

Know our School

Experienced, dynamic & progressive – ready to fully embrace the future in Irish education!



Open Evening

Wednesday 18th September 2019

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School Motto

'Meas, Díograis, agus Dea-chroí' is our school motto. These core values of respect, commitment and enthusiasm, and good heart are the core values that underpin our ethos here in PSN. They are at the heart of everything we do and are the values that you and your child will experience in all your dealings with us.

Why choose Pobalscoil Neasáin?

We are a Community school: We are an experienced, progressive and forward-looking school – responding always to the needs of the children of our community, committed to fostering inclusion, welcoming diversity and treating all children with care and respect.



We are Co-educational: Life is co-educational and co-ed schools better prepare students to succeed in college, in the world of work and in life. At a co-ed school, boys and girls grow up together, and are friends first and foremost. And, despite what you may hear, research shows that there are no overriding advantages for single-sex schools on educational grounds. We strongly believe together is better!

We have an excellent, committed and caring staff: One of our strengths has always been our teachers, who go above and beyond the call of duty to help our students succeed. We are justifiably proud of our strong academic achievements over many years, with students of all abilities. We believe that we provide a supportive and caring environment for every student. Each year group is under the care of a **Year Head**, who stays with them for the six years that they are with us. The Year Head looks after the curricular and pastoral needs of the students and gets to know them very well. The Year Head for the First Years of September 2019 is Mrs Rachel Scriney, who is a very experienced Year Head and teacher. We also have a **School Chaplain**, Celine Donohoe, who heads up the school's Pastoral Care programme and who is always available for one-to-one meetings with students and a **Guidance Counsellor** who works specifically with Junior students.





.....and lots more!!!!

Size means subjects: We have 770 students, which means that we have lots of teachers and therefore lots of subjects. We have the broadest choice of subjects of any school in the area – all offered at all levels up to Leaving Certificate. (See subject list on Page 7) Our First Year students have the opportunity to sample all the optional subjects before they are asked to choose.



We are ready to embrace the new Junior Cycle: Your child will be doing the new Junior Cycle, which presents many exciting and creative opportunities for schools and teachers. One of our Deputy Principals, Karol Sadleir, is an expert in this area, as she spent six years working with the Junior Cycle for Teachers team. She is now leading Teaching and Learning in Pobalscoil Neasáin. Having her expertise in-house ensures that our school will be ready to meet the challenges of the new curriculum, and to make the most of the exciting opportunities it offers your child.



Ms. Karol Sadleir.

N.B. - Enrolment at Pobalscoil Neasáin

Enrolment at PSN is done through the **CAPPS (Howth Deanery) forms**.

- Forms are distributed to the children in 6th Class in their primary school. The forms are completed by parents and are collected again by the primary school.
- The CAPPS forms are distributed in September and need to be returned by mid-October for applications for September of the following year.
- Parents will generally be contacted by the Post Primary school of their choice, by the end of November.
- An incoming Assessment test takes place on the last Saturday in January for all the schools in CAPPS.
- If your child's primary school is **not part of CAPPS (Howth Deanery)** you can apply using the application form on our website www.psn.ie, in the 'about us' section..

Facilities at Pobalscoil Neasáin.

The school building is bright, airy and modern and is fully wheelchair accessible.

We offer a continually expanding range of facilities for our students.

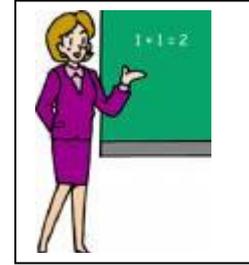
- Excellent I.T. facilities.
- A brand-new STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Maths) wing.
- Subject-specific Science Laboratories for Physics, Chemistry and Biology.
- PE Hall with fully equipped gym upstairs.
- Two Home Economics rooms.
- Woodwork room.
- Engineering and Metalwork room.
- Reading Room.
- Large, bright Art room.
- Stage and dressing rooms.
- Oratory and meditation area.



We have a school bus from
Clare Hall & Donaghmede.

The School Day at Pobalscoil Neasáin:

The school day in Pobalscoil Neasáin is very different to that in primary school. Each school day is made up of nine **forty-minute** classes. So, instead of having the same teacher all day, you may meet nine different teachers!



The school day begins at **8.50 a.m.** and there are three classes before a 10 minute break, at 10.50 a.m. Another three classes take you to lunchtime, at **1.00 p.m.** Afternoon classes begin at 1.55 and school finishes at **3.55 p.m.**

Wednesday is a six-class day, so there are no classes held in the afternoon.

Students generally have one forty-minute class of English, Irish and Maths every day. History, Geography, Religion, CSPE (Civic, Social and Political Education) and SPHE (Social, Personal and Health Education) are generally done in single-period classes, spread throughout the week. Some other subjects, such as Science, PE and the practical subjects such as Art, often have double periods.

1st Year students must remain in school at lunchtime, and the **school canteen** provides hot food for those students who do not bring in a packed lunch. **Lunchtime clubs** are organised by the seniors for the younger students. These will typically include a computer club, a PS club, table-tennis and football.



School Subjects in Junior Cycle:

Pobalscoil Neasáin currently offers the following subjects in Junior Cycle:

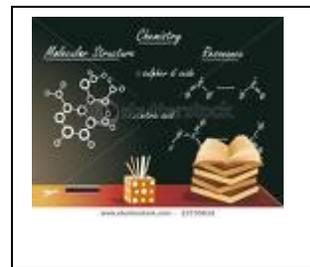
All students study **core subjects**, which are shaded in the table below.



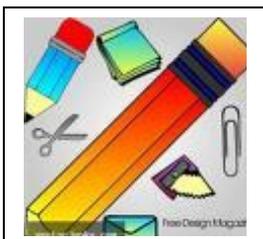
Gaeilge	CSPE	Home Economics
English	SPHE	Metal Technology
Maths	Religion	Wood Technology
History	Digital Literacy	Technical Graphics
Geography	Business Studies	Technology
Science	Spanish	Music
PE	French	Environmental and Social Studies

School Subjects in Senior Cycle:

All subjects offered at Junior Certificate level are also available in Senior Cycle, at all levels. Students also have the option of LCA – the Leaving Certificate Applied Programme



Gaeilge	Physics	Business
English	French	Design & Communication Graphics
Maths	Spanish	
Religion	Music	Engineering
History	Art	Construction Studies
Geography	Home Economics	PE
Biology	Accounting	Career Guidance
Chemistry	Economics	Computer Studies
	Agricultural Science	



Optional Subjects – Option Blocks

Each student studies a number of optional subjects in both Junior and Senior cycle.

In order to allow a range of subjects to be done within the timetable, and to maximise student choice, the subjects are offered in **Option Blocks**.

Students choose **one** subject from each block.



In **First Year** students get the opportunity to **sample** each subject during September and October. At the end of the sampling period they choose their preferred subjects. Not every student will be able to do all of their first choices, due to limits on class size, but the option blocks generally provide a good choice.

Below are the **Option Blocks for the present First Years**.

OPTION BLOCK 1	Wood Tech.	Tech. Graphics	Spanish	Metalwork	Art	French	Home Ec.
OPTION BLOCK 2	Spanish	Art	Technology	Home Ec.	Home Ec.	Wood Tech.	Music

In **Senior Cycle** the **Option Blocks** for our current Fifth Years are as follows:

OPTION BLOCK 1	Geography	Design & Comm. Graphics	Chemistry	Music	Business	Home Economics
OPTION BLOCK 2	Geography	Agricultural Science	Biology	Physics	Art	
OPTION BLOCK 3	History	Biology	Construction Studies	Business	Engineering	
OPTION BLOCK 4	Geography	French	Spanish	Biology	Economics	

Teachers and Management:

The **Principal** of Pobalscoil Neasáin is **Mr Pat McKenna** and the **Deputy Principals** are **Ms Bríd Ní Annracháin** and **Ms Karol Sadleir**.



Each year group is assigned a **Year Head**, who will be their mentor for the duration of their time in PSN. **Mrs. Rachel Scriney** will be **Year Head to the First Years** who will be joining us in **September 2019**.

• 1st Yr Year Head: Mrs. R. Scriney
• 2nd Yr Year Head: Dr. D. O'Mahony
• 3rd Yr Year Head: Mr. G. Farragher
• 4th Yr Year Head: Ms. P. Wade
• 5th Yr Year Head: Mr. P. Seaver
• 6th Yr Year Head: Bean Mhig Shamhráin



Mr. McKenna presenting the Dúograis award to Dominik Guzowski at the 2019 Graduation.

Thank you for coming to see our school – we hope that you enjoyed your visit. If you have any further questions please contact us at **8063092** and we will do our best to help. Please visit our website – www.psn.ie – or follow us on Twitter @ PSNeasain.