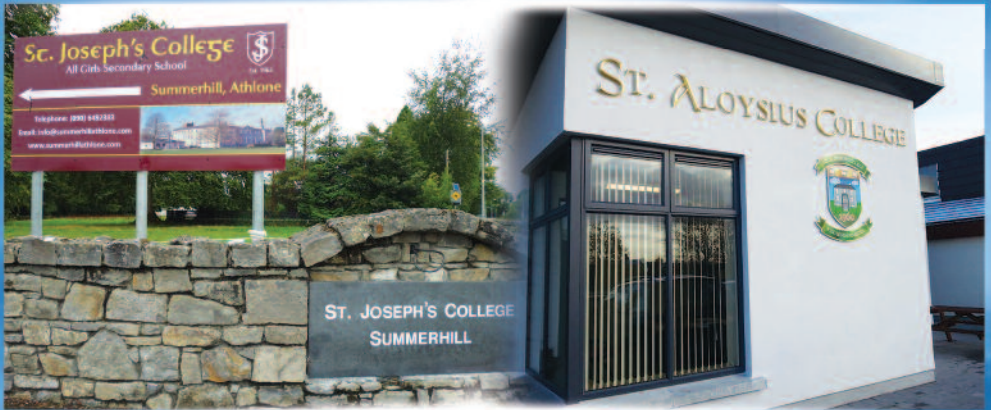




EXCITING NEW DEVELOPMENT FOR SECOND LEVEL EDUCATION IN ATHLONE



After research and consultation at local level, the Diocese of Elphin has begun to plan for an exciting new development for Second Level Education in the West Athlone area.



A new second level co-educational school by September 2017

Catering initially for 500 students with the hope of expanding to 800 over a five year period.

The project will involve:

- The coming together of the existing secondary schools - St Joseph's College, and St Aloysius College
- The preservation and promotion of the distinctive history and tradition of both St Aloysius College and St Joseph's College
- The establishment of the only Catholic voluntary secondary school in Athlone for both boys and girls
- New school name with new management structures
- The development of state of the art facilities on the existing Summerhill site to cater for an increased demand
- The provision of a wide range of subjects, programmes and educational opportunities
- Enhanced extracurricular activities

Students currently enrolled in St Aloysius and St Joseph's College

- From 2015 until September 2017 both schools will continue under separate management
- Continued quality education is assured
- Current subject choices will be maintained and improved
- Schools will begin in a planned and ordered way to co-operate more closely to enhance the educational opportunities of students

Appointment of a project management committee

- The appointment of a project management committee by October 2015 to guarantee a seamless transition for students currently enrolled in both schools and the best of possible educational provision for future students
- This Committee will consist of the school principals, nominees from parents of students, staff, and the patron body
- This committee will dialogue with parents, staff, students and all stakeholders in order to advance the project in a timely manner
- It will oversee and plan for matters such as staffing, curriculum, subject provision, facilities, interim arrangements, uniform, timetabling, school name, books, school transport, public relations, extracurricular provision, etc.

Encouraging community support

- Support from current school communities at both primary and secondary level is essential
- Energetic local support for the planning and preparation for this new and exciting project is vital if we are to ensure that all the boys and girls of the area can benefit from the finest education standards available in the modern era
- There is need to campaign for this new school development to be provided with the very best of facilities and equipment

Appreciation and thanks

Our sincere thanks to the Boards of Management, Principals, Staff, Parents and Students of St Aloysius College and St Joseph's College for their co-operation with progressing this exciting new project.

For further information please e-mail: education@elphindiocese.ie