

Kilmore Central School,
Kilmore,
Co. Wexford.
Tel: 053 9135230
Fax: 053 9135811
Website: www.scoilrealtnamara.com
E-mail: oidescoileias@eircom.net



Scoil Réalt na Mara,
Kilmore,
Co. Wexford.
Rev. Denis Doyle, PP.
(Chairperson of Board)
Micheál Martin (Principal)

PARENT/TEACHER COMMUNICATION POLICY

Introductory statement

This purpose of this policy is to provide information and guidelines to parents and teachers on parent/teacher meetings and parent/teacher communication in our school. The family and home are central to the development of the child and the nurturing of Christian values. The school and the family strive to be mutually supportive and respectful of each other so that the child's education can be effective. We aim to promote an atmosphere of positive courteous communication between parents and teachers in the spirit of partnership in education.

Parent/teacher meetings

The aim of Parent/Teacher meetings is:

- To let parents know how their children are progressing in school
- To inform teachers on how children are coping outside school
- To establish an ongoing relationship and communication with parents
- To help teachers/parents get to know the children better as individuals
- To help children realise that home and school are working together

Informal Parent/Teacher Meetings

1. Regular positive communication between parents and teachers is to be encouraged and teachers are available on appointment. Communication may be by note, phone or meeting.

2. Arranging parent/teacher meetings within the school day while children are in school is difficult. However, parents are welcome to speak to the Principal or teacher(s) at an appointed time

3. Meetings with the class teacher at the class door to discuss a child's concern/progress is strongly discouraged on a number of grounds

- A teacher cannot adequately supervise his/her class while at the same time speaking to a parent
- It is difficult to be discrete when so many children are standing close by
- It can be embarrassing for a child when his/her parent is talking to the teacher at a classroom door
- A consistent approach is fair to all parents

4. In the event of an emergency, meetings may need to take place without prior notice. The Principal may facilitate such meetings making every effort to ensure that the children in the class do not lose out on any of the teaching/learning time.

5. If parents wish to drop in lunch boxes, sports gear etc, this can be done through the secretary's office as it is important to keep class interruptions to a minimum. Access is through the main door only.

Parents are expected to:

- Be courteous towards pupils and staff
- Equip pupils with appropriate school materials
- Ensure pupils are well presented for school
- Make an appointment to meet with a teacher/Principal through the school office
- Respect school property and encourage their children to do the same
- Label pupils coats and other property
- Supervise their young children on school premises when collecting other pupils or visiting the school

Guidelines:

- Any queries regarding school policies should be raised with the school principal
- The use of social media to criticise school policies or school personnel is contrary to this policy.
- Parents who are separated after marriage remain legal guardians. Guardianship gives both parents a say in matters affecting children's welfare. There is an assumption that the school deals with one parent unless requested to do otherwise.
- Given that separations are often difficult for both parents and children, the school will deal with the matter sensitively.
- In a non-marital relationship and in the absence of a parental agreement or court order, the father's name on the birth certificate does not confer guardianship rights. If a dispute arises, in relation to the children, the school may be in a position where it will request proof of guardianship.
- Unless shown by a court order, each parent has a right to consult with teachers, be notified of and attend parent teacher meetings, receive end of year school reports. This should be accommodated in accordance with school policy.
- In the interests of the welfare of the children, the school can request a parent not to attend the school unless by prior arrangement.
- End of year reports will be posted to 6th class pupils' parents.
- It is vital that the school is immediately informed if family events/situations occur that cause anxiety to your child and therefore may adversely affect his/her education