



St. Nathy's College
Established 1810

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Introduction

St. Nathy's College, is a voluntary Catholic secondary school located in Ballaghaderreen, Co. Roscommon. The school was established by the priests of the Diocese of Achonry in 1810. The College Trustee is the Bishop of Achonry. St. Nathy's College is today a co-educational secondary school catering for post-primary school age students, accommodating students with additional needs integrated in mainstream classes. As a Catholic voluntary secondary school, it caters for students from a wide range of cultural and faith backgrounds. In March 2022, St. Nathy's College was included by the Department of Education in the expansion of the DEIS (Delivering Equality of opportunity in Schools) scheme effective from 1 September 2022.

A brief history of St. Nathy's College

St. Nathy's College evolved from the Old Classical School located in the town of Ballaghaderreen, during the early 1800s and later located at Edmondstown House (the former residence of the Bishop of Achonry). This soon became inadequate for the growing student numbers. As a result, the Bishop purchased the Ballaghaderreen Military Barracks from the War Office and the College transferred from Edmondstown House to these new premises in January 1896.

When Patrick Morrisroe became Bishop of Achonry in 1911, he made it a priority to provide more facilities for the College. At the priests' diocesan retreat held in 1913, Dean Edward H. Connington proposed that all the priests of the diocese would pledge money for a new building. This motion was adopted and it was later agreed that each priest of the diocese, prior to being offered a position in the diocese, would pledge money to offset the debt on the proposed new building.

The new building was designed by the Dublin architect, W. H. Byrne, Dublin and completed in 1916. In September 1916, St. Nathy's College opened its new doors to 105 students, 70 of whom were boarders. As student numbers grew a new extension was added in 1941, this complex is the current Block A. The College Chapel was added in the early 1960s. Over the following four decades several extensions were added, known simply as Blocks B and C, to provide for an ever increasing student body. Excellent sports facilities have also been developed over these years.

The most significant expansion occurred in 1995 when St Nathy's amalgamated with two other schools in the town, St Joseph's Secondary School, under the stewardship of the Mercy Sisters, and the Vocational School. The College continued to maintain its name and status as a Catholic voluntary secondary school under the trusteeship of the Bishop of Achonry. Today it has an enrolment of 688 students, providing nineteen subjects at Senior Cycle.

St Nathy's College Mission Statement

St. Nathy's College was established by the Diocese of Achonry to act as a centre of learning.

We strive to cultivate learning within a Christian environment which provides for the personal, physical, intellectual, moral and faith development of each student.

All of our school endeavours and activities are towards these objectives.

School Motto

The school motto is '*Robur Nathaei*' (strength of Nathy). We strive to live this motto on a daily basis by encouraging everyone in the College to love God, love each other and love learning.

St. Nathy's College as a Catholic voluntary secondary school is committed to:

- partnership with parents and the wider community
- providing students of all abilities with a secure, caring, and stimulating environment where personal integrity and learning can be achieved
- all students are encouraged to develop their talent and character and thus contribute positively to their home, school, parish, and society
- the values of inclusion and diversity and welcomes all students