



Annual Report from the Board of Management of Claregalway Educate Together National School 2022-2023

Dear Parents,

In keeping with our policy of sharing knowledge of the work of the Board of Management and all issues dealt by it during the year, attached is the report that summarises this. This report outlines the significant achievements and milestones we have accomplished as a school during this period. It is with great pleasure that I share this comprehensive overview of our accomplishments across various areas of focus.

Members of the Board of Management

Frank Clancy	Chairperson (Patron Nominee)
Sonya McGarry	Treasurer (Patron Nominee)
Ian Walsh	Recording Secretary (Parents' Nominee)
Eileen Conroy	Parents' Nominee
Siobhán Broderick	Staff Nominee
Helen Bacci	Community Nominee
Tomás Grealish	Community Nominee
Aoife Winston	Secretary (Principal)

BOM Meetings

The BOM met on the following dates during the course of the academic year 2022-2023. All meetings were held in person.

- October 11th 2022
- December 6th 2022
- February 27th 2023
- April 27th 2023
- June 15th 2023

In addition, virtual meetings were held to ratify posts following interviews.

Agreed Report

The Board of Management publishes an agreed report (synopsis) for the parents on every monthly Update.

BOM Agenda

The Agenda is agreed by the Chairperson and Principal and sent out to all members of the B.O.M. seven days in advance of each BOM meeting. At each meeting the Principal and Treasurer present a report to the BOM. Child Protection and Bullying are included in all reports presented by the Principal. In accordance with Circular 0081/2017 the principal brings an Oversight Report to each Board meeting (Where the report is not a NIL report this is done only at face to face meetings for GDPR reasons). An Annual review of both Child Protection and Anti Bullying

Staffing Schedule 2023-24

Administrative Principal, 9 class teachers in mainstream classes, 3 teachers on the Special Education Team (three permanent posts, one of these posts is shared by two teachers on Job Share) seven full time SNAs, full-time Secretary and part-time Caretaker.

Projected Enrolment for Sept 2023 is 220 approx.

Posts of Responsibility

These teachers work with the Principal as the In School Management Team (ISM). ISM Team meetings are held regularly during the year.

- Principal Aoife Winston
- Deputy Principal Hilary Waide

- AP 11 Post Niamh Mannion
- AP 11 Post Damien Stenson
- AP 11 Post Helen Fahy

School Inspections

The Inspector attached to our school is Sinéad Ginnane. A Curriculum Evaluation in Mathematics took place in November 2022. The report, which was very positive, has been published on the Department of Education website [here](#).

Child Protection:

Designated Liaison Officer: Aoife Winston; Deputy Designated Liaison Officer: Hilary Waide. Child Safeguarding Statement and checklist is reviewed annually and is on display in the hall of the school. Training for Child Protection is attended regularly as regulations are updated. All staff members and members of the Board of Management are up-to-date in having completed the TUSLA Child Protection training.

Stay Safe Programme taught as part of the SPHE Curriculum every two years:

Taught in Term 2 during the period January-March inclusive.

The Stay Safe Programme is part of the SPHE (Social, Personal and Health Education) curriculum. It seeks to enhance the children's self-protective skills by participation in lessons on safe and unsafe situations, bullying, inappropriate touch, secrets, telling and stranger danger. The programme aims to give children the skills necessary to enable them to recognise and resist abuse/victimisation and teaches them that they should always tell about any situation which they find unsafe.

School Planning and Development

Sustained support was received this year from PDST in Wellbeing, DEIS and Primary Languages.

- A new 3 year DEIS plan was drawn up with targets for Literacy, Numeracy, Attendance, Transitions, Retention, Parental Involvement and Links with Agencies

Policies Reviewed/Developed in 2022-23

During the academic year 2022/23 the BOM has reviewed and ratified the following policies or procedures:

- Assessment (reviewed)
- School Credit Card (new policy)
- Splitting Classes
- Autism Classes
- Bus Escort
- Book Collection Policy

Finance

The End of Year Accounts for 2021-22 were compiled, sent to an independent accountant for certification which has now been completed. This is done annually.

School's Voluntary Contribution Scheme

The BOM is grateful to parents for their ongoing support through the school's Voluntary Contribution Scheme. €100 is requested from each family and parents are encouraged to give it in instalments if preferred.

Budget for the School Year

The Board of Management agrees on a budget in advance of the beginning of the school year. All monies now go through Aladdin by e-payment which is safer with little or no cash on the premises.

The BOM expresses its sincere thanks to the Secretary Deirdre Slevin for maintaining the school accounts and the Treasurer Sonya McGarry for reporting to the BOM

Sympathy

The Board of Management extends its sympathy to all families and staff members who have been bereaved during the school year.

Conclusion

The BOM expresses its thanks to the Principal, Staff, Parents/Guardians, Parents Together, DES, Primary Inspectorate, School Community and all of those who support the work of the school.

Literacy and Numeracy Scores

This year Standardised Tests were held online and in paper format in May. Children from 1st class - 6th class are tested. Drumcondra Tests are used. This does not involve Junior Infants and Senior Infants. Results are on each child's school report.

Work Experience

We facilitated a number of personnel this year. SNA Work Experience was completed by Maria and Janie. We also facilitated a teaching practise placement in second class and a placement by Rebecca Samuel,s Principal and student on the SEN Diploma in NUIG. Thanks to staff for mentoring and supporting our visitors.

Attendance

Reports submitted annually to Tusla as required by law. Our Educational Welfare Officer is Mary Ryan, she visits the school periodically to review attendance and to hold attendance clinics where appropriate.

Parents Together

Information session facilitated by Helen Butler from the National Parents Council. This session explored the role and function of the Parent Association. It was open to the whole school community and gave everyone a better understanding of what a Parent Association is and does within the school. AGM was held on XX and Officers nominated.

Main School Events and Achievements 2022-2023

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter Celebration • Baboró • National Parents Council • ANSEO Collection • Le Chéile Coffee Morning • Aladdin Connect • Dress Up Day • Welcome Evening • School Photographer • Playground Leaders • Maths Inspection • HSA Inspection • Assemblies • Winter Karaoke • Droichead - Mentoring • Student Council Meetings • Green Schools Meetings • Parent Teacher Meetings • Cricket • Science Week • St. Columbus CU Quiz 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assemblies • Beyond the Classroom • Open Evening • Chess County Competition • Bake Sale - SC • Student Council Meetings • Green Schools Meetings • Basketball coaching • Seachtain na Gaeilge • Library Committee established • Book Fair • Launch of sculptures at the Nine Arches Bridge • Volleyball All Ireland - UL • Neurodiversity Week • ZEEKO Cyber Safety sessions • Lots of Socks Day for Down Syndrome • Gaelic Football • Math Schools Quiz 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assemblies • Languages Connect • Chess Tournament • Office of the Ombudsman • Cuman na mBunscoil • New Infant Induction PM • Enda Flaherty Memorial Tournament • ET Quiz • Combined Staff meeting and half day closure for primary curriculum framework • Tours • Sports Days - junior and senior • Cúirt Writers in Residence Workshop • Green Flag Awards • Pollination/Bee workshop • Graduation • Crazy Hair Day • International Pot Luck - PT • German classes • Branar - Le Chéile • Student Council Meetings • Europe Day • ET Schools Quiz • BOM/Student Council and Parents Together Meeting • 6th class visit to CBC

Staff CPD

- Misneach 1 (2 day)
- Webinar (2 hours) and DEIS (full day)
- Galway EC Admissions
- Galway EC Leadership and Management in Schools Structure
- Financial Training for Boards Of Management in Primary Schools
- ET Conference
- Managing Behaviours of Concern 2hrs
- Meitheal (Principals Network) 3 hrs x bi monthly
- Independent Assessor Training INTO (2 hrs)
- Deployment of SNAs Seminar Athlone EC
- Visual Arts (5 days)
- Number Resource kits for Infants
- Movement Breaks, Brain Breaks & Drama Games
- Sensory Play to Support Maths
- Zippy's friends (1 day)
- The Revised Learn Together Curriculum (1 hour)
- Conceptual Based Inquiry (LT Curriculum) (1 hour)
- Trauma Informed Practice in ET Schools (webinar) (1 hour)
- Restorative Practice in ET schools (webinar) (1 hour)
- Global Citizenship Education & the LT Curriculum workshop (4 hours)
- Heggarty & UFLI (1 hour)
- Getting Used To Restorative Practice (6 weeks - 12 hours)
- Practical guide for differentiating for children with AEN (5 days)
- Zippy's Friends (1 day)
- Children First (Tusla)
- Comhar - Leadership development for Assistant Principals (PDST) (5x2hrs)
- Heggerty Phonemic Awareness and UFLI Foundations (Phonics)
- Coding in the Classroom
- Setting up an Autism Classroom (Galway Education Centre)
- The Autism Series (Tralee Education Centre)
- Supporting Maths through Sensory Play in the Infant Classrooms & Special Education Setting (Galway Education Centre)
- Contemporary ABA (NCSE)
- Autism and promoting positive behaviour (NCSE)
- Fundamentals of TEACCHING (NCSE)
- Teaching and Learning in the Early Childhood Setting (Marino Education Centre)
- Primary Language Curriculum + Inclusion (NCSE)
- Supporting Teachers to Assess Learning of Students with Moderate to Severe and Profound GLDs (NCSE)
- ACC Webinar (2 hours) Caroline Riordan
- Contemporary ABA (NCSE)
- Wellbeing (20 hours)
- Deputy Principal Community of Practice (1 hour)
- Phonemic Awareness (1 hour)
- GDPR & Data Protection Training (5 hours)
- Mata sa Ranga (3 hours)
- Diagnostic Assessment (1 hour)
- Morphology (2 hours)
- ChatGPT (1 hour)
- NEPS Supporting Children with Dyslexia (1 hour)
- Heggerty & UFLI (1 hour)
- Fónaic na Gaeilge (1 hour)
- Reviewing & Developing SEN Policy (1.5hrs)
- The Special Education Teacher (20 hours)
- Movement Breaks, Brain Breaks, Drama Games, Sligo EC
- Understanding Behaviour, 2 days, NCSE

- Puppet Workshop, Children's Therapy Centre
- Building Inner Besties - self-esteem building for children
- Children First, Tusla
- Certificate in Therapeutic Play Skills (CTC)
- Developing the Writing Strand of the PLC - Sligo EC
- Collaborative Literacy practice for Junior Infants to 6th class (Limerick EC face to Face 5 days)
- SLT course by HSE West -EAL course (3 hours)
- EAL course Laois EC
- Guided Reading Kilkenny EC
- Guided Writing Clare EC
- EAL and Academic Language-ESCI
- Number facts - New approach to teaching tables (1st /2nd Classes) 1.5 hours .ClareEC
- Classroom Management (5 days)
- Six Bricks Level 1 & Level 2 (Drumcondra EC)
- Children First (Tusla)
- Behaviours of concern
- Manage Challenging Behaviour (1.5 hours) - Galway Education Centre
- ACC Webinar (2 hours) Caroline Riordan
- Managing Behaviours of concern
- Movement, Brain & Sensory Breaks - Everyday O.T. (ACE 2hrs)
- Practical, therapeutic strategies to respond to challenging behaviour in the classroom (2 hrs)
- Distressed Behaviour Workshop (ACE 2hrs)
- Building positive, trusting relationships to support behaviour. (1 hour) The Optimistic OT
- supporting children with autism in mainstream- 1.5 hours Galway Education centre
- Autism and Fundamental Movement Skills (8 hours) Galway Education Centre
- ACC Webinar (2 hours) Caroline Riordan
- MovementBreaks, Sensory Breaks & Brain Breaks (2 hours) Everyday OT Ireland
- Pathological Demand Avoidance (2 hours) Laois Education Centre
- Distressed Behaviour Workshop (2 hours) Autism Clubs & Education
- Children First (Tulsa)
- ACC Webinar (2 hours) Caroline Riordan
- Managing Behaviours of Concern (2 hours)
- Movement Breaks, Sensory Breaks and Brain Breaks (2 hours)
- ACC Webinar (2 hours) Caroline Riordan
- Educating children with oral language problems (3 hours)
- Autism and Behaviour (3 hours)
- Restorative Practice
- Collaborative Play with LEGO for Children with ASD and ADHD
- Understanding Behaviour