



Newsletter

No. 81 March 2025

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Celebrating 50 years of Boards of Management 1975–2025

Dear Members

This year, we celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the introduction of Boards of Management to Irish Primary Schools. It is a significant milestone which deserves to be acknowledged.

This milestone coincides with the Jubilee Year and, indeed, the Synodal Process that Pope Francis has promoted. Under the theme Pilgrims of Hope, Pope Francis has called us to journey together in faith, community, and service. That, in many ways, encapsulates the contribution of thousands of people in every parish to their community and to an accessible and inclusive system of Primary Education, inspired by the fundamental belief that all children are made in the image and likeness of God. Our schools are and must be pupil centered.

The introduction of Boards of Management in 1975 was a pivotal moment in Irish education, embracing the spirit of Vatican II by fostering greater participation by the laity in school governance, while recognising that Catholic education is a shared mission where parents, teachers, and communities work together to form young people in knowledge, faith, and values. Over the past five decades, Boards have played a crucial role in upholding the ethos of Catholic schools while ensuring they meet the educational needs of each generation. The successive changes to Boards, most notably through the 1998 Education Act and the decision of Patrons at that time to cede their majority on Boards, were, in many ways, acts of Synodality.

Serving on a Board of Management is more than an administrative duty, it is faith in action.

As we celebrate this Jubilee and reflect on the road ahead, let us give thanks for the dedication of those who have served on Boards over the past fifty years. Their commitment has strengthened our schools as places of learning, faith, and community and ensure that Catholic education remains a source of faith, wisdom and inclusion in an ever-changing world. Let us also look forward with hope, ensuring that our governance structures continue to uphold the rich heritage of Catholic education while embracing the challenges and opportunities of the future.

May God bless the work!

Most Reverend Tom Deenihan. DD., EdD. Bishop of Meath.
Chair, Council for Education of the Irish Episcopal Conference.



Beannachtaí na
Féile Pádraig
oraibh









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Staffing Schedule Circular 0011/2025

The Special Education allocation has been reviewed for the 2025/2026. All existing Special Education cluster posts will cease at the end of the 2024/2025 school year. Schools should recluster their part time SET hours into fulltime posts.

Tuesday, 11 March is the key date for schools to: 

-  Notify their Panel operator of any permanent or fixed term vacancy.
-  Return Main Redeployment Panel Application Form (Appendix E) for surplus permanent/CID holding teachers to the Primary Teacher Allocations Section of the Department of Education.
-  Return SET Cluster Form (Appendix D) to the Primary Teachers Allocations section of the Department to notify the new Special Education Teacher cluster arrangements.
-  Return CID Declaration Form 25 (Appendix G) in respect of all teachers awarded a CID before the 2024/2025 school year and a Main Panel Application Form, if applicable, to the Primary Teacher Allocations section of the Department of Education.
-  Submit completed Staffing Appeals Form (Appendix F) for the March meeting of the Primary Staffing Appeals Board to the Primary Allocations section of the Department of Education.

The Main Redeployment Panels will be published after Easter to enable schools appoint teachers from the panels to vacancies.

[Circular 0011/2025](#) informs primary school management and staff of the staffing arrangements for all primary schools for the next school year 2025/2026. Schools should also read the [FAQ on Staffing Circular 0011/2025](#) in conjunction with the Circular. The [Appendices to Circular 11/2025](#) are contained in this link for ease of reference. Redeployment Arrangements for 25/26 school year are contained [here](#) in FAQ format.

The following are some of the key points for schools to be aware of:

Appendix A: Schedule of Enrolment

Appendix A outlines the number of mainstream class teachers that a school is entitled to in September 2025. The first table refers to the appointment and retention figures for mainstream class teachers in ordinary schools, Gaelscoileanna and Gaeltacht schools. The numbers referenced are the valid enrolments as of 30 September 2024, as per the school's October 2024 POD returns to the Department of Education. The second table gives the appointment and retention figures for mainstream class teachers in DEIS Urban Band 1 schools for the 2025/2026 school year.

Appendix B: Administrative Principal and Administrative Deputy Principal

The criteria for the appointment of Administrative Principal and Administrative Deputy Principal posts are set out in Appendix B.



Appendix C: Special Education Teacher Posts

Appendix C sets out the allocation of special education teaching hours as notified to each school by NCSE. The hours are shown as full time posts (with 25 hours being a full time post) and the balance of hours and minutes available for clustering with other schools to make a full time post. The base school in the cluster should submit the Form SET Cluster 2025/26 (Appendix D) to Primary Allocations before **11 March 2025**.

For the 2025/26 school year, schools may combine their principal release days (5 hours) with their SET hours either on their own or as part of a cluster of a maximum of two schools. All full time posts (including those created through a combination of SET and Principal Release days) are permanent posts to be filled in accordance with the normal redeployment arrangements.

Part time hours remaining in a school can only be filled in a temporary capacity. The Department will try to cluster schools with remaining hours after **11 March 2025**. Newly established or newly amalgamated schools will have their SET allocation calculated for them by NCSE/Special Education section of the Department.

Appendix D: SET Cluster Form 2025/26

This form is to be filled in by the base school and should outline the schools and hours involved in the cluster as detailed in the section on Appendix C above.

Appendix E: Main Panel Application Form 2025

In the event that a school has a surplus teacher or teachers for the 2025/26 school year, the Main Panel Application Form needs to be completed in respect of these surplus teachers who are either permanent or currently hold a CID in the school.

Appendix F: Staffing Appeals Form

The Primary Staffing Appeals Board operates independently of the Department of Education and will review appeals for the 2025/26 school year on the basis of the criteria set out in Section 4.4 A to G of the Staffing Circular. The first meeting of this board will take place in March 2025 and the closing date for submissions for this meeting is **11 March 2025**. Further meetings will take place in June and October and closing dates for these meetings will be notified through the OLCS in due course.

Appeals should be submitted on the standard application form, stating clearly the criterion under which the appeal is being made. Envelopes should be marked " Staffing Appeals " and should be sent to Primary Teacher Allocations Section, Department of Education, Cornamaddy, Athlone, Co. Westmeath. The standard application form is available at Appendix F.

NB Appendix F is in seven parts:

Appendix F (a). Criterion A – [Exceptional Accommodation Difficulties](#).

Appendix F (b). Criterion B – [Additional Enrolments](#).

Appendix F (c). Criterion C – [Projected Enrolment Post based on Additional Enrolments](#).

Appendix F (d). Criterion D – [English as an Additional Language \(EAL\) Teaching Posts](#).

Appendix F (e). Criterion E – [Small Schools](#).

Appendix F (f). Criterion F – [School losing 3 or more Posts](#).

Appendix F (g). Criterion G – [Alleviating some of the pressure on class sizes at infants level](#).



Appendix G: CID Declaration Form 25

Schools are required to notify the Department about teachers in their schools who have been awarded a Contract of Indefinite Duration (CID) before the 2024/2025 school year. This does not apply to CID holding teachers who have since taken up permanent positions in the school.

Appendix H: Form CID APP 2025/2026

This form should be completed in respect of a teacher who may be entitled to a Contract of Indefinite Duration (CID). A teacher may have an entitlement to a CID under the terms of [Circular 0023/2015](#) if they have completed two years of continuous service in the school and a viable post is available for the following year in the school. A viable post is generally a career break, a secondment or indeed a permanent vacancy. Appendix H will require to be completed in respect of such teacher, naming the viable contract available next year.

CPSMA has created a short [podcast](#) in relation to CID's which may be of assistance, or members can contact one of our advisers on 01-629 2462 to discuss the matter further.

EAL: Form Prim-EAL 2025/26

Schools with EAL needs should submit [Form Prim – EAL 2025/26](#). Completed forms should be returned to primarystaffingappeals@education.gov.ie between **18 March** and **1 May 2025**.

Where a school is not satisfied with the Department's decision on its application, an appeal may be submitted to the Primary Staffing Appeals Board on Appendix F (D). These appeals will be considered at the June and October Appeals Board meetings.

Projected Enrolment Posts: Form ProjEnrPost 2025/26

Schools may apply for an additional mainstream post where the enrolment on 30 September 2025 is projected to exceed the enrolment on 30 September 2024 by a minimum numerical increase and by having a stipulated excess of students above the required appointment figure, details of which are set out in Section 1.3 of Circular 11/2025. Schools should submit a completed application form for an additional teaching post(s) on the basis of projected enrolment to the Department's Primary Teacher Allocations Section, primaryallocations@education.gov.ie after **1 May 2025**. Schools should not submit an application for Projected Enrolment Post before this date.

Teacher Supply Panels

Teacher supply panels are continuing for the 2025/26 school year and schools will be notified further in this regard later in the school year.

Principal Release Time Posts

Each school with a teaching principal will have 37 release days in the 2025/26 school year and schools with one special class will have 4 additional release days. Clusters for principal release days will cease at the end of this school year. These posts are fixed term and must be filled in accordance with redeployment arrangements. i.e. they cannot be filled until the Main Panels have cleared and permission has been granted to advertise fixed term positions in the Diocese. The application form for Principal Release Time posts is available on the Department's website.

Please note that Principal Release and SET hours may be combined to create a full time SET post.



Notification of Vacancies

All schools must notify their vacancies to their Panel Operator by **11 March 2025**. This includes permanent vacancies, fixed term positions and specified purpose vacancies which are for the duration of the full school year. After this date, the school is required to notify the Panel operator and the Department within 5 days of the vacancy becoming known to the school.

Recruitment

Boards of Management may not commence a recruitment process for a permanent or fixed term teaching vacancy until the Department is satisfied that these vacancies are not required for redeployment purposes. **Schools will be informed when advertising may commence.**

Principal and Deputy Principal appointments

Principal and Deputy Principal appointments are not subject to redeployment rules and must be filled through open competition in accordance with [Circular 0044/2019](#). If a Principal or Deputy Principal is appointed from within a school, the remaining vacancy must be filled through the redeployment arrangements.

CID holders

CID holders must remain in their own school as long as there is a vacancy, either permanent or fixed term available in their school.

Filling a provisionally approved post

These posts should not be filled on a permanent basis from 1st September 2025, unless there is a permanent / CID holding teacher due to be redeployed through the Main Panel. Otherwise, these posts should be filled on a temporary basis until **24 October 2025**.

Redeployment Arrangements for 25/26 school year

These arrangements are set out in FAQ format [here](#).

Further guidance in relation to engagement with the panels will be provided to schools in the next edition of the CPSMA Newsletter.



Sceim Aitheantas Scoileanna Gaeltacha

An Scéim Aitheantais Scoileanna Gaeltachta: Feidhmiú Leanúnach na Scéime (2025/26) i mBunscoileanna agus i Scoileanna Speisialta

An bhfuil do scoil lonnaithe laistigh de limistéir pleanála teanga Ghaeltachta? Seans nách bhfuil sibh ag glacadh páirte sa Scéim Aitheantais Scoileanna Gaeltachta fós? Bhuel, tá deis ann don bhord bainistíochta agus pobal na scoile machnamh a dhéanamh arís agus más spéis libh, tá eolas faoin bpróiseas a bhaineann le hiarratas a dhéanamh agus na tacaíochtaí atá ar fáil d'údaráis scoile le fáil in [Imlitir 0022/2024](#) a eisíodh do scoileanna anuraidh.

Ar an lámh eile de, más Scoil Aitheanta Gaeltachta sibh nó scoil a bhfuil tosnaíthe sa Scéim cheanna, tá imlitir nua eisithe ag an Roinn agus seans nach bhfacathas í le linn na seachtaine seo caite. San imlitir seo, [Imlitir 0010/2025](#) leagtar amach na tacaíochtaí a chuirfear ar fáil do scoileanna a bhfuil aitheantas mar Scoileanna Gaeltachta bainte amach acu agus do scoileanna atá fós ar a n-aistear i dtreo aitheantas a bhaint amach mar Scoil Ghaeltachta.

Sa scoilbhliain 2025/26, cuirfear na tacaíochtaí seo a leanas ar fáil:

- Uaireanta tacaíochta teanga don Ghaeilge bunaithe ar rollachán na scoile
- Deontas bliantúil (€1,200) chun acmhainní teagaisc Gaeilge a cheannach
- Comhairle ó Chigireacht na Roinne Oideachais
- Eispéiris foghlama ghairmiúla agus tacaíocht ón gComhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta & Gaelscolaíochta (COGG)
- Eispéiris foghlama ghairmiúla agus tacaíocht ó Oide
- Treoir do scoileanna agus roinnt an dea-chleachtais.

Allianz – Generators for School Re-openings

CPSMA is pleased to share encouraging news for those schools who required generators to reopen after Storm Éowyn. CPSMA reached out to Allianz for assistance with the costs associated with such generators and Allianz has confirmed that schools may be eligible to claim the expenses of hiring generators under their Allianz School Insurance Policy in the following circumstances:

- If the storm damage to the school directly caused the power outage.
- If the school's electricity was disrupted due to storm damage to a power station or sub-station.

Some schools experienced outages due to damage to the electrical grid (such as poles and lines), which typically falls outside insurance coverage. In a gesture of goodwill and support for schools affected by the storm, Allianz has agreed to cover the generator hiring costs in these cases as well. These costs will be addressed on an ex-gratia basis, and schools are encouraged to submit them as regular property damage claims. Importantly, these ex-gratia claims will not impact on a school's insurance premium.

For details on how to make a property damage claim under your Allianz School Insurance Policy see their website for details [Schools Insurance Claims Information – Allianz Insurance](#).



Special Classes

Many schools have been approached by the Department of Education / National Council for Special Education, with a request to open a special class for the 2025/26 academic year. This can be a daunting time, especially if this is your school's first special class and principals and boards may have questions about the establishment and operation of a special class. The following supports are available to schools:

- CPSMA's has two Education Advisers who are available to assist schools in relation to the opening of a special class. You can request a call back from Enda or Richard by phoning 01-6292462 or emailing info@cpsma.ie and mentioning that you have been requested to open a special class.
- CPSMA have liaised with the Joint Managing Body (JMB) in relation to the provision of advice by their Building Officers to primary schools. This assistance will include a discussion on how your school might approach the opening of a special class in existing accommodation and how the special class grants can best be utilised. A visit to the school can also be arranged, if required. If you wish to avail of this support, please send a short email to Noel Merrick at noelmerrick@jmb.ie. He will then arrange for one of the Building Officers to contact you.
- NCSE offer a programme of professional support for schools with newly established special classes. You may wish to contact your SENO for further details on this support. [NCSE Guidelines for Setting Up and Organising Special Classes 2024](#) will also be of guidance to schools.
- Department of Education [Circular 80/2024](#) lists the streamlined arrangements of the Department's Planning and Building Unit, to support the re-purposing of existing accommodation. Modular accommodation may be provided by the Department if there is no capacity within existing accommodation.
- Department of Education [SDG 02-TN05- SEN Repurposing- Design Guidance Technical Note](#) provides technical information to schools in relation to the repurposing of their existing accommodation. [Guidance Note on start-up Grant](#) provides more detailed information in relation to the initial grant for repurposing existing accommodation and [SEN Repurposing Information](#) provides the links to the relevant application forms.

CPSMA are developing an information video in relation to the opening of a special class which will issue to schools shortly. In the meantime, please contact our office on 01-629 2462 or email info@cpsma.ie with any questions you may have.

Promotion of Well-being in schools Evaluation-Inspection visits in Primary Schools

Since March 2024, the Inspectorate has been working with schools, education partners, and other organisations to develop the Promotion of Wellbeing in Schools Evaluation model. The Guide to the Promotion of Wellbeing in Schools Evaluation was finalised and submitted to the Minister for Education for approval, in line with Section 13(8) of the Education Act 1998. The updated [Guide to Inspection in Primary Schools](#), including 'Promotion of Wellbeing in Schools Evaluation' visits, was published on 10 February 2025 and as a result the visits will commence in the coming weeks.



Working Together/Parental Complaints Procedure – Training

CPSMA welcomes both chairpersons and principals to an evening training session in relation to the [Parental Complaints](#) and the [Working Together](#) procedures. Each session is designed to provide practical guidance and support to schools in relation to these two documents.

Each session will include:

- A detailed overview of both procedures, with a focus on best practice and prevention.
- Practical, interactive examples to illustrate key aspects of the processes.
- Guidance on adopting these procedures and communicating them to staff and parents.
- An opportunity to ask questions, discuss and share experiences in this area.

Please note:

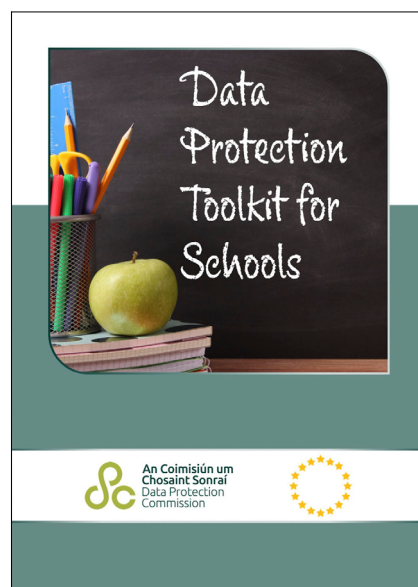
- Places are limited, so early booking is recommended.
- Each session will run for approximately 1.5 hours, including time for discussion and Q&A.
- Registration is required via a booking link for your area.
- To register, you may have already received a booking link by email from your local diocesan office. If not, you should contact them for the relevant booking link.

We look forward to welcoming chairpersons and principals to these events.

Data Protection Toolkit for Schools

As part of its engagement with the education sector through its complaint-handling and consultation functions, the Data Protection Commission (DPC) identified a number of areas, which schools, as a sector, appear to be finding challenging from a data protection compliance perspective, and decided to produce a data protection resource specifically tailored for schools. In 2023, the DPC consulted with a number of organisations in the education sector in order to gain a clearer picture of the specific concerns and challenges faced by schools. Taking this feedback into account, the DPC commenced work on its [Data Protection Toolkit for Schools](#), which covers the following:

- A detailed guidance piece on different aspects of data protection law in the specific context of schools
- An FAQ section containing answers to questions commonly received by the DPC from the education sector
- An appendix containing three helpful resources for schools, namely:
 - » A sample template for Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIAs)
 - » An infographic on what information to include in a Privacy Policy
 - » A “checklist” for schools on how to respond to a Subject Access Request (SAR)



Seachtain na Gaeilge 2025

Is féile Ghaeilge idirnáisiúnta í **Seachtain na Gaeilge**, atá ar an gceiliúradh is mó dár dteanga agus dár gcultúr dúchais a bhíonn ar siúl in Éirinn agus fud fad an domhain gach bliain. Tá an Ghaeilge ar cheann de na teangacha scríofa is sine agus is stairiúla ar domhan. Chonacthas í den chéad uair i bhfoirm Oghaim sa chúigiú haois. Is teanga Cheilteach í an Ghaeilge, a shíolraigh ón tSean-Ghaeilge. Is cosúil gur shíolraigh na teangacha Ceilteacha ar fad ón gComh-Cheiltis agus gur shíolraigh sí sin ón Ind-Eorpais. San lá atá inniu ann is féidir teacht ar an nGaeilge sna mílte leabhar, ar an teilifís, ar an raidió, i nuachtáin, in irisí, agus ar an Idirlíon.

Tugann Seachtain na Gaeilge deis do gach éinne sult a bhaint as an nGaeilge tríd a bheith páirteach san fhéile, idir chainteoirí dúchasacha, fhoghlaimeoirí agus lucht an chúpla focal ar aon, trí fhéilire imeachtaí siamsúla agus spraíúla a chur ar fáil do gach cineál suime agus gach aoisghrúpa. Dénatar Seachtain na Gaeilge a cheiliúradh i scoileanna ó cheann ceann na tíre agus tá acmhainní do bhunscoileanna le fáil ar www.snag.ie.

Seachtain na Gaeilge gives everyone the opportunity to enjoy the Irish Language by taking part in the festival, from native speakers, learners and those with just a few words, providing a calendar of entertaining and fun events for all types of interest and all age groups. Seachtain na Gaeilge is celebrated in schools all over the country and resources for primary schools are available on www.snag.ie.



Roinnt acmhainní do scoileanna:

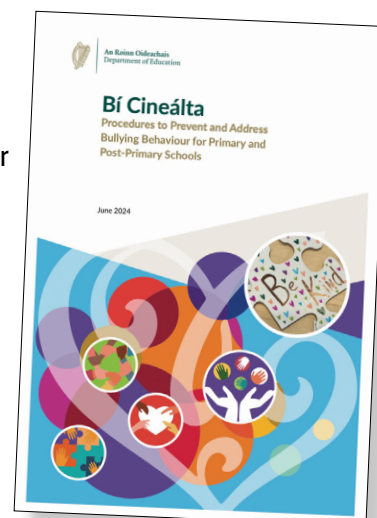
- [Tráth na gCeist Boird](#)
- [Dathú](#)
- [Cluichí Gaeilge](#)

Anti-Bullying – Bí Cineálta Procedures

The following may be of assistance to schools as they engage with their school community in the development of their Bí Cineálta policy on anti-bullying.

[Bí Cineálta -Resources-to-support-engagement-with-school staff](#)

CPSMA is developing an online video for boards of management on the Bí Cineálta Procedures which will be available shortly.



Summer Programme Schemes

Special School Pilot Scheme

This year, the Special School Programme continues as a pilot initiative to ensure there is a real focus on supporting special schools. This programme has been designed and developed to ensure supports are targeted to enhance the availability of a school-based programme for pupils in special schools.

Primary School schemes

There are two in-school schemes at mainstream primary level:

- the Primary School Scheme for pupils in mainstream primary schools, which provides one cohesive scheme, combining the Inclusion programme and special classes
- the DEIS-expanded Literacy and Numeracy Summer Camp/Campa Samhraidh for pupils in DEIS schools. This is available to all schools in the DEIS scheme, including those that received their new DEIS status in September 2022.

Supports for schools

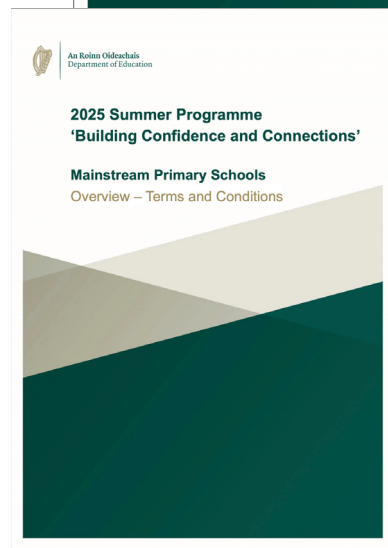
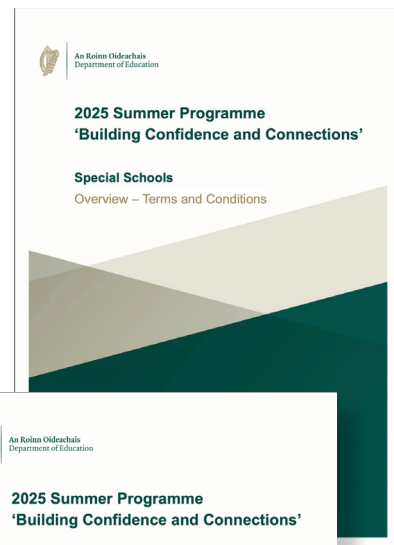
A number of supports are in place to assist schools running the Summer Programme this year, including:

- Contracted teachers and special needs assistants will be paid their personal rate of pay.
- There is provision for schools to recruit newly qualified teachers graduating this summer as well as the undergraduate student teachers who have registered with the Teaching Council under Route 5.
- Schools can also recruit other external workers such as early child care workers, carers and other students in relevant areas such as therapy, nursing and social care to take part in their programme. There will be a separate portal for special schools for this purpose.
- Training and guidance will be provided to schools and their organisers. This will be facilitated through online training.

An online registration portal will be available for schools on www.gov.ie/summerprogramme.

When schools register for the Summer Programme they will receive an email specifying the staffing resources that have been allocated to them. Schools will have the facility to appeal resource allocations by emailing schoolsummerprogramme@education.gov.ie or contacting the department's helpline on **0906 484 292**. The deadline date for registration is **11 April 2025**.

Further details and updates on this programme, including available supports and how schools can apply, are available at www.gov.ie/summerprogramme.



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Comórtas Ealaíne Náisiúnta CPSMA 2025

"Go raibh maith agat"

Boird Bhainistíochta, Ceiliúradh Serbhíse an Leathchéid, 1975-2025

Is comóradh 50 bliain é i mbliana ó bunaíodh na Boird Bhainistíochta. Tá na boird comhdhéanta d'ainmnithe ón bpobal, ón bhfoireann teagaisc, ó na tuismitheoirí agus ó phátrún na scoile. Is as ár bpobail, as ár scoileanna, as ár dtuismitheoirí agus as ár bpátrún agus easpag ar ár deoise na daoine seo ar fad. Tar éis 50 bliain seirbhíse, tá sé in am a rá: "Go raibh maith agat"

leis na daoine go léir a threoraigh ár scoil agus a chabhraigh lenár scoil agus í mar chroílár ár bpobal. Bímis ag tarraingt, ag péinteáil, ag gearradh, ag greamú agus ag spraoi go ginearálta le bheith cruthaitheach ag dearadh Cárta Bhuíochais/pictiúr bhuíochais ag ceiliúradh na ndaoine iontacha seo ar fad a chabhraigh lenár scoil.

Mar is gnáth, tá trí catagóir againn	Ranganna sóisearacha (Naíonáin go Rang 2)	Ranganna sinsearacha (Rang 3 go Rang 6)	Daltaí le riachtainí oideachais speisialta.
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Seol d'iarratas chuig: CPSMA Art Competition, New House, St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.

[Foirm Iontrála 2025](#). **Dáta Deiridh: 11ú Marta 2025**

CPSMA National Art Competition 2025

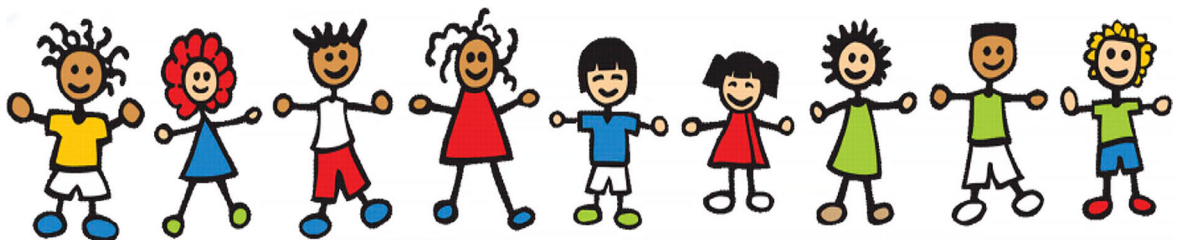
This year marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of Boards of Management. Board members are people from our communities, from our schools, our parents and from our patron and bishop of our diocese. it's time to say: "Thank You" to all the people who have helped our school.

Get drawing, painting, cutting, sticking, pasting and generally having fun being creative in designing a Thank You card or picture celebrating all of the wonderful people who have helped our school.

As usual, we have three competition categories	Junior Classes (Infants to 2nd class)	Senior Classes (3rd to 6th class)	Children with additional educational needs
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Submit your entries to: CPSMA Art Competition, New House, St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.

[Entry Form 2025](#). [Terms and Conditions](#). **Closing Date: 11 March 2025**



Creative Clusters 2025

A Creative Cluster will typically consist of between 3 and 5 schools collaborating on the design, implementation, evaluation and dissemination of an innovative creative learning project which supports them to address a common issue or challenge. Creative Clusters will include schools at different stages of their journey in using creativity in the classroom. Clusters can consist of primary schools only, post-primary schools only or a combination of primary, post-primary schools, special education schools and Youthreach organisations. Clusters can be drawn from existing networks or result from the creation of new ones.

The application process is open from 27th January until 10 April 2025.

1. [Creative Cluster-Guidelines 2025](#)
2. [Criteria for selection of applicants](#)
3. [Creative Clusters 2025 application form and guidelines](#)

Solar Panels

The Department of Education advises as follows:

- The Solar for Schools Programme is wholly funded by the government's Climate Action Fund in line with the government's recognition that taking action on climate change is central to Ireland's social and economic development. It is assisting schools in reducing their energy costs and carbon footprint as part of the schools' sector's response to meeting the 2030 and 2050 climate targets.
- The typical amount a school can save will depend on a number of factors. However, by way of example, a school with a 6 kW Solar PV installation could expect to save in the region of €1,200-€1,600 per annum on their bill, including credit for their electricity export.
- The new scheme is designed to be as streamlined as possible for schools using an online system to facilitate communications with schools. In this regard the Department of Education has set up School Hub, a new online platform that is part of the department's geographic information system (GIS).
- The online platform provides a simple, clear and efficient application and approvals process for schools applying for the Solar for Schools Programme. Schools will be required to seek five quotes from suppliers and apply for funding approval to the Department of Education via the School Hub.
- Since the launch of the programme in November 2023, more than 3,290 schools have been approved to progress to tender for installation of PV panels with more than 1,040 installations confirmed as completed so far.
- The second and final phase is open for applications to all eligible schools nationwide. Schools who wish to apply should contact schoolspvprogramme@education.gov.ie **without delay**.



Recent Circulars

- [0064/2024](#) The Operation/application and deployment of Special Education Teacher resources.
- [0092/2024](#) Special Leave with Pay for Sporting Purposes for Registered Teachers employed in Recognised Primary and Post-Primary Schools
- [0087/2024](#) NQF Level 9 Graduate Diploma in Social Personal and Health Education/ Relationships and Sexuality Education (SPHE/ RSE) Programme 2025
- [0093/2024](#) Special Leave with Pay for Sporting Purposes for Special Needs Assistants employed in Recognised Primary and Post-Primary Schools
- [0081/2024](#) Understanding Behaviours of Concern and Responding to Crisis Situations Guidelines for Schools in Supporting Students
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- [0016/2025](#) Revision of Salaries for Special Needs Assistants (SNAs) under The Public Service Agreement 2024 - 2026 effective from 01 March 2025
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- [Understanding-behaviours-of-concern-and-responding-to-crisis-situations/](#)
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Employee Assistance Service

The Employee Assistance Service is a free and confidential service that provides wellbeing support to teachers, SNAs and all school staff. This service is provided by Spectrum. Life.

Your Employee Assistance Service is available
24/7, 365 days a year, providing*:

- ✓ Online Cognitive Behavioural Therapy
- ✓ 'In The Moment' Support
- ✓ Referral to Counselling



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