

### **How many terms are in the school year?**

There are 3 terms in the school year. The Autumn term is September to December, the Spring term is January to March (Easter holiday) and the Summer term is April to June.

### **What time does the school start and finish for day pupils?**

Junior Infants to Second Form arrive at 8.30 am and finish at 3pm.

Day pupils can arrive at 8.30am.

Form 3 and Form 4 pupils finish at 5.30pm. These pupils have the opportunity to attend Junior Play until 6pm.

Form 5, 6 and Senior 1 pupils finish at 6pm.

### **Is there an after school facility available?**

Yes, for Junior Infants, Form 1 and 2. It is outsourced onsite. Please contact them directly at: [headfortmontessori2020@gmail.com](mailto:headfortmontessori2020@gmail.com)

### **What is a typical day at Headfort?**

[Please click here](#)

### **What are the fees?**

[Please click here to access the School Fees](#)

### **Can my child arrive earlier than 8.30am?**

Yes, we have a Breakfast Club available. This starts at 8am and the fee is 5 euro per morning.

### **When are meals served throughout the day?**

- Breakfast is served at 8am; there is a large selection of cereals, fruit and toast as well as cooked breakfast 2 mornings per week

- Snack and fruit at 11am
- Lunch at 1pm consists of the main meal of the day and homemade dessert
- Snack at 3.30pm of fruit and a drink of juice/water
- Dinner at 6pm for boarders
- Cocoa at 8pm consisting of a drink and fruit/biscuit
- There is fruit and water available for pupils at all times throughout the day.

### **What type of boarding is available?**

7 day boarding, 5 day boarding and Flexi boarding (staying 2 nights maximum).

### **Settling in for Boarders**

When your child first starts boarding school, it can be difficult for them to settle into a new way of life. Some manage to make friends and get involved in everything straight away, most find it takes a little longer. It does not matter how old you are, it is natural to miss your family and friends and for them to miss you. Most parents worry about the same things; will their child make friends? Will their child be able to do the work? Will their child fit in? It is normal to have these worries and we can assure you that every parent feels the same way. There are a number of people that you or your child can talk to to discuss these worries; the Headmaster, the matrons, the teachers and any other members of staff are happy and willing to help.

At the beginning of your child's time at Headfort they will also be involved in a 'buddy system' where they will be paired with a current pupil to assist them in finding their way around the school and adjusting to our rules and routines until they feel comfortable.

### **What do I need to bring if my child is a boarder?**

[Boarding Requirements.](#)

### **Can I give my child pocket money?**

Yes, the 7 day boarders attend various trips and school tours each weekend. Money is kept in the office and is given to the children each week for their trip. If you bring cash this must be handed into the Matron. You can also lodge pocket money into your child's account. We recommend €150 - €200 per term to cover all trips.

### **What happens if my child feels unwell?**

There is a matron on duty 24 hours per day , 7 days a week. If your child is not feeling well they are able to go to the Matron. Her office is located at the end of the dormitory passage. The matrons are First Aid Trained and look after all of the medicines. They ensure that children receive their medication at the correct time if needed.

### **What happens if an Overseas Child is sick?**

All overseas children must have a Guardian while at school in Headfort, if the child needs to go to the doctor or hospital the Guardian will take him/her. If your child is feeling unwell but does not require the doctor, the Matrons will monitor them and provide you with updates as and when required.

### **What happens at weekends if my child stays in for the weekend?**

There are English lessons on a Saturday morning for 2 hours. Saturday afternoon consists of organised games and activities with our weekend staff as well as some downtime for the boarders.

On a Sunday, the weekend boarders will usually go out on a trip in Co Meath or Dublin.

### **What is an Exeat weekend?**

This is a long weekend when everyone leaves the school from 3pm Friday until Monday evening

for boarders and Tuesday morning for day pupils. It usually happens every 4 weeks.

Overseas children will go out with their Guardian or to a host family.

### **Can I bring my child's friend out for the weekend?**

Yes, we welcome parents to invite our 7-day boarders out to spend a weekend with their family. If you let the Matron know she will arrange the invite between the parents.

### **Is there a uniform and sports kit?**

Yes, [please click here](#).

### **What are the main sports played at Headfort?**

Hockey, Rugby, Athletics and Cricket.

### **Do children play matches against other schools?**

Yes, there are both home and away matches organised in Cricket, Hockey and Rugby throughout the year.

### **What are the Extracurricular Activities ?**

Guitar, Piano, Drums, Singing. Horse Riding, Tennis, Cooking, Carpentry and Extra Art.

There is one lesson per week and they are €20 per lesson. Please [click here](#) for more information.

### **Is there a text book list?**

Yes, the booklist is sent out in June to all parents and can be ordered online.

### **Stationary List**

Having consulted the teachers, they have identified the following items that each pupil will need

to bring for the next academic year:

- Pencil Case
- Calculator
- Geometry Set
- 12 inch Ruler
- A4 Display Folders (x5, preferably different colours)
- Scissors
- Colouring Pencils
- Pencils ( 1 pack)
- Pens (1 pack)
- Eraser

**What subjects are taught at Headfort?**

English, Irish, (Latin for overseas), Maths, Science, Geography, History, French or Spanish, Computing, Positive Psychology, Art and Music.

**What Curriculum does Headfort follow?**

Headfort follows a combination of the Irish Curriculum and the Common Entrance Curriculum.

**What is Prep?**

Students in 3rd and 4th Form have one prep period per day. Students in 5th, 6th and Senior 1

have two prep periods per day. This is an opportunity for the children to complete homework. Prep

periods follow a schedule of what subjects homework is to be completed each day.

**Do parents get school reports and how often?**

Yes, school reports are sent out at Christmas and Summer and a progress report is issued at the end of the Spring Term.

**Can parents meet the teachers?**

Yes, parent teacher meetings happen twice per year both online and in person.

There are also events throughout the year for parents to socialise and meet the teachers informally. Parents can also email the teachers at any point.