

St. Brigid's National School Annacurra

Mission Statement

***St. Brigid's National School operates under the
Patronage of the Catholic Bishop of Ferns***

***Annacurra National School endeavours to provide
a happy, safe, educational environment for the
development of the whole child with the focus on
Christian / Catholic values***

***We place a high value on communication and
collaboration within the School Community.***

***St. Brigid's National School follows the guidelines
and curriculum of the Department of Education
and Skills***

Board of Management

The Board of Management of St. Brigid's N.S. oversees the overall running of the School and is responsible for the Health and Safety of all connected with the School.

Staff

St. Brigid's is a growing school and at present has an Administrative Principal. 5 mainstream teachers, 2 Support teachers, 2 Special Class teachers (ASD), a Secretary, 4 Special Needs Assistants and two cleaner.

Parents' Association

St. Brigid's N.S has a very active Parents' Association who support the School in many activities and events. They support the Board of Management in maintaining the school grounds and premises.

School Website

The school now has a website. You can keep up with events in the school by logging on to: www.annacurrans.com.

School Uniform

The use of the school uniform has been agreed by the parents and has been approved by the Board of Management. We feel that the uniform eliminates peer/fashion pressures, reduces cost and looks smart. It is useful as a form of identity on school trips and on formal school occasions. The School Crest is now available to buy. This may be purchased through the school.

Uniform

The uniform is Navy V-neck Jumper / Cardigan, Navy skirt / pinafore / trousers Blue shirt and Navy tie. A school track-suit is available and may be worn on P.E. days. We expect your co-operation in the use of the school uniform.

Plimsols/Slippers:

These are worn in the classrooms by all classes except Junior and Senior Infants.

Runners

To be worn on P.E. days or as directed by their class teacher.

Lunch Box

We encourage a healthy lunch right from the start. Please keep in mind to give your child something that they can manage on their own. Please use a plastic bottle or beaker for drinks, (no glass bottles). For all other classes we would encourage healthy lunches for the pupils (Healthy Eating Policy). Children are encouraged to drink water or milk. Parents are reminded to follow the recommendations in the Healthy Eating Policy.

Mobile Phones

Mobile Phones are not allowed in the school. They will be confiscated and returned to parents/guardians only.

Fund Raising

School Fees

To avoid the necessity of having fund-raising events every year which are not a reliable source of income, parents opted to contribute a fixed fee per term. This is €40 for one child, €80 for two children, €110 for three or more children. This money is collected on the first or second week of each term i.e. September, January and May. Anyone experiencing financial difficulty may contact the school in the strictest confidence and arrangements for a weekly or monthly payment may be made.

Bank details can be obtained from the school if you wish to pay by Direct debit. While the Board of Management does not want to increase the financial burden on families, the school relies heavily on Parents' Contributions/Fees. This money is used for Pupil Personal Accident Insurance, Art and Craft materials, photocopying/printing, curriculum resources, ICT resources for the students and the services of our excellent Music Teacher. We issue parents with a receipt on payment and an account of income and spending at the end of each term.

Swimming

St. Brigid's school takes part in a swimming course at the Coral Leisure Centre, Arklow.

These classes are limited to 4th, 5th, and 6th classes only. We also insist that children follow the guidelines of the swimming pool management in relation to hygiene.

(See also Supervision Policy)

Computers

Computers are used as a teaching aid in the classroom. Every classroom has a teaching laptop computer, projector and interactive whiteboard and Broadband Internet access. In December 2013 we purchased 30 Microsoft Tablets and installed Wireless Broadband throughout the School. We thank the P. A. and the Gathering Committee for their financial support for I.C.T development.

Green School

St. Brigid's National School was awarded the *Green Flag* in 2001, and we have been awarded a number of Green Flags since in addition to the Green Home Flag in 2010.

As part of the Green School campaign we encourage the children to become more aware of their environment. The motto used at our school is:

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

Sports

Our school is very much involved in G.A.A. and other sports and takes part in school tournaments throughout the school year. Our aim is to get all children involved in healthy exercise in addition to healthy eating. At the end of the school year we have a Sports Day at the school. The emphasis is on fun rather than competition.

Homework

Here at St. Brigid's N.S we have a Homework Policy in place.

All classes have homework nightly, our aims are as follows:

- “ To re-enforce what the child has learned during the day.
- “ To provide a link between teacher and parent.
- “ Children are expected to do their homework to the best of their individual ability – no more, no less.
- “ Homework with the Infant class is mostly informal and based on pre-reading and reading activities

School Times

The Board of Management have updated their policy on admission to the school building.

The school opens at 9.00 a.m. to receive pupils. The school closes at 2.40 p.m.

Pupils will not be admitted into the building before then. For the first two weeks, school will be a little different for junior infants, just until the child gets used to the time-table of the school.

(Supervision Policy).

Week 1 & 2 /Junior Infants

School starts at 9.00 a.m. until 12.00 p.m.

Please ensure that the parents/guardian be at the school on time to collect their child. It is very important to the child that you be there on time for him to tell you all the news of the day.

Normal Time

9.00 a.m. to 1.40 p.m. Junior / Senior Infants

9.00 a.m. to 2.40 p.m. all other classes

The Board of Management has deemed that all Junior and Senior Infants must be collected 1.40 p.m. The class teacher will bring the pupils to a designated area in the school grounds to be collected. However if a parent is running late or if you have to arrange for someone to collect your child from school please inform the class teacher by note or by contacting the school office. In the interest of Health and Safety please follow the guidelines with regard to entrance/exit to school grounds.

If a pupil is being collected outside of normal collection times, parents must sign them out from the School office (see Supervision Policy).

Fire Drill:

The Board of Management have approved the Policy of practicing a School fire Drill on a selected date and time per term with all the children participating.