

Seo a leanas cúntas ar imeachtaí an Bhoird i rith na bliana 2023-2024.

The purpose of this Board of Management Annual Report of Dunboyne Junior Primary School is to provide a summary of information on the operation of the school in line with the requirements of the Education Act 1998. This Report serves as an addition to the information provided on the school's website www.dunboynegps.ie and information provided via email, Aladdin Connect Noticeboard, induction morning, Padlet and Booklet for Parents / Guardians of Infants Starting School and information provided to parents at parent teacher meetings.

Boards of Management are elected for a four-year cycle, and this process took place at the beginning of the 2023/4 school year. The current members of the Board of Management took office on December 1st, 2023 and will run for a four year term. The Board thanks to those volunteers who served the school so well during the 2019-2023 term. The Board of Management serves voluntarily, dedicating their efforts for the welfare of all children at Dunboyne Junior School. Their commitment and hard work are greatly valued by everyone. The Board of Management members are:

- Very Rev. Patrick O'Connor, PP, (Chairperson, Patron's nominee)
- Ms. Orla Mahon, (Principal, Secretary)
- Ms. Joanne Devlin, (Treasurer, Parents' nominee)
- Mr. Liam Ó Laighin, (Patron's nominee)
- Mr. Gerard Mc Dermot, (Community nominee)
- Ms. Andrea O' Carroll, (Teachers' nominee)
- Mr. Thomas Curran, (Parents' nominee)
- Mr. Paul Barrett (Community nominee)

The Board met eight times throughout the year. The meetings were held on the following dates:

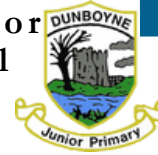
26th September 2023	13th February 2024
14th November 2023	09th April 2024
12th December 2023	28th May 2024
30th January 2024	7th June 2024

Staffing

Principal, 28 teachers, 3 full time SNAs, 4 SNAs on Infant days, secretary, and a shared caretaker. Short-term substitute teachers and SNAs were employed throughout the year and the Board of Management made every effort to ensure that pupils with additional needs did not miss out on teaching time. The Board of Management ensured that all substitutes met the requirements of the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 to 2016 (the Vetting Act) and compliance with the Department's requirements in relation to the provision of a child protection related statutory declaration and associated form of undertaking by all persons being appointed to teaching and non-teaching positions.

Staffing- Preparation for 2023-24

The Board of Management sanctioned two job-share agreements, which will be in place for the school year 2023-24. Three Fixed-term appointments were ratified for the school year 2023-24.



One career break was ratified for the school year 2023-24.

One secondment was ratified for the school year 2023-24.

One CID application was sanctioned by the Department of Education.

Child Safeguarding

Our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment was updated last September 26th September 2023. New Child Safeguarding statement was adopted by the board with changes that were recommended by Department of Education in relation to reporting on the CPOR (Child Safeguarding Oversight Report). CPOR was given at all face to face Board of Management meetings and all relevant documents in relation to referrals to TUSLA were examined. The Board of Management were satisfied that procedures had been followed correctly.

Our Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is the school principal Orla Mahon and the Deputy DLP is the deputy-principal Andrea O'Carroll. The name of the DLP and the Child Safeguarding Statement are prominently displayed near the main entrance to the school. The Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment can be viewed on our website www.dunboynegps.ie and is on display at the front door of our school.

The Board of Management ensured all staff members are familiar with our Child Safeguarding Statement, know who the DLP and DDLP are, are Garda Vetted and have done Child Protection training.

The Board of Management ensured that all teachers are aware that they are mandated persons and of their responsibilities in that regard.

The Board of Management ensured that all sub-teachers met with Garda Vetting requirements and produced a signed Statutory Declaration and Form of Undertaking.

The Board of Management ensured all cases of alleged bullying were properly investigated and acted upon. The Board of Management has met its obligations in respect of Child Protection and Anti Bullying Procedures. Revised child protection procedures for primary and post-primary schools came into effect on 11 December 2017.

The Board of Management ensured the safe storage of all documentation in relation to Child Protection and Tusla.

The Board of Management ensured that a coding system is in place for use with Child Protection and Safeguarding reporting.

School Ethos

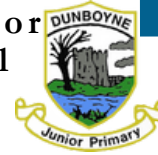
Catholic schools set a high standard when it comes to education provision. Our schools look to Jesus Christ as our role model and teacher.

Dunboyne Junior Primary School is a co-educational school with a Catholic ethos, which strives to provide a well-ordered, caring, happy and secure atmosphere where the intellectual, spiritual, physical, moral and cultural needs of the pupils are identified and addressed. We acknowledge that education is a partnership and we endeavour to link with the parents in the education of their children as the primary educators of their children. We value a spirit of cooperation and a happy learning environment and welcome partnership with the wider community. Dunboyne Junior Primary School will endeavour to enhance the self-esteem of everyone in the school community and to instil in pupils respect for people and property and to encourage in them a sense of responsibility.

For Catholic Schools Week 2024, we will reflect on the theme of our schools exemplifying communities of service.

Each day of Catholic Schools Week has a dedicated focus:

- Service in Our Community of Friends;
- Service in Our School Community;
- Service in Our Family Community;



- Service in Our Local Community; and,
- Service in Our Faith Community.

The sacrament of First Penance / Confessions took place on 27th February and the First Holy Communion on 18th May.

Croke Park Hours

Under the Haddington Road Agreement, each school is obliged to spend 36 hours in after-school planning and preparation in the school year. The staff have completed and exceeded the required hours for 2023-2024 in order to update plans and embed new initiatives.

Policies

The following policies were ratified and/or reviewed by the BoM while being shared with the relevant school stakeholders as part of the consultation process:

- Annual Child Safeguarding Statement
- Annual Anti-Bullying Policy
- Revised Parental Complaints Procedure
- Staff Grievance and Discipline Policy
- Admission Policy
- English whole-school plan
- Gaeilge whole-school plan
- Digital Citizenship Plan
- Code of Behaviour

School Improvement Plan devised and implemented.

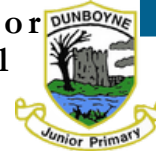
Area of focus: Oral Irish Language.

Finance

The Board received a treasurer's report at each meeting. The school accounts were audited by LV Hogan & Associates Accountants. The school accounts have been certified in line with Department of Education guidelines. At each Board meeting a comprehensive financial report of all income and expenditure since the previous meeting is presented by the Treasurer to the Board for discussion and analysis. The close monitoring of expenditure is necessary as income continues to be limited to Department of Education funding and therefore requires prudent financial management. Ms. Dougan our school secretary looks after the day-to-day administration and computerisation of accounts with great efficiency. There have been significant increases in the cost of insurance, maintenance contracts, light and heating. The Board expressed concern about the cost of cleaning the school, as the Covid Cleaning Grant is no longer available.

School Books Grant

The Primary Schoolbooks Scheme, launched in 2023, aims to alleviate the financial burden on families by covering the cost of schoolbooks, workbooks, and copybooks for all students in recognized primary and special schools. For the academic year 2024-2025, the book grant has been reduced from €96 to €80 per pupil. Despite this reduction, the grant will still cover the cost of children's schoolbooks and copybooks for the upcoming year. The Board of



Management has expressed disappointment over the Department's decision to decrease the grant from the previous year's amount.

Hot School Meals Programme

Minister Humphreys signalled her intention to roll out the Hot School Meals Programme to all primary schools in 2023. As part of this significant expansion plan, all primary schools were contacted and requested to submit an expression of interest form if their school is interested in commencing the provision of Hot Meals.

Dunboyne Junior Primary School was successful in its application and Glanmore Foods began on Wednesday 29th May. The Board of Management acknowledges that hot school meals make such a valuable contribution to the wellbeing of pupils across the school.

Attendance

31/08/2023 to 28/06/2024, all classes

	Days present	Present %	Days absent	Absent %
Total	73771	91%	7330	9%
Girls	37339	91.6%	3421	8.4%
Boys	36432	90.3%	3909	9.7%

Enrolment

454 pupils were enrolled on POD Census day.

Curriculum Mandatory Curriculum Programmes

All classes completed the Stay Safe and Relationships and Sexuality Education S.P.H.E programmes this year.

Introduction of the new Primary Maths Curriculum Framework: Teachers attended the whole school training day for the new mathematics curriculum.

School Self-Evaluation: A new cycle of SSE commenced in 2023, and the focus of this cycle is Wellbeing.

The Board of Management has reviewed Standardised Test Results and Pupil attendance during the course of the year.

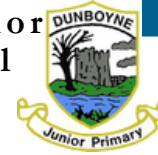
Curriculum Evaluation: Mathematics Report

During this inspection, on 16/05/2024 the inspector(s) evaluated learning and teaching in Mathematics under the following headings:

1. Quality of pupils' learning outcomes
2. Supporting pupils' learning through learning experiences and teachers' practice
3. The effectiveness of school planning, including SSE, in progressing pupils' learning

The Findings

- The quality of pupils' learning outcomes was very good and pupils displayed keen awareness of connections between and across the strands of the mathematics curriculum.
- Learner experiences were of a very good quality. Pupils were provided with an impressive range of mathematical resources, and they actively engaged in playful and collaborative learning.
- The quality of teaching was very good. Teachers' preparation for their lessons was informed by their knowledge of the pupils, the curriculum and pedagogy.



- Whole-school planning and engagement in the school self-evaluation (SSE) process were of a very good quality.

The effectiveness of school planning, including SSE, in progressing pupils' learning was very good. Self-evaluation procedures were well established in the school and teachers demonstrated commitment to school improvement. Targets and actions were meaningfully reflected in learner experiences and teachers' practice. This resulted in successful outcomes, including whole-school approaches to the teaching of problem-solving and mathematical language, and the introduction of digital assessment portfolios in infant classes to support progression in learning. The recently reviewed whole-school mathematics plan provided detailed guidance on many aspects of learning, teaching and assessment. Appendices to the plan, on approaches such as additional and subtraction with renaming, were shared with parents. This supported pupils' learning in promoting parents' awareness of the methods and language used by teachers to explain new mathematical concepts. School leaders are commended for proactively planning for the implementation of curriculum changes, with meaningful emphasis on fostering productive disposition, promoting playfulness, and 'low threshold, high ceiling tasks' as central features of pedagogy to enrich learner outcomes and experiences.

Whole Staff Training /CPD

Restorative Practice

Health & Safety

Fire drills were undertaken and new Fire Assembly points were identified. Each classroom has a designated fire assembly point. Safety, Health & Welfare audits were undertaken throughout the school building and school grounds.

Parents' Association

The Board of Management wishes to express gratitude to the Parents' Association for their dedication and support throughout the 2023/24 school year. The committee has been an incredible asset to the school, organizing events such as the delightful Hallowe'en disco. They have also provided teas and coffees to parents on our first morning and following the First Communion ceremony. Their efforts in running an Easter raffle as a fundraiser enabled them to contribute towards the bus fees for school tours.

The Board of Management is keen to encourage more parents to participate in the P.A., which greatly enriches the school experience for all students. Our current fundraising initiative for playground equipment relies heavily on parental involvement to ensure its success.

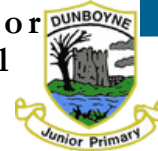
School Tours

Junior Infants Clonfert Farm Wednesday, 5th June

Senior Infants Clonfert Farm Thursday, 6th June

First Class Fort Lucan Monday, 27th May

Second Class Let's Go DCU Friday, May 14th



Circulars

Department of Education communications which were required to be read, disseminated and the contents implemented during the school year 2023/2024 school year.

[Recruitment of Special Needs Assistants \(SNAs\) - Supplementary Assignment Arrangements for the 2024/2025 school year](#)

[Maintenance guidance for all schools](#)

[Home Tuition Grant Scheme 2024/2025 Special Education Component](#)

[Leave for Candidates in General and Local Elections for Special Needs Assistants employed in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools](#)

[Revision of Teacher Salaries under The Public Service Agreement 2024 - 2026 effective from 01 June 2024](#)

[Revision of Salaries for Special Needs Assistants \(SNAs\) under The Public Service Agreement 2024 - 2026 effective from 01 June 2024](#)

[Revision of Salaries of Clerical Officers and Caretakers employed under the 1978/1979 Scheme under The Public Service Agreement 2024 - 2026 effective from 01 June 2024](#)

[Revision of Salaries for School Secretaries Previously Grant Funded Effective from 01 June 2024](#)

[Special Needs Assistant Allocation 2024/25](#)

[Appointment of Administrative Deputy Principals and Staffing Arrangements in Special Schools to take effect from the 2024/2025 school year](#)

[Grant Scheme for ICT Infrastructure](#)

[Information in relation to Standardised Testing and Other Matters – Academic Year 2023/24 and Subsequent Years](#)

[Allocation of Assistant Principal Posts 2024/2025 \(Primary\).](#)

[Report of Education Need for the Purpose of the Assessment of Need Disability Act 2005.](#)

[Say Yes to Languages – primary languages sampler module](#)

[Inspectorate Updates](#)

[Post-Graduate Certificate/Diploma of Teacher Professional Learning for Teachers working with Students with Special Educational Needs \(Autism\).](#)

[Graduate Certificate in Autism Education for teachers working with Autistic Pupils in Special Schools, Special Classes or as Special Education Teachers in mainstream Primary and Post-Primary Schools, 2024/2025](#)

[Post-Graduate Diploma Programme of Teacher Professional Learning for Special Education Teachers, 2024/2025](#)

[Leave Entitlements for School Secretaries employed in Recognised Primary and Voluntary Secondary and Community and Comprehensive Schools](#)

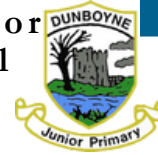
[Domestic Violence Leave for School Secretaries covered by the terms of the 2022 Workplace Relation Commission \(WRC\) Agreement, employed in Recognised Primary and Voluntary Secondary and Community and Comprehensive Schools](#)

[Unpaid Leave for Medical Care Purposes for School Secretaries covered by the terms of the 2022 Workplace Relation \(WRC\) Agreement, employed in Recognised Primary and Voluntary Secondary and Community and Comprehensive Schools](#)

[The General Data Protection Regulations \(GDPR\) – Responsibilities of Data Controllers in respect of the Occupational Health Service \(OHS\).](#)

[Sick Leave Scheme for Registered Teachers Employed in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools](#)

[Sick Leave Scheme for Special Needs Assistants Employed in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools](#)



[\(Primary\) Special Education Teacher \(SET\) allocation model and the calculation of the SET allocation for each school from the 2024/25 school year](#)

[Staffing arrangements in Primary Schools for the 2024/25 school year](#)

[Cost of living measure to support increased school running costs in 2024](#)

[Extension to the Waiver of Abatement of Public Sector Pensions under Section 52 of the Public Service Pensions \(Single Scheme and Other Provisions\) Act 2012.](#)

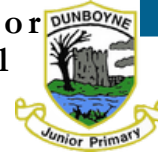
[Publication of Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post- Primary Schools \(revised 2023\).](#)

[Supervision and Substitution Scheme – Opt-in for Principals and Deputy Principals with effect from 1 September 2022](#)

[Primary Mathematics Curriculum for primary and special schools](#)

Conclusion

The Board of Management would like to thank all staff members for their continued hard work and dedication to the school. We also extend our thanks to the parents in our school community who are always so supportive of everything we do to give the children all possible opportunities in our school. We hope that the next school year will be a healthy, successful and happy one for all members of our school community.



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