**School Board of Management 2019-2023**

Boards of management of primary schools are appointed for a four year term. The term of office for new boards of management is from **1 December 2019 to 30 November 2023**. The Board manages the school on behalf of the patron and is accountable to the patron and the Minister. The principal is responsible for the day-to-day management of the school, including guidance and direction of the teachers and other staff of the school, and is accountable for that management.

# The Role of the Board of Management

All boards of management of primary schools assuming office from 1 December 2019 onwards are required to adhere to the provisions of the Governance Manual for Primary Schools 2019 – 2023. It is acknowledged that the most effective Boards also have a clear understanding of their role and responsibilities and ensure that these are fulfilled. Training for Boards can play an important role in this regard. Board members are therefore strongly advised to avail of the training that is provided. The Board should adopt a child-centered approach to all of its work. It must also have regard to the efficient use of resources (particularly the grants provided by the State), the public interest in the affairs of the school and accountability to students, parents and the community. The Board must also uphold the characteristic spirit (ethos) of the school and is accountable to the patron for so doing. The patron of Scoil Mhuire is Archbishop Neary (Tuam Archdiocese).

**Confidentiality**

Individual members of the Board are required to keep the matters discussed at meetings including all documents drafted and disseminated to Board members confidential unless otherwise agreed by the Board.

NB: Board members are not delegates of their electorates. They have no obligation to either report back to their electors or to take instruction from them on how to vote at board meetings. Such reporting may be a breach of confidentiality requirements. It is a matter for each Board to decide what may be reported and by whom and, in this respect, it is essential that personnel, financial and personal matters are dealt with in line with relevant confidentiality requirements.

**The Board as a Corporate Body**

Decisions arrived at by consensus or by vote are decisions of the Board. Individual members of the Board are obliged to keep the matters discussed at meetings confidential, unless otherwise agreed by the Board and where so agreed, members of the Board must not publicly criticise or make any negative public comment about Board decisions, irrespective of their own personal views on the matter. It is good practice for the Board to issue an agreed report to support good communications to parents, staff and the school community. The agreed report shall not include details of any issues which must remain confidential to Board members.

**Eligibility**

All parents of pupils from Junior Infants to Rang 2 are eligible for nomination for election to the Board of Management.

A person shall not be eligible to be a member of a Board if that person:

(a) is an undischarged bankrupt,

(b) makes a composition or arrangement with creditors under the protection or procedure of a court,

(c) is convicted on indictment of an offence,

(d) is sentenced to a term of imprisonment by a court of competent jurisdiction,

(e) is disqualified or restricted from being a director of any company within the meaning of the Companies Acts, or is prohibited, removed or suspended from being a trustee of a scheme under the Pensions Act 1990 to 2008,

(f) has been removed from the position of charity trustee of a charitable organisation by an order of the High Court under section 74 of the Charity Act, 2009, (g) has been placed on the Sex Offenders Register by order of a court.

Further Information https[://www.edu](http://www.education.ie/en/Schools-Colleges/Information/Boards-of-)ca[tion.i](http://www.education.ie/en/Schools-Colleges/Information/Boards-of-)e[/en/Schools-Colleges/Information/Boards-of-](http://www.education.ie/en/Schools-Colleges/Information/Boards-of-) Management/governance-manual-for-primary-schools-2019-2023.pdf