



Scoil Sheosaimh Naofa

BALLINAGAR, TULLAMORE, CO. OFFALY R35 RW26

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Príomhoide: Mr. Niall Spain *Leas-Phríomhoide:* Ms. Sheila Lynam *Cathaoirleach:* Monsignor T. Coonan

Our School Self Evaluation Report and Improvement Plan for Our School Community

In the last year, we have looked at teaching and learning in our school to find out what we are doing well. This is what we discovered:

- Committed and skilled staff
- Hard-working, committed, supportive and understanding principal who enables (and encourages) us to develop professionally
- Excellent modern facilities
- Children are happy and motivated to learn
- Supportive parents and Parents' Association
- Supportive BOM
- Wide variety of resources readily available across all curricular areas
- Communication between parents and teachers is welcomed

This is what we did to find out what we were doing well, and what we could do better:

- Teacher observation and survey
- SCOT Analysis
- Parent survey and oral feedback
- Standardised test results
- Tracker pupil group meetings, survey and observation

This is what we are now going to work on:

- To improve the pupils' reading comprehension
- To introduce a whole school approach to the teaching of reading comprehension

This is what you can do to help:

- Encourage reading for pleasure by speaking to your child about the books they are reading from the school library and by bringing your child to the local library.
- Listen to your child reading and ask questions for understanding.
- Help your child Read and Tell book report fortnightly. Report to be completed with/signed by parent/guardian to encourage parental involvement.
- Review the list of recommend books and authors for children to be published on school website and discuss with your child.

Here is some information about how we are carrying out our work and about what the Department of Education and Skills requires us to do.

School time and holidays

The Department requires all primary schools to have **182 school days** each year.

This year we had 182 school days, from August 26th to June 24th.

The Department sets out a **standardised school year and school holidays**.

This year we took all our school holidays within the permitted time.

The Department sets out arrangements for **parent/teacher meetings and staff meetings**. This year we had parent/teacher meetings and staff meetings, all in line with the Department's regulations.

Looking after the children in our school

The Department requires schools to follow the *Child Protection Procedures* it has set down. Our board of management has agreed in writing to do this. YES

All teachers know about the *Procedures* and we have told all parents about them and how we follow them. YES

Our Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Niall Spain (Principal)

and our Deputy DLP is Sheila Lynam (Deputy Principal)

Enrolment and attendance

The Department requires schools to have and publish an admissions policy, to record and report attendance accurately, and to encourage high attendance and participation.

We have an admissions policy and it is published. YES

We reviewed (and updated) our admissions policy on: 6/12/2021

We keep accurate attendance records and report them as required. YES

We encourage high attendance in the following ways:

- Creating a safe and welcoming environment
- Ensuring children are happy
- Displaying kindness, compassion and understanding
- Being vigilant so that risks to good attendance such as disadvantage, bullying etc. are identified early.

This is how you can help:

The night before:

- Get the following ready: school bag, lunch, school clothes
- Get your child to bed at a reasonable hour every night

Before school every day:

- Get up on time in the morning so that you will not be rushing and eat some breakfast
- Talk positively about school
- Let your child know that who will be there to collect him/her in the afternoon and/or who will be meeting them at home when they come in

After school every day:

- Make sure that the homework is done as early as possible and make sure your child has a healthy and wholesome dinner

Absences

- Don't forget, if a child misses a school day or part of a school day parents/guardians must provide the school with an explanation in writing journal/seesaw. Note: your child will be marked absent if not present by 10a.m.
- Parents should refrain from taking their children on holiday during the school year

Positive behaviour for a happy school

The Department requires schools to have a code of behaviour, and asks us to consult parents and children about it. We do this. YES

Our code of behaviour describes and supports positive behaviour. YES

We have a very clear and high-profile anti-bullying policy in our school. YES