

# Incoming 1st Year Information evening April 11th 2024

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ST. JOHN BOSCO COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

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# Agenda

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**Welcome – Denis O Rourke (Principal)**

**Preparing For The Transition**

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**1st Year Induction & Supporting Your Child From  
The Start – Deirdre Convey (Deputy Principal)**

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**School Book Scheme – Martin Moloney (School  
Books Coordinator)**

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**Technology & Subject Choice – Denis O Rourke**

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**First Year Screening/AEN – Fiona Mann &  
Christopher Keniry**

# Preparing for the transition from primary to secondary

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DENIS O ROURKE

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# 1st Year Students 2024/2025

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- Total of 50 students.
- $\frac{3}{4}$  of these students do not have siblings in the school.

# School Uniform (List will Issue)

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- **Family Store Kilrush**

- Teal Jumper

- White Shirt

- Navy Trousers/Skirt

- Red striped Tie

- Black leather shoes

- School Crested Jacket

- PE Gear

- White T Shirt

- Black Tracksuit Pants

- Trainers

# Optional Extras

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- School Half Zip
- PE/Training Top (New)



# School Bag

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Strong bag

Wheelie version has advantages





# General expenses

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€120 for all new 1st year students

€50 paid already

€70 due before start of school year in August

The above covers the following:

- Entrance Examinations
- Bonding Trip to Derg Isle
- School 24hour/7days per week/365 days per year insurance
- Locker Rental
- Contribution towards cost of buses used for school trips



# School Transport

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School Transport Portal is open on-line – Bus Éireann Website.

- Closing date is **24th of April**
- €75 per student
- Maximum of €125 per family

Kilmaley Private Bus

- **Expression of interest will issue at a later date**

# Subjects

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# Supporting Your Child From The Start

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DEIRDRE CONVEY

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Entrusting your child to us:

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A Humbling responsibility

A safe and a secure  
environment.

# The Importance of the 1<sup>st</sup> day in Secondary School.

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**1<sup>st</sup> years - only year group in the school**

**Meet their Year Head & Tutor**

**Meet some of their teachers**

**Meet the school chaplain**

# On the 1<sup>st</sup> day.....

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**School Journal**

**Timetable**

**Lockers**

**School shop**

**Encourage involvement in extra-curricular activities**

**Lunchtime club**

**Breakfast club**

**Homework Club**

**Music**

**Photographs (VS Ware)**



On Day 2.....

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**Normal Classes**

**Google for Education**

On Day 3.....

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## **Bonding Trip – Derg Isle**

# Derg Isle – Bonding Day



# Derg Isle- Bonding Day



# Derg Isle Bonding Day



# Supporting Your Child From The Start

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# Challenges

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**Now the Youngest group in the school**

**New subjects**

**New Teachers**

**New rules**

**Homework**

# Students

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**Have a loyalty to your own year group**

**Establish a Routine**

**Use the school journal effectively**

# Parents

**Monitor the school Journal**

**Ask Questions**

**Communication**



Helping to make the transition from  
Primary to Secondary as easy as possible-

- \* Mentoring System**
- \* Year Head & Tutor**
- \* Student Support Team**

# Working together at St. John Bosco Community college

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Parents- Student- School

With the guidance of parents and teachers working together  
the students will grow and flourish

“...And each agreed they would have failed, if they had worked  
alone, for behind the parent stood the school and behind the  
teacher, the home.”

# Communication

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## Student Journal

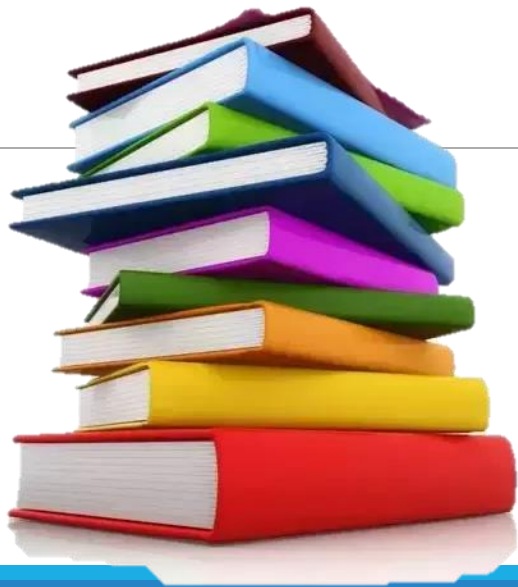
- What to do at the start
- What to check on a weekly basis
- Teacher notes
- Parent notes
- Absence notes

# School Book scheme

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MARTIN MOLONEY

# JUNIOR CYCLE BOOK SCHEME



# What is it?

The Government now extended the Free Books Scheme to Junior Cycle students (initially introduced in Primary School)

This means that there will be NO CHARGE to parents for the provision of School Books in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Year.

The Scheme will cover class materials (copies, diaries, calculator, Set Squares, etc).

Previously, the charge was €180 per student, and this did NOT include materials, so there is a huge saving to parents.

# Important Points

*School Books remain the property of the School and must be returned at end of Third Year.*

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*Lost or Badly damaged books must be paid for. There is a charge of €20 per book in such cases.*

*A full set of copies and class materials needed for the School Year will be provided ONCE per year.*

*Anything that is lost must be replaced by the student themselves.*

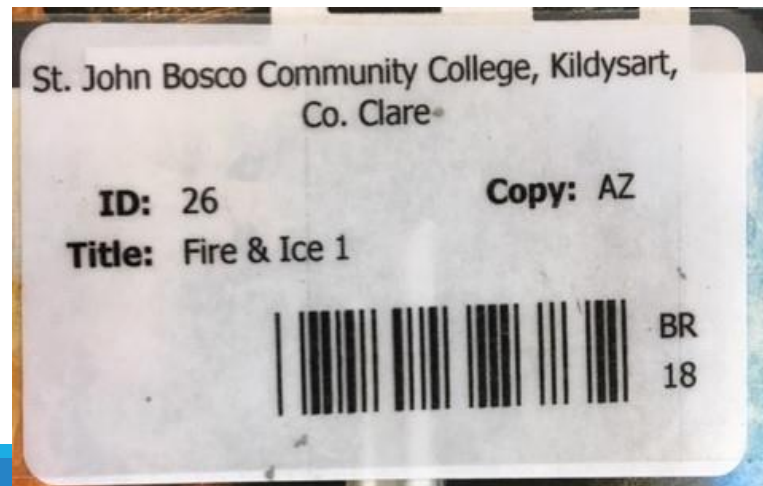
*This also applies if all the provided copies have been used up.*

*Students and Parents sign a contract agreeing to these terms.*

# Barcoding of Books and Payment

Since 2016 we have used a Barcoding System on all textbooks provided.

Each book has its own unique barcode label, which logs the details of the condition of the book when it was rented and the student who received it.





# Collection of Books

Books and Materials will be given to students on their first day in school in late August.

Book Contract will be provided at that point also and must be signed and returned to School.



# Technology

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DENIS O ROURKE

# G Suite for Education

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## Technology in Education

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## Mobile Phones

Essential means of communication

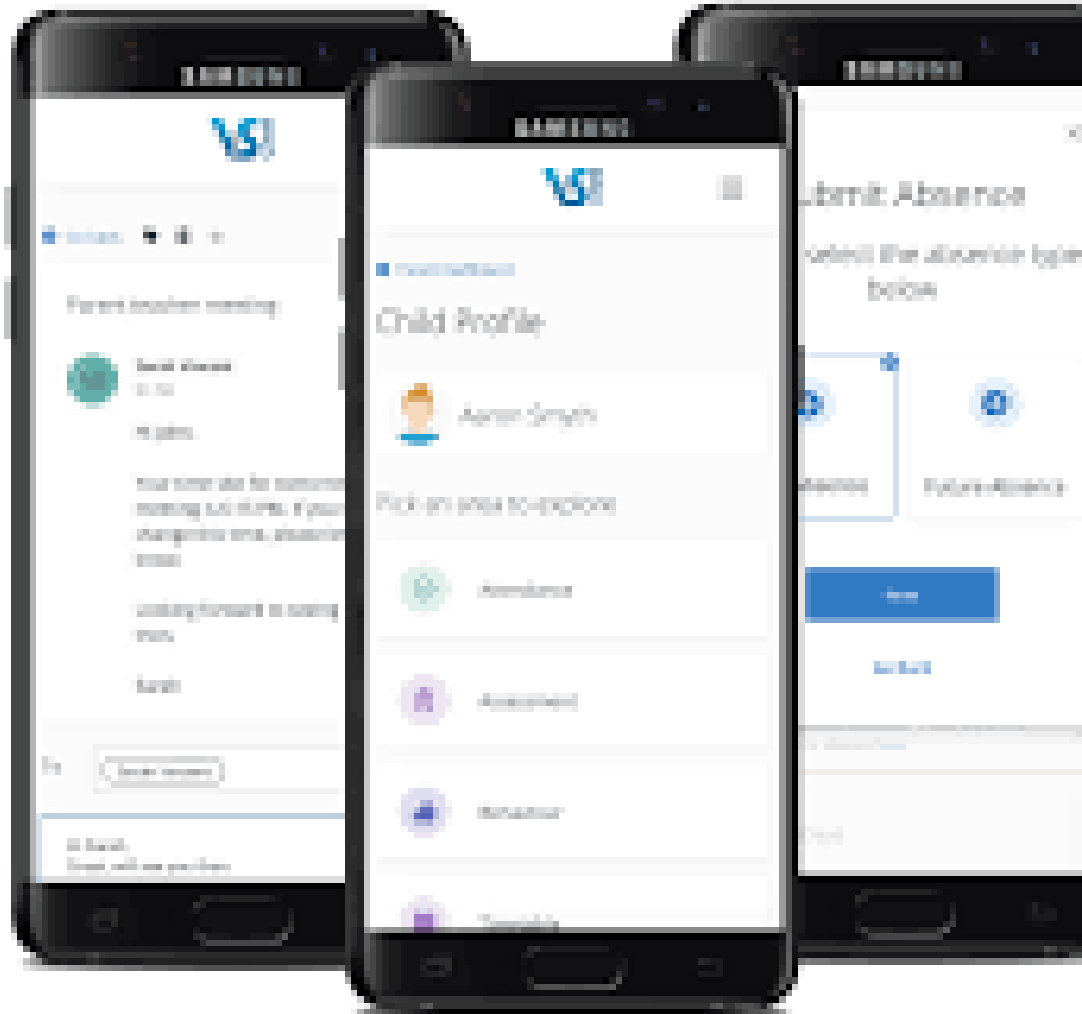
The perfect platform for bullying & distraction

Knowing the apps your child has on their device.

# Mobile Phone Use

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- Mobile phones on silence/off in student locker.
- No Mobile Phone in bedrooms.



# VSWARE for Parents

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# VSWARE

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- VSWARE – School Administration App
  - [WWW.kildysartcc.vsware.ie](http://WWW.kildysartcc.vsware.ie) - Desktop
  - IOS or Android App Store – search VSWARE and use school name.
- Parent Access
  - User Name via SMS
  - Set up password
  - Access to – Attendance – Term Reports – Timetables – SUBJECT OPTIONS



# Accessing VSWARE

Send	School will send link via SMS
Download	Download the VSWARE App to your phone
Send	School will send you your personalised :USER NAME
Set	Parent will set their own password.
Locate	Locate Options tab

# Entering Subjects For Your Child

School will send a link to a demo video which shows you how to input the required information.

**V-WARE** Dashboard Your Children Tip: You can activate Magnify by hovering

[Go Back](#)

## Student Options

Sally Student

Please enter your child's top 5 preferences ensuring that a language subject is chosen as your number 1.  
On the table(s) below choose subjects in order of the highest priority of preference (1,2, etc).

### Subject Set 1

Closing Date: 01/02/2020

Preference	Subject Choice
1	BIOLOGY ▼
2	Choose Subject ▼
3	Choose Subject ▼
4	Choose Subject ▼

✔ Your preferences have been saved

[Confirm](#)

# Subject Options

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- Geography
- Business
- Junior Engineering
- Art
- Wood Technology
- Home Economics

## Modern Foreign Language

- French or German – Decided after language taster in September

## Blocks

Blocks			
Opt Block 1	1 MetW 1.1 (22)	1 HmEc 1.2 (22)	1 MatT 1.3 (8)
Opt Block 2	1 Bus 2.1 (20)	1 Art 2.2 (8)	1 MatT 2.3 (24)

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# Additional Educational Needs Presentation

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AEN CO-ORDINATION TEAM  
MR CHRIS KENIRY & FIONA MANN

# Introduction

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Professionally qualified and dedicated staff. Our core team consists of 2 qualified teachers in Additional Educational Needs.

5 qualified fulltime teaching assistants.



# Aims

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To leave school with the necessary life skills to live independent, happy and fulfilled lives.

Encourage greater involvement of parents of A.E.N. children in their education.

“If you give me a fish you feed for a day, if you teach me how to fish, you feed me for life.”

We take a Whole School Approach to enhance the learning of each child in the classroom.



# Screening

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- 1<sup>st</sup> Year Screening – takes place on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2024.
- Attendance at this screening is essential so that we can identify student's needs and strengths, and begin to plan accordingly. Results will be issued to all parents, before the end of this academic year.
- CAT4 – Cognitive Abilities test is a suite of tests that assesses student's reasoning abilities in key areas that support educational development and attainment.
- Tests are Verbal reasoning, numerical reasoning, non verbal reasoning and spatial awareness .
- These tests can then be used to identify areas of need, in which a student requires more screening and to also identify students with exceptional/gifted abilities.



# Screening

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P-PAD E – Post Primary Assessment Diagnosis for English .

This test is then re-administered towards the end of first year to test the effectiveness of interventions that are in place.

This is a test which uses Irish norms and which assesses reading ability, comprehension ability, spelling ability , reading fluency ability and writing ability.

These tests can identify students which require more support for literacy and those who are exceptionally able in these areas.

# Screening

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PTM Maths-

Screening test in April 2024

This is a test which assesses students ability in two mathematical areas, their content knowledge and their understanding and application of the mathematical process.

This is a test dedicated to forming an accurate baseline at the beginning of secondary school, to identify students who need additional support in the area of numeracy, as well as those who are exceptionally able.

# Benefits for the Pupil/School on Screening & Differentiation

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- Supports inclusion
- Provides differentiated learning experiences .
- Allows for great variety of teacher skills & expertise.
- Promotes positive relationships between student and teacher.
- Allows for modelling of positive behaviour in the classroom.
- Promotes the well being of the student .

# Additional Information Required

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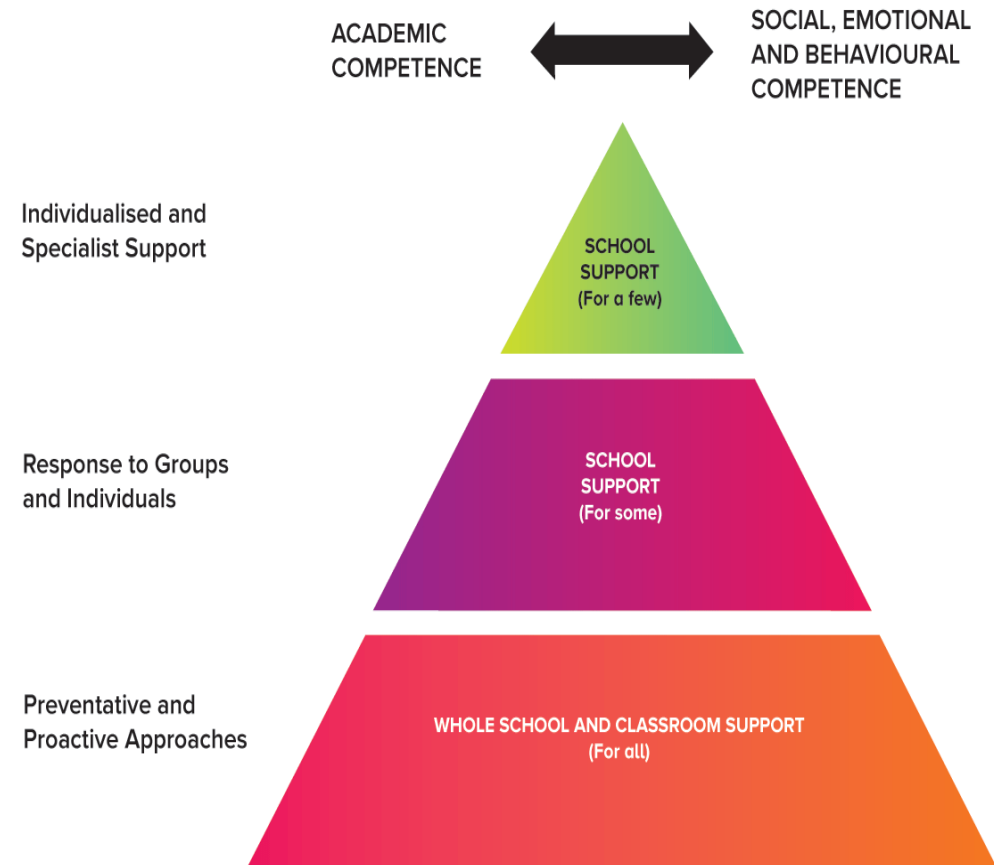
- The screening tests that we undertake, give us an academic baseline which will allow us to identify the types of support that our new students may require.
- The student passport is also used to gain insight into the individual students learning style.
- In the event that a student has an exemption from Irish, all paperwork including the certificate of exemption must be made available to the school before the exemption is activated.

# Additional Education Needs Allocations

We offer various models of teaching support for pupils with A.E.N.

Circular No: 0014/2017-Special Education Teaching Allocation.

Our model of additional education teaching provision is based on the continuum of support.



# Support for few

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Support for Few: To address behavioural, social, learning and emotional needs. This can be done on an individual, paired or group basis depending on the level of need.

Autism Class which supports students who are neuro divergent to address their areas of priority learning needs.

In 2023-2024 , resource teaching support in intensive literacy programme , behaviour management programme , social & emotional learning , speech & language skills , social & communication skills, life skills , physical and sensory skills , and accessing the curriculum and the ASDAN programme.

# Additional Educational Needs Allocations

## SUPPORT FOR SOME

Learning Support: To address learning difficulties in areas of literacy and numeracy and accessing the curriculum. This is achieved on a group basis.

Junior Cycle level 2 programmes: covering Communication & Literacy, Numeracy, Personal Care, Living in a Community and Preparing for Work.



Level 2 Learning  
Programmes  
Guidelines for Teachers

# Additional Education Needs Allocations

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## SUPPORT FOR ALL

Differentiation : Subject differentiation approach employed by subject teachers to support those with literacy , numeracy , social skills, and behaviour needs and to meet the needs of students who are exceptionally able.

Co-Teaching - To provide in class support for all students but with particular emphasis on those with A.E.N. & exceptionally able. This is to help all students access the curriculum in an inclusive manner.

Additional Classes: In English and Maths in order to access the curriculum and to encourage students to achieve their maximum potential.

Teaching Assistants: Provide support for specific students depending on their needs based on behavioural, social and caring needs.

Co-Ordination: The administration is managed by two of our team with special responsibilities for this area.



# Other supports for new students

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Organisational support is available to all 1<sup>st</sup> year students to help them cope with the transition to secondary school, lockers, timetables, school journals etc.

Accelerated Reader programme is available to all our first year students this allows to teacher to accurately measure the reading ages of students and ensure they are provided with reading material that is suitable, accessible and level appropriate for them.

DEAR (Drop everything and Read) is a timetabled class where all our first year students spend at least 40 minutes immersed in reading and improving their skills.

Extra Maths classes are available in first year to students who are struggling with the new curriculum.

# Motto

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“If a child can’t learn the way we teach,  
then we should teach the way they  
learn.

-Ignacio Estrada-

# Meeting

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- If your child has additional education needs or if you have any concerns, please speak with us after the presentation.
- Chris Keniry & Fiona Mann are available to meet with you .
- Contact the school office, if you wish to speak to Chris Keniry & Fiona Mann to organise a meeting, where we can begin the 'student support file' process for your child.
- Thank you for your time.

A close-up photograph of a calendar grid. A red marker is positioned over the number 24. The numbers 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, and 31 are visible on the grid. A dark grey semi-transparent box is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing white text.

Start  
Date????

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FRIDAY 23RD AUGUST

2024



# Conclusion

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QUESTIONS & ANSWERS