



SCHOOL PROSPECTUS



Athenry, Co. Galway
Telephone: 091-844510
Email: office@scoilchroinaofaathenry.ie
Website: www.scoilchroinaofaathenry.ie
Twitter: [@ChroiNaofa](https://twitter.com/ChroiNaofa)
Instagram: [scoilchroinaofaathenry](https://www.instagram.com/scoilchroinaofaathenry)
You Tube: [Scoil Chroi Naofa Athenry](https://www.youtube.com/ScoilChroiNaofaAthenry)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

HISTORY OF OUR SCHOOL
PHILOSOPHY OF OUR SCHOOL
VISION STATEMENT
MISSION STATEMENT
BOARD OF MANAGEMENT
CHILD PROTECTION ISSUES
HEALTH ISSUES
PARENTS' COUNCIL
PARENT TEACHER COMMUNICATION
ALADDIN CONNECT
TIMETABLE
UNIFORM
BOOKS
HOMEWORK
MONEY
COMBINED CLASSES
CODE OF BEHAVIOUR & DISCIPLINE
SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS STATEMENT
SEN TEAM AND SEN MODEL
CURRICULUM
INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY
HEALTHY EATING
HEALTH & SAFETY
CALENDAR

HISTORY OF PRESENTATION PRIMARY SCHOOLS

In 1908, the Archbishop, Most Reverend John Healy asked the Presentation Order in Tuam to set up a convent in Athenry and to teach in the Girls School, at the urgent request of the Parish Priest, Canon Canton. He vacated his own house and gave it to the nuns as their new convent. Two of the nuns started teaching immediately in the primary school situated in Abbey Row. In 1910 the first Presentation Primary School was opened. The school which was called the Sacred Heart School was situated at the back of the convent and accommodated 150 pupils. Sr. Paul was the first Principal. Due to rising numbers another classroom was built in 1912. The numbers on roll were rising rapidly in the mid sixties hence another room was built onto the school. In 1976 a new school building was finalised between the Presentation Sisters and the Commissioners of Public Works, the site being provided by the Presentation Sisters.

The second Presentation Primary School was officially opened on the 4th of September 1980, with Sr. Kevin as Principal and 290 pupils on roll. The school is called after the Sacred Heart of Jesus, hence its name Scoil Chroí Naofa. Sr. Eithne Cunniffe succeeded Sr. Kevin as Principal. In 1993, Teresa Neylon was appointed as the first lay Principal with 273 pupils on roll. The school was extended in 2010 consisting of one classroom with a corridor, two offices, a stairs, four toilets, and a linking corridor between the school and the new classroom. In 2013, our school transferred ownership from the Presentation Sisters to the Tuam Diocese. In November 2018 following Mrs Neylon's retirement, Mr. Fergal Naughton was appointed as the first male Principal. At present there are 354 pupils enrolled. There are twenty nine members of staff, i.e. fourteen class teachers, five special education teachers, four special needs assistants, three supply panel teachers, the principal, secretary and caretaker.

PHILOSOPHY OF OUR SCHOOL

Scoil Chroí Naofa is a Presentation school. It is a Christian Catholic group of pupils, parents, staff and management. We share a similar vision. We live out the Christian message by handing on the Faith and Christian values. Nano Nagle was the foundress of the Presentation Order. Inspired by her vision, our Presentation school gives priority to:

- Providing pupils with an education for life and living
- Sharing and celebrating the vision of life.

VISION STATEMENT

Inspired by the vision of Nano Nagle, Foundress of the Presentation Order, the staff in Scoil Chroí Naofa aim to:

- Acknowledge and respect the dignity, uniqueness and individual needs of our pupils and in doing so, develop the whole child, physically, intellectually, emotionally, creatively, spiritually and socially
- Be caring, fair and committed to the best interests of our pupils and seek to motivate, inspire and celebrate effort and success.
- Enable each child to learn and develop in a happy, safe, stimulating and mutually respectful environment.
- Establish a learning environment where pupils are active agents in the learning process and instil in them an interest in and love of learning
- Develop each child as a social, literate and digitally responsible being who lives and co-operates generously with others and so contributes to the good of society.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Board of Management, Staff and Parents of Scoil Chroí Naofa are committed to:

- Providing a broad and balanced curriculum that is holistic in its approach thus enabling each student to achieve their full potential
- Continuing to provide Catholic Education and spiritual development enabling our pupils to celebrate the Christian vision of life.
- Being a positive influence in the lives of our pupils, by exercising good professional judgement and by showing empathy in our practice
- Being inclusive and welcoming of children from diverse, cultural and religious backgrounds
- Cultivating positive relationships with pupils, colleagues, parents and the wider school community
- Communicating effectively with pupils, colleagues, parents and the wider school community in a manner that is professional, collaborative, supportive, and based on trust and respect
- Working in a collaborative manner in the interest of sharing, developing and supporting good practice and providing the highest quality of educational experiences for our pupils
- Being committed to continuous professional development and reflecting on and critically evaluating our practice in order to ensure best practice
- Being connected to our local community and being supportive of local initiatives
- An cultúr agus an teanga gaelach a chothú agus a úsáid

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

All schools operate under the Rules of National Schools, which are drawn up by the Minister for Education & Skills. The patron of our school is Archbishop Francis Duffy of the Tuam diocese. The Board of Management is comprised of representatives of the patron, parents, teachers and the local community. They are elected every four years. The members of the Board of Management of Scoil Chroí Naofa are as follows

- Two members appointed by the patron; Bernie Ryan and Fr. Benny McHale.
- Two parents, a mother and a father of children in the school; Joanne Melia Costello and Paul Fitzgerald.
- The principal and a teacher representative; Fergal Naughton and Cathriona Cronin.
- Two members from the community elected by the Board of Management; Stefanie Moynihan and Fergal Melia.

CHILD PROTECTION ISSUES

The Board of Management of Scoil Chroí Naofa have published their Child Safe Guarding Statement. If there is a matter of concern in relation to harm and abuse of children, we are obliged to report this to Tusla who will assess the case and provide the necessary support.

In accordance with the Education Welfare Act 2000, when a pupil is absent for part or all of a school day, parents must notify the teacher/principal. If a pupil is absent for more than 20 days during the school year, the school authorities must inform the Education Welfare Board.

HEALTH ISSUES

- The principal and the teacher should be informed if your child has a medical need or an allergy which might affect him/her at school.
- If your child needs medicine, you are required to inform the Board of Management in writing and to complete an Administration of Medicine Form. The staff may then administer medicine with the consent of the Board of Management.
- If a child becomes ill in school, parents will be contacted immediately. Please make sure you forward to the school a contact number for the following: home, work and a family member/neighbour/friend.
- If a child is seriously injured the Doctor will be called immediately and the parents/guardians will be contacted. In the case of cuts or minor injuries the child will be given First Aid.

PARENTS' COUNCIL

The Parent's Council is the structure through which parents can work together for the best possible education for their children. We have a very active Parents Council in our school.

Parents volunteer to become members of the Council at our Annual General Meeting in early October. There are approximately six meetings in the year.

The aims of the Parents' Council are as follows;

- To represent the views of parents
- To inform parents of developments in education and in school.
- To foster co-operation between parents, teachers and school management.
- To liaise with parents on the Board of Management.
- To help with the provision of extra equipment and teaching aids.
- To help parents from a monetary point of view.
- To organise talks and discussions on topics of interest for parents.
- To provide a forum for debate and discussion on matters that are of interest to them and their children.

PARENT TEACHER COMMUNICATION

Good communication and co-operation between parents and teachers is fundamental to the development of a happy effective learning environment. If parents have any concern, they are advised to make an appointment with the class teacher. Formal parent teacher meetings are held during first term. School reports are issued at the end of the school year. A school newsletter is emailed to parents at regular intervals throughout the school year. Parents receive a calendar of school closures at the start of the school year. Our school uses the Aladdin Connect app. We use the app to send notifications to parents for unpredictable events, emergency contact, important reminders, meetings, etc. Parents can also view their child's attendance record and their school report cards on the app. If your child is absent from school for any reason, you can note the reason on the app, instead of having to send in a note to teacher.

ALADDIN CONNECT



Scoil Chroí Naofa uses the "Aladdin Schools" software service www.aladdin.ie. It gives parents secure access to messages from the school and to details of your child's attendance, test results, report cards etc. via secure login from your internet browser or the Aladdin Connect App. on your mobile phone.

Aladdin Connect is a fantastic way to enhance a school's communication with parents. It enables parents to stay connected and informed about their child's education by:

- Ensuring that the school has their most up to date contact information

- Allowing schools to gather permission(s) from parents
- Allowing parents to select preferred slots for parent teacher meetings
- Keeping parents apprised of their child's attendance
- Keeping parents up to date on school and classroom news via noticeboard messages
- Allowing parents view their child's approved report card
- Giving parents the option to opt in to share contact information with their child's classmates parents via the Parent Privacy option for the class list
- Allowing parents to view their child's latest standardised test results
- Facilitates the use of ePayments

You can rest assured that "Aladdin Schools" uses state-of-the-art security to safeguard information entered by the school and data is stored and processed in strict compliance with Irish and European data protection laws.

Parents who are new to the school will receive a text/email message containing your registration link. There will be one link per parent, which will allow the parent to access information for all their children in the school from one user account. Please do not forward this text/email or share this link as this is a unique registration code for each parent for your child(ren) in this school. During registration you will choose a password that will be used in conjunction with your email address to securely access the Aladdin Connect going forward. If you choose; you may share your own contact details with other parents of children in the same class as your children, but please be reassured that this information will not be shared unless you choose to share it. Once you are registered you will be sent an email with links to download the Aladdin Connect App for your mobile device. The main advantage of using the App is to receive immediate alerts for app messages sent by the school. Downloading the App is highly recommended to enhance both the parent and school's Connect experience.

In preparation for this please let the school know if your email address or mobile phone number has changed recently.

Please note: If there are any personal concerns, or legal provision in place regarding giving access to Connect to any parent / guardian of your child please contact the school in confidence to discuss or restrict access, as required.

Note: Parents who have older children in the school and have previously registered for the Aladdin app should find that their Junior Infant child(ren) have been added to the app automatically.

TIMETABLE

8.45am	School doors are opened.
8.50am	Classes commence
10.30am	Morning Break
11.00am	Classes recommence
12.30pm	Lunch Break
1.00pm	Classes recommence
1.30pm	Classes end for Junior and Senior Infants
2.30pm	Classes end for First to Sixth Class pupils

UNIFORM

It is important to foster a pride in the school and to make the children feel part of it. The uniform is worn in the school at all times. From September 2023 we are introducing a new uniform. All the pupils, both boys and girls will wear a Crested Navy Sweatshirt, a Light Blue Polo Shirt and a Navy Trackpants or Jogger Bottoms. The full school uniform can be purchased from:

- GM Designwear Phone: 087 2775126 or Email: sales@gmdesignwear.ie
- National Schoolwear Centre, Centrepont, Liosbán, Galway

Please make sure you write your child's name on all items of the uniform.

Your child will also need runners for Physical Education lessons

Navy shorts can be worn during the summer months, when the weather is hot.

BOOKS

A number of books will be available on a rental scheme. Books rented from school will need to be returned in good condition. Pupils are required to treat books with respect. If books are mislaid, they will need to be replaced. Booklists are available in June. Children should have their books by the first school day of September, so work can begin immediately. Books should be covered, labelled and kept clean.

If you wish to purchase your books, they are available at the following venues/website:

- Eason's, Shop Street & Headford Rd, Galway
- Loughrea School & Office Supplies, Bride Street, Loughrea
- Books 'n More, Orantown Centre, Oranmore
- Book Exchange, 23 Lower Abbeygate Street, Galway (second hand books available)
- www.schoolbooks.ie

HOMEWORK

The purpose of homework is:-

- To give the children an opportunity to work individually, practice what they have learned, find out things for themselves and give them the good habit of work.

- To give parents an opportunity to work with their child and to keep them informed of what is being done in school and of their own child's progress.

Children in Junior and Senior Infant Classes get Oral work, Reading, Writing and Maths depending on the class ability and age of the child. The type of homework a child gets from 1st class to 6th class is Spellings, Tables, Maths, Religion, Reading, Writing, Memory work and Research work. There are times when other homework is given e.g. History, Geography, Science and Music.

MONEY

Please settle all money matters promptly so as to save time and to assist the school in running as efficiently as possible. Most payments can be made electronically via Aladdin Connect. If cash payment is required, the following procedure will ensure safe cash transaction and avoid confusion, error or loss:

- Money should be placed in a sealed envelope.
- Please write the following on the outside of the envelope:
 - Your child's name.
 - The amount & purpose for which the money is being forwarded.

COMBINED CLASSES:

- All classes will have children of mixed ability.
- The dynamics of each class is considered. Emotional, behavioural and social factors which could upset the dynamic of the new class are taken into consideration. (Academic ability is not taken into consideration). The following children will be integrated as much as possible; traveller children, children with special needs and children who don't have English as their first language.
- Every year brings changes, due to fluctuating enrolments and changes to our staffing schedules by the Department of Education.
- Pupils may be taught in a combined class setting at least once in the 8 year primary cycle in SCN, this depends on pupil numbers in the given standard for the year in question.
- Where a combined class is deemed necessary for the coming year, the school will do its level best to ensure that children who were in a combined class in the previous school year, will not be in a combined class for the coming 2 years. The top consideration for being chosen for a combined class is whether a child was in a combined class before during their time in SCN. After this, the normal criteria applies i.e. mixed ability, class dynamics etc.
- Straight classes in SCN are generally made up differently every year so parents should expect that the pupils in their child's class will not remain the same every year, whether they are in a straight class or whether they are in a combined class.

- The process of forming new friendships is a life skill which is important to develop. A positive and supportive attitude from parents is a key element in achieving a successful outcome in the new groups.
- In early term 3 each year, a piece appears in the school newsletter, asking parents to get in touch with the school before a certain date with any information they wish the school to consider when formulating the classes for the coming school year. All information & requests from parents are taken into consideration when the classes are being compiled.
- Decisions will lie ultimately with the Principal and the Management team, who consider the needs of every child in the class. Parents are asked to trust the professional judgement of the Principal and Management team. Decisions taken on this matter are taken on an informed, professional basis and are final. Parental support on this matter is appreciated.

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR & DISCIPLINE

School Code

All pupils are expected to:

- Behave in a responsible manner towards themselves and others by showing consideration, courtesy and respect for other pupils and adults at all times.
- Show respect for the property of each individual and of the school at all times.
- Behave in a way, which will uphold the good name of the school at all times.

GOLDEN RULES

There are six Golden Rules in our school. If the children strive to keep the Golden Rules during the week, they are rewarded with Golden time on a Friday. Golden time is a very happy session where the children engage in very pleasant activities organised by the teachers as a reward for good behaviour. The following are our six Golden Rules;

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| • Be gentle | Do not hurt anybody |
| • Be kind and helpful | Do not hurt people's feelings |
| • Work hard | Do not waste your or other people's time |
| • Look after property | Do not waste or damage things |
| • Listen to people | Do not interrupt |
| • Be honest | Do not cover up the truth |

School Rules

1. Food
 - No nuts of any kind are allowed.
 - Drinks are not allowed in the school yard.

- Children are required to bring nutritious lunches according to our Healthy Eating Policy
 - Chewing gum, crisps, fizzy drinks and glass bottles are not allowed in the school
2. Pupils must be punctual at all times. School begins at 8.50am. Afternoon classes begin at 1pm. Junior and Senior Infants go home at 1.30pm. Pupils in First Class up to Sixth Class go home at 2.30pm. ***The Board of Management does not take responsibility for children in the school yard before 8.45pm or after 2.30pm unless they are attending extra-curricular classes.***
 3. The following behaviour is strictly forbidden:-
 - Shouting and running within the school building, loitering, vandalism, littering, rudeness, giving cheek, bad language, name calling, rough play, kicking, punching, throwing stones, scratching or scraping.
 - All types of bullying including Cyber Bullying and Racial Bullying are unacceptable and strictly forbidden.
 4. All types of bullying are unacceptable and strictly forbidden
 5. Uniform:
 - The correct full school uniform must always be worn with suitable, safe, flat footwear.
 - Long hair should always be tied back.
 - Make-up is strictly forbidden.
 - PE clothes are worn to school on the day that your child's class has PE
 6. Jewellery must be kept to a minimum.
 - Only small safe earrings are acceptable i.e. studs, sleepers. No large hoops or long dangling earrings are allowed.
 - Nose jewellery is strictly forbidden.
 - Long necklaces or chains are not allowed.
 - Nails should be kept short. Long/False nails are forbidden.
 7. Runners, tracksuits or shorts & t-shirts must be worn for Physical Education.
 8. When a child has been absent from school their parent(s) must note the reason for the absence on the Aladdin app under "Attendance". Alternatively, if this is not possible then the child must bring a written explanation to the teacher/principal when they return to school after the absence.
 9. Children must follow the safe route in and out of the school grounds, i.e. to enter through the stiles, to follow route set out by green fence, to walk behind the prefab and into playground or to enter from the upper playground.
 10. During school hours children are not allowed to leave the school premises without permission from parents.
 11. Children are not allowed into the school building during playtime without permission.
 12. All types of mobile phones are forbidden

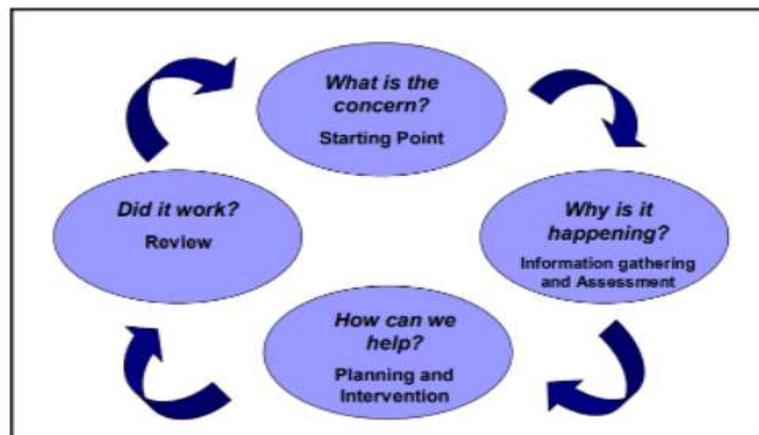
SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS (SEN) STATEMENT

We are fully committed to providing an inclusive and nurturing environment, where all pupils, including those with special educational needs and in other vulnerable groups are able to access a broad, balanced, relevant & challenging curriculum. We endeavour to work in close partnership with parents and strive towards achieving a supportive and nurturing team around the child.

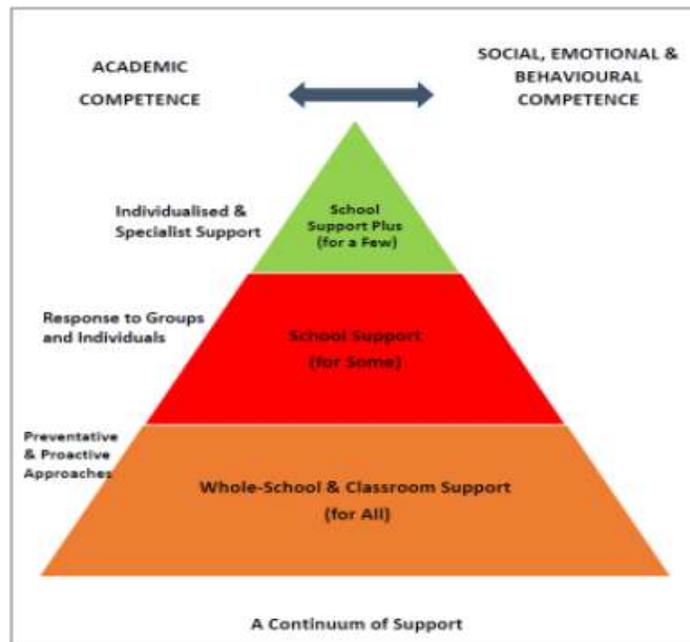
SEN Team and SEN Model

The Special Educational Needs (SEN) Team is led by Mrs Cronin (Deputy Principal & SENCO) who is responsible for the management and organisation of additional Support and resources in partnership with the principal. The wider SEN team comprises 4 full-time Special Education Teachers (SETs), 1 additional part time SET and 4 Special Needs Assistants. The SEN team work together to implement the Continuum of Support SEN Model which recognises that special educational needs occur along a continuum, ranging from mild to severe, and from transient to long term, and that students require different levels of support depending on their identified educational needs. Using this framework helps to ensure that our interventions are incremental, moving from class-based interventions to more intensive and individualised support, and that they are informed by careful monitoring of progress.

The Continuum of Support is a problem-solving model of assessment & intervention that enables schools to gather & analyse data, as well as to plan & review the progress of individual students.



The Continuum of Support enables us to identify and respond to needs in a flexible way. This means that needs can be responded to as early as possible. Of course, the principle that pupils with the greatest level of need have access to the greatest levels of support is of primary importance. This approach is also supported by information and engagement with external professionals, as required. The following levels of support are suggested.



How are children identified as having Special Educational Needs in SCN?

In Scoil Chroi Naofa, children are identified as having SEN through a variety of ways including:

- Liaison with the child's previous school/early years setting
- Concerns raised by parents/guardians
- Concerns raised by a child's class teacher
- Concerns raised due to behavioural difficulties or poor self-esteem
- Liaison with external professionals (Speech & language therapist, occupational therapist)
- A medical diagnosis

Students are provided with support based on their individual needs and staffing resources.

- On a One to One Basis, or
- In Small Groups, or
- Through Team Teaching / in-class support

What should a parent do if they think their child may have special educational needs ?

If you have any concerns or are worried about your child please speak to your child's class teacher or the school SENCO. The class teacher is responsible for adapting and refining the curriculum to respond to the strengths and needs of all pupils. The class teacher is also responsible for Checking and monitoring the progress of all children and planning the delivery of extra support in conjunction with the Special Education Team. The class teacher and the SET will work together to Write personalised learning plans known as Student Support Files in order to prioritise and focus on the next steps required to enable children to improve their learning.

CURRICULUM

The curriculum taught in our school is:

- English:
- Irish:
- Mathematics:
 - Maths week is celebrated in the school every year. Pupils in all classes go on "Maths Trails" around the school & town to view maths at work in all our daily lives!
- Visual Arts:
- Drama:
- Music:
 - Band: Children from 2nd up to 6th are members of the band. They learn to play tin whistle, melodica, bell lyre, accordion and percussion instruments. Children have the opportunity to learn four instruments during their time in the school. The band performs at local events during the school year: e.g. Lighting of the Christmas Tree and St Patrick's day parade
 - Choir: the children sing at assembly, masses, prayer services and concerts. Senior classes often take part in the Peace Proms choir
- Social Personal and Health Education:
 - The aim of the Stay Safe & Walk Tall programmes is to teach children personal safety skills so they can look after themselves in situations which could be upsetting or dangerous.
 - Weaving Wellbeing programme is taught in every class
- History:
- Geography:
- Science:
 - We celebrate Space week, Science week & Engineer week each year
 - In addition to normal class, lots of extra activities are organised for all pupils across lots of classes e.g. we invite experts into the school to do workshops, some classes go on field trips
 - We have been awarded 5 Discovery Science Awards of Excellence, 5 Discovery Science & Maths Awards of Excellence and 6 Discovery Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths Awards of Excellence.
- Physical Education:
 - Every class has a weekly PE slot
 - Swimming classes for 3rd class
 - Gymnastics classes in Senshin Sports Centre in September
 - The school partakes in lots of sporting events / competitions throughout the year: Camogie, Gaelic Football, Soccer, Athletics, Basketball.
 - The pupils also have the opportunity to play Tag Rugby, Hockey, Volleyball
 - The whole school participates in our annual Sports day in Kenny park in June.

- Religious Education:
 - We are a Catholic school and Religious Education has a high priority in our school
 - 2nd class pupils have the opportunity to make their First Confession & First Communion
 - Sixth class pupils have the opportunity to make their Confirmation
 - During the year the children from 3rd up to 6th class receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation
 - We also celebrate 2 special masses together each year: Presentation day in November in honour of Nano Nagle and an End of Year Graduation mass.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

The Digital Technologies in use in our school:

- WIFI is available throughout the school
- Classroom teachers have access to the following: an Interactive Whiteboard, Smart Notebook Software, teacher and pupil laptops, class printer and photocopier, cordless keyboards and mouse, visualisers, iPads, Apple TV, Mac Books & Chrome books
- Interactive whiteboards are used by teachers and pupils to interact with online resources such as Bua na Cainte / Jolly Phonics / CJ Fallon resources.
- There are a total of thirty pupil iPads and one teacher iPad which are used by pupils from Junior Infants up to 3rd class. An additional six iPads are available to the Special Education Team for use in in-class literacy and numeracy programmes. All iPads are stored in mobile iPad storage trolleys with accompanying headphones.
- Pupils from 4th to 6th class have the use of chrome books
- Class teachers have access to specific iPads with keyboards for blogging and for capturing photos and video footage
- A tripod and mount for an iPad is available to teachers creating videos. A Green Screen pack is also available which includes a stand to hang the green sheet from. The Green Screen App is installed on all iPads.

How Technology is used in our School:

- iPads are used by pupils to play curricular-based games to reinforce literacy and maths skills and concepts
- iPads are also used to research information online for curricular-based work in middle and senior classes
- BeeBots are used by Junior and Senior Infants during Aistear. Bee-Bot is a programmable floor robot. Pupils enter instructions to move forward or backward in 15 cm steps or to turn right or left. When they press the <Go> button, the robot moves as instructed. All Junior classes have a Bee-Bot floor mat for use with their robots.

- Literacy and mathematics apps are used in all classes to reinforce concepts and skills in the areas of Literacy and Numeracy
- Pupils also use the Book Creator App to create digital content
- They engage in cross-curricular projects where they access information online as part of the research process
- iMovie is used to create short movies. Pupils work collaboratively in groups to create their movies. They use the Green Screen app in conjunction with iMovie
- Special Education Teachers (SETs) use a variety of software and apps to meet the specific learning needs of pupils receiving support.
- On-line safety is of paramount importance in SCN. In light of this, we organise regular Internet Safety talks / workshops for the pupils, staff and parents.
- During the lockdowns all classes in the school used the Seesaw app for Remote teaching & learning.
- In 2020 / 2021 the school received a very generous donation of 20 MacBook Airs. These devices are used by the senior pupils
- In 2021 / 2022 the school invested our recent ICT grant in 80 chrome books. These devices are being used by 4th, 5th & 6th classes. The pupils are being introduced to Google classroom, which they will be using in secondary school.

Our Media Platforms:

- Mr Hanley moderates our school website and all other SCN media platforms. We invite you to visit our school website on www.scoilchroinaofaatheny.ie. The website includes many useful features for parents most noticeably "The Parents Portal" which will keep you up-to-date with our school diary and calendar, newsletters and important policies and tips for working with your child.
- We launched our very own YouTube Channel under the guidance of Krzysztof Bronowicki in 2018. This exciting facility allows us to upload group school videos for you to watch at home and for our pupils to watch in school. It is our way of sharing some fantastic things your children do and experience in school with you. To access it; log on to YouTube, type Scoil Chroí Naofa, Athenry into the search and our channel pops up. Press the subscribe button on the right hand side of the page. Once you subscribe to the channel it will automatically pop up in your channel subscriptions on the left toolbar, if you are logged into You Tube. You don't have to subscribe, you can just type in the school name each time you want to look at uploaded videos. Alternatively here is the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nf-ZzIZ_BrY
- Our Twitter Account was set up in 2019. Once again it will give you a flavour of life in SCN. You can follow us at @ChroiNaofa or alternatively follow this link: <https://twitter.com/ChroiNaofa>.
- In 2021 / 2022 we joined Instagram: www.instagram.com/scoilchroinaofaatheny

HEALTHY EATING

- The school acknowledges that foods should not be labelled as 'good' or 'bad' but that within the school grounds; children, staff and parents make every effort to eat foods which benefit health, growth and development of the child.
- Healthy Eating forms part of the SPHE curriculum and is taught in all classes.
- All children are encouraged to eat a well balanced lunch during the day.
- All children are encouraged to drink fluids during the school day.
- Children have two breaks every day when they are encouraged to slowly eat and enjoy the contents of their lunch box.
- Lunch boxes should contain a drink, sandwich, fruit/veg and dairy product etc.
- **All chocolate products are forbidden** during school hours, e.g. nutella, chocolate yogurts, sprinkles of chocolate, chocolate coated biscuits, chocolate flavoured drinks, chocolate chip cookies, etc.
- Treat foods have a limited role in a healthy diet. The school will provide a treat food on special occasions such as end of term, feast days. Parents are asked not to provide treat foods for birthdays etc.
- All children are supervised by staff at all breaks.
- **Our school is a nut free zone.** Some children suffer from severe nut allergy. Parents are requested not to provide any nut products including nuts, nut butters, chocolate spreads.
- Glass bottles are forbidden.
- Foods should be the appropriate size and texture for junior classes. Par boil carrots and chop fruit to bite size pieces if required.
- Ensure lunchboxes are emptied & washed in warm soapy water & dried after each day.

Practical

- To decrease packaging and litter, all children are requested to:
 - Have a lunch box for their food
 - Have a flasks or plastic screw top bottles for drinks
 - Keep tinfoil and cling film to a minimum and be brought home
 - Re-use Plastic bottles

HEALTH & SAFETY

The school endeavours to provide a safe environment. Children should behave in a way, which does not endanger themselves or others. The Board of Management have introduced a safe system for entering and leaving the school grounds.

- All cars should be parked outside the school grounds, in the car parks outside the school gates and at the Church.

- Parents and children coming from the Tuam Road and Monivea Road side are requested to enter and leave the school grounds through the stiles (gaps) in the wall.
- **DO NOT WALK UNDER THE BARRIER**
- Please ensure that your child does not walk on the wall.
- On entering the school grounds everybody is asked to follow the route set out by the green fence, i.e. to walk behind the prefab and into the playground.
- Parents and children coming from the Convent are requested to enter and leave the school grounds through the top yard.
- Each class has been assigned a designated entry and exit point into & out of the school building. This is to reduce the opportunity for large groups of people congregating on the school grounds.
- For those of you collecting your children at 1.30pm please be aware that there are classes working in the prefabs & in the classrooms in the top yard. We would be grateful if your children could be kept reasonably quiet while passing. Please remind them also, that they are not allowed to go up and down the steps and ramps of the prefabs.
- Cars are not allowed inside the school grounds. Children should be dropped off and collected at the gates.
- All dogs are to be kept off school property, at all times, as they are a source of distress to some children.

FINAL NOTE

The education of children is the joint responsibility of home and school. One cannot succeed without the help of the other. We look forward to getting to know your family and we truly wish your child every happiness and success in Scoil Chroí Naofa.

Sincerely

Fergal Naughton

Príomhoide