

Scoil Ruáin

Killenaule, Co, Tipperary

P R O S P E C T U S



AD TOTAM PERSONAM – Education of the whole person





Mission Statement

"Scoil Ruáin will provide a quality education in a caring, respectful and nurturing environment. We will encourage the development of the complete person in keeping with our school motto "Ad Totam Personam".

The characteristic spirit of Scoil Ruáin is reflected in the caring and nurturing work environment that exists in the school community and which allows students and staff to work together in an atmosphere of mutual respect.



Ethos

Scoil Ruáin is a co-educational school, which operates under the Trusteeship of Tipperary Education and Training Board (ETB). The school is managed by a Board of Management, is funded by the Department of Education and Skills and operates within the regulations and guidelines set down by that Department.

Scoil Ruáin has an active Parents' Association and Student Council. The school actively supports and respects the principles of inclusiveness, equality and diversity. Scoil Ruáin enjoys a good reputation in the community and the people of the area are very supportive of, and loyal to, the school.

A Message from the Principal and Deputy Principal

As Principal & Deputy Principal of Scoil Ruáin, we would like to thank you for taking the time to look at our Prospectus. Through its academic, co-curricular and extra-curricular programmes, Scoil Ruáin endeavours to fulfil the promise encapsulated in our school motto, ***“Ad Totam Personam”*** – education of the whole person. We are very proud of our success in encouraging our students to reach their full potential in the classroom, on the field of play, and in any other arena they compete in. Our dedicated teachers are the mainstay of Scoil Ruáin. Their professional approach and commitment to teaching & learning ensures that all of our students receive a holistic education during their time here and achieve to the best of their ability. Our students are at the centre of all we do in Scoil Ruáin and our pastoral care programme has at its heart the academic, social and personal wellbeing of each student. In essence, we believe that a happy school is a successful school.



Siobhan Landers
Deputy Principal

We would like to thank all of the parents for their continued support for the work we do in Scoil Ruáin and we always encourage the parents of our students to play an active role in the education of their sons and daughters together with the school. We especially thank the Parents' Association for their involvement in the life of the school; it makes all the difference. This prospectus shows the full range of activities in our school and will help you as prospective students and parents see how Scoil Ruáin can be the right partner in the work of helping students to develop their intellectual, personal, social, sporting and artistic abilities in future years.



James Williams
Principal

We would like to pay tribute to our team of teachers for producing this prospectus. We trust that you will enjoy reading about Scoil Ruáin and should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us at the school.

Siobhan Landers, Deputy Principal

James Williams, Principal



The Curriculum

Scoil Ruáin strives for high academic attainment at all times. All of our teachers work to ensure that all students reach their full potential. An extensive range of subjects, encompassing academic, scientific, artistic, practical and technological areas is available at Scoil Ruáin. All Junior and Leaving Certificate subjects are offered at both Higher and Ordinary level. As well as our broad subject range, a number of initiatives and developments are in place to ensure maximum educational support.

“ Scoil Ruáin is to be highly commended for both the range of subjects it offers in mainstream classes and also for the complete range of programs, the JCSP, TY, LCA and LCVP in its curriculum. Access to these subjects and programmes is open to all students entering the school. ”

– Whole School Evaluation Report (2009)

Junior Cycle

Junior Cert Core Subjects:

Gaeilge
English
Maths
Science
C.S.P.E.

Optional Subjects:

History
Geography
Environmental and Social Studies
Business Studies
Home Economics
Art
Technical Graphics
Materials Technology Wood
Metalwork
French
Music

Non-exam Subjects:

Physical Education
Religious Education
S.P.H.E
Computers
Wellbeing

“Getting to try our subjects before we choose, especially practical ones, has been one of the best things about coming to Scoil Ruáin.”

Meghan Eastwood



Junior Cert Schools' Programme

The Junior Certificate Schools' Programme offers numeracy and literacy initiatives along with extracurricular activities to Junior Cycle students. In previous years the groups have been involved in projects such as 'Make-A-Book', Film Making, and Writer in the Classroom. Fun days out are organised to encourage participation and to reward good work.

“ Teaching and learning of very good quality, which was well planned and engaging for students, was in evidence in the Geography and Environmental and Social Studies (ESS) lessons. ”

– Subject Inspection of Geography and Environmental and Social Studies (2014)

Senior Cycle

Leaving Certificate Core Subjects:

Gaeilge
English
Maths

Optional Subjects:

History
Geography
Biology
Chemistry
Physics
Agricultural Science
Business Studies
Home Economics
Engineering
Art
Design Communication Graphics
Construction Studies
French
Music

Non-exam Subjects:

P.E
Religious Education
Career Guidance



Leaving Certificate Applied

LCA is an alternative two-year programme with a practical approach. Participants are mainly engaged in work and study of an active, learner-centred nature, which encourages strong community links and self-directed, task-based learning. In Scoil Ruáin, LCA students engage with a range of subjects and activities, which all count towards their tasks and key assignments.



Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme

The LCVP is a Leaving Certificate with a focus on enterprise and preparation for working life. Experiences such as work placements, career investigations, mini-enterprises, business and community visits are an integral part of the programme.

Students receive the same certificate as other Leaving Certificate students, but their Leaving Certificate includes an additional statement of the results of the link modules (pass, merit or distinction). The programme gives students the same opportunity to proceed to universities and colleges as that enjoyed by the students who complete the Established Leaving Certificate.

Career Guidance

Career Guidance plays an essential role in students' lives in Scoil Ruáin. At senior level, Career Guidance is in place to ensure that all students receive the required support to make the transition from Scoil Ruáin to working life, further education or training. Navigation of the CAO, trips to centres of further education and individual meetings are central to the process.





Transition Year

Scoil Ruáin provides a vibrant, enjoyable and beneficial Transition Year Programme. Transition Year allows our students to mature, gain confidence and develop a wide range of skills, particularly in social awareness, whilst continuing to engage with school and academic life. Transition Year students in Scoil Ruáin engage with many activities and programmes, such as the annual Delphi trip, building their own School Bank, the school musical, participating in the Gaisce President's Awards, running their own tuck shop, and gaining valuable life skills through work experience.

"TY gives you a chance to take on more responsibility and learn new life skills"

Scoil Ruáin TY student

Enterprise Awards



TY students enter their business ideas into our Christmas Enterprise Market Day and external judges come in to select business to go forward to county final stages.

TY Trip to Kolkata



“

Modular courses in sport and leisure, music appreciation and soccer coaching are very valuable activities, as are the various trips and visiting speakers which have been factored into the program over the years. Activities like mini-company, trips to adventure centres, involvement in drama, car safety, dance and other activities are central to the TY programme.

”

– Whole School Evaluation Report on Transition Year (2009)

TY Science Week

In celebration of Science Week, the annual Scoil Ruáin TY Science Quiz takes place during the first term of each year. It is hugely popular with fifth and sixth classes from all the primary schools in the locality.



Transition Year 90km Cycle Against Suicide

Student Services

Pastoral Care

Scoil Ruáin endeavours to nurture positive relationships amongst the school community through its pastoral care structure, and to create an atmosphere in which students feel secure, know that they are valued and are encouraged in their learning, growth and social and spiritual development. Each year group is assigned a Year Head and Class Teachers who monitor the overall progress and welfare of the students. The teachers of Religion and SPHE, in particular, nurture the spiritual, personal and social development of each student and the Career Guidance Counsellor is always available to assist students who may need personal support. The Pastoral Care Team meets regularly to identify students having difficulty in coping with school life, to review the ongoing needs of students, and to plan future work.

Learning Support

Scoil Ruáin has a long tradition of supporting and including students with additional educational needs. Qualified and experienced learning support teachers work hard to ensure every student can access the curriculum.

Scoil Ruáin Student Mentors & Foróige's Big Brother Big Sister Mentoring Programme

Each incoming First Year student is paired with a trained Fifth Year student mentor. They meet throughout the year to ensure that the First Years are settling into their new school. The Mentor system allows new First Years to positively engage with an older student who is supportive and encouraging. As part of the Big Brother Big Sister Programme, First Year students are also paired with a Transition Year student with similar interests and hobbies.

Scoil Ruáin Student Council



The Student Council meets weekly with the aim of improving the quality of life for students in Scoil Ruáin. The Student Council takes an active role in fundraising, organising events and representing the opinions of the student body.

“ Subject planning is of very good quality across all subject areas, and it was positive to see the focus on literacy and numeracy in the subject plans. There was also evidence that teachers are following the new junior cycle subject specifications in English, Science and Business. ”

– Whole School Evaluation Report (2017)

Breakfast Club and Evening Study

Breakfast is provided free of charge to all students each morning. Evening Study is available to all first, second, third, fifth and sixth year students. First Year students avail of assisted study, with teachers on hand to encourage good practice and to help students with any difficulties. A snack is provided before study begins.



Scoil Ruáin Parents Association

The Scoil Ruáin Parents Association is an energetic organisation which does its utmost to promote and assist students, staff and management of the school. The Parents Association meets several times a year to discuss the various academic and extra-curricular activities and events that go on in school life. These meetings are attended by the Principal and Deputy Principal. The Parents Association is actively involved in fundraising for the school as well as assisting school management with various events which occur throughout the year, for example our Open Evening and 5K Run. New members are always welcome to attend meetings and get involved in this organisation, which makes Scoil Ruáin a better place for its students.

First Year Celebration Night

Each year, an evening of celebration in Scoil Ruáin marks the beginning of a new chapter in the lives of our first year students who have fitted in with ease into the school community. The school motto, 'Ad Totam Personam' frames the evening and refers to the education of the mind, the body and the spirit.



Annual School Awards

The emphasis placed on academic, co-curricular and extra-curricular achievement at Scoil Ruáin is reflected in the annual School Awards, where students' successes in these areas are celebrated. The importance of the holistic development of students is also recognised by the awarding of a School Ethos/Personal Achievement Award each year. The aims of the awards are:

- ✓ to promote excellence
- ✓ to reward and encourage talent
- ✓ to foster and reward high achievement
- ✓ to encourage students to excel academically and personally
- ✓ to acknowledge student initiative and effort
- ✓ to create a sense of pride in students
- ✓ to recognise students who are involved in significant voluntary, community and charitable activity

Scoil Ruáin Awards Day



Attendance is of central importance to school life in Scoil Ruáin. We award full attendance each month, and have a Camida-sponsored Annual attendance award.



Camida Scholarships

CAMIDA[®]

Scoil Ruáin is delighted to have formed an exciting partnership with Clonmel based company, Camida Ltd. Camida Ltd has over 20 years' experience in sourcing specialised chemicals for the pharmaceutical industry and has been very supportive of Scoil Ruáin, supporting our students in several areas, namely work experience, interview skills and pharmaceutical and business information talks. Camida Ltd has also generously agreed to sponsor our Hurling Scholarship, Attendance Awards, and Student of The Year Award as well as offering a third level Scholarship to the value of €3,000 to a Leaving Certificate student. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr David Anchell, CE of Camida Ltd. for his support



Luke Ryan, recipient of Camida Third Level Scholarship 2016



Lorraine O'Connor, recipient of Camida-sponsored Student of the Year Award 2016



Amy Maher, 2017 Student of the Year with Deirdre McGrath from Camida.



Shannon Hannigan, 2017 recipient of Camida Third Level Scholarship with Deirdre McGrath from Camida.

Shane Long Scholarship

"Winning the Shane Long Scholarship has been fantastic. It has helped me with sports as I have been given gear and equipment. Academically, I receive some extra tuition which is essential in keeping up my grades. I feel privileged to have won the scholarship."

Darragh Lynch, Shane Long Scholarship Winner.

"The scholarship allowed me to demonstrate my dedication to sport in school and has given me the opportunity to achieve."

Meibh Maher, Shane Long Scholarship Winner.



“

Students can now engage with a variety of sports in top class surrounds or exercise in the state of the art gymnasium.

– Michael Ring, TD, Minister of State for Tourism and Sport, at the opening of the Scoil Ruáin Sports Hall and Gym

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Facilities

Sports Pitches

Students have access to a full size GAA pitch as well as a large All-Weather Astro-turf pitch, which is in full use by our students up to 6pm each day and every lunch break.

Science Facilities

Scoil Ruáin has two modern Science Laboratories, and one large Science Demonstration room. All of these rooms are well stocked with the most up-to-date equipment.

Library

Our warm, welcoming and well-stocked library is a haven for our students to come and lose themselves in our large collections of books, magazines, journals and newspapers. Our librarian is on hand to assist students in choosing suitable reading material and to co-ordinate activities, such as World Book Day celebrations and Creative Writing competitions. The extensive reference section and computers with internet access provide invaluable support for students in their study, research and project work.





Facilities

IT Facilities

At Scoil Ruáin we aim to provide high standard information and technology services and support to students. Students have state of the art computing facilities, which enable the provision of a specific IT syllabus to Junior Cycle students in particular. Scoil Ruáin has access to 100MB Hi-Speed broadband connectivity and all classrooms are equipped with data projectors and PCs to facilitate the use of ICT in teaching and learning. The iPad initiative is further enhanced by the provision of Apple TV in many classrooms.

Specialist Rooms

Scoil Ruáin is equipped with up-to-date specialist rooms for the teaching of Materials Technology Wood, Materials Technology Metal, Art, Music, Home Economics, Technical Graphics, Design and Communications Graphics and Computer Studies.

Sports Hall and Gym

Scoil Ruáin has a modern, state of the art, indoor sports facility. Here, students have access to a fully equipped gym and full size basketball court where badminton, volleyball and table tennis can also be played. This facility allows students to continue to achieve their full potential in the challenging and competitive sporting world of today. It is used on a daily basis by all of our sports teams and physical education classes. The sports on offer here include basketball, indoor soccer, indoor hurling, badminton, volleyball and table tennis.



“ Great credit is due to the school for its co-curricular and extracurricular activities which contribute handsomely to the Ad Totam Personam motto of holistic student development. ”

– Whole School Evaluation Report

Co-curricular Activities

Gaeilge sa Scoil

The role of Irish is central to life in Scoil Ruáin, and is particularly celebrated by students and teachers during Seachtain na Gaeilge. Each year, two second year Scoil Ruáin students are awarded Scholarships which allow them to spend three weeks in the Gaeltacht.

Drop Everything and Read

Drop Everything and Read is an annual whole school initiative, which encourages students to read for leisure.

Book Club

The Scoil Ruáin Book Club meets fortnightly in the school library to discuss and deliberate on their chosen reads, or to debate authors, film adaptations and modern plot-lines. The school library's well-stocked collection ensures the success of the club.

Spelling Bee

The English Department in Scoil Ruáin runs a Spelling Bee League for first students each year. This is a very popular activity among students and is beneficial in improving literacy skills.

"I have great memories of a well rounded education in Scoil Ruáin, where I was supported to achieve my full potential, not only academically but socially also on the debating, public speaking and sporting fronts, by committed dedicated teachers."

*Noreen Reilly, BEd.HE, PGDEL, GDEd Mentoring
Principal, St Paul's Community College*

"The overall picture of co-curricular activity at Scoil Ruáin is vibrant, comprehensive and very supportive of students' education."

– Whole School Evaluation report



1st Year September Maths League Winners 2017

"The leagues are very enjoyable as you get to talk and solve problems with people who aren't in your class"

Student Andrea Brett

Co-curricular Activities

Maths League

A Maths League is run for 1st and 2nd year students each month. Students work in co-operative teams to solve mathematical problems in relation to their surroundings. A 'Mathematician of the Month' is also carefully chosen by the Maths Department Teachers.

Maths Week

Students also participate in Maths week, which promotes awareness and appreciation of maths through a variety of real life challenges.

Young Scientist

For the past 10 years Scoil Ruáin students have been selected to submit entries in the Young Scientist competition held in the RDS every January. This is a huge achievement for both the students and the school as only the very best and most interesting of the projects submitted nationally make it as far as the RDS.

"I always felt very supported by the teachers in Scoil Ruain. Many went far beyond what could ever be expected of them. The school offers many opportunities to try new experiences and expand your horizons."

Luke Brabazon, Recipient of the Camida Third Level Scholarship (2014) and student at Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology

French Breakfast



"Scoil Ruáin is a place where you are given many chances to explore your hobbies and interests. I played on sports teams, took part in musicals, climbed Kilimanjaro, and played music on the stage of the Helix. All of these opportunities came about as a result of being a student of Scoil Ruáin."

Seán Bermingham, class of 2014, studying for a Bachelor of Education, St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra

World Book Day

Scoil Ruáin celebrates World Book Day each year with a whole school table quiz, creative writing competitions, Design a Book Cover competition and other activities.

French in Scoil Ruáin

French culture is brought to life in Scoil Ruáin by activities such as the annual French Breakfast Morning for students. As well as this, one lucky Scoil Ruáin student is awarded a very valuable scholarship to attend a EuroLanguages College course during the summer.

"I have great memories of my time in Scoil Ruain. The teachers all do their best for you and are never short with support and encouragement"

*Aisling Kelly, Student of the Year, 2014.
Student of General Nursing in WIT*

2nd Year September Maths League Winners 2017





Extracurricular Activities

TY Musical

At the beginning of each year our TY students and their teachers work tirelessly towards staging a thrilling and entertaining musical, which they then perform for a wider audience of fellow students, teachers, family and members of the wider community in November.

Photography Club

The Photography Club is a well-established extra-curricular activity in Scoil Ruáin which encourages budding photographers to improve their skills and confidence in photography. Members attend lectures on photography and then get the opportunity to put this theory into practice on a field trip. In 2014 the photography club visited Fota Wildlife Resort.

Speech and Drama

Classes are provided for students every week with the emphasis on performance, role-play and confidence building techniques. Students are prepared for the Irish Board of Speech and Drama grade exams, performance exams and public speaking exams as well as participation in local Drama Festivals.

Gardening Club

Scoil Ruáin's Gardening Club work tirelessly each week maintaining school flower beds, plants and gardens. We also have our own vegetable allotments.

Games Club

Scoil Ruáin Games Club takes place two lunchtimes a week. Students have the opportunity to play board games, chess, and pool or computer games.



Green Schools

Green-Schools is an international environmental education programme, environmental management system and award scheme that promotes whole school action towards a sustainable environment.

It is known internationally as Eco-Schools. Thanks to the hard work of teachers and the Green Schools Student Committee, Scoil Ruáin has been awarded four Green Flags to date and is currently working on the fifth flag for Biodiversity.



ASD Education Facility

Coiscéim

In co-operation with the Department of Education and Skills, Scoil Ruain has recently opened 'Coiscéim,' an education facility for students with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD).

A holistic approach is taken when planning for the education of the students with ASD. Following the information gathering and consultation process, an educational plan is developed that caters for the student's social, sensory and educational needs.



Students linked to Coiscéim attend mainstream classes and timetabled classes within the facility. Coiscéim is also available to students should they need to withdraw for an unscheduled class period. Classes within the Coiscéim are provided on an individual and small group basis. They are taught by a resource teacher and supported by special needs assistants.



Scoil Ruain is currently in consultation with the Department of Education and Skills to finalise the designs of purpose built classrooms for Coiscéim.

Contact the Principal for further details.



Sport

Scoil Ruáin is justly proud of its sporting tradition and the school offers a comprehensive range of sports to the students.

Hurling 1st Year, U15, Junior (U16½)
U17 and Senior (U18½)

Basketball 1st Year, 2nd Year, Cadets (U16)
and Senior (18)

Soccer 1st Year, Junior & Senior

Athletics All years enter in Cross Country
Championships and Outdoor
Track & Field Championships

Ladies Football Junior (U16) and Senior (U18)

Camogie 1st Year, U15, U16½ and Senior
(U18½)

Equestrian Schools All-Ireland Hunter Trials
competition

Badminton County Competitions all ages



Athletics

Students across all year groups enjoy keeping fit in Scoil Ruáin. Over 70 students enjoy participating in our Athletics teams. The school has won 'The Perpetual Shield for the Best Mixed School' on many occasions.



Basketball

Scoil Ruáin competes in the South East Region Basketball competitions. Over 70 girls partake in our Basketball Programme between 1st Year, 2nd year, Cadets (U16) and Senior (U19). Teams train during lunch and after school. All First Year girls are welcome to join the basketball team.



"Basketball introduced me to a team of friends in my first few weeks in Scoil Ruáin"

Katelyn Reilly 3rd year

"I remember fondly my five years in Scoil Ruáin. We received a well-rounded education in the broadest sense of the word. Throughout this time we were supported by a great bunch of dedicated teachers who gave generously of their time and talents"

*Dr. Kate Reilly. MB BCh BAO BA MICGP; BSc (Clin Lang)
Trinity College Dublin 1989 & 2001*



"I first took up basketball when I came to Scoil Ruáin; until then I only played football. Basketball has allowed me to make new friends and has made me fitter. We train three times a week and it gives us great opportunities to do well. We have won two South East finals and we are determined to go all the way to All-Ireland Finals."

Lauren Dowling, Senior Student



Community Involvement *Giving thanks, by giving to others*

At Scoil Ruáin we encourage our students to become active citizens in their local and wider community. Students in Scoil Ruáin make a difference to their community and shape it in a positive way. In the course of each school year, students and staff work together to give back to the local community through participating in and running the following initiatives:

- ✓ Christmas Shoebox Appeal
- ✓ Turf Run
- ✓ Paired Reading
- ✓ 5km Charity Fun Run – Conquer Cancer Research and the Donal Walsh LiveLife Foundation
- ✓ Christmas Carols for the local Senior Citizens Home
- ✓ Fundraising to send two helpers to Lourdes for the Irish Pilgrimage Trust
- ✓ Daffodil Day
- ✓ Saint Vincent De Paul Food collection



Jack Shelly
(past pupil)
University of Limerick
Student Union
President 2017

School Tours

Students derive a great deal of educational benefit from participating in well planned school tours and field trips. Such activities give students the opportunity to engage in experiences not available in the classroom, and help to develop their imaginative skills, encourage greater independence and enhance their social and cultural development.

2014 saw the welcome reintroduction of the annual school tour abroad with a 4 day trip to Barcelona to sample the delights of this beautiful city. Highlights of the trip were the visits to the Nou Camp, the amazing Sagrada Familia cathedral and the theme park, Port Aventura.

In 2015 2nd year students visited Lake Garda and Venice in Italy and senior History students travelled to Krakow, Poland, to visit Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp and other sites of historical interest.

Fifth Years travel to the UK annually to see Southampton (and past pupil, Shane Long) play in the Premier League, while the Senior Music students travelled to Liverpool.

In 2016, the 2nd Year School Tour returned to Barcelona. Both students and teaches thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



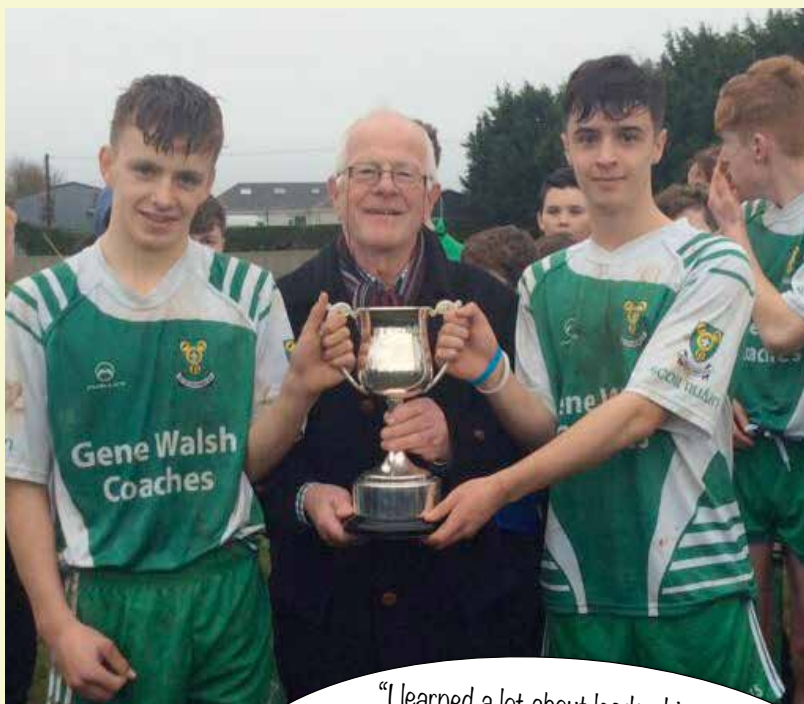
Student Successes



Meibh Maher
5th year student
and member of Ireland U18
basketball team



1st & 2nd Year Ladies
Football Winners 2016



"I learned a lot about leadership
in Scoil Ruain which really helped me
in my later years."

*Paddy Codd, past pupil and current captain of the
Tipperary Senior Football Team. Teacher of Engineering,
Materials Technology Metal and DCG*



Katelyn Reilly who received top grades in
her Junior Cycle and who also qualified for
the Irish Science Olympiad for outstanding
achievement in Maths and Science.



Scoil Ruáin, Killenaule, Co, Tipperary

Cill Náile, Contae Thiobraid Árann

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