



OMAGH HIGH SCHOOL

14 Crevenagh Road - Omagh - Co. Tyrone - BT79 0EQ

Principal: - Mr C Gaitatzis M.B.A., B.Sc. (Hons.), P.G.C.E.

17 September 2026

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Following a very positive start to the academic year, I would like to update you on various school issues to request your support in contributing to our School Fund and to invite you to join our PTA / Friends of Omagh High School group who work tirelessly to raise funds for our school which directly benefit all students.

SCHOOL FUND

Omagh High School, similarly to other schools, has a School Fund which is invaluable in providing resources to enhance the educational experience of all our students. The majority of funds raised by the School Funds are through the contributions which we ask Parents / Guardians for each year, (£30 per student or £50 per family) as well as numerous other PTA / FOHS activities which occur at various stages throughout the year. Ideally, I would not need to make this appeal but as you are aware, there is a chronic underfunding in education and as a result, we have a very limited budget to run our school. It would be impossible to offer our current excellent education experiences without the contribution from the School Fund.

If you have already made his contribution, we thank you kindly for your generosity. However, we would like to appeal to those who have not yet been able to do so to consider making your contribution using the form attached or alternatively for your convenience you can now pay the funds via iPay Impact App. I would like to reiterate the importance of every single donation and the difference a collective can make to our school and students.

Over the past few years, the Friends Of Omagh High School / PTA through the School Fund have supported all subject areas of our school. Here are just a few examples below:

- Purchase of books / equipment, subscription to online learning platforms e.g. My Maths
- Supporting school trips and subsidised costs on multiple occasions.
- Purchase and Maintenance of the school minibus, vital for local school trips and sports fixtures.
- Purchase of vital new computers for two ICT rooms.
- During the last academic year 2025-26, the School Fund has made a massive contribution of over £7000 to various departments.

JOIN THE PTA / FRIENDS OF OMAGH HIGH

My second appeal is for volunteers to actively participate in the Friends of Omagh High School / PTA meetings and support the work of the existing team of parents. You have possibly noticed members of this group providing refreshments during school events or organising fund raising events such as the school discos. Their contribution to the school is immense and we always value their opinion on variety issues.

Please complete the attached reply slip to indicate receipt of this letter and to raise any questions you may have at this time. We would also be delighted if you would be willing to dedicate some of your time to joining and assisting with our existing PTA group.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

It is important to remind you that our school uniform is a representation of our school in the wider community and therefore it is essential that full school uniform is worn at all times. Our uniform is

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designed to be neat, functional and relatively inexpensive. A school hat / beanie is also now available for purchase at a cost of £10. No other hats / beanie is permitted. As we approach autumn, parents are reminded that only plain black outdoor coats can be worn and a grey jumper is available for the colder months. No hoodies are permitted. No trainers are permitted, only flat plain black leather shoes should be worn. A list of the correct school uniform is found in the school diary and the school prospectus on our website. I urge you to support our uniform policy. All uniforms items must be clearly labelled with the pupil's name. May I remind you that during the months of November to April black tights should be worn rather than white socks.

IMPORTANT SCHOOL DATES AND ATTENDANCE

Please visit regularly the school website and note down the important dates that are relevant to you, in particular the dates for the parents' meetings. Full attendance by students is crucial during tracking point weeks. Please note that Tracking Point 2 (Christmas Exams) takes place from Wednesday 9 December 2026 – Friday 18 December 2026 (end of term). Full attendance is expected. It is important to attend the open events mentioned on the school calendar, thus supporting your child and school community.

There is, all too often, a direct correlation between poor attendance and underachievement at school. Excessive absences which extend the weekend or the holidays are noted and often provided in references to potential employers in due course. It is important to instil into young people that attendance at school is important to a student's future employment prospects. Students should attend unless they are sick or on an authorised absence. Details of the reporting of absences can be in the homework diary. Detachable slips contained within the school diary should be used to explain absences. Punctuality to school in the morning and to classes is taken very seriously in Omagh High School. Student's must be in school by 8.55am at the latest and in Registration by 9.00am. Students who arrive late for school i.e. after 9.00am will automatically receive a lunchtime detention that day. Please note that missing the bus, sleeping in or being delayed by traffic are not acceptable excuses for lateness.

SIMS PARENT APP AND IPAY IMPACT CASHLESS PAYMENTS

The Parent App is now on the fifth year and it has given you the opportunity to look at the daily absence reports, achievements and behaviour analysis, tracking point reports, summer reports and receiving important files and messages from school. If you are experiencing issues accessing the App, please contact Ms Smith at school to make the necessary arrangements to activate your Parent App account.

The school now has an online parent pay system, iPay Impact App. Parents are encouraged to use this system to add money to their child's account, to pay school funds, trips etc.

START AND END OF THE DAY ARRANGEMENTS

The Crevenagh Road is a very busy thoroughfare and there is always concern for student's crossing the road. A toucan crossing is situated at the front of the school and this should be used at all times when crossing the road. Parents are asked to discuss road safety practice with their children and this message will be reinforced in school assemblies. All parents are asked to use the car park facility opposite the school to drop off and pick up their children. For safety reasons vehicles must not stop at the front of the school.

DATE COLLECTION INFORMATION

Please inform the school of changes to any of the following since your child enrolled in Omagh High School.

Medical Records

It is important that student's medical records are accurate. Some pupils may have experienced changes to their health of which the school are unaware. If your child has any additional needs

which have not been previously drawn to the attention of the school, then please contact the school office as soon as possible to update your child's records.

Nut Allergies

A number of pupils in school have mild to severe nut allergies, therefore, pupils should not bring any products containing nuts to school.

Inhalers

Pupils who use inhalers for asthma should ensure that a spare inhaler is left in the school office for emergencies.

EpiPens

Pupils who have prescribed EpiPens should leave a spare EpiPen in the school office for emergencies.

Regular Medication

If your child requires regular medication during the school day, then please contact the school office to make arrangements and to complete the necessary consent forms.

Medical / Dental Appointments

Appointments should be made outside of school hours when at all possible.

Should you have any queries regarding your child's medical provision within the school, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'C. Gaitatzis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

C. Gaitatzis
Principal