

WHERE PARENTS CAN HELP

1. Have your child in time for school every day. Children should be in class by 9.15a.m at the latest.
2. Children attending the school ENTER and EXIT their classroom according to the plan set by the school.
3. Parents park their cars in the school car park when dropping off their children. It is the parents' responsibility to ensure that their children safely cross the car park to the footpath.
- 4. Infant classes are to be collected at 2.00p.m. sharp.**
5. Make sure that all uniforms, jackets, coats, bags, etc., are clearly marked with your child's name.
6. If you need to talk to your child's teacher at any time during the year, please make an appointment through the office ahead of time.
7. Try to have your child in school everyday unless he/she shows signs of sickness. If a child is sick in the morning he/she should not come to school.

SCHOOL TIMETABLE

9.05am	Playground supervision starts
9.15am	School starts
11.00-11.15am	Short break
1.00-1.30pm	Lunch break
2.00pm	Junior and Senior Infants home time.
3.00pm	Home time.

Be very **POSITIVE** in front of the child when you speak about school, the teachers or other children.

NEVER COMPARE this child with any other child in the family.
Encourage his/her efforts at all times.
Encouragement works wonders.

ENCOURAGE your child to be neat, tidy and clean, and to keep his/her books and uniform in good condition.

CHECK YOUR CHILD'S HAIR REGULARY

Children must be toilet-trained before coming to school.

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Girl	Navy pinafore, light blue blouse & navy cardigan. Or Navy trousers, light blue blouse & navy Jumper. Navy knee length socks or tights. Navy and red tie
Boy	Navy trousers, light blue shirt, navy jumper. Navy and red tie

All school uniforms and books must be clearly marked so that we can identify lost property.

School uniforms and P.E. tracksuits may be purchased from Stanley's in Clifden.

CHILDREN WEAR UNIFORM EVERYDAY UNLESS TOLD OTHERWISE

CHILDREN LEARN THROUGH PLAY

Allow your child to experiment with materials and tools that he/she is interested in under your supervision, e.g. moulding wet sand, cutting paper with scissors, painting, etc. If you say, "don't touch" often enough, you are saying "don't learn". It is an advantage to children to have playmates before coming to school.

Ensure that your child has plenty of practice in using crayons (colouring pictures, scribbling). This will strengthen his/her pencil hold and improve the accuracy with which he/she expresses him/herself pictorially. If your child is left-handed, do not try changing him/her.

COUNT things with the child when you can – steps of stairs, cups on the table, people in the room, etc. This is the best way for them to learn the meaning of numbers.

PRAYER and Religion are part of our school curriculum as Scoil Mhuire is a Catholic School. The importance of time spent with your child cannot be stressed enough. Attitudes are always caught, not taught, and the home is the only place where faith can be passed on to the child.

BED-TIME: Make sure your child gets to bed on time every night. Children feel tired after their first days in school and may need a nap after school.

HELPING YOUR CHILD PREPARE FOR SCHOOL

LISTEN to your child.

You'll **ENCOURAGE** the child to express him/herself by listening to his/her attempts to communicate. Listening itself communicates respect, love and acceptance, and frees the child to love and grow as a person.

TELEVISION viewing has a big influence on your child's life. Parental guidance is necessary in this area.

READ to your child frequently, and retell familiar and well-loved stories over and over again. It is within the capacity of the pre-school child to retell a story in sequence and with some detail. It is also a way for Parent and Child to spend time together.

Children love to recite **NURSERY RHYMES** or poems. These feature strongly in the Junior Infant programme. Children derive great benefit, as well as enjoyment from reciting nursery rhymes.