



Scoil Phobail Bhéara

Information Booklet

2021-2022

Telephone Numbers

Office:	027 – 70177 or 70180
Attendance	ext. 1
Guidance Counsellor	ext. 2
Chaplain	ext. 3
Reception/main office	ext. 4
Fax:	027 - 70284
Website:	www.bearacs.ie
E-Mail:	info@bearacs.ie

(Please note this information booklet is updated each year and information may change from year to year).



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Introduction



Scoil Phobail Bhéara opened in 1980 as a result of an amalgamation between Méan Scoil Naomh Iosaf run by the Mercy Sisters and Castletownbere Vocational School run by Co. Cork VEC. The school is situated in Castletownbere and provides a second level education for all students from ages 12-19 in the Beara Peninsula. The school has continued to grow over the past 38 years. It is a mixed ability school, and the staff strives to use a variety of teaching methodologies, which enhance learning. We recognise the importance of partnership between home and school and the need to encourage the student voice. We give every opportunity to each student to reach his or her full potential.

Scoil Phobail Bhéara is a Health Promoting School.

Principal

Deputy Principal

Board of Management 2021-22

Nominations to be held during the summer 2021

TBC	Nominee of patron (Cork ETB)
TBC	Nominee of patron (Cork ETB)
TBC	Nominee of patron (Cork ETB)
TBC	Nominee of Patron (Mercy Order)
TBC	Nominee of Patron (Mercy Order)
TBC	Nominee of Patron (Mercy Order)
TBC	Elected parent nominee
TBC	Elected parent nominee
Ms Noralene Ní Urdail	Elected parent nominee
Mr Noel O'Sullivan	Elected teacher nominee

A Message from the Principal



Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

It is with delight that I write to our incoming students and welcome both you and your parents/guardians to the school community of Scoil Phobail Bhéara.

The transition from primary school to second level school is enjoyable but also challenging. It is my wish for you, that the next 5 or 6 years in Scoil Phobail Bhéara will be happy and fruitful for all of you. I hope your experience of the school will enrich your lives and that as students you will develop as well-rounded citizens and achieve your true potential. I endeavour to do my best for you and hope that you will also strive for the development of the best possible school experience for yourself.

Our school motto is:

“Ní neart go cur le chéile” which translates “There is strength in Unity”

Our school can only be at its best with parents/guardians, students, teachers, Board of Management and the local community all working together and as such it is vital that we all maintain a positive and collegial working relationship based on kindness and mutual respect.

I hope this information booklet will be a useful guide for you and that it will help to make the transition to Scoil Phobail Bhéara a

Kind regards,

Principal.



Vision Statement

Our Vision Statement

We in Scoil Phobail Bhéara have a vision of the type of school we would like. It is a school guided by Christian values where students are happy and where everyone is treated with courtesy and respect. Our school encourages, supports and challenges all students to reach their full potential.

While parents are the primary educators of their children, our staff members, who act in loco parentis, are our most valuable resource and every effort is made to ensure that we have a dedicated and committed staff and good student-staff relationships.

Our School is an integral part of our local community and in addition to providing the best possible education for our young people and preparing them for later life, our school serves as a resource for, and enriches our community.

We do everything possible to assist our students to take responsibility for themselves and their actions and we help them to appreciate and care for the world in which we live.

School Motto

Ní Neart go cur le Chéile / Strength in Unity

The power of a team pulling together, working for the same goal, striving to reach a common destination, is far greater than the sum of its parts. Teachers, Parents, Students, Board of Management and Community, all striving for the same goal: provision of excellence.

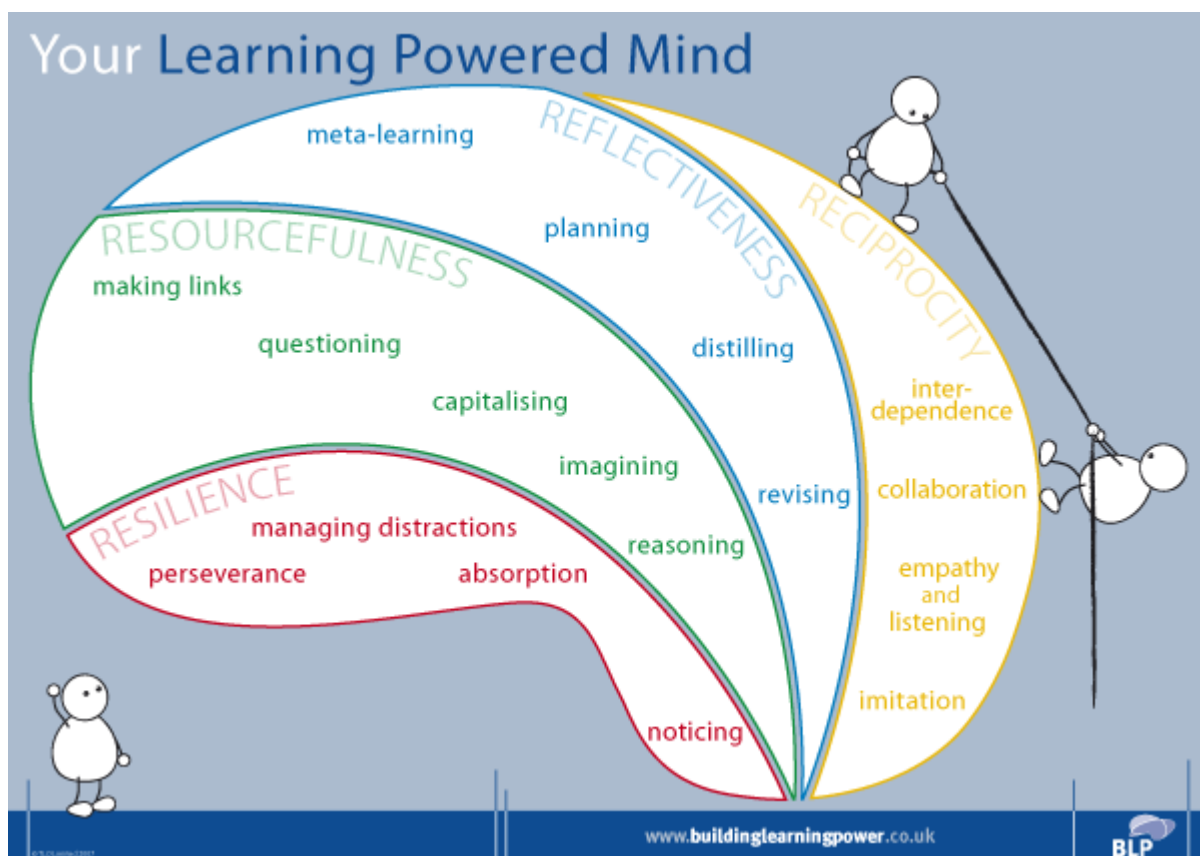


Building Learning Power

As part of our School Self Evaluation Process we are engaged in Building Learning Power. You will receive further information on this as the start of the school year.

What is building learning power?

Building Learning Power is a way to enable all members of the school community to become resilient, resourceful, creative and confident learners.



LEARNING HABITS - What are they and what do they mean?

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| • Persevering | never, never, never give up in the face of difficulties |
| • Being curious | ask questions and see the connection between things |
| • Work well with others | learn from others and help others learn |
| • Reflect on what you are doing | make flexible plans and keep them under review |



GROWTH MINDSET – WHAT IS IT AND WHAT DOES IT MEAN

There are two ways of viewing our mind

- As buckets – with a limited capacity
- As balloons – they can continue to expand

I have a GROWTH mindset when I believe ...

- That my ability is expandable
- In exploring all possibilities
- That I see learning as experimental
- That learning from mistakes is very important
- That setbacks are a way of improving resilience and determination
- That I should take responsibility for my thoughts and actions
- That I can learn from others
- That I should accept my weaknesses and build on them

This year I will

- Adopt learning habits that develop social skills e.g. listen to other people and understand other people's point of view.
- Take personal responsibility for learning as an individual and in teams.
- Take personal responsibility for behaviour and attitude to learning.
- Help others in the classroom shine and make progress.

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR REGULAR UPDATES ON LEARNING HABITS.



How the School is organised

Department of Education

Overall Responsibility



Board of Management

Manages the School



Principal and Deputy Principal

Leaders of learning and responsible for the day to day operation of the school



Year Head

Overall charge of Year group

Class Teachers

Takes special care of one class

Subject Teachers

Teach subjects

School Secretary

Responsible for administration

Guidance Counsellor

Gives guidance on careers and counselling support

Chaplain

Looks after the spiritual and pastoral needs of students

Student Council

Represents the views of students and involved in policy making

Cabhair Group Care Team

Help and support for students experiencing difficulties

Rainbows

Programme dealing with education for loss through bereavement or separation

Parents Association

Promotes and supports the interests of students and parents in education

Partners in education: Staff, Students, Parents, Board of Management



School Holiday Plan 2021/2022

Please Note: The February mid-term and Easter holidays may be shortened as a contingency arrangement for possible closure in lieu of days lost due to adverse weather. Ref circular letter 0016/2014 Department of Education and Skill

1st TERM	
October 2021 mid-term break	Monday 25th October 2021 to Friday 29th October 2021
Discretionary day	Monday 13 th December (School closed)
Christmas 2021	School will close on Wednesday 22nd December

2ND TERM	
Opening	Thursday 6th January 2022.
Mid-Term Break	Monday 21st February 2022 to Friday 25th February 2022
JCT Cluster day	14 th March (school closed)
Discretionary Day	18 th March (School Closed)
Easter Holidays	School will close Friday 8th April 2022

3RD TERM	
Opening	Monday 25th April 2022.
Summer Holidays	Friday 3 rd June 2022



Code Of Conduct

The main function of the school's code of conduct is to ensure the creation and maintenance of a school climate where effective learning and teaching can occur.

The code outlined below was agreed by the Board of Management, Parents Association, Students' Council and Staff of the school. It is based on values such as the dignity of the individual, mutual respect, self-discipline, social responsibility and the right of all students to benefit from teaching and learning

THE CODE

- a) Students are expected to behave in an orderly manner and to show due respect and courtesy to fellow pupils and school staff both in school and on school related activities.
- b) Students are expected to show due respect for school property and for the property of others.
- c) Students are expected to avoid involvement in any activity which might endanger the welfare of themselves or others.
- d) Students are expected to comply with instructions from staff in the matters of safety, conduct in class and school environs, movement about the school, class work and homework.
- e) Students are expected to follow the uniform code and to wear the uniform with pride.
- f) Students are expected to be punctual and to have full attendance.
- g) Parental (or Guardian's) consent is required if a pupil is to be excused from school.



Pastoral Care System

The Pastoral Care System in Scoil Phobail Bhéara is based on our vision statement and our agreed code of conduct

Objectives

1. That students are happy and safe.
2. That students feel they are cared for and valued.
3. That students achieve to their full potential.
4. That good student-staff relationships are characterized by mutual respect and courtesy
5. That parents/guardians are involved as much as possible in the education of their children
6. That the principles of natural justice are followed

Class Teacher and Year Teacher

We are very conscious of the needs of students in Scoil Phobail Bhéara, consequently each class has a class teacher and each year group a year teacher. These teachers look after the pastoral needs of the students.

The School Journal

The school journal is very important for communication between home and school.

- Students will be provided with a school journal. There is a section at the front for parents/guardians to sign.
- The school journal is to be respected. Students must have it on the desk during every class period and must give it to the teacher if requested.
- It must be used to record all homework.
- It remains the property of the school and must be handed up to a teacher on request. It may be kept in the student's file by the school.
- Parent/guardian should initial the school journal each night and sign it each week. (This applies to junior pupils only)
- Students must bring journals with them when meeting Class/Year teacher, Deputy Principal, Principal on a disciplinary matter and also to Parent/Teacher meetings.
- The school journal must be kept free of graffiti and in good condition. If the school journal is lost or not in good condition it must be replaced at a cost of €12. Students should arrange for a replacement of school journal with their class teacher only.

Leaving the School during the school day – Please see our attendance and punctuality policy for further details.

PLEASE NOTE VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION BELOW REGARDING ATTENDANCE:

This should not be done except in cases where there is an emergency. Please try to make all appointments outside of school hours where possible.

Should a student in exceptional circumstances, need to leave school during the school day, a parent/guardian must collect the student from school and sign him/her out at the main office. A



note in the journal will not suffice. Please do not leave messages on the school phone regarding leaving school.

Attendance, Daily Procedures & Issues

Attendance

In accordance with the Education Welfare Act 2000, parents or guardians of students who are absent for 1 or more days are required to contact the school to explain the absence.

Please telephone 027 70177 extension 1 and give the reason for the absence and complete an absence note which is at the back of the student journal when student is returning to school. This note will be held in the student's file.

It is obligatory for schools to inform the National Education Welfare Board (NEWB) if there is a concern regarding attendance.

Daily procedures and issues

1. Students are expected to attend school on all official school days. The school day starts at 8.45 a.m.
2. Students should be on time for class.
3. Students may not enter a room if their teacher is not present. They should line up quietly outside the room. If students are remaining in the room, the door should remain open until the arrival of the next teacher.
4. Students do not have permission to sit where they like; teachers will assign them seats.
5. Students may leave a room only when permission from a teacher has been obtained and a note is written in the journal.
6. Students may not leave the school building between classes or during morning break.
7. On no account should students leave school without permission.
8. Students must be responsible for their own property. It is not recommended to bring valuables to school.
9. School bags and personal belongings must be kept in an orderly fashion in the year area. Students should store their school bags in their year area at break and lunch-time.
10. **Mobile phones** must be switched off and kept in schoolbags or lockers during the school day. A mobile may be used only during lunch break. If a student breaches this rule the phone must be given to the teacher and handed in to the main office. Only a Parent/guardian may collect it from the main office. Recording by mobile phones is strictly prohibited.

11. **Sexting**

Sexting is the sharing of sexual text, video, and photographic content using mobile phones, apps, social networking and other internet technologies. The sharing of explicit text, images and /or video, is an unacceptable and absolutely prohibited behaviour and will have serious consequences and sanctions for those involved in accordance with the school's Code of Behaviour.

Please note the following regarding sharing of images:



- All incidents involving creating, storing, or sharing of explicit text, images and/or video of children under the age of 17 years will be reported as an incident to the Gardaí and Tusla and the State Claims Agency (to the latter as there is the potential to cause injury/harm to the individual).
 - Sharing of explicit text, images and/or videos of pupils in the school will incur serious sanctions including suspension and up to expulsion as determined by the Board of Management.
12. Students are expected to treat their surroundings with respect and pride. Damage to school property will lead to disciplinary action and payment for repairs.
 13. Smoking is illegal in school.
 14. Tippex is banned in school as it is an irritant and stains personal belongings and school property.
 15. Chewing gum is not allowed as it destroys carpets and desks.
 16. Full school uniform should be worn each day and when attending school events.
 17. School activities are privileges. Students whose behaviour is unacceptable will not be allowed represent the school.



School Uniform

BOYS

Mid grey pants

Plain white long or short sleeved shirt (no polo shirts)

Plain knitted crew necked (not V neck) navy jumper (not a navy sweatshirt)

Flat black shoes (**no coloured strips or logos**) Leather shoes preferable

School Jackets are available in **Wisemans and Hanley's**

Navy track suit pants for PE

Half zip can be ordered from school

GIRLS

Mid-grey **knee** length A line skirt (no tube skirts)

(girls may also opt for uniform trousers as for boys)

Plain white long or short sleeved shirt

Plain knitted crew necked navy jumper (not V neck/not sweatshirt)

Navy tights or navy knee length socks

Flat black shoes (no coloured strips or logos) Leather shoes preferable

School Jackets available in Wisemans and Hanley's

Navy track suit pants for PE

Half zip can be ordered from school

Hoodies, sweatshirts etc are not allowed to be worn. Please wear a school jacket.

Fabric

Good quality Travera or equivalent for trousers/skirt

Badge

Plain red badge: navy writing – Scoil Phobail Bhéara

Earrings

Studs or sleepers in ear only – No other visible piercings are allowed (health and safety reasons)

Please Note

Non-compliance of school uniform will lead to disciplinary action. Parents are requested not to write notes excusing non-compliance of uniform. In the interest of fairness and equitability the uniform policy needs to apply to all and at all times.



Rainbows

- As part of our Pastoral Care programme, we are delighted to be in a position to offer young people who have experienced the death of a close relative, separation or other painful change in their family the opportunity to participate in the RAINBOWS Peer support Programme – which already takes place in over 500 schools and parishes throughout the country.
- When something significant happens in a family, the entire family is affected. If a parent dies or parents separate or a painful loss occurs, not only do the parents grieve, the children do also. Grief is an expression of love and a normal human reaction to a significant loss. Children find it difficult to verbalise their feelings of grief because of their age and inexperience. It may surface in their behaviour, schoolwork and emotional well-being.
- **RAINBOWS** is a support group that helps children put their *feelings into words*, work through their grief, build a stronger sense of *self-esteem*, and begin to *accept* what has taken place in the family. **RAINBOWS** is *not a counselling group*. It is a safe, confidential setting where children will share their grief associated feelings with each other and with trained facilitators.
- There are tragic losses that can cause extreme trauma. The Rainbows programme is **not** adequate in these circumstances. Professional help should be sought. If children are already attending professional counselling/family therapy etc. the professional's advice must be sought before application is made for attendance at Rainbows.
- If you feel that participation in this programme would be of benefit to your child we would appreciate it if you would discuss this with him or her prior to their application so that they understand what Rainbows is about. The Rainbows programme will commence in September and refreshments will be provided. Application forms are available from Mrs. M. Murphy Chaplain



Mentoring Programme

This Programme involves Fifth Year and First Year Students.

- In line with the ethos of Scoil Phobail Bheara, each child's personal, emotional, spiritual, social and academic development is a priority. The building of each child's self-esteem is of prime importance. The school aims to provide a safe and caring environment in which all students can function and receive the education they deserve in a comfortable environment. The school endeavours to allow each and every student have a positive experience of school.
- The transition between Primary and Post-Primary school can be a very emotional and challenging time for many students. The mentoring programme plays a vital role in helping them to settle in successfully to their new environment.
- Senior pupils are invited to apply for the position of mentor. The interested students complete an application form and there may be an interview process if necessary. The students are then chosen and participate in a training day held in August. The trained mentors return to school on the same day as first year students, to help with the integration / induction process.
- The mentors meet their first year group as part of first year Orientation Day. They assist the Year Head and Class Teachers allocated to first years, and Chaplain with games to help them get to know each other, a fire drill and tours of the school on the first day.
- Fifth year pupils are allocated a small group of first years (approx. 5 pupils) to care for throughout the year. The first year pupils should feel comfortable with whichever group they are allocated. If any pupil is unhappy in their group, they can easily be changed. The idea behind the mentoring programme is that first year students will have somebody else to confide in and may feel more comfortable with someone close to their own age group. Many of the first year students will already know some fifth year



students and this may also help in preventing problems arising or in solving difficulties which may arise. It is another channel of communication for first year students in the first year in Scoil Phobail Bhéara.

- Fifth year students will deal with any minor difficulties and if any student has a serious difficulty the mentors will communicate with any of the Mentor Programme Team – Chaplain, Year Head of first years or with Principal, Deputy Principal, Class Teachers.
- Fifth year mentors will take their small break and lunch break with their group on the first day of term. The fifth years will then keep an eye on their first year students during break times for the first few weeks. There may be other meetings / events arranged so the groups get a chance to talk socially during the first term, e.g. a table quiz.
- The fifth year students will have received training in areas such as: friendship, bullying, boundaries, confidentiality and problem solving but will make contact immediately with Mentor Programme Team if a problem arises or if they are unsure about how to deal with any situation.



Homework & Study

Homework and study are important aspects of school life.

Homework, whether written or oral, gives the student the opportunity to take ownership of work done in class. It also helps the teacher to assess if students have understood an idea or topic. It is difficult to say how much time should be spent on homework or study. The quality of time spent is more important than quantity.

Suggested minimum times

First year	1.5 hours per night, 5 nights per week
Second year	2 hours per night, 5 nights per week
Third year	2.5 hours per night, 6 times per week
Fifth year	3 hours per night, 6 times per week
Sixth year	3.5 hours per night, 6 times per week

How can parents help?

- Provide a suitable room, desk, chair, heat and light.
- Ensure that the student is not disturbed while studying.
- Check the work is done, and praise where possible.

Assessment in First Year (Further information will be forwarded regarding assessment times)
Currently students are assessed on 4 occasions in school and reports are posted home

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| • Mid-term: | result is based on 2 assessment events held in class |
| • Christmas: | formal supervised exam |
| • Easter or earlier | result is based on 2 assessment events held in class |
| • Summer | formal supervised exam |

Please note as part of the **New Junior Cycle** subjects (except woodwork and technology will be assessed in a different manner.) Details of this have been given to parents/guardians at previous meetings.



Exam / Study Tips

- Eating well, getting sleep and exercising are all important during exam times
- Revise well – make a study plan for your subjects and topics
- Make notes of the important points of each chapter
- Read your exam timetable to ensure you know when and where all your exams are to take place
- Make sure you have pens, pencil, ruler, calculator, etc. for the exams
- Students taking subjects such as T.G., Art, Business Studies, Wood etc. should ensure they have all necessary materials.
- Be on time for your exam
- Read the paper from start to finish, taking note of how many questions you have to answer and how many marks each of the questions are worth
- Divide your time so that you have enough time to answer all your questions
- Make notes on a rough work sheet of paper before answering a long question, make sure to hand up all rough work
- Re-read your answer paper before the end of the exam and make additions where you think necessary
- Answer extra questions if you have time left over
- You will be writing on the exam paper in most exams – however, answer books will be provided by the school if necessary or if you run out of space
- If you are not doing an exam and are studying in hall, please ensure you have textbooks to study for next exams



Points of Information

Calculator

See list of Stationery requirements at back of this booklet.

Book loan Scheme

As you are aware the Parents' Association operate a book loan scheme. You will receive a notification regarding the date for the collection and distribution of the books for your son/daughter

Student Activity Fund

The Department of Education and Science provides the school with monies for day-to-day expenditure. However, it does not provide for the many extras that the school attempts to provide. The fee for 2018-2019 is **€80 per pupil** or **€100 per family**. This fee will be collected during September. This it is a very necessary fund for the variety of student activities and events that are offered. If you wish to pay in instalments please contact the school.

Insurance

At the request of the parents' association, parents are offered the opportunity to choose to take out 24 hour insurance or school related activities insurance for their son/daughter. Each student will receive this form by post.

A – 24 hour cover - €9

B – School related activities- €6

A **school locker** is available at a cost of €20 euro (€10 euro is refunded on return of key)

Toilets

There is a designated toilet for first year boys and girls.

Morning break

First years are allowed out for break 5 minutes earlier than other classes.

Lunch break

First years remain in school during lunch break.

Activities at lunch time include basketball, football, athletics, table tennis, and Fóroige

Illness

If a student becomes ill during the school day parents/guardians will be contacted by the school.

Contact between parents and students

If you wish to contact your son/daughter during the school day, please **do not** do so on his/her mobile (except during school lunch break) as this is a cause of disruption to school work. If your son/daughter is ill and needs to be collected, you will receive a call from the school.

Contact with staff

Principal, deputy principal and staff should not be contacted at home with regards to school business. If you wish to speak to a member of staff please make an appointment through the main office. 027 70177 ext 4



Child Protection

1. The Board of Management has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the Department's Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools as part of this overall child protection policy.
2. The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is: Ms Pauline Hurley, Principal
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is the Deputy Principal.
4. In its policies, practices and activities, Scoil Phobail Bhéara will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare:

The school will

- Recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations;
- Fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters
- Adopt safe practices to minimise the possibility of harm or accidents happening to children and protect workers from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of abuse or neglect;
- Develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children; and
- Fully respect confidentiality requirements when dealing with child protection matters



School Self Evaluation (SSE) & Literacy & Numeracy National Strategy

2014-2015

As part of the above initiatives the school has prioritised to focus on numeracy for 2014-2015. This will be continued in 2015 combined with a further initiative in the area of Teaching and Learning.

2015-2016

Our priority area for SSE was in the area of teaching and learning. Our numeracy initiative was also continued.

2016-2017

Our priority was in the area of literacy as well as continuing with numeracy and teaching and learning.

2016 - Review of learning across the school

2017-18 Building learning habits

- Persevering
- Being curious
- Working well with others
- Reflecting



Staff

Teaching Staff

Pauline Hurley	Principal, History, English
Niamh O'Driscoll	Deputy Principal, Business, Enterprise, Religion, SPHE
Marie Carey	Religion, Geography, SPHE, English
Cassandra Cremin	Science, Biology, Chemistry, CSPE, DML
Karen Croke	Art, CSPE
Dara Crowley	Engineering, Technology, Metalwork
Sarah Crushell	French, Italian, SPHE, CSPE, ECDL, DML
Ruairi Deane	PE, SPHE
Elaine De Barra	English, History
Kathleen Dwyer	Science, Biology, Chemistry, Ag Science
Shane Galvin	Business Studies, SPHE
Mary Hanrahan	English, History, CSPE
Margaret Harrington	Gaeilge, History, SPHE
Margaret Keohane	Home Economics, Religion, Resource, CSPE, SPHE
Celia Landron	French, CSPE
Marian Lynch (AEN Coordinator)	Home Economics, Religion
Marie McNamara	Maths, DML
Conor Moore	Maths, Computers
Caitríona Murphy (TY Coordinator)	Gaeilge, English, CSPE
Marie Murphy (Chaplain)	Religion, SPHE, CSPE
Niamh Ní Drisceoil	Maths, Gaeilge, Learning Support
Noralene Ní Urdail	Guidance Counsellor, Gaeilge, English, SPHE
Antoinette O'Callaghan (JCSP Coordinator)	Learning Support, English, History
Cian O'Connell	Ag. Science
John O'Connor	Construction Studies, Material Tech Wood, TG, DCG
Susan O'Connor	Gaeilge, French, CSPE
Anne O'Driscoll	Home Economics, Religion, CSPE
Marian O'Driscoll	English, SPHE, CSPE
Sean O'Leary	PE, Gaeilge
Aoife O'Shea	Maths, Spanish
Noel O'Sullivan	Engineering, Technology, Metalwork,
Alan Sheehy	Science, Physics, Maths, Biology
Emma Sullivan	English, Geography

Secretarial Staff



Margaret Power Clerical Officer
Mary Claire O’Sullivan
Delia Murphy

Maintenance staff

Michael Harrington Caretaker
Sheila Regan
Mary O’Sullivan
Carmel O’Shea

Special Needs Assistants

Gretta Harrington	Laurie Nolan	Kathleen McCarthy
Eileen O Sullivan	Dolores O’Shea	Sarah Harrington
Teresa O’Sullivan	Mairead O’Connor	Lorraine O’Sullivan

Facilities

Computer Room	Engineering/Technology Room
Technical Graphics/DCG Room	Art Room
Woodwork room	Construction room
English Room (2)	Seomra Gaeilge
History Room	Geography Room
Prayer Room	French Room
Home Economics Room (2)	Maths Room
Science Room (2)	Sports Hall
Learning Support Room	Library/Study and office
Resource Programme Room	Seomra caidrimh
Guidance Room and Library	Canteen
Pitch	Basketball Courts
Broadband available in all rooms	Bonovox Sound System installed
Study library	Business Room

Extra-Curricular Activities

Please note that activities change from year to year depending on availability of staff

Debating	Public Speaking
Football	Drama
Poetry and Writing workshops	BT Young Scientist



Cross Country Running Competitions	Comórtas Gael Taca
Athletics	Basketball
School Bank	Gaisce
Maths, History and Irish quizzes	Educational Trips

School Events

- Parent –Teacher Meetings for each year group
- Gradam na Scoláirí (Student Awards)
- Beginning and end of the year Mass
- Information meeting for First Year Parents
- Leaving Cert Graduation, Transition Year Graduation
- Information evening on programmes, subjects etc.
- Reconciliation service
- Interview experience
- West Cork Music event
- Christmas concert

Support for Students

Students Council	Mentors (5 th yrs)	Foróige
Care Team	Chaplain	Supervised Study
Guidance Counsellor	Study Skills	Rainbows

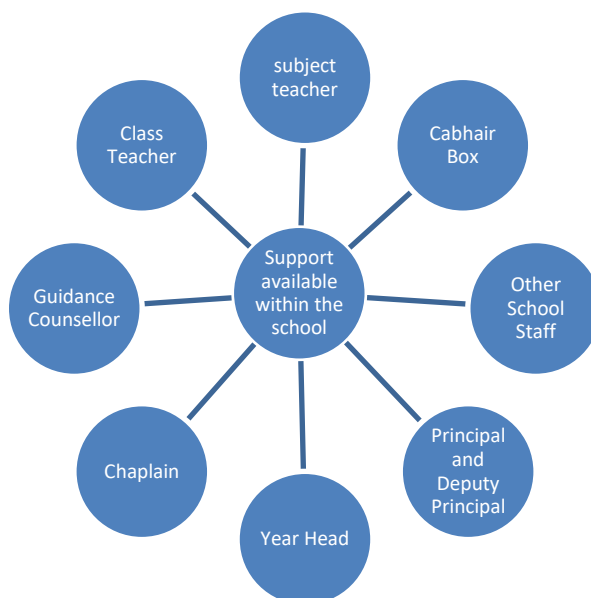
H.E.A.R.- Higher Education Access Route (in conjunction with third level colleges)

D.A.R.E. – Disability Access Route to Education (in conjunction with third level colleges)

Support for Parents

Parents Association and affiliated to PACCS (Parents Association of Community and Comprehensive Schools) and NPCpp (National Parents Council post primary)

Support for students in Scoil Phobail Bheara



Guidance Counsellor	Chaplain
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach informally on corridor, canteen, staffroom etc... • Approach directly and ask for an appointment for yourself or a friend. • Use the Cabhair to request an appointment for yourself or a friend. • Put note under the door. • Ask a staff member to make an appointment or for a referral. • Email a request to: • guidancecounsellorinbeara@gmail.com 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach informally on corridor, canteen, staffroom etc..... • Approach directly and ask for an appointment for yourself or a friend. • Call to the chaplains office - if the office door is open - if available I will see you then, otherwise you will be given an appointment for a later time. • Put note under the door. • Ask a staff member to make an appointment or for a referral. • Email a request to: • m.murphy@bearacs.ie



Literacy & Numeracy for Learning & Life

Literacy & numeracy for learning and life is a Department of Education and Skills National Strategy was launched in July 2011.

Aim

To improve literacy and numeracy among children and young people.

6 Key Areas

- Enabling **parents** and communities to support children's literacy and numeracy development
- **Improving teachers' and early childhood education** and care practitioners' professional practice through changes to both **pre-service and in-service education**
- Building the capacity of **school leadership** to lead improvements in the teaching and assessment of literacy and numeracy in schools
- Getting the content of the **curriculum** for literacy and numeracy right at primary and post-primary levels by making sure that the curriculum is clear about what we expect students to learn at each stage
- Targeting available **additional resources** on learners with additional needs, including students from disadvantaged communities, students learning English as an additional language and students with special educational needs
- **Improving how teachers, schools** and the educational system use good assessment approaches to plan the next steps for each learner and monitor progress.

The school has begun introducing initiatives in both literacy and numeracy to support this national strategy.

School Inspections

The school had a Department of Education and Skills **Whole School Inspection of Management Leadership and Learning (WSEMLL) in 2011**. This report is now published and may be found on the website: www.education.ie

During 2013-2014 the school had one incidental inspection which focused on 2nd years. The report from the inspector was very positive. We also had a history department inspection where teaching and learning was deemed to be very good to excellent. The full report can be read on www.education.ie

Other websites that are useful are:

www.examinations.ie

www.paccs.ie

www.scoilnet.ie

www.ncca.ie



Programmes on Offer in Scoil Phobail Bhéara

(Programmes offered each year depend on resources, student choice and numbers.)

- Junior Cycle Student Award (The new Junior Cycle)
- Junior Cert Schools Programme (JCSP)
- Transition Year (TY)
- Leaving Cert
- Leaving Cert Applied (LCA)

Junior Cycle Student Award (The new Junior Cycle)

Circular 0015/2017 lays out the arrangements for the Framework for the New Junior Cycle.

All class periods will be 40 minutes in 2021-22

1st years

1st years 2018 will study 9 subjects for the final exam in 2021 and up to 2 short courses.

9 subjects will be as follows: English, Irish, Maths, Science, French, History, Geography, and 2 option subjects

2 short courses will include: PE and Digital Media Literacy

Wellbeing is also compulsory: It includes PE, CSPE, SPHE and Guidance.

Note that in 1st year, students may study more subjects to facilitate selection of subjects (e.g. 3 options)

Other areas of learning will include 2 periods of Religion and a tutorial class. Religion will not be an exam subject.

Students will not be able to take extra subjects.

Wellbeing

Wellbeing, 300 hours must be provided over 3 years.

The main aim of wellbeing is human flourishing where students will be actively engaged and interested.

There are 4 aspects to wellbeing:

- Culture



- Relationships
- Curriculum
- Policy and Planning

Curriculum

PE	2 periods per week	140 hours
SPHE	1 period per week	70 hours
CSPE	1 period per week	70 hours
Guidance		<u>20 hours</u>
		300 hours

PE Short Course, 100 hours

4 Strands

1. Physical activity for health and wellbeing

- How to monitor and improve physical fitness
- Physical activity for all

2. Games

- Striking and fielding games
- Divided court game

3. Individual team challenges

- Orienteering and team challenges
- Athletics
-

4. Dance or gymnastics

- Creating a sequence or movement
- Reflecting on performance
- Performing

Digital Media Literacy, Short Course, 100 hours

4 Strands

1. My Digital World

- My digital life
- Respectful and responsible use



2. Following my interests online

- What is digital content
- Searching and evaluating
- Expressing through digital images

3. Checking the Facts

- Digital media formats
- Looking for bias
- The role of digital media in society

4. Publishing Myself

- Social media and me
- Following my passion

Junior Certificate Schools Programme (JCSP)

The JCSP is a national programme sponsored by the Department of Education and Science and the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment. It is designed to help teachers develop a student centred approach to the Junior Certificate.

The JCSP follows the curriculum framework set out for the Junior Certificate and the goal of the programme is to ensure that students achieve success in the Junior Certificate examination. It attempts to help young people experience success and develop a positive self-image by providing a curriculum and assessment framework suitable to their needs. On completion of the programme students receive a profile which is an official record of their achievements from the Department of Education and Science.

Learning Support Programme

The Learning Support Programme aims to ensure that all pupils achieve success in school. As every student is an individual with different educational needs, it is designed to allow them the opportunity to have extra support to meet these individual requirements. Learning Support classes are organised within the student's timetable. They are withdrawn in small groupings. The small groups allow for appropriate individual learning plans to be implemented providing for the specific support that each student requires.

Level 2 Learning Programmes

For the first time in the history of education in Ireland there is a Junior Cycle pathway for students with particular special educational needs called Level 2 Learning Programmes (L2LPs). They consist of five Priority Learning Units (PLUs) and will be recorded on a students' Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement (JCPA). The priority areas of learning include:

- Living in a Community
- Preparing for Work
- Personal Care
- Communicating and Literacy



- Numeracy

As part of an L2LP students must also complete two short courses.

Resource programme

Aims

- To provide a supportive educational environment
- To enable the students develop their potential and to participate as fully as possible in the curriculum, in school activities and in the wider community.

The basis of the programme is the assessment of the strengths and needs of each individual student. This is done in consultation with parents/guardians, psychologist, previous teachers and the student him/herself. Following assessment an individual timetable is drawn up. The range of subjects, degree of inclusion in mainstream and in-class support varies for the individual student.

The focus of the teaching is to develop the student's potential in literacy, numeracy, social and life skills and to encourage a wide range of interests.

Financial Planner

We have listed the main expenses for you for 2021-22. We have endeavoured to keep all costs at a minimum. Should you find yourself having difficulty meeting some costs please contact the school in order to set up payment by instalment.

Main Expenses:

- Uniform Costs- shirt, jumper, trousers or skirt, jacket and shoes, navy tracksuit pants for PE
- Book Loan Scheme (you will receive a letter from the Parents' Association)
- Activities Fund- €80 per student or €100 per family
- Insurance Fee

1st year Stationery Requirement

English

1 x A4 Copy, 120 pages with plastic cover
2 x Plastic Folder A4 size

Maths

2 x A4 Copies, 120 pages with plastic cover
Calculator required, Casio fx-83GT plus
Mathematical set



Science

2 x A4 Copies, 120 pages with plastic cover
A2 Plastic carry case

Gaeilge

3 x A5 Copy books

French

A4 hardback copy (lined only)
Copy book A5, 120 pages

History

1 x A4 Copy, 120 pages with plastic cover

Geography

1 x A4 copy, 120 pages with plastic cover

Art

1 x A3 Plastic folder
1 x A3 Sketchpad
Pencils: 3B, 4B, 5B

Home Economics

1 x A4 plastic cover copy
1 x Pritstick

Metalwork

Students of metalwork have to have their own locker

Technical Graphics

2H pencil
HB pencil
Teacher will outline other requirements in class in September

Business

1 x A4 hardback copy
1 copy, 120 pages

Woodwork

1 x A4 hardback copy

General

Display folder



Pencils
Ruler x 30cm



Digital Acceptable Use Policy



Address	Scoil Phobail Bhéara, Castletownbere, Co. Cork
Telephone	02770177
Email	info@bearacs.ie
Website	http://www.bearacs.ie
Fax	02770284
School Name	Scoil Phobail Bhéara
Date of Commencement	16/04/2018



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General Approach

Scoil Phobail Bhéara recognises that access to Information and Communication Technology (ICT) gives our students enhanced opportunities to learn, engage, communicate and develop skills that will prepare them for many aspects of life.

Objectives of using ICT:

- That every student develops the necessary ICT skills and understanding to make their contribution to the economy and society of their future.
- That students' learning in all areas is enhanced and enriched.
- That the range of teaching strategies is broadened, to increase effective teaching, and particularly in providing better access to the curriculum for students with Special Educational Needs.
- That students take more responsibility for their own learning.
- That students develop positive attitudes towards ICT.
- That students learn the basic computer applications.
- To allow access to a wealth of electronic resources on the Internet.
- To use all available hardware and software resources to ensure the effective and efficient administration of the school.
- That staff develop necessary ICT skills and understanding to make their contribution to teaching, learning and the development of the school academically and administratively.

Technologies

Office 365 is available for all staff and students in the school. Students and staff will use Office 365 to access their email accounts and as a Virtual Learning environment.

Office 365 for Education This is a collection of services that allows teachers and students to collaborate and share schoolwork. Every staff member and student in the school has their own Office365 account. This allows for 1TB of cloud storage, access to the office programs online, school E-mail and the facility to download the full version of the latest Microsoft office products onto up to five personal devices.



Each student is assigned an Office 365 account accessed using a school email address and password.

This account will be used by students when engaging in school work or collaborating with teachers/students in the course of school work for a blended learning approach and also if there are circumstances where there is a need for remote learning. As this account can be accessed through a web browser, students will have access both in school and at home. The school does not accept responsibility for students' use of Office 365 outside of school time.

- Students are responsible for having their login details available during school hours
- Students should report any account issues – locked out, no access...to their class teacher. Parents are requested to monitor the student's use of the account outside of school

Cloud Storage

- This facility is designed to allow teachers/students to store school related work/projects, making it accessible to use from home or elsewhere.
- Students should only upload course-related documents/work.
- Students should not allow anyone else to access their OneDrive.
- Students are not permitted to access or modify another student's OneDrive
- Students should not reveal their password to anyone

The responsibility for what is stored and uploaded to OneDrive lies with the students and parents.

Student Accounts:

These are set up for each student in first year. These accounts stay with the students until they leave the School. All students have their own log in and password that gives them access to these accounts. Their login details for the computer system are the same as those for logging in to Office 365.

No other student has access to any other student's material.

It is the responsibility of each student to ensure that their password is kept secret.



Student Shared Account:

A suitable use for this might be for a teacher to upload documents or resources to it for all their students to use or students can upload work on their class notebook or drive for the teacher to access.

Students may not use this shared space to post personal messages of any sort or interfere with any material uploaded to it that is not theirs.

As part of a blended learning environment, Scoil Phobail Bhéara may provide students and staff with internet access, desktop computers, digital imaging equipment, laptop, tablet or mobile devices, video-conferencing capabilities, virtual learning environments (VLEs), online collaboration capabilities, online discussion forums, email, various appropriate educational software and applications, and more.

Scoil Phobail Bhéara may provide access to new emerging technologies as they arise. The policies outlined in this document are intended to cover all technologies, online and offline, that may be used in the school, not just those specifically mentioned.

The aim of this Internet Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) is to ensure that students and staff will benefit from the learning opportunities offered by the school's internet resources in a safe and effective manner.

Internet use and access is considered a school resource and privilege. If the school AUP is not adhered to this privilege may be withdrawn and appropriate sanctions will be imposed.

When using the internet students, parents and staff are expected:

- To treat others with respect at all times.
- Not undertake any actions that may bring the school into disrepute.
- Respect the right to privacy of all other members of the school community.
- Respect copyright and acknowledge creators when using online content and resources.

This Acceptable Use Policy applies to students who have access to and are users of the internet in Scoil Phobail Bhéara.



- It also applies to members of staff, volunteers, parents, carers and others who access the internet in Scoil Phobail Bhéara.

Misuse of the internet may result in disciplinary action, including written warnings, withdrawal of access privileges, detention and, in extreme cases, suspension or expulsion. The school also reserves the right to report any illegal activities to the appropriate authorities.

Scoil Phobail Bhéara will deal with incidents that take place outside the school that impact on the wellbeing of students or staff under this policy and associated codes of behaviour and anti-bullying policies. In such cases Scoil Phobail Bhéara will, where known, inform parents/carers of incidents of inappropriate online behaviour that take place out of school and impose the appropriate sanctions.

Scoil Phobail Bhéara implements the following strategies on promoting safer use of the internet:

- Students will be provided with education in the area of internet safety as part of our implementation of the SPHE and CSPE curriculum.
- Internet safety advice and support opportunities are provided to students in Scoil Phobail Bhéara through our Induction, Pastoral Care, ICT, programmes.
- Teachers will be provided with continuing professional development opportunities in the area of internet safety.

This policy and its implementation will be reviewed annually by the following stakeholders:

- Board of Management, teaching staff, support staff, students, and parents

This policy has been developed by a working group including: Principal, Deputy Principal, teachers, students, parents/carers, and representatives of the Board of Management.

The school will monitor the impact of the policy using:



- Logs of reported incidents.
- Monitoring logs of internet activity (including sites visited).
- Internal monitoring data for network activity.

Should serious online safety incidents take place, The Principal/ Deputy Principal should be informed.

The implementation of this Internet Acceptable Use policy will be monitored by The Principal/ Deputy Principal

Content Filtering

Scoil Phobail Bhéara has chosen to implement the following level on content filtering on the Schools Broadband Network:

- Level 4 This level allows access to millions of websites including games and YouTube but blocks access to websites belonging to the personal websites category and websites such as Facebook belonging to the Social Networking category.

Students taking steps to by-pass the content filter by using proxy sites or other means may be subject to disciplinary action, including written warnings, withdrawal of access privileges, detention and, in extreme cases, suspension or expulsion.

Web Browsing and Downloading

Students will not intentionally visit internet sites that contain obscene, illegal, hateful or otherwise objectionable materials.

Students will report accidental accessing of inappropriate materials in the classroom to their teacher.



Students will report accidental accessing of inappropriate materials in school but outside the classroom to the Principal/Deputy Principal.

Students and staff will not copy information from the internet without acknowledging the creator and referencing the source of the content.

Students and staff will be aware that any usage, including distributing or receiving information, school-related or personal, may be monitored for unusual activity, security and/or network management reasons.

Students will use the school's internet connection only for educational and career development activities.

Students will not engage in online activities such as uploading or downloading large files that result in heavy network traffic which impairs the service for other internet users.

Students will not download or view any material that is illegal, obscene, and defamatory or that is intended to annoy or intimidate another person.

- Downloading by students of materials or images not relevant to their studies is not allowed.

Communication

Office 365 will be available for all staff and students in the school. Students and staff will use Office 365 to access their email accounts and as a Virtual Learning environment.

Staff and students have usernames and passwords, for access to electronic resources and email facilities, which should not be given to anyone else. Users are responsible for safeguarding their passwords, and are responsible for all actions made using their user account. If a user suspects that the security of an account has been compromised, this should be reported to the ICT Co-ordinator immediately.



- The use of personal email accounts is only allowed at Scoil Phobail Bhéara with expressed permission from members of the teaching staff.
- Students should not under any circumstances share their email account login details with other students.
- Students should not use school email accounts to register for online services such as social networking services, apps, and games.
- Students will use approved class email accounts only under supervision by or permission from a teacher.
- Students should be aware that email communications are monitored.

Students will not send any material that is illegal, obscene, and defamatory or that is intended to annoy or intimidate another person.

Students will not use of school email accounts or personal emails.

Students should immediately report the receipt of any communication that makes them feel uncomfortable, is offensive, discriminatory, threatening or bullying in nature and must not respond to any such communication.

Students should avoid opening emails that appear suspicious. If in doubt, students should ask their teacher before opening emails from unknown senders.

Social Media

The following statements apply to the use of messaging, blogging and video streaming services in Scoil Phobail Bhéara:

- Use of instant messaging services and apps including Snapchat, Whats Apps, and G Chat etc. is allowed in Scoil Phobail Bhéara with express permission from teaching staff.
- Use of blogs such as Word Press, Tumblr etc. is allowed in Scoil Phobail Bhéara with express permission from teaching staff.
- Use of video streaming sites such as YouTube and Vimeo etc. is with express permission from teaching staff.



Staff and Students must not use social media and the internet in any way to harass, insult, abuse or defame students, their family members, staff, and other members of the Scoil Phobail Bhéara community

Staff and Students must not discuss personal information about students, staff and other members of the Scoil Phobail Bhéara community on social media.

Staff and Students must not use school email addresses for setting up personal social media accounts or to communicate through such media.

Staff and Students must not engage in activities involving social media which might put Scoil Phobail Bhéara into disrepute.

Staff and students must not represent your personal views as those of bring Scoil Phobail Bhéara on any social medium.

Personal Devices

Students using their own technology in school should follow the rules set out in this agreement, in the same way as if they were using school equipment.

The following statements apply to the use of internet-enabled devices such as tablets, gaming devices, and digital music players in Scoil Phobail Bhéara:

- Students are only allowed to use personal internet-enabled devices during lessons with expressed permission from teaching staff.
- Students are allowed to use personal internet-enabled devices during social time.

Photographs, videos and audio

Students should not store personal photographs on school devices, or show such photos to others in school (including those on their phones). Photographs, video or audio are often



taken as part of class activities. However, they should not be taken in school without a teacher's permission and must be supervised by a teacher.

Care should be taken when taking photographic or video images that students are appropriately dressed and are not participating in activities that might bring the individuals or the school into disrepute.

At Scoil Phobail Bhéara students must not take, use, share, publish or distribute images of others without their permission.

Taking photos or videos on school grounds when participating in school activities is only allowed once permission is given by staff and care is taken that no harm is done to staff or students of Scoil Phobail Bhéara

Taking photos or videos on school grounds or when participating in school activities is only allowed with expressed permission from staff.

Written permission from parents or carers will be obtained before photographs of students are published on the school website.

Students must not share images, videos or other content online with the intention to harm another member of the school community regardless of whether this happens in school or outside.

Responsibilities while partaking in remote eLearning

For staff and teachers:

- Teachers have overall control of the online interaction of their class
- Disruptive students will be removed to allow those who wish to partake a fair chance to do so. Repeatedly disruptive students may receive a temporary ban from all online access.
- Teachers will do their utmost to be available at the identified time on their timetable, through Teams chat or by e-mail.
- Teacher are to communicate through their @bearacs.ie account only.

For students:

- Students are to communicate through their @bearacs.ie account only. The use of any other account or e-mail address is expressly prohibited
- Students are not to engage in communications with any account other than an



@bearacs.ie account and report any such activity to your teacher or year-head's

@bearacs.ie e-mail account

- Students must always be civil and respectful to your teachers and fellow students
- Student should be dressed appropriately for all remote learning sessions.

- Students are not to record or forward any content within a Teams group – such as worksheets, exam papers, answers, solutions, videos, notes, or links – to anyone else without the permission of the creator of that content.
- Students should understand that all online activity is recorded. This includes anything you send or say via e-mail, Teams, and OneNote, and whether you are checking regularly for assigned work.

For parents/guardians:

- Parents/ guardians should ensure that their son/daughter is checking in regularly for assigned work
- Where live classes are being run parents/ guardians should ensure their son/daughter is in an area of the house that is quiet and free from distractions. Please be mindful of Child Protection Guidelines, for example, bedrooms should not be used for live classes.
- Live online classes should be viewed by students of the relevant class only.

Teachers may deliver some of the course “live” using Teams. This will use varying combinations of audio, video, virtual whiteboards and screencasts.

In the use of Teams meetings:

- Students must always follow the direction of their teacher just as in the classroom
- Students are not to turn on their video at any time without the permission of their teacher.
- Students are not to turn on their microphone unless the teacher invites them to do so. In any case, all microphones should be on mute when a person is not speaking to avoid distracting background noise being broadcast to everyone.



Sessions may be recorded, so these recordings may be made available by the teacher to the class to watch back again later. This recording includes any video, screenshares, whiteboards and audio from the class.

- Only the teacher is allowed record a session. No-one else is permitted to record.

Cyberbullying

When using the internet students, parents and staff are always expected to treat others with respect.

Engaging in any online, social media , or communication activities by Students or staff with the intention to mock, harm, harass, or embarrass another pupil or member of staff is an unacceptable and absolutely prohibited behaviour, with serious consequences and sanctions for those involved.

Measures are taken to ensure that staff and students are aware that bullying is defined as unwanted negative behaviour, verbal, psychological or physical, conducted by an individual or group against another person (or persons) and which is repeated over time. This definition includes cyber-bullying even when it happens outside the school or at night.

Measures are taken by Scoil Phobail Bhéara to ensure that staff and students are aware that bullying is defined as unwanted negative behaviour, verbal, psychological or physical, conducted by an individual or group against another person (or persons) and which is repeated over time. This definition includes cyber-bullying even when it happens outside the school or at night.

Isolated or once-off incidents of intentional negative behaviour, including a once-off offensive or hurtful text message or other private messaging, do not fall within the definition of bullying and will be dealt with, as appropriate, in accordance with the school's code of behaviour.

The prevention of cyber bullying is an integral part of the anti-bullying policy of our school.

School Websites



Students will be given the opportunity to publish projects, artwork or school work on the internet in accordance with clear policies and approval processes regarding the content that can be loaded to the school's website.

The website will be regularly checked to ensure that there is no content that compromises the safety, privacy, or reputation of students or staff.

Webpages allowing comments or user-generated content will be pre-moderated and checked frequently to ensure that they do not contain any inappropriate or offensive content.

The publication of student work will be coordinated by a teacher.

Scoil Phobail Bhéara will use only digital photographs, audio or video clips of focusing on group activities. Content focusing on individual students will only be published on the school website with parental permission.

Personal student information including home address and contact details will not be published on Scoil Phobail Bhéara web pages.

The Scoil Phobail Bhéara will avoid publishing the first name and last name of students in video or photograph captions published online.



Permission Form

I agree to follow the school's Acceptable Use Policy on the use of the Internet. I will use the Internet in a responsible way and obey all the rules explained to me by the school.

Student's Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Date: _____

As the parent or legal guardian of the above student, I have read the Acceptable Use Policy and grant permission for my son or daughter or the child in my care to access the Internet. I understand that Internet access is intended for educational purposes. I also understand that every reasonable precaution has been taken by the school to provide for online safety but the school cannot be held responsible if students access unsuitable websites. I hereby release the school and its personnel from any and all claims and damages of any nature arising, from my son/daughter's use of, or inability to use, the school computer system, including, but not limited to claims that may arise from an unauthorised use of the system to purchase products or services.

I will instruct my daughter/son regarding any restrictions against accessing material that are in addition to the restrictions set forth in the AUP. I will emphasise the importance of following the rules as laid down in the AUP & Code of behaviour for personal safety.

In relation to the school website, I accept that, if the school considers it appropriate, my child's schoolwork may be chosen for inclusion on the website. I understand and accept the terms of the Acceptable Use Policy relating to publishing students' work on the school website.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

Please review the attached school Internet Acceptable Use Policy, and sign and return this permission form to the Principal.

School Name: Name of Student: _____

Class/Year: _____

Student _____