

*Scoil Naomh Feichín*



# **Scoil Naomh Feichín**

## **School Information**

**2026/2027**



**Principal: Ms. Mags Leonard**

**Deputy Principal: Mrs. Claire McCluskey**

**Secretary: Mrs. Diane Kirk**

## Contacting the School

**Phone: 041 9822589**

**Email: [office@scoilnaomhfeichin.ie](mailto:office@scoilnaomhfeichin.ie)**

**Website: [www.scoilnaomhfeichin.ie](http://www.scoilnaomhfeichin.ie)**



## Daily Opening Times



**Junior Infants & Senior Infants:**

**9.20am – 2pm**

**1st class to 6th Class**

**9.20am – 3pm**

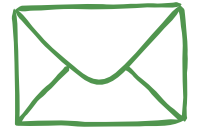
## Communication

Our school uses Aladdin, a free, secure app that helps families and schools stay connected. With Aladdin, families are able to log in and access messages, attendance, homework, reports, and other important updates – all in one place.



**When visiting the school,  
please always call to the  
reception area.**

**Our secretary, Diane, will be  
very happy to assist you.**



Dear Parents/Guardians,

A very warm welcome to our school. We hope that your child will be extremely happy here.

Our school is a happy and safe place where every child matters. We look forward to working in partnership with you in the interest of your child's all round learning and personal development.

Our school motto is "Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí" - (Praise the young and they will flourish). Our school culture and ethos is positive, confidence building and respectful of both staff and pupils.

We have a wonderful, professional and committed staff and you can be assured of our co-operation and engagement at all times.

Should you have any query please contact our secretary to make an appointment.

Beir bua agus beannacht.

*Mags Leonard*

Ms Mags Leonard  
Principal



# School Philosophy



## Vision

Our Vision is that of a caring, loving school where all children, whatever their ability, race or religion are cherished for their uniqueness.

Our school seeks to give equal opportunity to all children to reach their full potential – academically, spiritually, physically, socially and emotionally. We endeavour to achieve this goal in a climate of positive co-operation, supported by the entire school community of pupils, teachers, support staff, parents/guardians, board of management and parish.



## Catholic Ethos

Scoil Naomh Feichín aims to promote the full and harmonious development of all aspects of the person, intellectual, physical, cultural, moral and spiritual including a living relationship with God and with other people.

Our school models and promotes a philosophy of life inspired by belief in God and in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As a Catholic school we provide Religious Education for our pupils in accordance with the doctrines, practices and traditions of the Roman Catholic Church and we promote the formation of the pupils in the Catholic Faith.



# Mission Statement

Our Mission is to seek actively, through word and action, to create a happy climate of physical, emotional, social and intellectual security for students, staff and parents/guardians. In this way, teaching and learning can take place within the context of mutual valuing and respecting relationships.

Our professional and committed teachers see education as providing for the all-round development of the individual as well as knowledge and skills development. We believe each child has a unique and special contribution to make to our school community. We believe every child matters.

We strive to develop independence in our students together with the ability to self-evaluate, self-motivate and internalise discipline. We want our students to be happy with themselves, others and their world. We want our pupils to enjoy school and we endeavour to achieve quality in all that we do.

These aspirations can only be realised through the co-operation of pupils, teachers, support staff, parents/guardians, board of management and wider school community.



# Board of Management



Our school board is made up of eight people: two parents/guardians representatives, two community representatives, two patron's nominees, a teachers' representative and the school principal. The present board was elected in 2023 and has a four year term of office.



# Parents Association



As a parent/guardian you are an automatic member of our Parents Association. Your ideas and support will be crucial in helping to make the parents/guardians' Association a continuing success. There are regular meetings, talks, events and fund raisers organised by the PA during the year. These contribute greatly to the social life of our school and the financing of special projects and initiatives to assist your child's education. They are also a great means of getting to know new people while at the same time making a real contribution.

Our Parents Association operate the pupil insurance scheme and you are encouraged to join this scheme.

# Our School Day



## Golden Rules

Our school has golden rules that underpin our Code of Behaviour and BÍ Cinealta Policy. They are:

I will be gentle – I will not hurt anyone.

I will be kind – I will respect people's feelings.

I will be honest – I will not hide the truth.

I will listen – I will not interrupt.

I will respect property – I will not waste or damage things.

I will work hard – I will not waste time.



## Morning Assembly

Parents/guardians must say goodbye to their child at the main gate and allow them to enter the yard to meet their school friends. All classes line up at their class marker in the yard when the morning assembly bell rings at 9.15am.

## Traffic and Parking



Pupils should be dropped off at the entrance to the school grounds.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to keep the set down area as free as possible so that the morning and afternoon traffic can flow smoothly and avoid delays.

Please take the utmost care when you are dropping off and picking up your child.

***Never park on the footpaths or close to the pedestrian crossing.***

**Staff car park for staff only.**



# Punctuality and Attendance

- Junior Infants and Senior Infants: 9.20am to 2pm
- 1st Class to 6th Class: 9.20am to 3pm
- Morning Break: 11.00am – 11.20am
- Lunch Break: 1.00pm – 1.20pm

All pupils are expected to be punctual and to attend school every day. Regular attendance is crucial to child's educational and social development. Always provide a notice for any absence, on the Aladdin App, as this is a requirement under the Education Welfare Act. It also supports your child so they do not feel pressure to explain their absence from school.

Pupils are allowed access to the school from 9.05am each morning. Between 9.05am and 9.20am the pupils will be supervised in the yard.

It's important that parents/guardians collect their children at the correct time daily. A small child's confidence and trust can be damaged if they are left waiting when other children have already been collected. An infant class is a busy, interactive and hands-on environment and your child's teacher has to tidy up after lessons and prepare for the following day, as well as being timetabled for other teaching duties in our school. Therefore, it is important that all pupils are collected on time.



# School Uniform

The school uniform must be worn every day by all pupils.  
Pupils may wear the crested school tracksuit.

The school tracksuit is navy in colour and can be worn with a white polo shirt and runners. Navy shorts can be worn along with a white polo shirt when the weather is warm. No leggings.

- Shoes/Runners – Velcro is easier than laces for the junior pupils.
- Elasticated waistbands are easier for small children to manage than belts or buttons.
- **Label items**, especially tops, as these are often discarded during playtime.



Uniforms can be purchased from:

Loop School Wear, Greenhills, Drogheda – 041 983 8893

Best Wear, Shop St, Drogheda – 041 983 6636

Uniform Shop, Mell, Drogheda – 041 983 8825

# THE LUNCH BAG

Empowered, Educated Eating



The Lunch Bag is Ireland's leading provider of nutritious, freshly made school lunches, delivering over 100,000 meals daily to classrooms

When your child starts school they will receive a unique activation code. Using this code to create an account on The Lunch Bag App, you will be able to customise your child's order 48hrs ahead!



## Healthy Lunches

If you choose not to avail of the free hot lunch scheme, we encourage our pupils to bring a healthy lunch to school, i.e. water/milk sandwich, fruit, yoghurt, cheese, etc. Pupils eat their lunch in their classroom prior to going to the yard at each break. Please do not pack too much food for your child to eat at lunch-time.

*Fizzy drinks, gum, high salt/sugar snacks are not allowed in the school. These destabilise your child during a day at school as they do not release energy correctly nor provide the correct sustenance for a busy school day.*



# Medicine and Health

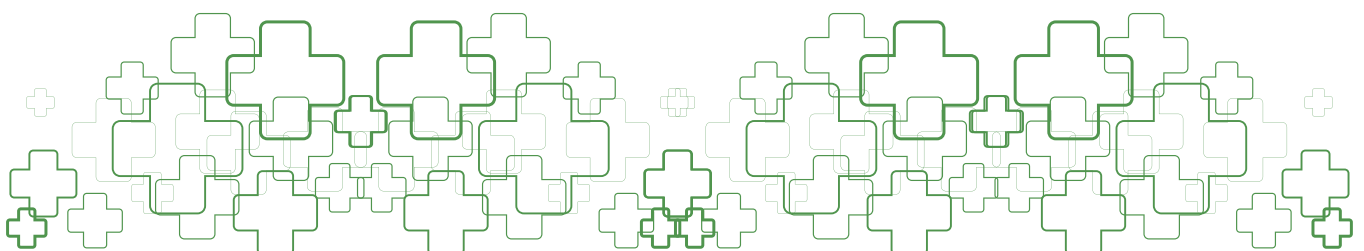
Our school has a comprehensive policy for the Administration of Medicines and for dealing with Medical Emergencies. Please contact the Principal about any sensitive or confidential matters for advice on how we handle these issues.

If your child becomes unwell or receives a head injury during the school day we will contact you. Small cuts or grazes are tended to by our staff and in many instances there is no need to make contact with parents/guardians. In the case of your child being diagnosed with an infectious disease, please notify the school immediately.

**It is imperative that your contact details are accurate and up to date. Please notify us of any changes immediately.**

**Head Lice** are regular visitors to all schools in Ireland. Please check and treat your child's hair regularly and report immediately to the school any outbreak of which you become aware so that we can alert the rest of your child's class. Lice jump from head to head and are not a sign of dirty hair or unhygienic circumstances, so do not be alarmed.

In the interest of health and safety, jewellery is discouraged. The physical nature of play can often mean an earring getting caught in a jumper sleeve and a nasty injury occurring. Best to be safe.





## Emergency Closures

The safety of your child is paramount at all times so should a situation occur that requires the closure of our school e.g. electricity outage, heating problem, water supply disruption, etc. then, if known in advance, a text alert will issue. Messages will be circulated using the Aladdin app so it is imperative that all families are connected to this app.



## Invitations/Cards/Cakes



It is school policy that invitations to birthday parties etc., are not distributed in the school building or playground as it can be upsetting for pupils who do not receive an invitation. Due to the possibility of allergies, cakes and treats should not be sent in to share on birthdays.

# New School Curriculum



The primary school curriculum has been revised and updated over the last number of years. This new curriculum is being implemented on a phased basis, over a six-year period starting in the 2025/2026 academic year, designed to modernize education through 2031, in all primary schools. The curriculum is organised into five key areas, some of which are further subdivided into subjects. These are:

- Language (Irish, English, foreign languages)
- STEM Education (Science, Tech, Engineering, Maths)
- Arts Education (Art, Music, Drama, Dance)
- Social and Environmental Education (History, Geography)
- Wellbeing (SPHE, PE)

The modern curriculum aims to ensure that all children are provided with learning opportunities that recognise and celebrate their uniqueness, foster their full potential and prepare them to meet the challenge of the 21st century. The focus is on the child as learner.

We aim to develop key skills in communication, problem solving, critical thinking, investigation and interaction.

Functional literacy, numeracy and the ability to articulate are stressed in our school and regular testing and assessment is the norm.





# School Books & Workbooks

In 2023 the Department of Education launched a new “Free School Books” scheme for primary school. Textbooks, workbooks, copies and some stationery is now supplied free of charge to all pupils.

As there is no central grant for the supply of art and craft materials and to assist the school to cover printing and photocopying expenses, a small contribution of €30 per child is requested annually – payments through Aladdin App.



## Weight of Schoolbags



Please clear out your child's bag regularly as excess weight can affect their back and posture. Some classes use individual storage boxes for books and copies, when necessary.



# Your Child's First Day

- Start with a good breakfast.
- Come to the school on time, not too early.
- Give a hug, say goodbye, and give an assurance that you will collect him/her on time at the same place.
- Then leave.
- Almost all children are busy and happy within minutes of entering the school.
- For the first few days your child will have a short day so give a small but healthy lunch.
- New infants are often very tired when they first start school for the first time so please make sure he/she goes to bed early and sleeps well.
- Your child's teacher will walk their class to the main gate at home time. Please remain outside the gate and your child will be handed over to you safely.

Be sure to be on time.

Your child's ability to separate from you is enhanced if they know you will always be on time.



# Your Child's First Years



Starting school is a milestone in the life of your child.

You can help to make this transition easier for your child by providing safe opportunities for him/her to spend time away from you and to be in the company of other children in order to learn turn taking and sharing.

In our school we encourage each child to do his/her best through individual, group and whole class activities as deemed appropriate by their teacher. All children learn at their own pace. Just as they learn walking and talking at different ages, so too reading and writing skills are acquired at different times to their peers.

Be patient and never compare. If concerned, speak to your child's teacher. They have the professional skill and experience to guide and advise you and they also want your child to succeed and be happy at school.

Help your child to be independent by training him/her to:

- Use the toilet and wash and dry their hands without help.
- Put on and take off their coat and do and undo buttons and zips.
- Open and close school bags, drinks containers and lunch boxes.
- Use a tissue/ handkerchief when needed.
- Recognise their own belongings.
- Always hand up notes/letters sent home from school.



# Ways you can help your child grow

- Give your child time, spend time together
- Talk to your child and encourage him/her
- Listen attentively to your child
- Read and enjoy stories together
- Talk about the stories
- Repeat Nursery rhymes
- Identify colours and shapes
- Provide paper, crayons and paints for colouring and scribbling
- Provide jigsaws, Lego, playdoh
- Help him/her to cut out using scissors
- Allow sand and water play
- Have fun together
- Praise his/her efforts
- Do not criticise

**Do more with your child  
and less to and for them.**

**“Mol an óige, agus tiocfaidh sí”.**



*Scoil Naomh Feichin*





**Education is a life-long journey.  
We want your child's first steps  
to be as positive as possible.  
Let us walk the path of learning  
together.**