at the Alhambra Palace, which was magnificent. During the following five days the girls skied in extreme snowy conditions, with perfect snow conditions. The Spanish instructors were 'second to none' and both beginner and experienced skiers saw excellent progression in their skiing.

OTHER EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Conferences/Lectures/Training

Year 10 Learn2Learn pupils took part in the INTO Film showcase of short films. In October the College hosted the Diana Award Anti Bullying Ambassador Training in Northern Ireland, during which ten schools and over 120 pupils trained to be Anti Bullying Ambassadors for their schools. The event was a great success and the College's Middle School Council Team is currently action planning a whole school programme.

The Junior Scripture Union met every Tuesday afternoon and a faithful and enthusiastic group of girls engaged in the activities each week, ably led by the Sixth Form leaders and Dr Brown and Mrs Elwood. With "Pink Panther" wafers a key attraction, the girls learned and discussed issues relating to hard questions about faith, biblical women of faith, becoming spiritually transformed and members particularly enjoyed presentations from the Wycliffe Bible Translation Society and the Leprosy Mission. Indeed, the Juniors wrote and delivered a wonderful assembly to all in Junior School on what they had learnt following the visit from the Leprosy Mission. In January the Senior S.U. enjoyed a weekend of fun and fellowship at Cultra Residential Centre, during which the core theme was "Loving the way Jesus loves". The girls also contributed to a Northern Ireland Schools' Peace Project by drawing up a peace pledge which will be shared in September with politicians from across the political spectrum. The peace pledge is "We pledge to share our peace vision without the barriers of difference, indifference, discrimination or disharmony. To share the love we know and enjoy which enables the nurture of kindness, patience, justice, forgiveness, harmony and joy: promoting lasting change to all our hearts".

'BAKER' DAYS AND SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS 2015-2016

The College places a strong emphasis on continuous professional development for all staff and recognises the importance of self evaluation and reflective practice within all departments. In 2015-2016 the school chose to take four School Development Days (SDD) for the purposes of school improvement and school/staff development in addition to five 'Baker' days.

During 2015-2016 the School Development Days and the 'Baker' days were used for:

- an analysis of examination results;
- Performance Review and Staff Development;
- Special Educational Needs;
- Assessment for Learning;
- Whole school literacy and numeracy strategies;
- GCSE Pod;
- Marking for improvement across Departments;
- Child Protection training;
- Middle Leaders' training (LearnSpark);
- SIMsT app;
- Continued sharing of good practice
- Development of intervention strategies
- Planning for effective learning and teaching.

PRE-PRE-SCHOOL, PRE-SCHOOL AND PREPARATORY SCHOOL

The academic year 2015-16 has been one of exceptional success for the Preparatory School. During the year, pupils, staff, parents and Governors were invited to meet with a number of visiting assessors to provide valuable insights into life in Prep. In June 2016, Victoria College Preparatory School became the first Prep School in Northern Ireland to receive Centre of Excellence status following an Inclusion Quality Mark (IQM) inspection. That same month we also became the first Primary School in Northern Ireland to receive the Investors In Pupils (IIP) award. Both assessors commented on the warm, friendly atmosphere of the School, the dedication of teaching staff and assistants in ensuring pupils have every opportunity to succeed and the self-confident, eloquent manner in which pupils were able to discuss their roles within school. Finally, the Preparatory School was also successful in securing the International Schools' Intermediate Award through the British Council, recognising the multi-cultural aspects of our school and the cross-cultural teaching opportunities pupils are involved in.

Throughout the year, the Prep girls have enjoyed an enriched curricular experience with a number of educational trips and visitors to the classroom. The Day Care classes enjoyed a visit to W5 at Christmas time and had fun learning about baby animals during their trip to Streamvale Farm. Prep School classes visited the Fire Station, Castle Ward, the Ulster Folk and Transport museum and the Planetarium. The introduction of a local residential trip saw Prep 6 enjoy outdoor pursuits at Shannaghmore, whilst Prep 7 visited York. Further work with the Young Enterprise scheme saw pupils in P4 and P6 introduced to marketing and finance, and parents joined P7 to help bring the world of engineering to life through the Building Bridges project.

The various action groups in Prep have been busy throughout the year. The CAG girls supported a number of charities throughout the year through fancy dress days, readathons, grocery collections and a sponsored walk. The ECO team completed weekly recycling collections and organised our Walk to School Week. The SNAG girls encouraged pupils to try different fruits at canteen whilst promoting the Spanish language through their posters. The School Councillors raised a staggering £2400 through their Fun Run event. The Welcome Team developed a 'Survival Pack' for new students starting in Prep, whilst the IAG ladies connected with pupils across Europe through connected classroom projects. The newly formed iTeam enhanced the pupils (and staff)'s competency with a number of new apps for the classroom and were rewarded with achieving the Digital Schools of Distinction Award, one of only twelve schools in Northern Ireland to have obtained this award.

Primary 3 pupils lead the Prep School nativity *A Midwife Crisis* bringing a sense of fun and humour to the Christmas story. This year, the pupils also took part in our whole school performance of *Joseph*. Each performance was vibrant and entertaining and it was a privilege to see all 156 pupils performing on our new stage. Mrs Herriot and Mrs Murray must be commended for their organisation in bringing together such an outstanding production.

Specialised teaching has continued in the Prep with Senora Gomez and Mrs Findlay developing the Spanish curriculum through games and activities to enhance and develop pupils' language skills from P2-P7. Mrs Burnett has continued to teach French to Prep 4-7 pupils ensuring our older girls were introduced to two languages. In addition to Modern Foreign Languages, Prep 7 also benefitted from classical studies in Latin this year with Mrs Stevenson.

This has been a very busy year for Prep sports with a high level of achievement. Pupils from Prep 6 and Prep 7 took part in the Ulster Schools' Swimming Championships held in October. The Prep 6 girls achieved third place in both the Freestyle and Medley relays and the Prep 7 girls achieved second place in the Freestyle and third place in the Medley relays. Special recognition goes to Maddie-Crawford McCann and Lily Boyle who reached the finals in their individual races. Annual events of the swimming gala and sports day continue to be enjoyed by the pupils, parents and staff and it is very pleasing to see how sportsmanship, fun and celebration can prevail with our pupils, as well as the element of competition. The Prep hockey squad reached the quarter finals of the Ulster Hockey Regional Qualifying tournament in March. The camogie team continued to improve their skills when competing in a series of blitz tournaments and the netball squad retained their title as winners in their section of the Belfast Primary Schools' Finals. The P7 girls had outstanding success at the Belfast Cross-Country Championships with Emma Harrison coming third overall and Lily Maguire

tenth. Thank you to Mrs Henderson, Miss McLaughlin, Mrs Simpson and Mr O'Brien for all their support with PE this year.

Evidently 2015-16 was an exciting and positive year in the Preparatory School and we look forward to the next academic year and the opportunities it will bring.

BOARDING DEPARTMENT

Drumglass has had another fabulous year, with a close community of engaged, motivated and hardworking boarders and enthusiastic, professional and dedicated staff. Living and working in Drumglass and Victoria College is a privilege and as you will read, the Boarding community has 'lived and worked well'.

Forty-two boarders were admitted at the start of the Autumn term; girls from Northern Ireland were joined by girls from the Far East, Germany and Spain. The first week of term was spent participating in *getting to know you* activities including movie nights, bowling and games. The Department had an exciting invitation from Mrs Brenda Hale MLA to visit Stormont to celebrate the 90th Birthday of Her Majesty the Queen. Seventeen boarders had the privilege of meeting our now first minister, Arlene Foster and the Lord Lieutenant of County Down, Mr David Lindsay.

Halloween parties came and went and soon the girls were very busy readying themselves for the winter exams; always a stressful time in the house. The end of the examinations heralded the start of the Christmas festivities. Christmas shopping and the annual once experienced, never forgotten Drumglass Christmas party, with in house entertainment and a visit from Santa, accompanied this year by the Grinch.

Along with all the normal extra-curricular activities the boarder participated in during the Spring term, special mention must be made of the Department's involvement in the Peace Players' International Basketball Programme. Peace Players is a non-profit peace building organization that uses sport, specifically basketball to change perceptions, bridge divides and develop leaders. The Boarding Department has been involved in this programme for one full year and have been delighted that the boarding team won the final tournament. The programme has encouraged a few of the older boarders to become active leaders in this organisation, building their skill sets and personal development.

Mrs Burns had the opportunity to attend a Marketing Conference expertly run by the Boarding School Association. This was an extremely valuable experience both in terms of learning and networking. Mrs Janet Johnston completed her introduction to counselling skills, half of which was funded by the College.

Chinese New Year, St Patrick's Day and Easter celebrations were enjoyed in the run-up to the Easter break. Many of our Far East students diligently remained in Northern Ireland with their guardians to prepare for the upcoming GCSE and A Level exams.

Refreshed and rejuvenated from a pleasant break, the usual frenetic activities associated with the arrival of longer and warmer days of Summer Term led the Boarding Department into exam period. Books were opened and heads lowered as the pace in the house slowed to allow for fuller study times.

The end of term was celebrated with a fantastic party, not ruined with the heaviest rain experienced for a long time. A BBQ, face painting, an inflatable bungee run and candy floss made for a memorable evening. Saying good bye to long term boarders is always difficult, and staff and pupils had a little celebration with the now expected cake and mugs to say a tearful goodbye to Year 14 boarders who had worked so hard and achieved so much. Staff were so proud of all the girls especially Charmaine Kwok who achieved the best A Level results in the College.

Drumglass cannot run without the dedicated team of extremely professional and compassionate staff. The departure of Dr Del Campo was a huge loss to the department and to the staff team - Victoria College's loss is Rodeans gain. We wish Dr Del Campo huge success as she takes up the role of Deputy Head of House Rodean, Brighton. Other staff departures this year were Miss Lisa Campbell who finished her degree at Stranmillis College and secured employment in the primary sector. Two Junior German Assistants, Miss Elisabeth Kollner and Miss Marie-Luise Schramm, would be greatly missed as they worked so hard and added a great international flavour to Boarding.

The staff team work as a whole work so hard to ensure that the needs of the boarders are met, academically, socially and emotionally. Though a challenge at times, it is always rewarding! Watching the girls mature into well rounded young women on the brink of greater things is always exciting. To witness their achievements in a tangible way in respect to exam results and hearing of their progression into third level education equipped for the challenges ahead is truly an honour.

SECTION 4 – PERFORMANCE DATA

GENERAL FOR SENIOR SCHOOL

	UK	NI	VCB
A*/A grades at A2 level	26.4%	29.5%	40.4%
A*/A grades at GCSE	21.7%	29.1%	46.0%
A*-C grades at A2	78.3%	79.6%	94.4%
A*-C grades at GCSE	69.5%	79.1%	96.6%

GCSE 2016

Number of pupils entered for 5 or more subjects	122
% achieving 5+ A*-C grades	99.2%
% achieving 5+ A*-B grades	73.8%
% achieving 7+ A*-C grades	93.4%
% achieving 5+ A*-A grades	40.2%

A LEVEL 2016

Number of pupils entered for 3 or more subjects	109
% achieving 2+ A*-C grades	98.2%
% achieving 3+ A*-C grades	85.2%
% A* grades achieved	9.5%
% A*-A grades achieved	30.9%

KEY STAGE THREE 2016*

	Level 5 or above		Level 6 or above	
	VCB	NI	VCB	NI
Communication	97.0	84.0	65.0	53.0
Using Mathematics	99.2	77.4	81.7	49.8

*Data based on submitted returned to CCEA from approximately 66% post primary schools.

VICTORIA COLLEGE RESULTS COMPARED TO N.I. AVERAGE FOR GRAMMAR SCHOOLS

	2012/2013		2013/2014		2014/2015	
	VCB	NI	VCB	NI	VCB	NI
5+ GCSE A*-C	99	97	97	97	95	98
7+ GCSE A*-C	92	94	91	93	85	94
3+ A LEVEL A*-C	88	77	80	76	83	77
2+ A LEVEL A*-C	100	100	100	100	100	100

PUBLIC EXAMINATION RESULTS 2015/2016 A2 LEVEL RESULTS BY SUBJECT

Subject	Entry	% of pupils achieving the following grades						
		A*	A	B	C	D	E	U
Art and Design	3	33.3	0.0	33.3	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Biology	45	4.4	40.0	31.1	20.0	4.4	0.0	0.0
Business Studies	15	6.7	33.3	33.3	20.0	6.7	0.0	0.0
Chemistry	32	3.1	21.9	21.9	40.6	9.4	0.0	3.1
Chinese	4	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Design and Technology	3	0.0	33.3	66.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Drama	11	0.0	0.0	36.4	54.5	0.0	9.1	0.0
English Literature	16	6.3	6.3	31.3	37.5	12.5	6.3	0.0
French	5	20.0	40.0	20.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Geography	40	12.5	37.5	27.5	20.0	2.5	0.0	0.0
Health & Social Care (SA)	12	0.0	33.3	50.0	16.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Health & Social Care (DA)	20	10.0	20.0	50.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
History	14	0.0	42.9	57.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Home Economics	7	0.0	42.9	28.6	28.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Information Technology	24	0.0	41.7	16.7	25.0	16.7	0.0	0.0
Italian	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0
Mathematics	34	29.4	26.5	32.4	11.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mathematics (Further)	3	66.7	0.0	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Music	5	0.0	0.0	40.0	40.0	20.0	0.0	0.0
Physics	8	0.0	50.0	12.5	37.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Politics	11	0.0	36.4	45.5	9.1	9.1	0.0	0.0
Religious Studies	21	23.8	33.3	19.0	23.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sociology	1	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Spanish	1	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sport/PE Studies	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Percentage TOTAL	337	9.5	30.9	31.2	22.8	4.7	0.6	0.3
		32	104	105	77	16	2	1

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

Name of Awarding Body	Qualification	Number of Pupils Entered	% Achieving Qualification
Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, Trinity College and London College of Music	Grades 1-8 Practical Exams.	58 (Yrs 8-14)	96%
	Grades 1-5 Theory Exams.	9 (Yrs 8-14)	100%

No. of Yr 12, 13, 14 Leavers 2015/16	Destinations - Leavers to						
	Higher Education	Further Education	Employment	Another School	Job Skills	Modern Apprenticeship	None of other categories
144	103	22	2	11	1	1	4

ANNUAL ATTENDANCE RATE (ALL PUPILS)

Total days attended by all pupils on roll as % of total possible days of attendance = 94.5%

PUBLIC EXAMINATION RESULTS 2015/2016 GCSE RESULTS BY SUBJECT

Subject	Entry	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
Art and Design	37	5.4	18.9	40.5	35.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Astronomy	4	0.0	75.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Biology	85	9.4	31.8	42.4	12.9	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Business Studies	21	4.8	9.5	14.3	52.4	19.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chemistry	57	31.6	47.4	14.0	5.3	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chinese	2	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Design and Technology	10	40.0	50.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Drama	16	0.0	0.0	68.8	31.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
English Language	122	4.1	29.5	39.3	25.4	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
English Literature	112	10.7	32.1	32.1	23.2	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
French	30	46.7	20.0	16.7	16.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
French (short course)	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Geography	51	35.3	33.3	21.6	9.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
German	17	0.0	17.6	29.4	47.1	5.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
German (short course)	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	66.7	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Health Studies	22	9.1	40.9	31.8	18.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
History	33	24.2	21.2	18.2	30.3	6.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Home Economics	8	12.5	25.0	50.0	12.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Information Technology	50	20.0	40.0	28.0	10.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Italian	10	30.0	20.0	10.0	40.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Latin	6	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mathematics	122	21.3	18.0	27.0	29.5	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mathematics: Further	32	46.9	34.4	15.6	0.0	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Media, Film & TV Studies	6	16.7	0.0	66.7	16.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Music	3	33.3	33.3	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Physics	56	19.6	39.3	25.0	10.7	3.6	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Polish	1	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Religious Studies (CCEA)	108	21.3	28.7	34.3	13.9	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Religious Studies (AQA)	1	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Religious Studies (short course)	12	0.0	0.0	8.3	25.0	33.3	16.7	8.3	8.3	0.0
Science Single Award	16	0.0	25.0	68.8	6.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Spanish	29	13.8	17.2	20.7	24.1	24.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Spanish (short course)	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sport/P.E. Studies	9	0.0	0.0	44.4	44.4	11.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Percentage TOTAL	1094	17.4	28.2	30.0	19.9	3.7	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.0
		190	309	328	218	40	7	1	1	0

% of Year 12 Pupils Achieving no passes in either GCSE or other qualifications Nil

PREPARATORY SCHOOL PERFORMANCE DATA
END OF KEY STAGE ASSESSMENT OUTCOMES
ENGLISH AND MATHEMATICS

KS1 Assessment Outcomes 2015-2016*

**The expected outcome at the end of KS1 is Level 2*

	VCB Prep Outcome	NI Girls Outcome
Communication Level 1	12%	9%
Communication Level 2	88%	71%
Communication Level 3	46%	19%
Using Mathematics Level 1	12%	10%
Using Mathematics Level 2	88%	74%
Using Mathematics Level 3	31%	15%

KS2 Assessment Outcomes 2015-2016*

**The expected outcome at the end of KS2 is Level 4*

	VCB Prep Outcome	NI Girls Outcome
Communication Level 4	100%	65%
Communication Level 5	65%	18%
Using Mathematics Level 4	100%	70%
Using Mathematics Level 5	60%	21%

SECTION 5 – FINANCE

**VICTORIA COLLEGE BELFAST
SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION
YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2016**

SUMMARY COLLEGE REVENUE ACCOUNT

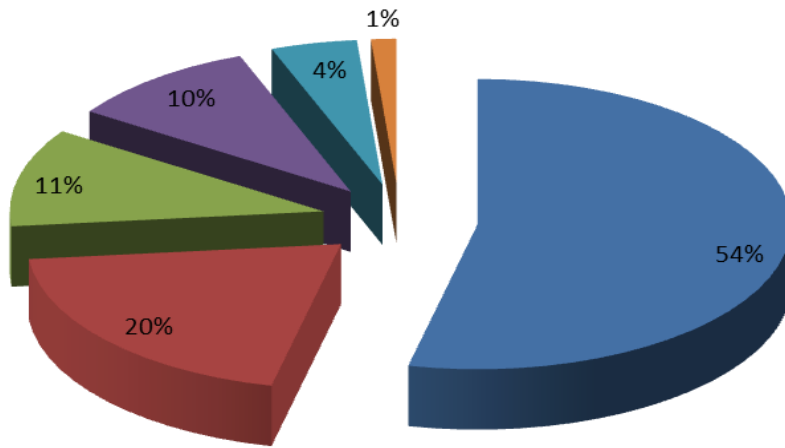
	2016	2016	2015	2015
	£	%	£	%
Income				
Government Grants	4,379,836	70.10%	4,209,674	68.92%
Other Income	1,868,529	29.90%	1,897,991	31.08%
Total	<u>6,248,365</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>6,107,665</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Expenditure				
Teaching salary costs	(3,488,644)	53.55%	(3,173,568)	51.76%
Other education costs	(1,289,759)	19.80%	(1,249,364)	20.38%
Premises costs	(714,448)	10.97%	(724,614)	11.82%
Administration costs	(647,026)	9.93%	(634,700)	10.35%
Catering costs	(289,458)	4.44%	(268,856)	4.38%
Other costs	(85,004)	1.30%	(80,697)	1.32%
Total	<u>(6,514,339)</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>(6,131,799)</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	<u>(265,974)</u>	<u>-4.26%</u>	<u>(24,134)</u>	<u>-0.40%</u>

SUMMARY COLLEGE BALANCE SHEET

	2016	2015
	£	£
Fixed Assets	7,016,353	6,486,273
Current Assets	1,326,930	1,610,749
Current Liabilities	<u>(1,103,931)</u>	<u>(1,116,376)</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities	<u>7,239,352</u>	<u>6,980,646</u>
Financed by:		
Creditors due after more than one year	27,348	32,264
Deferred grant income	4,616,054	4,232,161
Capital and reserves	<u>2,595,950</u>	<u>2,716,221</u>
	<u>7,239,352</u>	<u>6,980,646</u>

2015-16 Expenditure

- Teaching salary costs
- Other education costs
- Premises costs
- Administration costs
- Catering costs
- Other costs



2014-15 Expenditure

- Teaching salary costs
- Other education costs
- Premises costs
- Administration costs
- Catering costs
- Other costs

