



# Ahane National School

## Board of Management – Annual Report 2021



### Board of Management Members 2020

**Patron's Nominee and Chairperson:** Tony Harnett.

**Patron's Nominee:** Maureen Hartigan

**Community Nominee and Treasurer:** Niamh Madden.

**Community Nominee:** Gearoid Hussey

**Principal/ Secretary:** Siobhán Kennedy.

**Teacher Nominee:** Therese Tuohey.

**Parent Nominees:** Mary Cusack

Oliver Donnelly

### School Ethos

The Sacraments of First Confession and First Holy Communion were celebrated on return to school in September 2020. These sacraments had been deferred in the previous School Year due to Covid 19.

Pupils in Sixth Class are receiving weekly remote lesson preparation for Confirmation from the Diocesan Office. The Sacraments of First Confession, Holy Communion and Confirmation will be rescheduled pending the Covid 19 situation.

### School Building and Grounds.

The Board oversaw the installation of the essential hygiene measures and controls to reduce the risk of the spread of Covid 19 in the school.

The Board completed the internal and external installation of CCTV cameras in the school.

The Board of Management has fenced off and secured the additional field space acquired at the back of the School. The Board also received a set of goalposts from Ahane GAA Club. The GAA club also installed the goalposts in the field.

The School Garden space at the front of the school has been developed in conjunction with the school's biodiversity application for a Green Flag.

### Staffing

The teaching staff for 2020 -2021 included a Teaching Principal, 7 mainstream class teachers, 3 fulltime Special Education Teachers based in Ahane NS and 1 shared Special Education Teacher. The school has 3 full time Special Needs Assistants and 2 part time Special Needs Assistants. The Board employed a Caretaker with additional cleaning duties in November 2020

### School Calendar 2021 -2022

School reopens on August 31<sup>st</sup> 2021. School Calendar for 2021 -2022 is available on the school website at [www.ahanens.ie](http://www.ahanens.ie).

### Policy Development

The Board ratified the Ahane NS Covid 19 Response Plan, Ahane NS Covid 19 Policy and Covid 19 Risk Assessment to plan for the safe reopening of the school in September 2020. Board members and all staff attended GDPR training with David Ruddy, Lawyer of Mason Hayes and Curran Solicitors. Ahane N.S. ratified the CCTV, Data Protection Policy and Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for Information and Communication (ICT) following their review as part of this training.

The annual reviews on the Code of Behaviour and Anti - Bullying Policy and the Checklist for the Review of the Anti – Bullying Policy were completed.

The Board also completed the review of the Child Safeguarding Statement, the Child Protection Risk Assessment and the Checklist for the Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement.

All policies are available in the school office and on the school website at [www.ahanens.ie](http://www.ahanens.ie)

### School Inspection

Our School Inspector Anne Fitzpatrick was in regular contact during the School Year. The Principal and Deputy Principal attended a remote meeting with the Inspector following reopening of the school in September 2020. The Principal participated in a Survey for the DES on Remote Learning which was conducted by the Inspector in Term 2 during School Closure. In Term 3 the school had an Incidental School Inspection as the DES began the process of visiting schools again to assess teaching and learning.

### Curricular Development

Guided Reading was introduced to pupils of Third and Fourth Class. Literacy Lift Off was undertaken in Senior Infants, First Class and Second Class. The Whole School Plan for English was re ratified following the changing of the teaching of writing genres to over a two year timeframe.

All pupils were set up on Seesaw for Remote Learning.

The Board reviewed and ratified the SPHE, Stay Safe and RSE Plans.

The Remote Learning Plan was reviewed and ratified during school closure in Term 2.

### Parents' Association

Thank you to our Parents Association for all their support during the School Year. The Board appreciates the work and commitment of the Parent Association which included the revamping of our school website and their support with the development and promotion of our School Garden. *Ar Scáth a cheile a mhaireann na daoine –We all depend on each other.*