

# **Pobalscoil Neasáin**

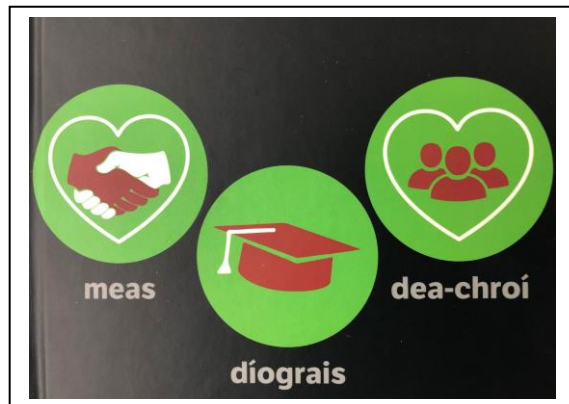
An experienced, dynamic  
& progressive community  
school – ready to fully  
embrace the future in Irish  
education!



**Open Evening**  
Incoming 1<sup>st</sup> Years 2023

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## School Motto

‘Meas, Díograis, agus Dea-chroí’ is our school motto. These core values of *meas* - respect, *díograis* - commitment and enthusiasm, and *dea-chroí* - 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 we trust you and your child will experience in all your dealings with us.

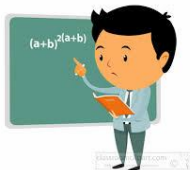
## Why choose Pobalscoil Neasáin?

**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 multid denominational so we welcome children of all faiths and of none.



**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 2023 is Miss Patty Wade, who is a very experienced Year Head and teacher. We also have a very committed **Care Team for each Year group**, which includes the Year Head, Deputy Principal, Guidance Counsellor, SEN co-ordinator and school chaplain.





**Size means subjects:** We have 800+ 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) We give First Year students the opportunity to sample all the optional subjects before they are asked to choose. Not all schools do this, but we believe that it is important that students get a taste of a subject before they choose to study it for three years!

Student : \${FullName}

Class : \${Class}

**Please select a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> choice for each option block of 1st Year subjects.**

We do our best to give students their first-choice subjects, but this is not always possible due to limits on class sizes etc.

Block 1	Spanish	Art	Wood Tech	Tech. Graphics	Metalwork	French	Home Economics	My 1 <sup>st</sup> choice in Block 1 =	My 2 <sup>nd</sup> choice in Block 1 =	My 3 <sup>rd</sup> choice in Block 1 =
Block 2	Spanish	Art	Tech. Graphics	Technology	Music	Home Economics	Home Economics	My 1 <sup>st</sup> choice in Block 2 =	My 2 <sup>nd</sup> choice in Block 2 =	My 3 <sup>rd</sup> choice in Block 2 =

(If you do not give 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> choices, we will assume that all other subjects are equally acceptable)

- Does your child need to study a language? Yes/No
- If there is a **compelling** reason why your son/daughter needs a subject, please indicate this below.

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (parent/guardian). Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## **N.B. - Enrolment at Pobalscoil Neasáin** Enrolment at PSN is

done through the **CAPPS (Howth Deanery) forms**.

- Forms are distributed to the children in 6<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.psn.ie), in the Admissions 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.

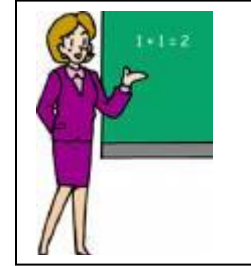
- Excellent I.T. facilities.
- A brand-new STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Maths) wing, with a stunning new DCG room
- Subject-specific Science Laboratories for Physics, Chemistry and Biology.
- PE Hall with a fully equipped gym upstairs.
- Two Home Economics rooms.
- Woodwork room.
-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



There is a private 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 six **one-hour** classes. So, instead of having the same teacher all day, you may meet six different teachers!



The school day begins at **8.50 a.m.** and there are two classes before a 10-minute break. Another two classes take you to lunchtime, at **1.00 p.m.** Afternoon classes begin at 1.30 and school finishes at **3.30 p.m.**

**Wednesday is a four-class day**, with tutorial, so there are no classes held in the afternoon. School finishes at **1:20 p.m.**

Students in 1<sup>st</sup> Year generally have three one-hour classes of English, Irish and Maths per week. History, Geography, Science, Business and R.E. have two one-hour classes. CSPE (Civic, Social and Political Education) and SPHE (Social, Personal and Health Education) and P.E. have one hour. Some other subjects, such as Art, Home Economics, Engineering etc. are optional subjects and get two one-hour classes in Junior Cycle. Time allocation varies from year to year to ensure that the requires curricular allocation is fulfilled over the three years of Junior Cycle.

Students remain on the school grounds for the 30-minute lunch break and will eat lunch in their classroom. This is a change from previous years, when lunch break was 55 minutes and students were allowed to leave the school.



## 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.



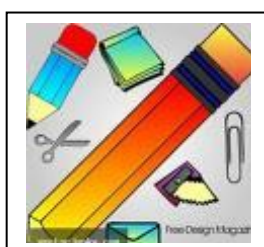
Gaeilge	CSPE	Home Economics
English	SPHE	Metal Technology
Maths	Religion	Wood Technology
History	Digital Literacy	Technical Graphics
Geography	Business Studies	Technology
Science	Spanish	Music
PE	French	Environmental and Social Studies

## 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	Engineering
Religion	Music	Construction Studies
History	Art	PE (as Exam subject)
Geography	Home Economics	Career Guidance
Biology	Accounting	Computer Studies
Chemistry	Economics	PE
	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 both 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**.

<b>OPTION BLOCK 1</b>	Art	Technology	Technical Graphics	Wood Technology	Spanish	French	Home Ec.
<b>OPTION BLOCK 2</b>	Art	Technical Graphics	Engineering	Wood Technology	Music	Spanish	Home Ec.

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

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



## **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**.



**Bríd Ní Annracháin, Pat McKenna and Karol Sadleir.**

Each year group is assigned a **Year Head**, who will be their mentor for the duration of their time in PSN. **Ms Angela Glascott** will be **Year Head** to the **First Years** who will be joining us in **September 2023**.

**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](http://www.psn.ie) – or follow us on Twitter @ PSNeasain.**