

# Scoil Mhuire agus Íde Prospectus

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Open Day, Thursday 18th September 2025, 4.30pm - 7.30pm  
Principal's Address 6.30pm  
On-Line Application Form Link: <https://forms.gle/WetxcZwSa9JjCKwZ8>



## Mission Statement

Our Prospectus is not only an introduction to our school but more importantly, it is an invitation to all to come and see for themselves the educational opportunities which we can offer to prospective students.

**Principal - Ms Michelle Thompson**

**Deputy Principal - Ms Joan Cahill**

**Deputy Principal - Mr Colin O'Mahoney**

Our vocation and purpose in Scoil Mhuire Agus Íde is to help our students to take their place in society as educated, mature and committed Christians.

We want our school to be not only a centre of academic excellence but a caring community where personal faith is nurtured and developed.

### Aims

At Scoil Mhuire agus Íde we aim:

- To create a caring environment in which everyone recognises the value of each individual and to encourage an awareness of, and a response to, the needs of others.
- To foster an appetite for learning and to develop self-discipline, initiative, responsibility and perseverance.
- To involve the students in the life-long process of education and to ensure that everyone achieves success in life.
- To value all kinds of achievement, and to learn to cope with success and failure.



*Principal  
Ms. Michelle Thompson*



*Deputy Principal  
Ms. Joan Cahill*



*Deputy Principal  
Mr. Colin O'Mahoney*



## General Information

### The School Day

The school day begins at 8.50am and finishes at 3.30pm - Monday to Thursday and finishes at 1.00pm Friday. Students are expected to be in school at 8.40am. Classes are 1 hour in length with 6 class periods Monday to Thursday and 4 class periods on a Friday. To facilitate student access to the canteen there is a split morning break at 10.20am and 10.50am. Lunchtime is from 1.00pm to 1.30pm.

### Assessment/Exams

Our new assessment model in Scoil Mhuire agus Íde ensures that each year group has three blocks of assessments per year.

Block 1: Week before October Midterm.

Block 2: Week before February Midterm/Exam classes doing Pre Exams.

Block 3: Week before Summer Holidays/Exam classes doing State Exams.

Formative assessment will also take place in the classroom on a regular basis. Results and feedback will be communicated to the students and parents on an ongoing basis.

For Junior Cycle students Classroom Based Assessments (CBAs) will be undertaken during a defined period within normal class contact time and to a national timetable. Students will complete one CBA in second and third year in most subjects. After the second CBA students will then complete an assessment task worth 10% in most subjects.

### Evening Study

To facilitate students and parents, we provide supervised evening study from 3.45pm to 5.45pm Monday to Thursday and Friday from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Study is also provided for during the October and February Mid Term Breaks and Saturdays.

### Homework

VSWare is our daily means of communication with Parents or Guardians. Homework is an essential element of the educational process. We would recommend as a general guide that a First Year

student should do at least two hours per night, with Third Years and Seniors doing at least three hours per night. No parent should be satisfied with their child's report that he/she has no homework. Revision and more revision is the best regular form of homework and parents should insist on regular weekly revision for school work.

### Uniform

School uniforms are available in Gatsby's in Newcastle West. Full uniform must be worn at all times. Scoil Mhuire agus Íde PE uniform is available to purchase from O'Neill's and is compulsory for all students. A link with purchase details is sent at the end of each academic year. As a result of student voice, alternative PE pants for all girls are available from Cobi Sports and a link with the purchase details will also be sent at the end of each academic year. We encourage students to take care of their uniform and maintain it in good condition. We count on parents and guardians support in this very important aspect of student's training in self-discipline.

### Lockers

Students are supplied with a school locker which is used to store books, PE gear and any money or valuables. The school supplies all students with a lock and lockers must be locked at all times. Valuable jewellery should not be worn in school.





## Curriculum

### Junior Cycle Curriculum

The Junior Cycle is a three year programme. Scoil Mhuire & Íde offers a broad range of subjects to students. Students study seven core subjects and two option subjects. All First Year students partake in a subject Taster Programme. This allows all students to experience seven optional subjects before choosing two for Junior Cycle.

Subjects available include:

#### Core Subjects

- Irish
- English
- Maths
- History
- Geography
- French
- German
- Science

#### Non Examination Subjects

- Physical Education
- Religious Education
- SPHE
- CSPE
- Lifeskills
- Digital Literacy
- Wellbeing

#### Option Subjects

- Business Studies
- Home Economics
- Music
- Visual Art
- Graphics
- Wood Technology
- Coding



## Transition Year

The National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) has issued a new Transition Year Programme Statement which is fully operational in all schools from September 2025. Here in SMI we have developed a new and effective TY Programme which is unique to our school. This new TY Programme has progressed from the tremendous success of our previous programme which was highly commended by the Inspectorate. The Transition Year Programme in Scoil Mhuire agus Íde has always offered a well-rounded experience that supports academic, personal and social growth. It encourages students to explore different career paths, develop life skills and reduce the academic pressure that often comes with other years of schooling. Ultimately, TY aims to nurture well-rounded, self-confident individuals who are better prepared for both further education and adult life. This will be our continued aim going forward. Key features of the new TY Curriculum include Personal Growth, Being a Learner, Civic and Community Engagement and Career Exploration and in Scoil Mhuire agus Íde we have looked at the everchanging needs of our students and we have made extensive use of the wide ranging resources and talents within the staff as we aligned our current programme with the new student dimensions. A key part of the new TY Programme will also involve looking at what we teach and how we teach it, reporting on progress and reflecting and evaluating. Student Voice and Parent Voice has also been an important part of the renewal of our TY Programme in Scoil Mhuire agus Íde.

It is hoped that students will, during this year, take greater responsibility for their own learning and decision-making and develop a range of critical thinking and problem solving skills which will be of benefit to them at third level. Transition Year will provide an opportunity for students to reflect on and develop an awareness of the value of education and training in preparing them for the ever-changing demands of the adult world of work and relationships.

Currently students are offered places in many courses and fundraising activities both within school and outside the school environment.

The following are some examples of what they have participated in:

- Work Experience
- Individual Work Application
- Law Ed

- Mini Med School
- Hope Foundation & Team Hope Shoebox Appeal
- Integrated Dance
- Brothers of Charity
- West Limerick Children's Services
- Sign Language
- Yoga
- Driver Education
- Manual Handling/Food Safety
- First Aid
- Fencing
- Mountain Biking
- Self Defence
- Young Social Innovators & Future Leaders
- Vex Robotics
- Junk Kouture
- Exciting Fashion Show Extravaganza

Students are presented with a folder of certificates at the end of the Transition Year Programme and they have a very impressive Curriculum Vitae.

Students sample the extensive range of Leaving Cert subjects available within the school before subject choices are made for fifth year.

Each year our Transition Years undertake a week of Team Building exercises. This year's group look forward to 3 days in Killary Adventure Centre and a number of different adventure day trips, for example to Ballyhass Lakes and Bogathon Adventure Centre. This 'getting to know you' time has proved invaluable in 'bonding' the students as they embark on their new programme. All Transition Year students are also encouraged to undertake the various tasks that lead to the awarding of the Bronze Gaisce Award (The President's Award). The emphasis throughout Transition Year is on students learning how to learn and how to become independent learners. Experience (and fantastic exam results) has shown that by following our programme the students are better equipped and better motivated to undertake the Leaving Certificate programme.





As one of our past Transition Years put it:

"TY is a year full of fun, with opportunities to partake in such a wide variety of activities. From activities every Wednesday, such as cycling, bowling, segways and many more exciting things, to a school tour in Paris, TY hosts something for everyone. Modeling in the annual fashion show was a step out of the comfort zone for so many of us but also such an enjoyable experience! The work experience is also a big bonus to gain an insight into different careers and explore what you like. I would highly recommend TY to anyone!"





## New Senior Cycle Programme

In 2022, the Minister for Education set out an ambitious programme for the redevelopment of the Senior Cycle, guided by the vision of a Senior Cycle that delivers equity and excellence for all. The programme is informed by, and builds upon the National Council for Curriculum and Assessments (NCCA) advisory report on the review of Senior Cycle as well as the experience of Leaving Certificate students, a growing demand for change and international experience and perspectives.

Senior Cycle is changing. Subjects are being updated. The student Leaving Certificate Experience is being reimaged. Over time all subjects for the Leaving Certificate will have additional assessment components so that students can show their many talents, competencies and skills outside of the exam hall. These will be worth a minimum of 40% of the available marks and will be externally assessed. It is proposed that the new specifications for all Leaving Certificate subjects will be introduced into the National Curriculum for students starting 5th Year in 2028.

In Scoil Mhuire agus Íde we will continue to engage with Oide, the support service for teachers and school leaders in Ireland. Oide's professional learning programme is purposefully designed to equip teachers and school leaders to implement Senior Cycle Redevelopment through coherent, inclusive and future-focused learning experiences. These experiences build teacher and leadership capacity to navigate curriculum change with confidence, placing a strong emphasis on student agency, pedagogical innovation and integration of key competencies across teaching, learning and assessment.

### Core Subjects

- Irish
- English
- Maths

### Option Subjects

- History
- Geography
- French
- German
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Agricultural Science
- Home Economics
- Art
- Accounting
- Economics
- Business
- Music
- Design and Communication Graphics
- Construction Studies
- LCVF
- Leaving Certificate P.E.

### Non-Examination Subjects

- Religion Education
- Career Guidance
- SPHE
- Physical Education

### LCVP

The Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP) is an intervention designed to enhance the vocational dimension of the Leaving Certificate. The programme was introduced in response to the challenge placed on Ireland's education system by a changing work and business environment. The LCVP combines the academic strengths of the Leaving Certificate (established) with a new and dynamic focus on self-directed learning, enterprise, work and the community.



## Religious Education

Scoil Mhuire agus Íde is a Catholic school which promotes the Christian ethos, while welcoming students of other faiths. In the Religious Education Department we encourage students to reach their full potential. Students are inspired and motivated to develop spiritually, morally and intellectually. The Religious Education programme emphasises the importance of self-directed learning and independent thought. It also fosters a spirit of inquiry, critical thinking, problem solving, self-reliance, initiative and enterprise.

First, Second and Third Years follow the curriculum as devised by the Department of Education even though it is a non-exam subject in our school. There is flexibility in the Senior Cycle where we deal mainly with moral, social and justice issues.

In the Religious Education Department our events are structured around the Liturgical year. In September we have a school mass for each Year Group. In November we focus on the month of the Holy Souls. During Advent we prepare for Christmas and students receive

the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent and prior to Easter during the Lenten Season.

The Religious Education Department is a hive of activity. SMI offers Catholic education which strives to liberate, empower and motivate students to use their individual gifts with confidence, creativity and generosity in a spirit of loving and responsible service. Students participate in charitable community work, e.g. Daffodil Day for Irish Cancer Society, Team Hope Shoebox appeal, St. Vincent De Paul Christmas Hampers. During the season of Lent, students raise awareness and fundraise for Trócaire. Students are given the opportunity during their time in SMI to participate in a retreat which gives them the opportunity to deepen their faith. Speakers are also invited to the school to discuss faith related topics with the students.

The Religious Education Department looks forward to welcoming all new students into the SMI school community.





## Digital Learning

### Digital Technology in the Classroom

Digital Technology is seen as a valuable tool to aid teaching and learning in Scoil Mhuire agus Íde. As a Google school, our Virtual Learning Environment allows students to access notes and homework assignments through Google Classroom. This allows students every opportunity to engage with schoolwork and have their resources and materials stored in one place. Staff in Scoil Mhuire agus Íde are provided with on-going training in Digital Technology, which ensures its efficient use as a pedagogical strategy in the classroom. We recognise the importance of providing students with the opportunity to develop the digital literacy skills that they will need to excel in today's society.

In SMI we are continually investing and upgrading our IT resources. This year, we have introduced 1-1 devices for all incoming 1st Years in line with our Digital Technology 5 Year Plan. Currently at students' disposal is a fleet of 150 Chromebook devices, as well as a Computer lab equipped with desktop computers. Student's have a designated "Digital Literacy" class period in 1st and 2nd Year - this ensures they develop the necessary skills to fully engage in the digital aspect of their secondary school experience.

Digital Technology is used to promote collaboration, problem solving and critical thinking in students - key aspects of the new Junior Cycle. Digital Technology allows students the opportunity to work through

content at their own pace and in the style that best suits their strengths.

### VEX Robotics

As part of the TY programme students engage in Vex Robotics. VEX Robotics encourages creativity, teamwork, leadership, passion, and problem-solving in the STEM subjects offered in SMI. Students gain an understanding and knowledge through the connecting of concepts from each of the STEM domains by designing, building and coding their own robot. Students participate in a regional final hosted by DELL and then can progress to the National finals hosted by MTU Cork. Vex Robotics is a hands-on meaningful learning experience for students.

### Coding

In Scoil Mhuire agus Íde we are delighted to have introduced our first Short Course for the Junior Cycle. Over the past number of years students displayed a keen interest in Computer Science. Coding students are getting the opportunity to transform ideas, solutions, and instructions into the language that the computer can understand. Students are developing an understanding of how computers process systems. In SMI the aim of this short course is to develop students' ability to write and test code through the development of programmes.





## Extra Curricular Activities

Extracurricular activities are an important part of life in Scoil Mhuire Agus Íde. They provide students with a wide range of opportunities which complement the academic curriculum, allowing students to take advantage of all the facilities available at our school. Extracurricular activities can help students succeed in much more than just their academic endeavours. Sports, for example, train students to maintain patience and resilience in the face of difficulty. These activities can also work to build skills that a classroom alone cannot always foster. Activities are also available at lunchtime to engage students and help improve their social skills.

Extracurricular activities provide excellent opportunities for team-building skills and training students to focus on long-term goals. Such a myriad of skills are invaluable when entering Third Level Education and indeed the workplace. They are also fun and offer students the opportunity to spend time with others of similar interests. Students can meet friends from different social groups by membership in such activities.

The extracurricular activities available in SMI include:

### Educational Tours

- Paris
- German Exchange
- A variety of educational trips in each year group

### Public Speaking

- Debating
- SMI Podcast

### Music

- Musicals
- Choir
- Trad Group

### Lunchtime

#### Clubs

- Bookclub
- Board Games
- Table Tennis
- Coding
- LGBTIQA+
- Crafts Club
- Library

### Sport

- Athletics
- Basketball
- Camogie
- Hurling
- Equestrian
- Gaelic Football
- Golf
- Rugby
- Soccer (Boys & Girls)

### Competitions

- VEX Robotics
- Formula 1 in Schools
- Student Enterprise
- Young Scientist
- Concern Debating League
- Texaco Children's Art Competition



1st Year Ladies Football County A Champions 2025



SMI Senior Camogie County Champions 2025





All Ireland, Munster & Senior County Champions 2025



SMI Junior Ladies Football Team 2025 - North Munster Cup Final Champions,  
All Ireland C Champions and County A Cup Champions 2025





## Supporting Our Students

There is a whole school approach to the provision of the Student Support (Pastoral Care) programme within the school. This programme and policy development is overseen by the Student Support Team which is drawn from the various departments within the school - Guidance, Religion, Additional Educational Needs, Wellbeing and Yearheads. Each year group is assigned a Year Head.

### First Year Induction

As part of the Student Support Programme the school implements an Induction Programme for First Year students.

The Induction Programme includes:

- Helping students cope with transition from a one-teacher to multi-teacher system.
- Explaining and familiarising the students with the timetable and the wide range of subjects.
- Looking after the day to day needs and concerns of students.
- Prospective First Years are invited to visit SMI on a number of occasions prior to entry to help them become familiar with the school.
- Parents of First Year students are given the opportunity to meet with the Year Head and the school management team in September to review First Year students progress.
- First Year students partake in an Option Taster Programme allowing students to experience all optional subjects before making their choice for Junior Cycle.

### Wellbeing

The wellbeing of our students in SMI is paramount as wellbeing is central for students to achieve their full

potential. The Junior Cycle years are a critical time in young people's lives. Students are exposed to a range of influences and require support to make positive responsible decisions relating to their health and wellbeing and the wellbeing of others.

We want our students to feel safe, enjoy school and have a sense of fulfilment. Wellbeing is one of the principles that underpins Junior Cycle education. In Scoil Mhuire agus Íde we equip our students with the necessary skills to overcome obstacles and develop their emotional intelligence. Wellbeing will provide learning opportunities to enhance the physical, mental, emotional and social wellbeing and resilience of students. Students will be enabled to build life-skills and develop a strong sense of connection to our school.

To achieve this we use a holistic approach where aspects of health and wellbeing permeate every facet of school life. Students have a wellbeing class which helps them realise their potential and be resilient in dealing with the normal stresses of life. Each year group has a Guidance Counselor who provides students with personal, educational and vocational support.

### Guidance & Counselling

Scoil Mhuire agus Íde supplies a comprehensive Career Guidance and Counselling service to all its students. It helps students to grow in self-knowledge and self-esteem by providing professional expertise and information to enable them make constructive life choices. These choices are focused on the areas of personal, educational and career issues.

The work of the Guidance Counselling Service includes:

- Consultation - with parents, teachers, school management and outside agencies.





## Supporting Our Students

- Assessment - helping students to obtain a better self-understanding through the use of psychometric tests and other inventories.
- Information - supplying students with objective and factual data on education and training opportunities etc.
- Referrals - by the Guidance Counsellor to appropriate agencies where it is deemed necessary to satisfy the needs of the individual student. Students may also be referred to the Guidance Counsellor by parents, teachers or school management.
- Personal Counselling - helping students to explore their thoughts and feelings and the choices open to them, giving care and support to students learning to cope with the many aspects of growing up.
- Feedback - giving feedback to concerned parties within the school on the needs of individual students.

Career Guidance is seen as a process not an event. Students are encouraged to develop greater self-awareness, to identify their broad range of skills, abilities, interests, values and subsequently the career areas which best compliments them and will enable

them to flourish. The Career Guidance service provides individual appointments for all students, career information, personality profiles, aptitude and interest tests, college-visits, guest speakers and consultation with parents. The underlying aim is to facilitate all our students in the process of making good career choices.

### Additional Educational Needs (AEN)

In accordance with our Mission Statement's aim to create a caring community for each and all of our students, we endeavour to meet any special needs that may arise for our students, be they physical or academic needs. All students are assessed on entry and support is offered if needed. This involves working with students on an individual basis, in small groups, or with targeted team teaching. Parental approval for this is always sought and teacher-parent contact is welcomed. By promoting the self-esteem of our students it is hoped that all have access to an education that they can participate in and benefit from.





## Student Leadership

### Student Council

The Student Council of Scoil Mhuire agus Íde is a representative body of both Junior and Senior level students. It acts as a medium of communication between the students, staff and management of the school. It aims to promote an active involvement by students in the running of the school. It contributes to the development of school policies and allows students to make suggestions regarding matters of general concern to the student body.

As outlined in the School's mission statement the Student Council of Scoil Mhuire agus Íde aims to ensure that students take their place in society as educated,

mature and committed Christians. The Student Council also strives to promote better mutual respect, fairness and honesty between staff and students. It hopes that students will develop essential life skills such as listening, diplomacy, compromise, communication and leadership.

The Student Council strives to make a positive contribution to every aspect of the school community. It allows students to have their voice heard. The Student Council is an important part of school life and aims to play a significant role in the development of the school.





## School Behaviour

Scoil Mhuire agus Íde is a Catholic all ability school committed to providing opportunities to develop the unique talents of all our students in a positive, challenging and caring learning environment. Our Mission Statement and ethos urges all in the school community to be the best that they can be and to strive to achieve their personal best - whatever that may be. Our most important concern here in SMI is to provide a teaching and learning environment designed to achieve this.

### Code of Behaviour

Our school Code of Behaviour has undergone major reviews over the past number of years and is updated annually. The Code aims to promote good behaviour and self-control, helping to create a safe, secure learning environment for all members of the school community.

The core principles which underpin our Code of Behaviour are as follows:

- We aim to create a climate within our school which encourages and reinforces good behaviour.
- We aim to create a positive and safe environment for teaching and learning.
- We encourage our students to take personal responsibility for their learning and their behaviour.

- We try to build positive relationships of mutual respect and mutual support among students, staff and parents.
- We aim to ensure that our school's high expectations for the behaviour of all the members of the school community are widely known and understood.

### Anti-Bullying - Cineáltas

In Scoil Mhuire agus Íde the dignity of every individual is valued. Every student has the right to enjoy his/her learning and leisure time free from intimidation within the confines of the school. We are a 'telling school'. All forms of bullying will be taken seriously and will be dealt with in accordance with our new Bí Cineáltas Policy to prevent and address bullying behaviour which was recently ratified by our Board of Management and is available to view on our school website. This Policy will be reviewed annually.

The Equal Status Act, 2000 sites nine grounds of discrimination: Gender, Marital Status, Family Status, Sexual Orientation, Religion, Age, Disability, Race and Membership of the Travelling Community. Behaviour is expected that respects diversity across all nine grounds.





## Facilities

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- 2 Food Studies Room
- Art Craft & Design Area
- Learning Support Suite
- Library
- Gymnasium
- Sports Area
- General Assembly
- Science Laboratories
- 2 Wood Technology Rooms
- Design and Communication Graphics Room
- Autism Classroom
- Career Guidance Suite
- Basketball Courts
- GAA Field
- Lockers

### Canteen

Canteen facilities are provided in school - lunch orders are taken and provided in the school. Students may also bring their own lunch.

### Library

In Scoil Mhuire agus Íde, we are proud to have developed a peaceful and inviting space in our student library. A room that has been designed and decorated by past students, it is well stocked in terms of research materials to support student learning across all subject areas. We have space to promote group and project work, as well as an IT suite where students can work independently. The library catalogue is updated annually with lots of non-fiction titles as well as other resources, including board games and project materials. Of course, we also update our collection of young adult fiction regularly, and include audiobooks and graphic novels. Students also have the option of borrowing books for home reading.

### Extension

Scoil Mhuire agus Íde has been granted a multi million euro extension. This extension will give our students and staff more space and the environment needed to further develop our learning and skills required for an ever changing world.

The new building will consist of seven General Classrooms, Multi Media Room, Design and Communication Graphics Room, Home Economics Room, Art Room, two Science Laboratories, three Special Education Tuition Rooms, toilets and general purpose rooms. The building is now at an advanced design stage and plans will be available in the near future.

### Class Mhuire

Students enrolling in Scoil Mhuire agus Íde with a diagnosis of Autism and the appropriate recommendation will have the opportunity to enrol in our Autism Classroom in 2026/27 if a space becomes available.

Inclusion is central in Scoil Mhuire agus Íde and therefore students are offered dual enrolment allowing them to move between the Autism Classroom and mainstream school classes wherever possible. Students are offered a wide range of subjects and levels which are tailored to their specific needs. Each student has a bespoke timetable that responds to their needs and adapts dynamically with those changing needs.

### Artroom

Our Art Room is a sanctuary of creativity and self-expression. In this room, we encourage individuality, problem solving and design solutions, where we invite our young artists to explore their imaginations. We learn about the process and ideas of artists both past and present. Our room offers state-of-the-art facilities designed to inspire creativity and support artists in their creative endeavors. Our walls, ceilings and indeed every inch of space is adorned with a diverse selection of our students' work, thus, providing the ideal environment for our visual artists to bring their visions to life. We also boast a full range of digital art equipment for digital artists and graphic designers. We foster a vibrant community of art enthusiasts. The Art Department is committed to providing artists with the tools and space they need to thrive and make their artistic dreams a reality.

### Music

Music education positively impacts a child's academic performance, assists in developing social skills, and provides an outlet for creativity that is crucial to our student's development. As well as being a way of relieving stress, music also helps students to manage their feelings better by expressing them through language. In addition to teamwork, music education creates long lasting friendships and relationships. The Music Room is equipped with a wide range of instruments to facilitate performance. There is a set of laptops and iPads enabling students to engage in modern methods of music production using apps and artificially generated sound. It also hosts rehearsals for our school choir, trad group and school musicals.



## Facilities

### Science Laboratories

Science is a core subject for Junior Cycle in SMI. Junior Cycle Science aims to develop students' knowledge of and about Science, consolidate and deepen their skills of working scientifically and develop their confidence in their ability to use and apply Science in their everyday lives. Students learn about the Biological, Chemical and Physical Worlds in addition to learning about Earth and Space. We are lucky in SMI to have three Science laboratories which are fully equipped to support both Junior and Senior Cycle Students. As well as Junior Cycle, we offer Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Agricultural Science at Leaving Certificate level.

### Graphics and Design Communication Graphics (DCG) Room

Graphics develops a student's visualisation, problem solving, spatial reasoning and digital literacy skills. The DCG Room is equipped with modern desktop computers with the latest versions of solid works (Auto-Cad) for planning, visual ideation and modeling. The room has a 3D printer to create your own 3D Models and is also equipped with specialised drawing tables. DCG is a Leaving Cert subject that continues to promote visualisation and problem solving skills using drawing equipment and Solidworks for the duration of the course.

### Wood Technology and Construction Room

SMI offers Wood Technology as part of our Junior Certificate Programme. Students have the opportunity to explore the natural and made world, through the medium of design, seeking out opportunities to creatively and innovatively apply the materials/resources in making and shaping their environment. SMI currently has 2 Wood Technology rooms. Both rooms

are equipped with state of the art machines and hand tools to help build fun, attractive and creative projects. Construction Studies is a Leaving Certificate subject. Students develop the knowledge and skills associated with Construction Technology and construction materials and practices. This is achieved through both theoretical study and integrated practical projects. The subject opens up endless opportunities in careers such as product design, graphic design, engineering, architecture, trades & furniture design and production.

### Home Economics

The Home Economics Department has 2 fully equipped classrooms with state of the art equipment where we teach students practical life skills which will greatly benefit them in the future. They develop their nutritional, social, consumer and textile skills. Junior Cycle Home Economics has a very high uptake. The practical exam which takes place in Third Year is worth 50% of the student's overall grade. Senior Cycle Home Economics also has a high uptake. The Leaving Certificate course has a 20% coursework project where students investigate, evaluate and implement various assignment tasks. Home Economics opens up endless opportunities in careers for example teaching, environmental health officer, fashion design and microbiologist.





## School Policies

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School Policies have been developed in the following areas:

- Additional Educational Needs (AEN)
- Administration of Medicines
- Admissions Policy
- Bí Cineálta / Anti-Bullying Policy
- CCTV Policy
- Child Safeguarding Statement
- Code of Behaviour
- Communication Policy
- Critical Incident Policy
- Data Subject Rights Policy
- Dignity in the Workplace
- First Aid Policy
- Health & Safety Policy
- Internet Acceptable Use Policy
- Mobile Phone Policy
- Relationships and Sexuality Education Policy
- Religious Education Policy
- SPHE Policy
- School Tour and Trip Policy
- Statement of Strategy of School Attendance
- Supervision Policy
- Wellbeing Policy

Copies of these are available for view to parents/  
guardians on our website [www.smincw.ie](http://www.smincw.ie) and  
from the school office.





## Whole School Evaluation

Whole School Evaluation has become an integral part of school life in modern Ireland. SMI underwent a rigorous week-long inspection by a team of Department of Education Inspectors in the school year 2018/19. Full reports of this and all inspections carried out by the Inspectorate can be accessed on the school website [www.smincw.ie](http://www.smincw.ie) and the Department's website [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie).

During this inspection, the inspectors evaluated and reported under the following headings or areas of enquiry:

- Quality of school leadership and management.

- Quality of teaching and learning.
- Implementation of recommendations from previous evaluations.
- The school's self-evaluation process and capacity for school improvement.

Both staff and students were deemed by the Department Inspectorate to have excelled in all these areas.

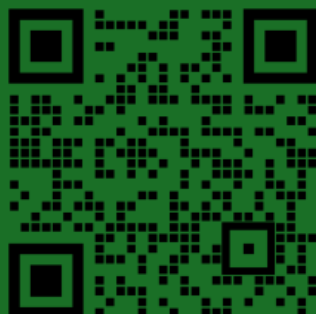
Our most recent inspection was in Science in December 2022 and in Geography in 2024. In both reports the quality of teaching, learning and assessment was deemed to be very good with exemplary practice observed.







## Application Form



**Scoil Mhuire agus Íde**  
**Newcastle West, Co. Limerick**  
**Tel: 069 62443**  
**[www.smincw.ie](http://www.smincw.ie)**