

## Jes Ignatian Identity Group

The distinguishing feature of the 'Jes' is our way of caring for every student as she or he grows to adulthood.

Our identity as a school is rooted in the Jesuit/Ignatian tradition. In 2002 the Provincial announced that Jesuits will not be able to guarantee their presence in the schools in the future. The school community is addressing the challenge of maintaining and developing our Jesuit identity through the Ignatian Identity Group (IIG). The group is made up of parents, teachers, students, Jesuits and others who are interested in working to maintain this identity. We organise Vision Evenings four times a year and help to coordinate a retreat for parents and teachers. We keep up to date with current thinking in Jesuit education, and we work closely with the school management, staff, parents' council and board.

The IIG works to equip each student for a life of active contribution in our changing society. We welcome all members of the school community to work with us.

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**"Education is not just about exam results, important as they are. What really counts most of all is the kind of person you have become."**

**A Jes Leaving Cert student**

Further information on the Characteristics of Jesuit Education can be found at:

[http://www.sjweb.info/documents/education/characteristics\\_en.doc](http://www.sjweb.info/documents/education/characteristics_en.doc)



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## Coláiste Iognáid



### The Characteristics of Jesuit Education



Jes  
Ignatian Identity  
Group

**To seek to preserve, foster  
and develop the Ignatian  
identity of the school  
community.**



# The Characteristics of Jesuit Education

**Jesuit Education** is concerned with the whole person. The glory of God is seen in the student becoming fully alive in academic, social, emotional and spiritual dimensions. 'The Characteristics of Jesuit Education' was published in 1987 as the charter for Jesuit schools. Composed by an international commission, they are based on the life and writings of the Jesuit founder St Ignatius Loyola (1491-1556), on the



**The President, Mary McAleese, addresses the student body.**

history of Jesuit education since the first school was founded in Sicily, in 1548, and on best contemporary practice.

1. *Jesuit Education is **world-affirming**, assisting in the total formation of each individual within the human community. It includes a religious dimension that permeates the entire education, promoting dialogue between faith and culture.*

2. *Jesuit Education insists on **individual care and concern for each person**, emphasising activity on the part of the student and encouraging life-long learning and openness to growth.*

3. *Jesuit Education is **value-orientated**, encouraging a realistic knowledge, love and acceptance of self and providing a knowledge of the world in which we live.*

4. *Jesuit Education proposes **Jesus as the model of human life**. It provides pastoral care, celebrating faith in personal and community prayer, worship and service.*

5. *Jesuit Education is preparation for active life commitment, serving the faith that does justice. It seeks to form "men and women for and with others", manifesting a particular **concern for the poor**.*

6. *Jesuit Education prepares students for active participation in the church and the local community, for the **service of others**.*



**The Rugby Team**



**The school show, 2008**

7. *Jesuit Education pursues **excellence**, developing the gifts of the Individual to their fullest.*

8. *Jesuit Education stresses lay-Jesuit partnership relying on the **spirit of community** among teaching staff and administrators, the Jesuit community, governing boards, parents, former students and benefactors.*

9. *Jesuit Education is a system of schools with a **common vision and common goals**, and assists in providing the professional training and ongoing formation that is needed, especially for teachers.*



**Teacher—student debate, 2008**