

HOME-SCHOOL-COMMUNITY LIAISON SCHEME
Scoil Ruáin, Killenaule

“The relationship between the home and school is based on partnership, a working relationship that is characterised by a shared sense of purpose, mutual respect and the willingness to negotiate. This implies a sharing of information, responsibility, skills, decision making and accountability” (Pugh, G.)

Scoil Ruáin believes that the process of education is shared between the school and other education providers, family and community. This partnership acknowledges parents as the pupil’s primary educators and encourages the contribution they can make to raising standards and developing citizenship.

Our Policy on Home-School-Community Liaison aims to:-

1. To encourage the interest and involvement of parents in all aspects of their children’s education in keeping with our mission statement of encouraging all pupils to reach their potential in a caring environment.
2. To create an environment where opportunities are available to enrich the learning experience of the pupil by bringing together the resources of Home, School and the local community.
3. To create an atmosphere where parents feel valued, information is shared and communication is open at all times.
4. To acknowledge the role of parents in raising standards, enhancing achievement, raising expectations and assisting in maintaining standards of excellence.
5. To enable parents and teachers to work together for the overall good of the children so that they can achieve their full potential.
6. To motivate and support disinterested pupils in their school life through regular contact with their parents.
7. To provide opportunities for parents to enhance their own development and thus empower them in the fulfilment of their responsibilities.
8. To fully liaise with DEIS partnerships and programmes in the school ie DEIS partnership and planning, JCSP and SCP.
9. To provide input and support for students through the School Support team.
10. Involvement in the Critical Incident Team in the school.

Achievement of aims of Home-School-Community Liaison Scheme

The aims of this Policy will be best achieved by the following:-

1. Maintaining an active Parents Association.
2. Regular home visits by the Home-School-Community Liaison Co-ordinator with a formal reporting back.
3. Parent-Teacher-Pupil Meetings where the Home-School-Community Liaison Co-ordinator is available on an informal capacity to meet with parents.
4. A School Calendar is sent to parents outlining holidays, meetings and other significant school events.
5. Written school reports at least 3 times annually for each year group.
6. Provision of courses for parents either in school or in the local community.
7. Directing parents towards relevant services in the local community and outside.

8. Linking with other voluntary and statutory agencies that have a role in maximising children's education and their retention in the education system.
9. Use of the Local Youth Centre.
10. Involvement of the Parent's Association in all school events such as the Open Evening and First Year/Sixth Year Celebration evenings.
11. Surveying parents to seek involvement in school self-evaluation and improvement.

Evaluation of Home-School-Community Liaison Scheme Policy.

1. Formal and informal feedback from parents and teachers.
2. Feedback from meetings of Parents' Association and Board of Management.
3. Support and advice from members of National Team.
4. Review after a period of 3 years.
5. Support of the school's Student Support Team.