



Scoil Phobail Bhéara

Information Booklet

2023-2024

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 Ms. Pauline Hurley

Deputy Principal Ms. Niamh Deane

Board of Management 2023 - 2024

Nominations to be held during the summer 2023

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
TBC	Elected teacher nominee
TBC	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 straightforward.

Kind regards,

Ms. Pauline Hurley

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.

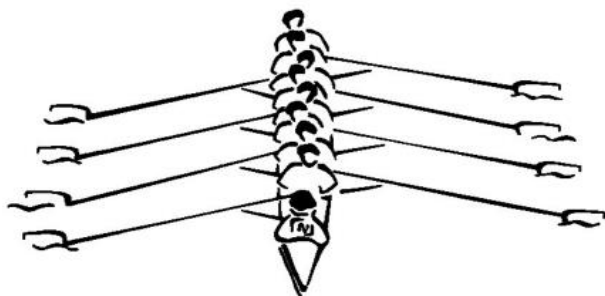
Our School is an integral part of our local community and in addition to providing the best possible education for our young people and preparing them for later life, our school serves as a resource for, and enriches our community.

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.

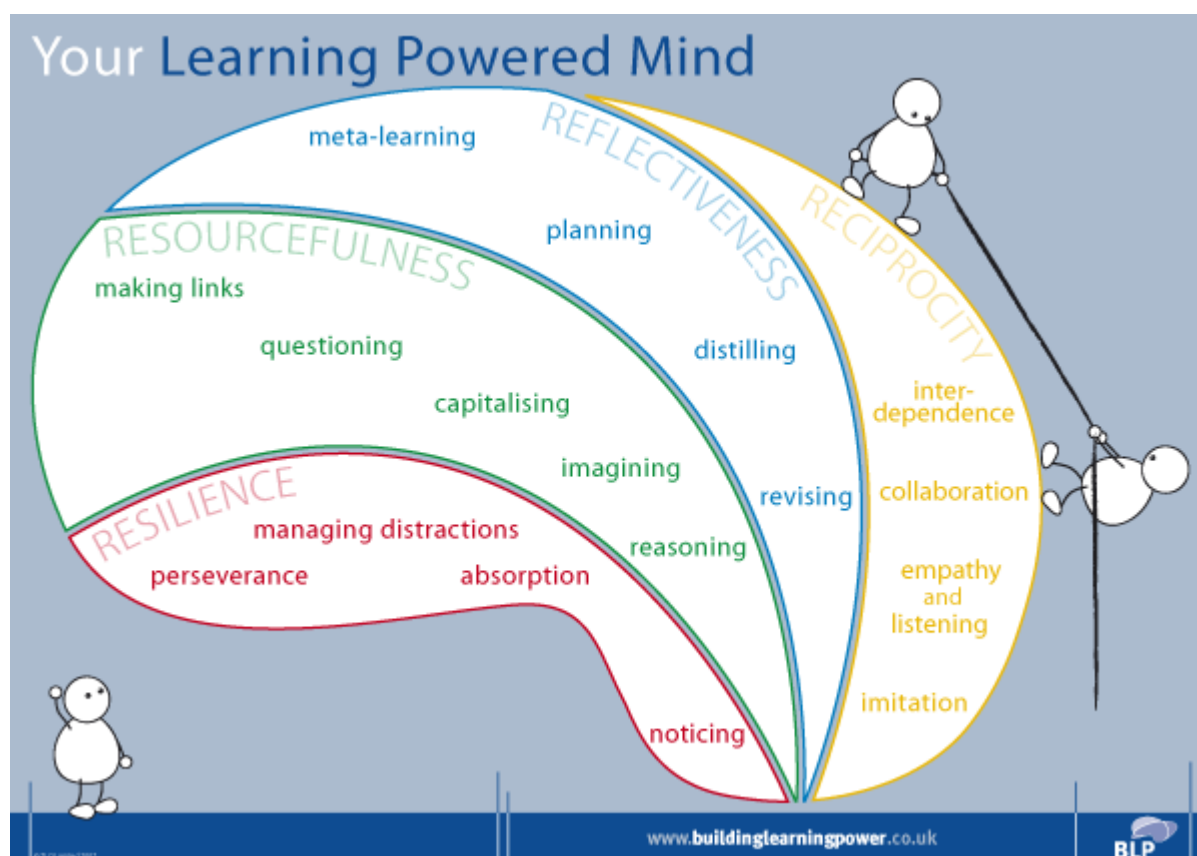


Building Learning Power

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.

Restorative Practice



Restorative Practice

What is Restorative Practice (RP)?

Restorative Practice is a values-based philosophy. It aims to build positive relationships and friendships throughout our school community and beyond.

Restorative Practice in our School

In our school we are growing our commitment to Restorative Practice and the values light the way! We will use the RESPECT values to help us to bring RP to life and they inform how we try to think, engage, speak, listen, and approach situations in our everyday interactions in school. The intention is to learn how to ask, listen and share in a way that honours a positive learning environment for the whole school community.

Restorative Language (The Giraffe)

The giraffe is known as the restorative animal as it has the biggest heart of all the land animals so it speaks from its heart, promoting empathy. It also has the longest neck so it can see everyone's perspective which is a key component of empathy building and a bridge towards conflict resolution. When things go wrong, as they sometimes do, we will try to channel our inner giraffes and think restoratively. We will seek to model and use restorative language, questions and intentions as a compass to work together and find a solution, to fix harm that may have happened, and to honour, build or repair relationships / friendships as best as we can.

This restorative way of being builds skills for a happy and connected life. Restorative Practice aim is to support the wellbeing of our school and the community it serves.

How the School is organised

<p>Department of Education</p> <p>Overall Responsibility</p>



<p>Board of Management</p> <p>Manages the School</p>



<p>Principal and Deputy Principal</p> <p>Leaders of learning and responsible for the day to day operation of the school</p>
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<p>Year Head</p> <p>Overall charge of Year group</p>	<p>Class Teachers</p> <p>Takes special care of one class</p>	<p>Subject Teachers</p> <p>Teach subjects</p>
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<p>School Secretary</p> <p>Responsible for administration</p>	<p>Guidance Counsellor</p> <p>Gives guidance on careers and counselling support</p>	<p>Chaplain</p> <p>Looks after the spiritual and pastoral needs of students</p>
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<p>Student Council</p> <p>Represents the views of students and involved in policy making</p>

<p>Cabhair Group Care Team</p> <p>Help and support for students experiencing difficulties</p>	<p>Rainbows</p> <p>Programme dealing with education for loss through bereavement or separation</p>
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<p>Parents Association</p> <p>Promotes and supports the interests of students and parents in education</p>

<p>Partners in education: Staff, Students, Parents, Board of Management</p>
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School Holiday Plan 2023/2024

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 Skills.

1ST TERM	
October mid-term 2023	Monday 30th October to Friday 3rd November inclusive
Discretionary Day 2023	Friday 8th December (School closed)
Christmas Holidays 2023/2024	Monday 25th December to Friday 5th January inclusive

2ND TERM	
Re-opening January 2024	Monday 8th January
February Bank Holiday 2024	Monday 5th February
February midterm 2024	Monday 12th to Friday 16th February inclusive
JCT Cluster Day (school closed for students)	Thursday 29th February
St. Patrick's Day Bank Holiday 2024	Monday 18th March
Easter Holidays 2024	Monday 25th March to Friday 5th April inclusive

3RD TERM	
Re-opening April 2024	Monday 8th April
May Bank Holiday 2024	Monday 6th May
Summer Holidays 2024	School will close Friday 31st May

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 €15. 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

Piercings

Studs or sleepers are advisable only. All other piercings and/ or jewellery are a cause for concern for 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 Bhéara, 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, and 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

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

Lockers

Please see below for information on how to use our LockerFix system if purchasing a locker. Scan the QR code for a “how to use” tutorial video.



LockerFix.ie

HOW TO USE LOCK

1. Turn Lock to 0
2. Turn Right 3 Times
3. Then Turn Right To Your 1st Number
4. 1 Full Turn Left Passing Your 1st Number To The 2nd
5. Turn Right To 3rd Number And Pull Shackle

Scan Qr Code for "How To" video



www.lockerfix.ie

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. 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

2019 – 22 **Implementing Digital Strategy**

Staff

Teaching Staff

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

Administrative Staff

Margaret Power
Mary Claire O’Sullivan
Delia Murphy

Clerical Officer

Maintenance staff

Susan Power
Carmel O’Shea
Catherine Harrington
Pauline Duggan

Caretaker

Special Needs Assistants

Gretta Harrington	Laurie Nolan	Kathleen McCarthy
Eileen O Sullivan	Dolores O’Shea	Sinead Hartnett
Teresa O’Sullivan	Mairead O’Connor	Lorraine McCarthy
Tina Lehane	Tracy Cadogan	

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 / Gym
Learning Support Room	Library/Study and office
Resource Programme Room	Seomra caidrimh
Guidance Room and Library	Canteen
Pitch	Basketball/ Tennis 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
Gaelic football	Drama
Poetry and Writing workshops	BT Young Scientist
Cross Country Running	Comórtas Gael Taca
Competitions	Basketball
Athletics	Gaisce
School Bank	Educational Trips
Rugby	Well-being Events
Maths, History and Irish quizzes	Hurling

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

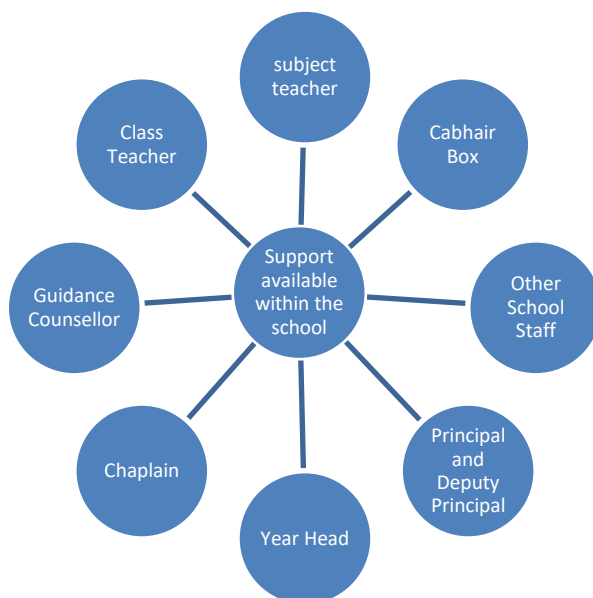
H.E.A.R.- Higher Education Access Route (in conjunction with third level colleges)

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 Bhéara



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 2023-24

1st years

1st years 2023/24 will study 9 subjects for the final exam 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: SPHE and CSPE

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 wellbeing class. Religion will not be an exam subject.

Students will not be able to take extra subjects.

Wellbeing

Wellbeing, 400 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	135 hours
SPHE	1 & 2 periods per week	110 hours
CSPE	1 & 2 periods per week	110 hours
Wellbeing	1 period per week	70 hours
Total =		425 hours

PE Course, 135 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

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 three 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.

Level 2 & Level 3 QQI modules

We also offer QQI level 2 and level 3 modules. Please contact Ms. Marian Lynch for further information.

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 2023-2024. 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, tracksuit pants & half-zip 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

1 A4 folder
1 A4 hardback copy

Gaeilge

1 A5 hardback (or any size)
1 regular A5 copy (or any size)

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

Art packs supplied by Art teacher for small fee

Home Economics

1 x A4 plastic cover copy
1 x prit stick

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