

Bohermore National School

Parents' Association Policy

1. Introduction

Bohermore National School recognises and values the vital role that parents play in the education and development of their children. The school is committed to working in partnership with parents and is pleased to support the work of the **Parents' Association** in line with the **Education Act 1998**.

Section 26(1) of the Education Act 1998 provides that the parents of students of a recognised school may establish, and maintain from among their number, a parents' association for that school.

2. Aims of the Parents' Association

The aim of the Parents' Association is to work in partnership with the Principal, Board of Management, staff, and the wider school community to promote the educational and general welfare of all pupils.

Specifically, the Parents' Association aims to:

- Represent the views of parents on matters affecting the school community.
- Support the school in providing a quality education for all children.
- Organise activities that foster positive home-school links.
- Raise funds to support educational, recreational or wellbeing initiatives (in consultation with the school).
- Promote the involvement of parents in the life of the school.

3. Structure of the Parents' Association

- Membership is open to **all parents and legal guardians** of children enrolled in Bohermore National School.
- An **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** will be held at the beginning of each school year.
- A **Parents' Association Committee** will be elected at the AGM to coordinate the work of the association.
- The committee will include the following roles:
 - Chairperson
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Additional members (as needed)

- The committee will hold regular meetings (monthly or as needed) during the school year.

4. Role and Responsibilities of the Committee

The Committee will:

- Act as a channel of communication between parents and the school.
- Organise events such as school fairs, talks, fundraising activities, and family/social events.
- Ensure any funds raised are used in consultation with the Principal and Board of Management.
- Respect the professional role of teachers and school staff and not get involved in matters relating to individual pupils, families, or staff members.
- Maintain proper records of meetings, correspondence, and finances.
- Operate in an inclusive, respectful, and non-political manner.

5. Fundraising

- Any fundraising carried out by the Parents' Association must be agreed in advance with the **Principal** and/or **Board of Management**.
- All funds raised will be used for the benefit of the pupils and the school community.
- An annual financial report will be presented at the AGM.

6. Communication

- The Parents' Association will communicate with the wider parent body through:
 - Emails or school newsletters
 - Noticeboards or school app
 - Flyers or posters
 - WhatsApp groups (administered responsibly)
- A copy of minutes from each committee meeting will be made available to the wider parent body, where appropriate.

7. Code of Conduct

- All Parents' Association members are expected to:
 - Show respect to all members of the school community.
 - Support the ethos and policies of Bohernmore National School.
 - Maintain confidentiality when appropriate.
 - Avoid discussion of individual staff members, pupils, or families.

8. Relationship with the Board of Management

- The Parents' Association operates with the full support of the **Board of Management (BoM)**.
- A parent nominee from the BoM may attend committee meetings, if agreed, as a liaison between the association and the Board.
- The Chairperson or another nominated representative of the Parents' Association may be invited to present reports or updates to the BoM when necessary.

9. Review and Amendment of Policy

This policy will be reviewed every **two years**, or sooner if necessary, by the Principal and Board of Management in consultation with the Parents' Association Committee.

Date of Policy Adoption: _____

Date of Next Review: September 2027

Signed: _____

Chairperson, Board of Management

Date: _____

Signed: _____

Principal

Date: _____

16/10/25

Cian Sheehy
16/10/25