

SLIGO GRAMMAR SCHOOL

**Information for
prospective
International students**



General Information

DESCRIPTION OF SCHOOL:	Co-educational fee paying, boarding and day secondary school
LOCATION:	The Mall, Rathquarter, Sligo
SIZE:	Boys: 259 Girls: 188 (2015/16)
PRINCIPAL:	Mr Michael David Hall
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EMAIL:	admin@sligogrammarschool.org
WEBSITE:	http://www.sligogrammarschool.org/
AVERAGE CLASS SIZE:	20

School History

Sligo Grammar School has existed in various forms for over 400 years, its constitutions reflecting the changing outlook and needs of society. The present school incorporates part of the Charter School which was set up in 1752 under the Royal Charter. This school closed in 1843.

In 1947 Sligo Grammar School, which was an all-boys school, was merged with Sligo High School, an all-girls school which was founded by Dean Ardill in 1911. The premises of the High School (now Markievicz House) were closed and the residence known as the "Hermitage", adjoining the Grammar School, was purchased from the Campbell family to house the girl boarders.

The New Teaching Block was added in 1972. In August 1976, the school was leased by the Incorporated Society to Sligo Grammar School Limited, which runs the school through a local Protestant board. "The Hermitage" was destroyed by fire in November 1976 and was replaced by a new residence in September 1978.

Additional buildings were added incrementally but the major development took place in 2012 when an investment of approx €3.5 million was made. The whole school was renovated with in addition a new extension and an astro-turf pitch and a fully re-laid Rugby pitch.

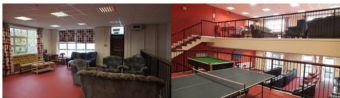
Boarding Facilities

Boys Boarding:

The Boys' Boarding House is situated in a beautiful old building which is part of the old Grammar School and adjoins the 1752 night duty House. The Boys place was refurbished over the last few years and alterations are currently still taking place. The refurbishment included a renovation of dorms, a new shower room, a new TV room and a glass corridor to their Prep room (Calry Hall). The new TV/Recreation room now hosts 2 pool tables and a table-tennis table. There are also 10 leather sofas and a new plasma TV, which has proven very popular.

The boys common room is commonly known as the red room. They can do many things in the common room including play pool, watch TV, play table tennis or make some snacks. A lot of the the boy boarders would use the red room for a lot of their free time. Sixth years also have their own common room and kitchen.

The canteen is located next to the boys house. This is where all meals are served. There are three meals a day- breakfast, lunch and tea.



Girls Boarding

The Housemistress looks after the smooth running of the Hermitage and the welfare of the boarder girls. She deals with any problems that may arise and tries to keep everybody happy. Many members of the teaching staff are involved in supervising the house on a rota basis. A team of live in staff look after the girls at night.

The staff on duty are assisted by a very cheerful and able group of House Prefects who help co-ordinate getting boarders to the right place on time. They play a very valuable role in the dorms where they keep an eye on the younger girls and "TLC" (tender, loving care!) is available if the need arises.

There are four dorms which are arranged by year groups and split up into cubicles. Two year groups usually share and each dorm has an assigned prefect with their own cubicle.

rep (or study) takes place every evening from 6.30 to 9.30 with a 20 minute break. First to Fifth year are in the main study hall with assigned seats and sixth years are provided with their own study cubicles.



International Students

Sligo Grammar School exists to provide an education for the Protestant population of the North West, but, having said that we are liberal and egalitarian in our outlook. In recent years the school has been a home-away-from home for international students. The school is a popular choice with students seeking to improve their English in a pleasant and relaxed part of the world, far away from the stresses of city life.

Currently the school has students from Spain, Germany, South America, Belgium and Russia.

Our Boarding Department offers the opportunity for both Irish and international students to enjoy what Sligo Grammar School offers and to benefit from it. See our Boarding pages via the links below;

- <http://www.sligogrammarschool.org/boarding/girls-boarding/>
and
- <http://www.sligogrammarschool.org/boarding/boys-boarding/>

Students usually join the school at First Year but many also become students for Transition Year and Fifth Year.

If you would like an application form, please contact the school at admin@sligogrammarschool.org



Curriculum

Sligo Grammar School aims to offer a wide range of subjects both at Junior and Leaving Certificate levels. We also offer TEFL to a high standard to all our International students and prepare those who are interested in the Cambridge Examinations.

All Junior and Leaving Cert examination subjects are offered at both higher and ordinary level and students are encouraged to aim for higher level if at all possible. We have an excellent record in this regard, for example of all papers sat in 2015 alone, 81% were taken at higher level and almost 30% of students achieved 500 points and higher.

Examination subjects offered at Junior Cert include:

- o English
- o Irish
- o Maths
- o History
- o Geography
- o French
- o Spanish
- o German
- o Science
- o Art
- o Woodwork
- o Technical Graphics
- o CSPE
- o Music
- o Business
- o Home Economics

Other non-exam subjects include

- o Religious Education
- o PE
- o SPHE

At Leaving Certificate Level, as well as offering non-exam subjects such as PE, Religious Education and Careers, Sligo Grammar School offers the following subjects:

- o English
- o Irish
- o Maths
- o History
- o Geography
- o Biology
- o Chemistry
- o Physics
- o Agricultural Science
- o Home Economics(Social and Scientific)
- o Art (and Craftwork)
- o Music
- o Design and Computer Graphics
- o Applied Maths
- o Spanish
- o French
- o German
- o Business
- o Accountancy
- o Construction Studies
- o LCVP



CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

• **Choir**

The Choir of Sligo Grammar School has been an important feature of school life for many years. This year it has been particularly busy, singing for the School Prize Day and Carol Service, as usual, but also enjoying other outings. In January it performed on radio – the Ocean FM Francie Boylan Show which can be heard on our School facebook page. The Special Service of Remembrance in November also saw our choir perform in Calry Church.

• **Drama**

Sligo Grammar School has been producing school shows for many years. Until 2009 the school produced full length plays in the main. However for the last number of years we have been producing musicals. This is an opportunity for 4th and 5th year students to take to the boards and one not to be missed.

• **Music**

Sligo Grammar School boasts an array of musical opportunities at both Junior and Leaving Certificate level, with around 100 students at present studying classroom music which focuses on the three main areas of listening, composing and performing. TY students also benefit from a short module on the history of popular music as well as an elective of musical performance where students perform with a chosen instrument. Music Technology has also been introduced in recent years.

In addition the school offers private lessons in Voice, Piano, Guitar, Violin, and Saxophone throughout and after the school day. No previous musical experience is necessary.

