

# Second Phases Chambridge

# SCOIL PHÁDRAIG, CLAONADH, CO. CHILL DARA

St. Patrick's Boys N.S., Clane, Co. Kildare. **Principal:** Mr. Pat Costello

Telephone/Fax: 045 – 868620 email: clanebns.ias@eircom.net website: www.clanebns.ie

**June 2013** 

Dear Parents/Guardians,

First and foremost, may I begin by extending you a "Céad Míle Fáilte" to Scoil Phádraig. You and your child(ren) are indeed very welcome, as we begin this very important journey together, over the next eight years or so.

All of us here, in Scoil Phádraig, know that your child is your most precious possession. We will take great care of him. We will endeavour to ensure that your son feels happy and safe with us.

We in Scoil Phádraig seek to celebrate the uniqueness and importance of each child. We will strive to meet the various needs of your son – intellectual, social, emotional, physical and spiritual. We do not solely view education as the passing on of knowledge and skills but rather as the development of the whole person. Your son's experiences in Scoil Phádraig will be but the beginnings of the process of life-long learning.

The entire school community – staff, Board of Management, pupils and parents must work together as Partners. We will seek to create, develop, foster and maintain an environment which is Safe, Happy, Welcoming and Inclusive. Our efforts will be based on the Christian values of **Peace**, **Honesty** and **Respect**. Our combined efforts will hopefully encourage and foster independence, self-confidence, self-motivation and self-discipline, so that your son will be happy in himself, with others and with the world in which he must live.

The following few pages give some basic information about Scoil Phádraig. If you feel that there is something you would like to discuss, or if you require any other information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Looking forward to working with you and your son(s).

Yours sincerely,



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**School Denomination:** Scoil Phádraig is a Catholic School, under the Patronage of the Catholic Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin.

Scoil Phádraig is an all-boys school.

**Scoil Phádraig** is a vertical school – all classes from Junior Infants to Sixth class are taught.

**Scoil Phádraig** depends on the grants and teacher resources provided by the Department of Education and Skills.

**Scoil Phádraig** operates within the regulations laid down, from time to time, by the Department of Education and Skills.

**Scoil Phádraig** follows the curricular programmes prescribed by the Department of Education and Skills, which may be amended from time to time, in accordance with Sections 9 and 30 of the Education Act, 1998.

In formulating school policy, the Board of Management of Scoil Phádraig must have regard to the resources and funding available.



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# EARLY HISTORY OF SCOIL PHÁDRAIG

Scoil Phádraig was built in 1981/1982 by local builder, Mr. John Connolly, Capdoo, Clane. The Architects were McGrane & Son, 36 Lad Lane, Dublin 2 (Residents of Loughanure, Clane). The site foreman was Mr. Andy Fitzgerald, Firmount, Clane. Fr. Bob Thompson S.J. the Chairperson of the Board of Management was the hard-working local co-ordinator with the Department of Education and the Board of Works. The cost of building both Scoil Phádraig and Scoil Bhríde was £1.4 million, £140,000 of which was provided over a five year period by the Parishioners, by means of weekly envelope collection.

The site of Scoil Phádraig was part of a 7.858 acre field on which Scoil Bhríde and Abbey Court also stand. The field, formerly called "Tobar na Mona" and owned by the Presentation Sisters, was known locally as "The Bottoms" – a term suggesting low-lying, marshy or boggy land. The Parish Priest, Fr. William Hughes purchased the site from the Presentation Sisters at a cost of £17,000. The playing fields were later drained, cultivated and seeded at a cost of £4,400, collected locally by means of a Sale of Work organised by both staffs and Fr. Thompson. The Past Pupils of Scoil Phádraig also contributed.

The school which replaced the Old Boy's School, on the Dublin Road was occupied for the first time on the 16<sup>th</sup> June 1982. It was officially opened on June 24<sup>th</sup> by Mr. Tom Leahy, Secretary to the Department of Education in the absence of Education Minister, John Wilson, T.D. The school was blessed by Dr. Patrick Lennon, Bishop of Kildare & Leighlin. The celebratory meal was held at Curryhills Hotel, Prosperous. About 150 guests attended. The Parish Priest on this occasion was the newly appointed Fr. Richard Kelly.

The first Principal of Scoil Phádraig was Mr. Pat Lynch (Kerry). The Vice-Principal was Mrs. Joan Leacy (Kerry). The other staff members were Mrs. Nora O'Connor (Limerick), Mrs. Patricia O'Riordan (Tipperary), Mrs. Teresa Grace (Tipperary), Mrs. Mary Lacey (Aran Islands), Mr. Ciarán McCarthy (Kildare), Miss Fionnuala Evans (Offaly), Miss Maureen McCormack (Monaghan), Mr. Patsy Hynes (Galway) and Mr. Pat Costello (Galway). There were 348 boys on roll on June 30<sup>th</sup> 1982. The District Inspector was Mr. Michael Leonard (Galway).

On 1<sup>st</sup> September 1982, Mr. Hynes and Miss Evans transferred to other schools and were replaced by Mr. Martin Eyres (Clare) and Mr. William J. Dunphy (Waterford) for the school's first full year of operation.



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# Our Mission

## "Mol an Óige agus tiocfaidh sí"

- We endeavour to ensure that each child and staff member feels accepted.
- We seek to create an environment that is welcoming, inclusive and safe for students, staff and parents.
- We strive to build healthy, mutually-respectful relationships among pupils, staff and parents.
- We actively promote equal opportunities for all.
- Building the self-esteem of each individual is central to all our teaching, communications and inter-actions.
- We do not solely view education as the passing on of knowledge and skills, but rather as the development of the whole person.
- It is our aspiration to encourage and foster independence, self-confidence, self-motivation and self-discipline so that our pupils are happy with themselves, others and the world in which they must live.
- Our everyday, lived experiences are based on the principles of **Peace**, **Honesty** and **Respect**.

"Ní neart go cur le chéile"

# Server House Respect

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# Our Vision

- Our overall vision is that of a caring, comforting, loving school where each child and staff member is cherished.
- Our school seeks to celebrate the uniqueness and importance of every child, regardless
  of his ability.
- We endeavour to recognise and enhance the potential for growth and development that exists in each person, academically, spiritually, socially, physically and emotionally.
- The full school community Pupils, Teachers, Support Staff, Parents, Board of Management, Church and Local Community will strive to bring this vision to reality through co-operation and support.

# ${f S}$ coil ${f P}$ hádraig, ${f C}$ laonadh, ${f C}$ o. ${f C}$ hill ${f D}$ ara



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# OUR SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

- The school community-pupils, staff, parents and Board of Management-will work together to create, develop, foster and maintain an environment which is **SAFE**, **HAPPY**, **WELCOMING** and **INCLUSIVE**, so that:
  - (a) Children can learn in safety.
  - (b) Teachers can teach in safety.
- We will endeavour to meet the various needs of our pupils intellectual, social, emotional, physical and spiritual, so that we encourage and develop the whole person.
- In Scoil Phádraig, our efforts will be based on the Christian values of **PEACE**, **HONESTY** and **RESPECT**.
- The day to day experienced interactions and relationships will create an atmosphere which strives to:
  - (a) Allow people feel valued.
  - (b) Enhance self-esteem.
  - (c) Encourage tolerance, fairness, justice.
  - (d) Accept differences and uniqueness.
  - (e) Engender a sense of shared responsibility.
  - (f) Promote social, moral and civic values.
  - (g) Recognise and reward effort and commitment in all areas.
- We will strive for, live in and nurture an atmosphere that is: CARING, TOLERANT, SUPPORTIVE, CO-OPERATIVE, RESPECTFUL,
   TELLING (For Safety) AND OPEN.



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# Our Golden Rules

- I will be gentle I will not hurt anyone
- I will be kind and helpful I will not hurt people's feelings
- I will be honest
   I will not hide the truth
- I will listen
   I will not interrupt
- I will look after property I will not waste or damage things
- I will work hard I will not waste time





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# STAFF-MEMBERS

**Principal:** Mr. Pat Costello

**Deputy Principal:** New Deputy Principal to be appointed shortly, as

Mr. Dunphy retires, this summer.

Assistant Principals: Mrs. Patricia Riordan

Mr. Martin Eyres

**Special Duties Teachers:** Mr. Cathal Carr

Mrs. Fionnuala White Mrs. Maria Tully Mr. Alan Hobbins Mrs. Ann Eyres

Mainstream Teachers: Mrs. Lisa Wheatley

Mrs. Mary Fennessy
Ms. Patricia Dunlea
Ms. Charlotte Deeney
Miss Laurena Meagher
Miss Thérèse Macken
Ms. Sharon McLoughlin
Miss Donna Duane
Miss Eimear Bergin
Miss Suzanne O'Reilly
Miss Carol O'Sullivan

**Learning Support**/ Mrs. Patricia O'Riordan **Resource Teachers:** Mrs. Bridgette Murphy

Mrs. Bridgette Murphy Mrs. Monica Kilkenny Mrs. Claire Hackett Miss Roisín Maher

**School Secretary:** Mrs. Sheila Doyle

Mrs. Brig Cuddihy

School Caretaker: Mr. Michael Walsh

**Special Needs Assistants:** Mrs. Sandra Morrissey

Ms. Agnes O'Brien Mrs. Georgina Meenan

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# **BOARD OF MANAGEMENT**

The Board of Management of Scoil Phádraig consists of eight members who represent the following groups,

• The school staff — Principal and one teacher.

• The Parent Body — Two parents, both with children in the school.

• The Patron (Bishop) – Two nominees

• The Local Community – Two representatives

Each Board is elected for a three/four year term. The term of office of the present Board ends November 2015.

The parent representatives are elected following a vote by the parent body.

At the first meeting of the Board, a Chairperson, a Treasurer and a Minutes Secretary are elected.

The Board is charged with the overall responsibility of running the school.

The present Board members are,

**Patron's Nominees:** Mr. Brian Connolly

Mr. James Healy

**Parent Nominees:** Mrs. Mary O'Donovan

Mr. Peter Kirwan

**Community Representatives:** Mrs. Deirdre Kelly

Mrs. Catherine Nolan

**Principal:** Mr. Pat Costello

**Teachers' Nominee:** Mrs. Patricia O'Riordan

**Chairperson:** Mr. Brian Connolly

**Secretary:** Mr. Pat Costello

**Treasurer:** Mrs. Deirdre Kelly

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# PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Scoil Phádraig Parents' Association holds its Annual General Meeting each October.

A committee is formed at that meeting, and at the first Committee Meeting, a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer are elected as officers of the association. Subsequently, committee meetings are held monthly in the school.

The Parents' Association is a very active group, which provides great help and support to the school.

#### Activities include,

- Fundraising through various activities (a)
- **(b)** Organising Second-Hand Book stall
- **Assisting with School Concert** (c)
- Assisting with First Communion and Confirmation (d)
- Assisting with some school trips and tours (e)
- **(f)** Organising football coaching for younger pupils
- **(g)** Assisting with transport to extra-curricular activities
- (h) Etc., etc.
- An up-to-date list of Officers and Committee Members is available from the office.

**Chairperson:** Mrs. Ciara Early

**Secretary:** Mrs. Michelle Kelly

**Treasurer:** Mrs. Brigid McCaffrey

**Teachers' Representative:** Mrs. Monica Kilkenny

# Repeat Homest & Repeat

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# SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION

- 14 purpose-built classrooms, with toilets
- 3 Temporary Prefabricated Classrooms, with toilets.
- 2 Learning Support Rooms
- 3 Resource Teachers' Rooms
- 2 P.E./Assembly Halls + 2 Equipment Storage Rooms
- 1 Strong Room
- 2 Book/Equipment storage rooms
- 1 Staff Room
- 1 Kitchen
- 1 Cleaners' Storage Room
- 2 Ladies' and 2 Gents' toilets
- 1 Principal's Office
- 1 Secretary's Office
- 1 Entrance Foyer

Yards: Tarmac yards, including Infants' playing area, Basketball courts and

Volleyball courts.

**Pitches:** 1 Senior Pitch

1 U/10 Pitch

1 Soccer Pitch

**Outbuildings:** 2 Dressing Rooms, 1 Garage, 1 Boiler House.

 Scoil Phádraig has been placed on the Department's List for the provision of a major upgrade and Permanent Extension.

A Design Team has been appointed and is working on the Project. We hope that the process continues so that we can go to the "Planning Permission" Stage over the summer.



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# **TIMES**

**Supervision begins:** 8.45a.m.

**School starts:** 9.00a.m.

**Little break:** 11.00a.m. – 11.10a.m.

**Lunch:** 12.30p.m. – 1.00p.m.

Dismissal:

**Junior & Senior Infants:** 1.40p.m. 1st to 6<sup>th</sup> classes 2.40p.m.

**Supervision ends:** 2.45p.m. (1.45p.m. for Infants)

Please ensure that children arrive punctually in the morning and are collected promptly in the evenings.

- At 8.45a.m., the school gate will be opened and children go directly to the school yard. At 8.55a.m., pupils "line-up" in specified areas.
- At 8.45a.m., on wet mornings, children go directly to the classrooms where they are requested to observe the rules as per wet break/lunch times. Please note, in inclement weather, children will not have access to shelter before this time.
- Parents of Junior Infants may escort their child(ren) to the classroom during the first days. When the children have settled into school routines, they may be escorted to the "Infants' Yard", nearest to the staff car-park.
- Give a hug, say goodbye and leave! Believe me, children will then settle more quickly and play with friends!!
- In the evenings, Junior and Senior Infants may be collected at the "Infants' Door" nearest to the main gate, or from the door outside Room 4, at 1.40p.m.
- All other pupils may be collected at the main gate, at 2.40p.m.

The school authorities do not accept responsibility for children who arrive on school grounds before 8.45a.m. or who remain on school property after 2.45p.m. (1.45p.m. for Infants), as supervision will not be provided.



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# **Uniforms**

A complete uniform must be worn at all times. Our uniform consists of the following,

- Grey shirt
- Grey trousers
- Wine jumper
- Wine and grey striped tie (available at Q & M Menswear only)

#### **School track-suit**

Our tracksuit is available locally, in the village, through Q & M Menswear.

It is a wine tracksuit, with school crest. Underneath, we suggest a plain white polo-shirt, should be worn.

**Regulations: 1:** School track-suit to be worn on P.E. Day.

- 2: If school uniform is "in the wash", school track-suit can be worn instead.
- **3:** Soccer jerseys, inter-county jerseys etc. can only be worn when on the field. They are not to be worn in the classrooms, in order to cut out competition, "slagging", etc.
- **4:** On certain school trips, the school tracksuit can be worn instead of the school uniform.

# INDEPENDENT TASKS!

Before starting school, your son should be able to complete the following tasks,

- Button or zip-up his coat
- Fasten his shoes velcro straps are great!!
- Put on hat and gloves
- Go independently to the toilet
- Identify coat, hat, gloves, school bag, lunch-box etc.



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# SUPERVISION OF PUPILS WHO TRAVEL BY BUS

N.B.: Parents who send their children to and from school by bus or from a crèche to and from school by bus enter a private contract with the bus company. The school is not involved with the bus company and accepts no responsibility for any matters which may arise upon agreeing said **private contract.** The Board of Management does not have any responsibility for safety matters or supervision levels on these buses.

#### Arrangements at 1.40p.m.: (a)

- At 1.35p.m. daily, the Junior and Senior Infant teachers organise "the bus line" (i) first. These pupils are collected by the Principal (or someone appointed by him).
- (ii) The children will walk to the front lobby, through the "small hall" and along the corridor by Room 7 and Room 8.
- (iii) The Principal will supervise the boys as they exit by the main door (Sheila or Brig, the School Secretaries, will do so, when the Principal is otherwise engaged) and they will walk out the main path, to where the bus drivers await them.

#### **(b)** Arrangements at 2.40p.m.:

- The "bus-line" of pupils, from  $1^{st}$  to  $6^{th}$  class inclusive, is organised first. **(i)** These children are first to leave the school grounds, so that they can get to the buses, as quickly as possible.
- (ii) The Assistant Principals (or other teachers appointed by them) supervise all classes as they leave the school yard.
- The Principal (or another teacher appointed by him) supervises all pupils, as they (iii) exit the school gate.
- **N.B.** All pupils are regularly informed that if there is a problem after school re. (iv) going home, i.e. if they miss the bus, if nobody arrives to collect them, or if they can't find Mum/Dad, minder etc., then they can return to the Principal (or to Sheila in the office), and every effort will then be made to solve the problem.

### However, please be aware of the following,

- The School Authorities, the Principal or Teachers do not escort the boys from the school, to the various waiting buses.
- Supervision of their journey from the school gate to the buses is not provided.
- It is not the responsibility of the School Authorities to provide such cover.
- The School Authorities will not provide such supervision, at any date, in the
- Supervision of pupils while travelling on the buses is not provided.
- The Board of Management does not have any responsibility for Safety Matters or Regulations, with regard to these buses.



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# CURRICULAR PROGRAMMES

In accordance with The Revised Curriculum for Primary Schools, programmes of work are presented in seven curriculum areas, some of which are further divided into subjects. These are,

Language English, Gaeilge

Mathematics :

Social, Environmental

and Skills Education (S.E.S.E.) History, Geography, Science Arts Education Visual Arts, Music, Drama

Physical Education

Social, Personal and Health

Education (S.P.H.E.)

**Religious Education** 

# Homework

Each class gets some homework in accordance with the children's age and ability. Generally speaking, it is a method of **revision** of subject matter already taught in class, a mechanism for involving parents in their children's studies, and a foundation for the cultivation of good work habits.

An estimate of length of time devoted to homework would be as follows,

Junior/Senior Infants: 10 minutes First Class 20-30 minutes Second-Fourth Class: 30-45 minutes

Fifth/Sixth Class 1 hour (approximately)

- Children who present written homework in an untidy manner, may be asked to repeat it until they present it to the best of their ability.
- While Parents are urged to help their children with homework, you should refrain from just telling them how to do it or indeed from actually doing it for them!
- Homework is not given at the week-ends.
- "Homework-off" is at each teacher's discretion can be given as a treat or to celebrate some major event or achievement.
- All classes from First up use a Homework Diary check it regularly.

# WEIGHT OF SCHOOL BAGS

Over the years, our teachers have devised a system whereby children may leave some books at school, with the exception of those books and copies required for homework! In order to "lighten the load", there is no need for every book to be carried to and from school each day.

# Reserved Reserved

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# BOOK LISTS - BOOK SHOP - BOOK RENTAL SCHEMES ETC.

- Book lists are issued in June of each year by the teachers.
- The school provides a "Book Shop" for one day in June, before the summer holidays.
- The school runs an extensive "Book Rental Scheme". Some books on your child's list may be rented only. Details from the Principal, the School Secretary or from Mrs. Ann Eyres, Special Duties Teacher.
- During the Book Sale, the Parents' Association also runs a "Second-hand Book Stall", in the large G.P.
- At this time, a staff member also collects the monies due for Art & Craft, Photocopying,
   Computer Supplies, etc.



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# ACCIDENT/INJURY/ILLNESS

- The Principal or Deputy Principal will inform parents/guardians of pupils who have an accident at school, in case treatment is required.
- The school secretary may ring parent/guardian in the case of a pupil becoming ill at school.
- Parents/Guardians will be invited to come to the school to collect the child in question.
- It is vital that you furnish the school with an up-to-date record of all telephone numbers-home, work, mobile, doctor and child minder/contact.
- If parent/guardian/child-minder **cannot** be contacted, then your Family Doctor or local Doctor will be contacted.
- Minor bumps/grazes/cuts will be attended to by staff members e.g. washing, attaching elastoplast, application of ice-pack etc.

# **ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICINES**

The school staff, being unqualified in medical matters, will **not** administer medicines (e.g. Aspro, Anadin, prescribed medicines etc.) or inhalers of any kind.

If your child has to use an inhaler or medicine during school hours, it is essential that the Parent/Guardian present to the Board of Management a letter from your Doctor stating that the child is capable of administering the inhaler or medicine himself. A copy of this letter should be presented to the child's teacher at the beginning of <u>each</u> school year.

In the case of very young children or where a child is not capable of dispensing an inhaler or medicine, a Parent/Guardian must visit the school to perform this task.

Medicines/Inhalers must not be left within the reach of other children in a classroom.



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# SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

- Standardisation of school holidays continues nationally, this coming year.
- The staff members of Scoil Phádraig and Scoil Bhríde decide on school holidays for the coming school year.
- A written notice of all holidays is sent out to each family, via the eldest child, at the beginning of the school year.
- If there is any change in the calendar due to unforeseen circumstances, all parents will be informed, in writing, at the earliest possible opportunity.

# COMMUNICATION OF IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Communication as regards upcoming events, school-related activities etc. is by means of a short note, distributed through the pupils, usually one note per family, to the eldest
- Important dates, events etc., will also be published on school website, <u>www.clanebns.ie</u>
- We will also use the Text-a-Parent service, on occasions.

# LUNCHES AND HEALTHY-EATING

- Scoil Phádraig actively promotes a Healthy-Eating policy.
- The children have their lunches in the classrooms, while the teachers supervise.
- Some of the lunch may be eaten before 11o'clock break.
- All drinks are to be taken in the tiled area, (near the sink) of each classroom.
- "Treats" are allowed each Friday even for the teachers!
- A Healthy Lunch should include all or some of the following, in order to provide a balance of protein, vitamins, carbohydrate and fats.
  - (a): (i) A filled roll or sandwich e.g. ham, cheese salad, (Brown or White bread).
    - (ii) Scones
    - (iii) Crackers
    - (iv) Rice Cakes
  - Some piece(s) of fruit (dried or fresh), yoghurt, vegetables. **(b)**
  - A healthy drink, milk, squash, any hot drink in a flask. (c)
- It is school policy that the following items should **never** be included in a lunch-box crisps, peanuts, hard-bars, lollipops, sweets and all fizzy drinks.
- UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL CHEWING GUM OR DRINKS IN GLASS BOTTLES OR CANS BE TOLERATED.
- We ask that you do NOT give your child nuts or products which contain nuts (we have one pupil in First Class with a very severe nut allergy.



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# **VISITORS**

All visitors (and parents) must enter by the main entrance door only.

Please ring the bell, wait for the friendly voice of the School Secretary, and after entry, report to the office.

Please ring to make an appointment when wishing to meet with Principal and/or Class Teacher.

# PARENT/TEACHER MEETINGS

- Formal meetings take place once each year, usually in November or December. The times of such meetings will be according to Department of Education and Skills Guidelines.
- Parents/Guardians are welcome to discuss any aspect of their child's education, with the class teacher, at any stage during the year, - just ring for an appointment.
- The Principal and/or Deputy Principal will always be available by appointment, to discuss any queries, worries, difficulties or problems you may have in relation to matters which affect your child's education.

# SCHOOL REPORTS

- All pupils, from Infant to 6<sup>th</sup> class, receive an end-of-year School Report, which is posted to the family address.
- Results of Standardised Tests e.g. Micra-T, Sigma-T etc. may be discussed with Principal and/or Learning Support Teacher.
- Results of Standardised Tests in 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> will be provided to all parents, according to new Department of Education and Skills guidelines.

# SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND THE EDUCATION WELFARE ACT 2000

- The National Educational Welfare Board has been established. The Board is required to ensure that every child attends a recognised school or otherwise receives an appropriate education.
- Consequently, all absences of pupils for 20 or more school days must be notified to the C.E.O. of the National Educational Welfare Board, by the School Authorities, during each school year.
- This is now a statutory requirement.
- The Board of Management adheres to the National Guidelines for the Protection and Welfare of Children (Department of Health & Children) in relation to our pupils' safety, protection and welfare.



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# Extra Curricular Activities

During your child's time in Scoil Phádraig, he is invited to take part in some, or all, of the following extra-curricular activities,

- School football teams competing in inter-school county competitions U/10, U/11, **(i)** Senior, 7-a-side.
- (ii) **Athletics and Cross-Country**
- Hurling various age groups (iii)
- (iv) Soccer
- **(v)** Basketball
- (vi) Class Leagues – football, rounders (sometimes)
- (vii) **School Sports Days**
- (viii) Inter-school quiz competitions
- (ix) School Choir
- (**x**) Cór na nÓg
- (xi) School concerts
- (xii) **School Tours and Trips**
- (xiii) Keyboard Lessons (fee paying)

The above list may change from year to year



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# SCOIL PHÁDRAIG AND CHILD PROTECTION

#### Introduction

Schools have an obligation to provide pupils with the highest possible standard of care in order to promote their well-being and protect them from harm.

Mindful of this primary duty of care, the Board of Management of Scoil Phádraig fully endorses,

- "Children First: National Guidance for the Protection & Welfare of Children", as issued (a) by the Department of Children & Youth Affairs, 2011. and
- "Child Protection Procedures for Primary & Post-Primary Schools" as issued by the **(b)** Department of Education & Skills.

### Rationale for our Child Protection Policy

The Policy was drawn up as a response to recent changes in legislation. It further develops previous policy in this area and takes account of the provisions of

- The Education Act, 1998
- The Child Welfare Act, 2000

### The Aims of our Child Protection Policy

- To raise awareness of the importance of Child Protection among all school staff.
- To put in place, clear procedures for all school personnel dealing with suspicions and allegations of child abuse.
- To identify curricular content and resources that contribute to the prevention of child abuse.
- To enable children to properly deal with abuse if it occurs.
- To promote the welfare of all pupils in our care.

#### The D.L.P. (Designated Liaison Person)

Following ratification by the Board of Management, the Principal of Scoil Phádraig, Mr. Patrick Costello, is the D.L.P.

Mr. Costello will represent the school in all dealings with

- the Social Worker on Duty
- the Health Board
- the Garda Síochána
- any other parties involved

#### **Definition of Child Abuse**

Child abuse can be categorised into four different types,

- neglect
- physical abuse
- emotional abuse
- sexual abuse

#### **Reporting of Child Abuse**

Reporting of Child Abuse is mandatory. The D.L.P. will report all incidents or allegations in good faith, to the proper authorities, according to the guidelines and procedures contained in "Children First".



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# CODE OF BEHAVIOUR (SUMMARY)

- The ethos of our school aims to maintain a happy atmosphere built on good spirit on the part of children, teachers, parents and Board of Management.
- As a staff, our aim is to create a happy, secure environment for all, within which there is a sense of good order, effective teaching and an agreed approach to discipline.
- Our policy is based on the principles of Respect, Fairness, Courtesy, Tolerance and Compassion.
- The overall success of our policy will depend on the co-operation, attitude and support of home and school.

### What is School Discipline?

School discipline is a mode of behaviour which is a response to an established set of rules. The response is based on RESPECT for PEOPLE and PROPERTY. The resultant atmosphere is conducive to good teaching, effective learning and enlightened self-control.

#### Aims of Code of Discipline:

- The efficient operation of the school.
- The maintenance of good order and safety throughout the school day, both inside the school and outside in the yard and field.
- The development of respect for school property, school buildings, and the entire school environment.
- The development of care and courtesy towards others.
- The development of self-discipline.

### **Objectives of Code of Discipline:**

To help the children to develop positive mental attitudes, whereby each child

- Sees himself as a unique person. (a)
- Develops his self-esteem. **(b)**
- Feels secure in his environment. (c)
- Learns to distinguish between right and wrong. (**d**)
- Respects all other people, both younger and older. (e)
- Accepts differences/individuality of others. **(f)**
- Learns to share, work and play with others. **(g)**
- Learns to be happy. (h)



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# CODE OF BEHAVIOUR (SUMMARY)

## **Principles underlying Code of Discipline:**

- Pupils are expected to behave in a responsible manner both to others and to themselves.
- Pupils should treat others as they would wish to be treated themselves.
- Pupils are expected to respect the rights of others.
- During play times on yard, field or in the hall, pupils must not engage in any activities which would endanger themselves or others.

### **Implementation of Discipline:**

- Each teacher, in co-operation with the Principal, is responsible for the implementation of rules in his/her own classroom.
- The implementation of general rules and regulations is a team-effort. Every member of staff has the right to correct any child in the school, whether that child is a pupil in his/her class or not.
- The application of school rules will be **Consistent**, **Fair** and **Firm**.
- Teachers will talk to children regularly during class time about:-
  - (a) School Rules and the reasoning behind them.
  - **(b)** Safety of children and how it relates to discipline.
  - (c) Good Manners, Hygiene, Etiquette etc.
  - (d) The ultimate aims of Discipline, which are **Self-Discipline**, **Respect**, **Temperance**, **Tolerance**, **etc**.

#### **OUR GOLDEN RULES**

- I will be gentle I will not hurt anyone
- I will be kind and helpful I will not hurt people's feelings
- I will be honest I will not hide the truth
- I will listen I will not interrupt
- I will look after property I will not waste or damage things
- I will work hard I will not waste time

#### **Classroom Behaviour:**

- 1: The level of noise in class shall be such as not to disrupt the work of those in the room or in adjoining rooms.
- 2: Children must learn to accept the authority of all the teachers in the school.
- 3: Children shall be reminded to enter and leave carefully, safely and politely.
- 4: Children shall be encouraged to keep their own property and the classroom in a tidy state.
- **5:** Movement throughout the room/shall be in a calm, slow, safe manner (running is strictly forbidden).
- **6:** Children shall be expected to politely greet school visitors.
- 7: Children shall use toilets when necessary.
- **8:** Children will be familiarised with what to do in the case of fire.

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# SCHOOL REGULATIONS

- 01: The school day begins at 9.00a.m. and ends at 2.40p.m. Parents of Junior and Senior Infants are requested to have their children collected at 1.40p.m. sharp.
- 02: The school uniform consists of grey trousers, grey shirt, wine sweater and striped tie. It must be worn at all times except on P.E. days, when the school tracksuit only must be worn.
- **03:** Wearing of all jewellery (ear-rings, rings, nose-studs etc.) is strictly forbidden (for safety reasons).
- 04: Mobile Phones: (i) The use of "picture-phones" is completely forbidden on school property or during school trips. (Health & Safety issues). (ii): If a pupil brings a phone to school, it must be turned off when entering school grounds. (iii): Phone must be handed up to teacher immediately on entering classroom. (iv): Phones will be locked into teacher's secure cabinet and will be returned at "going home" time. (v): If a child uses a phone as a toy in the yard or classroom it will be confiscated. (vi): Inappropriate use of a "picture phone" will be deemed as serious mis-conduct and result in disciplinary action.
- **05:** Distracting, unsightly hair-cuts and colourings are forbidden.
- **06:** The school authorities do not accept responsibility for children who arrive at the school before 8.45a.m. or who remain on in the school grounds after 2.45p.m. (1.40p.m. for Infants), as outside of these times, no supervision will be provided.
- **07:** Lunch breaks are as follows: 11.00a.m.-11.10a.m. and 12.30p.m.-1.00p.m.
- **08:** Children are expected to be punctual.
- 09: Children may not leave the school grounds at any time or for any reason without prior written permission from a parent or guardian and then, only when accompanied by same.
- 10: Parents of Junior Infants are asked to leave their children at the classroom during the first few days. When the children have settled into school life, they can to be escorted to the Infants yard. The teacher will bring children to school door in the evenings.
- 11: All parents and visitors must enter through the main entrance only. On arrival, please call to Secretary's
- 12: Please ring to make an appointment when wishing to meet with Class Teacher and/or Principal.

#### **Pupil Rules:**

- Cycling in the school grounds is strictly forbidden at all times walk bicycle from entrance to depot.
- **02:** The car-park is strictly out-of-bounds.
- 03: Chewing gum, glass bottles, cans and crisp bags are not allowed.
- **04:** "Treats" e.g. bars, are allowed for lunches on Fridays, only.
- 05: Children may never leave the school or school grounds without permission or without relevant form filled.
- 06: Children must bring in a note from parent/guardian to class teacher when they have been absent on previous day(s).
- 07: Children must not write on, mark or damage tables, walls, toilets, floors, carpets etc.
- **08:** Running within the school is forbidden.
- 09: Children may not enter school during lunch breaks without getting permission from teachers on Yard
- **10:** Children must play on the tarmac, in specified class areas.
- 11: Children may only play on the field in proper playing gear or when given permission during fine weather.
- **12:** Boisterous play is forbidden.
- 13: Dangerous behaviour in the yard kicking, punching, fighting, spitting, bullying etc., is strictly forbidden and will not be tolerated.
- 14: Pupils must exit school grounds by entrance at car park. Crossing pitches or climbing fences etc., is strictly forbidden (for safety reasons).



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# CLASSROOM AND INTERNAL RULES

- Follow instructions given by Teachers and/or Principal, at all times.
- 02: Sit properly on chairs, all four legs on the floor.
- 03: School bags under tables, neatly stored (especially in Infant classes).
- 04: Walk ways in classrooms must be kept clear.
- 05: Hang all coats, jackets, gear bags etc on hooks, in the wet area.
- 06: During wet days, pupils must sit during break and/or lunch break-no moving around room allowed.
- **07:** No rulers, scissors, mathematical instruments etc to be used during break and/or lunch time, when pupils remain indoors.
- Use all classroom and P.E. equipment, according to teacher's instructions. 08:
- If in big hall during break and/or lunch time, pupils must sit and play on mats or sit on 09: benches.
- 10: Never bang a door closed – be mindful of others.
- 11: When moving around the school, always walk, never run.
- 12: Watch where you are going – don't look behind you while walking.
- At all times, think of your own safety and the safety of others especially younger, 13: smaller pupils.

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# SCOIL PHÁDRAIG, CLAONADH, CO. CHILL DARA

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# WET DAY RULES: BREAK TIME/LUNCH TIME

<b>02:</b> No rulers or any other dangerous implements in pupils' hands.	
<b>03:</b> Only go to toilet with teacher's permission, except in case of emergency.	
<b>04:</b> Computers switched off and can not be used during break times.	
<b>05:</b> Use of other electrical items is also forbidden.	
<b>06:</b> Arrange groups for activities before teacher leaves the room.	
<b>07:</b> Sit down properly – four legs of chair on floor at all times.	
<b>08:</b> Boisterous play is strictly forbidden.	
<b>09:</b> A pupil must not start or take part in any activity which could endanger him others.	self and/o

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# YARD SAFETY ISSUES

- Play safely no rough play or "pretend fighting". 01:
- 02: Stay in designated area of the yard.
- 03: Stay off the pitch, (unless togged out) during inclement weather.
- Don't enter the school without permission. 04:
- 05: Report any problems/incidents to the teachers on yard duty.
- No swinging off basketball stands. 06:
- 07: No swinging out of coats/hoods.
- No throwing of clothes, hats, gear-bags, shoes, pebbles, etc. 08:
- 09: Only tennis balls allowed for soccer games, on yard.
- 10: If a tennis ball goes into the girls' pitch, the car-park or onto the school pitch a teacher on yard duty must be told. **Do not** go out after the ball.
- 11: Climbing or attempting to climb the perimeter fence, hedge or trees is strictly forbidden.
- If a tennis ball goes behind the dressing rooms, or behind "Johnny's Shed", or over the 12: new extension, a teacher on yard duty must be informed. Then one pupil may retrieve the ball, if it is deemed safe to do so, by the teacher.

#### Yard "Out of Bounds" areas: 13:

- the girls' pitch
- our pitches, during wet/inclement weather
- the area behind the dressing rooms
- the area behind "Johnny's shed"
- the school car-park
- the area between the new extension and the wall of the back of the school
- any area that is out of view

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# PITCH SAFETY ISSUES

- Keep away from pylon at all times.
- 02: Suitable attire, (gear), must be worn, when playing on the pitch.
- Do not follow ball onto road, into secondary school grounds, or out through hedge at back 03: of pitch.
- 04: Do not swing from crossbars.
- 05: Do not run off pitch onto tarmac while wearing football boots.
- 06: Tog out/Tog in, using dressing rooms or on edge of pitch (weather permitting).
- 07: Do not leave gear bags on pitch.
- Do not allow mud from boots fall onto tarmac. 08:
- 09: Do not tog out in lobby outside Room 12.
- 10: Shin-guards must be worn when playing soccer.
- 11: Helmets, with face-guard, must be worn when playing hurling.
- 12: Gum Shields must be worn when playing formal school football matches.
- 13: Never begin a hurling match without a teacher being present.
- 14: The wearing of any jewellery is strictly forbidden (e.g. rings, chains, ear-rings, nose studs, etc).

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# PLEASE NOTE

- (a) Children who deliberately damage the property of others may be asked to compensate for such damage.
- (b) Children who engage in dangerous behaviour in the yard fighting, kicking, punching etcmay have to be withdrawn from the school grounds by their parents/guardians, during lunch breaks, in the interest of safety.
- (c) The suggestions, regulations, sanctions etc., in this Summary Code of Behaviour are not exhaustive.

The school and/or Parents/Guardians may have to deal with other matters/indiscretions if and when the occasion demands.

# In Conclusion

We wish each child a happy eight years at Scoil Phádraig, and we hope he develops positive attitudes towards work, play, people, property and discipline as a foundation for a fulfilling, enjoyable and responsible adult life.

"Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí"



**Pat Costello** (Principal)