

Peace Proms – Promoting Peace, Unity and Positive Relationships



Coláiste Chú Chulainn – School of Sanctuary Journey

Each year, students from Coláiste Chú Chulainn proudly participate in and volunteer at **Peace Proms**, a wonderful musical initiative organised by the **Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland (CBOI)**. Founded on the principles of peace, cooperation, reconciliation and positive relationships, Peace Proms brings together young people from different communities, cultures and backgrounds through the shared experience of music.

Our students play an important role in supporting this annual event, generously volunteering their time to help with the organisation and smooth running of Peace Proms. Through their involvement, students have the opportunity to contribute to an initiative that promotes friendship, understanding and unity across communities.

The Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland was established in 1995 against the backdrop of the Northern Ireland peace process, with the aim of bringing young people together through music and helping to build positive relationships across borders and communities. Its work reflects the belief that **music has the power to overcome differences, challenge divisions and bring people together through a shared sense of purpose and belonging.**



Our continued involvement in Peace Proms is particularly meaningful as part of our ongoing **School of Sanctuary journey**. The values at the heart of the event closely reflect our school's commitment to creating a welcoming, inclusive and compassionate environment where every individual is respected and valued, regardless of their nationality, religion, cultural background or identity.

By supporting an initiative rooted in peacebuilding and cross-community cooperation, our students gain a greater appreciation of the importance of **peaceful coexistence, mutual respect, tolerance and understanding**. Peace Proms demonstrates that, despite our differences, we can work together towards common goals and build positive relationships through cooperation and shared experiences.

The event also provides a valuable opportunity for **student leadership, active citizenship and community engagement**. By volunteering their time and assisting others, our students demonstrate responsibility, generosity and a willingness to contribute positively to the wider community.

As a school situated close to the border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, our participation in Peace Proms carries particular significance. The history of conflict and reconciliation on our island reminds us of the importance of maintaining peace, encouraging dialogue and building friendships across communities. Our involvement allows students to actively support these values and recognise the importance of creating a society where everyone feels safe, welcomed and included.

At Coláiste Chú Chulainn, we recognise that **a School of Sanctuary is not simply a place of welcome, but a community that actively promotes peace, understanding, compassion and positive relationships**. Our annual participation in Peace Proms is a meaningful example of how our students put these principles into practice beyond the classroom.

Through our continued support of the Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland and Peace Proms, we are proud to contribute to an initiative that celebrates the power of young people to bring communities together and build a more peaceful and inclusive future.

This reflects our school ethos of “*Success for All*” and reinforces our commitment to ensuring that every student feels valued, respected and part of a welcoming school community.

Different Voices, One Harmony – Building Peace, Friendship and Belonging Together.

